

# CHRISTCHURCH BOYS HIGH SCHOOL P.T.A.

## PRESIDENTS REPORT FOR THE 2004 YEAR

It is with pleasure that I present my report for the 2004 year.

The year has seen a number of changes in direction and the manner of the operation of the PTA. The direction of the PTA has been changed so that we are no longer focused solely on fundraising, but also upon trying to introduce the school and the challenges of parenting into the wider school community.

We supported the Headmasters Good Young Men programme, and the involvement of Celia Lashlie into our School. We are helping to host the Teenagers Health Issues on 8<sup>th</sup> March, and are always looking for ways in which we can bring issues appropriate to parenting to all interested parties.

We have not abandoned the traditional PTA function of fundraising and a donation of \$50,000 was made to the school to help provide equipment most desired by staff, but unable to be funded by the ministry.

We always aim to contribute to projects that are of benefit to the school and the pupils, for example, the funding of the monitors camp. We organise the catering for the Anzac day service, and the 7<sup>th</sup> Form leavers dinner, functions at which last year we welcomed a number of helpers who were not PTA members, but who I know thoroughly enjoyed their involvement.

The canteen and uniform shop provide the majority of our funds, and we are very grateful for the help provided by all the parent volunteers, as without them we would not be able to achieve all that we do. We are especially grateful for their efforts under the very trying conditions at present due to the redevelopment going on around them, and I am most gratified that there has not been a mutiny (Yet).

During the year it appeared that our technology block would never get started. It was originally scheduled for commencement in January 2004, but because of funding issues and other problems with the ministry delays abounded.

The PTA promised all of its resources as a loan to the school should they be required so that the Board of Trustees could commence building, however this offer was never needed, as the board and the headmaster eventually triumphed over those "men from the ministry" and the building commenced in December 2004. As you can see, progress is a huge hole outside the Big Room.

Completion is now expected in Term 3.

The renovation day was a qualified success, but regrettably the turnout was less than in previous years. Unfortunately at one stage Christchurch parents were outnumbered by Hostel parents, who had travelled huge distances to be there. It was a magnificent effort by those who came, and much appreciated by the staff, and I hope we will do even better this year.

There were no major fundraising events during year, but the debate is planned for later in 2005. Our social secretary Chris Burrows was kept busy organising events that were in the main very well supported.

As in any school the senior positions are vacated by those leaving at the end of their time, and are then filled by enthusiastic new entrants. We welcome all new faces this evening, and all parents to any of our functions no matter if its once a year or once a week.

No voluntary organisation can exist without the unstinting efforts of its members, and it is appropriate that mention be made of a number of committee members who are leaving us this year.

Under the direction of the Secretary Mr Ian McKenzie an updated constitution was created and implemented early in the year, and he has lifted the standard for secretarial duties, which will be a hard act to follow. Ian has been elected to the Board of Trustees, and will be a great asset to the their team.

The Anne's from Ashburton Anne Porter and Anne Martin, both of whom travel long distances to each meeting and function, showing dedication over and above the call of duty.

Last but not least mention must be made of a very long serving member of our "sales operations" Margaret Lavery has spent more years than she cares to acknowledge in the role, as the leader of the uniform shop, and we would like to present this small token of our appreciation and thanks.