

FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2008

Greetings everyone to the third edition of this year's Newsletter



Foundation Committee Members

Back Row: Rosemary Petterson, Eoin Crosbie, Ian Tulloch (Chairperson), Donald Morrison, Colin McPherson and Ewen Whitefield.

Front Row: Devin De Groot (Head Boy) and Paula McKee (Deputy Head Girl).

MISS MARGARET CAMPBELL LOGAN

Margaret Logan was just 11 years old when she first attended Gore High School in 1922. Margaret and her sisters Jean and Annie Logan travelled by horse and trap for five miles to Otamita Siding, where they caught the train to Gore.

The Gore High School Hostel was opened in 1923. All three sisters stayed there.

Margaret won a Junior Boarding Scholarship to attend Gore High School. This was a New Zealand wide examination with scholarships awarded to the top scoring pupils from throughout the country.

Mr. Jimmy Boyne, Miss Laura Fyfe, and Miss Henderson were Miss Logan's teachers at the time and left a lasting impression on her.

As a junior, Margaret remembers asking a class coming out of Mr. Boyne's room, "What's he like?" As it turned out he did not have a lot of time for "all those giggling little juniors", but with the senior students "he could talk to anybody".



Margaret had Miss Fyfe (sister of Tommy Fyfe) as a senior. She was a very able English and Latin teacher who maintained very good standards, and was very fair. "Children see quite clearly when teachers have favourites – I never saw that in Miss Fyfe. She expected the same standard from everybody".

Mr. Hunter taught Margaret mathematics. She thought he was a very good teacher and felt at home with him. Miss Henderson taught Botany. Margaret recalls she was "rather different", but invited an appreciation of the subject.

Margaret finished High School in 1927 as Head Prefect. She then attended Otago University for 4 years, completing a Master of Arts with Honours in Botany, including Mathematics, English, French and Philosophy. A post graduate year was then spent at Teachers' Training College.

By the time she graduated, the Depression was in full swing, and jobs were hard to come by. In 1933 she took a job as Governess of three children at Te Anau Downs for ten shillings a week and full board. An empty hut overlooking the lake had a blackboard installed and the children maintained a school day discipline, and observed the normal holidays and weekends. Margaret had asked for a separate building to teach in as the house was often disrupted by visitors, mainly from people associated with the building of the road to the Eglinton Valley. She felt that classes would be disturbed too much if they were held in the house. In general she made up her own lessons, not realising how much help she could have had from the Correspondence School system.

From 1934 to 1936 Margaret took positions at Wyndham, Southland Girls' High School, Nightcaps, Ohai, Lumsden and Gore. In 1937 she took up a position in Ohura in Taranaki where her older sister Jessie was living. Margaret remembers that teachers stayed at the Hotel Grand in Ohura "It was not very grand!".

Salaries at the time were not great, but it was enough to exist. Margaret was not an extravagant person, something she attributes to the example set by her parents. "They were careful Scots, not mean Scots!

Returning in January 1940 from an overseas trip she took up a position in Waipukerau, followed by Fairlie in 1942 for 2 years, and then to Southland Girls' High School. Her move from there to Gore High School in 1950 very nearly did not happen. When the position of Senior Mistress became available she felt she knew too many people in Gore, and only prompting from her family finally saw her apply with only one day to spare before applications closed!

She held the position of Senior Mistress at Gore High for 19 years, 17 of which she lived in and supervised at the Hostel.

She taught several subjects, her favourite being Maths. She liked it because you got something definite from it. Although her degree was in Botany, she did not use this skill until she was teaching Biology at Gore High School. "I was ok with the plants, but with the animal side I had to learn as I went".

She began with Mr. Rowntree as Rector, a person she never felt she knew very well. However she got on very well with the next Rector, John Thompson, and as Hostel Supervisor saw a lot of his family as they lived in the Rectory. Her commitment to the Hostel restricted her outside life very much. She could not belong to outside groups easily as she was on duty every second day, and every second weekend. Her weekends off were spent at the family home to give her sister Annie a rest from caring for their mother.

Margaret was teaching when the school shifted from the river site to Coutts Road. The old school had many out buildings, and she remembers how different it was to have the whole school under one roof, and the large assembly hall that could house the whole school. Yet there was a tinge of sadness in leaving the old school – it was like leaving something behind.

As Senior Mistress she had a reputation among the pupils as being quite stern, even severe. She knew she was strict, but she hopes she was fair. Her experience with Miss Fyfe had taught her not to show favouritism, and she guarded against this when teaching. Her primary school principal had also left a lasting impression on her. He never referred to pupils by their names, only "You boy!" and "You girl!". As a teacher Margaret was determined she would never sink to that. She endeavoured to learn the names of all in her classes.

She expected standards to be maintained, but nothing more than she expected of herself. She expected the uniform to be worn properly. "If the socks are down or the blouse is out, it doesn't give the best impression."

With a smile she recalled seeing some girls in uniform eating ice-cream on the street. On seeing her they scuttled off back into the shop. Margaret's reaction? "I wouldn't have been seen eating on the street, so I didn't think they should either!"

She expected pupils to try and do their best. She tried to help any problem pupils get better, although she admits she didn't always succeed.

Her strength of character is still evident today.

"I believe in carrying on doing things for myself as long as I can. That's the big thing in life – Don't give in! Once you give in you can never get it back. I haven't given in yet... maybe when I'm 100" she adds with a grin.

She has a strong belief in the value of a sound home life. Margaret feels for young people who do not have such a stable background as she had.

"A lot goes back to your home. If only home conditions for all could be improved if they have no background, no standards to turn to, you can't blame them when things go wrong for them." It is obvious that she cares deeply about this problem.

During her long career in teaching at Gore High School Margaret strived to ensure that her pupils were treated fairly, maintained their standards, and did their best. What more could we ask?

As a result of her long association with Gore High School, Margaret has given generous support to the Gore High School Future Foundation Fund.

In recognition of her service and contribution to the school, the Foundation has named the Year 13 scholarship the **"Year 13 Margaret Logan Gore High School Foundation Scholarship"** in her honour.


Compiled by Lindsay Wright from information supplied by Alec Affleck and an interview with Margaret Logan in September 2008



**Eoin Crosbie, Margaret Logan and Alma Jackson
cutting the centennial cake during the Easter 2008**



Christmas Present for the School

 I would like to donate to the Gore High School Future Foundation Fund Gore High School Foundation Private Bag Gore 9740	
Christian Name:	Surname:
Address:	
Post Code:	Telephone:
Email Address:	
Donation Amount:	Please tick area below for your donation
<input type="checkbox"/> Sport and Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> Research and Development
<input type="checkbox"/> Technology and Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Arts and Culture
<input type="checkbox"/> Require a receipt please	
Thank you for your support	

Christmas Gifts for the family.....



Centennial DVD

In addition DVD's have been produced to highlight and commemorate the various events held during the Centennial this year. Copies can be obtained from the school. If you would like to purchase place your **order** with cheque to:

Trish Morris

C/- Gore High School
Private Bag
Gore 9740
Telephone 03 2085360 or tmorris@ispnz.co.nz

Double Video DVD \$35 (no post included)

Concert
Opening Ceremony
Dinner Speeches
Church Service

Photo DVD \$20 each (2 options) (no post included)

Slideshow of 200 photos to view on your television played through your DVD player. Not able to print from this DVD.

200 photos on DVD which needs a computer to run and you are able to print photographs from this DVD.

Postage in
New Zealand **\$5.00**

Centennial Merchandise for sale at Gore High School Office

Great Christmas and Birthday Presents

Item	Price
Packaged Engraved Beer Mug	\$15.00
Packaged Pair of Engraved Wine Glasses	\$25.00
Centennial Book "No Spuds Without Digging"	\$40.00
Gore High School Tie	\$35.00
Centennial Tea Towel	\$10.00
Centennial Badge	\$6.00

(postage extra)