

Rock Runner

The magazine of the Rathkeale College community • Volume 15 • September 2010



EDITORIAL



In the centre of Birmingham City is a remarkable motorway interchange affectionately named “Spaghetti Junction”. Roads from all over central Britain arrive at this one spot, pirouette in grand style and then head off in an altogether new direction. No matter what the final destination, Spaghetti Junction makes an impression.

Rathkeale is in many ways rather similar! Literally thousands of people have spent time at this rather obscure address on the Opaki Plain before careering off to the four corners of the country, and indeed the world.

Recent Old Boy reunions and the complexity of global communication systems have amplified the international nature of our College Old Boys’ Association. That many past students are increasingly interested in rekindling their association with the College, and their peers, is heartening. It is also gratifying to learn of their achievements.

The lives of our Old Boys are remarkably diverse. They are to be found curing the ill in Africa, flying in the Australian outback, lecturing in New York, teaching in Britain, coaching rugby in Ireland and running 24 hour endurance races in France. The list of their achievements is impressive. It is of course complimented by those many Old Boys in New Zealand who are represented in a plethora of employment situations: musicians, agriculturalists, industrialists, winemakers, local and central Government amongst many.

It is pleasing to be able to profile some of them in this publication. They are only a few of the many talented young men who have spent their formative years here at Rathkeale and of whom the College is very proud.

M G Harper

Editor

Important Dates 2010

24 September	House Music
10 November	Senior College Prize Giving
20 November	Rathkeale Christmas Fest
4 December	Rathkeale Prize Giving
6 December	Trinity Senior College Ball

Cover: Jeremy Ramsden (r) and Simon Stronbon overlooking Kabul, Afghanistan

From the Old Boys ...

MOVES WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION



College Administration Block

The last year has seen a rejuvenation of the Old Boys' Committee with a commitment to bring back regular gatherings of Old Boys, to continue to bring you the Rock Runner and to hold the annual Old Boys' dinner. We also want to help you organise your reunions by facilitating your engagement with the College.

Two very important decisions have been taken to establish the Old Boys' Association as a long term positive influence on the school community. Firstly, we have decided to establish a Charitable Trust fund within the revamped Trinity Foundation from which we hope to provide scholarships to enable the sons of Old Boys to attend the College. The funds will be raised from our annual activities and hopefully will be complimented with donations and bequests from the Old Boys' community. Placing the funds within a charitable structure will ensure the proper governance and application

of funds over the long term thereby providing a legacy of which we can all be proud.

The fund can also be used to pool funds raised for specific projects that the committee feels will have particular benefit to the school. In 2014 the school will celebrate its 50th Anniversary and the Committee is hopeful that we can set up a fundraising project to deliver something meaningful to Rathkeale to help mark this important milestone.

The second important decision runs parallel to the decision to establish the Charitable Trust and the fundraising mechanism. In this regard we are pleased that John Taylor, ex Headmaster of Rathkeale and Director of External Relations and Development at the University of Auckland, has agreed to become Patron of the Rathkeale Old Boys' Association. This is a new position within the Association and we will be cementing it in place

at the upcoming annual general meeting with a constitutional change establishing this important role. The Committee sees the Patron of the Association as being a focal point for many of our endeavours and a role that will help establish the Association as a vital and effective part of the school community. That John has accepted the position is a great vote in favour of all our many and varied Old Boys, wherever they are.

We recently facilitated a gathering in Auckland that was attended by 50 Old Boys of many different vintages. We all had a great time and were pleased that the current Principal, Willy Kersten, was able to join us and bring everyone up to speed with current school events, the advancements that are being made to the facilities and the very pleasing academic achievements. We hope that as we roll out these gatherings throughout the country you, as Old Boys, will take it upon yourselves to facilitate further gatherings amongst your local communities and even provide input to the Committee that has tended to be very Wairarapa centric. Perhaps taking the Old Boys' annual dinner on the road will become a reality.

However we may progress through the next five years, please be assured that we need your input to keep the Association vibrant and effective. Please assist us as we build towards the 50th Jubilee and strive to make Rathkeale a great place for our sons and eventually our grandsons.

Lastly, our thanks to Willy Kersten, Principal, and Andy Pottinger, Old Boy and Chairman of the Board of Trustees, for their support of the Association and to Grant Harper for his hard work in bringing the Rock Runner to you.

Paul Hocking (Secretary)

Rathkeale Old Boys' Association



Views from the Top ...

FROM THE PRINCIPAL: ACHIEVEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT TO THE FORE



Each year, the life of a school is characterised by a combination of driving forces. Energy, personality and ambition permeate Rathkeale College life and allow the school to be the dynamic place that it is. The timing of the annual production of the Rock Runner enables us to reflect on how these forces have impacted on the past year and how they may influence the year ahead. I hope, too, that these same driving forces have allowed our Old Boys to enjoy success in their private and business lives.

The past year has been a year of continued change and wonderful achievements, some of which are a benchmark for the future. We continue to be heartened by the confidence and support that has been shown in the school, but at the same time realise that there are challenges ahead.

These are difficult economic times and I appreciate the priorities many of our families are making to provide for their sons' education at Rathkeale College. At the same time, a small number of parents are making life very difficult for us, having made a deliberate and informed choice to send their sons to Rathkeale yet refusing to pay the donations that afford the school its "special character". Furthermore, the Minister of Education and some of her officials appear not to have the same appreciation of the Integration Agreement that was set up with the Ministry as we do and, furthermore, appear reluctant to accept that government resourcing of state and integrated schools is inadequate. These types of interferences have the ability to compromise the nature and quality

of education offered by Rathkeale College.

In 2008, I reported encouraging trends in the percentage of students gaining NCEA qualifications, University Entrance and NZQA Scholarships.

In 2009 we continued to exceed the "norms" by most measures of comparison against boys in other schools at all decile levels. We must celebrate the achievement of our Year 13 students particularly. To gain 20 NZQA Scholarships in the Senior College; nine of these five boys and to have 17% gain Level 3 NCEA with an Excellence endorsement is an outstanding achievement. The level of achievement of students studying the Visual Arts at all levels at Rathkeale College is notable. The 2009 NZQA results bear this out and all credit must go to the Art Department for the number of grades gained at Excellence level and for gaining 25% of the Outstanding Scholarships awarded in the country in 2009.

I understand that across all schools within the Wairarapa, only one other NZQA Scholarship was awarded. With Senior College students gaining 20 across the Arts, Sciences, Mathematics, Social Science and Humanities curriculum areas and with the high standard of performances of Rathkeale and St Matthew's students across all levels of NCEA, it must be apparent that a healthy combination of student motivation and teacher inspiration exists within the Trinity Schools.

On the school sports scene, it is difficult to find adequate competition in a number of codes. Due to diminishing numbers of students playing, coaching and managing sport in other schools, we find our junior teams having to play composite teams and our senior teams needing to play in Wellington or Manawatu competitions. We have enjoyed many successes in our regular inter-school exchanges, particularly at junior level and these remain the highlight of our sporting calendar.

The cultural life of the school has flourished in recent times and the 2009 production of *Les Misérables*

brought together a wealth of talent that would be the envy of most schools. Those lucky enough to see it would affirm that it was indeed a performance of rare quality and one of which we were very proud.

Although our 2010 Year 9 intake is not at the level of the previous year, there is no doubt that the Junior School is in good heart. Certainly the year has started well and the juniors contribute well to the positive school ethos that currently exists. Furthermore, there is no doubt that a strong school spirit and a sense of pride engenders further interest and we hope to build on this over the coming year.

A great deal of work has been carried out at governance level and I commend the board for their efforts in finalising a five year strategic plan prior to the triennial elections. Another milestone has been completed with the complete refurbishment of the Rathkeale Kitchen and Dining Hall and work has commenced on the refurbishment of Cranleigh House. To accommodate this, the students of Cranleigh have joined the Year 9 boys in the now completely renovated Rugby House. The upgrade of the central quad has commenced with pathways outside the new Dining Hall veranda.

I commend the work of the Old Boys as they continue to try and bring the activities of the Association to the notice of the Old Boys' wider network. This is not an easy task, but none the less very important as we approach the 50th year of Rathkeale College's existence. Again, I thank Grant Harper for accepting the editorial role he has undertaken in producing this fine publication. His extensive knowledge of Rathkeale people and history continues to amaze me and will, I am certain, continue to be highly sought by those seeking to be informed of the past and the present.

William Kersten

Principal

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES: COMMITTED TO SUCCESS



Back Row: Bruce Wagg, Cameron Sims, Glenn McIntosh, Leo Vollebregt, Craig Nelson, Brett Dymond, Steve Thomson.

Front Row: Jan Tatham, Liz Kirkland. Seated: Andy Pottinger, Willy Kersten.

Recently, elections were held for Parent representatives for the Board of Trustees. Along with Leo Vollebregt, Brett Dymond, and Liz Kirkland, I was re-elected and we also welcomed Jan Tatham as the fifth parent elected Trustee. Add to these people the Proprietor appointed Trustees and I believe we have a very responsible and able Board to keep Rathkeale moving forward to achieve the goals and objectives we have set.

After months of planning, designing, and discussion regarding Cranleigh House, we are delighted to have been able to award the tender to the Masterton building firm of Rigg Zschokke Ltd who will fully upgrade the boarding house. This project, when completed, will bring Cranleigh boarding up to a standard which I am sure will be the envy of many other boarding schools. This will also become a huge drawcard in our drive to increase the numbers of boarders at Rathkeale. The project will be completed by mid November this year. We will then be moving to complete the same upgrade of Repton House as soon as finances allow. The Board of Trustees appreciates the support of

the Trinity Schools' Trust Board (our Proprietors), without which these very important projects would not be able to proceed.

The major focus for the Board for this year is "growing the roll". We see this as vital for the future development of the College. Boarding is the area where we see the biggest potential for growth, hence the focus on the upgrading of our facilities. Our Principal, Willy Kersten, is out and about as much as possible, visiting schools with potential students, and holding cottage meetings. He is very happy to talk to any group or individual about what is being offered at Rathkeale. We would welcome any ideas or support in this area from the Old Boys' community and their friends.

I would like to thank the Old Boys for their continued support of Rathkeale College. It is encouraging to see the increasing number of Old Boys' sons being enrolled at Rathkeale.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees

Andy Pottinger

BOT Chairman (and Old Boy!)



The recreation of Cranleigh House



On the Home Front

HAMISH MOORHEAD: OLD BOY PLACES NEW STROKES ON AN AGING CAMPUS



Hamish Moorhead

The process of design often requires a period of sitting back and simply observing. Observing the environment and the ways it is used by people is one of the critical skills a Landscape Architect requires to produce successful work. So when Landscape Architect and Old Boy Hamish Moorhead was asked to be involved in recent developments at the school, he jumped at the opportunity to put five years of observation to the test.

While the school has gone through changes since Hamish left, including the addition of the Trust House Theatre

and Chapel, and the campus continues to evolve; Hamish admits that having spent those years walking between classes, sports practices, chapel services and meals certainly gave an insight that is invaluable as a designer:

The recent Dining Hall alterations together with an opportunity to create a new school courtyard space provided the starting point for a project which aims to give the school a new and greatly needed student hub. Moorhead's design (see sketch design below) focuses on creating a strong central space between the

buildings where students can gather, interact and learn in a purpose built exterior environment. Secondary to this was the need to allow students, staff and visitors to move between the buildings and through the space in a logical manner. The resulting design creates a large, central open quad with a combination of hard and soft surfaces to provide useable space without losing the open, green feel that is synonymous with the Rathkeale campus. Wide, paved promenades and geometric groupings of seats link the space to the classrooms and gymnasium while large areas of informal planting form a softer buffer to the Dining Hall and Theatre buildings. Paving, planting and low in situ concrete walls create unity throughout the whole area and connect the two sides of the space that were formerly very divided by the road.

It is hoped that landscaping adjacent to the Dining Hall will be completed by Spring, with the help of the Friends, and that the redevelopment of the rest of the 'College Green', as it has been dubbed, will follow when funds allow.

Based in Wellington, Hamish established his practice Moorhead and Newdick Landscape Architects with business partner Mark five years ago. They work predominantly in Wellington and the Wairarapa, where other educational campus projects include redevelopments at Queen Margaret College, St Mark's School and Upper Hutt College. Moorhead and Newdick also specialise in residential design, seeking to provide simple, elegant and sustainable solutions to complex problems and opportunities. Their residential projects range from large rural properties to small inner city courtyards. A contemporary coastal garden on the Kapiti coast recently won an award in the 2010 NZ Institute of Landscape Architects Resene Pride of Place awards.



Any group or individual interested in contributing to this very exciting project is encouraged to contact Grant Harper at the College. Garden seats, lighting, plantings and general contributions will all be most welcome.



DINING HALL AND CRANLEIGH HOUSE: TIME FOR CHANGE

Over the summer holidays at the end of 2009, the Dining Hall and Central Kitchen were a hive of activity as swarms of workers toiled long hours, and against challenging deadlines, to achieve a significant transformation.

Originally built for the opening of the College in 1964, and after only one significant upgrade in 1970, the Dining Hall was in dire need of a facelift. It took the vision of Accent Architects, and of Gina Jones in particular, to take the building from being dreary, cold, noisy and uninspiring to something which will be quite unrecognizable to most Old Boys.

Today, wide attractive verandahs wrap around a Hall which is bright, warm and very inviting. Clean surfaces, vibrant colours, and a smart double server all contribute to very pleasant dining conditions. These are complimented by a completely new Central Kitchen facility that will be the envy of many other institutions around the country.

At one end a very pleasant Senior College Centre has been developed and already it has become a mecca for senior socialising.

No less significant is the work currently underway in Cranleigh House. Nothing remains of its original bowels and

framing is already in place for its new-look interior. Better accommodation, more socializing areas, upgraded ablutions and even a lift will make the lives of future boarders at Rathkeale very comfortable indeed. This upgrade follows closely the complete renovation of Rugby House and takes us a significant way down the track towards the upgrade of most of the buildings on campus. Perhaps there is an individual out there who wants to give the process a further boost by donating a new gymnasium to the College?!!

Photos of developments can be seen here and elsewhere in the Rock Runner.



New-look dining hall: verandah and servery.

GEORGE HEWITT: A YOUTHFUL CHAMPION

In the midst of the Junior School is a young man who is proving inspirational to young and old alike.

George Hewitt, the son of Tim and Nicola (Dunn) who both attended Rathkeale and St Matthew's 1982-86, is a Year 10 boarder at Rathkeale. George is in Repton House this year, along with his twin brother Edward, and they both thoroughly enjoy boarding life.

George has cerebral palsy which affects his physical movements but does not detract from his commitment to life. He is a keen runner and has been selected for the New Zealand Paralympic development squad. Paralympic sport involves athletes with cerebral palsy, amputees, visually impaired and wheelchair sports. Individual athletes are assessed and ranked according to their specific disability.

In 2009 George was selected for the NZ Youth Team to compete at the Australian Paralympic youth games in Melbourne. He competed in the 100m, 200m, 400m and 800m events coming away with a bronze medal and two gold medals.

George also competed at the NZ Paralympic Nationals in November 2009. He holds the under 19 New Zealand records in his class for the 100m, 200m, 400m, 800m and 1500m events.

In December 2009 he competed at the NZ Secondary Schools' Athletics Championships in Timaru in the Athletes With Disabilities (AWD) races.

George regularly trains in a Wairarapa training group under the guidance of his coach Mark Harris and enjoys widespread respect from all with whom he comes into contact.



George Hewitt receiving one of three gold medals at the New Zealand National Secondary Schools Athletics.

OLD BOYS XIV SCHOOL 1ST XI - NOT TOO OLD TO TRIUMPH



The Team. Back row: Brock Price, Tim Lucas, Simon Clinton-Baker, Richard French, Paul Lyttle, Alec Morrison. Front row: Jacob Ross, Henry Cameron, Shay O'Gorman, Tom Broughton, Duncan Didsbury.

Without a doubt the strongest ever Old Boys' XI was assembled to take on the Rathkeale XI before it departed for its tour of Australia in January this year.

The Old Boys' team comprised five former Cricket Captains of the School and five Wairarapa Cricket representatives. On the day they

fronted up in Barbarians outfit of white pants and any coloured one day top that they had played in, making for an interesting array.

In keeping with tradition, the school batted first. Always on the back foot they struggled to 167 all out in the 38th over. Jamie Holmes was the best of the Rathkeale batsmen with a very well compiled 56 not out. The Old Boys used 10 bowlers with Tom Broughton starting with the amazing figures of 3 for 3 off 7 overs. Tim Lucas chimed in with 3 wickets.

The chase was quick and ruthless. No batsman had a strike rate under 100 as the Old Boys won inside 18 overs. Paul Lyttle and Jake Ross showed little mercy to the bowlers, hitting 34 off 32 balls and 36 off 19 balls respectively with Henry Cameron 22 off 17, Brock Price 31 off 18 and Tom Broughton 17 off 10 seeing the Old Boys home.

Whilst it was a great day for the Old Boys, it possibly served to fire the School team up for their tour of Australia.

International Connections

1ST XI CRICKET TOUR TO VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA



Former Rathkeale Headmaster Dr Rob Nethercote and 1st XI coach Shay O'Gorman take in the action in Melbourne as former trustee Blyth King and current parent Mike Falloon look on.

In January 2010, the School 1st XI Cricket team embarked on a short tour of Victoria, Australia. Predictably, very hot weather was waiting for them and it did take some time for the team to become acclimatised.

The first of three matches was against Camberwell Grammar and saw Harrison Greenwood take 5 for 13 off 9 overs. He also made a solid twenty runs. Harry Clinton-Baker (31) and Harvey Mason (24) also

batted well but the game was lost by 30 runs.

The next game against Geelong College followed the same pattern and was lost by 77 runs. George Falloon did well to make 44 runs whilst Josh Mann took 3 for 24 off 10.

It was the match against Melbourne Grammar School which produced the greatest excitement and tension. Former Rathkeale Headmaster, Dr Rob Nethercote, an Old Boy of Melbourne Grammar, attended the match during which Jamie Holmes batted well making 72, Harry Clinton-Baker 35 and Hayden McKeown 40. Jacob Smith was the pick of the bowlers with 3 for 30 off his 10 overs. It was Harrison Greenwood who took a wicket in the last over to tie the match against one of Australia's most prestigious cricketing schools.

Thus ended an enjoyable and very rewarding tour for the team and its loyal supporters.

THE ELMS 2009: WELL MAINTAINED LINKS

Old Boy Nick McGregor has returned from a year as a tutor at The Elms School in Central England and in doing so has strengthened the bond between the English preparatory school and Rathkeale.

Nick describes his year as a tutor as one of the best in his life. He thanks Rathkeale and Mr Blair Ewington for enabling him to leave for England on January 6th 2009.

Along with three other gappies from Wanganui, Nick was gathered up at Heathrow and transported for three hours through a bleak, snowy landscape to The Elms School near Malvern. Here he was met by the Headmaster, Mr Clive Ashby and two other tutors.

A tutorship at The Elms makes surprising demands. Farm work occupied much of Nick's time: mucking and scraping out of horse boxes, watering and feeding of animals, rubbish collection, fence and jump maintenance and even assisting with students cattle showing at local shows. Nick is proud that one calf won

Reserve Champion – a great success for a herd of ten Hereford cattle!

Time was also spent in the pre-prep area of the school; an area of involvement which he learnt to enjoy. He was more enthusiastic about helping the "Trannies" move into the main school. Taking prep and assisting students with learning difficulties were other duties; a big step up from Year 13 life at Rathkeale.

Winning a tournament to represent Hereford was a highlight to his season coaching and umpiring a girls' hockey team.

Because it is a boarding school, Nick and his fellow tutors were required to assist with Sunday activities: outings which included mountain boarding and games

such as capture the flag.

In true GAP year style Nick also got to travel during school holidays and can now tick off Venice, Corfu, Prague, Budapest, Paris, Barcelona, Lyon, Antibes, Rome, Florence, Switzerland, Munich, Albania, Amsterdam, Belfast and the Greek Islands. Such travel was an excellent experience for Nick.

Equally rewarding for him was noting the success of the children at the end of the year Prizegiving; a Prizegiving very familiar to those Nick had attended at Rathkeale.

Nick's successful tutorship at The Elms was one with a number of connections with Rathkeale. Mr Michael Eckford is an Old Boy and Mr Blair Ewington is a former tutor. Nick is just one more link in a growing chain.

Old Boys at Large

Compulsion has often seemed an integral part of school life and yet despite compulsory activities, compulsory hair cuts, compulsory uniform and all the rest, individuals do emerge from Rathkeale and indeed flourish.

Philip Norman, Ian McKeague and Tim Turvey all began their College careers on the same day in January 1967. Since then they have achieved enormously in their chosen areas of endeavour.

DR PHILIP NORMAN: CULTURAL ICON

Faye and John Norman are readily recognised for their role in establishing Rathkeale. Their input to all facets of School life was enormous and the importance of a holistic education was well understood. An educated man was a cultured man. It is not surprising, therefore, that their second son, Dr Philip Norman, (1967-71) has excelled in the world of music, a world dear to his parents hearts and an activity which is still an integral part of College life today.

Philip draws some familiar influences together:

One of my enduring memories of Rathkeale is of teaching St Matthew's girls to sing "burn the bra, oh burn the bra". This was in 1971, my final year at school, in a comic operetta about women's liberationists and parliamentarians I had written with fellow student John Farnsworth. While the operetta itself has since languished at the bottom of my wardrobe, appreciated only by silverfish, I recall it well as my first significant outing as a composer.

Study at the University of Canterbury through the 1970s fuelled my interest in the arts and led to work as a freelance composer even before I had graduated – eventually with a PhD in musicology. Back then, the idea of composition as a career was not considered the product of a sound mind, but it being the 1970s, the notion was simpatico, as they used to say, with the spirit of the times. After all, thirty hour working weeks were just around the corner.

It was perhaps inevitable I would end up working in some area of the arts, for an interest in music and in creating things from scratch was in the genes on both sides. My mother, Faye, the biggest influence on my early musical development, was the first music teacher at Rathkeale. My father, John, was the foundation headmaster.

My father's day job may have been moulding boys into men, but at heart he was a sculptor of landscapes, through tree-planting, path-laying and the creation of value-added edifices in a medium he eventually mastered – concrete. Who else but an artist (a post-modernist before his time) would relish the incongruity of a classical Greek amphitheatre nestled in a rural New Zealand setting and have the tenacity of vision to see its construction through to completion. Not that EJN would have described his arena as art; to him it was a practical, and in time elegant, solution to the problem of how to seat the school and parents at prize-giving.

Something of his approach has rubbed off on me as a composer. I've always preferred my creations to be of use rather than be art for art's sake. I respond enthusiastically to large-scale challenges and I've found myself inclining to do the unexpected rather than swim with the prevailing current of convention. Sometimes this has transformed the practicalities of raising a family of four children into an adventure sport, but more often it has brought rewards of its own. Thanks in no small part to my wife Alison's enduring patience and support, I find to my surprise that thirty-eight years have now elapsed since I promoted undergarment incineration at St

Matt's, and I still haven't had, as we say in the arts, 'a proper job'. For all the challenges of being a composer in New Zealand – and someone once suggested to me that it must be like being a matador in Finland – I count myself fortunate not only to have been able to pursue a passion as a career but also to have been able to do so without leaving home.

Part of what has made it possible is that my music has been performed in a number of other countries including, a few years back, the premiere of a guitar concerto in Siberia. (A treasured memento is an officially signed certificate in Cyrillic script verifying this to be so.) A musical I composed with Roger Hall and AK Grant in the 1980s, *Love Off The Shelf*, continues to enjoy occasional productions in England following an early record-breaking run at the Nuffield Theatre, Southampton, and publication in London by Samuel French. A selection of my chamber music and vocal scores has recently been published in Australia and the *Footrot Flats* stage musical for which I penned the music, continues to receive productions throughout Australasia, including in the Australian outback.

Closer to home my orchestral score to *Peter Pan* (choreographed by doyen of New Zealand dance, Russell Kerr) has enjoyed three national tours by





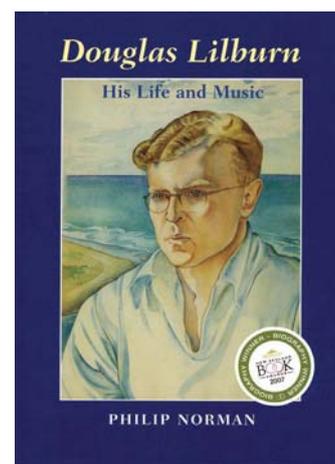
Philip Norman (bearded, no tail) with Russell Kerr, choreographer, marooned on the stairs of the Theatre Royal, Christchurch. Consoling are mermaids from the Royal New Zealand Ballet's 2003 production of "Peter Pan".

the Royal New Zealand Ballet, the most recent just prior to Christmas 2009. A favourite prolonged project was composing an electronic ballet score for Dickens' A Christmas Carol (Southern Ballet 1990), receiving a commission to convert it to an opera (Canterbury Opera 1993), then receiving a commission a decade later (Royal New Zealand Ballet) to convert it back into a ballet. This enables me to declare: "I spent 2003 decomposing".

Recent commissions have included a setting of Psalm 150 commemorating the 100th anniversary of St Margaret's College Christchurch (I was invited to conduct the premiere on May 8 in the Christchurch Cathedral), a setting of the canticles for the Christ's College Chapel Choir (first full performance also in May) and a five-movement work for the National Male Choir of

New Zealand to take on its tour of Wales, England and select continental countries later this year.

I have recently been busy also as an author. My first book, a biography of composer Douglas Lilburn, won the biography category at the 2007 Montana Book Awards and helped gain me the 2007 Ursula Bethell creative writer residency at the University of Canterbury. A 2008 CLL Writers Award is assisting me write a second book, a general history of composition in New Zealand, and recognition from the Arts Foundation of New Zealand through its 2009 Arts Patronage Award has helped energise my composition output. Current work in progress includes composing a new musical with award-winning playwright Stuart Hoar, based on the life of painter Frances Hodgkins, for premiere in 2011.



PROFESSOR IAN MCKEAGUE: SCHOLAR OF DISTINCTION

Ian McKeague (1967-71) was the first Rathkeale student to win a University Scholarship which took him to Cambridge University and the start of a remarkable academic career. He is now Professor of Biostatistics at Columbia University in New York and has taken time to review the years since leaving school.



Ian in the Drakenberg Mountains, South Africa

Grant Harper's email requesting this article reminded me of "ET Call Home." It is now almost forty years since I attended Rathkeale, so to keep an account of what I've been doing since then to a manageable length isn't easy, but I'll try.

When I was at Rathkeale, computers were only seen in movies, email hadn't even been invented and in Mr Farnsworth's maths classes we relied on the slide rule. Inspired by that most gifted of teachers, I became intent on pursuing a career in the mathematical sciences. I set off for England in 1972 to study mathematics at Cambridge University.

This was a difficult adjustment, from the wide open spaces of the Wairarapa to the cloistered confines of Selwyn College. The competition was tough—Andrew Wiles, later of Fermat's Last Theorem fame, was a classmate, though he immediately jumped into the second year. After a couple of years, however, I began to feel more at home in Cambridge, and in 1975 graduated with first class honours ("Wrangler") in Part II of the Mathematical Tripos.

The UK economy was in a shambles by then, and the funding for graduate students was drying up, so I returned to New Zealand in 1976. I sought out the advice of David Vere-Jones, who was the Professor of Mathematics at Victoria University at the time. Vere-Jones had been a Rhodes scholar and was well known internationally for his contributions to various areas of mathematical statistics. He advised that I apply to PhD programmes in the US. In the meantime I was working in the Applied Mathematics Division of the DSIR in Wellington (the DSIR was later merged into the Crown Research Institutes), and became interested in the statistical modelling of earthquakes, a field pioneered by Vere-Jones.

Ross Leadbetter, a prominent Professor of Statistics at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, happened to visit one day (he is a Kiwi, raised in Dunedin) and he offered to arrange graduate student support for me at UNC. Although I had also received the

offer of a fellowship for graduate study at the Australian National University, the UNC statistics department had a more distinguished history in the development of the field, and suited my background better.

My wife Marilyn and I met while we were students at UNC and we were married in 1979. I finished my PhD in 1980, and by then it was the US economy that was in a shambles. I was fortunate to get a position as an Assistant Professor of Statistics at the Florida State University, in Tallahassee, the state capital located in the north of Florida.

Over the next twenty years, I was promoted through the academic ranks at Florida State, served a term as Chair of my department, and in 2000 was awarded a named professorship, the RA Bradley Professor of Statistics.

In 2004, an even better kind of promotion came along in the form of an offer from Columbia University, in New York, where I am now a Professor of Biostatistics.

We live in Manhattan, in a twenty-six storey apartment building (pictured, along with the view from the apartment), located on the street that runs along the west side of Central Park, close to the Columbia campus.

New York has much to offer in terms of entertainment, but I'm often so frazzled during the week that going anywhere to do anything, no matter how interesting or enjoyable





Ian's New York apartment block



Apartment view, West New York.

it promises to be, provokes a near panic-attack on the subway platform as I fight the grip of the feeling that I should be in my office, or at home, working!

Still, I think it's important to make an effort to see that part of my week is spent familiarising myself with the pleasures of this great city. I usually manage to see one or two Broadway or off-Broadway plays each week, and sometimes a concert at the Lincoln Centre or Carnegie Hall.

Most of my work is involved with research and in advising PhD students. I am also lucky in being able to see the world by travelling to conferences, last year in Finland, South Africa, Taiwan and China.

It is exciting to collaborate with scientists in many different fields, and at Columbia the possibilities for collaboration are endless. While in Florida, I collaborated with physical oceanographers on developing more accurate ways of estimating the structure of deep ocean currents. Since moving to New York, my collaborations have mostly been in the biomedical sciences, especially in statistical genetics and life course epidemiology.

In addition, I publish my research regularly in the leading international journals in mathematical statistics. It's a great help, of course, that the slide rules keep on getting better and better!

Marilyn and I have two children, Kezia and Danny. When Danny was eighteen, before going to the

University of Florida, he spent three months as a tutor at Rathkeale and a few years ago he worked at Mount Bruce Wildlife Sanctuary for a summer. Both Kezia and Danny are New Zealand citizens.

Kezia currently lives in Washington DC, and works as a legislative assistant for the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Danny lives in Tallahassee, is married, just finished a Masters degree in Urban Planning, and now works for the State of Florida on land acquisition.

I keep in touch with Old Boy Steve Wilton and his wife Barbara; I stayed with them on a visit to Masterton in 2006, and they have stayed with us in New York.

I'm looking forward to catching up with more Rathkeale friends—drop me a line (email:im2131@columbia.edu) or send your own contribution to the Rock Runner! I will read it with interest.



TIM TURVEY: CREATING GOOD TIMES

Clearview Estate Winery in Hawke's Bay is presided over by Tim Turvey, a gregarious and colourful Old Boy who, for various reasons, couldn't say no to the request for a quick life résumé.



Tim Turvey on the job at Clearview winery.

Being an only child of doting parents who "retired" when I was born – I seem to have inherited some narcissistic tendencies and never worked at anything I didn't enjoy. So after spending four years at university and moving toward a diploma in town planning, it took one day in an office for me to realise that I had made a big mistake! I started up a photographic studio being the first in NZ to hand-do our own colour photos, and specialised in weddings and sports teams. After one and a half years, life in a dark room didn't suit this young surfer (maybe the travelling to surf photography did but again too little money). I then surfed full time for two years with photography on the side. Falling in love with the land and contracting back in Hawke's Bay led me in a direction that my forbears came from and later I moved overseas, travelling, but settling in Australia – where I built a steel yacht, worked on sugar cane farms and ended up setting up and managing four hundred acres of pineapples (the largest in Australia) by the sea in Byron Bay. By the age of thirty and after many 'adventures' I returned home to start

having children and perhaps grow up, with a slightly more sedentary lifestyle.

After a life of contracting, operating a berry farm and owning a harvesting business I ended up purchasing a block of land (again by the coast at Te Awanga, Cape Kidnappers, H.B.) with the idea of growing grapes – a passion for wine had usurped the passion for surf. When one has little money one must do all the work oneself – so for four years we planted trees and grafted vines, built buildings, laid concrete (thanks Rathkeale!), built furniture, designed labels, made wine, grew grapes, raised children, sorted out failed matrimonial problems, established new relationships, made more wine, opened a restaurant, ran a successful pine tree nursery operation and managed fifty acres of grapes.

Exhausted but happy, we opened Clearview Estate Winery in 2001 with some wine in bottles and encountering a steep learning curve to running a restaurant. Our first commercial release of our Reserve Chardonnay took the trophy for top wine of the Royal Easter Show – that was a

fantastic start for us and really put us on the map – which we continue today.

The restaurant, in the middle of a paddock two hundred metres from the sea, was really the first in NZ to be alfresco and winery associated. We were, after travelling to Europe, endeavouring to establish a Mediterranean cuisine in an informal atmosphere with the best wine we could make in Hawke's Bay.

Twenty years later at the tender age of 56, I now employ between twenty to fifty people, export to ten countries, help operate a successful lunchtime restaurant (and functions) produce about 120,000 bottles of wine, co-manage about fifty acres of grapes, produce about twenty three styles of wine – but most importantly wake up and look forward to every day. I'm not wealthy but feel rich in my lifestyle and acknowledged by my peers. I have three amazing daughters (Katie, Gemma, Bella) two of whom are in the wine industry– lots of failed marriages and one 'last' incredible relationship with Kirsten (a bit younger) and her two children. I have plenty of friends and acquaintances from my wonderful winery years. I live 100 metres from the sea, travel a lot, still get in and on the water and every day work with some wonderful people committed to Clearview's cause.

I also manage to keep in touch with lots of Rathkeale Old Boys and the restaurant (being like a party every day) satisfies my narcissistic party animal tendencies, it keeps me busy, grounded, well-fed, and promotes a love for tourism and our Hawke's Bay climate.

Check out our website www.clearviewestate.co.nz and any orders will be delivered free with a 10% discount if you mention the Rathkeale offer!

Public Service

LAWRENCE YULE: MAYORAL LEADERSHIP IN THE BAY

From small acorns great oak trees grow. With increasing regularity, boys who spent their formative College years in the Wairarapa hinterland are cropping up in high places. One such Old Boy is Lawrence Yule (1976-79) who has been Mayor of the City of Hastings for almost a decade. He reflects on what has driven him towards a life in Public Service.



Hastings Mayor, Lawrence Yule

It is many decades since my time at Rathkeale, but some memories remain. The hot summers and the freezing winters, the Sunday morning rock running and the amazing building efforts by E.J.N. In the job I am in now, I suspect none would have passed building consents but as I recently observed all have stood the test of time, regardless of lack of reinforcing and very different concrete mixing styles!

I left Rathkeale in 1979 before going to Canterbury University where I graduated with an engineering degree. Following this I worked as an engineer in Christchurch for a couple of years before returning to our family farm in Hawke's Bay. I then got married and subsequently four children were introduced into our family. From an early age I had been interested in politics but at school, I struggled in confidence to make a speech let alone debate anything. I was never subsequently taught but just learnt to adapt.

Now I am the Mayor of Hastings, a position I have held for nine years. I am also the President of Local Government New Zealand and represent New Zealand on the Commonwealth Local Government Association. I have been mayor at a good time in history when the Hawke's Bay Province has been vibrant and where the region has leapt ahead. Hawke's Bay is a premier destination in New Zealand and investment is still flowing despite the recession. Hastings is at the very heart of Hawke's Bay and the powerhouse, or the fruit bowl, of the region, and continues to grow and develop as a great place to live, work and visit.

My early days at Rathkeale have inspired me to build things. In my first term I led the building of the Pettigrew Green Arena in Taradale as Hawke's Bay's first indoor sports facility. At nine million dollars it was a challenge at the time but its use has skyrocketed.

In my second term I led the twelve million dollar upgrade of the Hawke's Bay Opera House in Hastings. This set of buildings stands out in New Zealand as an architectural marvel and post transformation has also proven to be a stunning success.

In this current term I have led the building of a fifty-six million dollar Regional Sports Park on the outskirts of Hastings. This has proved to be my biggest challenge yet both politically and financially. We are, however, making great progress and we are just beginning our second stage. All these projects have taught me a lot about project management and I have become reasonably good at extracting money from the unlikeliest of sources!

I have looked back over my schooling at Rathkeale and realise that I learnt plenty there. I learnt about hard work and discipline. I learnt about team spirit and humility. While I wasn't the greatest sportsman I also learnt to understand the significance of sport to the average New Zealander.

In my daily political life I deal with all sorts of views and people. In my role as President of Local Government New Zealand I deal with national politicians including the Prime Minister and his Cabinet colleagues. All are very talented individuals but all have a set of issues, opportunities and problems. In my time in the rural land just north of Masterton, Rathkeale also had issues, opportunities and challenges. The balance of the education and the challenges of the sports field took most of the week.

The Sunday Jobs and Rock Running however built a long lasting value into what could be achieved by a community. I will be eternally grateful for this.

Lawrence Yule

SERVICE LIFE: LIEUTENANT COLONEL JEREMY RAMSDEN

Successive prize lists have clearly revealed that service is an important and highly valued quality at Rathkeale. It is not coincidental that the Service Colours boards hang alongside those of the School Prefects. To serve others is a quality of a Good Rathkeale Man.

It was particularly exciting when in 2009 Jeremy Ramsden (1974-78) became the first ever New Zealand recipient of the NATO Meritorious Service Medal, for his service while working for the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Kabul, Afghanistan in 2008 where he was deployed for six months as the Deputy Chief of Plans. The award was presented by the NATO Secretary General, His Excellency Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, in a special ceremony in Brussels, Belgium in July last year.

Jeremy's medal citation commended his superior leadership and example, stating that, 'he was extremely proactive, pursuing excellence to ensure the quality and tempo of the branch's work ... in an often tumultuous environment'. This was not the first time Jeremy's service in a war torn environment has been recognized; in 2000 he became a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the Queen's Birthday Honours for his work in Bosnia, as head of the UK Division's civil/military projects cell in 1999.

"It is not so much that I get a kick out of working in unstable environments, rather it is what I can do to bring some stability to these environments that motivates me" Jeremy said. "In Afghanistan it was about developing partnering relationships with the Afghan Forces, helping them to take ownership of their own problems, and in Bosnia it was about supporting basic needs and micro finance projects, giving the different ethnic groups some investment in the resettlement process and in peaceful co-existence".



Jeremy Ramsden, in the company of his wife Amanda, receives his NATO Meritorious Service medal from NATO's Secretary General, His Excellency Jaap de Hoop.

When asked by Rock Runner about his thirty years in the Army, he responded that "it always surprises me that some think that such a long time is somehow akin to a 'life sentence'. It is just not so. I've had a wonderful thirty years of diverse and demanding experiences."

While he admits being cold and miserable on exercise in Waiouru in the middle of winter is not all that much fun, "the fact that a week later you could be dining with the Governor General adds an edge of interest and excitement, especially for a young man." More than this though, it is the idea of service that you can contribute to something bigger than yourself and make a difference that he finds most appealing.

Jeremy has a Master of Philosophy degree in Development Studies, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics and History, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Human Resource Management. He has held appointments as varied as the aide-de-camp to the Governor General, reconnaissance troop commander in a British Cavalry unit, officer commanding a territorial reserve unit, equal employment opportunities coordinator for Army, Head of Intelligence in the New Zealand Joint Force Headquarters, Defence Attaché to Fiji, Tonga and Samoa, and Military Secretary to the Associate Minister of Defence in Parliament. "I've also served 21 months in the Middle East, in Lebanon with the United Nations in the mid 1980s and in the Sinai with the Multinational Force of Observers in the early 1990s" he states.

When asked for a highlight, Jeremy states straight away that for him it was

living and working in Fiji with his family for three years between 2003 -2006. "Army life often means separation but sometimes opportunities come your way that balance the sacrifices your job demands of you. Our family time in Fiji was one of those", he says. While he distances himself from any discussion of the coup in Fiji in December 2006, he warmly recalls the Pacific Island experience, "I have worked with the Fijians in the Middle East and trained with them in Fiji in the past; just like many other New Zealanders I have strong links to that country; as a people they warmly embraced my family and me. I cannot thank them enough for that and the richness of experience this provided."

"When people ask me what I have done, many don't believe me or more correctly, believe that you can do all the things I have in the Army. I tell them you can but it's the lessons you take away from the experiences that are more important. You learn about leadership and yourself; things that help you out throughout life."

"When I think back over thirty years in the Army, I have my parents and Rathkeale to thank for the attitude that said 'give it a go'... Nil Mortalibus Ardui Est."

Jeremy is married to Amanda Valentine. They have two children, Henry and Jacqueline, and live in Petone. While an outstanding sportsman at school (Best Sportsman 1978) these days he cycles to keep fit (but can not help being a little competitive!) and enjoys watching his children's sport.

He was promoted to Colonel in the



Jeremy Ramsden on Service, Afghanistan

New Year and is soon to be the New Zealand Defence Attaché to Seoul, Korea and the NZ Liaison Officer to the UN Command, Military Armistice Commission.



Getting Together Again

GOOD TIMES: 1972-76 RATHKEALE OLD BOYS' REUNION AT TAUPO

Jeremy Skerman (1972-76) was part of a successful year group reunion in 2009. His report is supplemented with the photos from Mike Morris.

An attempt to re-unite the 1972-76 Old Boys was made some years ago, but the timing just wasn't right. A second effort was therefore planned for a weekend in October, 2009. Jamie Clinton-Baker had a great idea that appealed: book a restaurant in Taupo (being reasonably central), and let as many as possible know about it. After all, we were mostly crossing the 'big 50' milestone, and a gathering was long overdue. Fortunately, much of the ground work in locating addresses had been done by Phil Dashfield, Jamie Clinton-Baker, Roger Parkinson and Jeremy Skerman as part of the previous venture. Emails were sent, the word was spread, and replies came flooding in. All that remained was to see if people would actually turn up. They did – 24 in all, many with tolerant and understanding partners! Stephen Taylor and Tom Orr even managed to cross the Tasman for the occasion, and

others converged from throughout New Zealand.

Friday night drinks were generously hosted by the Merediths, Clinton-Bakers and Morris's at their "extremely plush" suite at The Reef Motel. It turned into a late night – especially for the hosts and those staying on site – but was the ideal starting point for catching up and (re)introductions. Some were clearly taking things very easily and carefully the next day, but most were able to take advantage of Taupo's attractions and sights.

The Saturday night event took place at the Wairakei Resort's Fairways Restaurant – a superb venue. As often happens at reunions, some faces were instantly recognisable, as though time had not passed at all. Others were less familiar, with a lack of hair that would have pleased EJ Norman on the strictest Monday morning inspection.

The passage of time was reinforced with the school photos on display – one of the School House boys in 1972 and another of many Seventh Formers five years later in 1976. There was, of course, much reminiscing and ascertaining what people had been up to – travels, families, jobs – as well as passing on news of others not present. Stories of school, and names, were recollected with surprising clarity – West Wattie, Bernie, Max, Kraf, and, naturally, Uncle Ed. Without a doubt, wherever life's journey had taken us, there was an acknowledgement of the shared experiences and memories that Rathkeale represents. The evening was a total success and enjoyed by all present.

To other years who have not met up in a similar gathering, don't leave it too late. After all, time waits for no-one.



Back Row: Campbell Whyte, Tom Orr, Malcolm Tweed, Greg Potts, Glen Meredith, Mark Ridell, David Lee, David Wilson, James Weir.
Middle Row: Mike Morris, Blair Gilroy, Ewen Ross-Taylor, Tony Dewhurst, Mike Black, Roger Parkinson, Steve Taylor, Wilton Turner, Phil Dashfield.
Front Row: Jeremy Skerman, Jamie Clinton-Baker, John Hardie-Boys, Brian Buchanana, Philip Hata.

BACK TO TOWN: 1983-87 REUNION MASTERTON 21-23 MAY 2010

A very successful and enjoyable reunion of the 1983 intake in May this year owed much to the efforts of George Callaghan.

The keen early birds, including Levicks and Harpers, met up at the Aberdeen Bar on Friday evening and after putting familiar names to rather less familiar profiles, the years rolled back and nostalgia set in.

A larger group met at the College on Saturday for lunch in the revamped Dining Hall before being addressed by current Headmaster, Mr Willy Kersten. Later, a prolonged tour of the campus took in old haunts and new facilities. All were favourably impressed by the changes and developments of recent years.

It was a bigger group again who sat down for a reunion dinner at the

Copthorne Solway Park on Saturday evening for what was described as a great night.

Once again the strong bonds of friendship generated by the Rathkeale experience were to the fore and one hopes it's not too long before the Year Group gathers again. Thanks George!

FONDLY REMEMBERED

AIDAN SAMUEL KONISE

2/03/1988 - 23/07/2009

The Rathkeale Community was deeply saddened by the unexpected loss of Aidan Konise, head boy of 2005. Aidan was a very popular student who led from the front. He played rugby for the First XV and sang in the Rathkeale Singers. He even shone as an actor in the role of Deputy Governor Danforth in Arthur Miller's *The Crucible*. It was therefore no surprise that he received the Phelps Prize for all-round achievement at the end of Year 13. Despite all of these achievements, Aidan was the epitome of humility. He had a gentleness within and this was seen in the way he supported the younger ones at school. Aidan was a young man with principles and values, and he was not scared to stand up for those, irrespective of how it might be viewed. Aidan was a well-rounded, true gentleman with a heart for all of those around him – a solid citizen. After College Aidan joined the NZ Navy as an officer and undertook university studies in Auckland. His life enriched all those with whom he came into contact; his death left all who knew him, bereft.

GILLIAN MAUNSELL

(Wife of JHT Maunsell, Trustee and Chairman of St Matthew's Schools' Trust Board 1964-80) When Mrs Maunsell died in August 2010, a significant era of school history closed. The Maunsells were staunch supporters of Rathkeale in its formative years and the school flag flew at half mast in acknowledgement of their service to our community.

DICK KENDALL

The Rathkeale community was well represented at the funeral of Mr Dick Kendall who had served the College in a number of significant roles. His work whilst on the Executive of the Friends, the erection of the Football Pavilion and the time spent coaching both cricket and football are all gratefully acknowledged.

JAMES WILLIAMS

James attended Rathkeale as a boarder in Cranleigh House from 1979-1982. Thereafter, he completed an Agricultural Diploma at Lincoln University before travelling to America on the Minnesota Exchange Programme. It was whilst he was in America that he met his wife to be, Kristin. Together they came back to New Zealand where James managed a farm in the Amberley region of Canterbury.

A later return to America saw James working on diverse jobs before finding his ideal employment in a boutique brewery.

James died tragically in a traffic accident and was fondly remembered by many Old Boys who attended his memorial service in Masterton.

JOHN WHITE

John and Lenora White have been well known personalities at Rathkeale for many years. Having been parents of two boys at the college, Lenora joined Cranleigh as a matron in 1989 and brought along John as a tutor. Much respected for his involvement with rugby, golf and the Masterton Club, we were greatly saddened when John died in September 2010.



Taste of Trinity

The Friends of the Trinity Schools this year have been extremely busy and produced a high quality cookbook that everyone will want to own. The cookbook has at least 100 recipes from friends as well as some from outstanding Wairarapa cafes/restaurants. There are five delicious categories including Brunch/Lunch; Pre Dinner; Evening Meal; Desserts and Pantry.

Our theme is sophisticated country and enables us to celebrate the wonderful array of fresh foods grown right here in the Wairarapa. You can look forward to recipes including locally farmed beef and lamb, freshly caught paua, home grown vegetables as well as some fantastic pantry recipes to fill the cookie jars and preserve all that orchard fruit.

The book will go on sale in October 2010 in time for Christmas. We are launching the book with an event that night, which will see the three principals in a cook off, aided by three top Wairarapa chefs. You do not want to miss this!

The book will be priced at an affordable \$39.90 and you won't even have to leave home to buy one, or maybe more as presents. You will be able to visit one of the school's websites; all you will need is a credit card.

The Trinity Schools have always strived to provide its students with a wide range of extracurricular activities. Profits from this fundraiser will go towards the provision of further resources to advance the sporting, musical and cultural dimensions of our schools.





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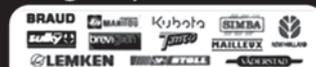
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The 2010 Rathkeale Old Boys' Association Committee

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Jonathan Hooker	Committee	synergyconsultants@xtra.co.nz	

The Old Boys' Association has an email address for general correspondence ROBA@rathkeale.school.net

We Need to Contact You

You have received this copy of the Rock Runner because you are a Rathkeale Old Boy, a parent of an Old Boy or you are a member of the school community. We need your help! We have very few email addresses for Old Boys and Email is the most effective means we have to keep in touch with Old Boys; to tell them about Old Boys' events, to invite them to reunions, to keep them up to date with school activities and to let their old school friends contact them.

Please, if you are an Old Boy, email us at roba@rathkeale.school.nz with your email address, your brothers address, your son's email address, the email address of any of your old school mates. Spread the word that we need to contact the Old Boys. Send us every email address you have for Old Boys - we'll sort out the double ups!

Thank you.

Upcoming Rathkeale Old Boy Association events:

Old Boys' gathering in Hawkes' Bay

Old Boys' gathering in Wellington

Annual Old Boys' Dinner

ROBA AGM



Nil mortalibus ardui est

“nothing is impossible for mortal man.”

