

## Foundation October 2000 Issue 5

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The Foundation would appreciate your [Donation](#) to provide this service and keep you in touch with other Ex-Pupils

### **GORE HIGH SCHOOL FOUNDATION Incorporating the EX-PUPILS ASSOCIATION**

The Gore High School Foundation aims to keep past pupils informed of what is happening in the school and to assist in fostering a greater involvement in the school's development and in ex-pupil activities.

## **GRAB YOUR HATS FOR 2008!**

Gore High School centennial might still be eight years away, but that's why it's a good idea to start planning now. As Foundation chairman Ian Tulloch points out, this is potentially one of the biggest events ever held in Gore, and the first consideration is how many people can be catered for. "We might like to welcome everyone who wants to come, but could we manage two or three thousand people?" Anniversary planners often run short of time- this is not going to happen here. It's not too early to come up with a vision, and to investigate venues and support services, to discuss programme ideas, marketing, and memorabilia, and draw up a strategic plan. The overall goal is clear-to celebrate the school's 100 years, and to create an atmosphere where everyone feels at home, whether they have stayed on in the district or haven't been back to Gore for 30 years. The Foundation would like to see Bob Foster's 75th anniversary history of the school brought up to date, but the centennial publication is likely to be more of a pictorial history than a conventional written account. Other ideas include a hall of memories historical exhibition, and perhaps a biographical display featuring academic, business, sports and arts achievers-and lots of the rest of us too. These and any other historical display or video project will involve a concerted effort to gather up archival material, record memories and information about ex-pupils, and to restore many of the photos in the existing school collection. Offers of help just to hand round brochures, get people on the mailing list and promote awareness of centennial preparations would be welcome. Anyone willing to be involved please contact one of the Foundation members listed opposite.



Foundation archives officer Joyce Osborne and secretary Bruce Cunningham putting on the style [credit] Newslink

Early birds are registered on the school database [www.reunion.co.nz](http://www.reunion.co.nz)

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## **OBITUARIES**

### **J.A.C. MacCartney M.Sc.**

1913-1999

Head boy 1929

Senior staff member 1967



Mac to his colleagues, "Jack Mac" to students-at least out of earshot-was a genuine local, Mataura-born and educated, head boy and dux of GHS in 1929. Altan MacCartney joined the staff of a school of 230

in 1936 and retired as Head of Science of a school of 1100 in 1970. His only break from GHS was for service as an artillery captain in the Pacific during the war, and like other returned servicemen, the experience deeply shaped his philosophical outlook. There was great relief in the community when he came back to the school, such was his reputation as a science teacher (particularly in physics, although he was a chemist.) Former students who went on to science-oriented careers remember him as "quite inspirational" and note how many very able students he turned out. He stimulated their interest and quietly encouraged them to perform to the maximum, giving extra time to those who were keen but struggling. Able and trusted students were permitted into his work room to 'play' with equipment, much of which he constructed himself. Young teachers also appreciated his support, and practical wisdom, describing him as firm and humanitarian but never dictatorial. Boys, who all knew him as a cadet leader as well as a science teacher, also accord him that ultimate accolade of respect for male teachers: "He never used the cane very much." He didn't need to. Colleagues paid tribute to his authority on curriculum matters, his ability to write school schemes, and his part in developing general science as a new subject. He was methodical and precise, but down to earth as far as children were concerned, and didn't waste time on frivolities. "He was very forward looking, but not a guy that would rush into change without careful thought." Nor was he ambitious in a conventional sense, remaining loyal to Matura all his life. "In his own way quite a brilliant fellow," a colleague recalls, pointing to his role in identifying the cobalt deficiency known as Morton Mains disease. If Altan MacCartney had been born into an age with more opportunity, his scientific abilities would have been given other outlets besides teaching. After retirement in 1970 Mr MacCartney pursued his many interests, including wood turning. His instructions for his funeral were typical. There was to be "no fuss."

**E.G. (Betty) McConnell H.T.C.**  
1921-1999



A dedicated teacher who was passionate about the value of the homecraft subjects she taught, Mrs McConnell will also be remembered for her determined and unsentimental battle with disability. She also stood up for Matura, and had a genuine sympathy for the sometimes problematic home lives of the naughtier girls consigned to her discipline. Educated in Christchurch, she worked as a dietician until marriage to Charlie McConnell of Matura. She then taught around the North Island to keep in touch with him during his war service, and came to GHS in 1946, intending to stay one year. Here she changed her negative opinion about co-education, staying on to retire as senior mistress in 1972. Her arrival at GHS coincided with the introduction of the new School Certificate. Homecraft and Clothing became exam subjects and offered great challenges. Colleagues remember she ran a very well organised department, with a strong sense of fair play. "She was conscientious to a fault." Mrs McConnell was renowned for her ringing, authoritative voice. Morna (Kinaston) Smith says junior staff were rather scared, but soon discovered "She was a dear, very supportive, very kind. Her pupils were very important to her." Her disability struck in early adulthood when she began to have difficulty walking. It was years before it was diagnosed as multiple sclerosis. She took a scientific interest in research and the progress of the disease in her own case, and firmly rejected any sympathy. Though often in considerable pain, she fought the disease every inch of the way. "She had incredible courage,"

says a former colleague. Out of school Mrs McConnell was best known for her great affection for her dogs, and as patron of the Gore and Districts Kennel Association.. Her enthusiasm for Cairn terriers went back to an episode when she was a teenager. She answered a scratch at the door, and in walked two Cairns, who made themselves at home on the family hearth rug. Unfortunately they had to be returned to their rightful owners, and it was not until 1956 Mrs McConnell was able to obtain one. From the 1970s she also bred beardie collies, under the name Cul More kennels, and never parted with a dog unless she knew it was going to a suitable home.

## To school by the Flying Waimea



**First XV 1932**

**Recognise anyone?**

**Supplied by John MacGibbon, whose father, Bunty, is front row, extreme right**

**John has also supplied a photo of the First Eleven**

Jim Bell's school days were in the 1930s, when travel for country pupils was slow and uncomfortable, and the Lumsden train made for the longest school day of all.

Jim and sisters Beatrice and Mona travelled daily by the train he fondly refers to as the Flying Waimea. It left Lumsden 7.15am, arriving Gore 9.25am, having picked up about 40 pupils along the way. They lined up at the station and marched to school, arriving ten minutes after classes started (and also left early.) The train was due back at Lumsden at 6.20pm, but in summer when sheep were being carted it was often as late as 7.45pm. The only form of heating was a primitive arrangement involving a cylinder containing chemicals, which had been heated in hot water before the train left Lumsden. No wonder the train notes frequently refer to leap-frog competitions, considering the chilly conditions. These were the days when third form 'fags' were initiated at school by being lined up at lunch time by burly seniors. After soft soap lathering they were ducked head first into a drum of water (borrowed from the brewery.) "The teachers seemed to turn a blind eye to this ceremony." From school Jim became a survey cadet with the borough engineer at £40 pa-needing a further subsidy from his father until he went into the army in 1941 "where seven shillings a day with keep and clothing seemed good money." He served in the air force as bomb aimer, returning to Invercargill 1946 and qualifying by correspondence as a surveyor, working for the Southland County Council then the Ministry of Works. He then qualified as engineer, working for the MOW in the holidays on big public works schemes, before going to the Snowy Mountain Authority in Australia, working in the division planning and designing contracts. His last position before retiring was on the engineering staff of Harden Shire Council-a small centre much the same size as Lumsden, southwest of Sydney.

## Waimea! Waimea!



### The Old Waimea!

*A marvel of the Modern Age! A marvel in the respect that it was mentioned in the first chapter of Genesis in the passage, "the thing that creeps and crawls," and is still going slow as ever. This year we have had in our midst nine members of the 1st XV, and despite this over-abundance of energy, all the windows of our dear old dog-box are still intact. Our conduct has been so good this year that the little red log book which was introduced in September 1936 has been with drawn. One of our number had nothing to do one afternoon, so he pulled the emergency brake to see if it would work. Unfortunately it did, and had it not been for the timely arrival of a budding engineer [our Jim Bell perhaps?] the young gentleman's bank balance would have been considerably reduced.*

*Teacher: And why was the train so late this morning?*

*Pupil: Please sir, the water went off the boil.*

*-From Waimea Train Notes (Boys) Kura-Awa 1936*

Train notes reflect the robust youth of older generations, and a disregard for safety that would make OSH blench. Some misdeeds were firmly suppressed (like pulling the emergency brake) but train staff appear to have connived at some of the antics. While a great deal would be intelligible only to the perpetrators, the notes make fascinating reading for a glimpse of childhood past.

The Foundation is keen to collect ex-pupils stories for the school archives Please focus on what you learned at Gore High both inside and outside the classroom. What impact has this education had on your life? How have you used it? Include a cv with your story.

### A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

*An important evening in the lives of young girls from Gore and district took place last night when they made their debut before Mr G. Herron, MP for Awarua and Mrs Herron at the annual ball arranged by the Gore High School Ex-Pupils Association. The formal dignity of the presentation ceremony made a brilliant scene and will be a memorable event in the lives of young girls making their entry into the social life of the community.*

*Miss Ngaire Ross of Te Tipua was attired in a frock of silk lace and silk georgette over taffetta. The fitting lace bodice featured a low boat-shaped neckline finished with a double frill of lace over georgette. The circular skirt, which hung in folds, was trimmed with lace rosettes. The back was finished with a bustle effect at the pointed waistline. She wore full-length silk mittens.*

*-The Mataura Ensign, May 1950*

The debutante balls of the 1950s were truly memorable occasions. Fifty years on, Ngaire (Ross) Weir remembers the glamour of that special night. School socials at this period were school uniform events, so the ball was a glamorous debut into the adult social scene in the first year after leaving school. Some of those who had gone away for teacher or nursing training came back to be "presented." There was a quite a lead up to the event, with dancing practices and learning to curtsy to the satisfaction of

chaperone Mrs Murray. The word "formal" crops up frequently in descriptions of the event, and Mrs Murray's views on appropriate dress and deportment held weight. There was consternation when deb Margaret (Sadlier) Speirs arrived in a Grecian-style gown with one shoulder bare. In those days girls were supposed to be very demure, Margaret says. She had seen Wellington fashions while studying at dental nursing school there, and had designed the dress herself. "It was just so different." She remembers the upset, but not exactly what happened, and she had the confidence not to let it spoil her night.. "It was a gown you needed to have confidence to walk in, with a slinky skirt in front and a little train at the back." The debs waited "off-stage" in the St Mary's Hall balcony till the moment of presentation, when partners escorted them the length of the hall to make that perfect curtsy to the MP, then assemble in carefully composed lines according to height. Everyone wore long gloves or mittens, and carried Victorian posies. Then came the debutante waltz-probably the Valetta-as part of a packed programme of everything from the Alberts to the quickstep. The debs also led the way into the sit-down supper, a generous spread of fruit salad, jellies, trifle, cakes, sandwiches and savouries - but never a drop of alcohol. Ball-goers sharing in the night would include parents, aunties and uncles, and more people would pay for entry to the balcony to watch the presentation. Balls were popular, and the debs would get plenty of wear from those special gowns over the next few months. As for young Ngaire Ross, sewing her own dress for this special occasion resulted in many requests to make glamour wedding and ball gowns for others.

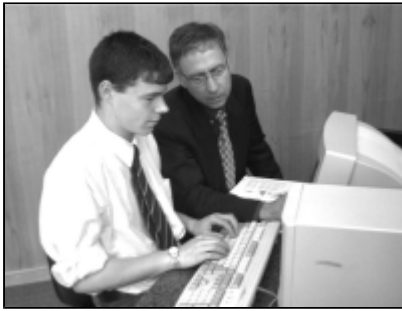


The debutantes were: Misses Betty Logan, Ngaire Ross, Marie Jones, Lorriss Robson, Marjorie Gallagher, Margaret Bridges, Lillias Gutschlag, Joyce Stevenson, Lindsey Broome, Pearl Dickie, Dorothy Butson, Patricia Peterson, Elizabeth Cross, Josephine Hurley, Heather Speden, Margaret Kubala, Leila Coker, Gwenda Wood, Margaret Sadlier, Bonnie Paterson, Irene Moffit, Keithley Cochrane, Linda McMeeken, Lorna Scott, Gae McCorkindale, Joy Kubala, Norma Haugh. Also in the photo below are Mr and Mrs Herron (centre) chaperone Mrs Murray (left) Mr and Mrs Dan Russell of the Parents' Association, and staff rep Miss Winifred Hurst,

## **CHECKING OUT THE OLD SCHOOL STYLE**

It's a curious sensation coming back to the town of your youth after years away, and to discover you grew up in the olden days. A visit to GHS on open night confirmed it. The educational technology now on offer makes the 1960s seem practically an age of stone tablets and chisels. The sophisticated visual aids, the colourful and catchy textbooks, the computers, equipment, the vibrant class-rooms are quite stunning. The mystery is, when we made do with such basic resources, so much chalk and talk and dry and dusty texts, how was it so many from those olden days achieved so well-and why aren't today's kids ALL geniuses? With such swept-up facilities, why is the Foundation seeking to raise money for the school? Aren't these kids wildly privileged in comparison to what was available to their parents and grandparents? Maybe, but that's one of the challenges of age-to see the needs of the new rather than harping on comparisons with what we had "in our day..." Ex-pupil (1968-72) and now GHS deputy principal Eoin Crosbie is in the perfect position to see it both ways. This is the information age, and the school has to prepare students for it, making them IT literate, capable and competent, he says. Computers are not an end in themselves, but a means of delivery, just like textbooks and pens, and will

never take over from teachers or do away with learning facts and skills.



**Computer studies student Adrian Woodrow works under Eoin Crosbie's tuition**



**Laura Crosbie in the art suite - still a colourful and dynamic place**



**Third formers Simone Colvin and Rachel Gregory demonstrate science experiments**



**Sixth formers Midori Sugiyama, Lydia Cairns and Danella Elder whisk up jaffa muffins and strawberry flan**



**Gore High is still a rural high school, where sheep feature on the academic menu. Ag. Sci students Jeremy Coats and Daniel Starns join teacher Chris Mathieson in a dissection**



**Kent Blythe at the music synthesiser, where writing up original compositions is easy**

Whether computers make students better scholars and make for better learning can be debated, but they have raised stand-ards in information management, in gathering information and presenting it. Schools have no option but to provide this kind of learning - their students need it, and parents know it. The discerning parent won't send students to a school that's under resourced, Eoin says. But it's a hugely expensive enterprise, and not a one-off cost, but an on-going commitment. "You buy something, and a year or so later it needs up-grading." Keeping up is a mammoth task, and there's a big gap between expectations and what the funding covers. The Community Trust acknowledges this and makes a significant contri-bution, but only as a percentage of what schools raise for themselves. Huge sums of money are involved, from \$40-70,000 a year. "We don't get that running a school fair." The idea of the

GHS Foundation is to provide a capital base that can generate further funding. "If past pupils can help keep pace with facilities that's a very worthwhile contribution." So far the school has two fully equipped computer suites, and has installed one or two computers in classrooms in the music, science and technology departments. The eventual aim is to provide computers throughout the whole school.

Rosemarie Smith

### **What have they done? The E.C. Smith bursars**

Where are all these top GHS students today? The first bursary recipient, Dr Lindsay Moffatt (1948) wants to know what they've done with their education. What impact did winning the bursary have on their careers? In his case, being awarded the bursary (then worth a not-inconsiderable £40) was quite a factor in the decision to go to university, Dr Moffatt says. Not only was the money a big help, but having received this vote of confidence in his ability, he could hardly walk away from the opportunity. So this youngest son of a Waikaia labourer-the first of the family to go to university-sold his only valuable possession, a cornet, equipped himself with new teeth, and set out, aged only 17, for Dunedin. (The post-dental nurse, post-fluoride generations won't understand about the teeth.) It was a long hard struggle financially-his microscope alone cost £30. An enthusiasm for rugby also impeded progress, he admits. Each summer he replenished his finances labouring in the King Solomon mine. Eventually he qualified, and has had a colourful career. He spent 10 years as a GP in Otautau, then served as a medical officer with the New Zealand navy. This included a six weeks on the protest frigate at Muroroa Atoll in 1973 - "12 miles off the atomic bomb test." After that came post-graduate study in London, producing a master's degree and diplomas in occupational health and venereology.



Now retired from specialist practice in Auckland, Dr Moffatt thinks it would be interesting to track the careers of 50 years of bursary recipients. He is also keen to see the trust fund underpinning the bursary supplemented, perhaps to increase the value of the award (currently worth \$400) or to set up more than one. The list of bursars is below. Anyone with information can contact Dr Moffatt through the Foundation.

The E.C. Smith bursary commemorates the long service to the school of board chairman, lawyer E.C. (Bert) Smith, who fought long and hard to prise funding for the Coutts Road school out of a reluctant government. Academic merit is the main criteria for the award, but there is a degree of discretion, and it does not always go to the dux.

1948 Lindsay G. Moffatt	1974 Margaret Robertson
1949 R Christie	1975 Timothy Jones
1950 Margaret Johnston	1976 Susan Archer
1951 Robert Smith	1977 Ken Dodds
1952 Gwenda Irvine	1978 Judith Simpson
1953 Ian Gunn	1979 Michael Mason

1954 V.J. Alexander	1980 Rex Johnstone
1955 Shirley Weatherall	1981 Jacqueline Windle
1956 L Alexander	1982 Lynda Croft
1957 L Kirkpatrick	1983 Sarah Jones
1958 D.B. Timpany	1984 Christine Rofe
1959 W Smith	1985 Jeremy Strang
1960 Brian Butel	1986 Lynda Moore
1961 W.E. Elderton	1987 Deborah Keep
1962 C.Edward Pickering	1988 Nicola Young
1963 Keith Hay	1989 Calan McIntyre
1964 Ross Stevens	1990 Sarah Baker
1965 W.R. Mackay	1991 Craig Petrie 1
1966 Judith Johnston	992 Heather Park
1967 Karen Davidson	1993 Bronwyn McAllister
1968 John Reynolds	1994 Ruth Cruickshank
1969 Michael Willis	1995 Mary Ellen Laughton
1970 Owen Tutty	1996 Michael McWhirter
1971 Robert Bogers	1997 Rebecca Laing
1972 Stuart F Crosbie	1998 Cameron Wilson
1973 Margaret Dodds	1999 Lisa Geerlofs

Preparing this list of bursary recipients drew attention to the holdings of the school magazine Kura-Awa. The school has nothing before 1917 no. 2 (two magazines came out each year until probably 1925) and is missing the May/June issues for 1918-19, 1925, also the annual issues for 1937-38, 1945, 1950 The Gore Public library has gaps 1930-40, and needs 1950, 58, 59, 62, 70, 71. The Historical Society has nothing before Oct 1919, and lacks 1920 no. 1 & 2; 1921 no. 1, 1922 no. 2, 1925 no. 1, then 1932-36, 1938, 1941 and 1943 (and has only a battered copy of 1939) If you have copies to donate, please forward them to the Foundation, or drop them off at the school or at the Gore Information Centre or the library.

## **THE GORE HIGH TICKET TO LONDON**

### **Trena McFarland,**

GHS 1984-88, is now working for a large American company, as leader of a team looking at the company's foreign exchange and interest rate exposure. She first got the job in London, and the company also sent her to Oslo, and recently to New York. Trena did a science degree at Otago majoring in botany and statistics. She doesn't consider she was a top student at school or university, but did "okay." The combination of the botany and maths landed her first job, working for Crop and Food (ex DSIR) as a financial analyst. This consisted of budgeting, computing and trying to get funding or contracts from both the government and private corporations for scientific research. "Luckily I had a boss that hated accounting and hated computers so he sent me to Lincoln to take papers in management, accounting and finance. On top of this he sent me to every course available for computers. Back in 1993 this was top quality education! This put me in good stead to get a job in London."



Trena wrote the piece opposite in response to questions on how an education at GHS prepared her for competing on the London employment market.

Of the rest of the Trena's family: Paulette is working in the library at Otago University, Douglas is cargo manager for Lufthansa in Melbourne and Grant is teaching in Hastings.

When I got to London, it was booming! And it still is. Anyone with maths, computing or languages will land a good job if they want to. I got a job in my company and applied the kiwi work ethic, which compared to the Europeans is very hard working....I'm a bit of a slacker, but looked like an angel compared to these people!! I think that is what most Kiwis find; its not hard to work hard over here, and you get rewarded for it. The Americans love us too because we are not tied up with class or anything, like Europeans. I would say to anyone coming over: get three years experience in NZ...and then hit London and it should work...the job market is UP!! The education I got from Gore High school that I look back on and say helped me was the maths and science and also Mr Anderson's interest in computing. When I got to London I realised that Kiwis were way ahead of the English as far as computing is concerned, at every level. IT departments in banks in London are run by Kiwis and Aussies. This is what I see as a New Zealand growth area. For some reason Kiwis love the computer and it's one way that connects us with the rest of the world, despite our isolation (both distance and time-line). I remember at GHS and at uni we were given surveys to complete every time we looked at new software. What I didn't realise, at that time the large American computer companies were using NZ as a testing ground for software. It makes sense really. We are isolated, literate, and computer literate. Trena McFarland

### **Tim Dickson**

(GHS 1988-92) also responded to the request for information. He is currently working in the credit department of a bank in London, having worked in banking in New Zealand for four years. London is a stopover along the world travel trail, offering the advantages of accessibility (in terms of cost and distance) and job opportunities. The availability of contract work especially suits young adventurers. Tim has travelled through China and South-east Asia, will work for three months, travel through Central America in February-something that would have been difficult to save for and undertake from here-then work another contract. There are far more employment oppor-tunities in London than in NZ. This has been accentuated in banking by central-isation to Australia, Tim says. Currency is also an issue. "With the pound being three times as strong as the NZ dollar (or rouble as we like to call it!) your earning power is effectively tripled in London. This is ideal for those of us with student loans to pay off!" Tim describes his education at GHS as "solid" but it wasn't until university, where he studied marketing and psych-ology, that he found his direction. He still comes back to visit his parents, and Gore is home, but doesn't expect to ever live here again. There's no career prospects, and he now feels in need of the buzz of a major hub, like Sydney. Tim's sister Joanna is also in London, though with an

arts degree she says she hasn't got such marketable qualification and is retraining in IT skills. However, Joanna says she has found her education useful while travelling, and thanks to teachers like Mrs Boyer and Mrs Thornton in geography and classical studies, she has a wider appreciation of the places visited.

There are so many young people from Gore in London (and parents visiting) they can meet in the street-Trena reported meeting Allan Rodgers in Piccadilly. Others named as being there now or recently include Grant Gibson, Martin Burns, Jacqueline Mackenzie and Cathy Gowers (all accountants), Fiona Williamson (teaching), Joanne Blakely, Claire Ashley, Jayne Kidd, Phillip Cushnie, Damien Davis, Gillian Affleck. Melanie Ainge was married there recently, with parents and sister flying in for the occasion.



**Off on OE, Tim (centre) and friends depart NZ**



**Claire Ashley with Gore visitor Bebe Huston (formerly Bronwyn Barron)**

## **BRINGING OE HOME TO GORE**



This is a tale to go alongside those about adventures overseas by former GHS students. Greg McIntyre (GHS 1976-79) has done his OE and chosen to come back. It's a less usual scenario, but a reminder that home fires have a special warmth. The first part of Greg's story is also a tale of its time. In 1994, having battled through the rural restructuring of the 80s, he decided there was "more to life than farming," and after a couple of years in real estate, took off to see the world. After travelling through Europe he landed in Edinburgh, but was restricted in what he could do by lack of a work permit. Odd

jobs in kitchens, and watching television cooking shows kindled a creative urge. Five months intensive training at the Edinburgh School of Cookery followed, and a new career was launched. It provided an insight into a glamorous world of dinner parties, hunting and ski lodge catering. The next step was a more mundane, but very demanding job in a hospital kitchen, involving long hours and tight schedules. Although he was used to hard work, cooking proved more physically demanding than farm work, Greg says. One of his comments will be music in the ear of any shearer's cook: "Cooking is harder than shearing." Greg says his education had equipped him with a broader knowledge of the world than the people he met in his travels. Like others, he noted how Kiwis and Australians got employment in the UK because they showed resourcefulness and a willingness to work, no matter what the job. "They know they have to work for a living." Then it was back to Gore. "I came home because it was time to come home," Greg says. "I still don't really know why." But he's very clear on what New Zealand, and the south in particular, has to offer. Living overseas might offer the money, but not the same opportunities for leisure activities. "Here you have the freedom to walk down the river and catch a fish, if you can. It's everybody's bit of river." A day skiing, or a day at a beach, is just an hour away. In a place like Gore there's a value in knowing the people down the street and being in a town where you know you can make a difference. There's still a few of his contemporaries around. Most haven't been away, but they've done a lot and got businesses and roots in the town. But it was going to Lincoln that made the world open up, Greg says. "I wouldn't have known that other life out there away from rugby, farm, rural life." Greg's café, The Green Room, next to the St James Theatre in Irk Street came about because he spotted a gap in the Gore market. While giving due credit to Table Talk round on the Main Street (run by GHS Foundation supporters Peter and Bev McDonald) he saw an opportunity for something new to Gore. He had his share of gloom-sayers. "We're 85% Speight's drinkers, it'll never work," one farmer told him. Greg has proved such critics wrong. The Green Room has introduced good coffee and paninis to Gore. It also functions as a small art gallery, and does private functions, sometimes in conjunction with theatre events.

### Long-distance gossip

The news has been a bit grim round Gore over the last few months. The Mataura paper mill has closed, with plenty of warning however that things were getting marginal. Not even the Gore District Council used Mataura photocopy paper. Not enough of us have been eating Flemings fine products either, and our landmark mill is to close early next year, consigning that toasty oaty smell to the historical memory file. Anyone wishing to come home and set up a main street enterprise will be welcomed, especially if the business flows through to the farmers, apiarists, coal pit operators and then on to all the rest of us. Good news? Paper mill owners Carter Holt Harvey are putting up the money for some economic development planning (Gore being woefully behind neighbouring areas on this score) and the countryside continues to smell ever stronger of cows -i.e. money. The huge increase in dairying is the big thing anyone who's not been in here for years would notice coming back. Also the tulips carpeting areas of West Otago. Otherwise the grass is as green, the gorse as gold, the blossoms bloom on, along with camellias, rhododendrons, magnolias and all the other specialties of a southern spring. Remember?



Flag at half-mast, Sergeant Dan with tear in eye

This newsletter was edited by Rosemarie Smith Suggestions, comments, requests, can be sent to her at [rvoland@voyager.co.nz](mailto:rvoland@voyager.co.nz) or to the Foundation secretary [bruce@reunion.com](mailto:bruce@reunion.com)

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