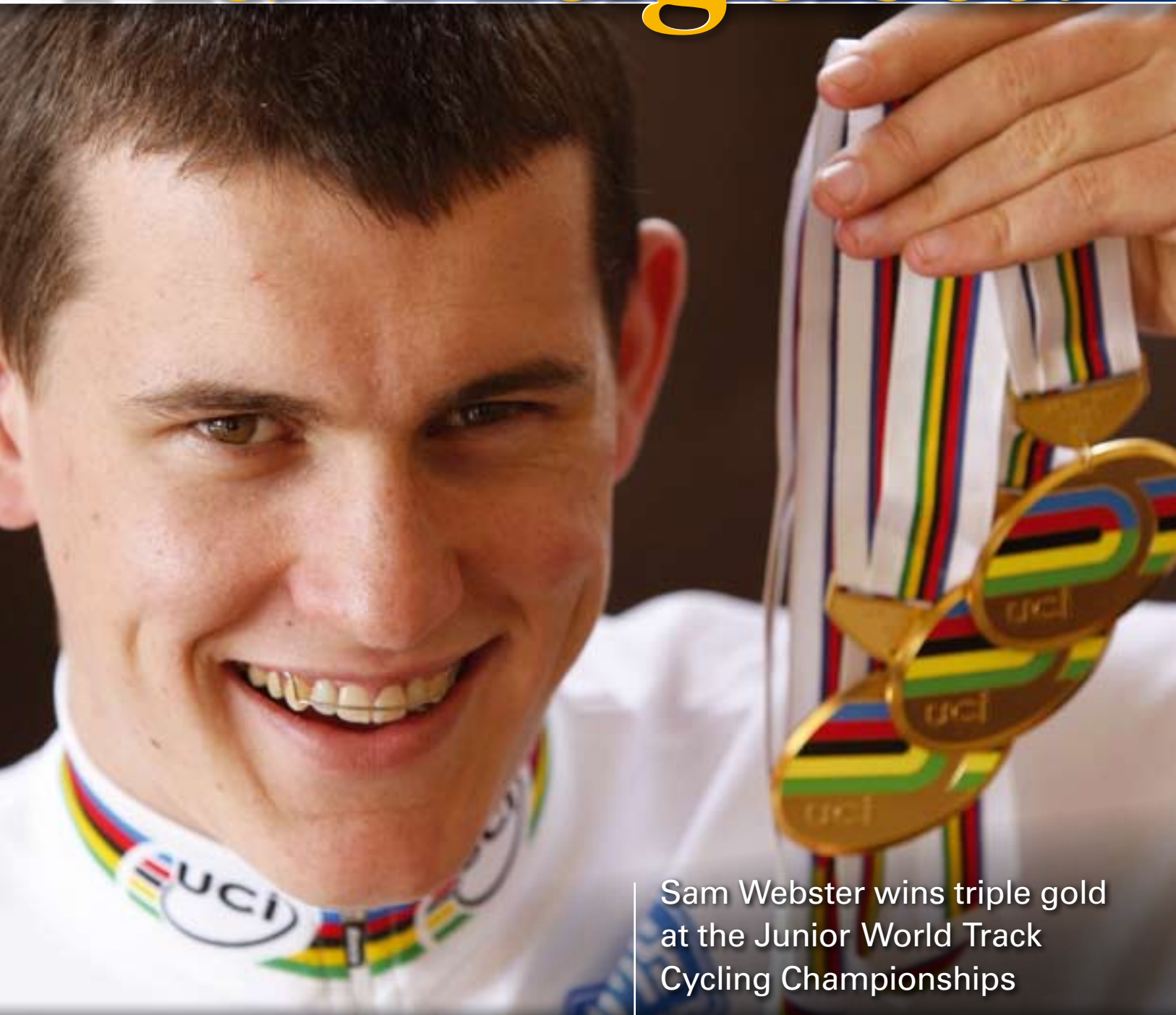




Ad Augusta



Sam Webster wins triple gold at the Junior World Track Cycling Championships

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Front Cover: Triple World Cycling Champion Sam Webster.
Photo by Jason Oxenberg, courtesy of the Central Leader.



*Grammar has never been a normal state school;
we have thrived on the challenges put before us
and this latest challenge is no different.*



The Headmaster

The School featured in the press extensively last term as a result of a fracas at the end of the 1st XV rugby semi-final which Grammar won 20–9.

The fracas was regrettable and reflected poorly on both schools, but the way the press reported the affair was also very regrettable. To all intents and purposes, the reporting made Grammar seem to be the villains, when a close look at the two videos available on the game and the minutes from the judiciary and punishments meted out by the judiciary do not back up that view.

There is no doubt in my mind that the press were out to portray Grammar as the villain. We are an easy target. I also have no doubt that if TV cameras had not been present at the game, there would have been no publicity about this incident at all; if the two teams involved had not been AGS and KBHS, I am equally certain the publicity would have been nil, with the result that both schools would have sorted the matter out internally, as normally happens in these rare instances.

In a way we are the victims of our own success. Our high profile means the press are constantly on the lookout for stories that may bring us down a notch or two. As the Grammar community will be aware, the egalitarian lobby is alive and well and keen to ensure that no state school can stand apart and be different.

Well Grammar is different. We have never been a normal state school; we have thrived on the challenges put

before us and this latest challenge is no different.

The annals of all great schools are full of such challenges to their reputation and philosophy. Many Old Boys have written to me reminiscing about such incidents during their time at Grammar and that has been very encouraging to me and the School generally. We will emerge from this media beat-up stronger and more united than ever.

Certainly our school's reputation remains as strong as ever and this has recently been reflected in the huge number of out of zone applications received by the School, which is the highest number ever received since the introduction of the new enrolment regulations in 2000.

Regarding enrolments, I can assure the Grammar community that the School has continued to lobby the National Government at the highest level to re-look at the regulations promulgated by the previous Labour Government in 2000. The ability to maintain the family connections that are so vital for our school (and other kindred schools) is something we have tried to convince the current government to incorporate in an amendment to the legislation. Time will tell if we have been successful, but I remain optimistic given the government's championing of choice and flexibility.

Our sports teams have also finished off the season very strongly, with the highlight being the victory of the 1st XI hockey side who were crowned national

champions in Dunedin and the five Auckland rugby championships won by the School's teams.

The term also witnessed the really positive achievements of our boys in music, academic pursuits and in the general life of the School. Many of these are profiled in this magazine. This gives a much more rounded picture of our school, its achievements and its eclectic activities rather than the negative emphasis on the rugby fracas.

This term is of course the climax to the year's academic work, with senior boys sitting external examinations from the middle of October right through until the end of November. Both NCEA and CIE examinations are testing challenges which boys need to focus fully on and the School wishes all boys well for these exams, which serve as an accountability mechanism for both boys and teachers.

Academic success remains the raison d'être of our school and is a major factor differentiating our school from all others in New Zealand. The School's long history of academic achievement is unmatched and it is important that we maintain this emphasis on academia and maintain our niche as the pre-eminent academic state school in the country.

Best wishes

John Morris – Headmaster

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Report from the Board

The School Board is delighted to report the addition of two new members. Mark Sandelin joined the Board in June, to replace Deborah George who resigned in February (see Report from the Board May 2009); and Pip Muir joined the Board in September, replacing Mack Storey who resigned in July.

A Board member for 16 years, Mack Storey served the Board across a variety of functions, including Development and Tibbs House. His involvement with serving the School extends well past 16 years, with his previous involvement with the Old Boys' Association.

New Board member Mark Sandelin left Grammar in 1979 and completed a BA/LLB at The University of Auckland. He is currently a Senior Commercial Litigation partner at Minter Ellison Rudd Watts and is married with three children; his eldest son will join Auckland Grammar School in 2011.

A partner at Simpson Grierson, Pip Muir also has a BA/LLB and is the head of her firm's Employment Law Group. Married to Kit Toogood QC, the couple have two sons; one currently in Form 3 at Auckland Grammar School and one starting in Form 3 in 2011. Pip has a strong interest in education and literature and is currently Chair of Fletcher Building's Employee Education Fund and a Trustee of the Auckland Writers & Readers Festival.

The School Board now has a strong group of new members who will serve the School with distinction over the coming years.

Rugby games, the TV and the press. Enough said the better. Nobody seems to have thought about why a team who had just scored a try to put the game out of reach with two minutes to go would start a fight. Even Old Boys from America are

aware of the details, thanks to TV and the internet.

I am sure that all members of the Grammar community understand that the School is a prime target to assist with sales of newsprint and other media. The School and Board try to limit our responses to what we consider appropriate. Having said this, the School does not tolerate fighting. Congratulations to Mt Albert on a fine win in the rugby final.

The Board wishes all the students well for their upcoming examinations.

Thank you for your continued support and, as always, we welcome input from the School community.

Robert Kirkpatrick
Chair AGS Board of Trustees

Triple World Under 19 Cycling Champion

In July, Sam Webster went to Moscow as part of the New Zealand Under 19 Cycling team to compete in the World Championships. Much was expected of this team, with Sam Webster predicted to do very well.

Racing began on 11 August with the Team Sprint. The team was confident but aware of the history of sprinters from other nations. New Zealand qualified first after the kilometre ride in a time of 1 minute 00.4 seconds and then went on to take the final, riding faster than they did in the qualifying round. The win was the first gold medal and World Championship win by a New Zealand sprint team.

The Keirin qualifying rounds then began, an event where a motorbike paces six riders up to 50km/h over a distance of five laps and then pulls off, leaving the riders to race over two laps. In the final, Sam was a marked man with all the other riders waiting for him and trying to obstruct him. Sam delivered to their expectations and made the first move, putting a few lengths on the field, with only one rider able to hang on. Sam went on to win his second World title by half a bike length.

After taking out two World titles, Sam was in good form leading into the flying 200m sprints. He broke his personal best and the New Zealand Men's record in the qualifying rounds,



Sam with his father James in the French Alps two years ago, when AGS Cycling followed Le Tour toward Alpe D'Huez.

narrowly missing out on the world record. He finished the qualifying rounds in second place. He then faced a German rider in the best of three final series. Sam won the first race and then convincingly smashed the German in race two to claim his third World title.

This was an incredible feat, and to go through the championships, with a total of 14 unbeaten races was in itself history making.

In the history of Auckland Grammar School, no student has won three World titles at one championships and this achievement rates Sam as one of the most successful riders in New Zealand

cycling history. He is earmarked for bigger and better things when he leaves School at the end of the year.

Ironically Sam does not qualify for an ASB Young Sportsman of the Year Award because there is no track cycling offered in Auckland Secondary School Sport.

An extract from Deputy Headmaster Mr Wayne Moore's Assembly speech:

I have been at Grammar for a long time and have seen a number of talented athletes cross stage in a wide variety of sports, including Martin Crowe and Mark Greatbach in cricket; Cameron Taylor in athletics; Grant Fox, Mathew Ridge and Douglas Howlett in rugby; Hamish Carter in athletics; Ryan Archibald in hockey; Simon Rea in tennis; Paul Kingsman in swimming; Michael Arms in rowing (winner of a World Junior gold medal in rowing when he was in Form 6); and Brad Heaven and Doug Batty who played in the US Golf Open this year.

All of these people have gone on to represent New Zealand at the highest level in sport. This achievement by Sam Webster certainly eclipses the deeds achieved by this group of athletes when they were at School.

I wish him all the best for his future pursuits in cycling as he turns to the senior ranks and look forward eagerly to his achievements in the future.



Sam with his parents Meren and James Webster and Master in Charge of Cycling, Mr D Johnson.

Sports Round Up

Cycling

AGS cleaned house in its own peculiar way on Finals Day along Tamaki Drive for the last of seven races in the Auckland Waterfront Series.

The Senior A Team won the Bigwood Trophy for Finals Day with a hot 20:31 minute time trial. But they lost the Fastest Time of the Year to Westlake, who earlier this year turned in a blistering 20:18 time. Now AGS gets to share the Series Trophy with Westlake Boys for first equal, a tie in points that has never before happened. No rule covered such a contingency.

On the Junior side, the A Team won the Series title but managed a mere third place on Finals Day. The team climbed up from nowhere early in the season and clinched first place several races ago. Junior E team, meanwhile, won the trophy for Handicap Points, the most improved team in the Series.

Distance Squad

Following their total domination at this year's National Cross Country Championships, Grammar has been selected to represent New Zealand at the World Secondary Schools Championships to be held in Liptosky, Mikulas, Slovak Republic in mid-April 2010.

New Zealand will be represented in two categories. Firstly in an official New Zealand team comprising of six athletes who will compete in the international country championship and a second event, which comprises of the top school



National Champion Magnus Whyte.



The 1st XI hockey team after winning the Rankin Cup.

from each country, which will determine the world's best school team. Grammar will be represented in both races as a result of our sixth form champion, Sam Morreau being selected in the elite team.

The Grammar team will be selected from: Seton Hill (5), Magnus Whyte (3), James Watt (6), Nick Orr, Chris Boswell (5), Jack Moody (5) and Cameron Burstall (5). Unfortunately Morreau is unable to participate as part of our official school's team because of his other international commitments. The selection of third former Magnus Whyte is an outstanding achievement and is a result of his becoming the first Grammar student to win a National individual title at this year's Nationals, in the Year Nine race.

The Nike Challenge 2009: Grammar again successfully defended their school title as Australasia's top running school when we won the annual 'Nike Challenge' for the third time in succession. This unique event sees 100 athletes from 500 schools across the Pacific endeavour to run as far as possible in a predetermined period of time. Nike has fostered and promoted the event since 2007 and has introduced technology to ensure the race is conducted fairly and accurately.

The team, captained by seventh former Hamish Snow, set a record by running over 21,000kms in the 22-day period (out of a possible limit of 22,000). As a result of their efforts the whole squad receives personalised Nike gear and a special training camp run by the sponsors.

The Auckland Road Race

Champions: Grammar again dominated these Championships even though a number of our top athletes did not compete. Third former Magnus Whyte was in a class of his own, winning the junior event. Seton Hill, Cameron Burstall and Jack Moody finished second, third and fourth respectively in the intermediate event. And Daniel Smith, after winning the New Zealand Duathlon title in Fielding the day before, managed a very creditable fourth place in the seniors.

Grammar captured five golds and one silver from a possible six titles to totally dominate the day's proceedings. This is an excellent trial run for the team, who will endeavour to defend their national road race titles in Timaru early in December.

The School also thanks and congratulates the coaches Messrs Rodney Gordon, Ben Skeen, Scott Burrridge, Warren Buckingham, Shane Jordan and Ellen Jones for their enthusiasm and commitment.

Hockey

During Winter Sports Tournament Week, the 1st XI hockey team competed for the Rankin Cup in Dunedin (see Focus on Tournament Week over page) and claimed their 23rd victory in the Cup and their 5th in seven years.

The pressure is now on the team to perform again next year with a large amount of players moving on. Thanks must go to the management that has



Rower Hamish Mitchell.

been with the team this year and all parents and supporters that have followed the group, including sponsors MarchCato, Functional Physio and Grammar Electrical.

Rowing

Hamish Mitchell has been selected into the Auckland Interprovincial rowing team. This 24-strong team comprises the best rowers in Auckland who will compete in the Interprovincial Championship Regatta at Lake Karapiro in October.

For Hamish, the interprovincial team is the first step on his way towards the New Zealand Junior team and other international rowing crews. With the recent success of the NZ Rowing team, the standard throughout New Zealand is extremely high.

Skiing

Grammar took fourth place at the North Island Secondary School Ski Championships at Turoa skifield. One of our top two skiers, John Knowles,

took third and fourth fastest times out of 298 junior skiers, winning 23 out of a possible 24 points for Grammar.

Squash

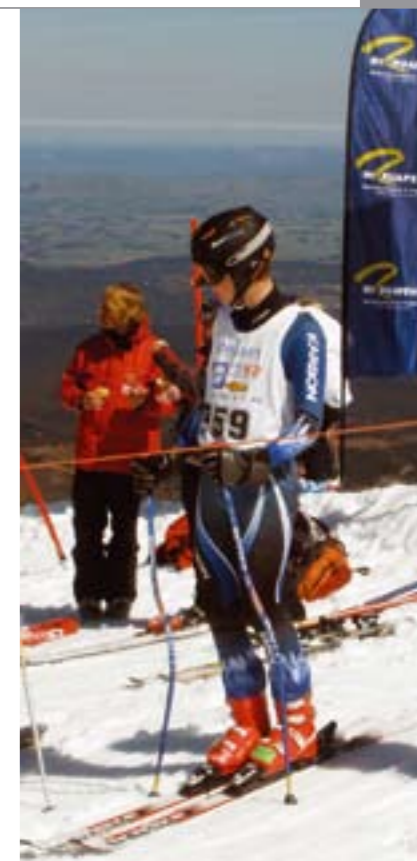
The Grammar Premier 1 team had a sound year in squash, with five new players coming up from lower teams and one player who had been in the team for two years.

During the Auckland Inter-School Competition, the team went through the pool round only dropping three games in five matches. Once in the championship round, Grammar came first by a convincing margin of 20 games. Next up was the Auckland Secondary Schools Competition, where the team brushed aside opponents Lynfield College and Onehunga High School to make it to the final against St Kent's, posting a 5:0 win to claim the regional title.

The big challenge was to reclaim the National title for the 7th year running. The team was seeded 2nd behind a very strong Christchurch Boys' High School who put forward the highest ranked team in National history!

Having won against Rathkeale College and Westlake Boys, Grammar won its quarter-finals against Tauranga Boys' and a tough semi-final against number 3 seed Palmerston North Boys'. In the final against number 1 seeds Christchurch Boys' High School (last year's runner up to Grammar), the end result was 4-1 to Christchurch and Grammar was the runner-up for the year.

Thanks to Mr S Lassche for the outstanding effort in managing and coaching the team and also Mr Bahlmann and Mr Wing for their involvement.



John Knowles before his Giant Slalom run.

Weightlifting

This year, the Grammar weightlifting team regained the team's title at the National Championships in Te Kauwhata. After winning these Championships for eight consecutive years from 2000 to 2007, a well-prepared McLean's College dislodged Grammar from the title last year.

Team Captain R Kumar's committed leadership saw his team improve hugely in the run-up to the National Championships. The final result in the team's contest had Grammar well ahead on 22 points, with no other school making double digits.

Kumar himself placed 2nd in the highly competitive 69kg class and very narrowly missed the qualifying total for the Men's National Champs. K Hurrell and J Gorhekar also took silver in their respective classes, with J Nialuga, W Joo, B Bosomworth and D Padd all taking bronze. Grammar's standout performer, J Green, qualified easily for the Men's Nationals with a 170kg winning total in the Senior 62kg class.

In the Junior (Under 16) competition, R Taylor, J Mok and E Tuku'aho all won gold in their respective divisions, with J Hunt winning bronze.



The Premier Squash team (essentially the 2008 Premier 2 team) went from 14th to 2nd place in one year.

Focus on Tournament Week

2009 has been a year of real extremes in sport for Auckland Grammar School. Yet again we are boasting huge numbers across all sports and in all competitions.

Football

Winter Sport Tournament brought with it its share of success and dramas. The 1st XI football team had a disappointing national tournament. Such is the cutthroat nature of these tournaments, a 'bad day at the office' can mean the difference in making play offs or not. A surprise loss to St Andrew's College meant a tougher road in post pool play and Grammar was knocked out of semi-final contention with a loss to Palmerston North Boys' High School. The team had a chance to make amends in the Auckland Knock Out final against St Peter's College, but in football, possession and dominance does not always lead to goals. St Peter's won 2-1, a case of the opposition being more desperate to win.

The 2nd XI football team beat many other 1st XIs to win the Linwood Trophy in real style.

Rugby

In the Under 15 rugby tournament the AGS side surpassed all expectations to finish a very creditable third. Grammar's only loss was to MAGS 12-17. It was a true team effort, but special mention needs to be made of the outstanding contributions of 1st XV squad members Damien Mendes and Braxton Stanley. Stanley scored three hat tricks during the week. Auckland Championships were also won by the 3A, 4A, 4B, 5A and 6A rugby teams.

Hockey

Right from the first game at the Rankin Cup Hockey Tournament in Dunedin, Grammar looked a very talented side and swept through pool play unbeaten. The 3-2 win over Rangitoto College was a tremendous result, considering we were 2-0 down. However in this game, despite being two behind, the team always looked in control and showed great composure and confidence. From quarter-finals on, there was only one side that was going to win the Rankin Cup. Grammar beat



Joe Crooks competing for a ball against a Hamilton Boys' High player in the semi-final.

Palmerston North Boys' High School 2-0, smashed Hamilton Boys' High School 6-0 in the semi-final and then accounted for traditional rivals King's College 3-0 to win the Rankin Cup for 2009. The final was a clinical display, with King's hardly gaining a shot at goal.

Again tournaments are won by teams, not individual stars, but mention must be made of Ketan Hari, Dwayne Rowsell, Joe Crooks and Callum Longden, who have all played four years of 1st XI hockey and leave AGS at the end of the year with three Rankin Cup Championships. With such a pool of talent leaving the School, 2010 will be a huge challenge for the returning members of the 1st XI and indeed the coaching staff. Special mention must be made of Old Boy Aneesh Kesha who has won the Rankin Cup both as a player and now as a coach!

Other Sports

The School's weightlifting team became National Champions again, having held the title for eight consecutive years from 2000-2007, our cycling team came second at their Nationals and the Grammar ski team came a very creditable 4th, with a team almost entirely made up of third formers. Also on the slopes, Thomas Grant 6C won Gold in the Slalom at the North Island Secondary School's Snowboard Champs held at Turoa, Mt Ruapehu.

Thanks to all those students who represented the School with such pride and commitment. Long may our success in all sports continue!

We would like to thank the following parents and friends of Grammar who have given up their time to assist and support our sports teams in Terms 2 and 3 2009.

Cycling

Scott Burridge, Louise Foreman, Richard Justice, Sue Porter, Russell Scott, Ken Sparks and Lynne Staub

Distance Squad

Mandy and John Barclay, Susan and David Boswell, Scott and Debbie Burridge, Steve and Maureen Chang, Helen and Richard Harman, Mandy and Philip Morreau, Ash and Wendy Smith, Geraldine and Barry Snow, Brian and Liz Watt and Nicki and Daniel Wu

Basketball

Helen Armstrong, Josh Burrows, Jeff Fahrensohn, Regan Harvey, Phillipa Hunt, Ray Lavea, Arthur Loulanti, Stu and Kathryn Manners, Piloma Te Rangi, Colin Vowles, Tai Winitana and John and Paula Young

Football

Marty Felton and John Greig

Hockey

Kamla Hari, Wes Jones, Natalie Rowsell, Craig Stevenson and Francis van Rijn

Rugby

Mark Birtwistle, Dean Grace, Paul Kelly, Richard Koreman, Alistair Murray, Tu Nuualiitia and Bruce West

Waterpolo

Karyl and Ross Kidd, Shane and Lorraine Moser and Penny and Graeme Small

Staff vs. Prefects Matches

The annual Prefects vs. Staff football game began at breakneck speed, as both teams tried to find an opening and feed the ball to star strikers: Crooks for the students, and the teachers' very own Mr "Fabbio" Eaddy.

The prefects' defence held solid, and Van Het Wout created a well-structured attack that was finally converted by Hari, thanks to some dodgy defending by the staff. The staff to their credit did not give in and began launching attacks of their own through the blistering pace and

sublime skills of Mr Oram. In what was the last play of the game, Mr "Big Arm" Eaddy fired a long throw into the box and in the resulting mêlée, Mr Knights "rider" headed it into the net.

As the game went to penalties, Mr Eaddy took the 5th and final penalty for a 6-5 win to the staff, in a game played in good spirit with some scintillating football from both sides.

Successfully defending the Morris Boot for the fourth consecutive year, the staff rugby team celebrated Mr Elise's



Mr Tala Elise, 'The Dominator', in his 20th game for the staff team.

20th game with an emphatic 17-0 win.

The opening try was scored by Mr Patterson and successfully converted for a 7-0 half time lead. Referee Mr Hansen was quick to minimise any danger at the breakdown and despite some shockingly fair and unbiased refereeing, it was to be more of the same for the prefects in the second half.

The staff team were as solid on attack as defence, with Mr Langdon finishing a rare sweeping move down the right hand side for a 12-0 lead. Eventually Mr Mellor crossed to make the final score 17-0. The game was perhaps best summed up by an anonymous spectator overheard at the end of the game saying, "The Prefects were lucky to get 0."

The Man of the Match award was given to Mr Gardner for his consummate display at halfback.



Prefects show off their supreme header skills.

Hillary Challenge

The St Cuthberts/AGS team was runner-up in this year's Genesis Energy Hillary Challenge, which is rated as one of the toughest events on the secondary schools sporting calendar.

Event organiser Darren Ashmore from the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre said St Cuthberts and Grammar put in a gutsy effort over the five-day event. They finished second in the 12-team field and automatically qualified for entry in next year's event.

The challenge includes problem solving activities, a three-day southern traverse style activity requiring them to stay out overnight under canvas in wet, frosty and snowy conditions and concludes with an all-day multisport racing event.



Back row from left: John Bollen, Genesis Energy Chief Executive Albert Brantley, Jake Stanley-Harris, Holly Rabone and Libby Crum. And front row: Henry Harmon, Tom Wu, Aksell Toikka and Anna Gray. Photo by Iain Morrison.

Real Men Read

The Library team's 'Real Men Read' evening in May saw about 100 people turn out to be entertained by some guest speaking greats. Our speakers talked about what reading means to them and the kinds of things they enjoy reading, sharing a number of amusing anecdotes along the way.

The four speakers were Mr B Skeen, History and Social Studies teacher at Grammar and Super 14 Television Match Official; Martin Crowe, Old Boy, cricketer and broadcaster on Sky TV; Robert Rakete, Old Boy and broadcaster on The Breeze Radio Station and on TV1 Motorsport and Benson Stanley, Old Boy and Captain of the Blues.

The Head Librarian also spoke about boys' reading patterns and how to encourage reading in this teenage group.



Readers Robert Rakete, Martin Crowe, Mr B Skeen and Benson Stanley.

New Zealand Debater

Josh Baxter of 7B was selected for the New Zealand Debating team at the National Championships held in Wellington on 7-10 August.

Throughout his time at Grammar, Josh has competed in the interschool debating competition and was selected into the top team in 2008 as a sixth former. He was a semi-finalist at the regional debating competition in 2008 and has been awarded colours for debating in 2008 and 2009.

Earlier this year, Josh was selected to join the Auckland Regional Debating Team to travel to the National Championships. In addition to the substantial time and effort Josh dedicated to the coaching period for the Auckland team, he also continued to debate for the School.

Over the year, Josh has been the top speaker in the Auckland Schools' Debating Competition and the top speaker at the regional competition. At the National Championships, his team reached the semi-finals of the competition, although they were unfortunately knocked out by the eventual winners. Josh will travel to Qatar in February 2010 to compete on behalf of New Zealand against the best debaters of his age in the world.

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The darkest jungles of Borneo, the blistering heat of Death Valley, the surf of Kuta Beach, the towering cliffs of Yosemite, the imposing Table Mountain, the Lions of Kruger... to the bright lights of Las Vegas. What do all these have in common? All have been destinations experienced by intrepid AGS students on one of the infamous 'treks' of the Geography Department.

Seeking out different and dramatic environments, the Geography Department tours have now guided over 70 students to unique experiences in all sorts of locations, which they may otherwise have never imagined.

To date six treks have taken place - the first to Borneo in 1999, the second to Bali (after the September 11 attacks brought about a hasty three-day reorganisation from the planned destination of Egypt), three to the west of the USA and then this year, a safari through South Africa.

Most trips have involved an 'up close and personal' approach to the places visited, with hiking and camping a major feature of all but two of the treks. Along the way, students have not only acquired a significant appreciation of the natural environment, but also an appreciation of different cultures.

The African Safari Trek of 2009 saw 18 Grammar students camping from Capetown to Johannesburg. Several game reserves were visited, including the famed Kruger National Park, and game drives ensured that all of the classic animals of the region were sighted at close quarters.

Apart from the wildlife, for many the highlight of the trip may well have been a visit to the townships of Cape Flats - where a real insight to the poverty and hardships that is the daily reality for much of the world's population was gained.

Planning for a 2010 trek is already well underway. The Swiss Mountain Trek aims to start in Paris but spend the majority of its time in Switzerland. Basing itself in the mountain resorts of Grindelwald and Zermatt, accommodation will be in hostels and the days spent enjoying hikes in simply breathtaking scenery. A possible stopover in Singapore on the way home will give a taste of a something very different. Spaces will be limited to 12 students, and judging from the last three treks, these are likely to fill very quickly.

For more information please email the HOD Geography, Mr M Paton at m.paton@ags.school.nz



Going native...



Grammar Geography students reach the most south-western point of the African continent.

Music Festivals

Term 3 was a very successful one for the Music Department. Both Winter Concerts were sold out and all the music ensembles performed at a very high standard. The adjudicator for the Minister's Plate finals was Mr Ashley Brown '84, an Old Boy and cellist from NZ Trio. He was most impressed with the calibre of our student musicians.

Congratulations to violinist B Tsai (4B) for winning the Junior Plate and oboist T Hutchinson (6F) for winning the Minister's Plate.

In the KBB Music Festival, all four Grammar music ensembles won three silver awards (Symphony Orchestra, Concert Band and Grammar Virtuosi) and one bronze award (Stage Band).

For the first time ever, Grammar Voices was invited to participate in the Big Sing National Finale in Dunedin. Our singers performed exceptionally well and they received a silver award for their hard work. Our sincere thanks go to all the directors, tutors and students for your commitment this year.



Grammar Voices performing in the Big Sing in Dunedin.

Shrew'd

Hot on the heels of 'Mikado' came the student-run production of 'Shrew'd', directed by Stefan Jammes (AGS) and Alicia Hellens (EGGS).

Following the revived tradition from 2008, a group of seasoned seventh formers from AGS and EGGs chose a home-written vamped-up version of Shakespeare's 'Taming of the Shrew' to challenge their creative juices.

All the major jobs and roles were filled by crew and cast from recent shows and their efforts were extremely well received. Their play was a delicious, light-hearted and extremely funny version of a classic. All involved can be congratulated and extremely proud of their efforts, which, once again, were admirable.



J Mahon-Heap as Mario and B De Klerk as Grumio, looking over K McCafferty as Petruchio.

Stage Band Tour

On Thursday 27 August, the Stage Band set off on their biennial tour of Southland. En route to their first destination of Wanaka, the group stopped at the famous Kawarau Bridge where seven students took advantage of a discounted rate to hurl themselves from the bridge.

The next day, the group performed their first concert in front of an enthusiastic audience at Mt Aspiring College, who were impressed with not just the band members but also the dulcet tones of Campbell Rehu. At the conclusion of the concert, the group made their way up the treacherous road to the Treble Cone Ski Field, where, unfortunately, the bad weather prevented the boys from playing. However, they were able to indulge in some skiing and snowboarding.

From there the party drove to Arrowtown, stopping at the famous Cardrona Hotel. After a Saturday performance at the Remarkables Ski Field, the boys again skied and snowboarded in some glorious weather. That afternoon the boys drove to Te Anau, where they went to the film Ata Whenua, which documents the Fiordland National Park from the air, and were afterwards treated to a pot luck dinner by their billets.

On Sunday the group took in the sights at Lake Manapouri, cruising through Doubtful Sound and viewing the Manapouri Power Station, where Campbell Rehu and Philip Kempthorne



The Stage Band with some of their Te Anau billet families.

treated the tourists to an impromptu display of some vocal harmony. That night, they performed in front of 200 locals at the Fiordland Events Centre. Tickets were in high demand and the number of encores they played was testimony to how well they were received by the audience. The concert served as a fundraiser for the local search and rescue organisation.

The following day, the group made their way to Invercargill, stopping at Blackmount School. This school, which currently has 12 pupils and one pre-schooler, is in the middle of nowhere and serves the local farmers. This was certainly a highlight for the boys as well as the school, especially when the pupils joined the band for the final number and played whatever instrument they had grabbed from the box.

The next three days saw performances at James Hargest College, Southland Boys' and Salford Street School, John McGlashan College and Dunstan High. The group made their way back to Queenstown where they flew home, exhausted but enlivened by a superb experience.

Special thanks must go to all the families who billeted the boys and demonstrated that Southland hospitality must surely be the best in the country. Also, special mention must be made of the entire Stage Band, whose behaviour and the manner in which they conducted themselves at all times was exemplary.

Finally thanks goes to Mr Donald Brown for his superb leadership and organisation of the tour and to Mrs Laura Gilbert and Mr Alastair Fleming for keeping up with the tight schedule.

TV stars Papa Eden

Papa Eden, made up of Grammar boys James Hills, Rory Maguire and Campbell Rehu, entered the 2009 Smokefree Rockquest in the Auckland Central Region and won!

This brought about a television interview on C4's 'Select Live' as well as a gig on TV3's 'Big Night In' Telethon 2009, raising money for Kids Can. The "thoroughly excited but incredibly nervous" boys performed live at 8:27am, playing their original song 'Reach Out', which the three co-wrote.



Papa Eden live on The Big Night In.

We would like to thank the following parents and friends of Grammar for their support:

Music Winter Concerts
 Samuel and Grace Chen, Joyce Chien, Barbara Fraser, Kathy Hawke, Leanne Karl, Andrea Kendall, William and Peggy Lee, Edward and Yuany Liu, James and Sheryl Tsai and Jeff and Ivy Yu

The 'Mikado' Production
 Debbie Burridge

Art Exhibition

Now in its seventh year, the Auckland Grammar School Art Exhibition has established itself firmly on the School's calendar as the showcase event for local and national artistic talent.

This year's exhibition featured 130 artists from throughout New Zealand, including Grammar teacher Justin Boroughs, Jim Cooper, Paul Dibble, Dick Frizzell, Michael Hight, Neal Palmer, Paul Radford and Sophia Tekela-Smith, together with selected senior art students and teachers of art. Old Boy, international artist and the only New Zealand painter to have exhibited at the Guggenheim, Max Gimblett, also displayed work in the exhibition this year.

The weekend began with a cocktail preview evening on Friday 4 September, with over 450 guests enjoying great food, wine, student musical performances and of course, the impressive selection of art.



Chinese Figure 2008 by Max Gimblett, sold for \$12,500.00



Prefects Richard Lowe, Lachlan Ferguson, Headmaster John Morris, Prefect Grant Davis and Head Prefect Sam Burridge.



Committee (from left) Robyn Somerville, Veryan Laity, Toni Durant, Megan Ferner, Linda McDiarmid, Dan Chappell, Annabel Lush, Anthea Baker-Shreeve, Prue Fraser, Vicki Koreman, Rose Austen, John Wigglesworth, Bridget Hackshaw, Carolyn Hutchins and Alastair Gaudin. Absent: John Gow.

Guests were also treated to four Prefects body-painted with the No.1 uniform, as a follow on from Old Boys Winston and Benson Stanley being body-painted with the Grammar rugby jersey.

Ernst & Young, one of the key sponsors, again awarded two student artists with cash prizes; Logan Cairns for 'Beyond the Archway' and Sam Bryant for 'Map of New Zealand'.

The Exhibition attracted record numbers this year and raised over \$80,000 for the Foundation Trust – a tribute to the parent committee coordinating the event, co-chaired by Annabel Lush and Vicki Koreman. Helping make this all happen is a team of loyal key sponsors and several new sponsors too. We thank all those involved, as well as the committee members (shown above), for their support.

Gala Dinner

This year's Foundation Trust Gala Dinner saw the return of the legendary MC and Old Boy, John Hawkesby. With a new event layout, John intimately entertained the 300 Old Boys and parents with anecdotes from his school years and his thoughts on current affairs.

The evening kicked off with the School's student percussion group, Relentless Rhythm, followed by the ever-competitive table vs. table quiz. The winning table was hosted by new committee member Dave Wrathall and included Julie Christie.

Some of the evening's events saw students from the 'Mikado' production performing a musical medley, a gorgeous Louis Vuitton Bag being modelled and raffled off during the night, an 11-item live auction and again, dancing to 'The Lazyboys' to the early hours of the morning.

The outstanding evening raised over \$92,000 for the Academic Endowment Fund, which aims to reward and retain top teachers. We wish to thank the attendees, the parent committee involved and all the sponsors who contributed to the evening's success.

Gala Dinner Committee: Chairman Jack Porus, John Barclay, Debbie Burridge, Rhonda Dodd, Jacki Downey, Janine Manning, Lynley Sheweiry and Dave Wrathall.



The magnificent Main Hall.



New Zealand Louis Vuitton GM Mark Browne with model Kendall Tobin.



MC John Hawkesby.

Ernst & Young is proud to support the Auckland Grammar School Art Exhibition

Congratulations to Logan Cairns (first prize) and Sam Bryant (second prize). Both winners in the 2009 Auckland Grammar School Art Awards sponsored by Ernst & Young.

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Brighter Thinking.

Viva Las Vegas

After an impressive ball skit, involving a game show, singing, dancing and even a display of pyrotechnics, the School Ball theme for 2009 was announced as 'Viva Las Vegas'!

Held on 1 August at Eden Park Convention Centre, the ball treated the 750 guests, made up of students, partners and teachers, to a spectacle of feather fans, poker tables and a giant card house as they arrived.

The exuberant dancing and music was only briefly interrupted during the night for an exquisite buffet dinner and the presentation of the awards. Delan Mahlagwai and his partner were the deserving winners of the prestigious King and Queen title.

The whole evening was a huge success and special thanks must go to Mr and Mrs Morris for their enormous support of the event, and to Mr Metzger, whose tireless efforts helped the night run as smoothly as possible. Prefect Cody Neilson was also instrumental in the



Dapper prefects (from left) Joe Crooks, Richard Lowe, Joe Gunson and Ketan Hari.

organisation of the entire night.

It was a truly memorable occasion, which yet again proved to be a highlight on the School's social calendar.

Form 4 MEN Programme

At the beginning of Term 3, Auckland Grammar School accepted an approach from the staff at AUT University to be part of a pilot programme with other selected Form 4 students across Auckland.

The programme, suitably titled 'MEN', has seen 20 boys from our Form 4 cohort engage with AUT personnel, with the objective of introducing our students to the key values and strategies that develop strong young men in the rapidly changing society they are confronted with. The young and energetic AUT staff have provided great encouragement to our students in an attempt to ensure they aim for, and attain, higher levels of success in their academic studies and wider co-curricular pursuits.

To date, the selected students have partaken in a two-day outdoor pursuits camp at Puriri Tree Adventure Park, Matakana, which sought to develop stronger communication skills within situations where teamwork was essential. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all!

Furthermore, the students have engaged with the AUT facilitators in two personal development workshops, and will continue to do so throughout Term 4, as the staff seek to instil messages that will allow these young men to fulfill their potential as positive role models in their school environment. The programme is unapologetically about MEN, and we look forward to providing a similar experience for Form 4 students in 2010.



Form 4 students taking part in the MEN programme.

Helping to 'Keep New Zealand Beautiful'

The Auckland Grammar School Headmaster's Environmental Committee undertook a trip to Rangitoto Island on 3 September. The trip's main objective was a thorough clean up of Rangitoto Island coinciding with 'The Great New Zealand Spring Clean', supporting Keep New Zealand Beautiful (KNZB) week.

The trip was a great success, removing a huge quantity of rubbish from several kilometres of foreshore and tracks, right up to the summit. The Committee appreciated the generosity and support of KNZB for providing recyclable rubbish bags, Fullers for granting the ferry rides at no cost and Subway for sponsoring lunch.



The Headmaster's Environmental Committee after their Spring Clean at Rangitoto.

40 Years' Service

Mr Des Cutler completes 40 years of teaching service at Auckland Grammar School at the end of this academic year. Mr Cutler was earlier recognised for his 25 years' service and has since gone on to continue his teaching career at Grammar. Originally a Physical Education specialist and HOD Physical Education, Mr Cutler changed careers in the late 80s and completed a Bachelor of Education degree specialising in Accounting. These days his teaching programme is entirely Accounting and Business Studies, a job he still thoroughly enjoys.

Mr Cutler's co-curricular involvement at Grammar is legendary. He was a highly successful 1st XV coach for many years before taking over as Master in Charge of Rowing. During his leadership of rowing, the School won its one and only Maadi Cup in 1992. This year he gave up his Master in charge of Rowing responsibility to Mr Markham, but his close association with the rowing fraternity will undoubtedly continue.

During his 41-year teaching career, Mr Cutler had one year on exchange overseas teaching at Haileybury College in the UK, returning even more committed to continue his teaching at Grammar.

Mr Cutler's huge institutional



Mr Des Cutler.

knowledge is vital to the running of the School and the School is very fortunate to have such a committed and positive staff member. His 40 years' service will be acknowledged at the Old Boys' Dinner in November.

25 Years' Service

Two long serving teachers complete 25 years' service at the end of this year.

Mr Min Lee started teaching at Grammar in 1985, after gaining his BSc and Diploma in Statistics from The University of Auckland. Before commencing teaching, Mr Lee had a number of jobs in a variety of industries, ranging from computer programming to tour consulting.

Mr Lee has taught the full range of classes at Grammar and is currently a Deputy HOD in the Mathematics Department with special responsibilities for mathematics competitions, resources, textbooks and also looks after the Cambridge Senior teaching programme. Throughout his career, he has been highly involved in marking panels for various external examinations, including Scholarship and Form 6 External Examinations.

In 1999 his superb teaching ability was recognised by the Woolf Fisher Trust and he was awarded a Fellowship to travel overseas and study the teaching of mathematics in a range of schools in Australia.

For many years, Mr Lee has been the manager of the Intermediate A1 Tennis team as well as coaching squash. He was also a nationally ranked aerobics participant and has coached and judged at National Aerobics competitions.



Mr Min Lee.

His latest interest is in gardening and landscaping and he has just completed a Certificate in Home Garden Design at Unitec.

Mr Jon Hasler also started teaching at Auckland Grammar School in 1985, after completing a BA double major at Massey University in Mathematics and History. For almost 10 years, Mr Hasler had a split timetable teaching History, Social Studies and Mathematics, throughout the full range of ability and form levels. He now specialises in History and Social Studies and is currently the Master in charge of NCEA History. Prior to this, he also had responsibilities in Social Studies resource development and was assistant to the HOD Social Studies for a number of years.

Mr Hasler has been very active in the co-curricular life of the School, coaching rugby and cricket for a number of years with great enthusiasm. He has



Mr Jon Hasler.

also participated widely in the School's Outdoor Education Programme and is currently Master in charge of Mountain Biking at the School, a job he has done magnificently since 2001.

Mr Hasler is highly regarded by NZQA for his expertise in NCEA teaching. He has spoken at a number of professional development courses and has also been an external marker in History at Form 5, 6 and 7 levels. He is also a published author and has written and edited revision guides for Form 5, 6 and 7 History.

A committed professional, Mr Hasler has completed many professional development courses and a Middle Management Certificate. He is also the current Chairperson of the School's PPTA and has been since 2003.

The School values these two Masters highly and is looking forward to recognising their achievements at a special Assembly in Term 4.

Annual Appeal

The School and Foundation Trust would like to thank the following people for their generous support of the 2009 Annual Appeal. The focus of this appeal was to increase the capital base of the Academic Endowment Fund, which was established to recruit, retain and reward top teachers.

The fund enables us to make special awards each year to a number of top performing teachers at all levels and across all subjects. To date, 68 awards have been made over the past five years, with 17 of those being made last year.

The following list includes donations from 11 March 2009 to 7 September 2009. Some donors have chosen to remain anonymous.

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- Mr J H Ye & Mrs J X Zhou
- Mr J & Mrs Y S Yoon
- Ms V You
- Mr F & Mrs H Zheng

Building on Tradition

In addition to the Annual Appeal, the loyal Grammar community contributed to the Building on Tradition campaign, which saw the completion of the Sports Centre, Old Boys' Pavilion and upgrade of the top field.

- Mr J G & Mrs A Adam
- Mr S & Mrs A Brealey
- Dr R Parr
- Mr P & Mrs J Sinhalage

Excellence

The Commitment to Excellence campaign, launched in 2001 to attract, reward and retain quality teaching staff, continues to receive ongoing support.

- Mr D & Mrs C Dowden
- Mr H W Kean
- Mr G I Smith

Prudent investments work well for Trust

In what has been a turbulent time for investments globally, the Foundation Trust has benefited from a conservative investment strategy and continues to earn a good return on its investments.

With advice from the Auckland Grammar School Independent Investment Advisory Board, the Trust has avoided equities and invested 100% of funds into interest bearing deposits and high quality long term bonds. These longer term investments have softened

the impact of the drop in interest rates and the portfolio is still earning in excess of 7%.

Auckland Grammar School recognises the long term benefits arising from the work of the Foundation Trust and therefore has put in place a structure whereby 100% of gifts and funds raised go directly to the Foundation Trust. By the School absorbing all overheads, donors can be sure that their entire gift is being applied to the aims of the Trust.



AGS Golf Tournament 2009

**Remuera Golf Club
Monday 30 November**
Lunch 11.45am and tee-off 12.30pm

Teams of Four
Best 3 stableford points per hole

Entry Fees - \$500 per team (\$125 per player). Includes green fees, lunch, refreshments on-course, dinner and prize giving.

Registrations close 20 November.
Proceeds to AGS School Golf. Donated prizes gratefully accepted.

Email: p.shore@ags.school.nz for an entry form.

Exam Tutorials

Departments are running subject tutorials for senior students on study leave

CIE tutorials will commence on Monday 12 October

NCEA tutorials will commence on Monday 9 November

A full timetable can be found under the Academic section on the School website

www.ags.school.nz

Leavers' Lunch 2009

Boys and families
Join us for this special occasion as we farewell our Leavers of 2009

Wednesday 2 December
Alexandra Park Function Centre

Tickets \$50.
Guest Speaker Dr Lester Levy

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the Development Office on 09 623 5639 or development@ags.school.nz

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Term Dates 2010

Term 1 Tuesday 26 January – Wednesday 31 March

Term 2 Monday 19 April – Friday 2 July

Term 3 Monday 19 July – Friday 24 September

Term 4 Monday 11 October – Friday 3 December

Please note these dates may differ from those on the Ministry of Education's website.

Message of Support

Staff at Auckland Grammar School wish to thank the person or persons who organised the delicious morning tea in the staff room, which was prepared and delivered by Tui's Nest Café (Shop 21, 310 Remeura Rd). This generous gesture and message of support for the School following the difficult time during August was very much appreciated by all staff.



Welcome to the Old Boys' section of Ad Augusta.

In this edition we highlight a number of OBA activities and functions that have taken place during the course of 2009 and I hope you enjoy catching up on the exploits of some of our Old Boys.

Of particular interest is our announcement of the fantastic donation of \$150,000 from The Burnett Trust to the Pavilion Changing Rooms Appeal that the Old Boys' Association has just launched. This leaves a target of \$75,000 to be raised so that work can commence on the project prior to Christmas.

So many Old Boys have achieved on the national and international stage; and many more have made a significant contribution in their career and to the community. The OBA's Augusta Awards Selection Committee, which includes John Morris, John Graham and Sir Wilson Whineray, were unanimous in considering that this year's recipients Denis Feeney, Max Gimblett and Sir Duncan McMullin all stood out as exceptional achievers.

I especially thank the hardworking OBA Executive Committee for their many hours of contribution to the Association

during 2009. We are only as strong as those who are prepared to give their time to assist the Association's activities and projects.

I encourage all Old Boys to attend this year's Annual Dinner, detailed on this page. It will be another great night of friendship, and of celebration of the achievement of the Augusta Awardees and of long serving teacher Mr Des Cutler.

Richard Adams
Richard Adams
President, Old Boys' Association



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An invitation to all Old Boys to attend your Association's flagship event

The Annual Dinner and Augusta Awards 2009

To be held at 'Top of the Park', Alexandra Park, Thursday 12 November starting at 6.30pm

Get together a group of former classmates, teammates or friends. And for individual registrations, we will help seat you with familiar faces.

Inserted in this publication you will find a Dinner Registration Form. Please return it to us as soon as possible to secure your ticket to this memorable event.



Richard Adams '71, President.



\$150,000 donation to Pavilion Changing Rooms Appeal

Grammar in the 1920s, and went on to a very successful career in construction, initially with Fletcher Construction, and then with WH Whittaker & Co Ltd. Noel was made a Knight Commander of the Order of St John in recognition of his lifetime of services to the organisation. In his will, Noel established a charitable trust that supported sporting and educational endeavours.



Old Boy Noel Burnett 1909–1991, whose Trust is the Project's lead donor.

After many months of preparation work by the School and the Old Boys' Association, the project to construct two team changing facilities underneath the Old Boys' Pavilion has now been launched.

We are delighted to announce an extraordinary lead donation of \$150,000 from The Burnett Trust towards this important project.

Trustees of The Burnett Trust, John Wigglesworth and Peter Hirst, considered that this project "represented an appropriate opportunity for the Trust to make a significant contribution to Auckland Grammar School".

Noel Burnett attended Auckland

Since Noel's death in 1991, the Trust has made a number of grants to Auckland Grammar: to cricket and rugby, to art, to the Sir Henry Cooper biography, and to the Venture Lodge. The Trust has also supported many other sport and education focused projects, including a substantial grant to the Millennium Institute of Sport and Health on the North Shore.

In recognition of the donation, the School has decided to name the main lounge room of the Pavilion as 'The Burnett Room'. Headmaster John Morris says this donation is "such a wonderful gesture, and we feel it entirely appropriate to have Old Boy Noel Burnett's name recognised in this manner".



Old Boys' President Richard Adams (centre) and Burnett Trust trustees John Wigglesworth (right) and Peter Hirst (left) discuss the plans for the work to be completed under the Pavilion.

Appeal seeks \$75,000 to complete project

The new changing rooms will complement and complete the Old Boys' Pavilion, an important structure to which all Old Boys are eager and proud to return.

They will be used every day for basic school requirements, as well as offering our top sports teams and their opponents suitable and proximate facilities to the School's main sports ground.

OBA President Richard Adams says the size of the donation from The Burnett Trust is truly outstanding. "Our requirement of \$225,000, plus the \$30,000 that the Old Boys' Association has already committed and spent during the design phase of the Project, was looking daunting in today's environment, but all of a sudden our appeal has reduced to \$75,000, and that makes the go-ahead

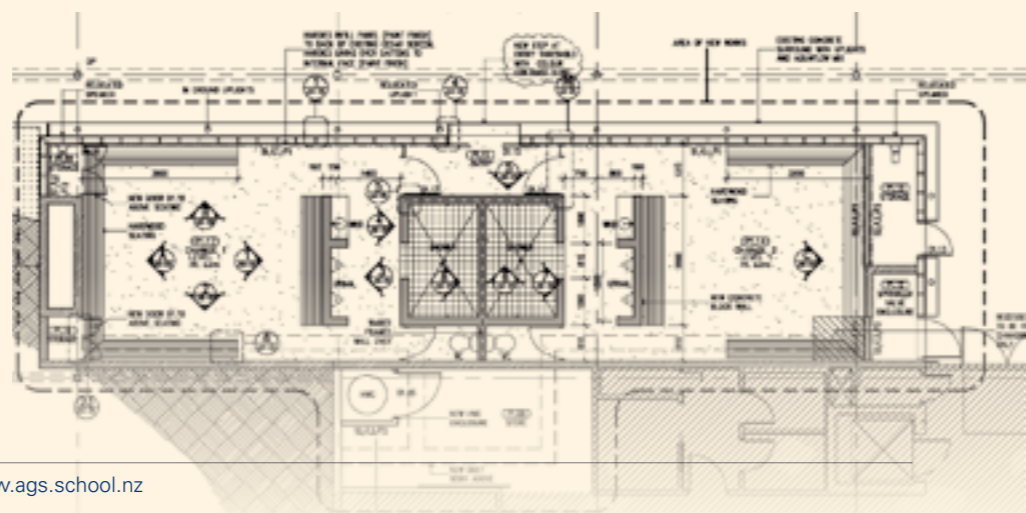
for the construction almost a certainty."

With the additional support of the Old Boy community, construction could begin as early as November 2009, in time for the 2010 new school year.

"We've always said to the School that we wanted to finish this aspect of the Pavilion. We believe that there are many Old Boys and parents who will

want to see this Project finished, and we now invite them to make a financial contribution to make this happen."

"We have a deadline of 31 October to raise this amount – that means we really ask supporters to not delay, and if you support this Project, please send your donation to us, via the School's Development Office, as soon as possible."



Augusta Awards

This year's three Augusta Award recipients are truly remarkable men from very different spheres of influence.

Max Gimblett '50 Art Category

Max Gimblett is an internationally renowned artist. He contributed to the development of New Zealand painting through the exhibition of early abstractions. His much-admired quatrefoil-shaped paintings, which emerged in the early 1980s, now feature in most public collections in New Zealand. His work was included in the Third Mind: American Artists Contemplate Asia, January–April 2009; the biggest exhibition ever to be staged at the Guggenheim Museum in New York on American Art and the East.

Max has been based in New York since 1972, still works at least five days a week and teaches classes whenever he can. Keeping ties with New Zealand and the Kiwi art community, he has presented solo exhibitions at the Gow Langsford Gallery in Auckland and the Page Blackie Gallery in Wellington, both in May this year; as well as being the inaugural Visiting Professor of Art of the National Institute for the Creative Arts and Industries at The University of Auckland.

Unfortunately he is unable to accept his Augusta Award in person at the OBA Annual Dinner in November, so Max will deliver his acceptance speech by video and then host a sumi ink workshop at Auckland Grammar School on 11 March 2010. He also has an upcoming exhibition at the Nadene Milne Gallery in Arrowtown, February–March 2010. You can see him deliver the Dr Walter Auburn Memorial Address



Denis Feeney '68 Academia Category

After graduating from The University of Auckland MA Latin (1st) 1975, MA Greek (1st) 1976, Denis Feeney's destiny lay beyond our shores. His dissertation for DPhil Oxford was supervised by the renowned Professor Nisbet, Professor of Latin, Corpus Christi College.

From 1978–1990 Dr Feeney lectured at Oxford, Harvard, Cambridge, Edinburgh and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He held the chairs of Latin at Bristol 1990–92 and at Wisconsin 1993–96.

After a four-year term as a Fellow and Tutor at New College Oxford, Professor Feeney took up his current position in 2000. He is Professor of Classics and Giger Professor of Latin, Princeton University and is a recent recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship.

Professor Feeney has won international acclaim in his area of specialisation for his lectures, articles and his three major works: 'The Gods in Epic', 'Literature and Religion at Rome' and 'Caesar's Calendar'. His teaching is in the area of Latin poetry in particular, and his publications have addressed the interaction between Roman literature and religion.

Professor Feeney belongs to an exceptional group of Grammarians who have made an enduring contribution in the field of Classical scholarship, both in research and in teaching.



at the Auckland Art Gallery on 1 March 2010 and the Creative Hawkes Bay Lecture on 2 March 2010. Charta Books, Milan, will publish 'Max Gimblett: Workspace' with photographs by John Savage, essay by Jenni Quilter, in 2010.



Sir Duncan McMullin '40 Service Category

The Right Honourable Sir Duncan McMullin had a most distinguished career in Law. After graduating from Auckland University College in 1950, he practised as a barrister and solicitor. He served for some years as a judge of the High Court and the Court of Appeal.

In 1975 he began his work as Chairman of the Royal Commission on Contraception, Sterilisation and Abortion. He was ably assisted by his former Latin teacher and retired Headmaster of Auckland Grammar School, Henry Cooper, who served as the commission's secretary. The commission's report, issued in 1977, given its controversial subject, was equally controversial. McMullin and Cooper played a most important role in addressing three of New Zealand's serious moral issues.

Sir Duncan was involved in a number of initiatives and held several important appointments. Among others, he was Chairman of the Wanganui Computer Centre Policy Committee, Chairman of the New Zealand Conservation Authority, Chairman of the Market Surveillance Committee, New Zealand Electricity Market, and judge of the Court of Appeal for Fiji and the Cook Islands. He was made a Privy Councillor in 1980 and became a Knight Bachelor in 1987.

OBA Executive Committee 2009

The Old Boys' Association Executive Committee is a hard working group that meets monthly, and is active in planning and carrying out the many activities, functions and projects that the OBA is involved in.

A well organised Sub Committee structure covers Functions, Finance, Communications, Awards, Membership and Fundraising.

If you're interested in joining the Executive Committee and making a contribution, please contact President Richard Adams or Executive Secretary Karen Higginson, through the School's Development Office, phone 09 623 5420.



Back row: John Blyth (Deputy Headmaster); John Chisholm '74; James Whineray '74; Dan Hewitt '87; Jeff Blackburn (Past President) '67; Randall Hills '72; Andrew Williams (Treasurer) '74. Front row: Melville Killip '59; Karen Higginson (Executive Secretary); Richard Adams (President) '71; Bill Price '48; William Moore '98. Absent Committee Members: Will Carnachan '92; John Carroll '72; John McDermott '72.

Form 6 Leaders' Camp

The winners of the Old Boys' Association Form 6 Leadership Award for 2009 were Jae Woo and Mathew Thornton. The Award recognises students in Form 6 who show special attributes in leadership and demonstrate admirable qualities that are celebrated by the School.

Woo plays soccer and basketball, participates in debating and has been a member of the film society. He is well known for his acting in the School production as well as being a member of

the Chronicle committee for the last three years. He is an energetic, devoted and busy student who manages to act and direct outside school productions as well as help out at Kidsline.

Thornton has been a member of the Tibbs House Hostel for over three years and has participated in many sports – rugby, cricket, squash and hockey, captaining many teams along the way. He is respected by staff and mixes well with all boys in the Hostel. He is the first to offer assistance

and is polite and personable. He has worked hard to move from 5C to 6A this year.

The Award funded two places on the two Form 6 Leadership Camps that were held in Ohakune. Highlights of the camps included a four-hour caving expedition 100 metres underground, snow caving, assault course challenges and a student-organised facilitation of an afternoon of outdoor activities for local Ohakune Primary School pupils.



J Woo and M Thornton, with the backpacks awarded as part of the Form 6 Leadership Award offered by the Old Boys' Association, and Richard Adams OBA President.

Branch News and Events

New York

Twenty-two Old Boys met at the Double Crown Restaurant near Greenwich Village on 19 May for the 2009 US Friends of Grammar reunion.

New York law firm Cravath, Swaine and Moore was well represented with six attendees and John Little, Class of '44, was the oldest Old Boy present. John Morris shared highlights of the School year and Roger Hill showed everyone the new Academic Endowment Fund brochure and explained the School's current fundraising needs.



Roger Hill '63, Director of Advancement (far right) with Old Boys based in the US (from left) Jonathan Coleman '95, David Max '93 and Andrew McIlroy '84.

London

Following the Annual General Meeting of the UK Friends of Grammar in London on 27 May, 32 Old Boys met at Suze Wine Bar in Mayfair for their annual get together.

Old Boys from the Class of '46 through to '89 attended, with many new faces coming for the first time. John Morris spoke to the gathering about the School's recent progress academically, culturally and sporting wise and answered Old Boys' questions. Roger Hill spoke of the goals for AGS Development in the UK, particularly the need to grow the capital base of the Academic Endowment Fund. Everyone enjoyed the evening, even if the European Cup Final was screening live during the function!



Old Boys gathered with John Morris in Mayfair for the UK Friends of Grammar event.

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Grammar Families

The Leyland Family

The Leyland family's Grammar association goes back four generations and two centuries to 1909, when Cecil Poulgrain left Thames High School to "gain a better education" at AGS. His brother Gott had also attended for one year in 1906. Cecil certainly achieved his parents' aim, as he gained a UE Scholarship in 1912, was also a prefect in 1912 and represented both the 1st XI cricket and 1st XI hockey.

Cecil went on to Auckland University where he qualified in Law, and joined his father's practice in Thames, Miller & Poulgrain.

There is a sad but compassionate story about Cecil's brother Gott. After leaving Grammar, he contracted consumption. James Tibbs, Headmaster at that time, made the ferry trip all the way from Auckland to Thames in order to visit Gott, who only had months to live.

Jack Leyland was the youngest of six children, including three older brothers all of whom attended King's College. Jack rebelled, and his father allowed him to enrol at AGS in 1935. He represented the School at swimming and was selected for the 1st XV, but the day before he was to take the field, his father found him a job with South British Insurance Co. and he very regrettably did as he was told. These were the depression years and jobs were scarce.

In 1937, Jack was sent reluctantly to visit his aunty in Thames for the Christmas holiday. The holiday turned into a blessing, for he met the young lady next door, Cecil Poulgrain's daughter June, and they married in 1946.

Jack served in the Navy during WWII, returning to work at South British in 1945.

In 1955, he bought a clothing business in Papatoetoe where he worked until he retired in 1983. Golf and yachting have always been Jack's passions and you will still see him on the Grange golf course at 88 years of age. Sadly, June died earlier this year, two days before her 85th birthday.

Jack and June had two children, and their son Warwick attended Grammar from 1962-66. He played rugby for 1st XV and 2A, played cricket in his earlier years, represented the School at yachting in his final year, and was a prefect. Warwick went on to The University of Auckland where he qualified in 1970 with an M.Com in Economics. He worked in various industries and lived for five years in Australia and three in the UK. He returned from the UK in 1998, and bought a printing business in Penrose, which he still runs.

The 'second century' in the first paragraph refers to the centennial of Auckland Grammar in 1969. This was a well celebrated event and three generations of Poulgrain/Leyland attended, including Cecil Poulgrain, along with Jack and Warwick Leyland.

Warwick married Penny in 1970 and they have four children; two boys and two girls. Their first son John attended Grammar 1987-90, played 1st XI soccer for two years, and was a prefect and dux in his final year, also gaining the top scholarship. John studied medicine at The University of Auckland and is now a urologic surgeon in the Waikato with two young boys of his own. He has retained ownership of a house in the Grammar zone, as he is quite certain his boys will be attending Grammar also. John continued playing soccer at a senior level

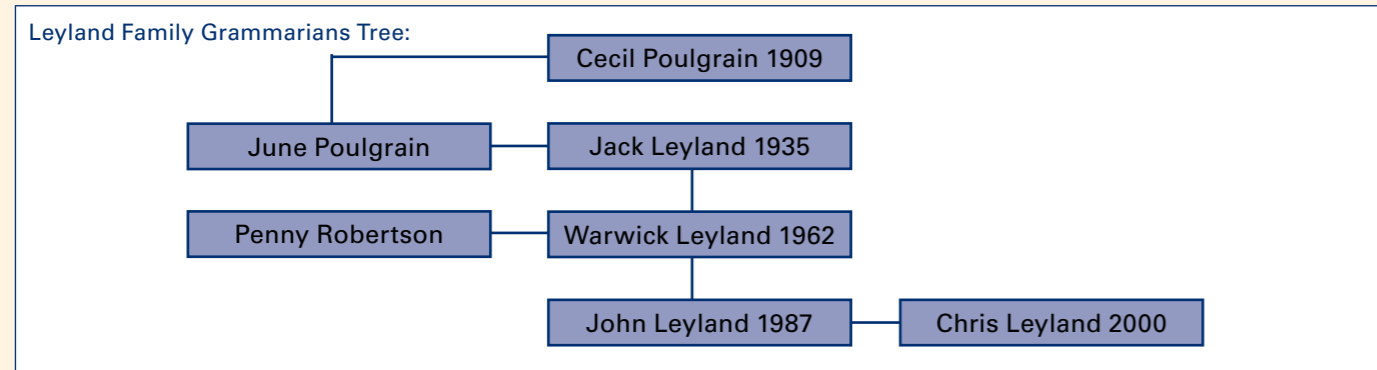


From back left; John '87 (with his son Will) and Chris '2000. At front; Jack '35 and Warwick '62.

until injury forced him to retire this year.

Their second son, Chris, attended Grammar 2000-04. He also played soccer for the 1st XI, represented the School at lawn bowls and gained scholarship honours in both 2003 and 2004. He was awarded a national scholarship from the NZEST and also a University of Auckland Scholarship, and is now in his last year of conjoint BE (Hons) and B.Com degrees. In 2007, Chris spent a semester at Lund University in Sweden and used this opportunity to travel widely throughout Europe. His passion for travelling continues, with a three-month trip to South America planned at the end of this year. On his return in March, he starts his career with SKM, an international engineering company.

In Chris's first year at Grammar in 2000, parents were invited, for the first time ever, to join a committee with the aim of fund- and friend-raising. Warwick and Penny leapt at the opportunity and spent five enjoyable and fruitful years helping to organise Gala Dinners, Art Exhibitions, Parent Drug Education evenings, Third Form Parent Welcoming evenings and many other events.



Rugby traditions continue

The Old Boys' Association is proud to keep one of the long-standing rugby traditions alive at Grammar – the presentation of the 1st XV caps, which are sponsored by the AGSOBA. Members of the 1st XV can be awarded a cap after seven starts for this top team.

Cathy Drake, wife of the late John Drake '72, presented the 1st XV with their caps on 19 June. Drake was an All Black and Sky Sport commentator, who played prop in New Zealand's World Cup winning team. He represented his

country between 1985 and 1987 and played 12 matches, including eight tests. Cathy says: "I was pleased to give out the caps in memory of John and to see the boys revel in this tradition." The tradition surrounding the 1st XV caps is for members of the current 1st XV to wear their newly presented caps around the School until interval.

In the Main Hall's audience were also surviving members of the 1949 1st XV, led by Roger Harris '46, as part of their 60th reunion and members of the

1989 1st XV 20-year reunion coordinated by Brent de Jongh '85. Both groups attended the assembly as a prelude to their reunion celebrations at the Old Boys' Association rugby luncheon and the Grammar vs. King's rugby match the following day.

Many of the 1949 1st XV had their caps with them. These caps are highly treasured. Jeremy Stanley '88 says he only has two pieces of memorabilia on his wall, one is his All Black cap and the other is his Grammar 1st XV cap.



1st XV caps ready to be presented. Photo by Brett Phibbs for the NZ Herald.

Rugby lunches Cooper-Greenbank Trophy

The Old Boys' Association hosted two very successful luncheons this year, one before the traditional Grammar vs. King's College 1st XV fixture on 20 June and one before the rugby semi-final on 15 August.

It was great to see so many reunions, using these functions as an opportunity to get together. All proceeds from these events will go towards the building of the changing rooms under the Old Boys' Pavilion.

We appreciate the support of Grammar's Old Boy community for this worthwhile project.

Former All Black Jeremy Stanley '88 presented the Grammar 1st XV captain, Otenil Moala, with the Cooper-Greenbank Trophy at the Grammar vs. King's after-match function on 20 June 2009.

The Cooper-Greenbank Trophy is handed out by an ex-All Black of the hosting school and is presented to the winning captain. Grammar was proud to accept!

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News of Old Boys

Queen's Birthday Honours

The School was delighted and proud that four Old Boys appeared in the 2009 Queen's Birthday honours list:

Officer of the NZ Order of Merit (ONZM); Gurshon (Gus) Fisher '35 for services to philanthropy and Roger Moses '68 (Staff 1978–79; 1982–83) for services to education.

Member of the NZ Order of Merit (MNZM); Kevin O'Sullivan '39 for services to the Anglican Church and the community.

Queen's Service Order (QSO); Leslie Holborow '54 for services to education and the community.

Playlist Vice President

Patrick Leung '85, who was an outstanding scholar at AGS, has recently moved from New York, where he worked as a software engineering manager for Google Check Out, to Palo Alto to join Playlist.com as Vice President, Engineering. Playlist is an online music community that serves an audience of over 40 million music fans.

PhD graduate

Sean Sturm '82 recently graduated PhD from The University of Auckland. He is a Senior Tutor in the Department of English and in the Student Learning Centre. Sean has a second life outside the university as a musician – he is a composer, singer and guitarist.

Excellence in the field of teaching

Brian Marsh '69, Senior Lecturer, School of Teaching Education Practice, Faculty of Education at The University of Auckland received a Teaching Excellence Award at an Autumn Graduation ceremony.

Fulbright Scholar to improve healthcare

New Zealand's newest Fulbright Scholar, Manoj Patel '95 (shown at right), is a medical doctor with a business bent wanting to revolutionise health IT worldwide. His \$US100,000 Fulbright Platinum Triangle Scholarship in Entrepreneurship, sought after by tens of thousands of aspirants, will enable him to attend Harvard Business School's



Roger Moses ONZM, Headmaster Wellington College.

MBA programme in Boston for the next two years.

His prime goal is to use international business and medical knowledge to improve healthcare in New Zealand. He also has a keen interest in technologies that will help Third World countries. One of Manoj's numerous activities is to co-direct the website www.scrubs.co.nz, which supports junior doctors to achieve a work/life balance, and promotes quality of care and retention of doctors in New Zealand.

Oxford University Scholarship

Congratulations to Avinash Sharma '95 who has been awarded a William Georgetti Scholarship (\$45,000) to study for one year at Oxford University. He will be studying for a Masters degree in Global Health Science at the Oxford School of Public Health.



Fulbright Scholar Manoj Patel.



Join the Old Boys' Association

Our Association is dependent on your membership to organise Old Boy functions and activities; communicate with you through Ad Augusta, the Headmaster's Bulletin and monthly Old Boys' e-bulletins; and make contributions towards the School.

In return, you will benefit from remaining connected with your school friends, finding out what is happening at your old School, being personally invited to OBA functions, getting priority ticketing and discounted prices for events, and you will be able to get involved with the Association's projects.

A summary of our membership rates:

\$45	Annual Member per year
\$20	Senior Member +65 years per year
\$600	Life Membership
\$200	Senior Life Membership +65 years

Students leaving School this year qualify for the Special School Leaver Life Membership for \$350 (an annual offer valid until June 2010) – this makes a great graduation gift for your son and ensures a lifetime connection with Grammar.

It's easy to join – just phone the Old Boys' Association on 09 623 5420 or email oldboys@ags.school.nz

School Day Memoirs

In the late 1940s and early 1950s, a most unusual sport developed at Auckland Grammar School.

In the rough area behind the caretaker's house between Mountain Road and the top playing field, an uneven-surfaced wasteland of rocks and weeds existed, where the main weed, wild fennel, grew to massive proportions.

Philip Viskovic '49 remembers "some bright lad" who thought it would be fun to use the fennel stalks as readily available hockey sticks in a mass hockey match, where goals and winning appeared of little importance.

The game soon became very popular, and teams of between 100 and 400 would compete, sometimes with several games occurring at once and players participating in the one whose ball was closest at the time.

Unfortunately the game was marred by the fact that balls often went missing in the fennel jungle. On one occasion,

a rusty old tin can was found and speedily pressed into service as a ball replacement.

The experiment was successful, although there was an element of chance involved in "ball" trajectory and the sharp protrusions dramatically shortened the life of the fennel "bats", as boys would use shrinking pieces down to about 12 to 16 inches.

With the tin can's danger factor, the game developed so that much of the players' time was spent either dodging or jumping. It must have looked ludicrous and confusing to behold a field of several hundred boys dressed in navy blue flannel shirts and serge shorts with long socks, repeatedly jumping up and down and then running in all directions between jumps.

And of course fennel is a strong smelling herb, so the playing field and classrooms, despite boys' best efforts to wash, often reeked of fennel on class resumption after lunch break.



The area behind the caretaker's house.

Old Boys' e-bulletin for OBA members

If you're a member of the Old Boys' Association and have an email address, then you can receive our monthly e-bulletin. This electronic newsletter is exclusively for Old Boy Members – it's

one of the benefits of your membership. Send your email address to oldboys@ags.school.nz and if you're a paid up Member, you'll start to receive this bulletin once a month.



Include Auckland Grammar School in your Will. For information, please contact AGS Development Office
Ph 09 623 5639
A bequest, so simple, so effective

Obituaries

Bill Bryan '63

Those who attended Grammar in the mid-1960s will have enduring memories of Bill Bryan. Bill was totally blind from birth and while at Auckland Grammar School, took notes on a noisy Braille machine and had a team of volunteers who helped by copying his textbooks into Braille. When one sense fails, it often happens that another one develops to compensate. Bill was known for his astonishing memory – for people's voices, telephone numbers, and streets and routes around Auckland. He spent 28 years working in the radiology department at Auckland Hospital. His many friends and associates will sorely miss this courageous individual.

David Collinson '63

David dedicated both his money and eventually his career to finding a cure for Type 1 diabetes. He was a founder of Living Cell Technologies (LCT), a company which is devoted to the treatment for human diabetes from pig cells. Co-founder and medical director Bob Elliott said that Mr Collinson's entrepreneurial drive would be greatly missed. For his philanthropic work in support of the advancement of science, Mr Collinson was made an honorary member of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Zac Gravatt '01

Zac died tragically after contracting meningitis. He was a fine sportsman, being vice-captain of the rowing club, a member of the Senior Rowing VIII and winner of the award for Most Dedicated Rower three years running. He also represented Grammar in cycling. What was particularly inspirational about Zac was the fact that he started in 3L and through sheer hard work and dedication, was accepted into Medical School. At the time of his death, he was a junior doctor.

Sean Malloy '02

A tragic car accident took the life of Sean Malloy, a young man with a bright future who lived life to the full. The celebration of his short life took place at Ascension Vineyard in Matakana where he so happily worked.

Andrew Mason

The news of Andrew Mason's death greatly saddened those who had worked with him on the production of 'Henry Cooper of Auckland Grammar School'. Andrew Mason 1950–2009 made his name as a book editor. In all, he was involved in the production of more than 100 New Zealand books. For a decade from 1981, he was the literary editor of the 'NZ Listener'. Andrew's fine biography of Henry Cooper is a fitting tribute to this respected writer and an invaluable source of School history.

Harry Russell '37

Harry was a keen supporter of Grammar rugby. Aviation was his life. He served in the RNZAF for the latter half of WWII. His dream of becoming a pilot was never fulfilled, but he was Senior Operations Officer for NAC and later Air New Zealand.

Eddy Sai Louie '04

With great dismay we learned of the death of Eddy Sai Louie, who fell through an ice shelf while skiing with a friend on Mt Rolleston in Canterbury. Ed loved the outdoors and was studying at Canterbury University with the intention of being an environmental engineer. While at Auckland Grammar School he excelled in kayaking, skiing and adventure racing. Ed was inspirational and a great role model for his mates.

Terry Sturm CBE '54

Professor Terry Sturm, Prefect and University Entrance Scholar 1958, was a member of The University of Auckland's Faculty of Arts for 25 years. Professor Sturm played a leading role in placing New Zealand literature at the centre of the academic curriculum. Just before his death and despite his ill health, he completed the first draft of his definitive biography of the late poet Allen Curnow.

Regular Reunions



60 Year Reunion

Class of '50
Friday 5 March 2009
Early Dinner

50 Year Reunion

Class of '60
Friday 12 March 2009
Dinner

40 Year Reunion

Class of '70
Thursday 18 March 2009
Cocktail Evening

30 Year Reunion

Class of '80
Thursday 25 March 2009
Cocktail Evening

Vintage Old Boys' Reunion 2011

For further information, please contact the Development Office on 09 623 5639 or development@ags.school.nz

Follow us on Facebook

Did you know that the Old Boys' Association has its own Facebook page? We've been updating this page almost every week for the last few months. It's a great way to find out what events the Association is hosting and to see the photos afterwards. We have over 800 fans – sign up today.

Calendar of Events

OBA Annual Dinner and Augusta Awards

Thursday 12 November 2009

6:30pm at Alexandra Park (note the new venue this year, parking at Gate B). Tickets for Old Boy Members are \$75. Non-members \$88. If you are an Old Boy who left School in the last five years, you qualify for a Recent Leaver price of \$50. To register, contact Karen Higginson on 09 623 5420 or oldboys@ags.school.nz

AGS vs. King's College Old Boys Tennis Day

Sunday 15 November 2009

Auckland Grammar School
Interested players can contact Barry Schmidt on 09 623 5407 or b.schmidt@ags.school.nz

Melbourne Reunion

Monday 16 November 2009

Melbourne Old Boys invite you and your partner to attend the biennial dinner, with guest speakers John Morris, Headmaster and Roger Hill, Director of Advancement. 7pm at M Bar, 448 Toorak Road, Toorak. \$45 a head. All enquiries to David Dick +61 3 982 71107 or email sdick1@bigpond.net.au

AGS vs. King's College Old Boys Golf Day

Sunday 6 December 2009

Represent AGS in the Grammar Old Boys vs. King's Old Boys Golf Day and Dinner to celebrate 50 games and 75 years of competition between the two rivals. This year's event will take place at the Auckland Golf Club and tickets are \$150 each. All those interested should contact Mark Sargent at mark.sargent@amcor.com.au

Recent School Leavers' BBQ

Thursday 4 February 2010

6.30pm – 8.30pm
Old Boys' Pavilion, Gate 4
This event, hosted by the Old Boys' Association, is an opportunity for former Grammar students from the past 5 years (3rd Formers from 2001–2005) to catch up with your old school mates and Masters. Join us for a BBQ.

Twilight Twenty/20 Cricket

Friday 5 February 2010

Come and support the Old Boys' team when they take on the AGS 1st XI cricket team for a Twilight Twenty/20 game. This promises to be an entertaining match with the Old Boys defending their title, playing for the Hedley Howarth Trophy. Play begins at 4pm. Drop in any time between 4–7pm to catch the game. Join us for the after-match function in the Old Boys' Pavilion 7–9pm. If you're interested in playing for the Old Boys' team, please contact Karen Higginson, phone 09 623 5420 or email oldboys@ags.school.nz

The Seasons of Island Escape

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TREASURE ISLANDS OF AUCKLAND HAURAKI GULF MARINE PARK

Summer - December to April

A magical corner of the Pacific Ocean between the Hibiscus Coast and Coromandel Peninsula, the Hauraki Gulf includes 4000 square kilometres of ocean and a multitude of islands. In the Maori language, Hauraki means north wind - apt because the gulf is protected from all sides except the north. Within this oceanic haven, nature is still very much at home. Volcanic landforms, deserted beaches, native forests, bird sanctuaries and historic sites await your discovery. Welcome to paradise, Island Escape style.



SECRETS OF VANUATU SOUTH PACIFIC

Autumn/Winter - May to September

You might think you know tropical island scenery like the back of your hand, but if you haven't yet journeyed around the islands of Vanuatu there's much to learn. The landscapes are multi-layered, like somebody's superimposed one tropical paradise over the top of another. The rugged mystery of high volcanic terrain shrouded with jungle tugs at your spirit of adventure, while the sublime turquoise and white of the beaches satisfies your hedonistic urge to find the perfect paradise. Vanuatu presents a world of beauty made more attractive by the irresistible pull of the unknown.



MYSTERIES OF MARLBROUGH MARLBROUGH SOUNDS AND ABEL TASMAN NATIONAL PARK

Spring - October to November

Marlborough is New Zealand's largest winemaking region, with about 65 wineries and 290 grape growers, and over 4,000 hectares planted in grapes.

Often blessed with the highest number of sunshine hours in New Zealand, this flourishing province with its relaxed and convivial lifestyle is enjoyed by locals and visitors alike. Renowned for its wine tasting and delicious food, touring, scenic boat cruising, bush walking and relaxing outdoor activities, Marlborough is a fast-growing vacation destination.



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