



# TOUCHLINE

MEDBURY SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

April 2015

## Dates to Remember:

### May 3, Sunday

ANZAC Service of Remembrance.  
The Medbury Centre, 9am.

### May 4, Monday

Open Day from 9am to 11.30am

### May 21, Tuesday

AGM. Auditorium in the Medbury  
Centre. 5.30pm for 6pm

### August 14, Friday

Annual Dinner including "50 Years  
On", 6.45pm for 7.30pm

### September 4, Thursday

10am "40 Years On" Morning Tea

### October 15, Thursday

6pm "Five Years On" Drinks and  
Tour

## Index:

Page 1: Ready, Steady, Play.  
Dates to Remember

Page 2: The School in War Time  
Medbury Editorial 1914

Page 3: Librarian Leaves  
Ready, Steady, Play cntd  
Facebook

Page 4: AGM Notice of Meeting  
Old Boys Reunions

## Ready, Steady, Play.



In early April a function was held at the Medbury Centre to acknowledge the "opening" of the new-improved Medbury Green. Over the last six months we have watched an army of diggers transform the old fields into a picture postcard sports ground.

Mark Tavendale the Chairman of the Medbury School Trust Board in his speech at the Opening of the Medbury Green mentioned the significance of the occasion. "This redevelopment is important not just for the next five years, we're talking about the next 100 years. We're creating a legacy. Watching the way the fabulous Medbury community got behind the redevelopment of the fields, I think, is absolutely unique in any school community". He acknowledged the list of contractors who have generously offered their support for this project, and without them this redevelopment would not have proceeded.

"Can I say that the school field is the shop front window of the school, every boy uses that field, no matter whether they are good at cricket, or average at cricket. Everyone drives past the field and sees it and I believe that this is a wonderful advertisement for everything that can be achieved when people work together collectively, as you all have" said Mr Tavendale. "The Trust Board would like to thank you all, we are so grateful for what you have achieved for future generations of boys coming to Medbury. I think you will see the smiles on the faces of all the boys as they run out on to the field today".

The headmaster Peter Kay points out that this just isn't another field. "In the eyes of our boys out there it's the most important place, followed by the pool, the gymnasium and the music room! The field is so important for ...Article Continued on page 3

## The 'Medbury Green' – Our Thanks!



# The School in War Time



At the opening School Assembly for term 3 on September 13th 1939 Mr. Eric Chennells read the war news to the school. War had been declared by the British Prime Minister on September 3rd, and as a veteran of the Great War the headmaster felt that it was his duty to keep the boys properly informed.

The news sessions became a regular occurrence throughout the term, and as far as written records show, continued for the duration of World War 2.

At the same time a rather somber note was struck by the appearance of a list of those Old Boys in the Military Forces. The first Old Boy to go overseas on Active Service was J.E.S. Morton, who left in December for England with a number of other pilots. The Old Boys' Column listed 44 Old Medburians serving with the Armed Forces, and three who had been invalided out of the war; one of these, F.B. Chennells, somehow managed to re-enlist, this time in the RNZAF. The first Medbury casualty of the war was G.S.E. Joseph, a Second Lieutenant in the 1st Canterbury Regiment at the time of his death.

As 1939 came to a close, it was clear that the "world" of Medbury was never going to be quite the same again. Staffing during the war was continually difficult, yet the school still continued with its successes.

As we now look at the Roll of Honour of Old Boys who gave their life for their country we see a list of 21 Old Boys. Not only do we always remember them and their service, but we see that their families continue to be regular features in the Medbury family.

(With thanks to the school history "Bearing the Torch" by Alan Winnicott)

## Medbury Editorial 1941

In this Editorial written in December 1941 by the headmaster for the Medburian it is plain that the realities of the war had an effect on the School and the demeanor of the students.

**Medbury School Magazine**

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No. 14 December, 1941

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**EDITORIAL**

The expectation that 1941 would be a difficult year for the School has been realized. With a roll of nearly 100, changes in staff and an epidemic of mumps in the third term, really good progress has been difficult. With world events encroaching more and more on our daily life concentration has been at times difficult not only for the staff but for the boys too. Yet in spite of these difficulties we have come through the year with a very fair record of achievement. The schoolwork should have been better but under the circumstances might easily have been worse. In athletics and games attainment was as good as in the average year and better in some respects, notably in swimming.

It has been in the tone of the School, in manners, thoughtfulness and behaviour that a perceptible lowering of the Medbury standard is unfortunately noticeable. It cannot be too strongly impressed upon each and every boy in the school, no matter how young or how unthinking he may be, that upon his individual conduct the good name of the School is built up. Every boy while a member of Medbury, must constantly realise that his behaviour is shaping the conduct of the whole school.

Rules are made for the good of the whole community and every boy must keep the rules because it is his duty to his fellows to do so. In this respect parents can do much to encourage boys to be good useful members of the School. On the contrary if parents condone or encourage the breaking of school rules, and instances of this have not been lacking this year, it is not to be wondered at that some of the boys have been unreliable.

No useful purpose will be served by making their schooldays too easy for boys or by over indulging them. As a nation we are in for strenuous and hard times and all boys should be brought up to realise that to do their duty is the highest aim that can be given them. Let us one and all, then, in the future resolve to do what we know to be right, to do our best in our conduct, in our schoolwork and in our games.



## Librarian Leaves

It was over twenty years ago when Adrienne Shapland arrived at the front door to Medbury for a job interview with the then headmaster David Brooke. When Mrs Shapland arrived she was greeted by a young schoolboy who approached her saying "How can I help you Ma'am". This boy then proceeded to escort her through to the headmaster's office. She distinctly remembers thinking "Please God choose me" and David Brooke did!! So began a journey of twenty years at Medbury School. In the early years she taught Literacy, Maths and Divinity, and latterly became the Librarian and organised the Prize Givings.

Mrs Shapland has observed huge changes to the school over her time here, but as much as the school has changed, she believes that the students haven't changed much at all, adhering to the same values as they've always been. "Over the years there hasn't been a lot of change in the boys' behaviour and the way they conduct themselves" she recalls. Of course with the increasing use of computers and their subsequent technology the library has become a different place in her time at school. "As far as the library goes we do need to start thinking about the difference in how we treat non-fiction titles and how the boys access this information, and certainly I think e-books are the way we need to go" according to Mrs Shapland. Despite these issues Mrs Shapland tells us "that one of my greatest pleasures is to sit with a group of Year 8 students in the library, and to read them a picture book, and they are hanging on every word, even now!"



"It saddens me that we're not using the library as much as we should and it's not the staff's fault but our timetable gets more and more congested, and nothing gets taken out of the program. I just think it's so sad that there isn't more time."

Mrs Shapland remembers in her earlier years at Medbury how she used to have tour parties coming through the school library, "where one could dream of what you'd like for your library - and teachers and principals alike from around the country would sit and drool over what we had here at Medbury".

The Old Boys Association would like to acknowledge and thank Adrienne Shapland for her many years of service at Medbury, for her honest approach and for her contribution to the life at school. It was a long time ago that Mrs Shapland was met at the front door of the school for her job interview, but in her own words "twenty years ago seems like yesterday".

## Ready, Steady, Play.

Contd from page 1

these boys to run around and let off steam, and to follow their passion in sport, a chance for the boys to mix and play. Too many times today boys are so often sitting behind their computers, but we don't let that happen during their breaks and we want them out mixing and playing on the field". Mr Kay said that his dog was the only one who liked the old field, "our dog loved the lake and loved chasing the ducks from one end of the field to the other".

The Head Boy for 2015 Dominic Edmond told us at the Opening of the Medbury Green that he was a sports junkie "I adore sport whether on the athletic track or diving in the pool. The sport I like the most would be rugby and to look out at the new field makes me start to twitch, and I can't wait to get out there tomorrow in my boots". "I remember when the diggers started working on the field every boy would be out in their lunch break watching the progress, but it was funny to see that by the third week no-one took much interest in the equipment anymore!"

So we look forward to many happy years of sporting success on our wonderful new Medbury Green.



### Facebook

For keeping up to date with the activities of both the school and the Old Boys Association please visit our Facebook page and even "Like" us!  
[www.facebook.com/medburyoldboysassn](http://www.facebook.com/medburyoldboysassn)

# AGM Notice of Meeting

## AGM Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of the Medbury School Old Boys' Association, to be held in the School Library on May 21 2015 at 6pm. Refreshments will be provided from 5.30pm.

Nomination Forms for positions on the Association Committee - these may be obtained from the Old Boys secretary at Medbury, or by sending an email to the secretary – [oldboys@medbury.school.nz](mailto:oldboys@medbury.school.nz).

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
**MEDBURY SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION**  
TO BE HELD IN THE MEDBURY LIBRARY  
**ON THURSDAY MAY 21st 2015**  
AT 6:00 P.M.

Refreshments will be provided from 5:30 p.m.

### AGENDA

1. Welcome, and Apologies.

### IN MEMORIAM

2. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes.
4. President's Report.
5. Presentation of the Annual Accounts.
6. Election of Officers and Committee to the Association Executive.
7. Nomination of Trust Board Representative. (One to retire by rotation)
8. Election of Auditor.
9. Headmaster's Report.
10. Report from an Old Boys' Association Trust Board Member.
11. Report from a Foundation Board of Management Member.
12. General Business.

**D.G.Hiatt**

**Secretary**

**M.S.O.B.A. 22/4/2015**



### Medbury Old Boys' Association Committee 2014/2015:

John Reese (President), David Hiatt (Secretary), Richard Reid (Treasurer), Nicholas Tyler, Mark Tavendale, Ben Voice, Richard Innes, George Forbes.

For any information and enquires please contact us at [oldboys@medbury.school.nz](mailto:oldboys@medbury.school.nz)

### The 2014 Medburian

Last year's School Magazine will be available by mid May. The 2014 leavers will receive a copy with the compliments of the School. If you would like a copy please contact [alanw@medbury.school.nz](mailto:alanw@medbury.school.nz) (Cost \$15).

### EMAIL Addresses

We really need your email address if we don't already have it. Please send this to us at [oldboys@medbury.school.nz](mailto:oldboys@medbury.school.nz) or visit [www.medbury.school.nz](http://www.medbury.school.nz) to contact us.

## Old Boys Reunions

We will have the following reunions this year:

50 Year-On, Leavers of 1965

This reunion will be held as part of the Annual Dinner on 14 August.

40 Year-On, Leavers of 1975

As part of the Christ's College 40 Year-On Reunion weekend, we would like to invite you for morning tea on Friday 4 September at 10am.

5 Year-On, Leavers of 2010

This reunion will be held on Thursday 15 October in the Library, with Drinks, Nibbles and a Tour of the school.

Please note these dates on your calendar and we will email you before the evening. Please RSVP. Please note that if we don't have your email address we can't contact you!