

THE CALICO LINE



NGA TAWA
DIOCESAN SCHOOL



News For Old Girls, Parents & Friends of Nga Tawa



Contents

3	From the Principal	11	Alice in Wonderland
4	Board Talk	12	Founders' Day 2021
5	Staying Connected	14	130 years of Nga Tawa
7	Inspire to Aspire	16	Old Girls' Association Update
8	2021 Student Leaders	20	Elizabeth Macky: 80 years on
9	Introducing our new Director of Wellbeing	22	Isabella Wassilieff & Hannah Williams: Calling the shots
10	Academic Excellence	24	News and Celebrations

Nga Tawa Diocesan School
164 Calico Line, Marton 4787



+64 6 327 6429



info@ngatawa.school.nz



@ngatawaschool
@ngatawaoldgirls



@ngatawaschool



ngatawa.school.nz

This magazine is co-jointly produced by the Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association, Nga Tawa Parents and Friends Association and Nga Tawa School. If you would like to contribute to future issues of The Calico Line, please email our Archivist and Old Girls' Liaison, Sally Patrick, at patrickssally@ngatawa.school.nz.

From the Principal

How the world has changed since I wrote to you last. COVID-19 certainly did provide a heightened awareness of being kind and gave us permission to re-think our calendar and in some instances, reshape or rethink the value of events. We remain careful with health, accept border closures have limited enrolment from our vibrant international community, but give thanks for our island status in the South Pacific.

We were fortunate to start the year with 20% roll growth and a full complement of teaching staff.

It was a beautiful day in the Rangitikei on February 1st when we welcomed 64 new students to Nga Tawa, in our 130th year of educating young women. For the fourth year in a row we achieved a 100% pass rate at NCEA Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. Our 2020 level of endorsement for Excellence at all levels exceeded the average of Decile 8-10 girls' schools and 100% of our Year 13 students achieved University Entrance. This is an outstanding achievement, especially when we take into consideration how busy our girls are in their extra-curricular activities and the service they give to this community, and others. These results are testimony to the dedicated and mature way our students manage all aspects of their very full lives. Equally, our staff deserve acknowledgment for their commitment and support of student learning.

Aside from a brief return to COVID-19 Alert Level 2 in February, it dropped just in time for us to hold our Athletics and Swimming Sports Carnival. As you know, these community events are integral to life at Nga Tawa and students' participation in these events is very much encouraged for the wonderful sense of belonging it builds. Unfortunately, COVID-19 did intervene with Auckland's change in alert level and we were unable to hold Sunday's programme. A week later our equestrian students were devastated to learn Horse of the Year was cancelled. There were a number of other events impacted by the COVID alert level change, but this didn't deter us from planning our next Nga Tawa celebration, our 130th celebration to open our new Multipurpose Track and unveil our Commemorative Brick Wall on May 14th. My sincere thanks to our PFA and Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association who championed these projects, and particularly Meredith Carpenter and Sarah McVerry for their energy and effort. We are delighted with our new track that benefits our community's wellbeing and the Brick Wall is an inspired aesthetic addition to our landscape, offering a focal point for visitors, a great setting for celebratory photographs and a wonderful space to congregate for a chat. Thank you to those of you who supported this project. Your individual bricks are treasured visual reminders of current and past members of our community. You'll find photos from this special day on Page 15.

The Multipurpose Track was the vision of our Director of Sport, Claire Horner, who has been with us for nearly 18 months now. When Claire arrived from South Africa at the beginning of 2020, she critically assessed our sports programme with the maxim, less is more. We set about offering fewer sports, but better outcomes. Differentiation has resulted in a high performance academy to support our top performing athletes while a strengthening and conditioning programme is foundational to every code. Claire champions participation and commitment as a pathway to personal

and corporate success. We now have a weekly school-wide Monday run/walk utilising the track, that in my case, really helps lift my mood at the end of the day.

Equestrian is still the most popular sport at Nga Tawa. Our Equestrian Academy continues to attract deserved national interest. With 89 horses onsite and nearly as many riders, the yards are a hive of activity.

We have invested significantly in the wellbeing of our staff and students. We formed a partnership with the NZ Institute of Wellbeing and Resilience (NZIWR) in 2020 and have continued that this year. Anxiety is a significant issue for teenagers and the world they inherit is complex. We wanted to create a robust model to give our girls the skills to positively manage their wellness and to live constructively in a community. With NZIWR's guidance, we have continued to embed strategies already practised in our school such as mindfulness, restorative practice, growth mindset, gratitude and active mentoring. Our staff are currently taking part in monthly NZIWR wellbeing personal development and we welcomed John Parsons, a cyber-safety expert, to school to work with our girls, teachers and parent community in April.

A lot of this good work was championed by Mr Marcelle Calitz, our former Director of Wellbeing who at the beginning of Term 2, took up a Principal's position in Queensland, Australia. We appointed Mrs Katharine Wood as Director of Wellbeing in May and the Diocesan Board and I are really excited to have appointed someone with such a deep understanding of current teenage behaviour to this position. As Director of Wellbeing, Katharine joins the Senior Management Team. She will be responsible for our school-wide wellbeing programme and will lead our Boarding and Dean teams. You can read more about Katharine on Page 9.

Word is spreading about the education and environment we provide here at Nga Tawa and we are seeing increasing levels of enquiry. Thank you for the positive stories you are sharing of your Nga Tawa experience. We have held two record Open Days so far in 2021 and look forward to further roll growth in 2022.

Lesley Carter

Principal

CarterLesley@ngatawa.school.nz

"We were fortunate to start the year with 20% roll growth and a full complement of teaching staff."



Board Talk

On behalf of the Board of Trustees and Diocesan Trust Board.

Before I sat down to write this, I went back through the weekly newsletters the school sends out every Wednesday celebrating our achievements. I was going to mention a few highlights, but it really is the after school stuff that puts the sparkle in our eyes, the dreams in our hearts and energy in our step that makes life so great. Nga Tawa is doing a great job at offering opportunity and based on the weekly newsletter, our girls are making the most of what we offer.

The Diocesan Board has had more meetings in the last year than normal as we navigated the challenges of COVID-19. The school is in a stable position but our Principal and Bursar continue to crunch numbers. The loss of income from international students is real but I'm pleased to report some of our alternative revenue streams like income from groups who hire our facilities during the holiday breaks is helping our bottom line.

Enrolment numbers and enquiry for places next year is extremely strong. Our students and families will always be our best advocates and I'd like to thank you for waving the Nga Tawa flag. The changes the school has made to how girls can attend Nga Tawa are all about providing what modern families want. We now have day students, two day boarders, weekly boarders and full boarders.

The Equestrian Academy is the heart of the school for many of our students. We have the largest onsite school equestrian centre in New Zealand, and it will continue to be one of our main points of difference. Towards the latter end of 2020, The Diocesan Board engaged the services of an external provider to do a full review of the Academy to ensure our service delivery model meets the strategic direction of Nga Tawa. Reviews have taken place over the years when we have made significant purchases, such as our horse truck and as new facilities have been built like the canter track and new arenas, but it was time to review the entire Academy model.

The review reiterated that Equestrian is the main sport we offer at Nga Tawa. To that end, the Equestrian Academy now comes under the strategic direction of the Director of Sport, Claire Horner, so that there can be one consistent set of policies and procedures across all sports at Nga Tawa. Operationally, it is business as usual down at the yards. Libby Rayner is still the Director of Equestrian and our existing resident coaches will continue in their remodelled positions.

Our new Multipurpose Track is a valuable asset to support the fitness and wellbeing of our school community. I'd like to thank the PFA and

Old Girls' Association for funding this initiative.

The offering of new Senior Scholarships is another exciting development at Nga Tawa. It is our hope this will continue to lift the overall sporting achievements at Nga Tawa.

On behalf of both school Boards, parents and I'm sure the girls, I would like to thank all our staff at Nga Tawa. We employ just over 80 staff and they all have important roles to play to ensure our school runs smoothly. Thank you for your commitment and support.

A special mention must go to our senior management team – Deputy Principal Curriculum and Director of Operations, Vicky Power; Director of Wellbeing, Katharine Wood, and our Bursar, Helen Campbell - all led by Lesley Carter. It is great having a team that works so well together. A team is only as good as its leader and Lesley is a great leader. The time and dedication she puts into guiding the school is very much appreciated.

I would like to thank my fellow Board members for the work they do on behalf of parents and the skills they bring to the table. Towards the end of 2020, we farewelled Mike Strang and welcomed Bill McDonald and **Heidi Sixtus (1988-1992)** onto the Diocesan Board. In June 2021, we farewelled Alison Watters, Bev Andrews and **Koo (Duncan) Greenway (1981-1985)**. **Heather Gee-Taylor (2010-2014)** and Scott Oliver have since joined. We also had a changing of the guard on the Board of Trustees with Dave Wilson stepping down as Chair. Dave was a fabulous Chair and we thank him for his commitment to Nga Tawa. David Green is our new Chair and we also welcomed Craig Taylor to the Board of Trustees.

I went onto the school website recently and was hit by a magnificent picture of four happy, smiling girls. Everyone says a picture paints 1000 words and that picture certainly did for me. Below the picture was the statement; "Made for Girls." Our marketing team have nailed it in one. Nga Tawa is Made for Girls. The next line on the website is, "Nga Tawa Diocesan School was founded in 1891 on a principle of empowering girls to achieve extraordinary outcomes in their lives beyond school." I believe our school has never been in a stronger position to achieve that 1891 principle of empowering our girls to achieve extraordinary outcomes in their lives beyond school.

Roger Dalrymple

Diocesan Trust Board Chair

DIOCESAN TRUST BOARD MEMBERS

Mr R Dalrymple, Chair
Mr C Bone
Mrs K Bryant
Mr M Chamberlain
Miss H Gee-Taylor
Mrs J Hornblow
Mr W McDonald
Mr S Oliver
Ms H Sixtus
Mrs H Campbell, Secretary

BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS

Mr D Green, Chair
Mrs L Carter
Mr M Chamberlain
Mr R Dalrymple
Ms H Sixtus
Mr C Taylor
Mr P Thomas
Mrs A Whitfield
Mrs H Campbell, Secretary
Mrs A Holland, Staff Rep
Miss S Lewis, Student Rep Terms 1-3



Staying Connected

With Nga Tawa and each other.

Sarah McVerry and Meredith Carpenter.



Welcome to the 2021 Calico Line – keeping you in touch with Nga Tawa and each other.

From the Old Girls.

Thank you to all the Old Girls who have stepped forward over the past few months to assist with our projects to re-open the chapel and adjust the structure of the Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association.

To recap, at our 2020 AGM the Diocesan Board gave us permission to begin investigating options to earthquake strengthen the chapel. We have a proposal from an engineer who is able to do this work and we are now working with management and the Board on next steps.

If at some point in the future a strengthening option is agreed, it would require a major fundraiser by the Old Girls' Association. So, we are also looking to change our association either into a charitable trust or incorporated society in order to receive donations and issue tax receipts. We are aiming to present motions on this at the 2021 AGM (5.30pm, Wednesday 22 September 2021.)

Many of you have emailed with useful contacts and information and some even picked up the phone offering to rally the troops when the time comes for raising funds. Thank you. Invariably everyone who has been in contact acknowledges our effort and makes a point of saying thank you. I think this gratitude is unique to our Nga Tawa Old Girl community and it certainly makes our job so much more satisfying.

It's time to single out some special individuals who have gone above and beyond in 2021. From moving and laying hundreds of bricks in the correct order, to whipping off to the dairy to grab biscuits because the President has invited Old Girls around for a cup of tea but has no food in her pantry (oops!) these are the women who also deserve your thanks.

Caroline (Crawford) Taylor secretary, NTOGA Exec

Stefanie (Crawford) White treasurer, NTOGA Exec

Nicki (Polson) Crowley, NTOGA Exec

Karen (Wilkes) Stothart, NTOGA Exec

Caroline (Pearce) Ridd, NTOGA Exec

Koo (Duncan) Greenway, NTOGA Exec + retiring Diocesan Board Trustee

Heather Gee-Taylor, NTOGA Exec + NTOGA Diocesan Board Trustee

Helen (Willis) Thomas, NTOGA Exec

Katie Gilmour, NTOGA Exec + NT Marketing & Communications Manager

Louise Sloman, NTOGA Exec

Fi (Grace) Dalgety, NTOGA Exec

Meredith (Collier) Carpenter, NTOGA Exec + Chapel Committee

Heidi Sixtus, NTOGA Exec, Chapel Committee, NTOGA Diocesan Board Trustee, BOT Trustee + Nga Tawa Trust Trustee

Penelope (Allen) Roberts, NTOGA Exec + Chapel Committee

Pip (Brown) McCarroll, Chapel Committee

Miranda Walkinton, Chapel Committee

Sally Patrick, Archivist and Old Girls' Liaison

Sarah (Willis) McVerry (1984-1988)

Old Girls' Association President

sarahmcverry@icloud.com

From the Parents and Friends.

2020 was an extraordinary year to say the least. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 implications, the majority of the usual marketing events that we help at, were cancelled. We were also unable to go ahead with a major fundraiser that we were in the early stages of planning.

All the uncertainty that Covid brought with it made planning an event too risky but we continued to meet when we could and all was not lost, as we were still able to support some exciting ventures that have come to fruition in early 2021.

We agreed to support the Old Girls with the new planting that has happened around the beautiful Commemorative Brick Wall and we also committed to substantially supporting the new multipurpose track that has been built around the school. The funds raised from our highly successful online auction in March 2021 have gone towards the completion of the track. We will also look to help finish off the brick wall project with some lighting this coming year.

We were thrilled to see the track officially opened in May, the same day as the Commemorative Brick Wall opening. It was such a wonderful day and a special gathering of Old Girls as well as Parents and Friends of the school. We hosted drinks and canapés afterwards alongside the Old Girls, which was such a successful event.

This is my fifth and final year as the PFA Chair, as my daughter Lilly is in her final year at Nga Tawa. It has been a privilege and honour to give back to the school that gave so much to me over 30 years ago. As an Old Girl, Nga Tawa is very dear to me, as it is to my husband, Andrew, and my three daughters who have been so lucky to attend. It is time to pass on the baton, so to speak, at the end of the year, but I will continue supporting the school on the Old Girls' Executive.

Meredith (Collier) Carpenter (1985-1989)

PFA Chair

mers.carpie@xtra.co.nz





Inspire to Aspire

The 2021 Year 13 pledge.

Kiaora koutou kātoa.

Our Year 13 Nga Tawa cohort develops a school pledge every year. It outlines the purpose behind what we aim to do as leaders, and what we will strive to achieve within the school community. Our pledge for 2021 is: "Inspire to Aspire."

As a year group, we looked into what it means to inspire people and how we can encourage aspirational thinking. We came up with three areas that complement our school values and mature our pledge theme.

The first goal we have for the girls is to inspire them to break glass ceilings. After all, our school was founded in 1891 on a principle of empowering girls to achieve extraordinary outcomes in their lives beyond school. 130 years later, we still live in a male-dominated world and will all find moments where we must strive to move gender disparity. This aspect of our pledge will cover all the bases of feminism in and after school.

Next, we see a great importance in aspiring to be healthy. This means mentally, physically, spiritually but also, environmentally. We have constant support here at school but, as the leaders of the future, we want our girls to look beyond themselves and become changemakers and individuals who support the health of others. Our work on this facet of the pledge will assist lives outside of our own.

Lastly, we aspire to serve. Working as part of a team is a vital

skill needed throughout life. Here at Nga Tawa, we have a great culture for developing this, in our boarding houses, house groups, teams and games. However, our pledged plan to extend this culture will grow our compassion, wisdom, and gratitude. We believe our school community has much to offer and we will create deeper connections with our local and international communities through volunteer work. We have already seen evidence of this with fantastic support of our blood bank drive, our House Charity initiatives and our Unicef fundraiser and Women's Refuge fundraisers.

Some of you may be curious about the attire I wore when I presented our pledge to the school earlier in the year. The cloak that I'm pictured in is called a Kahu-Kiwi (Kākahu) and it is significant to Maori culture. They were used for warming our ancestors and today they are used to continue the sacred skill of weaving and celebrate excellence. I was very privileged to be loaned one from Veranoa Hetet. Veranoa and her mother, Erenora Puketapu-Hetet, are extremely accomplished in their skill. Made with over 10,000 naturally fallen kiwi feathers, Kākahu is crafted with an extreme amount of patience and thought. It was a very special moment to be helped into it by my mother, Raelene Lord (Ngati Tūwharetoa), and affirm our 2021 pledge, 'Inspire to Aspire,' before the school community that I'm honoured to lead this year.

Jessica Lord
Head Girl



2021 Student Leadership Team

Back row: **Jade Larkan** (Head of Sprott), **Samantha Nicholson** (Head Scholar), **Anna Green** (Head of Humanities)

Front row: **Jessica Lord** (Head Girl), **Harriet Whitfield** (Head of Sport), **Tahlia Harvey** (Head of Chapel), **Ashley Hanegraaf** (Head of Birch), **Delta Smit** (Head of Barker), **Hannah Wickens** (Head of Studholme), **Lilly Carpenter** (Head of Equestrian), **Milla Walton-France** (Deputy Head Girl)

Introducing our new Director of Wellbeing

Mrs Katharine Wood.



Gareth and Katharine Wood with their daughters, Amelia and Maisie.

Following the departure of Mr Marcelle Calitz, who took up a Principal position in Queensland Australia, at the beginning of Term 2, Mrs Katharine Wood was appointed as the new Director of Wellbeing in May.

Mrs Wood is an Educational Psychologist and has been working part time at Nga Tawa as the school counsellor for the past five years.

As Director of Wellbeing, Katharine joins the Senior Management Team. She will be responsible for the school-wide wellbeing programme and will lead the Nga Tawa boarding and dean teams.

While working at Nga Tawa, she has continued to work alongside universities and the Ministry of Education to support teaching and pastoral practice in schools and has kept abreast of current educational research.

Prior to working at Nga Tawa, Katharine worked at the Ministry of Education liaising with schools to identify areas that support and hinder student learning; developed policy and practice in education systems and worked with staff to build capacity and supported behaviour management.

We are very fortunate to have someone with Katharine's

experience on staff and the Diocesan Board and Lesley were very excited to appoint someone with such a deep understanding of current teenage behaviour to this position.

Katharine has extensive knowledge of school-wide pastoral systems and is excited this will be the focus of her new position.

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working in the role of school counsellor, where I've supported students at an individual level to help them overcome challenges.

"Working at a school-wide level is a role I feel very passionate about, as I can make a difference for all students, not just a few. Research and evidence indicate a strong connection between student wellbeing and academic learning outcomes. We know how important wellbeing is for all students, so I look forward to working with the wider school community to grow Nga Tawa's wellbeing."

Katharine currently lives at Huntley School with her husband Gareth and their two daughters, Amelia (10) and Maisie (6), where Gareth is Deputy Headmaster. The girls are hoping that when they move onsite to Nga Tawa in Term 3, they may finally get to ride a horse!

Academic Excellence

100% - we did it again!

In 2020, our girls achieved a 100% pass rate at Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3. 100% of those Year 13 students achieved University Entrance. We're incredibly proud of our girls and our staff, especially in such a challenging year.

We awarded 12 academic ties at our Academic Awards in February, acknowledging students who have attained an Excellence endorsement for two consecutive years.

The top five academic students in Years 10-13 are selected annually to join the Scholars' Society. These students are identified as priority learners and often accelerated in their learning programmes. Members also take part in scholars' outings and extra-curricular activities such as running homework clubs for local primary schools, theatre trips and quizzes. Our 2021 highest academic achievers are this year led by Head Scholar, **Samantha Nicholson**.



Back row: **Jessica Lord, Anna Green**

Middle row: **Milla Walton-France, Samantha Nicholson, Sophia Lewis, Georgia Taylor, Rena Hirano, Harriet Whitfield, Ashleigh Hanegraaf**

Front row: **Hannah Wickens, Ema Rokuroda, Kenzie Genet**

Alice in Wonderland

What a show.

Our year 10, year 11 and year 12 drama students performed 'Alice in Wonderland' at the end of Term 1. The Lewis Carroll classic was adapted by our drama teacher, Mrs Joy Martell, and the girls put on a superb show. It was great to see lots of local families with young children in attendance.



Founders' Day

'Toy Story' themed fun.

This year Nga Tawa turned 130 and our Year 13's put on a fabulous Founders' Day celebration. The day kicked off with a themed breakfast, the afternoon was filled with activities on the field and everyone came together that evening for Chapel and dinner. Founders' Day is still steeped in tradition - the Head Girl and youngest student, **Isabella Li**, cut our birthday cake, staff dressed as students and our new Year 9's were welcomed into the Old Girls' Association.



Birch were crowned 2021
Synchro winners with their
Mambo No. 5 routine.



130 Years of Nga Tawa

To celebrate we opened our new multi-purpose track and cut the ribbon on our Commemorative Brick Wall.



Friday 14 May was a day to remember. Our new multi-purpose track was opened, the Cross Country was run and the Commemorative Brick Wall was unveiled to mark our 130th anniversary.

Our thanks to Dr Mike Paki, Te Rūnanga O Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa, for blessing the track and **Meredith (Collier) Carpenter (1985-1989)**, PFA Chair, for cutting the ribbon. The multi-purpose track was championed by our Director of Sport, Claire Horner, and

special mention must be made of Graeme O'Fee, a member of our grounds team, who did much of the construction work.

After Cross Country, Reverend Tim Duxfield and Reverend Kim Duxfield then blessed our Commemorative Brick Wall and the Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association President, **Sarah (Willis) McVerry (1984-1988)**, together with Old Girl, **Elizabeth (Allen) Macky (1941-1946)**, cut the ribbon.



1985 Head Girl, Koo (Duncan) Greenway, 1984 Head Girl, Nicky (Abraham) Reeves and 1987 Head Girl, Phoebe (Tamahori) Fulton.



Elizabeth (Allen) Macky and Sarah (Willis) McVerry.



Reverends Kim and Tim Duxfield.

The wall, which is between the swimming pool and the chapel, is a stunning addition to the Nga Tawa grounds and will gradually fill with the names of Nga Tawa leavers over the coming years. Thank you to the many people involved in its creation. Special mention to wall designer and landscaper, Richie Fleury, Old Girl **Sam Rollinson (2011-2015)** for the original concept design, Murray Durston (bricklaying) and Nick Beauchamp (engraving).

Afterwards, we all gathered in the Celebration Centre for drinks and canapés courtesy of the Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association and Nga Tawa PFA.

We sincerely thank you all for your contributions to both these fundraising projects and extend a warm welcome to call into school any time you are passing to find your name on the wall or view the track.

Your Association Update

Keeping you in touch.

Kia ora koutou e te whanau,
Warm greetings to you all from
Nga Tawa Diocesan School
Archives and your Old Girls'
Liaison.

The 2020/2021 year has
proved sometimes disruptive,
occasionally exhilarating, with
some unexpected changes
in Archives/Old Girls Liaison
priorities.

Connecting with you is hugely important.

First and foremost, the post COVID-19 lockdown shift in focus
has meant connecting with you all a lot more, in as many ways
as possible, is a priority. We've been touching base by phone,
especially if you're from our 1940's and 1950's year groups; and
connecting with you via social media. We now have email contact
with over 50% of living Old Girls, and we're aiming to increase this
engagement year on year.

We're creating the best conditions possible for our Archives, and making as much as possible accessible.

As reported previously, we continue to purchase quality
conservation storage boxes for our important historic documents
and our 1500+ photograph collection. Our ever-expanding
collection of Nga Tawa images dates back to the early 20th century
- most of it kindly donated by Old Girls - and we're ensuring
any potential deterioration is restricted by providing quality
storage and limited handling. This year, we've continued to work
methodically through our oldest photographs and scanning
them. Next we're aiming to upload them onto a web-based
platform to guarantee both ease of access for in-house study, and
preservation.



Sally Patrick

I'd like to honour some of our past pupils.

We were saddened late last year to report the death of **Margaret (Mace) Barns (1931-1935)**, who at 105 had been our oldest living Old Girl. You can read more about Margaret on Page 27.

The mantle of Nga Tawa's oldest Old Girl has now been passed
to **Lois (Miles) Bowie (1932-1935)**, an incredibly sprightly and
independent 103-year-old Sprottie, living in Wellington.

In last year's Calico Line (2020), we suggested you watch out for
the memoir of the truly remarkable **Elizabeth Orr (CNZM) (1944-1946)**, 'Pay Packets and Stone Walls', published that year by Steele
Roberts. Sadly, Elizabeth died earlier this year at the age of 91. We
are proud to remember her significant, ongoing contribution to
the campaign for pay equity for women in New Zealand. Elizabeth
was Victoria University's first female Chancellor (1991-1995) and
contributed to the formation of the National Advisory Council
for the Employment of Women. She was a member of the Equal
Opportunity Tribunal, and between 1975 and 1978 she served on
the Equal Pay Committee. More recently, Elizabeth contributed to
the legal arguments for the ground-breaking 2014 pay equality case
(Terranova Homes & Care Limited v Service and Food Workers Union
Nga Ringa Tota Incorporated). She was awarded an honorary Doctor
of Literature by the Victoria University Council in 1997.

Highlights of 2020/2021.

53 years ago in 1968, Benjamin Britten's rendition of Balulalow was
performed by the Nga Tawa School Choir, and recorded at the time
onto 45 rpm vinyl. This year, we digitised that recording specifically
for a sad and special Old Girl occasion, which also allowed us to
test the quality of future digital conversions. I have the file stored
close at hand on my desktop so that the soaring notes of soloist
Joanna Willis (1964-1968), can regularly waft down the corridor
outside the Archives Room, bringing 1968 magically alive. Thanks
to the work of our in-house IT whizz, Paul Manning, the digital file
captures perfectly the exquisite range of this ancient Scottish carol
and cradle song, the talent of both Joanna as a soloist, and the
School Choir in general.

The completion and recent launch of the Nga Tawa Commemorative Wall represents the culmination of four years of hard work, led by current NTOGA President, Sarah McVerry. Congratulations Sarah for this significant, resonant touchstone for the school.

A plea to those in touch with our global Old Girls.

If you have a friend who is one of our global Old Girls, please get them to contact us either through the Nga Tawa Old Girls' Facebook page or by emailing me at patrickssally@ngatawa.school.nz. Once we have their email details, they'll receive the digital link to Calico Line each year. It's really important to us that no one

misses out.

As always, heart-felt thanks to all of you who have engaged with and supported Nga Tawa Archives and the Liaison office this last year. We couldn't do without you! Please keep emailing, messaging, phoning and visiting.

Ngā mihi nui.

Sally Patrick

Archivist and Old Girls' Liaison
patrickssally@ngatawa.school.nz
027 200 6163

Scholarships

Empower tomorrow's women.

One of the major focuses for our Nga Tawa Old Girls' Association is to assist young girls to be the best they can be through the opportunities offered at Nga Tawa – the opportunities many of us benefited from.

We are indebted to the generous supporters of our school that make this possible. You too can help deserving girls like **Keira**, **Matilda**, and **Libby** to reach their potential, by contributing to our scholarships fund.

Due to a generous donation made recently by Alan and **Wendy (Dasent) Willis (1957-1961)**, and the ongoing support the

Old Girls' Association give the school, we are able to offer three new scholarships in 2022. Two Nga Tawa Diocesan School Old Girls' Association Performing Arts scholarships and one Nga Tawa Diocesan School Old Girls' Association Sport scholarship are available to Year 9 students. To find out more about these scholarships, please visit ngatawa.school.nz/scholarships.

If you'd like to contribute or to learn more, please email NTOGA President, Sarah McVerry, at sarahmcverry@icloud.com or Sally Patrick; patrickssally@ngatawa.school.nz.



Keira McLeish



Matilda Howard



Libby Fussell

AGM Wednesday 22 September, 5.30pm

All Old Girls are invited to attend our AGM on Wednesday 22 September at 5.30pm. Please join us for dinner and drinks in the small dining room at Nga Tawa. RSVP to patrickssally@ngatawa.school.nz before Friday 17 September 2021.



Old Girl, **Patricia Keiller (1952-1955)**, has gifted two pieces of artwork to the school. They are paintings by her relation Lydia Larden, the maiden name of Ethel Birch.

In 1874 in England, Ethel married William John Birch of Erewhon and Thoresby in New Zealand. Birch House is of course named after the Birch family.

When Ethel and William returned to England in 1885 for a short time, Ethel painted prolifically. She signed all her artwork by her maiden name, 'Lydia Larden'.

Head of Birch, **Ashley Hanegraaf**, and Birch House Dean, Mrs Joy Martell, were honoured to receive these paintings from Patricia on behalf of the school at a school assembly in June.

In the Family



L-R: **Natalie Bone, Matilda Howard, Lilly Carpenter, Kelly Corbett, Ivy Roberts, Missy Roberts, Samantha Nicholson, Issy Taylor, Georgia Taylor.**
Absent: **Brya Drumm, Skyla Caldwell, Briar Nicholson, Annabella Tompkins, Claudia Younger.**

Daughters of Old Girls

Natalie Bone	Catherine McLean (1975-1979)	Barker
Lilly Carpenter	Meredith Collier (1985-1989)	Birch
Skyla Caldwell	Laura Burns (1998-2001)	Barker
Kelly Corbett	Jeannine Roygard (1981-1984)	Sprott
Matilda Howard	Charlotte Stanford (1977-1980)	Birch
Briar Nicholson	Pauline Wyley (1985-1989)	Sprott
Samantha Nicholson	Pauline Wyley (1985-1989)	Sprott
Ivy Roberts	Penelope Allen (1984-1988)	Studholme
Missy Roberts	Penelope Allen (1984-1988)	Studholme
Georgia Taylor	Caroline Crawford (1986-1990)	Studholme
Issy Taylor	Caroline Crawford (1986-1990)	Studholme
Claudia Younger	Jacinda Younger (1989-1993)	Barker

Granddaughters of Old Girls

Brya Drumm	Jan Benson (1959-1962)	Birch
Georgia Taylor	Jillian Dawson (1960-1964)	Studholme
Issy Taylor	Jillian Dawson (1960-1964)	Studholme
Annabella Tompkins	Felicity Faris (1942-1946)	Birch

Great Granddaughters of Old Girls

Briar Nicholson	Ula Ramsey (1929-1930)	Sprott
Samantha Nicholson	Ula Ramsey (1929-1930)	Sprott

80 years on

Elizabeth Macky.

Elizabeth as Cleopatra (in white) in the Nga Tawa production of Caesar & Cleopatra, 1943.



Elizabeth (Allen) Macky (1941-1946) at 92 is one of our oldest living Old Girls and did us the pleasure of cutting the ribbon to open the Commemorative Brick Wall at the unveiling in May. During her visit, she shared some stories about her life at Nga Tawa 80 years ago and what life has looked like since.

ELIZABETH

I remember an Aunt taking me down to Nga Tawa from Auckland as a 12-year-old girl. I was wearing the school uniform I'd worn to my boarding school in England – a grey overcoat, grey skirt, everything grey. I sure stood out against the sea of Nga Tawa brown, but it was wartime, and you didn't buy a new uniform until you'd grown out of your old one. I think I must have worn the grey for at least a year.

My mother and I had recently returned to New Zealand from England via ship. My father was in the military and was stationed there. Prior to living in England, we had lived in Morrinsville, well before Jacinda's time, and I'd been born in Samoa. My father was Administrator of the colony of Western Samoa (now Samoa).

There were about 150 girls at Nga Tawa when I was there, and I can't remember if I knew anyone on that first day of school or not. But I do remember there being several other girls from Auckland who I'd make the 15-hour Auckland-Martton train journey with, a couple of times a year. We'd roll into the Martton station bleary eyed at 4am in the morning. Life was different then, there were

scarce petrol supply and because of it, limited seats on trains. Someone must have talked them into taking us schoolgirls.

I have fond memories of how nice everyone was. There was no bullying or meanness. The teachers were excellent, although many of them left to go to war. The threat of war was always very real. We kept emergency packs under our beds in case the Japanese came. We'd practise escape drills and dig trenches.

My education had been very good in the UK and it meant my concentration easily waned at Nga Tawa. I was often in trouble and I was told more than once that I'd be expelled if my father wasn't away winning the war. So, while I wasn't a Prefect in my final year, I did have an affiliation with the Chapel and was a proud Chapel Prefect. It really is a beautiful building.

I guess you could say I was a thespian. I was cast as Cleopatra in the 1943 Nga Tawa production of Caesar and Cleopatra. **Barbara (Herrick) Gordon (1940-1943)** was Caesar. I didn't have the opportunity to act in another school production. I'm not sure why it was a one-off.

I'd ridden at school in England and the fact that Nga Tawa had horses was part of the reason I wanted to go. Or should I say, how I was enticed to go. Unfortunately, riding had been suspended due to the war and I never saw a horse during my time there.

While our school outings were few and far between, we did have



sports days and often swam in the murky brown swimming pool which was never clear. My parents visited me twice in the six years I was at Nga Tawa. That wasn't unusual during that time, just a far cry from the series of celebratory events you have now.

Sadly, my mother passed away in my final year of school and so I returned to Morrinsville to run the house for my father once I finished. I guess it could have been an option for me to pursue further study but in those days, girls weren't expected to sit University Entrance. In saying that, we did have three very bright girls in my year group who went on to have extraordinary careers; **Alison (Souter) Quentin-Baxter (1945-1946)**, **Elizabeth (Entrician) Orr (1944-1946)** and **Rosamund Robertshawe (1944-1946)**.

One evening, a few years after I had left school, I was at a party in Auckland, and I met a man named Warwick Macky. I said to him, "I'm Elizabeth Allen, you don't know me." He said, "yes actually, I do. I have a photo of you at a wedding in England." He was a surgeon and had been in England specialising in urology and sitting his Fellowship of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons (FRCS). He was right, we'd been at the same wedding. We were married in 1951 and I've spent the 70 years since in Auckland. We have four children: Peter, Rebecca, Josephine, and Sarah.

It has been a long time since I've been back to Nga Tawa, maybe 30 years. Everything looks much the same, just more buildings and less macrocarpas! It was special to be a part of Nga Tawa's 130th celebrations and see the school through the eyes of my great-grand cousins, **Ivy Roberts (2021-)** and **Missy Roberts (2021-)**, who are current students. I know they will make life-long friends, as I did, and their mother, **Penelope (Allen) Roberts (1984-1988)**, did. I've shared many special memories with the ladies I went to school with, but sadly our numbers are dwindling. It is just **Cynthia (Kenrick) Brown (1944-1946)** and I left to enjoy a glass of wine but enjoy it we do.

Penelope (Allen) Roberts (1984-1988), Missy Roberts, Ivy Roberts and Elizabeth (Allen) Macky (1941-1946).

"It has been a long time since I've been back to Nga Tawa, maybe 30 years. Everything looks much the same, just more buildings and less macrocarpas! It was special to be a part of Nga Tawa's 130th celebrations..."



Calling the shots

*Isabella Wassilieff
and Hannah Williams.*

In 2018, they were co-captains of the Nga Tawa 1st XI Hockey team. This year, Old Girls Isabella Wassilieff (2015-2019) and Hannah Williams (2014-2018) find themselves back at school, but now they're the ones calling the shots. Issy is the new coach of the 1st XI and Hannah has taken charge of the 2nd XI.

ISSY

Nga Tawa's HOD PE and Health, Mrs Nicole Thompson, and I play Manawatu club hockey together for High School Old Girls. She mentioned that Nga Tawa was on the lookout for a new 1st XI Coach this year and planted the seed that I should apply. I rang Hannah and told her there was also a 2nd XI coaching role going and strongly encouraged her to look into it. I thought that after playing together all those years, it would be cool if we could both put what we're studying

into action and be involved in developing hockey at Nga Tawa.

I coached the Junior Pent team when I was in Year 13. That's when I decided I quite liked coaching and thought I might like to pursue a career in Sport and Exercise. Since then, I've decided I want to be a PE teacher.

University has been quite a shock to the system. The support you get from teachers at Nga Tawa is amazing, and it took me awhile to adjust to having to fend for myself! I look back and think I would never have

Issy Wassilieff and Hannah Williams.

achieved so much if I didn't go to Nga Tawa (Issy is one of just three students to receive a Nga Tawa Blues Award and had academic and sports ties regained. She was also Head of Sprott). We lived such busy lives. I played a lot of hockey, but I also represented New Zealand at archery and school was great at working around my sporting commitments.

While my two sisters aren't overly sporty, all three of us did archery growing up. **Antonia Wassilieff (2010-2014)**, **Victoria Wassilieff (2012-2016)** and I introduced lots of Nga Tawa girls to the sport of archery which is pretty cool. I'm having a break at the moment due to a spine injury, but I do hope to get back into it.

I'm really enjoying coaching girls I went to school with. Those in the team that are Year 11 and older were there when I was, and I know them really well. I played alongside the likes of our Captain **Harriet Whitfield (2017-2021)** for three years, both at school and in a club team.

I think coaching has helped me with my own game. I'm a lot more conscious of what I'm doing on the field and it's definitely made me a more knowledgeable player.

We have set some goals for the year. We have a young team and there is lots to learn, but I'm excited for the future. We want to make Top 3 in our Div 1 Manawatu Competition. Whatever happens, it's great to be able to give back to a school that gave me so much.

The 1st XI Hockey train at the Rangitikei College turf on Thursdays and the Massey University turf on Sunday afternoons. They play at the Palmerston North twin turfs in the Div 1 Manawatu competition on Tuesday evenings.

HANNAH

Even though Issy is a year younger than me, everyone thinks she's older. She's taller, louder, and bossier. But she's been like a little sister to me ever since I took her under my wing on her first day of year 9. We'd seen each other around the hockey turf, and I may have even messaged her to say, "I hear you're coming to Nga Tawa," or something along those lines. She had two older sisters at school, and I figured it was a given. We spent the next four years playing in the 1st XI together and were co-captains in my final year.

Issy is a born coach really. She is very organised, obviously a talented athlete and she's always been pretty good at telling people what to do! She told me she was going to have a crack at the 1st XI job and suggested I put my name forward to coach the 2nd XI.

"I coached the Junior Pent team when I was in year 13. That's when I decided I quite liked coaching and thought I might like to pursue a career in Sport and Exercise. Since then, I've decided I want to be a PE teacher."

Isabella Wassilieff

It's only been three years, but it feels like a lifetime ago I was at Nga Tawa. My mum, **Rachel (Beilby) Williams (1989-1993)**, went to Nga Tawa and I was always going to go there too. I got my love of hockey from Mum too, but these days you're more likely to find her with a golf club in her hand.

The best thing Nga Tawa did for me was teach me the importance of structuring my day and developing good habits - I'm much more organised because of it! I'm currently in my third year at Massey University studying a Bachelor of Sport and Exercise. I'm majoring in Sport Development and am trying to get as much experience as possible under my belt before I graduate at the end of the year.

Hockey is obviously my passion and I'd like to pursue a career in sport event management. I'm working for Hockey Manawatu at the moment and helping out with their kickstart to hockey and holiday programmes. I also play for Marist and I am a club hockey umpire.

I actually helped out with coaching the Nga Tawa 2nd XI two years ago in my first year out of school. This season it's a little bit different as it's just me in charge but it's been really rewarding watching them grow each week and having a hand in that. A lot of the girls are new to the game and I'm focusing on improving their skills and building their confidence. I hope by the end of the season, they love the game as much as I do.

The 2nd XI Hockey train at the Massey University turf on Sunday afternoons. They play at the Palmerston North twin turfs in a 7-a-side competition on Monday evenings.

News and Celebrations



Congratulations to **Julia Marshall (1975-1980)** who was awarded the 2021 Storylines Margaret Mahy Award for her contribution to children's literature. We've always been immensely proud of Julia's massive contribution to children's literature and literacy. Her company, Gecko Press, has the coolest books for kids. An honour rightly deserved.

Deanne (Lennox) McKean (2002-2006) and her Little Lunches business has this year joined the Ka Ora, Ka Ako - Healthy Lunches in Schools Programme, funded by the government. The programme strives to make sure every kiwi kid in need gets a healthy, wholesome, substantial lunch. Deanne and Little Lunches feed an entire Christchurch school every day.



In February, **Anna McConachy (2001-2005)** completed the Coast to Coast for the second time in just over 15 and a half hours. Her 243km effort earned her 11th place in the open women category. She talked of retirement afterwards, but has competed in a number of multisport events since.

Three Nga Tawa Old Girls were named in the 2021 Tokyo Olympic Rowing Team (that's 10% of the team!). Congratulations to **Kerri Gowler (2007-2011)**, **Jackie Gowler (2010-2014)** and **Georgia Nugent O'Leary (2010-2014)**. Georgia was the guest speaker at the 2020 Nga Tawa Sports Prize Giving and shared the story of her two year journey back into the NZ elite squad after 18 months battling concussion following a nasty bike crash during training. Her story was one of courage, resilience and sheer determination. Her advice to current students was to pursue your dreams despite the setbacks because they will ultimately make you stronger. And her simple message was to tell yourself, "you can".

Fiona (Duncan) Turner (1995-1999) owns and runs Jingle Creek Vineyard in Tasmania, Australia. Not only does she produce beautiful Pinot but her quest to make her vineyard smarter has boomed into a global AgTech startup. With a background in deep tech, innovation and product development, it was Fiona's destiny to combine her passion for technology and love for wine. The result? Bitwise Agronomy. Their technology provides viticulturists with ground truthing imagery and analysis tools to guide vineyard management decisions. Fiona and her team have just picked up an award at the Women in AI Awards, a global community of women experts and influencers of women in artificial intelligence, as well as three awards at the Launceston Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards.

Casey-Mae Waddell (2012-2014), who has previously made headlines for her hockey success, is now trying her hand at the racing game. For the past nine months she has been in Australia doing her jockey apprenticeship under the famous trainer, Chris Waller. She is now based in Tamworth and rides at races up to four days a week. She has ridden 26 winners (at the time of printing, it's bound to have risen by now) and got her first double at the Grafton Races (where she won two races in the same meet).

Three recent Old Girls and graduates of the Nga Tawa Outdoor Education programme, **Meg Thomas (2016-2020)**, **Emma Slaney (2015-2019)** and **Emma Titchner (2018-2019)**, are now flatting together in New Plymouth and working at Taranaki Outdoor Pursuits and Education Centre (TOPEC). They often see our current Nga Tawa students, leading them for outdoor education modules and on school camps.

Meredith (Collier) Carpenter (1985-1989), her husband Andrew and their family did a great job in the recent TVNZ Sunday feature on the NZ wool industry. It aired just in time for the launch of their Ruanui Station lamb's wool blankets and throws. If you haven't bought one for winter already, check out ruanuistation.co.nz.



Georgia Walford (2011-2015) this year received her Commercial Pilot Licence and passed her C-Category flight instruction course. Georgia is just finishing her instrument rating training at the New Zealand International Commercial Pilot Academy in Whanganui to complete her Diploma in Aviation.

Towards the end of 2020, **Julian (Morris) Jensen (1958-1961)** paid a visit to Nga Tawa and the school kitchen that she designed



1985: **Virginia (Giblin) Kilmister (1981-1985), Fi (Grace) Dalgety (1981-1985), Pattie (Groves) O'Boyle (1981-1985), Anna Lennox (1982-1985) and Nic (Marshall) Symes (1981-1985).**

Our thoughts are with the royal family after the passing of Prince Philip. Hundreds of girls have been part of D of E at Nga Tawa over the decades, and the expeditions are remembered fondly by Old Girls (and staff). Some Old Girls were lucky enough to have their Gold Award presented by a member of the royal family, even HRH Prince Philip himself, as these girls did in 1985 and 1995.



1995: **Caroline Peacock (1991-1995), Anna (Ludbrook) Gatie (1991-1995), Victoria (Jack) d'Avanzo (1991-1995) and Mrs Yvonne Hartley.**

We still offer the Duke of Edinburgh Hillary Award at Nga Tawa. Our Year 10 students have begun their Bronze award this term and we have a group of Gold participants planning a trip to Abel Tasman at the end of the year. Congratulations to **Harriet Roper (2011-2015)** who received her Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award from Governor General, Dame Patsy Reddy, in May.

as a gift to the school, back in the early 1990's. Julian, who is a former registered dietitian and University of Otago tutor, is an honorary life member of Dietitians New Zealand and a recipient of the Association's Award of Excellence. She has designed a number of institutional large scale kitchens for healthcare and other organisations in New Zealand and in her hometown of Christchurch. She was thrilled to hear Nga Tawa catering manager, Bruce Allardice, say the kitchen has stood the test of time and is working as well as the day it was unveiled.

Dr Emma Coddington (1985-1987) is an Associate Professor of Neuroscience at Willamette University in Oregon and a member of the Biology Department and the Women and Gender Studies Programme. Emma can accurately be called a neuroethologist, whose research examines stress and love in amphibians and people. She and her co-creators (students in lab and classes) bring a broad set of lenses to this field of study including neuroscience, biophysics, physiology, race and gender theory, group theory, sociology and psychology, art and emotional literacies, and cultural competencies. She has pursued questions about how the brain and body interact in response to stress, and the mechanisms that lead to decision-making and stress-resilience since her undergraduate years at the University of Otago. She now combines her passion for teaching and research as a teacher-scholar-citizen at Willamette University where she teaches courses in physiology, neuroscience, and the interface between neuroscience, critical feminist and queer theory, physiology, evolution, and sociology.

Holly Antrobus (2015-2018) recently featured in a Women in Trades publication profiling her career path to becoming a qualified mechanic. She is an apprentice technician at Toyota, a role she has been in for almost a year. Holly left school and went straight to UCOL to begin a year-long pre-apprenticeship

course in automotive engineering. She was inspired to choose an automotive trade by her grandfather, who owns a vintage car collection. Her future career goals include being the boss of her own workshop with female technicians!

Lisa Frew (2011-2015), a shepherd at Weeping Hill Farm near Raetihi, spent the first three months of 2021 walking the entire length of the South Island in memory of her late father. She documented her trip on Facebook, posting lots of beautiful photos and tales of her travels.

Sisters, **Mary (Metcalf) McQuay (1952-1954)** and **Florence (Metcalf) Rattray (1952-1953)** recently updated their contact details. Mary lives in Stratford, Florence lives in Otorohanga. Mary's son-in-law and ex-All Black, Kieran Crowley, has recently been just named Italy rugby coach.

Anthea Goodwin (1946-1947) sadly passed away last year at aged 89. She had been become a real identity in Mangonui in the far north during the 35 years she had lived there. She was actively involved in community planting and gardening days and in 2012, she received a Far North District Council Citizen's Award for her long involvement in environmental causes. The citation noted that she had covenanted part of her Kohumaru property, and set aside land at Berghan Point and the Tokerau dunes for conservation, planted trees at Cooper's Beach, recorded dotterels and trapped possums. She was also involved with Project Island Song, which aims to create a wildlife sanctuary on pest-free islands in the Bay of Islands. In 2015, she helped reintroduce 40 rare saddleback birds to Urupukapuka and Moturua Islands.

Shona (Hobson) de Lautour (1948-1953) has just reached 84 and is still enjoying nine holes of golf every Wednesday morning. She and her busy farmer husband, Bay, have 17 great grandchildren to help keep them on their toes.

Cherry Hankin (1949-1955) recently got in touch with our Old Girls' Liaison. It seems what she learned at Nga Tawa from Miss Barbara Bruce shaped the course of her life.

What I owe to Miss Barbara Bruce by Cherry Hankin

I was a boarder at Nga Tawa from the age of 11 to 17. I think that Latin with Miss Bruce started in the 4th form, but it may have been the 3rd. She was an excellent teacher and I enjoyed the subject enough to continue with it through to University Entrance. My father did not believe that women should be highly educated and was loath to let me proceed to university. However, I was one of Miss Bruce's star pupils and she, being a very strong-minded woman before whom many quailed, persuaded my father to allow me to study for a B.A. at the University of Otago. There I majored in both Latin and English, with Latin being my best subject. Against my father's wishes, but forced by him to move to Victoria University of Wellington, I did an M.A. in English. This was followed by postgraduate teacher's training and two years teaching at Onehunga High school in Auckland. In 1960, Latin was still widely taught in schools and I taught Latin to several forms, one pupil being Vivienne Gray who went on to become a Professor of Classics at the University of Auckland.

Thereafter I spent several years overseas, including two years teaching Latin (among other subjects) at a school in Montreal. But having decided to obtain a Ph.D. in English literature, I enrolled as a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley. At that time, in order to qualify for admission to the English literature Ph.D. program there, one first had to pass a Latin reading knowledge exam. In my year I was the only one to pass and when the others discovered my background, the complaints were such that another, easier exam was set for them. Remarkably, Professor Jock Anderson who had taught me Latin at Otago, was by then a Professor Classics at Berkeley and along with his New Zealand family, became a good friend.

Eventually I returned to New Zealand with a career as a lecturer (later Reader/Associate Professor) in English literature at the University of Canterbury. Undoubtedly, none of this would have happened without Miss Bruce's excellent Latin teaching and her intervention with my father. Apart from starting me on my career path, Latin has contributed enormously to my enjoyment of life. It has helped give me an analytical mind, a lifelong love of words and their derivations, and a continuing interest in the language and culture of the Romans and their contribution to Western civilization. And also a love of Italy which I have visited several times.

I was able to visit Miss Bruce in her retirement at Papamoa and thank her in person.

Dr Cherry Hankin (1949-1955)

Dr Cherry Hankin, BA, Otago (1958); MA (Victoria, 1959); PhD ((Berkeley). Prev. Associate Professor of English, Canterbury University. Biographer of Katherine Mansfield, and editor of various editions of Mansfield's works.

While at Canterbury, Cherry married Professor John Garrett but chose to keep her maiden name.

Nga Tawa Reunions

Friends for life.

CLASS OF 1958 CATCH UP IN CHRISTCHURCH.

Ten ladies from the third form class of 1958 gathered in Christchurch for their biennial reunion weekend in February. The weekend was convened by **Mary Miles** and **Julian (Morris) Jensen** and in attendance were **CeCe (Train) Jull**, **Dinny (Allan) Pearce**, **Honor (Carrick-Robertson) Kemp**, **Jilly (Neild) Kennedy**, **Rae (Blade) Sprinz**, **Sue Shand**, **Vicky (Perry) Duncan** and **Jeanette (Cameron) Goodwin**.

Their programme included:

- Court Theatre production of Roger Hall's "Winding Up"
- Ferry from Lyttelton to Diamond Harbour
- Sightseeing in the city of Christchurch
- Lovely café lunches

But most importantly, there was plenty of time to chat and reminisce. The ladies spent Saturday afternoon and evening at Mary's in Sumner, where they relaxed and enjoyed each other's company over a glass or two of bubbles and nibbles. **Miria Pomare (1984-1988)** popped in to say hi and they were thrilled to see her.

That evening, Mary and Ju cooked dinner and one of the lovely things they did over dinner was play the LP record of the Nga Tawa Choir, recorded in 1961. Rae was one of the soloists.

But the poignancy of the recording was not lost on them, and they enjoyed reliving those hymns they sang in Chapel all those years ago!



The ladies at the Court Theatre, enjoying pizza and wine. Clockwise from bottom left: **Vicky, Honor, Sue, Rae, Dinny, CeCe, Jeanette, Jilly, Mary**. Photo: Julian Jensen

From Mary's record collection!

ANNUAL GET TOGETHER FOR CLASS OF 1997.

It's been 24 years since the class of 1997 left Nga Tawa and they love their annual get together in different parts of the country. As busy, working mums they all look forward to spending time with old friends. This year they had a girls' weekend in Auckland.

Pictured from left to right are: **Jane Brindle**, **Jessica (Worley) Marr**, **Susan Maclaurin**, **Kirsty (Marshall) McDonald**, **Catherine (Loft) Wedd**, **Penny Mueli**, **Sarah (Gard) Gold** and **Amanda (Ridd) Tippet**.



CLASS OF 2011.

Kate Jordan is organising a ten year reunion in November 2021 for the 2011 class of year 13. Register your interest by emailing Kate at katej808@gmail.com.

If you've had a class reunion or are planning one, we'd love to hear from you.

Email our Archivist, Sally Patrick, at patrickssally@ngatawa.school.nz.

Births

Richelle (Smyth) and Joel Godfrey	Grace	August 2019	Joni Bishop and Jay Williams	Theodore	November 2020
Mikalah (O'Riley) and Rory McAloon	Riley	October 2019	Sarah (Logan) and Tim Wallace	James	November 2020
Sophie Gibbs and Matt Simmers	Leo	December 2019	Harriet (Mackie) and Chris Bean	Georgina	November 2020
Laura (Mumford) and Brenton O'Riley	Florence	January 2020	Penny (McLean) and Tom Cunningham		
Anna Hartley and Reef West	Ava	February 2020		Beau	November 2020
Clare Cook and Gerard Richards	Claudia	March 2020	Cushla (Bruce) and Guy Fraser	Jock	November 2020
Hayleigh (Brereton) and Nick van Haandel			Anna (Lissington) and Jimmy Samuels		
	Griffin	June 2020		Taika	November 2020
Emma (Walkinton) and Simon Bulling	Sophie	June 2020	Kate (Hurley) and Shay Ashworth	Charlie	December 2020
Virginia (Algie) and Ted Thorp	Griffin	July 2020	Melanie (Weitenberg) and Matt Redmond		
Kate O'Hara and Luke McBride	Ruby	July 2020		Fleur	December 2020
Zara Lange and Conrad Banks	Jett	August 2020	Lucy (Leckie) and Jono Sorenson	Oscar	December 2020
Sarah (Montford) and Travis Harris	Heeni	September 2020	Leith (Hatfull) and Aaron Uings	Quinn	December 2020
Amanda (Weir) and Isaac Scott	Bella	September 2020	Jess Sinclair and Anthony Eagle	Evie	January 2021
Bridgette Manunui and Linton Horsburgh			Ani (Ross-Hoskins) and Andrew Leggett		
	Khyrie	September 2020		Isabella	January 2021
Kate (Fallaver) and Hamish McKellar	Mana	September 2020	Anna (Anderson) and Matthew Trott	Hugo	February 2021
Emma (Sargent) and James Ault	Arthur	October 2020	Kate (Deadman) and Lewis Waterworth		
Anna (Kane) and Dave Gibbs	Ella	October 2020		George	March 2021
Sue (Rainey) and William Taffs	Basil	October 2020	Olivia (Manthel) and William Parker	Johnny	April 2021
Sarah (Williamson) and James Glenn	Grace	October 2020	Jess (Till) and Nick Handley	Isabella	April 2021
Keri (Hayden) and Hāmiora Tāmāti	Taika	October 2020	Charlotte Harding and Fraser Falloon	Frankie	April 2021
Anna Wallace and Luke Bayer	Zoe	October 2020	Rachael Third and Richard Arends	Isobel	May 2021



Coincidentally, **Richelle (Smyth) Godfrey's (1999-2003)** daughter, Grace, was born eight days after **Vanessa (Norwood) Parkinson's (2003)** son, Kyree, both in Perth, Western Australia. Neither Vanessa or Richelle (who share the same birthday and middle name) were aware that they had both relocated to Perth until the birth of their little ones. Their children are now best mates and it's been so nice for both Vanessa and Richelle to share their motherhood journey with a Nga Tawa Old Girl so far from home!

We remember

Loeta (Halse) Davies	1947 – 1950	Sprott	4 September 2018
Pamela (Fisher) Hewitt	1937 – 1939	Studholme	9 May 2019
Dorothy Maclean	1945 – 1950	Sprott	6 November 2019
Helen (Foreman) MacNeill	1951 – 1956	Sprott	1 May 2020
Aileen (Younger) Hosking	1943 – 1946	Sprott	14 August 2020
Jill (Tylee) Nevill	1943 – 1948	Birch	16 August 2020
Anthea Goodwin	1946 – 1947	Sprott	15 September 2020
Margaret (Mace) Barns	1931 – 1934	Barker	21 October 2020
Sheila (Muir) Beetham	1935 – 1937	Barker	3 November 2020
Rosemary (Carr) Perry	1943 – 1946	Studholme	5 January 2021
Janet (Levien) Bothner-By	1949 – 1953	Studholme	18 January 2021
Betty (Kilmister) Nitschke	1937 – 1938	Sprott	13 February 2021
Joan (Weir) Haines	1949 – 1951	Sprott	6 March 2021
Dawn (Meyrick) Power	1943 – 1948	Barker	18 March 2021
Marjorie (Clarkson) Walton	1935 – 1938	Sprott	7 April 2021
Robyn (Willis) Studholme	1969 – 1972	Birch	19 April 2021
Elizabeth (Entrican) Orr	1944 – 1946	Studholme	22 April 2021
Robin (King) Fry	1944 – 1949	Barker	24 April 2021



Margaret (Mace) Barns

With sadness we note the death of **Margaret (Mace) Barns (1931-1934)** last November. Margaret, at 105, was our oldest living Old Girl. She was Deputy Head Girl in 1934, Head of Sport and Head of Barker House. Margaret has been a star of our Nga Tawa Old Girls and Friends Facebook page for the last few years, thanks to the commitment of her daughters who always ensured we were in touch. Our deepest condolences go out to Jenny and Libby, and to Margaret's wider family.

*We have honoured more of our Old Girls and friends of the school on our website.
Read their obituaries on our website at ngatawa.school.nz/obituaries*



Lauren-Jane (Nevill) McCrory and Chris McCrory were married on their farm in Whangaehu by Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Sarah (Grogan) Kirkland**. L-J's sister, Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Sophie Nevill**, was her Maid of Honour and her cousin and Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Lucy McLean**, was her make-up artist.

Marriages

Mikalah O'Riley to Rory McAloon	March 2019
Megan Nitschke to Brett Illston	November 2020
Charlotte Grayling to Tom Grogan	December 2020
Charlotte Wing to David Wright	December 2020
Charlotte Smith to Sean Johnson	January 2021
Lana O'Neill to Fraser Middleton	February 2021
Gabby Harvey to Kim Speedy	February 2021
Alex Pearce to Sam Roke	February 2021
Anna Holmes to Jacob Moore	February 2021
Bridget Grimes to Stefan Wishnowsky	March 2021
Alex O'Hara to Ryan Maguire	March 2021
Hannah Oliver to Henry Witters	March 2021
Sally Manthel to Mark Duncan	March 2021
Emma Lourie to Jack Hurley	March 2021
Lauren-Jane Nevill to Chris McCrory	April 2021
Kate O'Hara to Luke McBride	April 2021

Alex (Pearce) Roke and Sam Roke were married on their farm in the Ruatiti Valley in February. Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Cushla (Bruce) Fraser**, was one of Alex's bridesmaids.





Alex (O'Hara) Maguire and Ryan Maguire were married at Orlando Country in March. Alex's sister and Old Girl, **Kate (O'Hara) McBride** was her Maid of Honour and former Nga Tawa Head of Music, Ingrid Culliford, played during their ceremony.

Charlotte (Smith) Johnson had Nga Tawa Old Girls **Alannah Preston, Kate (Deadman) Waterworth** and **Moo McCabe** by her side when she married Sean Johnson in January 2021. They were married by Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Katie Gilmour**.





Charlotte (Grayling) Grogan married Tom Grogan in December. Charlotte's sisters and Nga Tawa Old Girls, **Phillippa Grayling** (far left) and **Victoria Grayling** (second from left) were part of their bridal party and they were married by Tom's sister and Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Sarah (Grogan) Kirkland**.



Anna (Holmes) Moore married Jacob Moore in March 2021 at Rathmoy Lodge in Hunterville. She's pictured with her Nga Tawa bridesmaids from L-R: **Amy Telford, Anna, Paula Martin-(Case)** and **Sarah Holmes**.



Gabby (Harvey) Speedy married Kim Speedy in February 2021. Kim is holding their son, Gray, and they are expecting another addition to the family this winter.

Emma (Lourie) Hurley married Jack at their family's function venue, Orlando Country, in March 2021. All four of her bridesmaids went to Nga Tawa. Pictured are **Lilly Pendergast**, Emma's sister **Jessica Lourie**, **Emma**, **Amanda (Knox) Carruthers** and **Annabel Hobson**.





Megan (Nitschke) Illston and Brett Illston were married at Megan's family farm just out of Marton. She's pictured with her Nga Tawa bridesmaids **Sarah Hazlitt** and **Zara Lange**.



Sally (Manthel) Duncan married Mark Duncan at her family home near Halcombe in March. She had Nga Tawa Old Girls **Annabel Hall**, **Liz Lawrence**, **Lauren Pescini** and **Sarah Heywood** in her bridal party.



Mikalah (O'Riley) McAloon and Rory McAloon on their wedding day at Makoura Lodge, a wedding venue in Apiti owned and managed by Nga Tawa Old Girl, **Kim McIntyre**.



Sally (Manthel) and Mark Duncan.



ngatawa.school.nz

Nga Tawa Diocesan School
164 Calico Line
Marton, 4787



[ngatawaschool](https://www.facebook.com/ngatawaschool)