

exams or preparation could be done on this forty-minute ride to school. From the bus stop at the south side of the gymnasium it was a saunter to rooms and lockers prior to the commencement of school proper for the day.

My third and fourth form years passed by without great remembrance apart from the importance of examination success and especially membership of the 3A and School B netball teams. Mrs Ivy Topping deserves a very special mention for the enthusiasm she encouraged with netball within Waitara High School at a junior level which held us in great stead in the senior school teams and created an era of high success for netball within the decade.

By the fifth form years, with maturity and the obvious influence of adolescent hormones my memories of the socialising aspects of secondary school years are enhanced.

Uniforms, despite their rigidity, gave the opportunity for fashion statements of the 70s, that is within the female fraternity. The summer uniform of light blue, navy and white check was relatively sedate whilst the winter navy gym frock was a different story. Individuality and style were demonstrated among the ranks with a variety of frock lengths, white shirt sleeves either short, long or long sleeves rolled up and most amazing designs created by the position and type of gym frock belt. The standard model was a neat buttoned belt at waist level yet common variations included adjustable sash worn at varying levels from under bust to waist, to at or below hip level. The sash positioning was frequently to allow less than six inches of gym frock to the hem line. To no-one's surprise the gym frock style was replaced during the 70s era by a tartan check skirt worn with standard issue Waitara High School jersey. Wise move, management!!

Aspects of school formality remained unchanged throughout the 70s with at least once-weekly assemblies in the Assembly Hall, years of seniority placed you towards the rear of the hall, unless you had friends (usually of the opposite sex) in higher places. Teachers and senior prefects were placed strategically around the hall in an attempt to ensure discipline within the ranks and active participation in the ritual signing of "How Great Thou Art" and others that remain unremembered. Well done Mac Telfar for tolerating adolescent indifference to culture!

Sporting activities were obvious keys to school pride during the 70s. All pupils were allocated to one of the School sporting teams: Blue, Red, Green and Gold and I was proud to be a "BLUE" throughout my five years. School sporting activities included swimming and athletics in the summer months and cross-country during the winter. For those of us who enjoyed sport, participation was not a problem yet I recall a high number of pupils who gave every possible reason to be excused from these activities.

Winter months of each year were highly dominated by netball and rugby within the school. Ivy Topping and Viv Russell (O'Keefe) can be thanked for the hours of time spent during and out of school time supporting netball as can Peter Savage and Mac Telfar who, I believe, gave similarly to boys' rugby.

To reach School "A" teams in any sport was seen as a great achievement and obviously allowed class release to participate in inter-school sports and trips away to Inglewood, Turangi, Taumarunui and Otorohanga. I recall that during my involvement in Netball "A" team from 1974-1976 we remained undefeated against any other secondary school netball team and if I recall correctly we gave the teachers a good run for their money in staff versus pupils games.

Cross-country time of the year brought fear to us all but particularly the boys at school. The "Dump Run" was evidently a very mean course (well done Mr Eliadis), whilst the girls had a much less strenuous version. However, I can still recall the run up the Pa Hill, through the bottom gates and up the field to be very energy-zapping. I wonder now if there was a motive in this by teachers??

Reaching the senior classes meant a world all of its own. 6th form year we had a common room in a narrow strip (with a mezzanine floor) between the Home Economics and Sewing Rooms out the back of the school. There was not a great deal of room or silence to allow for academic advancement during STUDY PERIODS yet thanks to our L.P. specialist Arran Gibson we had a fine range of 70's music. Music that seems to remind me of this era include the now 'SOFT METAL' of Led Zeppelin (Battle of Evermore, Stairway to Heaven), Deep Purple (Smoke on the Water), Jethro Tull (Locomotive Breath) and the more mellow Elton John (Goodbye Yellow Brick Road), Paul McCartney and Wings (Band on the Run), Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young and of course ABBA.

During the 70s the seventh form common room moved from a spot close to the assembly hall to an area adjacent to the Library. The room was just right to accommodate the seven or eight of us who ventured to stay on to the 7th form, even if just to continue our sport and delay inevitable entry to either the workforce or tertiary education.

Although for me, sport remained a key influence in my secondary school life at Waitara High School, academic achievement came a close second. For those of us who chose to, teachers offered excellent tuition and support. I must give a special thanks to two of my science teachers in the 6th and 7th form, Alan Walker and Lloyd Clarke whom I admire for their determination against odds to help us to passing levels. I owe Lloyd greatly as it was from his encouragement that I left Waitara High School to embark on a career in physiotherapy.

Before I close I wish to thank the Jubilee Organising Committee for a wonderful Easter weekend 1997. The

opportunity to rekindle old friendships and recall happenings during the 70s was well received by all of those who attended. My memories of my secondary school education are happy ones and I feel privileged to be a past pupil of Waitara High School, and I wish the School, its pupils and staff every success in the future.

GAEL SURREY
Class of 1976



The Eighties

Flicking through my old WHS magazines brought back a few memories and many laughs.

The art department was one place I spent quite some time. Art was always a lot of fun. I spent a number of hours on some pieces of work. They were precious. When the art block was burned down in 1989 it was a terrible loss for the students submitting folios for exams. The art block had recently been refurbished so it was a disappointment to lose it and the library.

Mr Armond was the art teacher in the 80s. Who can forget the "You lazy idle useless individual" hollered across the classroom. Mr Armond is a notorious cynic with a great sense of humour and a lovely wife, Jean, who also worked in the art department.

The 5th form art trip was always a lot of fun, camping out in Konini Lodge and swimming in Wilkie's Pools. The story of the Hermit of Hasties Hill was told year after year. A quote from the 1984 trip "Mr Armond told us some ghost stories which I suppose were meant to be true, but I don't know, because he lies a lot" (Kim Kahu). The 1983 trip "... Strangely enough, after an eerie ending to the ghostly tale a grotesque face (sorta teacher-like) appeared at the window and scared everyone out of their wits". (Karen Phillips).

The art department is a valuable part of the School. Two girls from my year went on to impressive careers in graphic design and one in photography.

KARALYN HICKS
(1983 - 87, 89)

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TE ROOPU KAPAHAKA O WAITARA



The Nineties

SCHOOL IN THE '90S

As a recent ex-pupil (1992-96), my memories of Waitara High School are still pretty clear in my mind. Some that come to mind are the fun our class, Form 3/3, had on our camp to Kiritihere in 1993 where I experienced blackwater rafting (awesome), the history trip I went on to Waitangi in 1995, attending theatre and movie performances as part of the English curriculum, going on field trips for Geography, Art and History, entering a Japanese speech competition for secondary school students, billeting students from visiting high schools, making friends with Japanese students from Mishima, becoming good friends with an AFS exchange student from Germany (we still keep in touch by letter), competing in sports teams, being a member of the 1995 Journalism class and producing the school magazine that year, going on the "Big Bike" ride for FADE, being Secretary on the Student Council last year, prizegiving ceremonies, attending performances put on by the school drama group and Te Roopu Kapahaka O Waitara, being able to wear casual clothes to school as a Seventh Former and, of course, over the years - dreaded EXAMS, the most recent being Bursary last year (Stress City!!). All these events opened my mind to new experiences and added to my education in one way or another. I also met many interesting people and, in some instances, made good friends.

The 1990s have proved to be a challenging decade for schools and education. Waitara High School, like all schools, has had to adapt to changes in curriculum and the introduction of the NZQA Qualifications Framework, as well as continue the implementation of "Tomorrow's Schools" introduced by Government in 1989. The school is governed by the Board of Trustees, elected by parents/caregivers of students every three years. The students of the school have a voice on the Board in the form of an elected student representative who, together with the Student Council, ensures that the students' needs or problems are brought to the Board's notice. This has enabled the students to feel more a part of the school and that they have a say in matters that they feel are important to them.

Education outside the classroom is considered commonplace in today's education system with organised field trips, overnight stays, and week-long camps at various places, enabling students to experience many things that they might not get a chance to do. TOPEC (Taranaki Outdoor Pursuits and Educational Centre) is always popular with students where they can take part in kayaking, abseiling, orienteering and other outdoor pursuits. Link and STAR (Secondary Tertiary Alignment Resource) courses, run by Taranaki Polytechnic, are also available to students who wish to work towards a chosen career or gain additional qualifications.

Waitara High School has always had very high achievement in the sporting field and many students and ex-students have gained both provincial and national honours in rugby, netball, softball, rugby league, rowing (Olympic honours) and shooting (Olympic representative). To add to this impressive record, a great number of students have gone on to tertiary studies and gained degrees, doctorates and professorships.

The school's most recent success story is the culture group, Te Roopu Kapahaka O Waitara, who because of their successes over the past two years at the annual cultural festival at Manu Ariki where they won numerous trophies for first placings in the intermediate and senior sections, as well as for best male and female leaders, have brought mana to the school and been a source of pride and prestige, not only for Waitara High School, but the town as well. I know they will continue to do well in the future, whether it be in the competitive field or entertaining the public, as they are a very dedicated and talented group, led by highly-respected leaders and tutors and supported by an equally dedicated whanau.

An integral part of all schools is the teaching staff. As I entered my senior years, I began to see my teachers more as people rather than just disciplinarians and I gained a new respect for them. I felt I could turn to them if I ever needed help for anything and they responded without fail. My teachers broadened my knowledge, supplying me with new ways to learn and study and their teaching styles impacted on me in many different ways. The present Principal, Harry Cast, replaced Nevill Jessep in 1995 and has added to the positive direction in which the school is heading.

As I move on to tertiary education, I fondly look back on my time at Waitara High School and I credit the school with having helped prepare me to handle life and its diverse situations. Being a student at Waitara High School is something that will never leave me. The things I accomplished, achieved and experienced during my time there and the friendships I made with fellow students and my teachers will never be forgotten.

DEENA COSTER
(1992 - 96)



REUNION '97



Reunion 1997

It is with great pleasure that I pen these few words on the recent 50th reunion of the Waitara High School.

As Chairman of the Reunion Committee I am very thrilled with the response we had to the reunion and very gratified with the reactions of all those who attended. With over 1,800 registrations the weekend was a success, in part due to the great work done by the Committee but also because of the willing participation of all those who attended.

To those of you who travelled from overseas, it was good to see you; and those from outside Waitara, thanks for coming. To the locals especially those who turned up on the Friday afternoon to register, which made for an interesting afternoon, thank you.

To see so many of you gathered in one place, to hear your pride in the School you attended made all the organisation worthwhile.

My association with the School covers many years and three generations. My parents were very heavily involved in the initial planning of the School and my children attended Waitara High School, and this pride that you all showed over the weekend has only strengthened my own pride in the School.

There are so many to thank for helping with the organisation I hope I do not leave anyone out.

COMMITTEE:

DAVID ROGERS, in charge of transportation and photographer.
GEORGE TAMATI, in charge of the Marquee.
REX DOWMAN, master of ceremonies.
KEN BEDFORD, our conscience and mentor.
MAC TELFAR, co-ordinator with the School.
TERI TAMATI, organiser of the Sports.
RENE SHARMAN, secretary.
MAUREEN MARR, assistant secretary.
TIRI NOWELL, co-ordinator of the Maori participation.
VAL CHAPMAN, cake and flowers.
KAREN LOWE, co-ordinator with the caterers.
ERICA HEPPELL, treasurer. Erica had the greatest paper work load and kept us on track financially.
HUGH WALLACE, editor of the Reunion booklet.

OUR THANKS ALSO TO:

RON PAYNE for electrical work.
FIRE BRIGADE for their assistance.
JOCELYN VICKERY for the flowers.
ENID SMITH for the cakes.
RAEWYN WELLS for icing the cakes.
JOE COSTER for assistance on the school grounds.
LEGION OF FRONTIERSMEN for security.
BRIAN LASH for roadside signs.
NZ POST for supply of envelopes.
COLIN KING for organising music.
LUMLEY GENERAL INSURANCE (Alistair Reid) for cover.
DUNCAN AND DAVIES for shrubs.
MANUKORIHU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL for the use of grounds.
OWAE MARAE TRUSTEES for use of meeting house.
WAITARA HIGH SCHOOL for use of School facilities.
WAITARA GENEALOGY GROUP for invaluable help with addresses and research, and practical help over the weekend.
TE ROOPU KAPAHAKA O WAITARA for your contribution.

Special mention must be made of METHANEX NEW ZEALAND LIMITED for their involvement with this School during the past ten years, their representation at the opening ceremony, and the substantial contribution they have made to the publishing of this booklet.

As Chairman I am very privileged to have been associated with some many caring and wonderful people over the past two years.

It is great to see the School in such great heart and led by such capable people. To all those involved in Waitara High School in 1997 go my best wishes for the coming years.

Thank you to everyone for making the weekend such an enjoyable experience.

THELMA LUXTON



Thelma Luxton speaking at the official opening.



Cutting the Jubilee Cake
Mrs Barbara Schmidt and Mrs Florence Beaven

The Opening

The official party was greeted with a powhiri from Te Roopu Kapahake O Waitara. Mr Jim Bailey welcomed all who were presented and Mr Maurice Walden replied for those who were returning.

Speakers at the opening ceremony were:

Thelma Luxton, as Chairman of the Jubilee Committee.

Eileen Gundeson, deputising for the Mayor, New Plymouth District Council.

Gerry Kennedy, representing Methanex New Zealand Limited.

Harry Cast, Principal, Waitara High School.

Hugh Wallace, a foundation member of staff, who opened the Jubilee celebrations.

Other members of the official party were Mrs Kivell, Mrs Cast, Mrs Wallace, Mrs Yardley, Mrs Geary, Mrs Erica Heppell (Jubilee Committee), Aroha Russell (Deputy Head Girl), Mr and Mrs Terry Wells (Board of Trustees), Mr Sharkey and Mr Kivell (former Principals).

The cutting of the Jubilee cake was performed by the two other foundation members of staff, Mrs Barbara Schmidt (Jury), and Mrs Florence Beaven (Harding).

Two members of the official party have a long association with the School.

Mrs Yardley was Mayoress at the official opening in 1947, her children Colleen and Denis were pupils, and she and her late husband, Roy took a personal interest in the development of the School.

Mrs Geary was on the Home and School Association when the School opened and served on it until it went into recess. Her family of five attended the School and when her grandchildren became pupils she became involved in controlling the finances of the School tuck shop.

The Reunion Programme

FRIDAY MARCH 28

1.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Registrations

7.00 pm

Informal get-together

SATURDAY MARCH 29

10.00 am

Official opening

11.00 pm

Official photographs

12.30 pm

Lunch

1.30 pm

Sports - bowls, basketball, netball, softball, rugby

7.30pm

Reunion cabaret

SUNDAY MARCH 30

10.00 am

Church service at Owae marae

12 noon

Lunch

1.30 pm

Sport - cricket

7.00pm

Reunion concert



Group photos



"It's good to see you again".



Lunch at the marae after the church service.



The cabaret

Happy and Successful

Your eyes peer myopically at name tag on sturdy bosom or barrel chest then lift to the face. Oh! the delight of recognition, for the face is unchanged despite added flesh, the lines, the hair thinned or altered in colour. All this vanishes as you gaze, resurrecting the face of youth and friendship. And the voice - forgotten its special timbre, tone, pace, the phrasing; and the mannerisms - the head tossed back, a nervous laugh, the sly grin, or arms that rest on table, chin on hands - both fixed in adolescence, maintained through thirty years of life to now transport you back.

Careers, marriages, children, redirections are quickly shared - inflated, censored, obscured. For we are all happy and successful, our children too. No problems, no financial difficulties, employment worries, lost children nor cardiac or cancerous concerns; dead classmates are briefly mentioned.

For hours the crowd ebbs, shifts, merges, a warmth emanating from the embraces, the happy voices, shouts of laughter; a past shared unites momentarily the well-dressed throng. Word ripples through of teachers present. "Johnny Orams's here! He was spunky then; he's spunky now!" And he is, looking younger than his former students.

FLORENCE CORNWALL

Easter 1997: A reflection . . .

E nga mana
E nga waka
Nga hau e wha

The spiritual ethos
The canoes
The four winds

E nga karangaranga maha
E te whanau
E te iwi whanui
Taura ma
E nga rangatahi
Te kotuku rerenga tahi
E te tumuaki
E nga kaimahi

The many affiliations
The family
The people, generally,
Students
Many young people, youth
The rare, honoured visitor
The Principal
The workers

Nga mihi nui kia koutou

Extensive greetings to you

Ka hari hoki
Ki te kite i o hoa

There is gladness also
To see your friends

On behalf of all who took part in this memorable weekend I wish to say thank you. The adroit organisation and, henceforth, the apparent smooth running of events, epitomises the community efforts that I recall in the town and the respect that many have for Waitara High School.

Celebrations are exactly that . . . a time to recall . . . a time to recap . . . a time to rekindle wonderful memories; and to know that so many still maintain this positive outlook, is, in itself, an honour, not only to the School but also to the town and its people. A successful school can only prevail if the community which encompasses the school, envelopes the school, nurtures the school and works alongside the school. Such an involvement was evident during my era, and, no doubt, during much of the School's past. I sense that such unity is returning, if it was ever lost at all.

I would like to congratulate the organising committee for the invaluable time and mammoth effort; no doubt, many of the obstacles, which can hinder the initial planning, were overcome. As with any successful event, the generosity of the community is always an integral component. Waitara's tradition for such unity is well remembered.

Waitara is a microcosm; representing a wealth of talent from within its borders and extending around the world. Many of us returning for the celebrations have fond memories of our childhood in Waitara and such memories will always deem Waitara to be our spiritual home. As former resident and student, Ian Appleby, stated at the Sunday

evening concert, Waitara is his spiritual home, as it is with many former residents. That suggests that one should not feel sad or despondent as the many visitors return to their home bases. One should feel proud in the knowledge that as each departs, each takes a small but significant part of Waitara in their hearts . . . such is the spirit of Waitara . . . such is the universal impact of Waitara.

I sympathise, to a degree, with any ensuing organising committees because this weekend will be difficult to 'top' but I hope that someone will be brave enough to look at a celebration before the standard twenty-five year period, to allow more Waitara people to become immersed in such celebrations and thereby have a better understanding of the history of their School and of their town.

On behalf of all who attended the Jubilee, I thank the Waitara of the past and the Waitara of the present. On behalf of those who had a wonderful time I offer to the children of today, and to the Waitara of the future, all of the qualities that were in abundance during the weekend: the nostalgia, the smiles, the laughter, the anecdotes, the sincerity, the spontaneity, the energy, the enthusiasm, the 'joie de vivre', the magic, the memories, and above all, the aroha.

He aha te mea nui o te ao?
Maku e ki ake
He tangata, he tangata;
he tangata

What is most important?
I will say
'Tis people, 'tis people;
'tis people

No reira, tena koutou,
tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

Therefore, farewell,
farewell, farewell to you all.

E noho ora mai
Na,

BOYD HEREWINI
Ph.D. Literature
Student 1963 - 64 Intermediate, 1965 - 69 High School



Practising for the concert - the choir



Netball on Clifton Park courts. School gymnasium in background.



1st XV v Old Boys rugby game.



A memorable item from Te Roopu Kapahake O Waitara



Watching the game, and enjoying the sunshine.



Class reunion? - Friday evening



So much to see, so much to talk about.



Class act - the concert



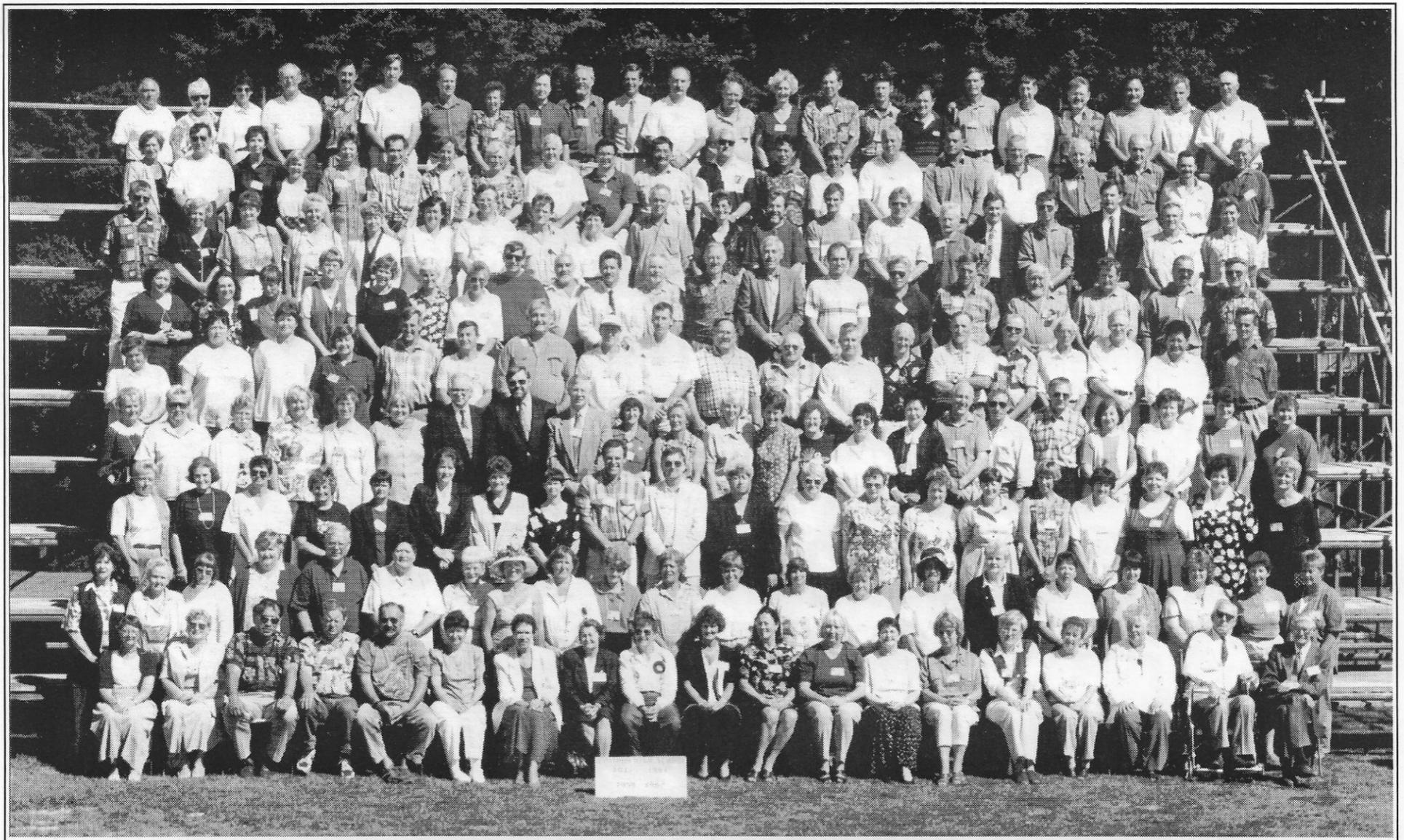
1947



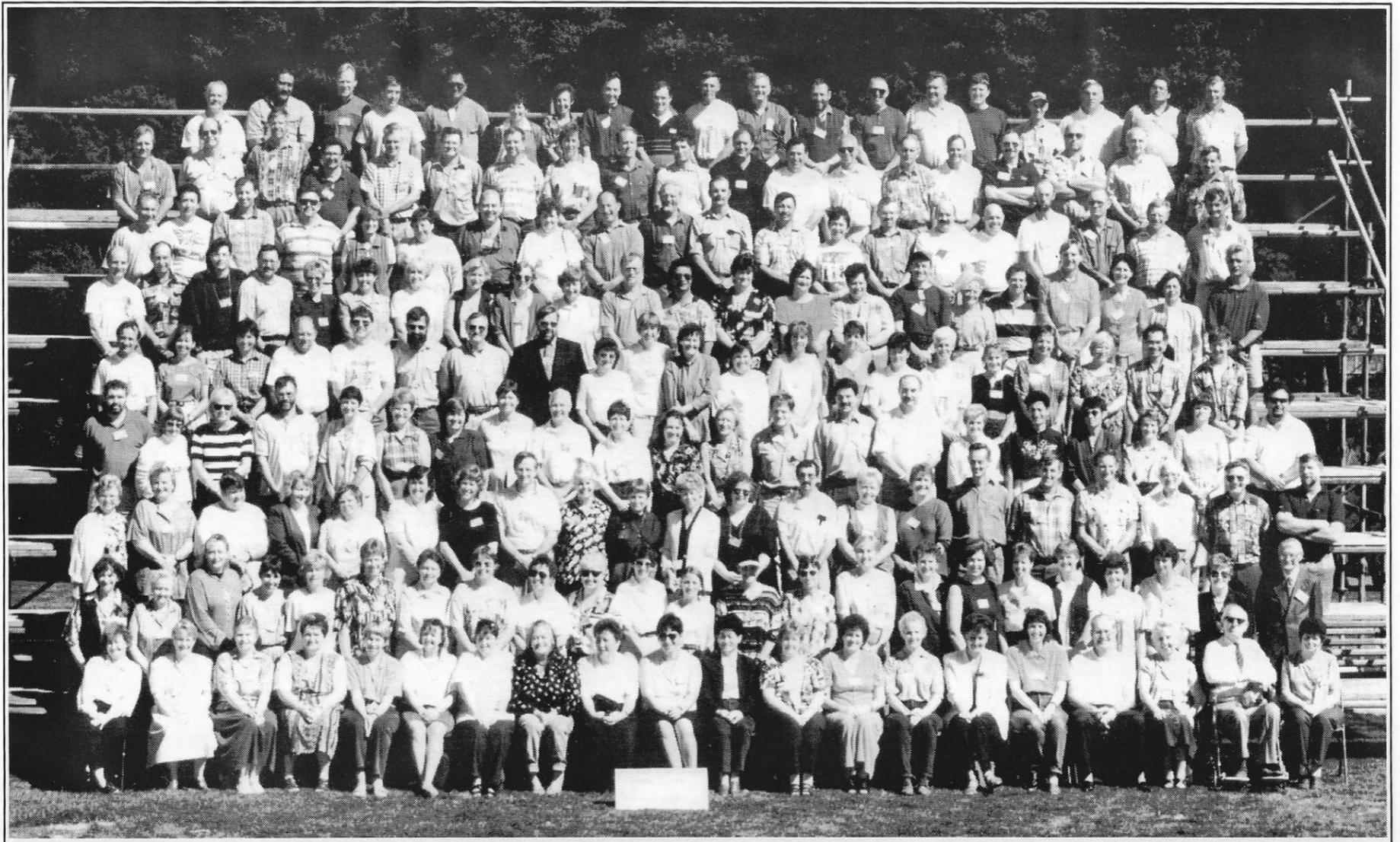
1948 - 1952



1953 - 1957

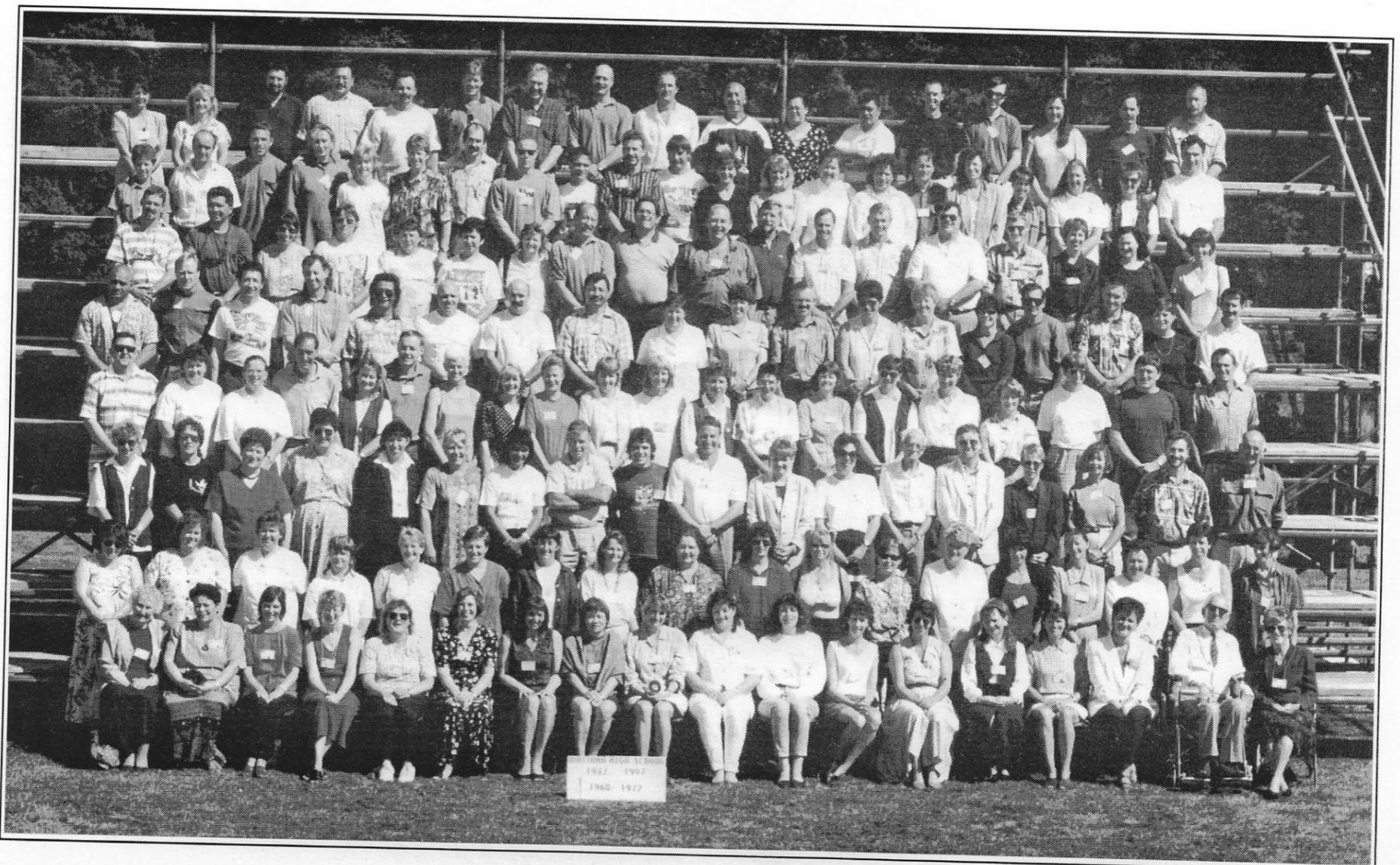


1958 - 1962

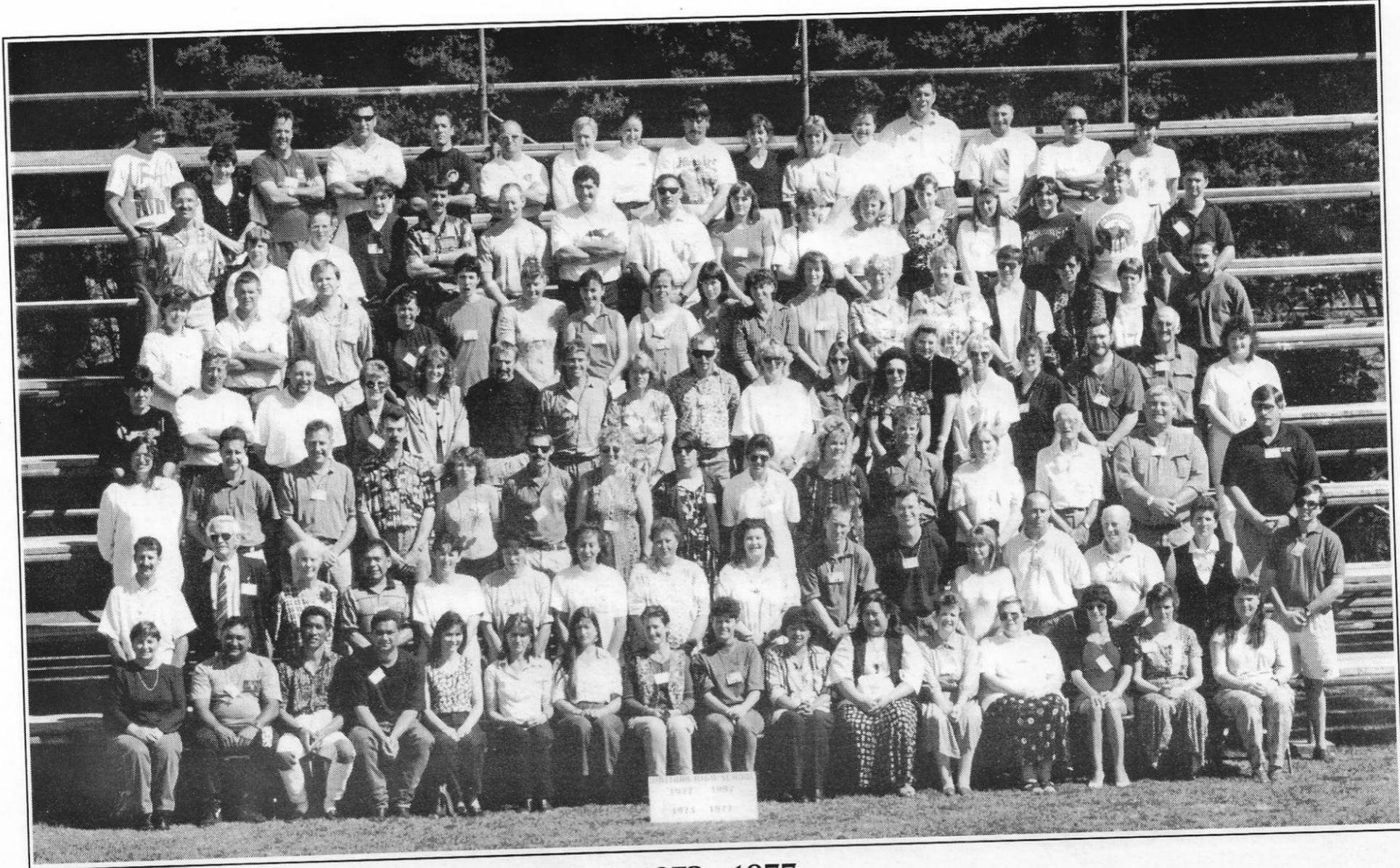


1963 - 1967

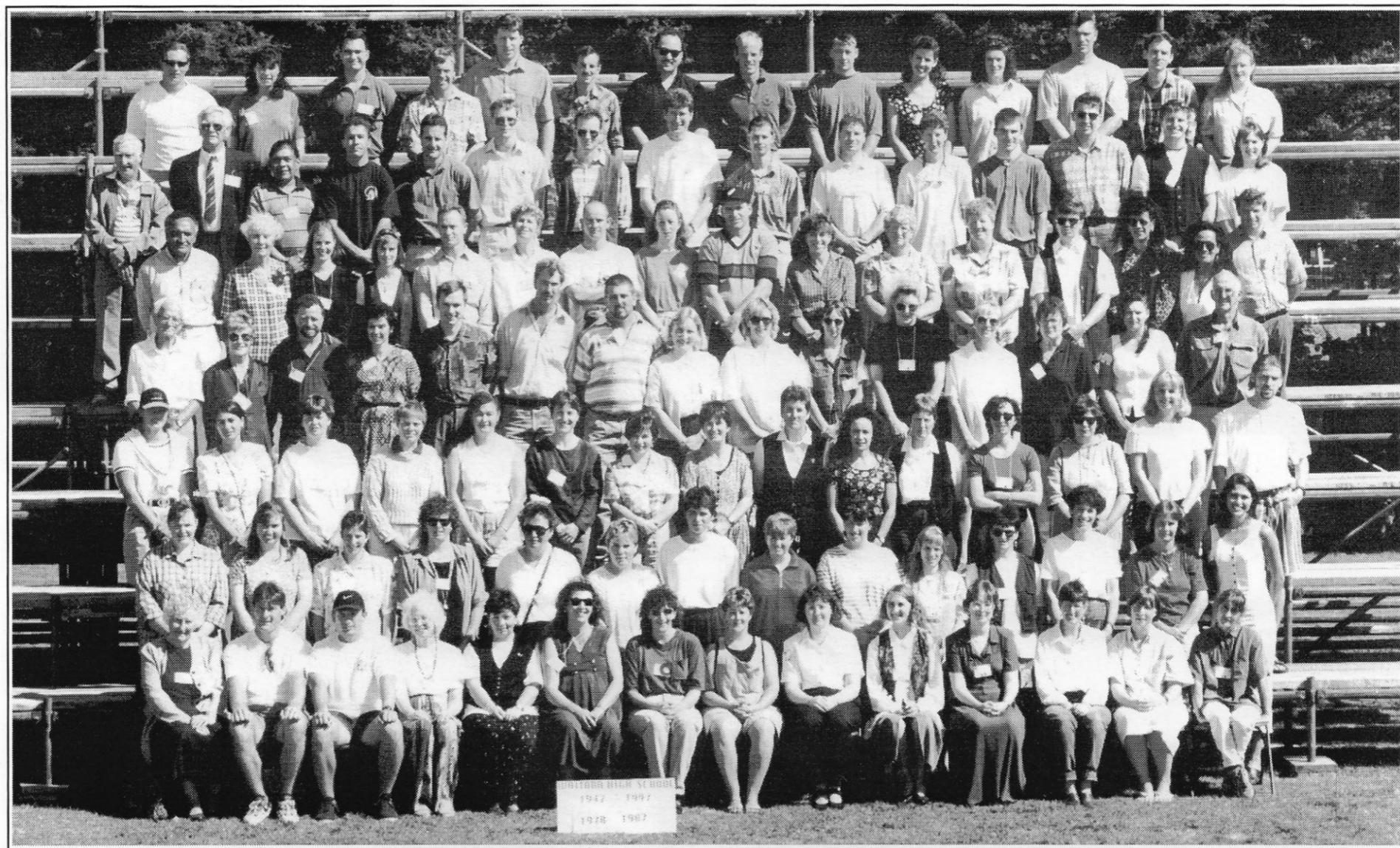
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1968 - 1972



1973 - 1977



1978 - 1987



1988 - 1997



Jubilee Committee



Staff and Board Members



METHANEX NEW ZEALAND LTD
Motunui Plant

Methanex and Waitara High School - A Common Bond

When Waitara High School was built fifty years ago it did not look the same as it does today. It was smaller, had fewer buildings and less equipment and catered for the educational needs of society at that time. Had the school remained unchanged, it would now be closed. It had to grow to meet the needs of its students and the area it was servicing.

So it is with industry. Over ten years ago, two petrochemical plants were built in the Waitara area; the Petralgas (NZ) Limited plant in the Waitara Valley and the gas-to-gasoline plant owned by the New Zealand Synthetic Fuels Corporation Limited at Motunui.

When they were built they met the needs of the owners of that time. But, like the school, neither could stand still.

From day one the Waitara Valley plant has manufactured chemical grade methanol, predominantly for the export market. It has increased its output and extended its markets so that now methanol is exported to Japan, Korea, Taiwan, China and Australia.

Methanex New Zealand took over ownership of the plant in 1993 and at the same time, it also acquired the gas-to-gasoline plant at Motunui. Methanex New Zealand Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Methanex Corporation based in Vancouver, Canada.

Methanex Corporation owns seven plants worldwide and is the largest methanol producer in the world. Up until 1993, the former Synfuel plant had produced one product, unleaded petrol. It was a high quality product but the price that could be obtained for the product was dictated by the world price of oil. If the world price of oil was low, then a great product could not be sold for a high price.

Methanex appreciated that, by investing \$165 million dollars in the Motunui plant, it could enable the plant to produce two marketable products; unleaded petrol or distilled methanol. As the world's major methanol producer, Methanex realised the value of being able to swing between two products.

In 1993 it gave the go ahead for a 2000 tonne per day methanol distillation unit to be built at the Motunui plant and, within a year, it was built and operating. That gave partial flexibility, but when a second unit was built in 1995, the plant could manufacture 100% petrol or 100% methanol and, for the first time in its history, be market driven.

By making these changes Methanex New Zealand has become a major part of the wider Corporation, making over a third of the methanol required by the Corporation each year.

To be able to service its markets, more tankers had to be built and these 30,000 tonne, time chartered, designated methanol carriers are regular callers at Port Taranaki, loading up with valuable cargo bound for the Asia Pacific market.

Just as Methanex has faced challenges over the last ten years, it continues to do so today. To manufacture either petrol or methanol, Methanex needs natural gas. It is gas from the Maui and Kapuni fields in Taranaki that provide feedstock for the Methanex plants and without it they cannot function.

Unfortunately the Methanex contracts for the Maui gas expire early next century and, as yet, no replacement gas has been found. Methanex is doing everything it can to encourage exploration and development of gas fields in New Zealand as it wants to continue operating in Taranaki.



METHANEX NEW ZEALAND LTD
Waitara Valley Plant



THE MAUI EXPORTER, A 30,000 TONNE METHANOL CARRIER

And it is not solely a Methanex problem. The future of Methanex is important to the province. By operating in Taranaki, Methanex generates \$200 million per year into the local economy. For New Zealand it is a major source of export income, with annual sales averaging in excess of \$400 million. Although the company employs only 270 people directly, via the use of contract staff, this number escalates considerably.

Methanex' future also has ramifications for Port Taranaki. It is the largest user of the port which could be affected substantially if the methanol tankers no longer called.

Just as the school has faced problems over the years and coped with substantial changes in education, so too the company is working through solutions to its problems. Will the school be the same in ten years time? - no it will not. Will Methanex be the same in ten years time? - no it will not. Just as the school evolves, so too does industry. We will both adapt to meet the needs of the time but we will continue to have something very important in common - we will both be striving for excellence.

~ article provided by Methanex New Zealand Ltd

Methanex Bursaries

The Honours Board of University Graduates in Massey Hall clearly shows the trend in New Zealand education for increasing numbers of school leavers to proceed to university and obtain a degree.

To encourage and assist students the New Zealand Synthetic Fuels Corporation announced in 1986 the award of three bursaries annually to Waitara High School students continuing to full-time study at a polytechnic or university. Known at various times as Synfuel, Petralgas and Methanex awards they comprise a bursary study award, a bursary university study award renewable for four years, and a senior science prize. Further assistance was given in the form of employment during university vacations.

Those who have received bursaries have been both honoured and assisted. The Company is to be commended for this investment in young New Zealanders. That it is a very sound investment is evidenced by the achievements of bursary winners. All twenty-six recipients have either gained, or are currently studying for, a tertiary qualification.

Recipients since 1986 have been:

1986

CARL MULLER ~ Synfuel University Bursary

A University Junior Scholarship winner, Carl completed a B.Sc degree with first class honours at Massey University. His interest in mathematics and computers has taken him to work in Australia, and Britain where he is currently employed devising new computer games for a major company.

ROBERT PARTINGTON ~ Synfuel Polytechnic Bursary

Robert enrolled in the New Zealand Certificate in Draughting course at Taranaki Polytechnic. During his current employment he is continuing his studies.

NATALIE HOOPER ~ Synfuel Renewable Bursary

Natalie chose to study medicine and after graduating M.B. Ch.B she completed diplomas in obstetrics and paediatrics. Training in hospitals in Hamilton, Auckland and Wellington followed, with six months at a missionary hospital in Kenya. Currently she is completing the general practitioner training required for admission to F.R.N.Z.C.G.P.

1987

MARK INGRAM ~ Synfuel University Bursary

From Canterbury University in 1991 Mark graduated with a Bachelor of Engineering degree with honours in chemical and process engineering. Subsequent employment included a period with New Zealand Steel, work with computing firms in New Zealand, and computer programming for Sky TV in London.

ROGER JONES ~ Petralgas Senior Science Award

Roger graduated Bachelor of Technology with honours in biotechnology and bioprocess engineering in 1992. Work for Massey as a Project Officer followed and he compiled a manual on meat plant utilities. After two years in Britain and Europe he returned to employment in New Zealand, first as Quality Assurance Officer for Grower Foods and currently as Process Engineer at Pan Pacific Forest Industries at Whirinaki.

1988

MERRYN GOBLE ~ Synfuel University Bursary

Merryn completed a four-year course at Waikato University graduating with a Bachelor of Management Studies degree in 1992. She is currently a Financial Marketing Executive with Amcal Chemist Marketing, Auckland coordinating marketing activities throughout New Zealand.

MICHELLE ORLOWSKI ~ Petralgas Senior Science Award

After working as a technical assistant in the Haematology Department of Wellington Hospital, Michelle commenced studying for a Bachelor of Surveying degree first at Victoria University and later at the University of Otago from which she graduated. While at University she was a member of the Student Council, carried out research which is to be published, and tutored first year students.

She is currently employed by a firm of surveyors in Ashburton.

1989

KIRK SARGENT ~ Synfuel University Bursary

Kirk completed a Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Waikato and, as far as can be ascertained, is now specialising in marine biology in the Islands. He has recently completed a research paper.

JUDY OSBORNE ~ Synfuel Polytechnic Bursary

After successfully completing the comprehensive nursing course at Taranaki Polytechnic and gaining registration, Judy went to the United States and qualified to nurse there. However, she returned to a position at Wanganui where she nursed for two years before travelling overseas. After nursing in London she moved to Edinburgh where she is currently nursing.

JULIE OLIVER ~ Synfuel University Bursary

Julie graduated from the University of Waikato with a Bachelor of Management Studies with honours. She is now an accountant with the National Dairy Association in Hamilton.

KARALYN HICKS ~ Petralgas Senior Science Award

Karalyn studied medicine at the University of Auckland, graduating M.B. Ch.B. in 1996. She is now completing the two years' work experience as a house surgeon required for registration.

1990

HELEN LEHNDORF ~ Synfuel University Bursary

While studying for a B.A. in English literature at Massey University Helen became involved in campus activities: drama society, student newspaper, DJ for Radio Massey, and Women Students' Officer on the Student Association Executive.

After graduation in 1993 she completed a Diploma of Teaching and worked full-time on the student newspaper before moving with her husband to London.

CHRIS LASH ~ Synfuel Renewable Bursary - Petralgas Senior Science Prize

After completing a B.Sc at the University of Auckland and being awarded the senior prize in cellular and molecular biology, Chris commenced study for a M.Sc in medical science which he completed with honours in 1995.

In 1996 he enrolled at the Auckland Medical School in the four-year degree course with the intention of specialising in forensic pathology.

1991

SYLVAN BUTLER ~ Synfuel University Bursary

Sylvan enrolled in the Bachelor of Science Technology Course at the University of Waikato. After graduating in 1997 he is seeking employment in his specialist field of electronics.

ROBERT BUCKHAM ~ Synfuel University Bursary

While studying for a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree at the University of Otago Bob was elected 1996 President of the New Zealand Association of Pharmacy Students, serving on the Pharmacy Advisory Committee and the Otago/Southland Branch Committee of the Pharmaceutical Society. He was awarded a Research Studentship and assisted with two research projects at the School of Pharmacy.

He graduated in 1996 and is now in his intern year at Taranaki Base Hospital.

BRENT SIMPSON ~ Synfuel Renewable Bursary - Petralgas Senior Science Prize

Brent attended Massey University to study for a Bachelor in Horticulture degree. He was successful, graduating in 1995, and is currently assistant-manager of a tree nursery in Taranaki.

1992

MELISSA GROS ~ Synfuel University Bursary - Petralgas Senior Science Prize

Melissa chose to study for a science degree at the University of Waikato. After graduating she obtained employment in the sales and marketing division of a firm specialising in the handling and disposal of toxic liquid wastes. To improve her qualifications she is studying part-time for the Diploma of Business and Marketing.

SUZANNE OLIVER ~ Synfuel Renewable Bursary

The 1992 Dux, Suzanne has completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at Victoria University and is now studying for a degree in law.

1993

ALEX WINTER ~ Methanex University Bursary

Alex completed in 1996 a Bachelor of Business Studies with a double major in marketing and sports and recreation management. He is now working towards an honours degree in marketing with the possibility of post-graduate study in sports marketing, followed by overseas travel.

During his time at Massey University he has been involved with the Massey Soccer Club, both as President and as player/manager.

PAULA RICHARDSON ~ Methanex Renewable Bursary - Methanex Senior Science Prize

Paula is in year four of a five-year Bachelor of Veterinary Science degree at Massey University. Practical work during vacations has been on dairy farms and in vet clinics.

Once she has completed her degree Paula plans to work in New Zealand for a couple of years before travelling overseas on a working holiday.

1994

STEVEN WALLACE ~ Methanex University Bursary

Steven completed papers in Maori and calculus at Massey in 1996 and is currently enrolled in the Bachelor of Architecture course at Victoria University.

SIMON LYE ~ Methanex Renewable Bursary - Methanex Senior Science Prize

Simon won entry into the School of Aviation at Massey but a colour defect in his vision forced a change of career. He transferred to the four-year Bachelor of Technology in Information Engineering course and is now aiming for a career in telecommunications.

1995

KELLY HOSKINS ~ Methanex Renewable Bursary - Methanex Senior Science Prize

Kelly is in her second year of a Bachelor of Science (Organic Chemistry) course at Massey University

LINDSAY CAST ~ Methanex University Bursary

Lindsay is continuing his interest in art by taking the Design course at Wellington University/Polytechnic.

1996

ADRIAN WINTER ~ Methanex University Bursary

Adrian is at Massey University where he is studying for a Bachelor of Technology degree in product development.

SANDY FRYER ~ Methanex Renewable Bursary - Methanex Senior Science Prize

Sandy is at Massey University also studying for the Bachelor of Science degree and hoping to do research work.

FOR THE ARCHIVES

The School Dux

The title of dux was originally awarded to the pupil who, in that year, had shown outstanding leadership qualities, academically, on the sportsfield, and through involvement in School activities.

It was not until the 1950s that the award was made purely on the basis of academic achievement. The change may have occurred in 1958 when the Department of Maori Affairs, wishing to perpetuate the memory of a famous scholar, Sir Peter Buck, donated a silver medal to be awarded annually to the School dux.

The first recipient was the 1958 dux, Shirlie Squire.

1947	Ron Sinclair	1964	Rosemary Whittaker	1980	Ruth Christie
1948	Rex Dowman	1965	Barbara Gosnell	1981	Kelvin Billinghamurst
1949	Joy Reid	1966	Anne Whittaker	1982	Graeme Judson
1950	Barry Bishop	1967	John Millard	1983	Maree Pollock
1951	Merle Pennington	1968	Judith Howell	1984	Neil Pollock
1952	Elsie Nicholas	1969	Yvonne Sorensen	1985	Jannine Budden
1953	Della Shewry	1970	Pauline McLennan	1986	Carl Muller
1954	Mary Hart	1971	John Dunbar	1987	Mark Ingram
1956	Ngaio Smith	1972	Jeffrey Whittaker	1988	Merryn Goble
1957	Malcolm McGregor	1973	Jeffrey Whittaker	1989	Karalyn Hicks
1958	Shirlie Squire	1974	Hugh Whittaker	1990	Christopher Lash
1959	Doris Dowman	1975	Keith Smith	1991	Brent Simpson
1960	Rodney Arms	1976	Gael Surrey	1992	Suzanne Oliver
1961	Lyndsay Main	1977	Cliff Arms	1993	Paula Richardson
1962	Richard Faull	1978	Anthony Tonks	1994	Simon Lye
1963	Darrell Simpson	1979	Allan Pollock	1995	Lindsay Cast
				1996	James Davidson

Principals

E W P Massey	1947 - 1962
J F Sharkey	1962 - 1970
D F Audley	1970 - 1973
R J Kivell	1974 - 1987
N J Jessep	1987 - 1994
H Cast	1995 -

**First Assistant -
Deputy Principal**

L C Meiklejohn	1947 - 1965
H L Wallace	1966 - 1968
A W A Parkes	1969 - 1976
P W Savage	1976 -

**Senior Assistant
Mistress -
Assistant Principal**

Miss R Day	1947 - 1957
Mrs L B Howard	1957 - 1962
Mrs J Bridgeman	1962 - 1981
Mrs V O'Keefe	1982 - 1983
Mrs M Court	1984 - 1988
Mrs S Smith	1989 - 1993
Mrs J D Gabites	1993 -



First pupils to enter new School, February 3, 1947
Marion Verry, youngest girl, Peter Blyde, youngest boy.



WAITARA D.H.S. SEVENTH GRADE RUGBY 1947
 First Waitara D.H.S team to win a Taranaki Championship.

Back Row: R Goble, A Dugdale, G McDonald, R Zeier, D White, T Rea, D Yardley
 Middle Row: P Lucas, T Priest, B Graham, C Henderson (Capt) M Baker, D Gribbon, I Jarvis
 Front Row: P Blyde, T Hale, D Meiklejohn, D Ashley

Chairmen

WAITARA DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

W Johnston 1946 - 1948
 C D Bannister 1949 - 1953
 W C Williams 1953 - 1954

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

V G Foreman 1948 - 1953

WAITARA HIGH SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

V G Foreman 1954 - 1964
 C C Geer 1964 - 1965
 P L Winter 1966 - 1976

WAITARA HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF GOVERNORS

A R Jones 1976 - 1980
 I A Dowdle MBE 1980 - 1987
 Mrs M Luond 1987 - 1989

WAITARA HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I A Finer 1989 - 1994
 T G Wells 1994 -

Pupils who have returned to teach at the School

Margaret Marr (Adlam)	Ray Sharrock
Merle Pennington (Brownlie)	Peter Gall
Ken Meiklejohn	Marilyn Watson (Linehan)
Dawn Pascoe	Ross Domney
Mac Telfar	Diane Street (Watts)
Fredda Stinson	Thelma Geary (Luxton)
Jon Leitch	Tiri Bailey (Nowell)
Shirlie Squire (Gilmoure)	Tui Hyde (Maxwell)
Keith Stead	Steve Leppard
Paula Briskie (Cole)	Teri Tamati
Michael Laycock	Chris Moller
Peter Lucas	Andrew Sorenson
Janet Minchin	Michael Montgomerie
Pauline McLennan (Crow)	Neil Utting
	Don Crossman



The group of 1947 fourth form pupils who transferred to Waitara D.H.S. when it opened.

1ST XV 1952 WINNER OF TARANAKI FIFTH GRADE CHAMPIONSHIP

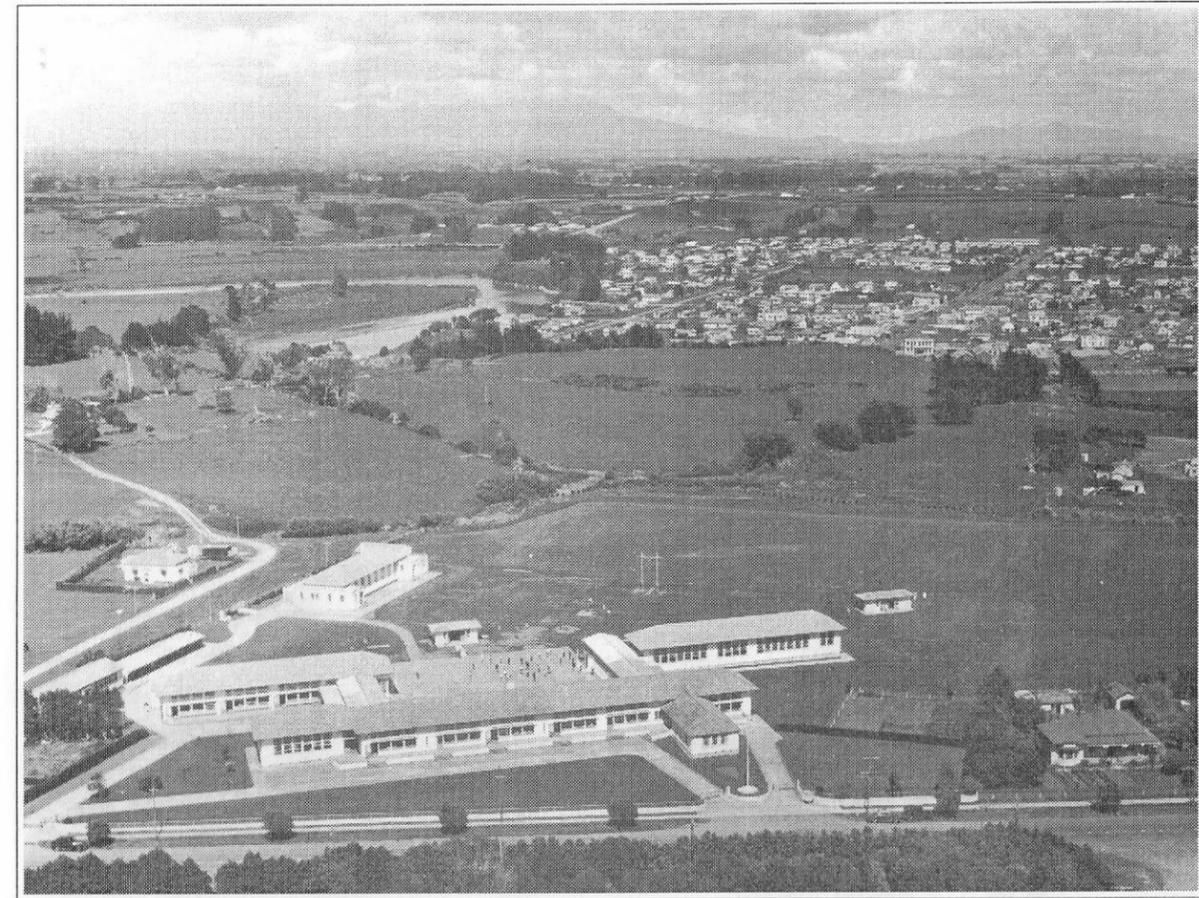


Back Row: R Glentworth, V Surrey, B Raumati, K Bedford, J O'Carroll, V Puke, R McGregor.
 Middle Row: G Wiley, L Denton, R Tito, J Nicholas, R Tamati, J Megaw.
 Front Row: R Redfern, R Ellis, G Wrathall (Capt), C Crossman (Coach), R Chapman (Vice Captain), E Astwood, G Tamati.

Long-serving Staff

E W P Massey	1947 - 1962	Mrs A Gilmer	1972
L C Meiklejohn	1947 - 19 66	G Court	1973 - 1991
Miss R Day	1947 - 1957	R L Clarke	1973 - 1985
H L Wallace	1947 - 1968	R J Kivell	1974 - 1987
N R Denton	1947 - 1969	Mrs V O'Keefe	1974 - 1983, 1987 - 1988
Mrs B Power	1948 - 1962	L Jordan	1974 - 1983
E Stead	1948 - 1972	Mrs M Jordan	1974 - 1983
M G Smart	1950 - 1975	Mrs E Smith	1975 -
F G Swindells	1952 - 1971	Mrs P Crow	1975 - 1983, 1987 - 1990
R W Ridgway	1952 - 1962	L MacDonald	1975 - 1984
A W A Parkes	1953 - 1976	Mrs M Cadle	1976 - 1982, 1987 -
Mrs G Wallace	1953 - 1963	Mrs M Court	1976 - 1988
J B Nicholls	1954 - 1963	P Gall	1977 - 1988
Mrs M A Lee	1955 - 1972	Mrs M Edwin	1977 - 1987
R E Brine	1958 - 1968	Mrs J Kivell	1978 - 1987
Mrs J E Summers	1958 - 1972	P Pritchard	1978 -
Miss N T Taylor	1958 - 1975	Mrs J Soffe	1978 - 1997
S C Cunningham	1959 - 1972	N Armond	1979 -
Mrs S Chittenden	1960 - 1969	L Bracegirdle	1979 -
Mrs J M Brine	1960 - 1964, 1979 - 1988	Mrs L Hotter	1979 -
S G Thompson	1961 - 1982	Mrs M Lineham	1979 -
M F Telfar	1962 -	Mrs S Weston	1980 - 1995
Mrs J Bridgeman	1962 - 1982	R Boyd	1980 -
B Dey	1963 - 1972	N Ingram	1980 - 1988, 1991 -
B Bovett	1965 - 1974	Mrs D Watts	1983 -
Mrs L M Thompson	1966 - 1983	Mrs B Muller	1984 - 1995
I M Kurta	1967 - 1987	Mrs G Morrow	1984 -
Mrs I Topping	1969 - 1993	Mrs L Zimmerman	1984 -
P W Savage	1970 -	Mrs S Bracegirdle	1985 -
P Eliadis	1970 - 1986	Mrs R Marris	1985 -
Mrs P Cole	1971 -	M Harding	1986 -
Mrs H Whitehead	1971 - 1984	Mrs J Dodd	1986 -
Mrs J Elliott	1971 - 1985	S Brown	1986 -
Mrs S Wright	1971 -	Miss M Ngatai	1986 -
P Lucas	1972 - 1995	P Jessa	1987 -
Mrs P Willis	1972 - 1988	Miss H Robson	1988 -

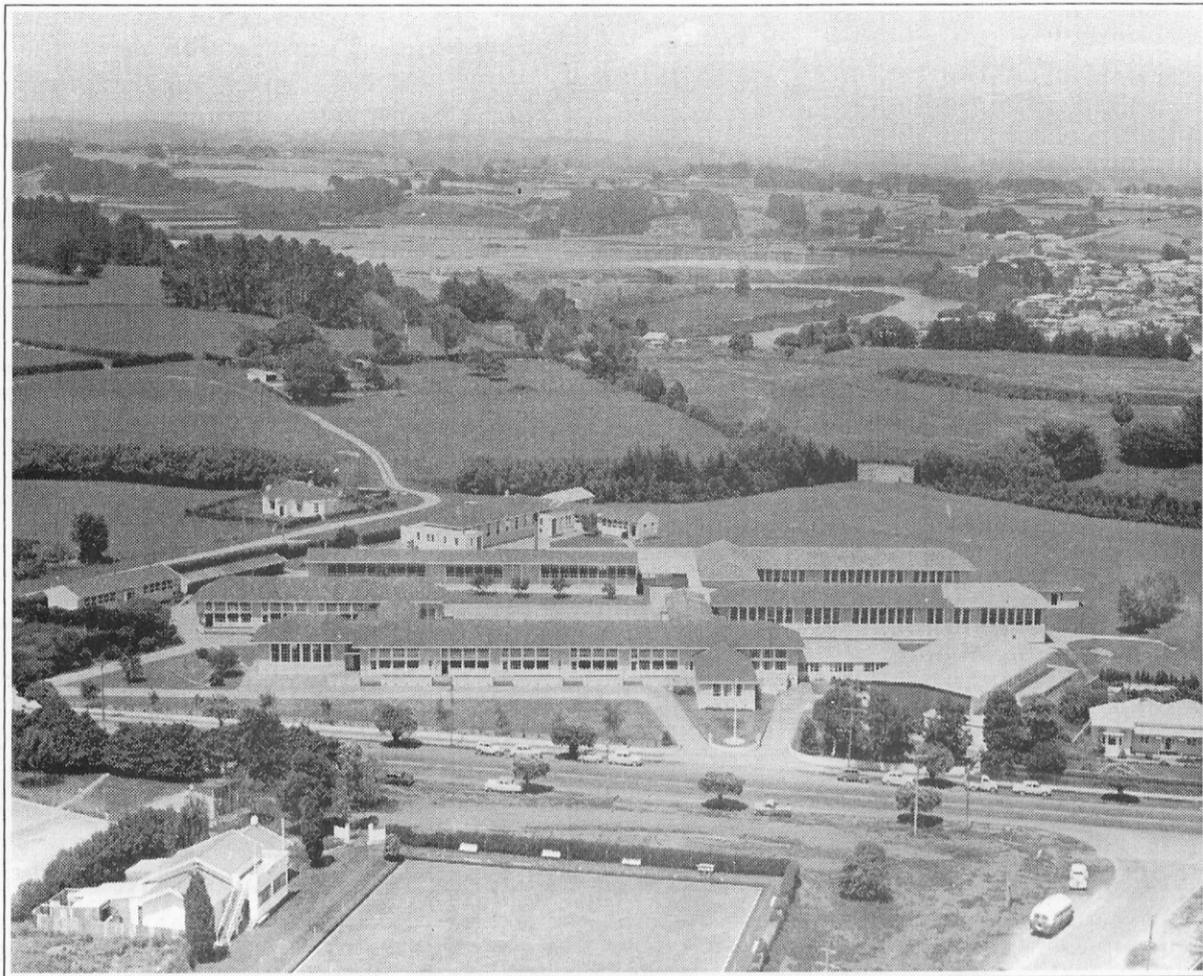
Dates have been taken from School magazines which may not have recorded all staff who joined or left during the year.



The School about 1954. Sports Fields have been formed and the outdoor gymnasium, with the climbing ropes prominent, is in place. Note the garden in the area now occupied by the assembly hall.



The School Choir - Music Festival 1968



The School as it appeared in the 1968 School Magazine.
the library - typing room - art room block destroyed in the 1989 fire is at right rear.



The Pantomime
"Alice in Wonderland" 1966



Maori Club 1963

THE TWENTY-FIFTH REUNION - 1972



Back Row: F Whittaker, N Hall, N Utting, J Leitch, R Brine, J Orams, G Swindells, K Stead.
Middle Row: D Allen, Mrs G Wallace, Mrs E Arnold, Miss P Tatham, Mrs J Brine, Mrs M Brownlie, Miss Bryne, A Baker.
Front Row: Mrs S Chittenden, J Sharkey, Miss R Day, EWP Massey, I Meikjohn, Miss M Bottrill, H Wallace.

THE FIRE, 1989



1996/97 BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Back Row: Erica Heppell, Shirley McGarvey, Graeme Armstrong, Tiri Nowell, Christine O'Carroll.
Front Row: Lorraine Coster, Terry Wells (Chairman), Harry Cast (Principal), Norm Armond (Staff Representative)



Opening batsmen Eddie Walden and Collier Henderson in front of the scoreboard.
Waitara D.H.S. v Waitara D.H.S. Old Boys, 1948

POSTSCRIPT

THE BOOKLET

The publication of this booklet was timed for after the Jubilee so that photos and material from the celebrations could be included. Originally, the booklet was planned to include a section on former pupils who had achieved distinction in sport, study, or career. It was soon realised that Waitara High School had produced a large number of high achievers, that tracing and recording their achievements would require a great deal of time and research, and that quite arbitrary decisions would then have to be made on whom to include and whom to leave out. Reluctantly, it was decided to omit this section.

THE JUBILEE

Comments and letters received by the Jubilee Committee leave no doubt that those attending thoroughly enjoyed the occasion and appreciated the work of those who organised it. Financially the Jubilee was a success also, and the School, through the Massey Trust, will benefit accordingly.

The Committee now has a video of the Jubilee, a large number of photos, some of which appear in this booklet, and a list, which it plans to put on computer, of all past pupils. The final work of the Committee will be to edit these records and arrange for their safe storage so that they will be available to any group planning a get-together or reunion.

SCHOOL MAGAZINES

The School does not have a complete set of School magazines and would appreciate receiving any copies former students are willing to donate.

THE FUTURE

Questions are already being asked about reviving the Old Pupils' Association, and when the next reunion will be held. There seems to be general agreement among those asking the question that twenty-five years is too long to wait, and that a Diamond Jubilee marking sixty years would be 'about right'. There have been suggestions also that some class or year groups might get together informally.

Future functions and their timing depend ultimately on the willingness of a group of enthusiasts willing to give the time and effort required to organise them. The 1997 Jubilee was a major undertaking and extremely well organised. It is hoped that its success will encourage other groups of former pupils to initiate future events.

THE LAST WORD ON THE JUBILEE

Fittingly, it goes to a first-day pupil. -

"a wonderful, warm occasion. I just wish we could have that week-end all over again".