

# KEEPING IN TOUCH *with* NORTHLAND COLLEGE

## Leading me to lead my learning

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### Newsletter - Term 1, Week 8, Friday, 27th March 2008

Tena koutou katoa

Easter is often a time when families and friends come together to celebrate, to remember, to congratulate or just sit around and catch up. This past weekend was definitely a mix of all of these and more as Northland College celebrated its 60<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

Opened on the 25<sup>th</sup> March in 1947 as the Northland Agricultural and Technical College, the school has undergone many changes in curriculum, staffing, building structures, purpose and of course, the student population. Today we have a very different agenda to that which the students of 1947 were assessed by. This was never more evident than when several ex-pupils took the opportunity to reminisce on their time in the halls of this College.

- we had to bend over and hold the chair when the teacher was caning us
- I came looking for my school mates from 60 years ago; all I can see is this pack of old b#%gers
- the teacher would draw stripes on the back of our shorts as targets for the supple jack
- the teacher would stride into the classroom, start with question 1 at the door and by the time he got to the front of the room we were already on question 2 anyone who had less than six correct were in the corridor; five from six is one, 1 cane; four from six is two, 2 canes and so on; but it was only the boys who got caned I think or maybe they were the ones who didn't know their maths
- this school has had some great students from the Pacific Islands (the speaker then rattled off more than 15 names, all of whom have become members of parliament or dignitaries for their people)
- cadets taught us real discipline; for us Maori boys it was hard but it never did us any harm
- the boys had to tip their hats to any ladies they met on the streets
- watch out if you were caught down the street with your socks down or without your cap

There were many testimonials about the value of the education that students received from Northland College. There were also those who didn't look back fondly on their schooling but the friendships that they made while they were here still exist today.

Te Roopu Ara Whanui welcomed the ex students and their partners into the hall at 3:30pm on Friday afternoon. There were many speakers who recalled their experiences of their days as a student. After the powhiri there was a lot of mingling and catching up and then the group moved to the Hubb for a Wine and Cheese that went till about 10:00pm. For many of the ex students well into their 60's and 70's this was quite late enough. Roll call was at 10:00am on Saturday morning and again there was a sprinkling of speakers and I was able to outline what we are doing with today's curriculum. The ex students then had the opportunity to take a ride around the school farm on the school vans, to walk around the school, to have luncheon at the Hubb and then finish their day here at the College with an official photo session.

They then moved to the RSA for pre-dinner drinks from 5:00pm. Tea was at 6:00pm. The band struck up at 7:30pm and when the evening finished at midnight there were only a few hearty souls left on the dance floor. There was an interdenominational Church Service in the school hall led by Bishop Ben Te Haara who was also celebrating his birthday. Again, there was more sharing of past memories and when the closing prayer was said at 11:45am it was truly a wonderful weekend that was being concluded.

I took the opportunity to thank all the ex students who chose to come to the College to share in the reunion. We had with us the Cook Island Group from Otahuhu College and after I had finished speaking they sang my Waiata tautoko. We then all moved to the staffroom for a cup of tea before people headed off home, some local, some around the Taitokerau but there were several who had travelled great distances to be here; Auckland, Hamilton, Bay of Plenty, Gisborne, Napier, Palmerston North, Otaki, Wellington, a few from the South Island, Australia.

They left me with some challenges.

- accessible data base of ex students
- better web page to keep up with what's happening
- a farm that better reflects the original intention of the establishment of the school
- walk the talk
  - o they will return to the next reunion
  - o they want to see those changes in place that I talked about

I would like to congratulate the organising committee of the reunion. You did your school proud. I look forward to an ongoing relationship between the Northland College Old Pupils Association and us, the present staff and students. I look forward with keenness to the next reunion for Northland College in whatever format that may be.

### **RYDA - Rotary Youth Driver Awareness**

This Rotary led programme has been developed from an overseas initiative that sees young people given an opportunity to take an awareness message from sectors of the community, many of whom are often involved in the aftermath of bad decision making. Some of the important messages given were

- we know you are going to be a passenger in a vehicle
  - o make sure the vehicles are safe
  - o it's ok for passengers to say
    - stop, slow down, we're not going with you
- we know you are going to drive a vehicle
  - o make sure you car is roadworthy
  - o drive according to your drivers licence
  - o take out insurance, especially third party insurance
- there was a lot of discussion about driving styles
  - o stopping a vehicle safely; faster speeds more damage
  - o alcohol affects the driver; they kill the passengers in the cars they are driving
    - say no to drinking drivers; find an alternative way home

Special thanks to the members from the following support groups who ran the activities on the day; Rotary, NZ Police, Automobile Association, Brain Injury Association, Alcohol Advisory Board and Drive Safe Northland. Northland College is looking to maintain this link with this Rotary initiative for the betterment of driving attitudes of our young people.

### **REPORT EVENING**

Many thanks to the many parents and caregivers who came to school last Wednesday to meet with the teachers to talk about the start to the 2008 Academic year. we had a good turn out and those parents who did not get reports on the night can either wait until we post out next term or come in and collect the reports from the school office.

### **SENIOR VOLLEYBALL**

Congratulations to our two Senior Teams who competed very well at the Northland Secondary Schools Volleyball tournament in Whangarei last week. The Boys were placed second in their particular division while our Girls Team came second in the premier division. They were awarded their medals at assembly this morning. They have set a high standard for other teams throughout the year to follow.

John Tapene  
Principal.

## KORERO MO TE WIKI

# Ko Ngatokimatawhaorua te waka

## STAFF AND STUDENT PEN DRIVES

The school office has available for sale to staff members and studnets a selection of pen drives, for storing and saving work or research. We have 1GB or 2GB options available .

**1GB - \$20.00**

**2GB - \$25.00**

## HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

HOLIDAY SEMINARS CHARITABLE TRUST is running school holiday workshops for Years 9 & 10 Students  
From the 22nd to 30th April at Selwyn College,  
Kohimarama, Auckland.

### **Availiable Workshops:**

ASTRONOMY, ARCHITECTURE, BE A FAMOUS ARTIST, CARTOON ART, CLASSICS FOR BEGINNERS, CHESS COACHING, CODES & CIPHERS, CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIONS, DIPLOMACY, FANCIFUL WORLDS, GREAT MOVIE MAKERS, HERALDRY, HIDDEN KNOWLEDGE, MATHS OLYMPICS, MIME, MASKS & MELODRAMA, MIND READING, RISK WORLD CONQUEST, SORCEROR'S APPRENTICE, STRATEGY GAMES SYMPOSIUM, TOY BOX TECHNOLOGY, WEIRD & WACKY ART.

**[www.holidayseminars.co.nz](http://www.holidayseminars.co.nz) for full workshop descriptions**

**Organiser: JEAN HENDY-HARRIS**

**Tel: 09 585 0111, Mob: 021 389 448, Fax: 09 585 0144**

**email: [info@holidayseminars.co.nz](mailto:info@holidayseminars.co.nz)**

# CAREERS CORNER

## Te Haerenga – Police Recruitment

On Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March I took 11 students ranging from Year 10 to Year 12 to NorthTec in Raumanga for a presentation by the New Zealand Police. It was presented in Kapa Haka, waiata, slideshow and informal conversations. A fantastic and entertaining 2 hours, with our students who were keen to chat to all those presenting. New Zealand Police are looking for people of any age, from age 18, who are physically fit and have no criminal convictions to join now. For more information ring 0800 NEWCOPS.

## The Tai Tokerau Tour

5 students from year 12 and 13 went to the Tai Tokerau Tour at the Memorial Hall on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> March. This was a joint effort by Massey University, NorthTec and Career Services Rapuara in encouraging senior Maori students to attend Tertiary education. We listened to present students, how they came to be doing their study and where they were heading next. Career services had our pupils creating their own Career Plan with what interests they had. We also listened to 2 local Maori men and their career paths to date. A very informal and interactive day with plenty of good kai as well.

Eileen Andrews - Careers Advisor Northland College



2008

## BALL DRESS EXPO

ANZAC Weekend

Sat 26 April & Sun 27 April

10am to 5pm

@ SPIRE PAVILION

Northland Cricket Grounds

Cnr Port Rd & Okara Dr

(Next to the rugby stadium)

WHANGAREI

All dresses FOR SALE

EFTPOS available

Also jewellery, bags & accessories

Enquiries: (09) 430 6404 a/h 021 465 647



Kia ora parents, caregivers and students,

In this issue we are revisiting a 'CLUSTERING' strategy. The purpose of this strategy is to work out the relationship between different groups of words. See if you are able to below. We are still keen to hear from anyone who has suggestions for fun activities or would like to ask Mr Literacy a question. Our email address is [whanauliteracyfunpage@northlandcollege.school.nz](mailto:whanauliteracyfunpage@northlandcollege.school.nz). Look forward to hearing from you.

## 1 LEARN-A-LITERACY-STRATEGY

Strategy: **CLUSTER**

Insert a word into the gaps from the word list to find out about this vocabulary strategy.

organising	already	new
different	reminds	words

**Clustering:** Involves \_\_\_\_\_ sets of key words into \_\_\_\_\_ clusters or groups.

**Purpose:** It \_\_\_\_\_ students of \_\_\_\_\_ they \_\_\_\_\_ know and introduces them to \_\_\_\_\_ words.

## 2 CLUSTER - Now Try This One...

Find the relationship between the following words and organise them into categories.

PLUME	SINISTER	CLOAK	WHOLESOME
HORNS	SCREECH	SHREWD	WHITE
BROOM	BLACK	RADIANCE	RED

Category:	Category:	Category:

## 3 WORD SQUARE

How many words can you make?

N	R	S
E	E	W
A	P	P

**RULES:** Each word **MUST** contain the special letter in the middle and cannot use a letter more than once.

Did you find the 9 letter word?

Answer: \_\_\_\_\_

Now use it in a sentence:

## 4 TOWNS IN NORTHLAND

Unscramble the letters to name our local towns.

Scrambled Letters	Answer
1. ANGRAHWEI	
2. AIAKITA	
3. EERMOWA	
4. WAAAAKWK	
5. OOPNNI	
6. PHAIAAR	
7. KAOIUAH	
8. AAPPAWI	



### CLUES:

- I am of Ngapuhi ancestry.
- My favourite food is anything healthy, natural and lots of it.
- At school my favourite subject was writing and art and my least favourite was Mathematics.
- I am a children's writer and founder of Warrior Kids, a community organisation working with at-risk children.
- I will be visiting Northland College on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March.
- My nick name is Papa Tim.

## 5 WHO AM I?

ANSWER

## 6 ASK-A-QUESTION

Dear Mr Literacy...

**Q.** My child will only read magazines, not books. Should I be concerned?

**A.** Don't worry. Evidence shows that children who enjoy reading for pleasure perform better at school, whether they are reading magazines, newspapers or fiction. You could always try suggesting books that they might enjoy based on the magazines they read or their interests.

Complete all sections and hand your answers into the student centre.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Form Class: \_\_\_\_\_

RATE THIS ISSUE



