



Napier Boys' High School Association COLUMNS

VOLUME TWENTY NINE ISSUE TWO

DECEMBER 2021

Editorial

In life, Sir Ian Axford (NBHS Old Boy 1946-1950) was known to "Move Mountains" by hard work and a strong desire to achieve, which enabled him to reach the top of his profession. In October 2021 Ian Axford's achievements were recognised (at an even higher level) when the New Zealand Geographical Board named a previously unnamed 1720m – high peak in the Fiordland National Park's Kepler Range, Mount Axford. Napier Boys' High School is proud of Sir Ian Axford and the honours he has received. (See story this issue of Columns).

It appears that having mountains named after Napier Boys' High School Old Boys is not new, as Archivist Phillip Rankin, found out during his research on our Old Boys who fought in World War 1.

Prior to the First World War, Hubert Earle Girdlestone (NBHS 1894-95) worked as a surveyor in the Wellington District Office for the Lands and Survey Department. He led topographic and survey expeditions through the Tararua Range in the early 1910's, producing invaluable maps, erecting trig stations, and cutting a track from Levin to Masterton.

Girdlestone also took a keen interest in exploration, organising and guiding parties through the mountains of Tongariro National Park and Tararua Range on numerous occasions. He was made a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 1914.

In December 1917, Girdlestone left New Zealand with the 33rd Reinforcements in the Canterbury Regiment. On account of his technical knowledge, he was placed on 'special work' with the Intelligence Department with the NZ Infantry Brigade Headquarters when he reached the Front. He also served in the Wellington Infantry Regiment. His genial manner and personal qualities earned him a reputation as one of the most popular non-commissioned officers as a Sergeant.

On the 28th August 1918, at the Battle of Bapaume in France, 39 year old, Hubert Earle Girdlestone was killed by shell shrapnel in his sleep.

His Obituary in *Freelance* 26 Sept 1918 concluded: "It is perhaps in the field of sport that the late Sergeant Girdlestone was best known. There was scarcely any branch of athletics in which

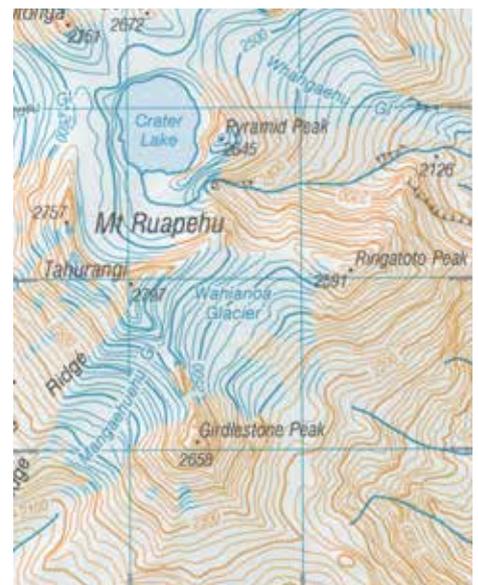
he did not take a keen interest. In cricket, football, tennis, and swimming circles especially his name will be remembered as a comrade and lover of true sport. He was an old boy of the Napier Boys' High School, in which he left a fine record."



Hubert Girdlestone

In early 1921, (one hundred years ago this year), Girdlestone's friends from the Tararua Tramping Club met to discuss a suitable memorial. They decided on erecting a plaque on Little Matterhorn Peak on the south side of Mount Ruapehu: Girdlestone had previously named this peak himself (after a passing resemblance to the more famous peak of the European Alps). The Government authorised a change of name to Girdlestone Peak. After unsuccessful efforts to reach the 2658m - high peak due to weather conditions, his friends finally installed a plaque in March 1922. The blue granite plaque was inscribed: "Girdlestone Peak. To the memory of Hubert Earle Girdlestone; F.R.G.S., killed in France, 28th August, 1918. Erected 23rd March, 1921" – this was the date of the first attempt to reach the summit.

The Tararua Tramping Club also renamed several features in the Tararua Range after Girdlestone, unofficially. It is unclear exactly when the peak became known as 'Girdlestone', but in 1928 a trig was erected on the summit by H.M. Ross bearing the name Girdlestone. Though the feature did not appear on maps until the 1960's Girdlestone Saddle was part of the original Levin to Masterton Track.



Chris Geddis Editor

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Robert Kyle, Pete McGlashan, Stephen Perfect, Geoff Pyott, Bruce Smith, Jarred Williams.

From the Headmaster

Tena koutou katoa e te whānau

On Wednesday 17 November 2021, we farewelled our senior school, as they left to begin study leave after a wonderful week of celebrations. Including a prizegiving with the absence of parents and Whānau. Although a little strange (Covid-19 has had this affect) we were immensely grateful to be able to recognise and celebrate student success. It was certainly unique and special. It has been incredible watching the Senior school adapt to the changing expectations and restrictions, regardless they have persevered with determination. I am very proud to be a part of this wonderful school. A very genuine thank you to all of our families for your support and care through the challenges faced over the last few months. We were able to finish so well and are confident we have prepared those who are leaving with the tools to competently navigate and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead.

Similarly, we also celebrated the M.A.N.A. Awards. The emphasis of these awards is to enhance the concepts of Manākitanga and whakawhanaungatanga. The ceremony is a symbol of our collective success as well as that of the individual. We were inspired by the fine young role models who crossed the stage with their many talents. And although whānau could not attend, the NBHS whānau was there to awahi them together. As the whakatuki explains, when one succeeds, we all succeed - Ehara taku toa, he takitahi, he toa takitini - My success should not be bestowed onto me alone, as it was not individual success but success of a collective.

At our recent Year 13 Valedictory Assembly we farewelled our Year 13 Students. Deputy Head Boy Noah Smith challenged the students to continue to strive for excellence in all endeavours. He also acknowledged the teachers, recognising time, effort, and dedication they have given to help students realise and reach potential.

Over the next two years a programme of maintenance and building development is in place to ensure our physical surrounds and 'bricks and mortar' keep pace with the demands of modernisation. Currently, the old Armour Block is finally demolished, and we are about to begin Stage 3. The Memorial library is presently being renovated and the Polson Block will start its refurbishment at the end of the month. Next year the school will carry out a \$6 million water tightening project to remediate our leaking buildings.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Mr Bertram, who I know if he was here would be equally proud of student achievements and would be wishing the boys all the best. In summing up, I told students that their school years should not define them, nor should they be the best years of their lives (well, I'd like to think that they won't be, or they shouldn't be). Regardless of how great the NBHS experience has been, better years are ahead.

For all that you have done, for all you are. We celebrate you.
For all your potential, for all the good you will become. We celebrate you

Justum Perficito Nihil Timeto
Me tika te mahi, kia mataara
Do right and fear nothing

Jarred Williams, Headmaster



From the Archives

Consulting my acquisition register before writing this, I have rediscovered quite a profitable six months. Our 'gathering' began in June when Mike Devine (1972-75) delivered a collection of ties which had belonged to his late father David (Bush) Devine (1951-55), including the two NBHS Assn ties ('1872' and '125") the 'colours' tie and the original NHSOB tie (the only other I have seen is worn by Huck Berry). There was also a NOB/Marist one and a golfing tie. As this had no NBHS connection, I passed it on to a keen golfer on the staff - he was wearing it next day. Then in the same month at the 1974-76 year group reunion organised by Greg Johansson (Head Boy 1979) and Wayne Monteith (Head of Hostel 1979), (Kevin Callinicos, Huck Berry and I attended as supernumeraries) we got another windfall. Bruce Chapman produced a weighty bag of his book prizes from 1st in 4A (1976) to 1st in Applied Maths (1979). Bruce had chosen encyclopaedias and omnibus editions, a burden so heavy that Kevin had to carry it to the car for me. What a great occasion - I caught up with a lot of ex-students and ex- Boarders - even if I didn't immediately recognise the 'bald headed old men'. I felt such a phoney still in possession of a full head of hair! I was especially thrilled to catch up with Parker Ormond, up from Invercargill, who was Head of Hostel in 1980 and my assistant/manager in the hostel tuckshop for six years. Catherine Connell of Green Bay, Auckland sent us a beautifully leather bound volume of Scindians (1915-18) which had belonged to her grandfather Edmund Alfred Ewen (1914-17). Doreen McPhail brought in her late father in law's Old Boys' Blazer (Brian McPhail 1939-40) dating from 1946. This is the fourth of these beautifully striped garments we now possess.



Archibald Bogle

They appear prominently in photographs of Old Boys at sports days, picnics etc and ours get an occasional outing at Art Deco events. - worn either by a very slim staff member or the prefects.

And now the pièce de résistance.

In July Diana Goodman of Auckland made contact: "Would you like my grandfather's Dux Medal of 1898?" Would we ever! Her grandfather was Archibald Hugh Bogle (1896-99), the eldest and only survivor of the four Bogle brother's (all Old Boys) who

went off to WW1. I had met Diana in 2015 when I accompanied a school party to Waipukurau where Railway Esplanade was renamed Bogle Brother's Esplanade. The gold two-piece medal in its original plush case duly arrived, the reverse inscribed: "Presented by H.A. Cornford. Won by Arch. Bogle". Archie went on to a distinguished career in surveying being honoured with a CBE in 1960, but must have carried with him the burden of three lost younger brothers. We shall remember them.

I've had two interesting emails this week (via Jayne White, the Headmaster's P.A. of course). The first was from Lesley Read, writing a family history and seeking information on her (much older) half-brother, Jasper (Jock) Coddington Swan (1920-25). He appears frequently in the Scindians, in his junior years, in class and Train Boy notes, the subject of merciless puns on his name. He then features prominently in cricket and rugby notes and photographs - which I've sent to Lesley. It's been fascinating re-reading the Train Boy notes (Hastings-Clive-Napier) again.

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Why the railways didn't stop the train in the wilds of Awatoto and tip the lot of them trackside, I'll never understand – unless there is a great deal of artistic licence, exaggeration and bravado along with the camaraderie of their Scindian notes. The second communication was from Mark Williams, with a copy of a photograph found in his grandfather's possessions, asking for confirmation that it is Napier Boys? I'm trying to put a precise date to it – it's the boys ranged up the slope in front of the old school on the Hill and obviously one of the years his grandfather, James Busby (1904-07) was at school. James' grandfather, THE James Busby, was the British Resident appointed to the Bay of Islands in 1833 – he helped draft the original Treaty of Waitangi and the Treaty House is the ex- Busby home. Both James and his brother William Baldwin Busby (1906-07) served in WW1. James sailed with the Wellington Mounted Rifles (Main Body) and was wounded on Gallipoli. William followed with the Otago Infantry Battalion (4th Reinforcements) after first serving with the Samoa Advance Force, he then joined the Worcester Regiment served in Mesopotamia under General Maude and was "killed leading his men against the Turks" – one of two Old Boys buried in Iraq. Detail of his English regimental service is scarce and I'm hoping Mark can flesh it out for me. And now back to the last 'Columns'. You may recall the 'debate' between me and my Assistants (AAA) "Soccer V's Football". I had researched, pontificated – got it wrong - that the round ball was first allowed on the hallowed turf in 1957. An interesting communication arrived from Walter (Wally) Charles Bowater (1953-59) to correct me, with a load of detail to back up his claim that the first team took the field in 1954 after want-to-be players had been suspended for not turning up for their 'alternative' winter sport - harriers. A meeting was called by parents, which the Headmaster (Mr Henderson), refused to attend, but a master D.H. McLeod offered to supervise and the McCullum brothers from Napier Rovers provided coaching, and soccer was in! Or was it?

Back to poring over the Scindians, after editor Chris Geddis pointed out an unnoticed sentence in the 'Farewell' to Head of Commerce Fred (Peanut) Lambert. I can now definitely state that Association Football came first to NBHS in 1941, when Mr Lambert 'scored against an intransigent Headmaster' (perhaps distracted by the larger War) and the rugby heads on staff and

the Board. But wait, there's more! From 1944-47 there is no further mention of the round ball sport (perhaps they played on under the radar?) In 1948 they were playing their first inter-school games – victories over Otahuhu Technical High School (was this Fred's arrangement? He was ex- Napier Technical College – another own goal against him!) and Palmerston North Boys' High School. Then 1949 was an Apex Year, with three local trophies (only a loss to Palmerston North to spoil the party), they were honoured with a team photo in the Scindian – the first since 1941.

And then nothing again until Wally's team in 1954. However, even then the game was not secure – not until the arrival of Scotsman Charles Smith, (Later Head of Technical and Deputy Headmaster) in 1961. His first years were not auspicious, claiming another first inter-school game, a 10-1 loss to Gisborne and in 1963, an 11-0 loss to Wairarapa. However with Charles in charge soccer (as it was called again) was safe and under his advocacy milestones kept coming. In 1962 the school conceded a field for the exclusive use of the soccer teams and in 1964 they turned out in their own uniforms (the hockey 1sts continued to play in rugby jerseys until 1975). So that's the story – thank you Wally for putting me on the right track even if I've pushed your 'first team' date back further. Have you all noticed that 2021 is the 80th Anniversary of Association Football in NBHS? An expansion of the above story is the subject of my 'Memories' section in this year's Scindian.

It only remains for me to thank all those who have shown an interest in our history. Oh, and an especial thank you to my Apprentice Archival Assistants (AAA). I've suspended their contracts as NCEA exams rapidly approach. I have another scribe in mind, but hope to use this talented threesome again in the future.



Dux Medal won by Archibald Bogle

Phillip Rankin - Archivist

The school website is
www.nbhs.school.nz

Ties & Cufflinks

Association / Old Boys
Ties - \$27 & School Crest Cufflinks - \$25
Are available from the School

Old Boys who competed at Tokyo Olympics 2020



Tone Ng Shiu (NBHS 2008-2009) then to Botany Downs Secondary College Auckland, was a member of the New Zealand Rugby Sevens team who won a Silver Medal, for second out of 12 teams at the Games

Dylan Thomas (NBHS 2009) and then schooled at Hastings Boys High School, was a member of the New Zealand Men's Hockey Black Sticks team that came ninth out of 12 teams at the Games.

Colin Bourke (NBHS 1988-1993) was a member of the Japan Rugby Sevens team at the Games, being placed tenth out of 12 teams.



Tone Ng Shiu



Dylan Thomas



Colin Bourke

Departing Headmaster Matt Bertram Farewelled with stirring Haka and standing ovation



Departing Napier Boys' High School Headmaster Matt Bertram had some idea of what to expect on 8th July 2021 on one of his last days with his students – more than 1000 of them. It came at an all-of-school farewell with thunderous performances of two haka – one of them the "new" school haka produced by former pupils Tauhe Kaweroa and Haeata Watson, developed by the school's head of Māori Studies and gifted to Hawke's Bay's biggest school about four years ago.

The other, performed twice by the whole school, was the obligatory Tika Tonu, the Hawke's Bay haka with its messages for the young males as they ascend to adulthood –challenge, struggle, perseverance and achievement.

Bertram said the farewell, with about 1050 students plus staff and old boys packed into Henderson Hall, was "very humbling to be honest".

He had been at the school five and a half years, from the start of 2016 and succeeding retiring former headmaster Ross Brown,

who had been at the helm for 18 years.

"I've been very privileged to have been here," said Bertram, who announced this year he would be heading back to Scots College, Wellington, from whence he came. "It's sad to be leaving."

Bertram leaves the school at a time the rugby First XV prepares for Saturday's challenge for the Moascar Cup, the high schools equivalent of the Ranfurly Shield – hoping to win it back from Rotorua Boys' High School, which successfully challenged NBHS in Napier last year.

If the end-of-term challenge is successful it will be a big welcome for new principal Jarred Williams, a former Christchurch Boys' High School deputy principal most recently at Hillcrest High School, Hamilton, who takes charge when the third term starts on July 26 2021.

HB Today

Welcome for new Napier Boys' High Headmaster Jarred Williams

On 26 July 2021, Napier Boys' High School welcomed their 14th Headmaster, Mr. Jarred Williams who will lead the school into its 150th jubilee year.

It was the passing of a taonga from one school to another as Hawke's Bay's biggest secondary campus welcomed its new Headmaster.

Jarred Williams takes over the role of Headmaster of Napier Boys High School from Matt Bertram, who has headed back to Wellington after 5-1/2 years at the school.

4 More than 1000 pupils, back for the start of Term 3, packed the school hall, joined by what Williams called "quite a contingent" of staff and pupils from Hamilton school Hillcrest High, from

whence he and they came for his launch into the new role.

The powhiri lasted more than an hour, almost entirely in Māori, and also including an all-of-school haka similar to that of when Bertram was Farewelled on July 8 2021

"It's a good way of describing it," said Williams afterwards: "Very much chuffed

and humbled by a beautiful welcome. It epitomises who they are, the high values and tradition, and a real sense of manaakitanga. I'm very encouraged."

Of Ngapuhi on his father's side and Ngati Porou on his mum's, he was raised in "urban Wellington" with the emphasis on a 'mainstream' education, he's not a fluent speaker of Māori but says that's something he will have to think about when the opportunity arises.

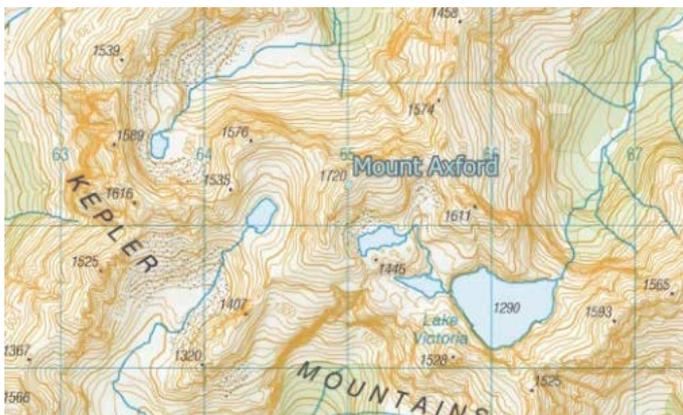
HB Today



Jarred Williams and Kevin Callinicos NBHS Association Chairman

Old Boy recognised by naming a mountain - Sir Ian Axford

The seeming immortality of those who study and explore the great frontiers of the globe and space was highlighted again when a mountain in one of the remotest parts of New Zealand was named after late Napier luminary Sir Ian Axford (NBHS 1946-1950). It came when the New Zealand Geographic Board announced in October 2021 that a previously unnamed 1720m-high peak in the Fiordland National Park's Kepler Range had been named Mount Axford.



Sir Ian Axford

Contemporary naming or renaming of such geographical features is rare other than righting some of the wrongs of history, from reinstating original names for pre-European times to simply correcting spelling.

But it was at least the third time it has happened for a peak in the Kepler Mountains, which overlook Lake Te Anau and Lake Manapouri. In 2010, "elevations" of 1650m and 1537m respectively were named to recognise space exploration pioneer William Hayward Pickering and astronomer and cosmologist Beatrice Muriel Hill Tinsley.

All achieved global fame, sometimes much less recognised in New Zealand, a point noted by astronomer Gary Sparks after Sir Ian's passing a decade ago when he said: "His name should be up there with the likes of Pickering and Rutherford."

Born in Dannevirke and Dux of Napier Boys' High School in 1950, Sir Ian had an asteroid named after him (5097 Axford) on his 60th birthday in January 1993, and received several medals and honours, including being named New Zealander of the Year for 1995 and being knighted in the New Year Honours of 1996. Armed with double bachelor's degrees in science and engineering from the University of Canterbury he spent about 40 years abroad, from 1957 to 2000, apart from three years as Vice-Chancellor of Victoria University in 1982-1985, on sabbatical from Max Planck Institute for Aeronomy in Germany. It was as director of the institute that he derived his greatest acclaim as it participated in international mission Giotto to Halley's Comet, and solar observatories Ulysses and SOHO. According to a Wikipedia note, "the science of all three missions had a strong connection to the activity of the sun: SOHO and Ulysses monitored solar activity, and the Giotto mission was able to monitor the interaction of solar particles with Halley's Comet".

Most of his research was associated with the magnetosphere and the heliosphere.

Awarded Freedom of the City in Napier in 2000, he returned to his hometown, where he died in 2010, aged 77.

Wife Joy, Lady Axford, nearing 90 and still living in Napier where she grew up the daughter of a prominent builder, said the drive for the naming of the mountain came from biographer Bill Allen, and the case was prepared by Allen's daughter, Sylvia.

In the biography for the Royal Society in England, Allen wrote that Sir Ian was one of the greatest plasma physicists of the space age.

"He made fundamental contributions to a wide range of topics in the fields of space physics and astrophysics, including the dynamics of the Earth's magnetosphere, the magnetic field reconnection process, the Sun's atmosphere and the formation and evolution of the solar wind, the interaction of the solar wind with the interstellar medium and with comets, cosmic ray propagation and modulation in the Solar System, the acceleration of cosmic rays in supernova shocks, and the use of robotic spacecraft in the exploration of the Solar System," he wrote.

"Ian was also a remarkable science administrator, completely restructuring the Max Planck Institute for Aeronomy and transforming it into one of the world's leading space and atmospheric research institutes," it continued. "He was a great advocate of international collaboration in science, and reinvigorated several flagging institutions such as the European Geophysical Society and the International Council of Scientific Unions Committee on Space Research."

He hadn't had a street named after him in Napier and when contacted for an opinion the family agreed earlier this year, although Sir Ian had never been to Fiordland National Park. "He had asthma, so he wouldn't have been climbing mountains," said Lady Axford.

Geographic Board chairman Anselm Haanen said themed place names that commemorate prominent New Zealand space scientists are a unique feature of the Kepler Mountains. After confirming with Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu that the mountain did not have an original Māori name, the board supported naming it "to recognise Sir Ian's distinguished international career as a researcher and leader of science organisations", Haanen said. "It is a fitting tribute to celebrate him with a place name that makes his story part of our future history."

HB Today

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Reuben King is Shear Magic

A mechanical engineering graduate who was made redundant in a Covid-19 layoff last year just a few months into a new career after finishing university has been named the top junior shearer in New Zealand. Reuben King, (NBHS 2010-2014) now aged 24, won the junior shearing final at the New Zealand Shears shearing and wool handling championships in Te Kuiti 9 April 2021 and soon afterwards was named the No 1-ranked shearer in the grade after 11 wins in 15 finals during the six months of the 2020-2021 season. From Central Hawke's Bay, King learnt to shear at a young age and as a pupil and Scinde House Boarder at Napier Boys High School won the Hawke's Bay A and P Show's Great Raihania Shears Secondary Schools Competition in 2014. But he bypassed the woolshed as he left school, heading instead to Canterbury University for the studies which led him into the job in mechanical design in Christchurch. It was after the layoff that he joined Rangiora contractor Rowan Nesbit and after less than nine months in the industry he's more than hooked. "I've got the bug," he said. "I'd also like to thank Elite Wool Industry Training, I've done two courses with them, and I don't think I'd be here without them." He didn't waste any time getting into action when the competition season started in October 2020, winning 3 national titles in a sequence of four wins to open his competition career before he was first beaten in a final when third in the Southland Shears' NZ crossbred lamb shearing championship in Winton in January 2021. The NZ Shears victory was his 5th national Junior title, having claimed a New Zealand Spring Shears crown in the season-opener at Waimate in October, followed by a New Zealand Corriedales title at the Canterbury Shears in November, a long wool title at Lumsden in January 2021, and the Mackenzie Shears New Zealand Lamb Shearing title in Fairlie on Easter Monday. King finished the final of five sheep each in 8min 18.66sec, more than 40 seconds ahead of the next-quickest and with second best quality points won by more than 3pts from runner-up Keahrey Manson, of Piopio, with Henry Stewart, of Feilding taking third place.



Reuben King

Shearing Sports NZ

Napier Port Primary Industry Awards 2021: HB Shepherd of the year.



At a Silver Fern Farms HB Farmer of the year Field day held at Wallingford on 13 May 2021 Joseph McCash (NBHS 2009-2013) was named Rural Directions Hawke's Bay Shepherd of the Year. Joseph McCash is 25 and a shepherd on Te Aratipi Station Maraetotara, where he has been since November 2019. He grew up on the family farm at Patangata, Central Hawke's Bay with his parents Jane and Dave McCash and says he has been hooked on farming since he was a child. He has since worked on farms from Pahiataua to Hunterville, increasing his experiences and knowledge. He has worked on all sorts of farms from flat to hilly, from cropping to breeding and finishing. He first worked fattening Friesian bulls then moved to another sheep and beef steep hill country block near Pahiataua. Then he "got a taste for fattening" and moved to a large fattening operation in Hunterville. Later Joseph realised that he wanted to be more involved with breeding and "the bigger picture" so he took up his current position for Ed Palmer where they fatten their own stock. "I definitely prefer the sheep breeding side, it's most interesting." Joseph enjoys both sheep and beef but prefers sheep although he can't explain why and he especially enjoys mustering. He has eight dogs and a pet dog, a foxy. He learned the basics of training dogs from his parents and has picked up knowledge with time and experience. He loves the job and the lifestyle being on a farm offers the family, partner Danielle, two and a half year old son Jake and recent arrival son Max. It's busy, but at the weekends they all have the opportunity to be on the farm at the weekend. While not employed on the farm Danielle, who has a Bachelor of Agri-commerce majoring in Farm Management is a great support to Joseph. The couple met at Lincoln University and Danielle shifted to Massey University when Joseph moved to Pahiataua. The only farming he has not done yet, is deer farming, apart from hunting them. Joseph said he was "Stoked and felt very, very happy." about his win. Entering the Shepherd of the Year competition was a considered decision and he hopes the win will boost his career opportunities. "I think it's every shepherd's dream goal to own or manage a farm so obviously you've got to have a pretty good CV, something to stand out from other shepherds," he says. The couple would like to lease land, build equity and their long term goal is to own a sheep and beef farm.

HB Today

1974-1976 Year Class reunion

Held over the weekend of 18th & 19th June 2021.

1974-1976 Year Class reunion held over the weekend of 18th & 19th June 2021.

The driver for the reunion was two-fold. Those of us that started at NBHS in 1975 are mostly turning sixty this year, so we thought this would be both great to have a joint 60th birthday celebration and also provide a way to reconnect the group in preparation for next year's NBHS 150th celebrations. While the bulk of those attending were from the 1975 year class, we had number of long-time friends from the 1974 and 1976 year classes also attending. Those friendships developed in our high school years through common interests, remain strong till this day. The weekend started on Friday with an after work meet and greet. It was great to have, Phillip Rankin, Huck Berry and Kevin Callinicos with us.

Saturday's activities were a choice of golf at Waiohiki or heading along to school to watch the 1st XV. Unfortunately the weather was absolutely diabolical that day so only the brave or foolhardy ventured out. Top prize for commitment goes to former school cross country champ Ken Maloney who played 18 holes in driving rain, he never did know when to stop.

Saturday night was a beautiful dinner and enjoyable evening at the 4th Door in Ahuriri, Ange looked after us very well. Wayne Monteith put together a very interesting and funny presentation, highlighting how the world had changed during the last 60 years.

We had a good turnout of partners that were invited to everything.

We now look forward to catching up again next year and have challenged all those who attended to track down one more of our group and get them along. Hopefully we will have massive turnout for the 150th.

Old Boys in attendance were: Alan Baggett, Trent Bruhns, Mark Carter (Jock), Bruce Chapman,

Des Cowley, Murray Gosling, Stephen Jenkinson, Mark Jessep, Greg Johansson, Fraser Kitt, Nigel Mannering, Donald McConnochie, Steve Minto, Ken Maloney, Wayne Montieth, David Morton

Peter Neal, Parker Ormond, Jonathon Pickup, Leonard Poon, Jim Puketapu, Stephen Ricketts,

Calvin Robinson, Brian Rogers, Mike Rolls, Mike Smith, Warren Smith, Barry Streeter, Ken Taylor.

Bruce Williams, Richard Wimsett.

Invited Guests: Kevin Callinicos, Huck Berry and Phillip Rankin.

Greg Johansson (1975-1979)



Reunion of 1974-76 Year Group

150th Reunion Napier Boys' High School, 3-5 June 2022

Planning continues and is well underway for the School's 150th anniversary celebrations to be held on Queens Birthday Weekend 2022, commencing on Friday, 3 June 2022 and culminating on Sunday 5 June 2022.

Currently, the proposed programme is:

Friday 3 June 2022:

Registration;
Tours of the School throughout the day;
Opening evening function;

Saturday 4 June 2022:

Registration continues;
Tours of the School throughout the morning;
Sports and cultural activities (Palmerston North Boys' High School exchange);
Informal lunch;
Polson Banner Rugby fixture
Formal dinner;

Sunday 5 June 2022:

Boarders breakfast at Scinde House;
Brunch at the School for other attendees.

To register your "Expression of Interest" please do so on the School's website: <https://www.nbhs.school.nz/>. Already over 500 expressions of interest have been received. This will enable us to get more information to you as details are finalised.

Make contact with your mates and encourage them to also register to ensure you have great weekend with your old friends.

Kevin Callinicos, Chairman

Old Boy, Satiu Simativa (Miti) Perese Chief Justice of Samoa

As promised in the last 'Columns' we are now catching up with the stellar career of one of our most accomplished Old Boys, Satiu Simativa (Miti) Perese, Chief Justice of Samoa.

Those of you who were his contemporaries at School (1976-80) cannot fail to remember his parade of achievements. Looking back at the Prize Lists of those years you can see where he was heading.

- 1976: 1st in Class (3N3)
- 1977: Intermediate Prepared Speech
- 1978: Senior Prepared Speech, Form 5 Reading Prize
- 1979: Brooks Cup and Rotarian Prize for Public Speaking and again in 1980.

He was a junior debater, passed five School Certificate Subjects and University Entrance. Academic pursuits were not his only life; he was an athlete of great accomplishment, representing the School in each of his years, in sprint and field events, at inter-Secondary School and Quadrangular Tournaments (gaining seven placings).

He was runner-up to Ken Moloney for Junior Champion in 1976, was Intermediate Champion (1978) and in 1980 won the Bickerstaff Cup for Senior Sprinting and the Eastern and Central Savings Bank Trophy for Senior Field Events. There was time for team sports, the 3rd XV in 1977 and the 1st XV in 1979 (15 games) and 1980 (16 games, 4 tries including one against Wellington College when he was adjudged "the pick of the backs"). In 1980 he won the E.R.G. Steere Cup for Tackling in rugby. His blazer carried his honours/colours in Athletics (1978-80) Rugby (1979-80) Debating (1980) as well as the gold Head Prefect Badge on his lapel. In 1979 Miti was Dux Ludorum (all round sportsman).



Samoa Head of State His Highness Tuimalealiifano Vaaletoa Sualauvi II and Chief Justice Simativa (Miti) Perese Satiu

While not a regular in the cricket 1st X1 he was named in the list of "others who played", scoring 21 against Gisborne Boys' High. This was meant to be a summary of Miti's school years but I found that to omit anything (apart from individual athletic placings) was not to do justice to the base Miti had built here to help him into his two chosen careers. We shall end this section of his biography with a quote from his editorial in the 1980 Scindian – and he has turned back 50 years to echo the sentiments of his predecessor in 1930. "Let every boy when he leaves the school carry with him that same high resolution with which he entered, and the school will always be worthy of its highest traditions."

It was perhaps a surprise to many that Miti chose Business Studies at Massey over Law. It was also a surprise that we next heard from him over the radio, as an announcer and the first Pasifika graduate of the Radio New Zealand Announcing School, with postings to Gisborne, Whanganui and Wellington. In Wellington, after a trip home to Samoa, he gained a belated entry to the Law School at Victoria. He financed his studies by doing the night shift on Radio NZ (handing over to Merv Smith at 5am) and attending university by day.

In 1990, with his LLB completed he was admitted as a barrister and solicitor, working first for the Crown Law Office. In 1993, now married to Lucia, the couple moved to Auckland and into high profile litigation, including representing 400+ who were mostly identified as 'Pasifika' despite many being Maori or Palagi women married to Islanders, whose right to be on the electoral roll was being challenged by the National Party which had narrowly lost the Onehunga electorate. Off-shore experience followed, at the end of 1994 Miti was awarded a fellowship to Columbia Law School in New York – an experience he enjoyed – study without radio work and amusement at being spoken to in Spanish by those on the subway – assuming he was Latino. The year ended with a LLM with a Certificate of Achievement with Honours in Foreign and International Law.

Back in New Zealand with a new focus as a barrister with a barrage of cases including church disputes, instructions from Pacific peoples, company rights etc. He was also District Inspector of Mental Health, Youth Court Advocate (1998-2003) and a member of the Human Rights Review Tribunal. His radio experience (and dare we claim skills honed in debating and public speaking at NBHS) saw him called on to act as MC for ministerial and international conferences. Miti was a founding trustee of the National Pacific Radio Trust and the Pacific Lawyers' Association (its first president 2000-2002).

In 1999 Mita was admitted to the Bar in Samoa by Chief Justice Sapolu, following him in that position in 2019. We don't envy him the challenges of the Constitutional Crisis that followed Samoa's last election.

Miti lists his interests as his family – he was widowed in 2010 (Lucia died of leukaemia) - his two daughters had distinguished careers at St Mary's College in Auckland where both were prefects, the eldest Head Girl and are following this up with university study (art history and business management) – and the Catholic Church, a convert after his experience as a trustee at his daughters' school.

Continued from page 8

The last words are Miti's own:

"I came to New Zealand for education (aged 7) and I think I need to complete that journey and go back to Samoa, to see what extent I can contribute to Samoa having taken on board all the gifts and taonga that I've picked up in New Zealand. This is the most important job I'll have as a lawyer".



Satiu Simativa
(Miti) Perese Chief Justice Samoa



Satiu Simativa (Miti) Perese
Head Prefect 1980

Phillip Rankin Archivist

Dannevirke Justice of the Peace Tom Castles made a life member

Tom Castles (NBHS 1958-1961) has seen a lot in his time as a Justice of the Peace (JP).

Years ago, when a judicial JP would hear depositions, the Dannevirke resident was one of a select few who would sit on the bench.

He'd heard his share of horrific cases, including one that involved child molestation.

The night after hearing those depositions, he went home and couldn't even face dinner.

His wife, Gay, said at the time he looked unwell.

"If you'd had to sit and listen to what I've had to listen to today, I don't think you'd be very well either," was his reply.

His service to the community has been recognised in being named a lifetime member of the JP Association.

Castles said it was a big thrill for him.

The presentation was kept a secret from him until the AGM of the Manawatu JPs Association.

He almost didn't go as he'd wanted to go out to dinner with friends for a belated birthday celebration.

Talking to the president, Maureen Reynolds, he'd told her he thought there were still restrictions on numbers and wanted to forgo attending so someone in Palmerston North could attend instead.

But his wife, who was in on the surprise, made sure he attended.

The funny thing was, there had been a sheet of paper detailing what was going to be happening at the AGM.

"I only read the front of it," he said.

Little did he know that if he'd read the back of it at the time, he would have known about the presentation.

"Which goes to show you should always read a paper, front and back."

Lifetime membership is only given to a select few, with one of the criteria being service spanning more than 30 years.

Castles said they also have to prove to their peers they deserve it and he thinks his accolade is due not only to his long service and his time as president of the Dannevirke branch, but also the time he'd served as a judicial JP and his efforts in getting others to become one.

"I'd tried to encourage people to become JPs, by sometimes shoulder-tapping them or on the recommendation of the community or community groups, bearing in mind that JPs

reflect the whole of the community.

"Not a fraction of the community, the whole community, and it's important that we reflect that."

He wasn't sure when he first became a JP, but it was around the time John Falloon was in Parliament as the MP for Pahiatua. Falloon's tenure ran from 1977 to 1996.

"I've had my 30-year certificate," Castles said. The process to become a JP is very different now from when he did it.

"In my day you were appointed. You didn't need to sit any exams.

"Today you go through training and it's a lot more complicated.

"It's probably right that it is because it's become more intense.

"The laws have become a lot more complicated."

Not every JP was also a judicial JP, either.

"I really don't know how I got involved with that," Castles said.

He had to sit what he called a "low-key" exam.

"These days ... it takes about a year. And it's a complicated procedure."

As a judicial JP, he would be one of two who would sit on the bench and hear the depositions from both the prosecution and the defence and decide whether the case should go to court. That has changed considerably. "Minor offences are now able to be looked at by JPs. But anything that carries a mandatory jail sentence is heard by a judge. And quite rightly so." Serving as a JP has been very rewarding for Tom Castles. Being a JP has been very rewarding.

"You get out of it what you put into it," Castles said.



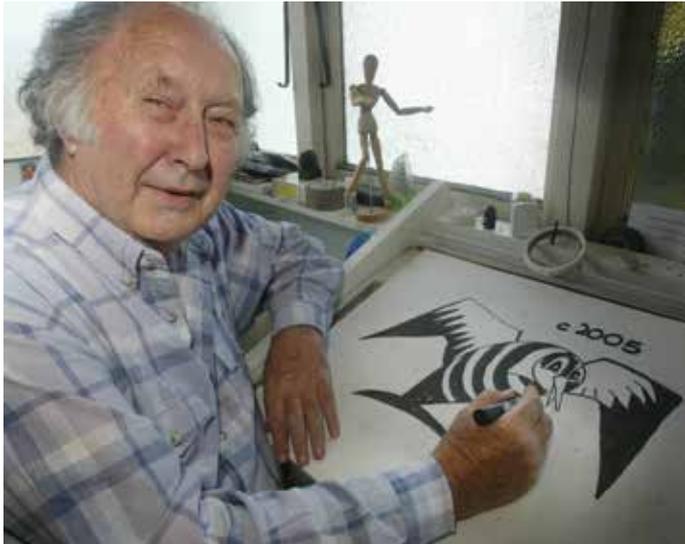
Tom Castles

Obituaries

A Napier visionary and innovator remembered

Obituary:

Ian Leslie Mills, September 4, 1928 - August 25, 2021 (NBHS 1943-1946)



Ian Mills and Hawkeye

It's hard to find one word to describe Ian Mills completely, but "visionary" and "innovative" might come close for a man who spent 40 years on a history of Napier's street names, started a "fish" club which led to a major aquarium in Napier, and sketched on a shoebox lid a bird that became the greatest rugby mascot in the land.

But they were just some of the pages in the life of Ian Mills, who once said his life broke into four parts – books, painting, retailing and the aquarium, and who died August 25 2021, just 11 days short of his 93rd birthday.

Younger brother Graeme says Ian, son of a shoe shop proprietor and one of three brothers who each spent a lifetime in footwear retailing, was "the star" of the family, which also included sister and nurse, Beverley.

Former Napier Mayor Barbara Arnott, now chairman of the Napier Art Deco Trust, recalls meeting him just once but bought his 280-page book "What's In a Name," first published in 1998, and then bought each updated reprint.

Referring to them often, she says he left a lot of "legacies" and adds: "I think he's made a huge contribution to our history and our knowledge of it. He has certainly left a lasting legacy." The book had its roots in his days working part-time in a petrol station, answering the questions of motorists seeking directions around the city and environs. He took to the streets to learn more about them, and started producing a more-purposed small street-map he would continue updating and sell for about 15 years amid a growing obsession about the histories behind the names.

The aquarium and Hawkeye both emerged from ideas hatched in his Hastings St Napier CBD shoe shop - the aquarium germinated from a meeting to form a fish club because of public interest in tropical fish he had on display, while Hawkeye was sketched on the lid of a shoe box and built in just 10 days to side-line at a Ranfurly Shield match.

Born Ian Leslie Mills in Invercargill on September 4, 1928, he also wrote other books, about fish, and was an accomplished artist who could have made a living out of that work alone, his brother says.

After a few years in Timaru, he, parents Les and Dinah, and elder brother Rex and infant brother Graeme moved to Napier in 1938, his father managing Stephenson Shoe Company, which he later bought and renamed Mills Shoe Company in Emerson St, starting the Mills family Hawke's Bay shoe shop legacy which spans more than 70 years and continues to this day in Taradale. Having attended Nelson Park Primary, Napier Intermediate and Napier Boys High School (1943-1946) he married Yvette Lois Patterson in 1952 and they had two children, son Christopher and daughter Deborah.

Passionate about art and design, he began work at Coull, Sommerville & Wilkie in Christchurch, (Now Whitcoulls) in their art department, and also worked in retail window-dressing in both Wellington and Auckland.

After six years away he returned to Napier, and was soon running the shoe shop, but his artistic skills were also soon being recognised spreading from signs, ticket-writing and window displays for chain store McKenzie's to more life-like creations on Blossom Festival and Napier centennial parade floats.

Teaming up with Gordon Dine and Russell Spiller (NBHS 1935-1936), the meeting he called in his shop in Hastings Street Napier led ultimately to the establishment of a club and aquarium beneath Napier War Memorial Hall, and establishing what is now known as the National Aquarium of New Zealand on Marine Parade, the exterior of which was once adorned with more of his models including a 10 ft Dolphin, a Sea Horse, a Stingray and a Shark all out of fibreglass. He was patron of the HB Aquarium Society. He also created giant papier-mache figures such as Humpty Dumpty, Donald Duck, and Bugs Bunny.

It was in the same shop that in 1966, the Daily Telegraph chief reporter (later the Napier public relations officer) Jock Stevenson, popped in for a cuppa, and raised with him the idea of producing a big bird – 12 feet (about 3.7 metres) tall. Within minutes he had sketched on a shoebox lid the image of a magpie, which just 10 days later appeared for the first time on the side-lines of a Ranfurly Shield match and is still doing the job now more than 55 years later.

He lived in Taradale Rd, Napier, for more than 60 years up to last year and passed away at Brittany House, Hastings.

HB Today

Napier's 'guru of volleyball' Alani Samia remembered with one final home game

Obituary: Alani Samia
15.03.1964 - 10.07.2021

Alani Samia (NBHS Teacher 2001-2020) has passed away aged 57 years. He was a long-time teacher at Napier Boys' High School and high-profile member of the volleyball community. The "guru of volleyball" in Hawke's Bay has been given the sporting send-off he wanted in Napier.

Family and friends of long-serving Napier Boys' High School physical education teacher and volleyball coach Alani Samia on Wednesday 14 July 2021 took to the court to play matches in his honour.

The 57-year-old husband and father of four died of abdominal cancer on Saturday 10th July 2021. After Samia's diagnosis in 2020 a Givealittle page was set up, raising over \$17,000 to help the family and send them on a holiday.

Colleague of 18 years and friend Peter McGlashan said the family was fortunate to have been able to take the holiday in New Zealand after Covid closed the borders.

McGlashan, who was Head of Department for Physical Education at Napier Boys' High School, said Samia's involvement and passion for volleyball was "huge".

Samia started at the school in 2001 as a physical education teacher.

"You could almost call him the guru of volleyball, anything about volleyball, people went to him from around the country, not just in Hawke's Bay."

At the 2020 Hawke's Bay sports awards Samia was one of four winners of the Glenn Cook Technologies award for Lifetime Contribution to Sport for volleyball.

McGlashan remembers one of the boys he taught at school who was "perfect for volleyball" was encouraged to try the sport by Samia and ended up getting a scholarship to the United States through the sport.

He also held a programme at lunchtime where any student could come and play volleyball at lunchtime in the gym. "We were very similar in our philosophies with regards to physical education, we got on really well."



Alani Samia

Samia moved through the department becoming head of health then assistant head of department, working at the school until he had to resign due to illness in 2020.

McGlashan said Samia was a firm but fair teacher and volleyball coach with high expectations of students.

"He was a real professional in the way he approached the subject."

McGlashan said Samia had asked those who knew him to play a game of volleyball in his memory.

"It was something Alani wanted, just people to get together and have a hit," McGlashan said.

The husband, son and brother had three daughters and one son and "family was everything to him and volleyball was his passion", Samia's death notice said.

HB Today

Memorabilia

The School has a growing collection of Memorabilia in our Archives which includes war medals and artefacts, photographs and printed material, prize books, uniforms and many other items pertaining to the School and its Old Boys. We are also interested in obtaining Memorabilia from the "Napier Technical College" to ensure that this school is not forgotten. If you have anything you think we may be interested in, please contact us.

Phillip Rankin - Archivist

Last Roll Call

The following Old Boys and teachers passed away recently:

ANGEN, Wayne John – 1970-1972
BONIFACE, William Edward (Bill) – 1949-1953
CLAPP, Donald George – 1952-1954
COX, Michael Crawford – 1948
DUDDING, Peter Clarence – 1950-1951
ENGLAND, John Carol – 1944-1947
FORD, Gary William (Teacher) – 1966-1973
GERBES, James Ernest – 1957-1958
GILLESPIE, Graham Russell – 1968-1971
GOVAN, Alan Herbert – 1949-1950
GROOBY, Graham John – 1950-1951
HASTIE, John – 1952-1954
HAUSMAN, Daryl Ian – 2003-2006
HODGETTS, Brian Ralph – 1943
HOTTON, Wally James – 1967
JENKINSON, Hector -1950-1951
JENSEN, Ashley Christopher Henry – 1951-1952
JOHNSTON, Stephen Reid – 1952-1954
KENAH, Barry Frederick Leslie - 1954-1956
LEADBETTER, William Desmond (Des) – 1946-1950
MACKIE, Richard William – 1952-1954
MAYO, William John Barnaby (Bill) – 1945-1948
McCLELLAND, Alexander (Alex) – 1945-1949
McNABB, Raymon William – 1941
MILLS, Ian Leslie – 1943-1946
MILNE, John Alexander – 1945-1949
MORONEY, Roger Kim – 1968-1971
MORRIS, Richard John – 1960-1961
PLUNKETT, Isaac James (Jim) – 1946-1949
PRICE, Frederick David – 1953
PURCELL, Solomon Neil Melila (Solly) – 1946-1951
ROGERS, Charles Alan (Alan) – 1950
SALTER, David – 1947-1951
SALTER, John Raymond – 1946-1949
SAMIA, Alani (Teacher) – 2001-2021
SHAW, Frank George – 1949-1951
SINGLE, Desmond Andrew (Des) – 1950-1952
SMITH, Graeme Neal – 1948-1953
SMITH, Peter Glanville – 1959 F6
STOTHART, Paul Gardner – 1963-1968
THOMSEN, Owen David – 1953-1954
TOD, James Landale (Farm Manager) – 1965-1967
WALKER, Gilbert James Rukumoana – 1967-1971
WAREHAM, David Darcy – 1962-1963
WATTIE, Gary Kemble – 1951-1952
WATTON, David John – 1980-1984
WEDD, David Charles Clarke - 1953-1956
WHITE, Basil Murray – 1946-1948
WHITE, Brian Trevor - 1965-1966

“Columns” expresses sincere condolences to the families of these Old Boys and Staff Members
Chris Geddis