



the Patsman

NEWSLETTER OF THE ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

DECEMBER 2020

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Welcome from the President

KIA ORA, WELCOME TO THE LATEST EDITION OF THE PATSMAN



2020, what a challenging year it has been!

COVID-19 certainly sent shockwaves throughout the world, especially here in New Zealand. Our strict lockdown measures have kept New Zealanders safe from the dangers of the virus that has been seen

overseas. 2020 has seen many of our regular functions postponed or cancelled due to the circumstances faced this year. The lockdown gave an opportunity for families and communities to be closer and work together. It was great to see communities come together to support each other.

It has been a challenging year for both colleges as well. Having to run online classes, away from the norms of the classroom were challenging for staff and students. It was great to how both colleges engaged their students during the lockdown. There was also the threat of no sports however, the improving environment allowed students and staff to return to sport fields in June. Both colleges have had successes on the sporting field and with their cultural activities.

Our AGM scheduled for Mid-March was postponed till June. In a first, our AGM was held online via ZOOM which was shared to our Facebook Group. It has great to have old boy's join the meeting who mainly cannot attend in person. Elected to the 2020 Executive Committee were Brendon Holland (Stream 1982-1986) and Town Old Boy Harry Ireland (2011-2015) who has taken over the duties of secretary. Harry is well organised and keeps committee members up to date with all correspondence. Our previous secretary and Town Old Boy Vincent Schumacher could not continue in the role of secretary due to work commitments and the arrival of his first child. The committee wishes Vincent and his family all the best.

Our annual old boy's rugby match was postponed for 2020 due to the border restrictions. A number of old boy's travel from overseas to play the game. We were also hoping to have our first ever old boy's football match played however, that was postponed to 2021. Let's keep praying for the opening of travel bubbles and an impending vaccine so these fixtures can be played at the Winter Exchange to be held at Silverstream in July 2021.

Our annual Mix'n'Mingle was also postponed for 2020. The committee tried to get an event off the ground for late November, however, the logistics were too tight. However, our Mix'n'Mingle could be held at the soon to be open Irish Embassy in early 2021. Many thanks to Irish Ambassador Peter Ryan for working with the committee to come up with possible Mix'n'Mingle dates. Watch out for more information via email, the website or on or social media platforms in the coming months.

It was a pleasure in September to meet Peter Ryan and to be shown around the nearly completed Irish Embassy. It is a fantastic embassy that is very welcoming and showcases Irish history and the connection with New Zealand. Peter is willing to work with the committee and both colleges on some exciting ventures.

2020 has been a busy and unusual year for the association. Some of normal activities did not happen however, we have continued to support the scholarships at the colleges and to help out where we can. We have some new ideas being thought of within our committee which is exciting. If you are interested in joining the committee, please get in touch with myself or anyone on the committee.

Our Facebook Group and Page continue to be our strongest form of communication. In late 2019, we launch our own Instagram page. This platform strongly connects with old boys who have just finished school or within the last five to ten years. The President's Old Boy's Focus continues to engage well with our members. You can read the 2020 entries on this publication.

Nominations are still open for Old Boy of the Year for 2020. With no Mix'n'Mingle Function, we will present the award in early 2021. The Nomination form is included in this edition of the Patsman.

Finally, remember to pay your fee. Your subscription helps us as an association to serve you as Old Boys and to support the well-being of both colleges.

Enjoy the Patsman and thank you for your continued support towards the association.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

SECTARE FIDEM,

BRAD HUDSON, SPCOBA PRESIDENT
SILVERSTREAM 2000-2004

Old Boys' Noticeboard

WELL DONE TO **MIKE SAVALI** for becoming the 25th Rector and First Pacific Island Rector of St Patrick's College Wellington. Mike is an Old Boy of the College, a former teacher at the college and was Deputy Rector at Silverstream. He was inducted on 29th January. Read more about Mike in the Welcom article inside this publication.

CONGRATULATIONS TO **ROCCO BERRY** for representing the Warriors in the NRL 9's. Rocco was also a squad member of the Warriors while they were based in Australia. Read more about Rocco's Rugby League journey in this issue.

AWESOME WORK BY both Stream and Town Sevens teams for qualifying for the Condor 7s in Auckland this December. Stream won the College Sport Wellington Christian Cullen Cup on Labour Day beating Town 17-14 in the final. Stream caused the greatest upset on the day beating Scots College in the semi-final. The Town under 15 team also qualified for the tournament. The Old Boy's Association has made a financial contribution to both colleges to support their Condor 7s campaign.

THE 7s SEMI-FINAL win for Stream over Scots was bitter sweet as Stream lost the Premier One 1st XV to Scots Final 24-21 in late September. Stream also lost to Scots in the 1 XI Football Final 3-2.

THE TOWN HAD a chance to beat their hoodoo over Stream in the 1st XV Traditional in July however, a late 40 metre penalty try to Stream ended their hopes after leading for most of the traditional. Town last won the traditional in 2010.

SCORES FROM THE 2020 Winter Sports Exchange held at Town in July:

- 1st XV Rugby: Stream 26 Town 17
- Senior A Basketball: Town win 74-56
- 1st XI Football: Stream won 2-0
- 1st XI Hockey 1-1 draw
- Junior Basketball: 99-42 to Stream
- U15 Rugby: Town won 41-29
- Colts Football: Stream won 3-1
- Road Race: Stream won 2-1
- Badminton: Town won 6-0
- Golf: Stream won 2-1
- Overall: Stream won the exchange 6.5 to Town's 3.5

DUE TO COVID-19, our AGM was delayed till June. In a first, our AGM was run via Zoom. Possibly a way of the future??

ALSO, DUE TO COVID-19, the Marist St Pat's Rugby Football Club (MSP) postponed their 50th Jubilee celebrations scheduled for Queens Birthday 2020 to 2021.

HOWEVER, MSP STILL released their 50th Anniversary book called 'C'MON RED – A Celebration of Marist St Pat's Rugby' written by Tim Donoghue. The title 'C'MON RED' comes from the voice of the old boy and vocal MSP supporter **JOHN GORDON**. John was an active member of the club and always

welcome guest to the club rooms after Saturday fixtures. The entrance way at MSP is named after him. Copies of 'C'MON RED' can still be purchased through the club.

MSP ALSO WON the Swindale Shield in the Wellington Club Premier Competition. There were 15 Old Boy's in the starting 15. MSP made the semi-finals in the Jubilee Cup however, fell short to cross town rivals and eventual winners Old Boy's University.

DID YOU KNOW, **JOHN GORDON**, until his passing in 2014, kept a historical record of all Presidents of the Old Boy's Association.

WELL DONE TO **BLAIR COWAN** (Stream 1999-2003) for being re-selected in Scotland Rugby Squad for the Autumn Nations Cup in Europe. Also, Trevor Griggs (Town in the late 1960's) second son Nick also made the Scotland Squad.

GREAT TO SEE a number of Old Boy's playing in the Mitre 10 Cup and Heartland fixtures this year. Auckland: **SALESI RAYASI** (Stream), Bay of Plenty: **CHASE TIATIA** (Stream), Taranaki: **DONALD BRIGHOUSE** (Town), **RHODES FEATHERSTONE** (Town), Hawkes Bay: **JOE APIKOTOA** (Stream), **JOEL HINTZ** (Stream), Wellington: **ASAFO AUMUA** (Stream), **BEN AUMUA-PESETA** (Town), **CALLUM HARKIN** (Stream), **XAVIER NUMIA** (Town), **BILLY PROCTOR** (Town), Tasman: **TYREL LOMAX** (Stream), Otago: **KAYNE HAMMINGTON** (Stream), **HARRISON BOYLE** (Stream), Buller: **ANTHONY ELLIS** (Stream), Wairarapa-Bush: **CHRIS HEMI** (Stream), **LEWIS BUSH** (Stream).

DESPITE ALREADY PLAYING a game for the All Blacks, **ASAFO AUMUA** (Stream) made his Test Debut against Australia in Brisbane on 7th November. **TYREL LOMAX** (Stream) is also in the All Blacks Squad for the Tri Nations in Australia.

STREAM OLD BOY **JONNY BENTLEY** (2000-2004) has been living in Spain playing rugby for the last few years. In August he ran a marathon – 422 lengths on a rugby field to raise funds for mental health in New Zealand. His brother Dan passed away nine years ago and wanted to do something to contribute to the foundation. In total he raised \$7589. Awesome effort Jonny!

THE OLD BOY'S Rugby match and the Inaugural Football match were not played in 2020 due to COVID-19. The main factors for this decision have been the Lockdown / COVID-19 and teams getting their squads together, particularly getting players that live overseas. All going to plan, the match will return at the 2021 Winter Exchange as well as the first Old Boy's Football match.

WELL DONE TO **RILEY HIGGINS** (Stream) and **SIAM LAUAKI** (Town) for making the New Zealand Secondary Schools Rugby Team. However, due to COVID-19, no matches against Australia could be played. Also, **BRADLEY CRICHTON** and **CHRISTIAN STENHOUSE** (Town) were selected in the New Zealand Barbarians Secondary Schools Rugby Team. The teams will not play in 2020

but selectors named the sides to recognise the efforts of the secondary school players in 2020.

TOWN OLD BOYS and Labour MPs **GREG O'CONNOR** and **PAUL EAGLE** were re-elected in their electorates (Ohariu and Rongotai) in the October General Election. Stream Old Boy **MARK CROFSKEY** was the National Party candidate in the Remutaka Electorate.

ELVIS HAS NOT left the building. Stream Old Boy **BRENNAN CAREY** was a finalist in the Elvis Down under competition at the Upper Hutt Cossie Club on Election Night.

A COUPLE OF Town Old Boys **CORI GONZALEZ-MACUER** and **FA'ALI'ALALAIMOANA** (1999) performed a comedy show in Whanganui on August 21st. Both worked extremely hard to share some laughs with as many people as possible.

WELL DONE TO Town Old Boy **RAY STRICKLAND** who was presented with one of Basketball New Zealand's most prestigious awards in July – the Sir Lance Cross Award for 'Exceptional Services to Basketball'. Read his article from Basketball New Zealand in this edition of the Patsman.

WELL DONE TO the following Old Boy's on their recent weddings:

- **JAMIE CLARKE** (Stream 2002-2006) married Emily Gardner.
- **VINCENT RINGROSE** (Stream 2005-2009) married Sarah Wood.
- **MATT ROSE** (Stream 1998-2002) married Briony Clair.
- **JOE CARSON** (Stream 2008-2012) married Dani Donaldson.
- **JAMIE MAR** (2006-2010) married Jacinta Kauti.

AT THE END of 2019, Town farewelled Four of their staff who have collectively been at the school for over 110 years: **PETER WADSWORTH**, **AINSLIE SAUVAO**, **MARGARET GREALISH** and **ALDONA YARDLEY**. All four of you have been exemplary Marist leaders and the association wishes you all the best in your future endeavours.

STREAM OLD BOY **CHRIS FOUHY** at the end of 2019 finished his time as counsellor at Stream to become the new counsellor at Town.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TOWN Year 12 student **ZACH NEWTON**, who has just been accepted for the NZ Secondary Students' Choir.

CONGRATULATIONS TO **BEN PRENDERGAST** (Town 2015 – 2019) who has been awarded the University of Otago Performance Scholarship. The scholarship is of significant financial value and it is a huge achievement for Ben to receive it. Ben is an excellent pianist and a member of the NZ Secondary Students' Choir. He plans to study medicine at Otago in 2021.

(Continues on page 4)

Rest in Peace

SPC - TOWN	
ANNANDALE-STONE, Stanley Kooti	2007-08
BELL, Andrew Melvin	1942-43
BETHAM, Clinton Joe	1997-01
BURNS, William James	1952-54
CARR, Errol Philip	1951-56
COMAN, William Francis	1946-49
CROCKER, John William	1958-62
CROWHURST, Mark Adam	1982-85
DELLABARCA, John Joseph (Giovanni Giuseppe)	1954-58
DEVLIN, Allan James	1937-40
DORIZAC, Leslie Francis	1949-50
DUNN, Lawrence Clarence	1961-62
ELLER, David Max	1945-47
GALLAGHER, Charles Robert Francis (Bob)	1953-57
GREALLY, Fr Patrick (Pat) Dermot	1950-54
HOFFMAN, Nigel John	1947-51
HOSKINS, Gerard Rolland	1951-55
JONES, Philip Barry (Barry)	1956-57
KIELY, Peter John	1946
LAMBERT, Brian Spencer George (Bill)	1947
LEAMY, Terence Norman James (Terry)	1979-82
McCANN, Fr Patrick (John) SM	1954-55, 1959-75
McGRUDDY, Kerry Michael	1971
McLUSKIE, Kevin Michael	1943-46
MOORE, Michael Joseph	1965-70
MUOLLO, Antonio (Tony)	1957-58
MUOLLO, John Giovanni	1982-85
NOWAK, Julian Jan	1947-49
O'CONNOR, John Michael	1946-47
O'DONOVAN, Carroll Joseph	1940-43
O'HAGAN, Michael Anthony	1964-67
O'SULLIVAN, Michael Vincent	1949-50
PERKINSON, John Leo	1948-50
PICKUP, Terence	1955-57
SULLIVAN, Dermot Ledmond	1938-41
SWEENEY, John Joseph	1960-64
TYNAN, John Christopher (Jack)	1939
WARD, Samuel Simon	1998-00
WEAKLEY, Bernard David (Bernie)	1958-61

SPC - STREAM	
ALLAN, Raymond Alexander	1959-62
ANDERSON, Dennis John	1953-55
ARMSTRONG, David John	2014-18
BERRILL, John Beauchamp	1955-59
BLEWMAN, Patrick James (Pat)	1957-61
BOOTH, Donald Michael (Tony)	1950-53
CLEARY, Paddy	1951-54
COLEY, Terence John (Terry)	1951-54
CROSSWELL, Ivan Reginald	1950-51
CURTAIN, Michael Vincent (Vince)	1947-51
DEBNEY, Dennis John	1952-54
DOWLING, Terence Michael	1943-45
FLORENDO, Cy Marcus	2016-20
FULLER, Anthony Victor (Tony)	1948-52
HICKMAN, Thomas Osborne (Tom)	1943-45
HORAN, Desmond Edward (Des)	1951-55
LEARY, Terence Ronald	1947-50
MAYNE, Matthew Robert	1988-92
McCOOL, Michael John (Colonel)	1965-68
McKENNA, Lawrence Patrick (Larry)	1967-69
McPEAK, William George	1946-47
MORGAN, Anthony David	1952-56
NOLAN, Owen Patrick	1967-71
O'DONOGHUE, Gerard	1948-49
ROBINS, Charles Edward (Ted)	1950-54
STEWART, David Gordon	1950-52
TOD, Graeme Lincoln (Tody): J.P.	1968-71



MIKE McCOOL “OUR ALL BLACK”

GEORGE COLLINS, ONCE WAS A MAGPIE
(FACEBOOK PAGE)

As a Old Boy's community, it was sad to learn about Mike McCool passing on the 23rd June 2020.

Mike attended St Patrick's College Silverstream between 1965-68 and was a member of the College's 1968 First XV; a team that produced two All Blacks (Mike and Fullback Joe Karam). Mike was Silverstream's 7th All Black. He played two games for the All Blacks including a test match against Australia in 1979 locking the scrum with Andy Haden. Men in Black mentioned that "Mike had made a good impression in his debut for Wairarapa against Wellington early in the season and later in the All Black trials in Pukekohe". Playing for Hawkes Bay in the 1970s, he also turned out for the Junior All Blacks in 1974.

McCool had been battling away in provincial rugby for seven or eight seasons, impressing as no more than an admirable and honest workhorse, when he was suddenly called into the All Blacks in 1979.

Having had an excellent All Black trial, his only one, McCool became the replacement lock to partner Andy Haden when Frank Oliver was struck by injury during the two tests of 1979 against France. McCool took over from Oliver for two games in Australia, against Queensland B and the one-off Bledisloe Cup international against the Wallabies in Sydney.

That match was lost and McCool was to be among the casualties. He never played for the All Blacks again and he was overlooked for the tour later in the year of Scotland and England. Oliver was also unavailable for that tour, but to accompanying Haden was John Fleming and Vance Stewart who were preferred to McCool.

A product of rural southern Hawke's Bay, McCool played 77 matches for the Bay

between 1972 and 1978. He was in the side which beat the touring Wallabies in 1972 and he also played against the Lions in 1977 in a match the Hawkes Bay Magpies could have and should have won if not for a few missed kicks at goal. In 1974 he played five games for the New Zealand Juniors on an internal tour, but that was to be his only national recognition until his surprise elevation in 1979.

By that season McCool had moved his farming interests a little further south. Between 1979 and 1983 he played 50 games for Wairarapa-Bush, including meeting the touring Lions in 1983.

McCool played in one of Wairarapa-Bush's more notable eras and at the end of the 1981 season under the coaching of Brian Lochore the small union won promotion to the NPC first division. In his period with Wairarapa-Bush, McCool and the later All Black, Andy Earl then only in his teens, often locked together.

Immediate Past President George Collins had the privilege of meeting Mike a few years when he spoke at the 1960's Stream reunion. He was introduced as "Mike McCool - "Our All Black".

Three generations of McCools attended Silverstream.

Survived by his wife of 45 years - Deb and their family. We pray for Mike's family. Requiescat in pace, Mike.

Pictured at top: McCool receiving his All Black "cap" from John Sturgeon as part of the All Blacks "capping ceremony" of recent years.



FATHER MICHAEL VINCENT CURTAIN SM

Silverstream: 1946–51; 1959; 1981–87

Michael Vincent Curtain, regularly known as Vince, was from the West Coast, whose family moved North to Nelson. He began his secondary education at St Patrick's College, Silverstream in 1946. Vince was a good cricketer – in the 1st XI three years and as a very competent forward in the 1st XV 1950-51; he was a

prefect in 1950 and Head Prefect in 1951.

After priestly training at Greenmeadows and Ordination in 1958, Vince's first appointment was to his old school for 1959 – thus began 28 years in the educational apostolate. Down South to St Bede's College, Christchurch 1960-1971, getting a University Degree...coaching the 1st XI and 1st XV with loads of energy. His leadership and talents were recognised in six years as Rector of Hato Paora College, Parorangi, where he endeavoured to plant in young Maori men the key virtue of discipline of self. Vince was greatly helped by his setting up an Advisory Board and establishing District meetings of College Parents.

From 1978-1980 he was Senior Dean at St Patrick's College, Wellington as it relocated to Evans Bay Parade at Kilbirnie.

Back to Silverstream as the 11th Rector of the College, Vince drew on his experience, assisted once again by an Advisory Board for expert advice, along with his fine judgement in implementing it. Supporting all aspects of study and sport for a large Boarding College and growing number of day pupils. His first year as Rector saw the Golden Jubilee celebrated (1981) and soon after the Integration of Silverstream into the State Education system. That brought about new buildings; suits and blazers being replaced by reefer jackets, dropping of Saturday morning classes – and teaching on Wednesday afternoons! Through it all Vince balanced change and tradition.

Father Leo Evatt, who was Vince's Rector 1946-49 at Silverstream, was also on the staff during Vince's Rectorship and was a source of inspiration and counsel. Father Curtain would be found supporting sports teams at all levels, most frequently perched on a shooting-stick in the goal area. Sadly, he joined in three Vigils for St Patrick's pupils who died during his Rectorship: David Nicholls in 1982, Phillip Gorrie 1983, and Andrew Kelly in 1984. Vince's sister, Ursula Curtain was Matron of the College 1974-1989. A sabbatical break greeted Vince for a year September 1987 – September 1988.

Timaru, at Sacred Heart Parish in the role of an Assistant Priest, was Vincent's home and ministry from 1988-2006; broken with helping out at Palmerston North, and an eighteen month period 'on loan' to the Atlanta Province of the Society of Mary, serving at St Catherine's, Kawai, Hawaii. Then back to Timaru.

Vince was Parish Priest of Akaroa from 2007 to 2012; and Assistant Priest at Addington Parish until 2017. He retired to the Marist Community at St Basil's Court, Nazareth Community of Care, Sydenham, Christchurch; and was cared for there particularly in the last ten months of his earthly life. Vince died there on 20th September 2020.

May God be good to Vince...eternal rest grant to him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May Michael Vincent Curtain, Marist and Priest, rest in peace.

Old Boys' Noticeboard continued ...

WELL DONE TO **JOHN HOLDEN & JOHN POUTAWERA** who were awarded Life Memberships for their contributions to Marist St Pat's Rugby Football Club at the end of November.

TOWN OLD BOY **MANYUMOW 'MANNY' ACHOL** recently played International Football for South Sudan vs Uganda in the African Cup of Nations. Manny was the star of the Town 1st XI in 2017 when they won the Premier One Championship. You can re-watch Manny's game on YouTube by clicking the following link: https://youtube/J8PC6UB-_E8

TOWN WON BACK the junior athletics title, the Neville Shield from Silverstream in November. It is the 10th time in 11 years that Town have won the shield.

TOWN OLD BOY **RHODES FEATHERSTONE** and Stream Old Boy **FRITZ RAYASI** played for Team Inferno in the Red Bull Ignite Rugby 7's held at Blake Park, Mt Maunganui on the 5th and 6th December. Team Inferno lost the final.

TOWN OLD BOY **BILLY PROCTOR** played for the Maori All Blacks while Stream Old Boy **SALESI RAYASI** played for Moana Pasifika in their historic rugby match in Hamilton on 5th December. The Maori All Blacks won the match 28-21 with Billy scoring a try.

CARDINAL TOM WILLIAMS – 60 YEAR JUBILEE

WELCOM MARCH 2020:



Cardinal Tom Williams was ordained a priest on 20 December 1959 and a bishop in 1979. In 2019, Cardinal Tom reached a milestone, his 60th jubilee celebrating six decades of his ordination. He delivered the following jubilee homily in Wellington and Auckland last December.

“As an active bishop for 25 years I was called to ordain some forty men to priesthood.

In my ordination homilies I emphasised that priesthood has nothing to do with power and privilege, but everything to do with sacrifice and service, seeking nothing for the priest himself but striving only to please God, to imitate Jesus Christ the Good Shepherd, and to commit himself unreservedly to his pastoral responsibilities.

But each of those homilies was a kind of examination of conscience.

Was I practicing what I was preaching? Did I allow the awareness of the wondrous privilege – each day to transform bread and wine into the Body and Blood of our Redeemer – to lull me into thinking I possessed some sort of superior status within the Catholic community?

Did I forget too often the words of the Lord that are the source of joy and courage for every priest and bishop: ‘I no longer call you servants...I call you friends’?

Did I reflect often enough on what Pope Francis described as ‘that blazing light with which God touched me at the start of my priestly journey...the flame from which I can light a fire for today and every day which ignites a humble joy, a joy which sorrow and distress cannot dismay, a good and gentle joy’?

Alas, I have failed too frequently.

And, therefore, along with thanksgiving, I have to make repentance a theme of this jubilee.

I am well aware of fellow priests and brother bishops who are more learned than myself, who have read more, written more, spoken more wisely, who are better organisers, and more compassionate and charismatic pastors, who are more advanced in prayer and the spiritual life.

But none are more aware than I of the need for God’s mercy and forgiveness.



know that when I stand at Heaven’s gate, which at close to 90 cannot be too far away, I won’t be able to appeal to any good conduct record.

I won’t dare to say, ‘if you examine my credentials you will see that they are all in order.’

I will be able to say simply, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner’.

However, jubilees are milestones on life’s journey, and it is right that I should look back over the distance travelled, and so deepen my awareness of God’s goodness and mercy.

But my reasons for thanksgiving are too many to detail. There are so many grace-filled experiences which I recall vividly, humbly and gratefully.

Above all, I thank God for giving me a share in the priesthood of his Son, Jesus Christ.

I thank God for those in earlier years who formed me, and prepared me to respond to his call to priestly ministry.

I think particularly of my parents who made huge sacrifices in nurturing my faith and that of my six sisters and brothers.

I think of the Mercy and Mission Sisters and Marist Fathers who educated me through primary and secondary years, the Catholic Youth Movement Chaplains who formed me for the lay apostolate, the seminary professors in Mosgiel and Rome, and the priests and religious and laity who have been my partners in ministry in parish and diocese, as well as my brother bishops, especially Cardinal Dew, who supported me and tolerated my eccentricities and enthusiasms.

Such has been the road I have travelled or, more accurately, the path along which, by God’s grace I have been led.

I know with full conviction that only love has made that journey possible.

I mean the love that St Paul speaks of in his letter to the community at Ephesus: ‘I pray...that Christ may dwell in your hearts as you are being rooted and grounded in love...that you may know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.’

The love that St Paul speaks of is not a purely human thing.

It can include all the closeness and tenderness, all the intimacy and passion that we associate with human loving.

But it is more.

The love St Paul has in mind is genuinely divine, because the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge comes not from our natural gifts or powerful personalities or exceptional talents.

It is a gift of a loving God that enables us 'to bear all things, hope all things, endure to the last.

Over the past six decades I have come to the conviction that my vocation to priesthood, seeking to serve as Christ served, although it has inevitably involved sacrifice and commitment, has been an incredibly rich source of fulfilment and deep-down happiness because it is rooted in love – Christ's love.

Before all else it is for that love that I give thanks this morning.

It has sustained me through the years as priest and bishop, and although, now on the sidelines as it were, will continue to do so through the years that remain to me.

What of the future? Pope Francis once said: 'The elder who ages well is like fine wine. As wine ages it gets better, in fact much better! We do not throw it away. But when wine ages poorly, it becomes vinegar. You must age well, with wisdom...'

With the help of Christ's love, that is what I am trying to become: wine not vinegar."



FELIX KANE OLD BOY OF THE YEAR 2019

Every year the St Patrick's College Old Boys Association (SPCOBA) gathers annually to formally recognise and celebrate one of their many outstanding past students as a recipient of the Felix Kane Cup. St Patrick's Colleges of Wellington and Silverstream are founded on the values and leadership of the Society of Mary.

Felix Kane was a Silverstream Old Boy and was a long serving committee member of the association who was conscious of the college motto "Sectare Fidem" and being a strong Marist man. After his death, the executive decided to name the Old Boy of the Year Trophy in his honour.

This year's Felix Kane Cup Old Boy of the Year is an old boy of Town from 1958-1962). This year he celebrates 50 years as a Priest of the Society of Mary.

Our recipient was appointed to St Patrick's College Town staff from 1982 -1989. He was put in charge of the Transition from the Old Site to the New Kilbirnie site. This year Town celebrated 40 years since the move to the Kilbirnie site.

Our recipient was also appointed Rector and Superior at Chanel College Samoa. A College that Town has a good relationship with. From 1990-1997 he also spent time at Hato Paora College, another Marist Father's College.

He was the Provincial of the Society of Merit New Zealand during the challenging days as the Child Abuse issues in the SMNZ Colleges was coming to the Media.

He has since become a mentor and spiritual guide to many Priest and Religious leaders / members.

He epitomizes the Marist Charism – his gentle and humble approach has influenced many generations of men being educated in Marist Colleges.

His leadership guided the Society of Mary New Zealand through some of its most challenging time in this country.

He is man of prayer and a man of God who has inspired many Old Boys. He is a Marist living his good work Hidden and Unknown. Like our 2018 recipient, he is a humble, hardworking man whose actions speak louder than words.

So, it is my pleasure that this evening we recognise Fr Denis O'Hagan SM on being our 2019 Felix Kane Cup Old Boy of the Year.

“KEEP THE FAITH, DO THE MAHI.”

WELCOM MARCH 2020:



Michael Fitzsimons catches up with Mike Savali, St Patrick's College Wellington's first Pasifika rector. It's well after two o'clock when Mike Savali gets the chance for a quick bite of lunch, while being interviewed on a February afternoon for this profile. Life is obviously hectic for the new, youthful, Pasifika rector.

It's just his second week in the job. His appointment is a major milestone – he's the first Pasifika rector of St Pat's, and very conscious of the privilege and responsibility that goes with the role.

'It's a very proud moment not just for me but for my family, the aiga, my Samoan Catholic community and the Pasifika community in general. I'm privileged and humbled to be in the position and I hope I will do a really good job. I have had awesome support from the Board, staff and parent community.'

When asked what makes a Catholic school different, the new rector is very clear.

'The faith is our guidance, it is the essence of who we are. Everything else should flow from that. It's embedded into the school culture. If it's just a word and we don't practice Gospel values as part of the daily encounter with Christ, then we might as well be called Patrick High School.'

'We live in a secular society. For a majority of our students the school is their parish. The school has adopted a new core value as part of Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L), which was introduced last year: "Keep the faith, do the mahi". Faith is the essential character of our school, and the mahi (work to be done) has four elements –

manaakitanga, achievement, integrity and hauora. This was what I spoke about in my first talk with the boys. We have to make it part of our daily practice. Instilling that is what we are about.'

Mike Savali's parents came from Samoa in the 1960s and settled in Newtown, Wellington. They had five children, four of them boys who all went to St Pat's.

The faith is our guidance, it is the essence of who we are.

'It was a different time in the mid-80s,' says Mike. 'Now there are initiatives and programmes to support Māori and Pasifika boys but we didn't have that support in those days. Fr Barney Doherty and Br Lui were our support network. Generally speaking, I don't think staff knew how to engage with Pasifika learners back then.'

Mike left school unsure of what career direction to take. Margaret Guidera, one of the teachers, encouraged him to think about Teachers' College and he was accepted on his second try. He graduated in 1995 as a primary-trained teacher and his first position was at Holy Cross School Miramar. While there he completed a degree majoring in religious studies from Victoria University.

He then headed off to London for three and a half years teaching and travelling.

'It was very unusual for Pasifika people to leave the family and go overseas and do their OE. I met very few Pasifika people when I was in London. I think I was influenced by my sister who did her OE and had a great experience. I guess I realised there was more to see in life than Newtown.'

Once home, Mike took a break from teaching, working at a WINZ office for 13 months. He then moved into secondary teaching when he was appointed as Assistant Director of Religious Studies at St Pat's in Wellington. He stayed there for 10 years, taking a two-year break in the middle.

One of the things he did during that break

was volunteer at the Marist Mission in Ranong on the Thai/Burmese border, visiting AIDS patients and teaching marginalised Burmese students at the Marist Education Centre.

'I taught the level-four students – 13- to 17-year-olds – and felt a strong connection with them. It was a life-changing experience. There's poverty in New Zealand but I've never seen such severe poverty. It was an eye-opener. I would strongly recommend people consider doing some kind of volunteer work. The rewards are so great.'

After his time at St Pat's Town, Mike was appointed Assistant Rector in a pastoral role at St Pat's Silverstream and has been there for the last four years before returning to St Pat's Town as rector.

One of the highlights of his time at Silverstream was the strong focus on restorative practice, building positive, respectful relationships in the student



community. It's an approach he is keen to see embedded at St Pat's Town as well.

'I've shifted my thinking. I come from a punitive background in my education and upbringing but now I'm all about moving away from punitive to restorative and relational. The punitive approach is that you've done something wrong and here's the consequence. End of story. The restorative approach is getting a person to take responsibility for their actions, acknowledge their impact on others and express remorse. What are they going to do to make things right?

'Family and whānau are brought together on both sides to work things through. It's very powerful. A person has to confront



what they have done. But it also allows for compassion and forgiveness. I know from experience it's not the soft option.'

One of the things Mike did during a break was volunteer at the Marist Mission in Ranong on the Thai/Burmese border, visiting AIDS patients and teaching marginalised Burmese students at the Marist Education Centre.



Mike is well aware of the size of the challenge before him. He is well supported, first and foremost by his partner Jane, his immediate aiga (family) and also by the school community, the Pasifika community and the school's proprietor, the Society of Mary.

'The Marists have been at the heart of Catholic education for 135 years and their history, support and guidance are still really important to us. The National Network of Marist Schools, and initiatives such as Youth Leadership Training and the spiritual and professional development opportunities they provide, really help to keep the Marist charism alive.'

Above: Mike with his partner Dr Jane Rovins and his mother, Elisapeta Savali.

Previous page: Marist provincial David Kennerley gives a blessing to the new rector.

ROOKIE LIFEGUARD 'SHAKING' AFTER SAVING LIFE OF DROWNING GIRL

**RNZ – Charlotte Cook,
6th November 2020**

Three teenage girls are lucky to be alive after being caught in a rip at a Wellington beach and they have an off-duty junior lifeguard to thank.

On Sunday the girls aged 12 and 13 went swimming in their clothes at Titahi Bay and were quickly swept out to sea in one of the beach's most notorious rips.

The story could have ended in tragedy, but luckily for them a group of surf lifesavers had been at a pre-summer refresher course.

They had almost packed up for the day when the real life emergency situation started to unfold.

Mac Van Den Heuvel, 16, (Year 12 at Town) and another guard, J'Adoube Elkington, were the last ones out on the water in the rescue boat.

Van Den Heuvel said they were pulling buoys out of the sea when a member of the public ran down the beach pointing to the North End rip.

"We started heading through some challenging surf. We could see a few members of the public pointing towards the North End rip, which is a permanent rip.

"It's quite notorious for catching out swimmers and it's where a lot of our rescues happen."

Van Den Heuvel said he could see three people in the water.

One was floating on her back, the other two clinging together screaming for help, he said.

"I started to pull in one and I looked over my shoulder and I saw the third girl... I knew she was in a pretty bad state."

He said the girl seemed to be sinking under the water so he started swimming towards her.

He managed to reach her in time, pulling her unconscious body out of the water.

Van Den Heuvel said he held her on top of him as he kicked against the rip now pulling them both out to sea.

First aid checks on shore

Once they were all safely back in the

boat he called to the club asking for urgent assistance, and they were met on shore for first aid checks.

The teenager had only been a lifeguard for a couple years and said it was his first serious rescue.

Normally he pulls tired nippers out of the water in training, but the real thing was quite shocking for him, he said.

"It really took me by surprise how quick everything like that happens."

Van Den Heuvel said with "sky high" adrenaline his instincts just kicked in when he jumped off the front of the boat, but he was a bit worried about ending up in trouble himself.

"Afterwards, for the next few hours I was shaking like couldn't stop shaking because of the adrenaline."

He said the IRBs (inflatable rescue boats) are crucial for surf clubs and without one on Sunday, it would have been a very different result.

Lifeguards are expecting one of New Zealand's biggest summers with everyone travelling in their own backyards.

Titahi Bay's lifesaving co-ordinator Georgia McLaren said the girls were extremely fortunate, because if it wasn't for the refresher course there wouldn't have been anyone there to help with patrols not starting until December.

She said if Mac hadn't made the split second decision to dive into the water, the third girl would have drowned.

"She'd given up, no energy left and was under the water. Mac was quite scared really but acted in that adrenaline and just thought 'I have to go do this' and saw she was in serious trouble."

McLaren said this could have been a tragedy which serves as a reminder about beach safety.

"When you've got kids with you, keep an eye on them, keep them in arm's reach and don't overestimate your ability in the water to be able to cope in the conditions.

"In this case they didn't know their limits... but the key message in it, is that they also didn't know how to recognise the rip, and that was the reason they got swept out."

Mac Van Den Heuvel heads out to sea to practise his lifeguard skills. Photo: Supplied

FROM THE CHATHAM ISLANDS TO THE JC – SAM CLARKE

ADAM JULIAN – CLUB RUGBY

Sam Clarke arrived at Norths from Tawa in Round 3 of the Swindale Shield. At that stage, his former club was undefeated, and his new club had dropped their first two games.

The reigning Jubilee Cup champions are now amid an eight-game win streak and Tawa reside outside the top four.

Furthermore, as of last week, Clarke was second in the Billy Wallace Best and Fairest standings just two points behind fellow first-five Aidan Morgan of Marist St Pat's.

"I was a bit surprised. Mum told me I was up there which was cool," Clarke said.

Morgan has started nine games this season as opposed to Clarke's five. Clarke made his Norths debut off the bench in Round 5 against winless Johnsonville.

"I came on about 10 minutes into the second half. We were down at halftime and it is fair to say we got a spray. We brought on some of our more experienced forwards who were resting in the first half. They made my job easier and I just had to concentrate on my core role," Clarke said.

Clarke struggled to earn a starting jersey at Tawa and when the Wellington Lions pivot Trent Renata left Ories for Lyndhurst Park the writing was on the wall for Clarke.

"The seniors and reserves train together at Tawa and Norths, so the culture of both clubs is similar that way. The difference is that Norths is more player-driven, a bit more laid back, which I prefer. I don't have any hard feelings towards Tawa. I just wanted to put my best foot forward and Norths is a better fit right now," Clarke explained.

Clarke has been in prolific form, scoring 30 points in last Saturday's rout of Paremata-Plimmerton. He bagged 26 points in the 66-0 crushing of Wainuiomata, a replay of the fiercely competitive 2019 Jubilee Cup final. Against Ponoka he scored 20 points and partnered All Black TJ Perenara in the halves.

"It's been awesome to play with TJ and Jackson Garden-Bachop. They are really professional on and off the field. They read situations quicker because they have been to the next level. I like challenging people to grow my own game so I can read situations better. Getting advice from TJ and Jackson has been really valuable," Clarke enthused.

"The biggest thing I've learned at Norths is knowing how to better use the strengths of the players around me. When to give the ball to the forwards. When to go by myself and being more selective and confident in option taking."

In 2018 he was an integral part of the St Patrick's College, Silverstream First XV that won the Premier 1 championship and was unbeaten in all six traditional fixtures. Playing almost every backline position he was the teams' leading scorer with 110 points.

"My favourite moments were my first traditional game against New Plymouth Boys' and the Town game which we won by a record score in front of a documentary crew," Clarke reflected.

Clarke was too old to be considered for the Wellington Under 19's last year and a chequered injury history, much of it in Australia, might explain why he hasn't featured in Kiwi representative selections.

Clarke moved to Perth when he was 10 years old and spent five years playing league in Western Australia where he made the reps aged 13 and 15.

He then shifted to Endeavour Sports High School in Sydney where internationals Blake Ferguson and Martin Taupau were educated. Despite a respected reputation, Clarke struggled to stay on the field for long periods.

"I missed six months with a broken ankle and the year before bugged my hamstring," Clarke rues.



That is far from the worst injury he 'suffered.

"When I was 13, I broke my ankle and had two surgeries. I was in a cast for eight weeks and had wires going everywhere," Clarke laments.

"When I was 10, I broke my jaw crashing into someone's head trying to make a tackle. I had to eat soup for a week and spent more time at the dentist than I did at training."

His family is originally from the Chatham Islands. Sam's father, Darcy is a fisherman and unabashed Crusaders apologist. His younger brother Tjay is a sprightly halfback in this year's Silverstream First XV. Tjay has recently given up what he thought was a promising golf career, instead leaning on the support of 14 others.

Sam studies Exercise Science fulltime at the New Zealand Institute of Sport. He is interested in becoming a personal trainer and insists the extensive time he spends in the gym is not an attempt to replicate the physique of his close friend, international model Josh McGregor.

This Saturday Norths travels to the Polo Ground to tackle Ories who must win to keep their slim semi-final hopes alive. Ories have been in the top four nine times since 2010.

"It will be a tough game especially if Ories gets some of their Hurricanes back. They are a good side anyway but as long as we keep the momentum rolling and fix our mistakes as we go, we'll be hard to beat," Clarke warned.

Former Jubilee Cup winners Manahi Moana, Dudley Parsons and Esi Komaisavai might also find themselves stuck on the bench if Clarke can keep his poise at first-five.



RAYMOND STRICKLAND RECOGNISED WITH SIR LANCE CROSS AWARD

JULY 13, 2020, BASKETBALL NEW ZEALAND.

Ray Strickland has been presented with one of Basketball New Zealand's most prestigious awards – the Sir Lance Cross Award for 'Exceptional Services to Basketball'.

The award was made at a ceremony at the Miramar Golf Club in Wellington, and attended by many of Mr Strickland's family, close friends, basketball New Zealand Board member Mike Zino, and Brendon Polyblank and Kirk Mariner from the Wellington Basketball Association. The private ceremony was held due to this year's awards postponement because of COVID-19, and also for health reasons. The golf club acted as an appropriate venue – golf is Strickland's second sporting passion.

Mr Strickland is highly deserving of this award after a lifetime commitment to the game of basketball having been involved

as a player, coach and as an administrator within the game. He started his basketball journey as a player in 1957 playing for St Patrick's College, Wellington. This was followed by playing club basketball for the Marist Club as well as playing representative basketball for Wellington at both age group and senior levels. He also traveled to the United Kingdom for work where he played for the London Latvian Sports Club.

An injury shortened his playing career, so he turned his attention to coaching and developing other players. Over a thirty year period from 1964 to 1994, Mr Strickland coached the Wellington Women's Representative team, the Marist Club team (winners of the Inaugural National Club Championships), Saint Patrick's College and the Wellington U16 Boys' Rep Team (winning the U16 National Championships).

Probably his most influential impact on the game was his contribution through both governance and administrative roles. He has been a Board Member and President for the Wellington Basketball Association, a member of the Saints Committee, Chairperson for Capital Basketball Ltd and Board member and Chairperson for the New Zealand National Basketball League. During his time, he also fulfilled the role as the League's General Manager, making some significant and trailblazing decisions, some of which still influence the game today.

Long-time friend of Ray's, Terry Orchard, who was at the ceremony says Mr Strickland's devotion to the game has benefited many others.

"The love, passion, dedication, foresight, inspiration and leadership that Ray brought to basketball has been clearly demonstrated over the forty plus years he was involved. Not only has his contribution changed basketball's landscape, but he has been instrumental in changing the lives of people he encountered within the sport".

Mr Strickland lives with his wife in Miramar. We thank them both for their volunteerism and commitment to basketball over many years, and congratulate Mr Strickland upon receiving this award.

2020 Y9 SCHOLARSHIP

The Scholarships are awarded annually at Town and at Stream to a Year 9 student.

The Scholarship for the St Patrick's College, Town recipient is awarded to the son of an old boy on the basis of a nomination from Year 8 Principal of a feeder school and as determined by the Town Rector.

The award is made on the basis of the recipient displaying leadership potential, diligence and all-round ability and contribution to their school.

This year's recipient attended Holy Cross in Miramar and met all of the criteria for the award.

Like last year's recipient, he has a wonderful Patrician and actively involved in sports.

His previous principal noted his strong leadership values and displaying initiative throughout the school.

These principles are very similar to what a Marist Man is "a leader and a builder of communities".

Therefore, congratulations to Alex Smith, who is awarded the St Patrick's College Old Boy's Scholarship for 2020.

Congratulations Alex!



Above: Alex Smith with his parents and Town rector, Mike Savali.



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

MIKE WOODS

Our fourteenth entry of the President's Old Boy's Focus is Town Old Boy and current staff member Mike Woods (1974-1978).

Mike has become an institution at St Patrick's College Wellington having been a student at Town for five years and a teacher since 1990's. Mike's involvement within the college has been immense. Mike's family history with the college is strong. "We came from a line of old boys – our great uncles from the McMurrich clan (mums' side) all attended St Pats pre-World War One."

Mike was the first of five Woods brothers to attend St Patrick's College. All the brothers had trooped through Marist Brothers Miramar from St Patrick's Primary. On his first day at the Old Grey Mother (or as Mike says "Colditz"), Mike was quite auspicious. "The fact I was so nervous I had to get off the bus thinking I was going to vomit and my long-time mate, Dave Paterson got off the bus with me and we walked the rest of the way to St Pats and 3F2." Those nerves helped Mike and his brothers ease into the Town way of life. Mike and his brother Dave did the Full Monty at Colditz. His younger brother Peter crossed over from Cambridge Terrace to the new site while Ants and Sean were close to founding students at the new site.

The family was heavily involved in the life of the college. His mother was permanently on the women's group and they regularly had priests around for drinks and dinner such as "Father Temm, Father Malone and Father

Fahey who was mum's cousin and he signed up to the Marists after his fighter pilot action in World War Two. He was also an amateur magician."

While at Town as a student, Mike experienced many funny moments, achievements and historic moments. "What I remember of St Pats was the escape path through Mr O'Hagan's shed, the crack short of a length on the concrete wickets, the bell under Johnny's room, the tuck shop hotdogs and the smell of beer in the old gym at ranks on Monday." "The freezing showers, our 1978 victory on the Basin versus Silverstream, "The White Horse Inn" one note followed by "chorus!", National champions at Basketball, debating victories, the siren from the Basin in New Zealand first win over England, Joh da Silva and the Mayoral campaign, 4A rugby, the fourth form block, and my Fifth form RE prize!"

Mike and his brothers went through Town with many other notable families that have or had son's through the college, "Families like; the Dunns, Warwicks, Bergins, Chotes, Dyson, Mills, Smiths, Merediths, Sua, Van Bentum, Perry, Meachen, Mawby, Fox, Heffernan, Feiney, Jeffrey, O'Connor, Keogh, Kearns, and Barry."

Teachers were not far from nicknames while Mike was a student. Teachers had nicknames like Charlie D, Johnny, Richard "Karl" Marx who was a wonderful maths teacher Mike said. Spook, Pigmy, Norm and "Archie" Naylor who Mike once called Archie when first on the Town staff – "my name is Arthur came the reply!" "Mr "tell us about the war" Rusk, Dave "wear two pairs of jeans to Russia", Zanini was a great Geography teacher and married into the Hataitai O'Connor clan. Father Mahoney mountaineer who inspired me to sign up to the seminary, but teaching became my calling."

On his last day at Town, Mike left without no real fanfare or send off despite having done two of his best years in sixth form. "I left with now, Father Joe Savesi SM and we headed to the Victory Club to play pool or to The Panama Bottle store to get the obligatory flagon - probably the latter option. A stint at the seminary led Mike to a teaching career. He started out as a primary teacher before moving back to Town in the 1990's.

Teaching at Town has seen Mike involved in many areas. Having started out as a Mathematics and Religious Education teacher, Mike has been the Head of

Department for Careers for several years now working alongside another long-serving staff member Colleen Flynn (pictured below with Mike). Both have helped students transition out of college into the trades/workforce. Mike also sets up students for the demands of university, setting them up for their line of future study and applying for hostels and scholarships. Mike also stands up for staff rights and is often supportive of health and safety matters.

On the sporting side, Mike has coached several rugby teams including the 1st XV, cricket and currently is the jumps coach for the Athletics' programme in partnership with fellow long-serving staff member Leigh Lidstone. Also, Mike looks after the Town Badminton "Blue Cocks" teams.

Mike's current family have all been through the Kilbirnie site. "My sons Marshall and Karlos attended St Pats at the turn of the millennium. Of my brothers who left St Pats early, they all moved into trades and their successful businesses." Mike's brother Peter taught at Town for a few years and now is teaching at St Patrick's College Silverstream and his boys Matt, Andrew, Josh, Thomas and Rory all attended Town.

"If St Pats didn't set us up academically, then the old boys network has – via sport, faith, work and family connections."

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support/grow the network of Old Boys around New Zealand?" Mike replied, "If St Pats didn't set us up academically, then the old boys network has via sport, faith, work and family connections."

The Old Boy's Association congratulates Mike on his teaching service and commitment to the well-being of all Town students.



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

DOMINIC ROE

Our fifteenth entry of the President's Old's Focus is Stream Old Boy Dominic Roe (2010 -2014).

Unlike many of us this festive season who will be enjoying a few cold beverages and fine food, Dominic Roe is fully focus on his upcoming boxing endeavour. Hopefully, such devotion and dedication could open the door of Olympic qualification for Dominic.

Dominic's family have a strong history with St Patrick's College Silverstream. His father Bede attended the college from 1976-1980 and is still very loyal to the college today. Bede is the Co-founder of Whistling Sisters Beer Co which can be found 100 Taranaki Street, Wellington. He had three uncles go through the college as well. Paul Roe (Eldest) was captain of the 1st XV, Patrick was also a committed Streamer and Peter Roe is a Priest in the Society of Mary. Also, on his mother's side of the family, Steven Bezar also attended Silverstream.

While at Silverstream, Dominic excelled on the sporting front. Dominic enjoyed the sport environment at the college. He loved a challenged and being hearty. He played rugby till Year 12 getting as high as the 2nd XV. In his Year 13 year he fully focused on his promising boxing career. One sport at the college really helped Dominic with his stamina for boxing and that was middle distance running. He credits a lot of his fitness from the mighty Hugh Steel (Teaching Staff) running sessions.

Academically, Dominic worked hard in his subjects which carried over from his

commitments on the sporting field. In 2010 and 2013 he received the Special Character Award at the college which is an important award amongst his year group. Dominic described it as "Well deserved and pretty cool. You pride yourself on being a genuine good bugger."

In 2015, Dominic went on a Gap year to the United Kingdom (UK) and worked at the Oratory School (exchange with the college) with his good mate from Silverstream. Dominic also got to explore Europe and learnt a lot from the experience. On his return from the UK, Dominic moved to Auckland University to pursue a career as a physiotherapist. He is in his third year and is "slogging through it" despite interruptions while pursuing a promising boxing career. Studying as a physiotherapist has allowed him to work as an intern at the North Harbour Rugby Union with their Mitre 10 Cup side. This opportunity opened up for Dominic as the physio he is working under also works with the North Harbour Rugby Union. However, it's not only just sports, Dominic is also said physio is about "helping people that have non- sport related injuries and to help their well-being."

This Christmas and New Year, Dominic is avoiding the Whistling Sisters and dedicating himself to earning Olympic qualification for Tokyo 2020. Dominic's interest in Boxing started at age seven. "My dad took me down to the Heretaunga Gym to build self-defence and since then I have loved the sport." Dominic fully focused on boxing in his Year 13 year and had great success at the under 18 level. In 2014, along with fellow Streamers Peter O'Reilly and Ryan Scaife (also very successful at boxing) attended the World Youth Championships. On return from his OE, Dominic moved to Auckland not

just for his university studies, however, the boxing scene is very strong in the City of Sails. This year Dominic became the National Champion in the Elite welter-weight division (69kg). You can see his match on Sky Sport Next on YouTube (link below). Fellow Streamer Ryan Scaife also became the National Champion in middle weight section (75kg).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ug1161iOlXA>

This festive season Dominic is aiming to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics. He has had a few niggling injuries of late but is managing them well. In mid-January he travels to Thailand then to China for the qualifiers in February. Dominic has to make the top six to qualify for the Olympic Games. He said it works to be about winning four fights to qualify. No doubt his concentration and commitment will see him earned qualification for the pinnacle of world sport. Dominic credits his mother and father for his inspiration as they are his rock.

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support/grow the network of Old Boys around New Zealand?" Dominic responded saying "Keep promoting life after Silverstream. Keep old boys from both colleges up-to-date with old boy's success and whereabouts and encourage attendance at events. Traditionals matter plus engaging with other generations."

The Association wishes Dominic all the best in early 2020 in China and hopefully we will see yourself and a number of Streamers and Townies at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

**"Keep promoting life after Silverstream
... Traditionals matter plus engaging with other generations."**



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

LOUIS METSON

For the sixteenth entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson sat down with Town Old Boy Louis Metson (2005-2008) at the Lowe & Co Realty offices just before the Christmas / New Year holiday period.

At first Louis did not attend St Patrick's College Wellington. He attended Onslow College in his third form / year nine. However, he wanted to change colleges and experience a new environment that would challenge him. In 2005, Louis enrolled at Town and he became part of the strong brotherhood within the college. No previous members of the Metson family had attended Town prior to Louis attending. His younger brother Alex also attended Town. While at Town, Louis had great interest in the subjects of Accounting, History and Drama. Louis got on well with teachers Blair Florance and Shane Wilson who provide great humour in the classroom. It was drama that Louis enjoyed the most and admired the passion long serving Town teacher Andrew Brennan gave to the subject. On the sporting front Louis played cricket for the 3rd XI and developed an interest in boxing. While at Victoria University, he took part in boxing stating it added vital discipline.

Louis graduated from Victoria University of Wellington with a BCOM and BA. Louis also did a gap year in Dublin prior to commencing his university studies. From 2016, Louis joined the real estate game and has flourished in the profession. Houses prices in Wellington since 2016

have dramatically increased and the art of selling has become very competitive.

In 2016 he got his ticket selling houses. He worked under the Harcourts Wellington banner until March 2019 where he learnt the trade of being a real estate agent. From the 1st April 2019 Louis moved his practice to Lowe and Co Realty on Kent Terrace, Wellington where his profile got stronger with potential clients. The art of Real Estate is to sell houses to boost the commission however, in this social media age, the power of advertising online is giving real estate agents more avenues to connect with potential clients.

Louis spoke of his style of marketing. He places the clients at the forefront of his profession. "By marketing yourself well, you convey value to your clients. In sale jobs you are aiming to get over the other fella. If you do not sell, there is no commission." He loves the thrill of the chase and getting people attracted to his brand. In real estate today "how you brand yourself is important...it's part and parcel of the job." By relating to his clients and working with them through the process, Louis has been rewarded within the Lowe and Co Realty with internal awards such as Business Development.

His strength in business development and success in his practice can be shown through the use of social media and digital engagement. Through Facebook, Instagram and other platforms, these sites / apps allow agents to connect to more clients and to sell their business further. Louis started video content marketing three years ago while at Harcourts. He was one of the first to use this new tool to reach out to clients. He is one of the experts in the field and his brand grown very fast. However, to "keep people engaged in your brand, you need to be consistent" on social media. Apps like Instagram Louis is consistently using to engage with clients and to regularly promote his brand. Video marketing credits as his strongest tool in his real estate brand. Louis mentioned that the moment you are not consistent on social media your engagement can drop off. Louis provide the president with some helpful social media engagement tips for 2020. If you are interested in following Louis or looking at selling or buying in Wellington, follow Louis on Facebook, Instagram or visit his website www.louismetson.co.nz

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support/grow

the network of Old Boys around New Zealand?" Louis responded saying "St Pat's network is strong. People like myself need to engage further, especially the 25-35-year group and that is a key group to grow."

The Association wishes Louis all the best in 2020 and hope his real estate career continues to grow from strength to strength.

"St Pat's network is strong. People like myself need to engage further, especially the 25-35 year group and that is a key group to grow."



PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

TONY WARD

For the seventeenth entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson interviewed Silverstream Old Boy and Hurricanes Operations Manager Tony Ward (1980-1984). Since leaving Silverstream, Tony has been heavily involved in the management and administration side of Rugby in New Zealand.

Tony was a day student at Silverstream from 1980-1984. His brother was also a day student from 1981-1985. Tony's son also spent two years at Silverstream as a boarder however, he moved to Rathkeale College in 2019. "My son boarded 2017 and 2018 before he headed to Rathkeale College in 2019 as they offered farming courses, as he wants to pursue a career in farming." Tony was a prefect in 1984 and played for the 1st XV in 1983 and 1984 where he played 30 games and started in every traditional in both years. He also competed in Athletics running the 1500m at the McEvedy Shield and the Old Boy's Cup. Tony is still involved at the college serving on the Board of Proprietors.

While at Stream, Father Blake was influential in his rugby career and found all the teachers very supportive. He remembers Mr. Des Boyle gave his parents some advice in the 7th Form when he suggested to them at the parent-teacher interviews that Tony should consider leaving school after the rugby season. Tony enjoyed Stream so much he tried to go back to do second year 7th. "I really enjoyed my time at Silverstream and

seriously considered going back to do 2nd year 7th, as I promised mum and dad, I would study harder, but I really wanted to go back for the rugby! My parents saw through that pretty quickly and said no." Therefore, went to Victoria University in 1985 and completed a Bachelor of Commerce and Administration. Tony went back to Victoria in 1998 and started a postgraduate Law Degree. He completed the first year however, the degree is still on to this day as he "was fortunate to be appointed the Manager of the All Black 7's!"

After completing his degree, Tony applied for a job at New Zealand Rugby as a marketing executive starting in 1992. Tony has worked for NZ Rugby in a variety of positions until 2015. In 1994, Tony was part of a special project with the late Sir Brian Lochore. "In 1994 I was project manager for the 1995 RWC which then led into being part of the team that led the game into Professional Rugby, touring the country with Sir Brian Lochore and a team of lawyers explaining to players how the new professional competition would work. This also included working with the late Jock Hobbs during this time as we managed all the contracting of players." The 'Contract Wars of 1995' Tony said were an unbelievable time in NZ Rugby History. His involvement even saw him fly to South Africa to talk to the late Jonah Lomu. "During that time, I flew to South Africa for a week to talk to Jonah Lomu as he was over there on holiday and the biggest star on the planet who we needed to contract." This experience in the 'Contract Wars' led to Tony being appointed the Contracts

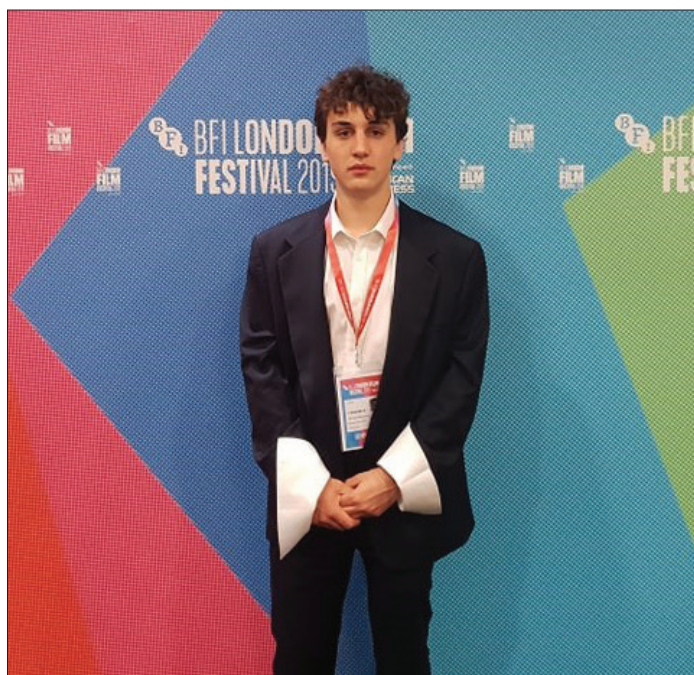
Manager for NZ Rugby which involved looking after all of the professional rugby players in New Zealand. In 1999, Tony sought a career change and he became the manager of the All Blacks 7s.

Tony was the All Blacks 7s manager from 1999 until 2003. Many rugby historians would say this was the golden years of the New Zealand 7s program. Working with the legendary 7s coach Sir Gordon Tietjens, the All Blacks 7s won the World Series each year and won the Rugby World Cup in Argentina in 2001. The All Blacks 7s also won gold at the 2002 Commonwealth games held in Manchester, England beating Fiji in the final. The World Series took Tony to many different parts of the world, playing in some of the great rugby stadiums. In 2003 Tony joined the project team for the 2005 British and Irish Lions (BIL) Tour. "I spent 2 years full time working with the BIL's and NZR on all the operational and logistics side of the tour, plus all the host venues and security. I then toured with the Lions Team for 7 weeks while they were in New Zealand." In 2005, Tony managed the Wellington Lions for three years before being appointed Manager of the Hurricanes in 2008. Tony is still in this position today. Tony brought up his 200th game as manager of the Hurricanes on Friday 13th March 2020, in the thrilling late Hurricanes win over the Chiefs in Hamilton, just before the lockdown happened due to COVID-19. Tony was also appointed Manager of the Maori All Blacks in 2013 which he still holds to this day.

Tony has been grateful for the line of work he has achieved. "I have been very lucky in the work that I have been involved in to have met a number of people who are 'rich and famous' over the course of my time managing and have also been lucky enough to have traveled the world. Playing in the stadiums you watched the All Blacks play in when you were growing up has been special, especially the stadiums in South Africa. I have also been fortunate to have managed a number of players over the years, who are in fact just normal people, who have an extraordinary talent." In 1998, a life-changing event influence Tony in his career choice.

In 1998, Tony broke his neck playing rugby. It was classified as a near miss. Tony suffered a C5/C6 fracture-dislocation.

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THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

JAMES MATAMUA

For the eighteenth entry of the President's Old Boy's Focus, a 'guest editor' has written an interesting article on Stream Old Boy James Matamua (2011-2015). Just by chance, today is his birthday.

James Matamua (2011-2015) concedes the classroom wasn't his strongest suit while at Silverstream.

In 2012 his father, grandfather and a close friend Zeliuss Venter (2011-12) all died within a few months of each other making study even more challenging.

"I went south, my attendance was pretty bad and I wasn't treating people right. It took me a while to get things straight," James admitted.

It's March 2018 and James is sparring at the Heretaunga Boxing gym. A film crew is looking to cast an athletic young male in *Savage*, a picture profiling three critical stages of a gangster's life, inspired by the true stories of New Zealand's gangs across 30 years. The opportunity to audition for a feature film proved an irresistible carrot.

"I took it real serious, more serious than the other boys. In June I got invited to another audition and in July they gave me a role, I couldn't believe it," James recalls.

Despite no acting experience, James was preferred over 2000 would-be contenders to play protagonist Danny while he's a delinquent teenager. The film stars Jake Ryan, best known as tough guy Robbo in the Australian soap, *Home and Away*.

"We filmed it from August to October 2018 and I enjoyed it," James enthused.

"I related to the character because I've had adversity in my life and understand why people make bad choices. We've been to South Korea and London to promote the picture. It's a really good movie and I hope people learn something from it."

National boxing champions Dominic Roe and Ryan Scaffie are both Silverstream old boys who train out of the Heretaunga

gym. James identified the pair as close friends and most fondly remembers college for the meaningful relationships developed.

"I love boxing. The discipline and whole competitive thing is something positive to work towards. It's an outlet for frustration and an instrument for respect and brotherhood," he said.

Competing as a welterweight (69kg) James has had two victories, most recently on March 15.

A decade earlier James discovered his first love of cooking. In 2010 he was a member of the Fergusson Intermediate team who made the National finals of the Maggi Kitchen Showdown, defeating over 60 schools to earn a trip to Christchurch. A year later he met celebrity chef Simon Gauld, who became an inspiration, at Queensgate.

"Cooking is a real passion. When I was at school I did food and nutrition. I just wanted to be near a kitchen," he said.

James worked at Pravda twice in 2012-13 and again in 2015. In 2016 he was one of the first chefs at Seashore Cabaret, Petone.

"My dream is to continue acting and make a lot of money so I can open my own restaurant. I have no fear and my friends from Silverstream have helped me develop that mindset," he asserted.

James is one of several contemporaries featuring prominently in acting. Leslie Bowman (2009-11) performs in musicals in London and was in *Hamilton*, one of the biggest stage productions in the world. Chris Alosio, Leo Maggs and Shaquille Stirling are graduates of Toi Whakaari (New Zealand Drama School) which only offers limited placements each year. All three boys have featured in commercials with Chris currently filming a movie with Taika Waititi and Shaquille appearing in *Shortland Street*.

His older brother Marcus attended Silverstream from 2009-13, flourishing in music and later earning a commerce degree. He is presently working towards his teaching credentials. James' grandfather Mark Ligtenberg is chair of the Board of Proprietors.

For more information about *Savage* click here:
<https://www.nzfilm.co.nz/films/savage>

"I love boxing. The discipline and whole competitive thing is something positive to work towards. It's an outlet for frustration and an instrument for respect and brotherhood."



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

PETER BURKE

For the nineteenth entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson interviewed Town Old Boy Peter Burke (1959-1962). Peter has had a long career as a journalist that has taken him around the world. He is also a book writer having released his latest publication 'True to Ireland' in 2019, which is about Irishmen who left their native Eire in the 1930s to come to New Zealand for a better life. Peter is true to the saying, the Irish gift of the gab.

Peter attended St Patrick's College Wellington (Town) from 1959 until 1962. He was the only member of his family to attend Town. He credits the college for his future successes. Peter described himself as not a great achiever when it came to academics and had to sit School Certificate for a second year. He also pushed himself at sports however; he said, "Sport, I did my best, however, not to dad's liking as he was big at sports." Peter also loved Drama, especially singing. However, his love of History was strengthened at Town and he credits his love of History due to the hard work of Archie Naylor. "He inspired me to follow history. He was quite special. I developed a focus on military history". A number of Marist Priests were inspirational for Peter, like that of former Town Rector Fr Brian Wysocki SM. The college was very special for Peter and life-changing for him. Such confidence allowed him to develop the skills needed in management. "As I said, I loved my days at St Pat's, and I have all the Patricians from my time there and lots of memorabilia including my school cap and rugby jersey. St Pats features a lot in True to Ireland."

After his time at Town, Peter got a job at the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation (NZBC) working as a cadet. He then worked as a film editor for four years working on the news and Country Calendar. Peter wanted to work in film however; he was offered an opportunity to work as a journalist covering the Agriculture sector. The mid-1970's were special for Peter as he covered the entry of Britain in the European Economic Community (EEC). He also has been covering Britain now leaving the European Union. He also covered the Wahine storm in 1968 and the arrival of the Beatles in New Zealand during 1964. He witnessed the Pope's visit to Ireland in 1979 and Prime Minister Robert Muldoon's visit to France. He was also one of 300 journalists who attended a press conference by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in Dublin. Peter has been lucky to meet some famous people such as Ballerina Dame Margot Fontyne whom he interviewed her for TV when she came to New Zealand in the 1970s and Professor Alan MacDiarmid, winner of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry. His position allowed him to travel overseas a lot, especially to Europe over a ten-year period. It was his travels to Europe where he reconnected with Ireland in 1978. Since then, he has been back 13 times, including last year to promote his new book. On journalism, Peter said, "Journalism is a wonderful career and continues to be." Peter then worked as PR consultant in print media, working in radio, television and writing. Today, he is still called upon as a specialist, doing media work for a Maori Trust and covering rural news.

His love of Ireland grew stronger after he left Town. When he was fifteen years of age, his father passed away. The students of the college did a guard of honour at his father's funeral held at the Basilica. His mother kept all the letters that his father wrote and one day Peter started to read them. "I found out the father I never knew after 60 years. Quite the read". In 1978, Peter flew to Ireland to meet his father's identical twin brother. Peter said it was like seeing my father again and the two got very well. Drinking Guinness, Whisky and more Guinness. Peter developed a bond to Ireland deep in his heart and as previously mentioned has returned 13 times. He was planning to return in 2021 however, current world events have delayed those plans. Peter also has learned the art of Zoom Conferences since the lockdown

and was part of a Zoom Mass streamed from Dublin. There were people from over ten countries that watch the Mass live-streamed. Peter lives on the Kapiti Coast on a seven-hectare section along with two cows, six sheep and 10 hens.

On his 2019 publication 'True to Ireland', Peter has spent 10 years writing about the book. He says his work is still ongoing. The book documents the native Irishmen that left Ireland to come to New Zealand for a better life. However, the book also covers the struggles with officials and some politicians and how 155 of the men, including Peter's father Matthias, faced deportation to Ireland unless they fought. The men won the right to stay and work in New Zealand thanks to the special relationship between New Zealand Prime Minister Peter Fraser and Irish Prime Minister Eamon de Valera. As part of his research for the book, Peter also worked with Town Archivist Rosemary McLennan and came across a list of men that he sat with as students at Town and did not know. "Since then, all have come out and we have kept in good communication and the book has led to them learning more about their own family history," Peter said. His greatest challenge and achievement - writing True to Ireland, publishing, and selling it in both Ireland and New Zealand. "I first discovered the story in 2009, went to Ireland in 2011 and did some basic research, but from mid-2014 the research and writing involved working at least one day a week on average since and includes the present day." Peter started writing narrative in 2017 and finished the first draft in January 2018. "The rest of that year was taken up refining the text. I was told that to get a book published in Ireland was impossible." However, through a group of friends, Peter contacted a printer in Dublin who agreed to do it and they put him in contact with a distributor who agreed to distribute the book. "The day after the launch at Trinity College Dublin (TCD), the book was on sale in all the major bookstores in that city and in Galway." It has sold very well in New Zealand and has been reprinted to meet demand (The book is published by Cuba Press in Wellington). Peter launched his book in Wellington on March 13th, 2019 with Irish Ambassador Peter Ryan and Damien O'Connor, Minister of Agriculture in attendance. Fr Eamon Aylward also traveled from Dublin for the launch and was a major contributor to the book.

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THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

ROCCO BERRY

For the twentieth entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson interviewed Silverstream Old Boy Rocco Berry (2015-2019).

Having graduated from Stream last year, Rocco finished his studies and began training with the New Zealand Warriors Rugby League team in November 2019. Unfortunately, like most sports, the NRL (National Rugby League, Australia) is on hold while the COVID-19 pandemic continues. The President asked Rocco how he was keeping during the lockdown.

"I am currently at home in Greytown while we are at Level Four. The trainers are keeping us busy by putting us on mini pre-season programmes before we get the go ahead to return to Auckland," Rocco said.

Rocco is itching to get back to Auckland to play Rugby League. "I just want to play League"!

Rocco was with the Warriors reserve grade team for round one of the NRL. Then the New Zealand Government announced their new border measures to combat the virus. Rocco stayed on with the Warriors as they set-up base in the Gold Coast for round two however, the NRL was suspended after the second round. Rocco returned home to self-isolate.

Since joining the Warriors for pre-season in late 2019, Rocco fulfilled a lifelong desire. "I always wanted to play league". Rocco was approached by the Warriors in 2018 and they invited him up to their base at Mt Smart Stadium. Rocco absolutely loved the experience and agreed to sign up to the franchise. With rugby union and other league clubs on the radar as well, Rocco could not pass this opportunity and signed a four-year contract with the Warriors. Rocco also trained with the Warriors in July 2019 when they played the Cronulla Sharks at Westpac Stadium, Wellington (now Sky Stadium).

Warriors Chief Executive Officer Cameron George (CEO) told Stuff in July 2019, "He's got some really good attributes on

and off the field, you've only got to talk to him for five minutes to know he's been raised in a very good environment."

That environment comes from his upbringing at home and his father Marty Berry. Marty made 10 appearances for the All Blacks from 1986-1993, including one test against Australia. He played the first season of Super Rugby in 1996 for the Hurricanes and has played 100 games exactly for Wairarapa-Bush and Wellington as a midfield back. Marty works as a real estate agent in the Wairarapa. Rocco said his father is his biggest influence, "Dad is my biggest driver when it comes to rugby. He has coached me at a young age and with the Stream under 15 team."

Day one with the Warriors for pre-season, as a paid professional was a massive shock for Rocco. "I have gone from have two trainings a week to training twice a day". Rocco described the pre-season as very challenging and he has learnt new game and life skills from the experience. Rocco described the physicality as being more demanding, "there is more wrestling and control than there is in union. We do a lot of wrestling drills". When asked about seasoned professionals in the Warriors, Rocco described Roger Tuivasa-Sheck as the "Full Professional". Rocco's goals are to get out on the field for the Warriors in a NRL match and play for the New Zealand Rugby League Team (Kiwis).

Rocco's time at Stream has set him up well for his career in Rugby League. A border at the college, he is the only member of his family to attend Stream. Playing Rugby Union at Stream, he was part of the 2017 2nd XV team that went undefeated for the whole season which he puts down to the organisation of coach and sports director Warrick Bowden. "He is a great organiser and passionate". Rocco was in the 1st XV from 2018 to 2019. In 2018, they defended the Wellington Premiership title and in the 2019 Final, they just fell short to Scots College, which would have been a trifecta of Premiership trophies for Stream. Under coach, Tim Mannix, Rocco learnt a lot about his game and Mannix got the best out of everyone in the squad. Rocco was also selected to attend the Hurricanes under 18 camp. He was part of the Stream 7s team that participated at the 2018 Condor 7s in Auckland and he played Touch Rugby for the college.

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support / grow the network of old boys around New Zealand?" Rocco responded, "For me, keep posting the sports results on the pages to keep us engaged."

The Old Boy's Association wishes Rocco all the best for what will be a long and fruitful rugby league career. Hopefully the Warriors are back on the paddock soon!

"For me, keep posting the sports results on the pages to keep us engaged."



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

JOHN RODGERS

For the twenty-first entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson interviewed Silverstream Old Boy John Rodgers (1981-1984).

John grew up in Tauranga and initially convinced his parents that he should attend Sacred Heart College, Auckland as several of his primary school friends went there. However, his father Neville could not be convinced and wanted John to attend St Patrick's College Silverstream (Stream). His father attended Stream and was Head Prefect. His brother David also attended in 1985-1988. John attended the college's 50th Anniversary with his father and his old man was asked by Rector Vince Curtain (who taught Neville) "Why is your son not here?" That questions resulted in John becoming a boarder at Stream in Term Two 1981.

John reflected on his time at Stream and credited the following staff with helping him on his journey. "The Teachers and staff that helped me in my journey were numerous, but Father John Larsen, Father Barry O'Connor, and Mr. Mark Pope were those I gravitated towards and the assistance they gave me." John got University Entrance in 1983 and was senior swimming champion in 1984. He was also part of senior tennis in 1983. He was part of the unbeaten First Grade Gold rugby team. John said, "The school tradition meant I got a team photo in the Blue and White which was a highlight at the time."

After his time at Stream, John moved into the world of Sales and Recruitment, in a mixture of sales and management roles. He worked with international companies such as Pepsi, Mars, and recruitment with Work Bridge and Red Cross managing teams. He assisted these companies to work through the barriers of employment to achieve work. Such skills also served him well on the footy field.

John played for the Waikato University Club after he left Stream, however, after a period of persistent injuries; he took a break from rugby and travelled to the United Kingdom for his overseas experience (OE). After his OE, John earned employment in Auckland and got back involved in rugby. It was while he was working in Auckland that he became aware of Deaf Rugby. He read an article about the South African Deaf Team touring New Zealand and playing three tests against the New Zealand Deaf Team. John had a hearing impairment and decided to see if he could meet the criteria, "I then discovered my level of hearing impairment meant I was eligible to trial for the team".

In 1997, John was asked to attend the National New Zealand Deaf Rugby Fifteens Tournament. After this tournament, John was selected as a halfback for the New Zealand Deaf Team. John would go on to play 13 games for New Zealand, including seven test matches from 1997 to 2002. He would also a small number of appearances for New Zealand playing sevens rugby.

John's major highlight while playing for the New Zealand Deaf Team was playing the curtain-raiser before the Bledisloe Cup at Stadium Australia (Now ANZ Stadium), Sydney in 2002. "My highlight was playing in the New Zealand Deaf vs Australia Deaf test and Curtain raiser, to the Bledisloe Cup at Stadium Australia in 2002. While I went on to play a number of Tests at Eden Park, to play before two of the best halfbacks in the world at the time; Justin Marshall and George Gregan was a moment I have always treasured. To beat the Australians as well made it extra special. When we finished the game, we did a circuit of the ground waving at the crowd. A moment that is frozen in time for me." Below is a picture of John from that test match.

His rugby career would also see him go on multiple tours to Australia, Wales and play provincial games against Wairarapa-Bush B and Horowhenua-Kapiti B. His last series was playing the World Cup in New Zealand. "Unfortunately, while the World Cup was a great event to be part of an exceptionally good Walsh team won the World Cup final over us." After the World Cup, John decided the time was right to hand up the boots and decided the waves were calling so he went surfing. One of the photos below is John surfing off Indonesia's outer islands in his younger days.

Rugby tours are always great fun and John remembers touring Wales with the New Zealand Deaf team. "The hospitality of the Welsh who are just as passionate about rugby as New Zealanders. To be on the road as part of a three-test series with local regional games as well and the many formal gatherings, being hosted by local Mayors at civic events for us, made for a very special tour."

While John had a real sense of pride, comradery, and satisfaction with rugby, it was not his real love. His love of surfing began when he was a young man in Tauranga. "I was fortunate enough to grow up surfing at Mount Manganui and then Raglan in my university days, The best was to come when I got to surf reef breaks all around the Pacific in the 80's onwards. Trips to Fiji, Tonga, Tahiti, and Indonesia outer island chains has been a highlight. Last year I crewed a 40-foot yacht to Fiji with three other surfers that was a life-changing experience, including making it through a storm on the way into Suva where many prayers were said."

John is the proud father of two daughters, Renee 13 and Maria 9 years old, and very happily married to Fiona who is a school teacher. John's father ran a successful menswear business at Mount Maunganui. He credits his father for installing an understanding of work ethic, pride, and employment skills in him.

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support/grow the network of old boys around New Zealand?" John responded, "I think it needs local leadership from those in the regions and informal gatherings to build the momentum."

The Old Boy's Association congratulates John on a successful rugby career and wishes him and his family all the best for the future.

THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:



DR. ALFRED TONG

For the twenty-second entry of the President's Old's Focus, our special guest editor interviewed Silverstream Old Boy Dr. Alfred Tong (1999-2003).

Dr. Alfred Tong was an exceptional achiever while at St Patrick's College, Silverstream from 1999 to 2003.

Dux by a considerable distance, he was Deputy Head Prefect for Cultural Life of the College, where his mastery of several instruments was often displayed, and his passion for all arts made the arts a more acceptable purist for many boys.

A prolific fundraiser on behalf of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, he left behind a long list of accolades, but reveals his greatest joy at school came from fellowship and spirituality.

"I remember hanging out by the weekly notes board and all the laughs we used to have. When I was a prefect I tried to connect as positively as I could with the whole Silverstream community," Tong said.

"Being a prefect was never about growing your own profile and winning awards, it was about trying to capture the essence of the school and use your privileged position to leave it behind in a better place."

Perhaps the best illustration of Tong's inclusive leadership was the Friday Chess Club. The club became so popular it burgeoned to two full classrooms and the results were announced in Monday assemblies, greeted more enthusiastically than rugby reports.

"The final was even on Live TV," Tong laughed.

"I commented on it with David Gooley who called it like a rugby match. I just added some explanation and subtlety."

Tong was best known for his formidable intellect and diligence in the classroom. He won a total of 23 academic awards and in Year 13 was first in every subject taken, except English which was a second language.

Inevitably postgraduate work followed at the University

of Otago, with Tong spending the best part of a decade at university achieving a degree in pharmacy before switching his attention towards achieving a PhD in Environmental Chemistry, researching the fate and persistence of pharmaceutical compounds in the natural aquatic environment.

But ultimately it was an encounter with a parish priest while in Dunedin that would change Dr Tong's direction in life.

"I discovered that sometimes no matter how well one prepares for achievement, nothing was greater than the comfort and love of God, present and shared in the community. Reflecting on the days at Silverstream, the essence to 'Give love and receive love' was never far from my mind."

After discernment with the Vocations director in the Archdiocese of Wellington, Tong entered Auckland's Holy Cross Diocesan Seminary in 2016, to train as a diocesan priest.

Currently, in his fifth year of priestly formation, Tong regularly utilizes music ministry as a way of engaging with parishioners, especially in his current placement of Our Lady of the Bays Parish, in Richmond, Nelson.

"A great reminder of the beauty of the priestly vocation is that one size doesn't fit all. You are called to serve because God will unfold a specific purpose for you and the people you encounter in ministry. It is a privilege to serve," Tong enthused.

He hopes to continue on the journey to priesthood and God willing, be ordained to the diaconate and priesthood for the Archdiocese of Wellington in the years to come.

"My hope is that many more young people will discern a calling to priesthood or religious life. Reflecting on the words of many priests I've encountered, they wouldn't change much of their experiences.

"Priesthood can be many things, but to me, the greatest aspect of it is service in gratitude to all the gifts God has given to us."

Tony Ward story continued ...

Still wanting to be involved in the game, Tony knew he had to skill sets to be successful and thought about how he could be involved. This lead him down the management path of rugby. "I was always very organised and planned with a lot of detail so managing seemed a logical step. In hindsight, my broken neck had a massive influence in making me think about what I wanted to do."

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the association best support/grow the network of Old Boys around New Zealand?" Tony responded, "Keeping us all connected and hopefully through these connections, people can in some way contribute to the continuing history of Stream and Town through donating their time, resources or financially. Hopefully, the rivalry and respect between the two colleges will survive well into the future and make us collectively stronger."

The Old Boy's Association congratulates Tony on an impressive career in the management of Rugby Union. Hopefully, once the Lockdown ends and a sense of normality resumes, rugby and other sporting codes can get back up and running.

Peter Burke story continued ...

His greatest personal achievement in the launching of the book was going over to Moycullen Galway and at TCD. He has more than 100 Irish cousins and friends. In addition, a dozen New Zealand friends and relations also came over for the launch. Peter says, "Writing the book has resulted in more than 100 people from NZ, Ireland, USA, Canada, Australia and the UK contacting me to confirm whether one of their friends or relations were part of the story or offer their own stories about their Irish connections in NZ." One remarkable story that came out of his research was meeting the nephew of his Godfather. Fr Jim McGlynn was the head of the St Columban mission in Lower Hutt for many years. Peter's father and McGlynn were great friends. "His nephew, Hugh, who I never knew existed saw a picture of Fr Jim on my website and emailed me. We continued to contact each other and I stayed with him and his family in Dungloe in Co Donegal last year and they came to the launch at TCD." Irish President Michael D Higgins also wrote a foreword for Peter's book.

Story continues next page ...



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

TOBY STEPHEN

For the twenty-third entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson caught up with Town Old Boy Toby Stephen (2011-2015). Since graduating Town, Toby has landed himself inside the corporate world and is enjoying the competitive environment.

Toby's family has a strong connection to Town and the other catholic colleges of Wellington City. His uncles, father and his younger brother Zach all went through the college. His mother attended St Catherine's College, on the other side of the Kilbirnie. However, his older brother did not follow the same path to Town. His older brother was kind of the exception to the rule and went to Wellington College.

Toby reflected on his five years at Town and enjoyed the extra-curricular activities he was part of. He was involved in basketball, cricket and rugby union at the college. However, it was his interests in the arts where Toby had the most enjoyment. "There's loads of teachers that helped me along the way, I think the English department, particularly Mr Brennan and Mrs Geris have to be given a fair bit recognition for managing to make one of my least favourite subjects really enjoyable. I really don't think I would've joined the O'Shea drama team, taken drama as a subject, been as invested in Vinnie's or enjoyed my last year as much as I did without them." Toby was a respected member amongst his year group and was well known for his quick wit. His involvement in the Vinnies saw him become Co-President with his fellow year group colleague Jack Turnbull in 2015.

After graduating Town, Toby moved onto Victoria University of Wellington in 2016 where he studied a Bachelor of Commerce, Majoring in Accounting and Finance. While studying, Toby worked as a casual wait staff at Government House, "I also continued to work at Government house as casual wait staff (I think it's probably one of the best jobs someone can have while at College/University and my old boss Marion and her team there are simply amazing) and passed my Level One C. F. A. (Chartered Financial Analyst) exam." After graduating Victoria, Toby started an Honours degree in Finance however, he had to stop halfway

through as an exciting opportunity arose up in Auckland.

In 2019, Toby moved to Auckland where he works as a Graduate in the Corporate Finance team at Binder Dijkster Otte (BDO). It was a decision that Toby has not looked back on, "I have worked for BDO for nearly a year now and think it was the right decision in the end as honours was a bit to academic and I enjoy the work I do now." When asked if he has to wear a tie (especially the Old Boy's tie), Toby said, "Yeah it's a little different in the corporate sector. We don't really wear suits unless we have meetings anyway."

Important influences always have a significant impact on a young man's development and journey. For Toby, family is very close to his heart. "It's very hard to really summarise all the people that have had major influences as I grew up. My family would have to be my greatest influence growing up. My parents were always working hard to allow me to follow my interests and between them and extended family I've always had great role models. My grandad was particularly good at pushing me to question and debate things rather than take them for granted. Additionally, there has been a lot of coaches and teachers along the way that have been selfless with their time."

In regards to the Old Boy's Association, Toby was asked how the association can best support and grow the network around New Zealand? Toby was very enthusiastic about the association and what he achieves, "I think the association is already doing a good job providing updates of what's happening in the community and providing opportunities for people to reconnect with each other."

Toby has a promising future in the corporate world ahead of him and the Old Boy's Association wishes him all the best going forward in his career.

"I think the association is already doing a good job providing updates of what's happening in the community and providing opportunities for people to reconnect with each other."

Peter Burke story continued ...

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support / grow the network of old boys around New Zealand?" Peter responded by saying, "I think the network is important. Different groups have different needs. We need to be flexible in communications and provide variety for all."

The Old Boy's Association congratulates Peter on the success of his book. It is pleasing to hear that Peter is planning to write more books in the future.



THE PRESIDENT'S OLD BOY'S FOCUS:

STEPHEN HEWSON

In the twenty-fourth entry of the President's Old's Focus, President Brad Hudson interviewed Stream Old Boy and Sports Journalist Stephen Hewson (1980-1984). Stephen currently works for Radio New Zealand (RNZ) where he has been the Head of Sport for five years.

Stephen attended Silverstream (Stream) from 1980-1984. He has a strong lengthy family connection to both colleges. His brother Chris attended Stream from 1984-1988. Stephen's great uncle Fr Bernard Ballie went to St Patrick's College Wellington (Town) and being a Marist Father he taught at both Town and Stream. His father David Hewson, along with his brothers Pat and John went to Town and three of mother's brothers went to Town - Fr John Dykes, Frank Dykes and Robert Dykes. Stephen was a prefect in his final year at the college and played a couple of games for the 1st XI Cricket team. One of Stephens's sporting highlights "was certainly beating the Town in the Old Boys match out at Silverstream in 2016 - after they had trounced us in the inaugural game the year before!"

Stephen did not want to single out any staff or teachers however, thinking back on his time at Stream he said, "I did reasonably well academically - but that's not what is front of mind for me. It's more the overall education I received and how it set me up for life. The education at Stream underlined for me the importance of loyalty, commitment, family and honesty. Catching up with Old Boys over the years has further highlighted how shared experiences bond people."

Stephen has a passion for sports and since leaving Stream he has been

heavily involved in the media. He went to Victoria University of Wellington and completed a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History, followed by a diploma in Journalism at what is today Massey University. After his studies, Stephen spent ten years doing the hard grind working in general news in both newspapers and radio before moving into sport in 1998. His career with RNZ started in 1994 and Stephen has noticed the changes in the media landscape along the way. "The media landscape has changed immensely in recent years and the industry is very different to when I first joined and I do feel grateful to have had a career that has been both rewarding and enjoyable." Working in sport journalism has allowed Stephen to attend and cover some of the biggest sporting events on the planet. He attended and covered four Olympic Games, Sydney 2000, Athens 2004, Beijing 2008 and Rio 2016. "I have also covered a couple of Rugby and Cricket World Cups and several Commonwealth Games. There have been numerous wonderful sporting events I have witnessed."

Several sporting highlights during his journalist career stand out for Stephen. "Watching the finish of the marathon in Athens in 2004. Sitting on the bank, the sun setting as the runners came into the 1896 stadium where the first modern Olympics were held was spectacular and did make me think back on the history of the Olympics in Ancient Greece and Classics classes with Fr John Larsen! Also seeing Mahe Drysdale win a bronze medal in the single scull at Beijing when he had been laid low by a stomach bug, collapsed and vomited in his boat after the finish line and then had to be helped up onto the podium, showed what sheer determination and bloody mindedness can achieve." A few years ago, Stephen was invited to speak at the Silverstream

sports awards, which was an honour for him. He tried to get across to the young men at the ceremony to emphasise "how much sport had added to my life - no matter what level you play at."

Sport does make many lifelong friendships and for Stephen, Cricket has provided that camaraderie. Cricket has always been a huge part of his life starting back as a 6 year old playing for the Upper Hutt Cricket Club in 1972. Recently, he was made a life member of the club, which was a huge honour for him. Stephen has had a number of roles in the club, including several roles on the club committee. He played for the senior side throughout the 1990's. He continues to play the game he loves. He has also played and coached in England, Italy, Germany, Netherlands and South Africa. It was in South Africa earlier this year where he represented New Zealand.

In 2019, at the age of 53, Stephen finally made his international debut in cricket when he was selected in the New Zealand over-50 side to play in the World Cup in South Africa in early 2020. He was part of the Wellington-Tasman side, which won the inaugural over 50-Provincial Tournament. The team travelled to the Cape Town however, halfway through the tournament was abandoned due to COVID-19. Stephen said "a shame as we were unbeaten to that point." Stephen was honoured to represent his country and to meet Cricket royalty. "It was an honour having my New Zealand cap presented to me by legendary South African cricketer Barry Richards (pictured below) and hearing your national anthem played before you head out on to the pitch is very special - made me think back on all the people who had been a large part of my cricketing life."

Speaking of royalty, Stephen remembers playing for London-New Zealand against the Royal Household at Windsor Castle in 1994. Stephen was in the United Kingdom to play a season of cricket and got a chance to play for London-New Zealand. When he was batting and as the bowler was coming into bowl, Stephen stepped away saying "there was an 'old duck' walking behind the sightscreen". To which the wicketkeeper replied in a very dismissive tone to Stephen - "You realise who that is of course?" Stephen had a closer look, and "saw a couple of corgis emerge by sightscreen, and recognised Queen Elizabeth II."

Continues on page 23



St Patricks College Old Boys Association Old Boy of the Year - Nomination Form

This award may be granted annually

The award recognises Old Boys who have promoted the betterment of the people of New Zealand, fostered the Marist way of life and carried the principles taught at the St Patrick's Colleges into the community. The recipient is also granted life membership of the association.

Each nomination is considered by the Executive and then a panel consisting of the President of the association and the two Rectors of the colleges recommend the award to the successful candidate acting on their own initiative or on the recommendation of the Executive

Date

Nominator

Nominee

Short Biography

Achievements

Once you have filled this form out, email it to secretary@spcob.org.nz

NOMINATIONS FOR SPCOBA OLD BOY OF THE YEAR AWARD 2020

The St Pats Old Boys association is calling for nominations for Old Boy of the Year 2020.

The successful candidate will be presented the Felix Kane Cup for Old Boy of the year.

The cup is named after Old Boy "legend" Felix Kane. Felix had a life long involvement with the association starting in the late 1940's up until his death in December 2009.

The award may be granted annually.

The award recognises Old Boys who have promoted the betterment of the people of New Zealand, fostered the Catholic way of life and carried the principles taught at the St Patrick's Colleges into the community. The recipient is also granted life membership of the association.

Each nomination is considered by the Executive and then a panel consisting of the President of the association and the two Rectors of the colleges recommend the award to the successful candidate acting on their own initiative or on the recommendation of the Executive.

Last year's winner was Fr Denis O'Hagan SM T1958-1962

If you would like to nominate an Old Boy for the award, please could you send a short biography of the candidate including his achievements and contact details (i.e. phone and e-mail address). Please also include contact details of the nominator to the President, SPCOBA at brad.hudson1986@gmail.com

Previous winners have been:

1991 Bernie Walsh S1941-3
 1992 Norman Gusscott T1928-30, S1931
 1993 Felix Kane S1942-5
 1994 Ian McMullin S1942-5
 1995 Mark Gardiner T1967-71
 1996 Nelson Nunns T1942-6
 1997 Ted Buddicom S43-4 T1945-7
 1998 John Kennedy Good S1959-63
 1999 Fr Barney Doherty SM T1940-3
 2001 Peter Menzies S1951-4
 2002 Fr Gerard Burns T1971-5
 2003 Fr Julian Wagg S1956-61
 2004 Card Tom Williams T1942-5
 2005 Rex McArley S1944-8
 2006 Brendan Gilmore T1944-6
 2007 Joe Karam S1964-8
 2008 Andy Bell T1942-3
 2009 John Ryall S1967-71
 2010 Jim Moriarty T1967-71
 2011 Father Noel Delaney S1935-40
 2012 Steve Hinds T1969-73
 2013 Bernie Monk S1967-71
 2014 Bill English S1975-79 & Brian McGuinness T1962-67
 2015 Francis Fanning S1961-62 & T1963-65
 2016 Sir Patrick Mahony S1950-53
 2017 Gerard Tully S1976-79
 2018 John Roy- Wojciechowski S1947-51
 2019 Fr Denis O'Hagan SM T1958-62

Keeping connected

**Search SPCOB or ST PATRICK'S
OLD BOYS ASSOCIATION INC**



In addition to the Patsman (our newsletter), we have our website www.spcob.org.nz our Facebook page, group and Instagram.

You can locate us on Facebook from a link in our website or within Facebook itself. It is a closed group so you must request to join the group, on the premise that you have attended either college or are a 'friend' of the college(s). Once your request is accepted you can also add your own Facebook friends who have attended either college. Editorial license is the right of the Administrator.

At present we have 2800 members in the group. By joining the Facebook page, it does not add you as a member of the association. You still need to do this via the website.

We also have a "like" page. To view this please go to www.facebook.com/spcobnz/. Please visit this page and "like" it and please tell all your friends.

Those of you that have Instagram as your Social Media source, you can follow us at #spcoba. Like our group, it is a closed group so you must request to join.

Want to give us feedback, let us know changes to your details or want to keep us informed about old boys. Please email the Secretary at secretary@spcob.org.nz, or write to SPCOB Association, PO Box 1007, Wellington.

Stephen at that point thought in for a penny in for a pound and replied, "Well you think the Queen of England would know not to walk behind the bowlers arm!" His Antipodean sense of humour did not go down so well with the Royal Household!

Family is the rock for Stephen and depends on them every day. He is grateful to have the support of his wife Andrea Blackshaw, his mother (Virginia Hewson), his dad and his children Josh and Laura.

When asked, "As an Old Boy, how can the Association best support/grow the network of Old Boys around New Zealand?" Stephen replied, "The Old Boys Association does a wonderful job. It's not until you get a little older you realise the importance of friendships and shared experience so maybe it takes younger people a little longer to see the benefit of groups like an Old Boys Association. I can only encourage current students and those who have recently left Stream and Town to get involved. Catching up with old friends is special - perhaps even those you weren't so friendly with during school days (you realise we have all grown up, matured and mellowed a little over the years). And for those of us with connections to the SPCOB - spread the word."



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION (INC) EXECUTIVE

BRAD HUDSON – President (S)
0274 366 686

GEORGE COLLINS – Immediate Past
President (S) 027 590-0045

SEAN MAHONY – Treasurer (S)
027 557 1544

HARRY IRELAND – Secretary (T)
021 157 7390

HADYN NICHOLLS – Comms Officer
(T) 021 545 113

FR PETER EWART SM (T)
04 471 0600

EVAN BAYLY (T)
021 642 207

BRENDAN HOLLAND (S)
027 629 1640

GALU LEITU (T)
021 243 5264



1: Elvis has not left
the building! Brennan
Carey with George
Collins at the Upper
Hutt Cossie Club on
Election Night

2: Mike McCool and the
Stream 1st XV of 1968

3: Mike Savali with his
mother being welcomed
as the new Rector of
St Patrick's College
Wellington. Mike is
followed in by Silverstream
Rector Grahame Duffy



4: John Holden with the
Swindale Shield. John was
made a Life Member of
the Marist St Pats Rugby
Football Club



5: Paul Eagle and Greg
O'Connor with George
Collins on Election Night

6: Our first AGM via
ZOOM!



7: Peter Burke with
Irish Ambassador Peter
Ryan and Govt. Minister
Damian O'Connor at the
launch of Peter's book
"True to Ireland"



8: President Brad Hudson and Stream
Old Boy Adam Julian going over their
commentary notes

9: The Stream 7's team winning the College
Sport Wellington 7's on Labour Day

10: The Town 7's team, runners up to Stream
at the College Sport Wellington 7's on
Labour Day

11: Town Captains with the three key wins
over Wellington College in Rugby, Football
and Basketball



ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION (INC)
PO BOX 1007, WELLINGTON 6140

