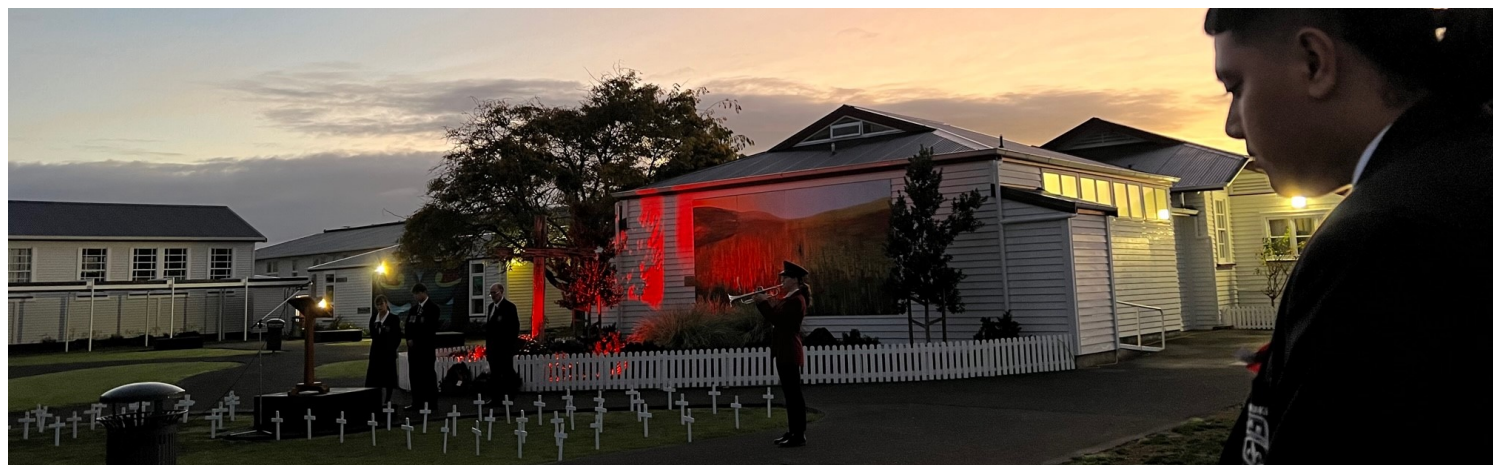


# Hauraki Plains College

## Community Newsletter



## What are you doing with the tomorrow we gave our today for?

As a crisp Autumn dawn was about to break, young and old came together to commemorate ANZAC Day with a dawn service in front of the Gallipoli Memorial Garden in the college grounds. The service was led by current Humanities teacher, Mr Doug Cresswell, who reflected on the meaning of ANZAC:

"Each of us has our own ANZAC story and meaning. ANZAC is not just a day, it is different things to different people. For some it is the memory of someone who died at Gallipoli and for others, it is the meeting in the cold of the dawn to pay respects for those who have served this country and have gone before us.

My earliest memory of ANZAC day was going to Dawn Parade with my father and the other veterans. My dad and his mates never wore any medals – apparently you had to apply for them and my dad and most of his mates were not interested. They were there to remember the guys who did not make it, not to look important. They were also there to have a laugh over a rum and a few beers after the service.

I have been lucky enough to go to Turkey and Gallipoli. I was so proud to stand on Chunak Bair; our men took that hill and you have got to see it to understand what a feat that was. I was so humbled by the Turkish people and their reverence for Gallipoli. I heard some old men singing one evening in a bar in Anatolia and recognised they were singing about Chunak Bair. It never ceases to amaze me how the Turks treat New Zealanders as friends. We did invade their country but Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, who led the Turkish army at Gallipoli and later became Turkey's first elected President said "Your sons are now our sons and... those heroes that shed their blood and lost their lives... You are now lying in the soil of a friendly country. Therefore, rest in peace."

Mr Cresswell himself joined the navy before entering the teaching profession and his son, Flight Sergeant David Andrew Cresswell RNZAF, has been deployed to many conflict areas including Afghanistan.

Head Girl and Boy, Brooke McTaggart and Aidan Craggs, concluded with this challenge to their peers: John Edmonds the English poet, wrote:

'Went the day well?  
We died and never knew  
But well or ill  
Freedom we died for you.  
When you go home, tell them of us and say  
For your tomorrows  
We gave our today.'

"I think if the ANZACs who fought in Gallipoli and other arenas since were to return, they would ask of us and especially of the young people of today - what are you doing with the tomorrow that we gave our today for?"

### Community Newsletter

Our Community Newsletter combines news from Hauraki Plains College, The Haurakians (past pupils and teachers) and the Haurakian Charitable Trust. If you would like to sponsor our newsletter email: [amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz)

## Key Dates

### Thursday 2 June

Senior Subject Teacher Interviews  
(4-8pm)

### Monday 6 June

Queens Birthday

### Tuesday 7 June

Blood Drive

### Tuesday 21 June

Tertiary Preparation Evening  
(7pm Hall)

### Friday 24 June

Matariki Observed

**More  
Than  
A School**



Hauraki Plains College

## Principal's Comment



In the old days, the three R's - reading, writing and arithmetic were considered the mainstay of education; however over the last few decades, this focus has been eroded as schools have grappled with different theories, practices and demands in terms of how students should learn, what they should learn and what schools are responsible for. We are now reaping what we have sown.

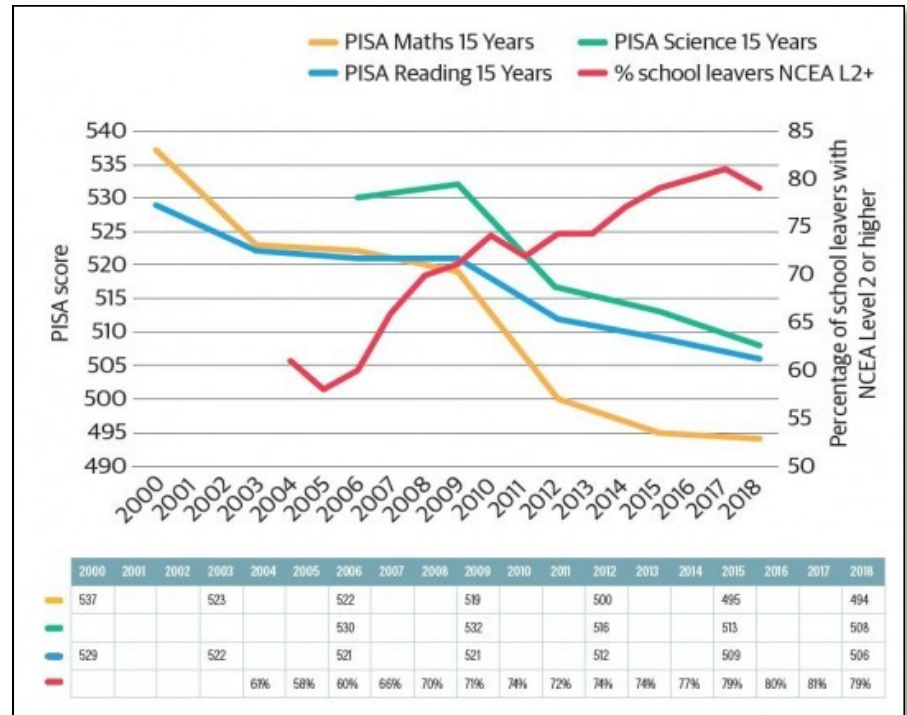
PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) is an international study which began in the year 2000 and tests a random selection of students in over 70 countries every three years. The tests aim to evaluate education systems worldwide by testing the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students in participating countries. PISA is unique because it develops tests which are not directly linked to the school curriculum, are designed to assess how well students can apply their knowledge to real-life situations and can therefore fully

participate in society. The graph shows the downward trend for NZ 15 year-olds which have gone from world leading to decidedly average.

Unless students have a solid grasp of the 3 R's, their ability to access other subjects such as the Sciences, Humanities and Digital Technologies is considerably restricted. Low literacy and numeracy skills are also associated with job insecurity, lower incomes, poor health and lower life expectancy and satisfaction.

From next year, Year 11 students will be required to sit literacy and numeracy external assessments; unless these are achieved, students will be unable to obtain NCEA Levels 1, 2 or 3. Our Teacher Professional Development day early in Term 2 was focused on developing a school wide strategy and teacher practices that will ensure HPC students are ready for these high stakes assessments and have a sufficient grasp of the three R's to be learning ready, life ready, work ready and world ready.

*Ngaire Harris*  
PRINCIPAL



## Young Women's Breakfast



*Niamh, Molly and Brooke at the Young Women's Breakfast*

We were lucky enough to have been given the opportunity to attend the Young Women's Breakfast in Hamilton alongside the Women's Cricket World Cup. The day was run by YWCA, with their This Is Me Campaign. These two really cool organisations have the main focus on women's empowerment, leadership and rights, specifically through sport. Presenting the day was a very passionate Sarah Cowley Ross, an international heptathlete olympian. Along with Sarah, there was a panel of guest speakers including Eimer Richardson, an Irish cricket player, and Kirsten Fisher-Marsters, an olympic swimmer for the Cook Islands.

A highlight for us was being able to listen to several athletes who attended, hearing their story and how they got to where they are today. Specifically, listening to Kirsten Fisher-Marsters story of how she

became an Olympic athlete was a highlight. We realised that sport has more meaning than one, and from listening to her story about how she was able to connect with her culture through sport was a humbling experience. She was able to connect with her Cook Island heritage, and through this was able to meet her father. One of her most surreal experiences was being lucky enough to be the flag bearer for the Cook Islands at the Olympic Games.

Listening to these inspiring speakers confirmed the true meaning of sport. We were able to relate to Kirsten's story because from experience we know that sport has helped us to connect with others, make new friends, and just improve one's skill, within a certain code which you are passionate about.

Finally, we would most definitely recommend this event to any young female leaders, and if given the opportunity would feel privileged to attend this event again. Never stop believing!

*Year 13 students: Brooke McTaggart, Niamh Hill and Molly Maitland*



Anzac Day Dawn Service – It was nice to see community members, students and some staff show their respect at the dawn service held at the college in front of the Anzac Memorial garden. Thank you to the college for providing the continued remembrance of those from our community who served in different armed battles throughout history.

History seems to oddly repeat itself in one form or another, even though a lot of effort and energy go in to making lives better equipped to operate in the 21st century.

The technology that is derived from the sciences, mathematical analysis and the ability to record the results and then be able to decipher that information is hugely important to how we gain knowledge to live with and manage our lives when we face changing weather patterns, world pollution, resource use efficiencies and general education of all. This all comes down to the base skills needed by everyone ie that of literacy and numeracy. If you can't read, write, or count, in whatever language, culture, or background, then you ultimately will struggle in the 21st century. Ensuring students are literate and numerate is a key goal in the Board's strategic plan.

I know I have talked before about the hours a child spends at school versus the time spent at home. They spend only a fraction of their lives at school and as we are all well aware, the input from parents and caregivers for a child's outcome in life is crucial. It is a tough ask to expect a college to have children achieve in the areas of basic literacy and numeracy at NCEA level, if they have not had

the educational building blocks needed to achieve the results you would expect for their chronological age.

We need help from the whole education sector including Early Childhood and Primary Schools as well as parents, caregivers and extended families to get kids reading and counting again from an early age, so they can succeed at college level.

Thank you to those who responded to our uniform survey. We will be looking at making some changes, a key one being for Years 9 and 10 to be in the junior uniform, Years 11 - 13 with a senior uniform, along with the introduction of a Year 13 shirt for both boys and girls. There will be a transition period, meaning that while the change is to be introduced in 2023, current arrangements can be continued for a further year. A uniform committee is considering other suggestions which will be signalled once ratified by the Board.

The upgrade to the Mangatarata block is well under way and we are expecting this to take another five weeks but will give students a great space for learning Food Technology.

The school is continuously facing a rapid rise of vaping issues and, to a lesser degree, drug use. Both vaping and marijuana are illegal and Board members have little tolerance for this at our school. Board and staff would much rather be spending their time, focusing on trying to lift the standard of education for our students, rather than on addressing disciplinary issues of this nature.

Andrew Gordon  
PRESIDING MEMBER

## Parent Page

### A bad idea

Teenagers are daring each other to smoke, vape, inhale, huff ..... That's a bad idea.

The teenage years are often times of experimenting and daring peers to experiment with alcohol, marijuana, party drugs and tobacco smoking. Rightly so, parents are concerned about this. It is just as important to be aware of the dangers posed by other possibilities such as vaping and inhaling fumes from an array of common products such as nail polish remover, lighter fluid, spray paints, deodorant and hair sprays, canned whipped cream, and cleaning fluids which are all widely available and easy to obtain.

Searching for a quick and cheap intoxication without being aware of the serious health consequences can have devastating consequences including slurred speech, uncoordinated movements, euphoria, dizziness, lightheadedness, hallucinations and irregular heart beat. One of the dangers of inhalant misuse lies in the fact that the 'high' lasts for only a few minutes, prompting users to inhale over and over to try to maintain the feeling. If repeated too often, inhaling can cause a loss of consciousness and possibly death.

Since November 2020, vaping has been prohibited at all times in

schools, including grounds and buildings throughout Aotearoa New Zealand; yet despite this policy change, health professionals are increasingly concerned about the increase in vaping in young people which is reaching epidemic proportions according to a 2021 survey *Vaping in New Zealand Youth*.

Originally presented as a safer alternative to smoking tobacco and marijuana use, the introduction of nicotine-containing pod devices actually enables the delivery of high nicotine concentrations and other chemicals into the blood stream more efficiently than tobacco smoking. The risk of acute lung injury, as well as chronic risks to cardiovascular, respiratory and oral health has been documented but the impacts of long term use are still largely unknown. Young people who do vape have self-reported the extreme addictiveness of vaping and how quickly this can occur.

While we include the dangers of any kind of substance abuse in school Health programmes, we also have to be careful about sensationalising or giving air time to incidents that happen either at or outside of school, as this can lead to copy-cat behaviours from other students. We can also support students to make good choices around avoiding risky behaviours; nevertheless, a message from home in the form of a timely conversation, ground rules and role modelling is a vital part of keeping young people safe.



# Flint Family Cup for Sports Person of the Year

*This is the first of a series of articles giving the story behind major awards at Annual Prizegivings.*

The Flint family connection dates back to 1932 when Richard (Dick) Flint moved to the area with his family, settling on a farm on Orchard East Road. Richard, an only son, attended Ngatea District High School and when World War 2 broke out, signed up with the Royal New Zealand Navy and sailed with on the Archilles serving in various parts of the world including Amsterdam and Tokyo at the end of the war.

It was during High School that Richard met Mavis Thomas, who had moved to the area in 1938 when her father, Edward John Thomas, became Head Master - a role he retained for eight years. Mavis recalls attending school during the war years, "We had air raid practices and had to go to the drain at the end of the football (rugby) field. In those days, teachers were paid in cash and I walked down to the Bank of New Zealand (currently Subway). I would collect the teachers' pay in cash and walk back to the school and distribute it!"

Mavis was Head Prefect in her final year at high school and left to attend Auckland Teachers College, where she spent two years training, after which she returned to Ngatea to do her first year of teaching. When Richard and Mavis married in 1948, Mavis lost her job as was the Department of Education policy at the time. She returned to teaching when their youngest child was five, owing to a shortage of teachers at the time. It was a busy and a tremendous effort with four children, Carole, Philip, Barry and Robyn, all of whom attended Hauraki Plains College.

In 1963, Ngatea District High School became Hauraki Plains College and Richard Flint, along with a number of locals, put in long hours to ensure the school was fit for purpose as a secondary school, including overseeing new buildings such as the hall, fundraising for the gymnasium and establishing the sports fields.

While facilities were being upgraded, an annual Sports Prizegiving was added to the school calendar. The Sports Person of the Year Trophy was donated by the Flint Family and is always the most coveted award at the annual Sports Prizegiving.



Far Left:  
Mavis Flint  
(nee Thomas)  
1944

Left:  
Richard (Dick)  
Flint 1968



Back L-R: Barry, Carole, Philip and Robyn  
Front: Mavis and Richard (Dick) Flint

## Past Prize Winners: Flint Family Cup for Sports Person of the Year

2021	K. Graham
2020	O. Hutt
2019	G. Johnston
2018	D. Aichison
2017	K. Harris
2016	B. Gordon
2015	T. Challis
2014	H. Shields
2013	R. van Bysterveldt
2012/11	H. Gasson
2010	A. van Bysterveldt
2009	A. Pulford
2008	H. Hoogeveen
2007	A. Pulford

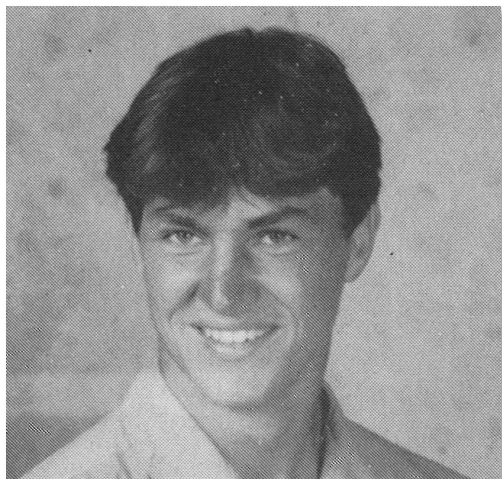
2006	R. Clark
2005	T. Hoogeveen
2004	S. Dufty
2003/02	N. Douglas
2001	K. Taaffe
2000	N. Stephenson & K. Taaffe
1999	R. Taaffe
1998/97	C. Hicks
1996	V. Shaw
1995	D. Craike-Ross
1996	V. Shaw
1995	D. Craike-Ross
1994	J. Fisher
1993	N. Kidd

1992	D. Bennett
1991	C. Warburton
1990	A. Hollister
1989	A. Taylor
1988	B. Grey
1987	D. McCallum
1986	T. Lawson
1985	C. Allen
1984/83	B. Hollister
1982	D. Holden
1981	P. Brown & M. Turner
1980	N. Brown & B. Ratcliffe
1979	B. Holden
1978	I. Campbell

1977	L. Olsen & R. Gibson
1976	L. Olsen
1975	K. Haigh
1974	S. Brooks
1973	M. O'Neil
1972	L. Dalgety
1971	E. Kerr & S. Brooks
1970	E. Kerr
1969	D. Millington
1968	B. O'Brien
1967	R. Beddie
1966/65	G. Wilson
1964/63	L. Bradley



# The Stuart Hamilton Memorial Award for All Round Excellence



Stuart Hamilton

Although his older sisters attended Thames High School, Stuart Hamilton and his younger brother Stephen attended HPC. He liked both the opportunities that HPC presented and also the farming kids that were typical of the area.

Whether cultural, sporting or academic, Stuart thrived in the HPC environment. He loved being part of the annual School Productions, such as Hello Dolly, usually picking up a leading part with his talent for singing and dancing. Sports was another arena where Stuart excelled. He loved rugby under the coaching of previous Principal Norman Pratt and was a member of the 1988 First XV, which won the Coulter Cup, the Provincial Shield and the Condor Trophy in one year. In rowing, at Maadi Cup (Rowing Secondary School Nationals), with Terry McFetridge, Stuart medalled with a Silver in the Under 17 Boys Double. Academically Stuart enjoyed 'hands on' subjects initially at College, but then with academic success, leaned towards a medical career with thoughts of following in the footsteps of his father, Ian Hamilton, who was a surgeon at Thames Hospital. At the same time, he was also interested in a career on the stage and was thinking about an acting opportunity in the States.

Mum Barbara Hamilton recalls the kind of person Stuart was: "He was an inclusive sort of person, the kind of kid who attracted people and also had a wide range of friends." Stuart was tipped for the Head Boy role in his final year at College, when tragically, while rafting with brother Steve and friend Jamie, he died when his raft was caught up in a culvert. Father Ian Hamilton and a surgeon at Thames Hospital was on call that day and having lunch with

Barbara when the siren sounded. She remembers Ian saying at the time, "I hate hearing that siren because I know it will be work for me." The phone rang immediately and it was Jamie to tell them the sad news. Ian came away from the phone saying 'I think we have lost one boy and we may have lost two.' Steve and Jamie survived, but not so for Stuart.

Tragically, Stuart's father Ian, also passed away unexpectedly just five years later. The occasion was in the College Hall to mark Principal and First XV coach Norman Pratt's achievement of winning the Thames Valley Coulter Cup championship for ten years in a row. Mr Hamilton spoke a few words about how much he and so many rugby players and parents appreciated Mr Pratt's work as coach, only to pass away suddenly a few moments later.

Fellow student Trudy van Kuyk wrote in the 1989 HPC Year Book: "Stuart Hamilton was a person greatly admired by many people. He had that 'something' that made him a very special person. His death on the 2nd of January 1989, not only shocked and hurt us, but changed many of our lives. It was during times like these that his typical 'Stuart' personality was missed. I call it his 'Stuart' personality because it was something so special and unique that you had to have known him to know what it was like. No words can fully describe our dear friend Stuart, but those who knew him won't need to have it described; they'll just know."

The Stuart Hamilton Memorial prize for All Round Excellence is a fitting tribute for such a person.

## Past Prize Winners: Stuart Hamilton Memorial Award for All Round Excellence

2021	B. McCowatt
2020	L. Horder
2019	L. Tully
2018	H. Turlington
2017	K. Harris
2016	T. Kruger
2015	E. van Bysterveldt
2014	G. McCormack-Goeth
2013	R. Fraser
2012	G. Speedy
2011	T. Speedy

2010	M. Mear
2009	J. Casey
2008	B. Collings
2007	S. Campbell
2006	G. Elvin
2005	G. Casey
2004	S. Harris
2003	T. Roberts
2002	L. Benns
2001	M. Benns
2000	D. van Eyk & K. Wilson

1999	K. Wilson
1998	K. Wilson
1997	H. Harris
1996	B. Beagley
1995	P. Harvey
1994	G. Beagley
1993	L. Chick
1992	G. Macdonald
1991	N. Walker
1990	S. Hamilton
1989	R. Pratt

Do you have a skill, hobby or an interest that you would like to share with our students?  
It could be a one-off workshop, once a week for 5 weeks or more. Please contact: Isabella McAuley (18113@haurakiplains.school.nz) or Sophie Millar (18181@haurakiplains.school.nz)  
"It takes a village to raise a child"

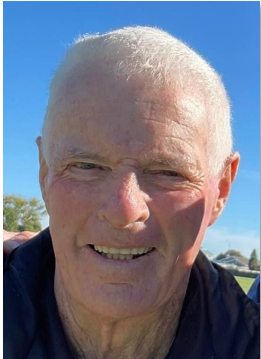
**Cricket First XI's Golden Summer**

Congratulations to the First XI Boys Cricket team who took out the Waikato Division 1 title this year, a 'golden summer' for the team.

Prior to the Christmas holidays break, the team took part in and won the Division 1B title. After the Christmas break, the team participated in the 1A competition, and in a thrilling final, defeated arch rivals Cambridge High School in a 'dream come true' day on the hallowed turf of Seddon Park. This in itself was an amazing experience for the team and will no doubt be a story to tell and remembered by the boys for many years to come.

This fixture was the final elimination round in the annual National Secondary Schools' Gillette Cup set up. HPC therefore became the Waikato Valley Schools winners which earned us the honour of hosting Hillcrest High School - the Hamilton schools' victors - at our home venue on the last day of Term 1. Another resounding victory was achieved. HPC now face the challenge of playing Whangarei Boys High School early in Term 4 for a place in the week long National Gillette Cup play off.

Congratulations to coaches Glenn Crowe and Wayne Dodunski who have coached the boys for several seasons. It has been a "golden summer" in spite of the challenges which had to be overcome. Let's hope the trend continues with the promising group of younger cricketers now looming in the wings.

**Mike Cotter**

Behind the resurgence in Cricket at HPC, stands Mr Mike Cotter. Well respected for his enthusiasm, commitment and knowledge of the game, Mr Cotter has worked tirelessly for many years to rebuild cricket resulting in four HPC teams in the current season.

Mike actually began playing cricket himself over seventy years ago and recalls that journey:

"I took part in every other sporting activity available to me through my primary and secondary school years in Paeroa but cricket became my passion and has remained so to this day.

I always enjoyed practising the basic skills required, sometimes with others but often by myself and by the time I was in my mid-

teens, I had become a reasonably capable player. I represented Thames Valley in 101 matches before retiring from rep cricket at 45 years of age. I played for two New Zealand Ambassadors Teams (1970 and 1988) on tours - playing in more than twenty different countries as we sought to expand the game world wide.

Interestingly, I think I have learned as much about the finer points of the game after I retired from playing. I have made a study of the art of instilling basic physical and mental skills into the minds and bodies of our very keenest young players rather than spending time and energy on larger numbers of semi-interested players as I did for at least 50 years. Only those who are really dedicated get my attention these days. No mollycoddling is the rule!!

The results which HPC senior team players have achieved in recent times, speak for themselves. I believe every one of those lads is a better person for having taken aboard the bat and ball skills but equally, the 'life / employment skills' and moral values we promote every day. That is my greatest payback.

How long will I keep going? Who knows? What I do know is that we now have very capable parents ready to push cricket at HPC onwards and upwards. Maybe it's time - in the near future to gently pass the baton!!"

We hope to thank Mr Cotter and thank you for your generous commitment to our cricketers over many years.



HPC First XI Boys Cricket Team



**HPC Year 9 Student Rylee Sayer** competed at the New Zealand national age group swimming championships in the holidays. She took home 2 gold, 3 silver and a bronze medal. She was also awarded the Hansen Trophy for breaking a New Zealand age group record by the biggest margin.

Rylee also broke a New Zealand open S14 para record for 100m Breaststroke and 3 x 16 and under New Zealand S14 para records. She is now part of a New Zealand S14 para swimming team that will compete at the Oceania Asia Games in Brisbane this coming November.



## 2022 Maadi Cup

On the 28th March to the 2nd April the Hauraki Plains College Rowing Team competed in the 2022 Maadi Cup down in Twizel. Rowers who competed at nationals were Maggie Morrison, Rebecca Adams, Rhian Ball, Lucas Dowty, Ethan Claridge, Fraser Thompson, Danny Sayer and Matthew Simpson.

We all learnt so much from the experience, from learning the new rules complying with COVID 19 and having our own zone to racing at a different venue. We are so thankful the Maadi Cup was still able to be held as previous regattas throughout the season had been cancelled due to COVID-19. This Maadi was very successful considering the interrupted season we have had.

The team had great success coming away with all boats in the top 16 with notable performances coming from the Boys U18 Quadruple

Sculls achieving 4th and the Girls U18 Double Sculls coming home with a Bronze medal.

We would like to thank Amanda Sayer, Franklin Hamilton and Jeremy Cryer for their massive amounts of support and encouragement we as rowers received throughout the whole week. We would also like to say a big thank you to all our sponsors Tiger Turf, Permacrete, Playground People Ltd, Pinnacle Civil, Ngatea 4 Square, Richardsons Real Estate, Harcourts Real Estate, Hauraki Plains Motors, Onboard NZ and Allyson McAulay to help get the team down to Twizel.

Overall it was an amazing experience and everyone came home with something new they had learned.

*Maggie Morrison (Year 13 Student)*



L-R: Rebecca Adams, Maggie Morrison, Franklin Hamilton



Jeremy Cryer (far left) and Franklin Hamilton (far right) with the rowing team

## Careers and Gateway

Week 11 of Term One saw 16 Year 11 - 13 students participate in a two day Learner Licence Course facilitated by Gaven Buchanan. Successful outcomes were achieved with 15 out of the 16 passing. We are fortunate to have Gaven booked in for a further course on Monday 4th July and Wednesday 6th July followed by the testing day, Friday 8th July. Spots are filling up fast.

We have had a number of employers make contact offering information about both part time and full time jobs. Please keep these coming. These are advertised via our Year Level Google Classroom pages and notices.

Gateway opportunities are available through 'The Supported Lifestyle Hauraki Trust' - Thames. They are looking for students to assist with:

- Equilibrium - Horse Riding Therapy Programme
- Artsider (Arts & Crafts)
- Music Classes
- Support Work
- Farming
- Commercial Kitchen

### Gateway Success Story

Jason Collins began his Gateway Placement with Charly the Sparky in 2021. Jason made such an impression that this placement evolved into two days a week for the remainder of the 2021 school year and is still going strong this year. Jason has utilised this opportunity gaining on the job skills and building a strong rapport with his employer. This has resulted in Jason being offered an apprenticeship starting next year.

Words from Charly himself:

"Here at Charly the Sparky Ltd, we feel privileged to participate in the Gateway programme at Hauraki Plains College. We are now nearing the point of employing our third apprentice from this programme, Jason Collins. Jason started his learning with us in autumn last year and has worked over the summer and Easter holidays for our company.

We highly recommend the Gateway programme to any employer who is looking to help young people gain experience and confidence and develop skills in their chosen pathway. The programme can often lead to apprenticeships or job opportunities and enables the student to enter confidently into the workforce because of their pre-training. It also gives employers a chance to find local talent for their crew."



L-R: Charly the Sparky, Jason Collins, Bailey Dickson (past pupil)

## Kenneth Francis Jones: 27 March 1931 to 13 October 2021

Kenneth Francis Jones: born in a depression and dying in a pandemic, but neither of these events defined the man or his life.

Kenneth was born in the front bedroom of the family home in Rawerawe Road, Ngatea. The farm, now being farmed by nephew Arthur Jones and in the Jones family for 100 years, was a great source of pride for Ken. He was the youngest of five children, and nicknamed Snow on account of his very white, fair hair. All the children had jobs, and Ken's was to clean the household's shoes. One of his strongest memories was getting stone bruises on his bare feet running down the metal road to school. Wally, the oldest brother, was supposed to double him on his bike, but pushed him off once he was out of sight of his mother!

Ken went to Ngatea District High School, at a time that included both the Great Depression and World War II. Ken was Head Prefect in his final year and school friendships with locals such as Guy Speedy, Ted Waite, Olga Radich were literally life long.

From high school, Ken attended Massey Agricultural College in Palmerston North attaining a Diploma in Agriculture after two years, eventually settling to farm at Ngatea. His early years farming was a story typical of his generation and his time - 100 cows on 110 acres, a 7 day week physical grind and he relished the interplay between weather, grass, stock, people and the dairy payout. In time, Ken's business interests included more land and a venture into the kiwifruit industry.

It was while Ken was at Massey, when he met Pat Taylor on a blind date. They married in 1954, followed by the birth of four children: Tricia, Paul, Kathryn and Phil. He was a proud family man and Kathryn recalls their upbringing: "Another gift (aside from farm life) was a very solid family life. Pat and Ken worked as a team, backing each other and sharing the discipline, including stringent rules at the dinner table." At the time of his passing, Ken was Sabba (grandfather) to 13 grandchildren whom he loved and enjoyed, taking them around the farm, and travelling far and wide to attend school concerts and assemblies, all the university graduations and professional events. His second great grandchild was born nine days after his passing.

Beyond his many business interests including both farming and kiwifruit, Ken was a committed community man. At various times, he was on the Board of Governors at Hauraki Plains College, Bishops Warden and Vestry at the local Co-operating Parish, Chairman of the Farmers Veterinary Club, on the selection committee for American Field Scholar, an announcer at Agricultural and Pastoral shows and a calf club judge for many years. More recently, through the Jones Family Trust, Ken ensured that the Hayward Farm was retained by the Haurakian Charitable Trust for college use.

One would describe Ken as strong, stubborn perhaps and intelligent. Although from modest beginnings, he had both a strong work ethic and an astute business instinct and was not afraid to take risks. He was proud of being a Plains person all his life, with Ngatea his 'belonging place' and a true man of the land to his last breath. So much so, that when the country went into lockdown in 2021, at 89 years of age, Ken refused to leave his farm as he considered himself an essential worker!

There is an old African proverb that says when an old man dies, a library burns to the ground as their wisdom and life stories go with them. Not so for Kenneth Francis Jones. His example and legacy he set as a family man, a true man of the land, an old-school community person will continue to live on through all the lives he ever touched.

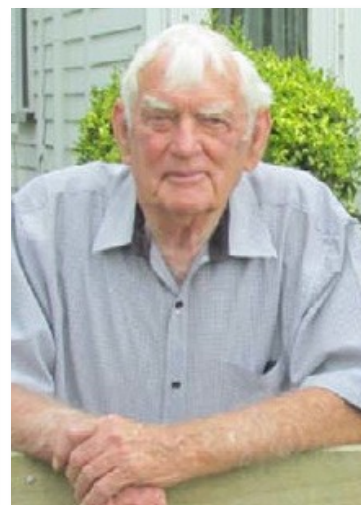
*(Thank you to the Jones family for sharing their notes from Ken's memorial service held 26 March 2022)*



Ken (Front Row Centre) Ngatea D.H.S Head Prefect 1947



Pat and Ken



### Contact HPC:

Phone (07) 867 7029 / Fax (07) 867 7020

[www.haurakiplains.school.nz](http://www.haurakiplains.school.nz) / [amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz](mailto:amandaf@haurakiplains.school.nz) / PO Box 44 Ngatea 3451

