

## Christchurch Boys' High School Knights

- 1. The Honourable Sir William Nosworthy** KCMG MP (1867-1946) At CBHS 1885-86. Sir William was Member of Parliament for Ashburton from 1908 to 1928 for the Reform Party. Appointed to Cabinet in 1919 as Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Immigration by Prime Minister William Massey. Following the death of Massey he gained the more important post of Minister of Finance in 1925. In 1926 he was appointed Minister of External (Foreign) Affairs from mid 1926 to 1928 under PM Gordon Coates until his retirement in 1928
- 2. Sir Maui William Naera Pomare** KBE CMG (1875-1930) At School from 1887-88. Sir Maui studied medicine in the United States and remained there until 1920, and travelled extensively. His Parliamentary career began in 1911 when he stood as an Independent for Western Maori, with the support of the then Maori king and was successful. He was aligned with the new Reform Party and was appointed to the Cabinet without portfolio. In 1916 was given ministerial responsibility for the Cook Islands. In 1923 he was appointed Minister of Health and made gains in the areas of maternity health and equipment sterilisation but due to the economic conditions was unable to carry out the reforms that he wished to achieve. He remained the MP for Western Maori (Reform Party) until his death in 1930. He was appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) in 1920 and was made a Knight Commander of the British Empire (KBE) in 1922.
- 3. Sir Arthur Sims** Kt (Bachelor) (1877-1969) At School from 1890-95. Sir Arthur was born in Lincolnshire, England, he moved to New Zealand with his parents in 1880. A noted cricketer he played for New Zealand and occasionally Australia. In 1913/14 he captained an Australian X1, putting on 433 runs for the eighth wicket with Victor Trumper. It was, and still is, the world record for that wicket in first class cricket. He returned to England and established a meat packing business. A noted philanthropist and financier he established several Scholarships and Foundations for students of the Commonwealth, and was Knighted by King George The Sixth in 1950 for services to Commerce, Medicine and Education. He died in Sussex, England in 1969
- 4. Professor Sir Charles Hercus**, Kt DSO OBE MID (5) MD FRCP FRACPE FRACP FRACS (1888-1971) At School 1901-04. On leaving School he studied Dentistry and Medicine at the University of Otago. In WW1 he served with the New Zealand Army at Gallipoli and in Palestine and was mentioned in dispatches five times, reaching the rank of Lieutenant Colonel and received the Distinguished Service Order and in 1919 was awarded the OBE. He was Professor of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine from 1922 to 1959 and Dean of the Medical School from 1937 to 1959. Sir Charles

held several distinguished appointments viz. on the Board of Health, the Town Planning Board, the Medical Research Council, the Dental Council, the Council of Physical Education and the Council of the University of Otago. He was knighted in 1947.

5. **Sir Arthur Donnelly** KBE CMG (1890-1954) At School 1903-07. Sir Arthur had a distinguished career in Law and was Crown Solicitor in Christchurch for many years. He was a Life Member of the New Zealand Cricket Council having served as a member for many years and was President from 1928 to 1938 and from 1946 to 1948. He also served as Chairman of the Bank of New Zealand.
- 6 **Major-General Sir Howard Kippenberger**. KBE CB DSO and Bar MID (2) Commander, US Legion of Merit ED (1897-1957) At School 1911-12. Sir Howard served with the 1<sup>st</sup> Canterbury Regiment (15-18) as a private in WW1 and took part in four attacks during the Battle of the Somme in 1916, where he received a serious wound in the right arm. In 1920 he qualified as a Solicitor and became a Manager of the Rangiora Branch of a Christchurch legal firm. At the outbreak of WW2 in 1939 he received command of the 20<sup>th</sup> Battalion, NZ Division, and served with distinction during the Greek campaign. After being briefly captured in 1941 he took commands of the 5<sup>th</sup> N.Z. Brigade and led it through several battles till the end of that campaign in 1943. After furlough in NZ he returned to command the Brigade in Italy in 1944, and gained promotion to General Officer Commanding 2<sup>nd</sup> NZ Division. He was wounded in Italy by a landmine which blew off one foot and shattered the other, requiring eventual amputation. Returning to New Zealand in 1946 as head of Relocation of New Zealand Prisoners of War, then Head of the War History Branch at the Department of Internal Affairs and in this capacity guided NZ's largest-ever publishing project, the Official History of New Zealand in the Second World War. He was knighted by the King in 1948. He became Dominion President of the NZRSA, 1948-55.
- 7 **Air Vice Marshal Sir Leonard Isitt** KBE (1891-1976) At School 1905-07. Served in the Rifle Brigade, NZ Army and then transferred to the Royal Air Force in WW1 and the RNZAF in WW2. Between the wars he was responsible for pilot training and served in the Air Ministry, the New Zealand Permanent Air Force, and the RNZAF. In 1943 was appointed Chief of Air Staff of the Royal New Zealand Air Force and was promoted to Air Vice- Marshal. He was the first New Zealander to hold this senior appointment. He was the New Zealand signatory to the Japanese Instrument of Surrender on board the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay in 1945. He retired from the Air Force in 1946 and became Chairman of TEAL (Air New Zealand) in 1947. He was knighted in 1945
- 8 **Vice Admiral Sir Maxwell Richmond** KBE CB DSO, MID (2) Order of the Red Banner ( Russia), Croix de Guerre (France). (1900-86) At School 1914-16. Joined Royal Navy

in 1918. Various commands leading up to WW2. War Service - 1939-40. Commanding Officer, HMS Basilisk. 1940-41 Operations Division Admiralty, 1942 C.O. HMS Bulldog (D) and Senior Officer Escort Group Atlantic and Russian Convoys (4). 1942-44 C.O. HMS Milne(D) and Captain (D) 3<sup>rd</sup> Destroyer Flotilla ( Home Fleet Russian Convoys and Flank Force Mediterranean) Appointed Assistant Chief of Supplies 1946-48 and then as Naval Liaison Officer in Wellington, NZ 1948-50. In 1951 was Senior Naval Officer Northern Ireland and in 1952 was appointed Deputy Chief, Naval Personnel (Training) and in 1955 to Flag Officer (Air) Mediterranean and Flag Officer 2<sup>nd</sup> in Command- Mediterranean, until 1958.

- 9 **Right Honourable Sir Alfred North**, KBE PC ( 1900-81) At CBHS 1918 Retired Judge of the Supreme Court and was President of the Court of Appeal 1963-72. Created a Privy Councillor on elevation to Court of Appeal. Served as Chairman of the New Zealand Press Council on retiring from the Bench.
- 10 **Sir David Low** (1891-1963) Kt Bachelor. At School from 1901-02. International Cartoonist and distinguished satirist particularly during WW2 when he was on Hitler's most wanted death list. Creator of Colonel Blimp, which attacked the British aristocracy.
- 11 **Air Marshal Sir Andrew McKee**, KCB CBE DSO DFC AFC MID (3) (1902-1988) At School 1915-16. Sir Andrew joined the RAF in 1927 and served in India and the UK before WW2. During the war he held commands with No9 Squadron, Station Commander RAF Markham, Air Officer Commanding 205 Group 1945 and 21 Group. After WW@ he was Senior Air Staff Officer, Headquarters, Middle East 1945-47, Commandant RAF Training College 1847-49 and held senior posts at Headquarters Bomber Command 1950-55. In 1955 he was appointed Air Officer Commanding Transport Command and saw the introduction of the Comet 2 before he retired in 1959. In his retirement he was Deputy Chairman of National Airways Corporation and a Director of Air New Zealand
- 12 **The Honourable Sir Terence McCombs** (1905-1982) Kt OBE ED. At School 1913-19. Sir Terence was Member of Parliament for Lyttelton from 1935 to 1951 and was Minister of Education from 1947 to 1949 in the Fraser Government. He was former High Commissioner to Great Britain 1973-75 and served Chancellor of the University of Canterbury, Christchurch City Councillor, Member of the Lyttelton Harbour Board and was founding Headmaster of Cashmere High School
- 13 **The Honourable Sir Ronald Sinclair** KBE (B1903) at School 1916-1917 Retired Judge of Supreme Court of New Zealand and Former Chief Justice of Kenya
- 14 **Vice Admiral Sir Peter Phipps** ( 1909-1989) KBE DSC and Bar, VRD, Navy Cross (USA) for Valour at Guadalcanal. At School 1923-26. He was the founding father of the

Royal New Zealand Navy. First NZ Naval Officer appointed to the NZ Navy Board, first Chief of Naval Staff 1960 and first Chief of Defence Force 1964. Member Wellington Harbour Board

- 15 **The Honourable Sir James Wicks** Kt. JP. (1910- ) At School from 1923-27. Sir James sat on the Bench of the Magistrates Court, and later he became the Chief Stipendiary Magistrate .On his retirement he became the Privacy Commissioner.
- 16 **Air Marshal Sir Charles Broughton**. KBE CB MID. (1911-98) At School 1924-27) Sir Charles joined the RAF in 1930. He served in WW2 as Officer Commanding No 48 Squadron, and then as Station Commander at RAF Stornoway before joining Air Staff at Headquarters No15 Group. He continued his war service as Senior Personnel Staff Officer at Headquarters Air Defence Eastern Mediterranean at RAF Staff College (Overseas) in Haifa. After the war he was on the staff at Headquarters RAF Training Command and was later appointed Senior Air Staff Officer at Headquarters RAF Transport Command in 1958. Director-General of Organisation at Air Ministry 1961 and UK Permanent Military Deputy at CENTO in 1965, before becoming Air Member for Supply and Organisation 1966-68
- 17 **Sir Robertson Stewart** KBE (1913-2007) At School 1928. Sir Robertson founded PDL group of companies, was a pioneer exporter, particularly in S E Asia, and was a successful businessman and industrialist, ( Life Member, Canterbury Manufacturing Assn. ) as well as a generous benefactor to many causes. He was made Honorary Consul for Malaysia in 1975. Served at a Christchurch City Councillor 1969-72 and was a member of the Southern Ballet Trust.
- 18 **Sir Norman Perry**, Kt MBE. (1914-2006) At School from 1928-30. Served with the Maori Battalion in WW2, and was the only non-Maori to do so. He was seriously wounded and returned to New Zealand in 1944. As a young man he was appointed secretary and assistant to Sir Apirana Ngata and was a member of the Tribal Working Party 1938-50. He spent most of his life at Opotiki where he established a garment manufacturing factory to employ and train young Maori. He was one of the most significant lay leaders of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand. He was involved with the Maori Synod and in 1964 was elected Moderator of the General Assembly, and was the driving force in Mahi Tahi. He was asked by the local iwi to stand for Parliament for Eastern Maori but declined. He was Chairman of the East Coast Development Council 1970-80, a member from 1980 of the Ministerial Committee on Violence 1986-87, and a member of the Roper Commission on Prison Reform. He was knighted in 1977 for services to the Maori people.
- 19 **Lieutenant General Sir Leonard Thornton**. (1916-1999). KCB, CBE, MID. At School 1930-1933. During WW2 he served as a staff officer and Artillery Commander, 2<sup>nd</sup> Division. After the war he served as Deputy Chief 1948-49 and then Commandant

Linton Military Camp 1949-51. He was Chief of Army General Staff 1963-65, before becoming the longest serving Chief of Defence Force, 1966-74. He was appointed the first New Zealand Ambassador to Vietnam, and later served as Chairman, Alcoholic Liquor Advisory Council.

- 20 **Sir Lawrence Govan** Kt (1919-2007) At School 1933-34. Served in WW2 with the New Zealand Armoured Regiment 1941-45. Managing Director of Lichfield (NZ) Ltd. Served on Reserve Bank of New Zealand Board 1972-84. He was very involved with the establishment of the Heart Unit at Christchurch Hospital, as well as many other philanthropic activities. Awarded the Altiora Peto Medal on 2005.
- 21 **Air Marshal Sir Ewan Jamieson** KBE CB (1930 - 2013) At School 1944. Served with RNZAF during Malaysian Insurgency and later became Chief of Air Staff, Royal New Zealand Air Force 1979-83. Was appointed Chief of Defence Force in 1983 to 1986 and was knighted in 1985.
- 22 **Sir Graham Henry** KNZM (1946 - ) At School 1960-64. Sir Graham gained a Diploma in Physical Education from Otago University in 1969, and a Bachelor of Education from Massey University in 1979. He taught at Auckland Grammar School and Kelston Boys' High School. In 1982 he was appointed Deputy Headmaster at Kelston and following the unexpected death of headmaster Jim Paton he became Headmaster. He resigned in 1996 to become a full time rugby coach. He coached the Blues 1996-98, Wales 1998-2002, British and Irish Lions 2001. Returning to NZ he became the Blues defensive coach 2003 and All Blacks coach in 2004 2011, and was the successful coach of the World Cup winning team in 2011.
- 23 **Sir Gilbert Simpson** KNZM QSM (1948 - ) At School 1961-64. Sir Gilbert is a New Zealand businessman and computer programmer who founded the Aoraki Corporation, developers of the LINC4GL and Jade programming language, and Jade Software Corporation. Sir Gilbert was awarded a D.Sc (hc) from the University of Canterbury, is a past President of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Chairman of the New Zealand Government's E-Commerce Action Team, Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Management and a Fellow of the New Zealand Institute of Directors. He is also Chairman of the Christchurch City Mission.
- 24 **Sir Richard Hadlee** Kt MBE. (1951 - ) At School from 1965-69. Professional Cricketer Sir Richard played for Canterbury (1971-79), Nottinghamshire (1978-87) and Tasmania (1979-80). He played for New Zealand from 1973 to 1990. He was awarded the MBE in 1980 and was knighted in 1990 for services to cricket. In 2009 Sir Richard was inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame.

25 **Honourable Sir Graham Panckhurst** KNZM QC At School 1964. LL.B (Hons)  
Judge of the High Court of New Zealand and Chairman of Pike River Mine Disaster  
Enquiry. Knighted in January 2015, for services to the Judiciary.

26 **Sir Ian Athfield** KNZM At School 1954-58. B.Arch. Noted New Zealand Architect who  
designed many prominent New Zealand buildings. Knighted in January 2015 for  
services to Architecture and the Community. Died in January 2015.

E&OE

Compiled by Jim Blair, February 2012. Updated January 2015