

APRIL 2015

Welcome to the first Taieri College Alumni newsletter for 2015.

We're pleased to say that ex pupils are continuing to enrol for Taieri College Alumni at a steady rate. Please forward this newsletter to your friends and family who can select this link - [click here](#) and register.

We profile well-known opera singer Jud Arthur, who's now based in Australia and doing very well, and celebrate Bryce Abernethy's success at being chosen for the New Zealand under-23 rowing team.

We've also introduced a new Reminisces Column in this newsletter -- thanks to Rhys Cain (year of 77) for his memories of Mr Murdoch. Email us alumni@taieri.school.nz with your own reminisce. We would love to hear from you. As always, we have lots of photos to look over, including one of tables made by Taieri High School woodwork pupils 50 years ago, and still going strong. And also another progress photo of the A block redevelopment.

Taieri College Alumni Committee

JUD ARTHUR

TTHS ALUMNI 1975 - 1980



Jud Arthur loved sport so much at school he tried to play in every first team he could.

While his hockey skills let him down from being on every team, Jud did represent Taieri on many great sporting occasions and was hugely respected for great rugby and horse riding skills. He also sung in school musicals including Mikado and in the choir. "School was a fantastic time -- things were much simpler in those days. My memories are of great teachers, great mates and most of all being sport mad."

Jud went on to play rugby and basketball for Otago then professional rugby in Italy, and represented his country in show jumping.



(Jud's talents showcased in 1980 school magazine)

But he also loved singing, and when his rugby career finished, he sung in many different roles around New Zealand. His first professional gig was in 1993, and has sung the national anthem for All Black and rugby league matches and for the defence of the America's Cup. He also won national music scholarships and competitions.

Nowadays he's enjoying life as a well-regarded opera singer in Australia, based in Sydney but performing around the country and further afield -- he's about to audition for a role in Europe. Recent operas have included Madame Butterfly, Timur and Turandot, and he returned to New Zealand last year to perform in Don Giovanni.

He and his partner (soon to be wife) and two girls farm cattle and horses on a 100 acre block in the Southern Highlands near Sydney - he missed his farm at North Taieri so this is a good place to relax and also to keep up his horse-shoeing skills when he's not touring.

It's a long way from Mosgiel, but doing a job he loves.



BRYCE ABERNETHY

TAIERI COLLEGE ALUMNI 2005 - 2011



Taieri College Alumni Bryce Abernethy (20) has been named in the New Zealand under - 23 rowing squad to compete in the world championships in Bulgaria at the end of July.

Bryce is preparing for the world championships from Cambridge, where he

will compete in the lightweight doubles with Canterbury's Matthew Dunham.

Bryce, who is at the University of Otago studying physical education, is the first Taieri College pupil to compete in the single scull at the Maadi Cup.

He joined the Otago Rowing Club as a 16-year-old, before being selected for high performance training. He has been a part of the Southern RPC, a selection of the best rowers in Canterbury, Otago and Southland, for the past three years. He recently won the men's premier lightweight coxless pair and lightweight double at the 2015 national championships.

The Otago Rowing Club celebrated Abernethy's selection by naming a boat after him.

I REMEMBER WHEN...

by Rhys Cain - TTHS Alumni 1977

"A story I recall is in 1978 when Brent Wenlock and I were running backs in the First XV and we were walking together one lunch time talking rugby when we happened upon Rocky near the Art Room in D Block. Rocky started talking with us as we walked and I recall him saying to us that he thought rugby players in general were losing the art of the side-step and he set about explaining how to execute it properly. Then as we entered A Block corridor from the D Block end he said he would demonstrate. He did by running about 10 metres down a reasonably busy A Block corridor and side-stepping somewhat stunned students, his black cape flapping behind him. I'm pretty sure Brent was as gob-smacked as I was. I know Rocky was a pretty scary Principal (I was certainly scared of him) but ever since I made the First XV he was nothing but friendly, encouraging and positive with me, still strict though but I liked that. He had a genuine love for the game and I really liked him and was quite sad when he retired."

ATHLETICS DAY 1969



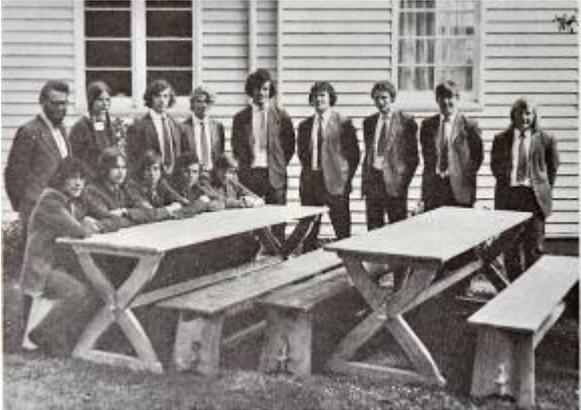
Athletics day was held at Memorial Park at the start of term 1 this year. The 1995 record for the U14 Boys discus (30.91metres) held by C Bisset was broken this year by Hamish Mears with a throw of 37.83 metres.

The oldest record standing is the 1974 U14Boys 800 metres and 1500 metres both held by P Gamble.

ATHLETICS DAY 2015



TAUTUKU FURNITURE MADE BY TTHS STUDENTS IN 1974



Tautuku furniture making group

Standing: Mr N McLeod, D Kane, A Cosgrove, F Hakkaart, G Nicholl, G Hill, W Van'tWout, J Cuthbertson, D McRae

Seated: R Gardiner, K Young, G West, R Pickersgill, N Mannix

Absent: L Hewitson, A Ferguson, N McDonald, M Nieuwenhuyse, R Soo

TAUTUKU CAMP 2015

Furniture still going strong after 40 years use



A BLOCK REBUILD



One of three new buildings under construction. Rebuild on track due to stunning Mosgiel summer

NEWS FROM TAIERI COLLEGE



Congratulations to Taieri College pupil Celine Timoko (16), who has been selected for the New Zealand Under-17 women's touch team to compete in Australia in September. Celine plays for the U21 women's team, as well as the U17 Otago team that finished fourth in last year's national tournament and have been South Island champions three years running.



With the Anzac centenary coming up it's timely to take a moment to remember those from the Mosgiel and the Taieri who fought and died for New Zealand.

"At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them"

LEST WE FORGET

We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter - if you have any stories of interest or are planning any reunions please let us know at alumni@taieri.school.nz

And email alumni@taieri.school.nz if your details change, so we can update the database.

[Click here](#) if you wish to read previous Taieri College newsletters.

