



Greymouth High School Centennial Reunion 1923 - 2023





Welcome to our book of memories, as well as a more current look at school and the variety offered to our students.

There were many, many pictures stashed in deep, dark cupboards in a storage room, the vast majority of which were simply not named. Guesses were made for which decade photos came from, forgive us if we have it wrong. There were also many negatives which we have digitised and are primarily used in this book. These are likely to be new images to people and the quality of many of them has surprised us.

Our hope is this is the start of a digital taonga archive which we can keep for the future, that we can share with National Library of NZ / Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa and people may be able to access and view online.

To the previous reunion committees we thank you for the work you did, it has helped us immensely and we value and care for your past work. To the individuals who put in time and energy sorting through things in a constrained time period, thank you.

After so much uncertainty with Covid over the past three years we are glad to have the opportunity to gather so many people together, we wish you the best time.

FOREWORD



*Kia ora koutou katoa
Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou*

Welcome to Greymouth High School!

It is my absolute pleasure to introduce our centennial reunion book of memories. As I look back over the last 100 years I am amazed at the differences there are between then and now but also the similarities. There are a lot of new buildings and exciting things happening on our grounds; check out the latest with our new outdoor basketball and netball courts and playground! We have embraced massive changes in technology and you will be able to see that as you walk around as well as every one of our students have a chromebook to work on.

Buildings may change, technology may change but kids are still kids! Full of potential, full of energy, sometimes pushing the boundaries, but usually full of life! Watch our documentary "An Ocean of Many Waves" with interviews of past students and if you didn't agree that kids are still kids before, you definitely will after!

Grey High is a school for everyone and we are very proud of that. Our motto is "*Whāia te iti kahurangi - Strive for Success*" and we believe that everyone should be supported to find success whatever success looks like to them and their whanau.

We hope that you have an amazing weekend as you walk through Greymouth High School. catching up with friends and reminiscing about your time here. We start these memories by walking through the waharoa, our beautiful carved entrance to the school.

The whakataukī "*Ka mua, ka muri*" which can roughly translate into "walking backwards into the future" is apt here. It is important that we look to the past to inform the future and our centenary celebrations remind us of this.

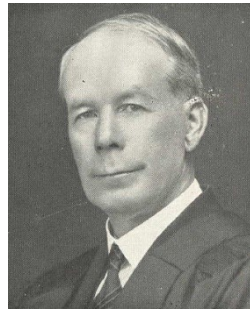
Samantha Mortimer

Principal - Greymouth High School
Tumuaki - Kura tuarua o Māwhera

PRINCIPALS THROUGHTOUT THE YEARS



1923 – 1932
James Hutton



1932 – 1936
Robert McLaren



1937 - 1951
William Stewart



1951 – 1957
Erle Coxon



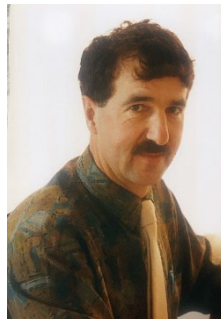
1958 - 1963
Arnold Muirhead



1963 – 1975
John Thomson



1976 – 1992
Des Hinch



1993 - 1997
John Mote



1997 – 2008
Arthur Graves



2008 – 2012
Jim Luders



2013 – 2020
Andy England



2021 – Present
Samantha Mortimer

THE BEGINNING.....



*Grey District State School – Established 1876
Photo Circa 1880
Unknown Photographer
Alexander Turnbull Library – Tapuhi Collection*

Thanks to the 1998 Reunion Committee.

In 1876 State Education came along and the beginning of Greymouth High School's history began. The site we are on today is the one we have been located on for 100 years, a site well out of the notorious barber wind and which has had space to expand and develop.

Prior to the school being established, technical classes were held in various buildings around Greymouth.

The Greymouth Technical High School was established in 1923 providing technical classes in the evening and general professional work during the day. Manual classes for primary school students from Greymouth, Reefton and Hokitika were also held. In 2023 Greymouth High School continues to provide classes for hundreds of primary school students from the Grey District each week.



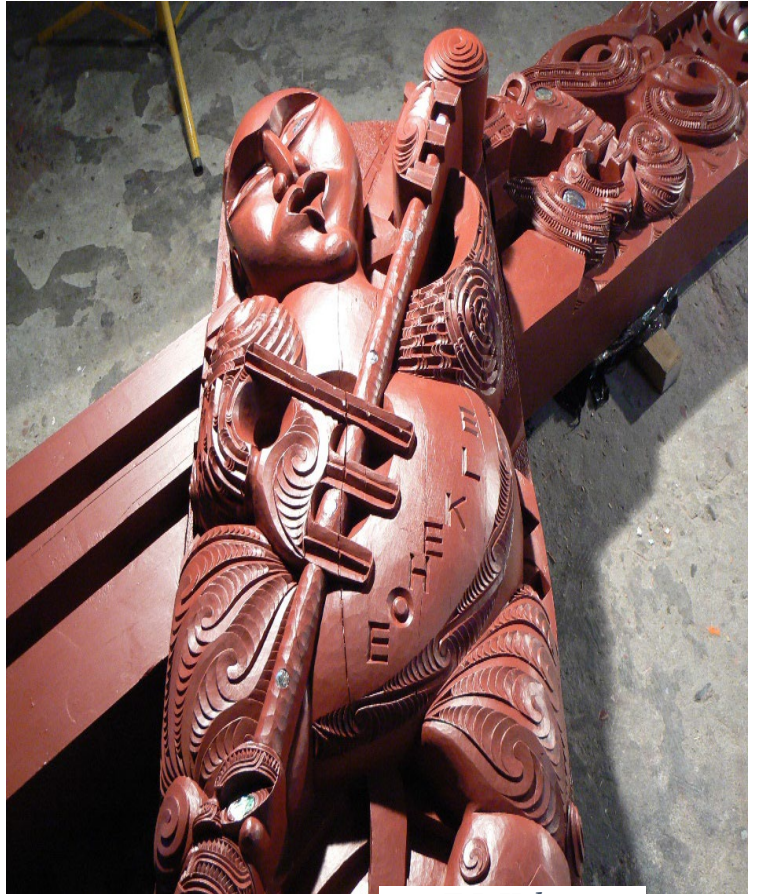
Waharoa ki te Māwhera Kura Tuarua

- Our Beautiful Entranceway

It was decided that no weapons be put on the carvings for the gateway and that everything that was to go on had to have something to do with education and learning. Since we live in a multi-cultural society environment one half was to represent the oral way of learning passed down generation after generation by Tohunga in the Whare Wānanga in the traditional knowledge or mātauranga Māori, is and was an important kaupapa as it was then so it should be to this generation and beyond.

The other side would represent the written way of learning associated with many cultures and civilizations over the past few thousand years in many forms.

There were many reasons the Waharoa came into being but above these the most important one was to give the Maori students something to connect with as a Turangawaewae to restore some pride and dignity back into them instead of all the negative associated with being Maori.



E L Kehoe

General:

The Kaupapa of the Waharoa is education and learning. For this purpose the names selected for each part of the Waharoa were to embellish this philosophy.

- The right side (Whakatapu) collective name is “Ngā Taonga o Tūpuna Māori” (Treasures (knowledge) of the ancestors).
 - Poupou / Amo is “Tāne i te Herenga” - Tane, boulder of knowledge from the sky
 - Maihi / Mahihi is “Te Ao Mārama” – World Life & Light

- The left side (Whakanoa) collective name is “Ngā Rākau o Te Pākehā” (The tools of the English).
 - Poupou / Amo is E L Kehoe
 - Maihi / Mahihi is Te Whai Ao – Daylight or Open Day
- Kōruru centre piece is “Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi” - Tāne, bringer of knowledge from the sky



Upper Body of E L Kehoe

Here we will break down the components of the Waharoa in such a way that it will have more of a spiritual and meaningful grasp of what was presented instead of a structure. Everything the Maori did related to nature and the spirit world and this carving is no exception and here is the explanation why.

One should look at the Waharoa not only as a gateway but rather a gateway to the keepers' body of knowledge as that is what it truly is when one thinks about it. When the Waharoa is broken down to its components it is a being, a spiritual being sharing knowledge if only we listen.

Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi or the Koruru is that literally representing the head of a body, the Maihi of Te Ao Mārama and Te Whao Ao being the left and right arms respectively and Raparapa on the ends for hands. The Amo of Tāne i te Herenga and E L Kehoe are attached to the arms giving us the feet and the body is inside so when one walks through the Waharoa completing the transformation of just a structure of different parts to the essence of a protector or giver of knowledge to those seeking enlightenment.



Lower Body of E L Kehoe and Koruru

Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi

The centre figure of the Waharoa is represented by Tāne te Wānanga or Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi. This design was inspired by the Jade Boulder Gallery's Millennium Pounamu Mask. Ian Boustridge gave his permission allowing me to use the basis of the design for Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi after explaining the concept, the reason and the purpose that this carving and the project in general aimed to achieve.

Tāne was chosen to ascend to Te Toi-o-ngā-rangi and retrieve Nga Kete E Toru. Tāne te

Wānanga ā Rangi this is the name Tāne was given after he returned with the baskets of knowledge and was very appropriate to be shown with three Kōruru instead of just one representing each basket so to speak. The three Kōruru are



Jade Boulder Gallery Millennium Mask

for gathering the knowledge from the past, present and the future.

The three Kōruru of Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi can be defined simply as the three ways of learning since the evolution of man in general.

The first Kōruru is on the right side (Whakatapu side) looking to the past to represent the oral traditions of gathering the knowledge of the ancestors as this gives us a Tūrangawaewae, a foothold into our rich cultural past and heritage that we must preserve and hold steadfast too. How do we do this it is done through Whakapapa, Waiata, Te Toi Maori.

The Kōruru on the left side (Whakanoa side) is to use the knowledge of the present in all its forms namely the written word change how we learn but also enhance the wellbeing of the seeker in their quest for betterment and understanding.

The centre Kōruru is looking to the future of knowledge to be learnt and taught. Now in the electronic age that is why the final Kōruru is facing forward as we learn new things everyday so our knowledge of what we know increases the more questions we have, the more we need to learn as it is a never ending cycle just like the Koru.



Koruru (Tāne te Wānanga ā Rangi)

Tāne i te Herenga

In the Maori tradition the passing of knowledge was passed down orally with relative features accompanying Tāne. The name Tāne i Te Herenga was chosen for the carving on the Whakatapu side (right side) of the waharoa as it was Tāne who ascended to the heavens to bring back the baskets of Knowledge.



Amo (Tāne i te Herenga)

Tane bestowed the knowledge of Nga Kete E Toru (Kete Aronui, Kete Tuauri and Kete Tuatea) orally to the Kōruru (Kaiako/ Tohunga) who would in turn bestow these teachings onto their selected chosen taurira in the Whare Wānanga (traditional learning house) represented by the main Koruru at the base of Tāne through the unbroken

connection to the past in the form of the surface design Niho Taniwha linking Tane, the Tohunga and the Taurira.

Tāne is holding a “Kō” which is a gardening tool associated with Rongo-mā-Tāne god of cultivated food but in this case the planting is not food for the puke but rather mātauranga for the ngākau of the taurira and Kaiako / tohunga collectively as in modern times one is always learning and more often we find ourselves looking to the past for inspiration for cultural awareness and identity. On the “Kō” is five round pua shell whatu these are to represent the 5 migrations of people starting with Waitaha, Mamoe, Ngāi Tahu (Ngati Waewae & Makaawhio), Colonial – Present and the future.

In the left hand of Tāne is the Nga Kete E Toru (three baskets of knowledge) “te kete tuauri, te kete tuatea and te kete aronui.

- Te kete aronui
 - This basket contained the of knowledge of aroha, peace and the arts and crafts which benefit the Earth and all living things, what’s more knowledge acquired through careful observation of the environment. It is also the basket of ritual, of literature, philosophy and is sometimes regarded as the basket of the humanities

- Te kete tuatea
 - The basket of ancestral knowledge of mākutū and whaiwhaiā and evil, including war also includes agriculture, tree or wood work, stone work and earth works.
- Te kete tuauri
 - The basket of sacred knowledge relates to the creation of the natural world and the patterns of energy that operate behind the world of sense perception and the realm of the tohunga. It includes the knowledge of *karakia*.

Special Note:

In Ngāti Kahungunu and Ngāi Tahu traditions the following names are for the Nga Kete E Toru with slightly differently defined.

- **Te kete uruuru matua** (Te kete aronui)
 - Basket of peace, goodness and love
- **Te kete uruuru tau** (Te kete tuatea)
 - Basket for the knowledge of war, agriculture, woodwork, stonework and earth work
- **Te kete uruuru rangi** (Te kete tuauri)
 - Basket of sacred knowledge, *karakia* and ritual



Koruru (Tāne i te Herenga)

The surface design “Niho Taniwha” (dragon teeth) on Tāne’s head and mouth down to the Koruru at the base is the passing of the strength knowledge orally, meanwhile the surface of the arms and legs “Raperape / Pakura” is the abundance and overflowing of knowledge from the four tides (Te Tai Tonga, Te Tai Rāwhiti,

Te Tai Hauāuru, Te Tai Tokerau). The background surface is “Poutama” or the stairway to heaven where the baskets were retrieved from by Tāne when he climbed to the citadel Te Tihi-o-Manono in the highest of the 12 heavens, known as Te Toi-o-ngā-rangi.

E L Kehoe

To balance the waharoa and anchor the Whakanoa side (left side), after an interesting discussion with William (Bill) Murphy there was only one choice “E L Kehoe”. Unlike the oral tradition of the Māori the Pākehā had the written word so everything on this carving was to embellish this concept.



Amo (E L Kehoe)

E L Kehoe was a teacher at Greymouth High School, author and had a radio show. In his honour there were gardens dedicated to him called Kehoe’s Garden the location of these gardens is where the pool was on the corner of Marlborough Street and High Street. Kehoe is the main figure of this Amo with a Kōruru for other teachers under his legs with two tekoteko figures in relief carving on top of the Kōruru representing the male and female students. The surface Unaunahi on the shoulders and arms it is for Ngā Tae E Whā or the four tides from where everyone came from to where they may go in their learning. Pakura is the surface on the legs and it is for the children of Tāne that Kehoe wrote

and talked about. Pakura is also on Kehoe’s stomach for Tai Poutini.

Kehoe is holding a Hoe (Paddle) to symbolize the five migrations and the vastness of knowledge that has come and still coming to Tai Poutini. This is represented by the five pāua shells down the Hoe. The large double koru is the starting point where all the people came from with the Kōwhaiwhai on the blade of the Hoe being the shores of Tai Poutini.



Koruru (E L Kehoe)

The male tekoteko is holding a quill while the female is holding a book. The surface Niho Taniwha (Serpent's Tooth) on the tekoteko's is to encourage strength through the teachings and learning bestowed upon them by the teachers of Grey High. This is the reason it is on the legs so the students can stand tall, on the arms and shoulders so they can use what is taught for their future.

The final piece to this carving is the Harakeke which grows abundant and is a great teaching and learning taonga. This starts with the roots at the base of the carving to the leaves and finally to the putiputi (flowers) next to Kehoe's mähunga (head). The symbolism of the Harakeke is the teachers are planting the seeds of knowledge into the students and these seeds grow and blossom for a brighter future.

Te Ao Mārama

Te Ao Mārama is the name of the Maihi and Raparapa on the Whakatapu side of the Waharoa. Four main parts make up Te Ao Mārama:

The first part is the Kōwhaiwhai design called Ka Māwheranui o ka kūwhā o Tu Te Rakiwhanoa after Tu Te Rakiwhanoa made the Māwhera gap by using his hips that incases Te Ao Mārama running along the top and bottom which also represents Ranginui and Papatūānuku.



The second part that made up Te Ao Mārama are the Takarangi Spirals with the Pāua shell inserts representing the separation of Rangī Nui and Papatūānuku thus letting the light and life of the world come into being. With the world of light and life thus came the knowledge accompanying it.



The third part is the Manaia, this is to represent the Tuatara on either side of the Māwhera River as the Tuatara were viewed as Taonga and as Guardians of Knowledge, along with the final piece being the Raparapa or fingers / claws holding out their welcoming embrace to the place of learning, the Whare Kura.

Te Whao Ao

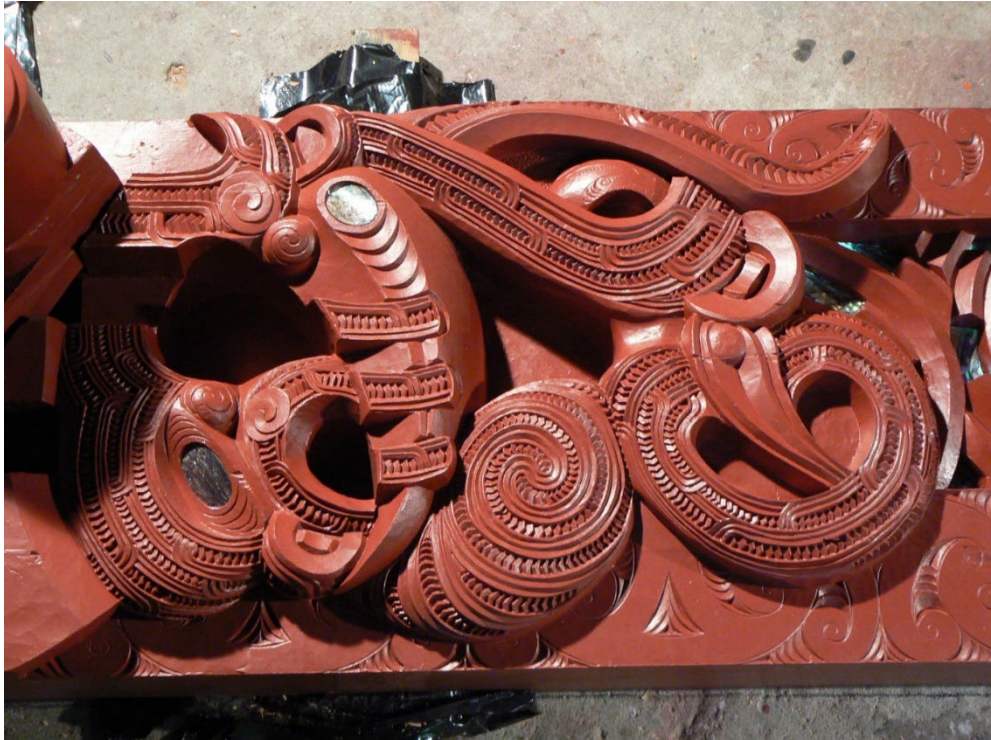
Te Whao Ao is the name of the Maihi on the Whakanoa side of the Waharoa. Four main parts make up Te Whao Ao:

The first part is the Kōwhaiwhai design called Ka Māwheranui o ka kūwhā o Tu Te Rakiwhanoa after Tu Te Rakiwhanoa made the Māwhera gap by using his hips that incases Te Whao Ao running along the top and bottom which also represents Rangīnui and Papatūānuku.



Maihi (Te Whao Ao)

The second part that makes up Te Whao Ao are the Takarangi Spirals with the Pāua shell inserts representing the separation of Rangī Nui and Papatūānuku thus letting the light and life of the world come into being. With the world of light and life thus came the knowledge accompanying it.



Manaia (Tuatara)

The third part is the Manaia, this is to represent the Tuatara on either side of the Māwhera River as the Tuatara were viewed as Taonga and as Guardians of Knowledge, along with the final piece being the Raparapa or fingers / claws holding out their welcoming embrace to the place of learning, the Whare Kura.

Carvers

Over the time a huge amount of learning was had as it was a true deep learning curve for all those involved.

One thing must be noted about everyone who voluntarily worked on this Waharoa, it was not for money as none was or would be accepted, in fact it was turned down by the carvers as a whole, not for glory as none that were involved had egos that needed proving but, rather it was for the taura and that was the motivation that kept us going.

The hardest situation for the carvers was that all had full time jobs or were students, the time away from their whānau during this project weighed heavily on the carvers and whānau alike. The work was done mostly at night through hot summer nights to freezing cold winter nights.

These are the carvers who stayed till the end of the Waharoa project:

- Wayne Secker
- Colin MacDonald
- Micheal Rarere

These tangata contributed as much time as they could to the project:

- Peter Mason (Patch)
- John DeGoldi
- Rory Coghlan
- Paul Bradford
- Gary Coghlan
 - Gary Coghlan actually bled during his time working on the project when he misused the Toki and struck his foot twice.
- Shane Vanderclay
- Sam Tahatu

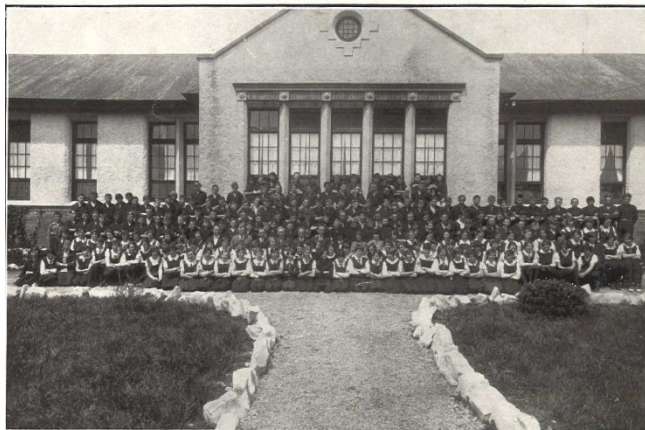


1920s

Greymouth Technical High School came about as an amalgamation of the post-primary department of the Greymouth District High School and pupils who were attending separate technical classes which were held in town.

The school faced enormous challenges in that on the first day in 1923, 225 students assembled, more than had pre-enrolled or anticipated. Right at the outset the school was under-funded and over-crowded, a cry we often hear 100yrs later!

In 1924 the grounds were able to be developed into playing fields. Students undertook much of the work themselves.



baths and in 1928 held their first swimming sports there.

In 1929 the school sustained damage from the Murchison earthquake M7.3 – this took a little recovering from. Today our school is earthquake strengthened specifically to withstand major damage.



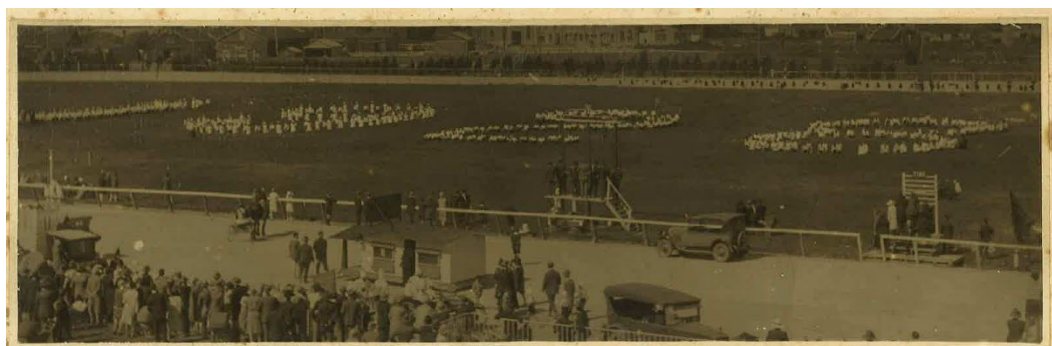
STAFF 1923.

MESSEURS E. KEHOE, G. MITCHELL, J. HUTTON (Principal), JOHNSTONE, SCOTT, W. JUDKINS, W.B. HUTTON.

MISSES T. ANDERSON, WICK, CLARK, HARDCASTLE, ROBINSON.

Finally in 1925 after being so overcrowded there was an opening of a new wing. Male students continued to undertake development and landscaping of the grounds. In 1927 the hostel opened and it is noted that the school provided a Guard of Honour for the Duke of York who visited Greymouth that year.

The school helped raise funds for the building of town municipal swimming







PREFECTS

ENA TILLEYSHORT (Head), E. MORRIS, E. CAMBRIDGE, J. BOOTH, S. SHUTTLEWORTH, C. KYLE, W. R. HALL, A. BALDWIN, E. HOWES.



KING & QUEEN CARNIVAL GROUP

Facing Page 27



FIRST XV 1926

F. BELL, V. MABIN, W. DALY,
L. SHUTTLEWORTH, R. BIRCHFIELD, R. HAGLUND, D. ABBIE, C. KYLE, K. SHIRLAW
N. WYLDE, J. KYLE, A. BALDWIN, S. SHUTTLEWORTH (Capt.), W. CLARKE, A. ELLERY, J. MINEHAN
R. MURRAY, W. TENNENT, M. SMITH, O. SCOTT

1930s

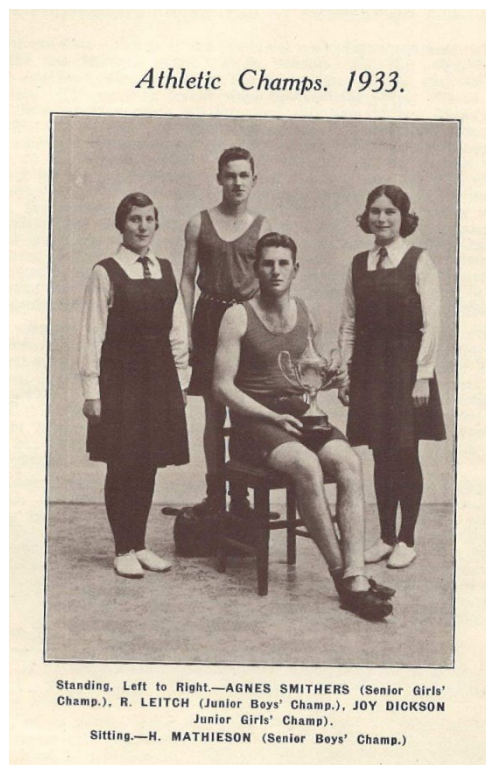
By the 1930's the school was expanding again with an extension of the north wing. Plans had been prepared for an assembly hall. The school was affected by the Depression with students staying on longer at school due to the lack of jobs. A number of issues of the Mawhera Gazette were not published in

the 1930's due to lack of school funds. This was also a decade during which the school had two new Principals, Robert McLaren and William Stewart.



Back Row: M. Price, D. Greenhill, J. Smith, K. Mintrom.
Front Row: J. Morris, D. Bunt, F. McDonald, M. Tyson, D. Galland.

Continuous development of the fields went on, with facilities being improved all the time in that regard.



Standing, Left to Right.—AGNES SMITHERS (Senior Girls' Champ.), R. LEITCH (Junior Boys' Champ.), JOY DICKSON (Junior Girls' Champ.).
Sitting.—H. MATHIESON (Senior Boys' Champ.)

A change of Principal saw prayers instituted at morning assembly. The school arboretum was expanded and trees were planted around the school to mark Arbor Day.

The roll stayed steady at around 360 for all of the 1930's. In 1939 WWII started, a depressing moment for many of the young men. Like all of New Zealand, the school suffered the loss, austerity and shortages during the war years which resulted in the death of 37 old boys. Alongside war, the school also had to deal with polio outbreaks in 1937 and 1948.



CORONATION DAY.



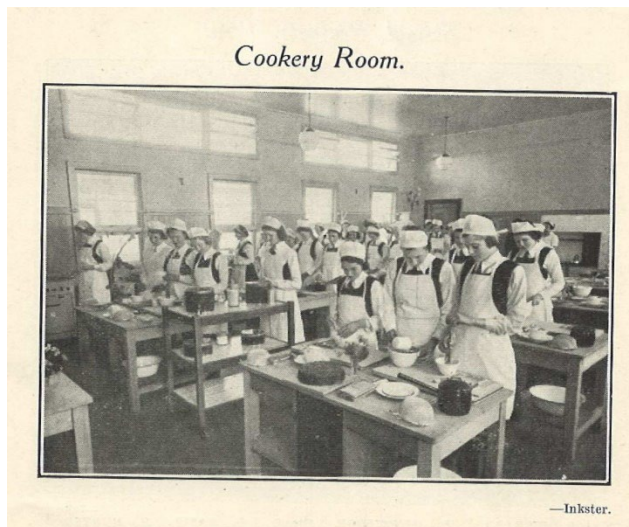
His Excellency the Governor-General leaving the School.



THE PROCESSION.

1940s

The 1940's were largely marred by war and the austerity that followed it. The school regularly notes the return of staff from military service and sadly throughout the war features Rolls of Honour for those who lost their lives in service.



The roll was at its peak in 1945 of 476. In 1941 a sharp drop in the roll was noted as students were absorbed into war-time industrial vacancies. Monies raised went toward patriotic purposes and the Mawhera Gazette was halved in size due to paper shortages.

WWII ended in 1945 and there is a noticeable increase in school activities that are fun. The fete was held in 1946, the first in three years. The Old

Students' Association was also revived after a lapse of some years.

The polio epidemic in 1948 resulted in students not returning to school until March,



although staff were available from February.



1949 saw students visit cultural activities in Christchurch organized by Miss Ray and girls softball was introduced.

Staff
1948.



MESSRS. H. C. HOOPER, W. B. HUTTON, D. P. FRASER, J. C. GILBERT, L. E. TWEEDIE, B. J. TINDALE (left), A. L. LITT, A. V. SCANLON, W. S. H. WICK, W. A. JUDKINS, MISSES I. F. REID, I. M. STUART, MESSRS. E. L. KEHOE, J. D. LYON, G. W. ORMANDY, MRS. J. WILSON (Registrar, left), MISSES K. MACDONALD, M. E. RAY, MESSRS. W. M. STEWART (Principal), G. M. MITCHELL, MRS. W. S. H. WICK, MISS E. C. WALLACE

THE MAWHERA GAZETTE

A Model School

When in some future time I shall have an enormous fortune, I shall establish a school which no one will have to be bullied into attending. There will be no lesson assignments, no instructors, no prescribed courses of study. The entire scope of school activities will consist of extra-curricula interests. If the pupils want to follow the text-book method of studying in some of their work, they may do so. There will be no set time for reaching school, unless the students desire to meet together at some time to talk over their work, and assist one another. When school is reached, each student may participate in whatever activity appeals to him at the moment.

There will be extensive libraries, laboratories, gymnasiums, musical instruments, reference books and other facilities that the student may wish to have.

The school will merely serve for a meeting place for people who wish to pursue knowledge in their own way, and at the same time, seek physical, cultural, or aesthetic advancement.

Perhaps, if I am not too old at that time, I shall start school all over again, myself.

—I. M. W. (Form 6a.)

Home Science Notes

The Home Science Girls are very good cooks,
The Home Science Girls are noted for looks,
The Home Science Girls are clever and bright
But they don't do very much homework at night.

At the beginning of this year our form numbered twenty-four; later four were added at the beginning of the second term, making a total of twenty-eight.

During the year we lost five of our happy group, four second year and one first year, namely, G. McIvor, J. Duggan, J. Tyson, N. McPherson and J. Davidson.

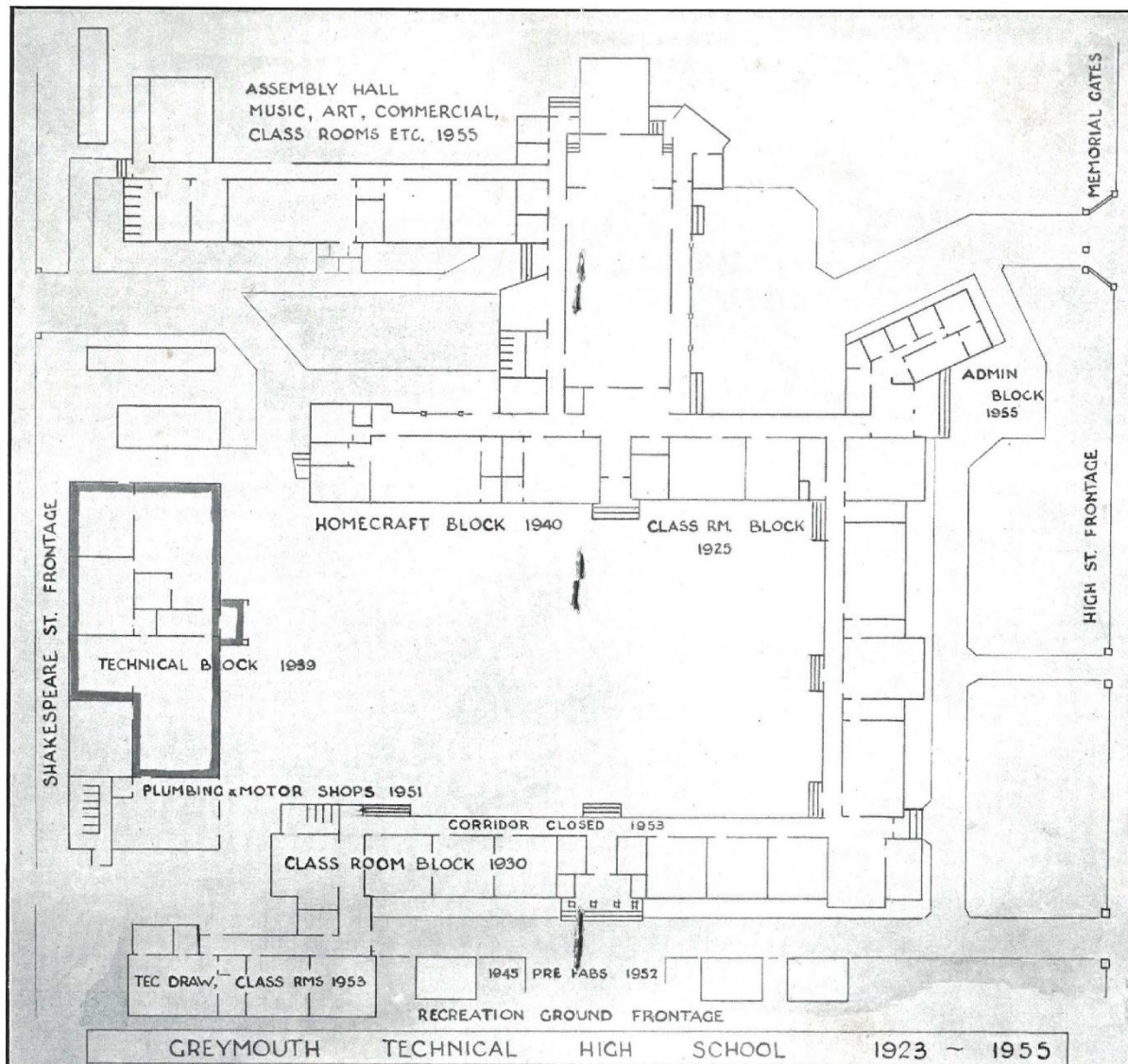
We had the pleasure of welcoming Joyce Clark from Wellington Girls' College, and Lyndsay Scott who changed over from C.II.

In our form are some excellent basketball players, including H. Gould, who plays in the A. team and four first-year girls who play in the Junior Team.

This form can also boast about our good cooks, four of whom won prizes for cookery on the day our school fete was held.

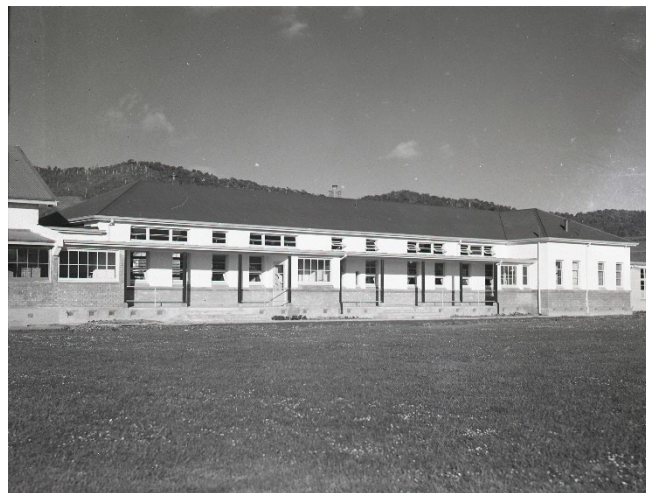
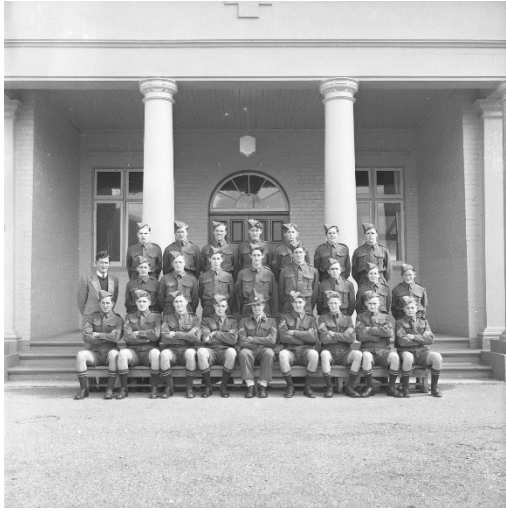
In our school procession, our form was well represented—the second year pupils turned out as teachers while the first year were Japanese girls.

1950s



The 1950's saw the roll vary from 410 to mid-500's. This was a period of some growth, particularly in facilities – the hostel and Coxon Hall were built, a new library and art room came into use, as well as work commencing on the swimming baths. A reunion was held in 1955 and dedication of the memorial gates was undertaken.

A number of key figures in the school passed in the late 1950's – the schools first Principal, Mr J Hutton, Principals Mr W Stewart and Mr R McLaren. The sudden death of the current Principal, Mr E Coxon in 1957 was a great shock to everyone. Mr E L Kehoe who is immortalised on our Waharoa entranceway retired and passed in the same decade, he was a foundation teacher of the school.

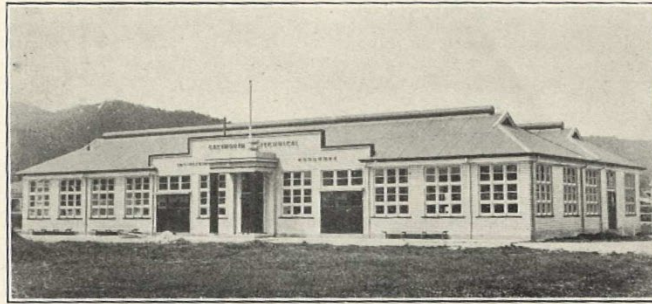




Coxon Hall Opening

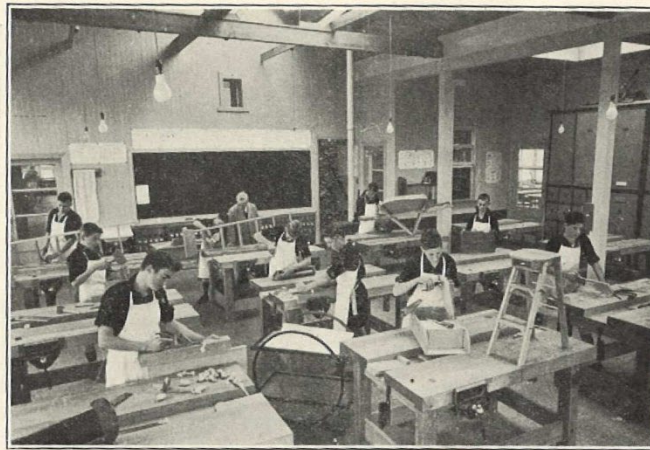


The New Engineering and Woodwork Block.



—Inkster.

Woodwork Shop.



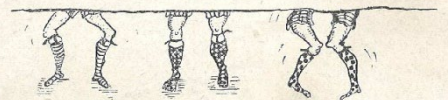
3 Principals 1955 Reunion
E. A. Coxon, J. Hutton, W. M. Stewart

SOCKS—

THE STAFF SEEM MOST PARTICULAR,
ABOUT OUR SOCKS—HOW HIGH THEY ARE,
DRAW US UP IN NEAT FORMATIONS,
DISCUSS AT LENGTH SOCK SITUATIONS;



THE FOLLOWING FASHIONS WILL THEY VIEW,
AND MANY VARIATIONS TOO,
THEN WITH THE VERY BEST INTENTION,
PLACE OFFENDERS IN DETENTION;



BUT OH! IF WE COULD ONLY SEE,
OUR MASTERS STYKISH HOSTERS.

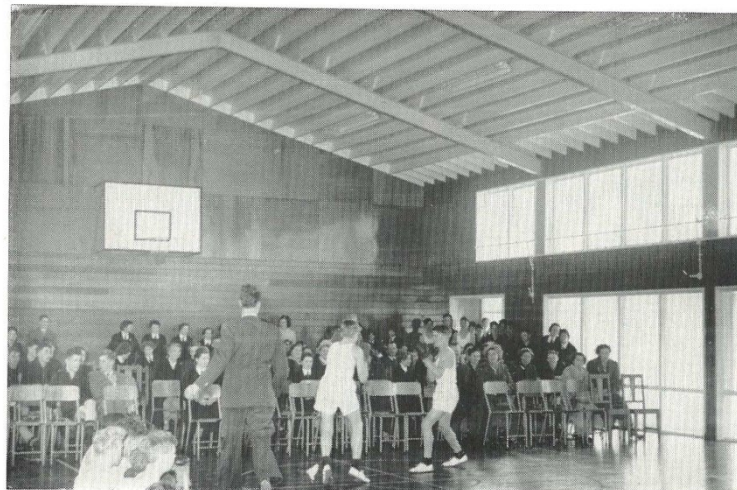
P.R.M.W.A



The Admirable Crichton – first play performed in Coxon Hall after opening.



Prefects 1951



A scene on Fete Day in the new gymnasium.

1960s



Miss Yvonne Rust, Art Mistress – October 1969

Archives New Zealand Te Rua Mahara o te Kāwanatanga

Wikipedia

In 1967 Yvonne moved to the West Coast and started teaching at Greymouth High School. In 1972, she retired from teaching, returned to her home region of Northland and became a fulltime potter at Parua Bay. In the 1983

New Year Honours Rust was awarded the QSM for community service. ¹ A few years later, she began painting and later received an award for her work from the NZ Academy of Fine Arts in Wellington.

In 1997, Rust returned to the West Coast to live in Runanga. She died in Greymouth in 2002, aged 79.

Annual Fetes were a big part of the school culture.

Greymouth High School Digital Archive

These photos are from 1960.



**Mike Bruce
& Miles Reay**



1960 Debutante Ball.....the glamour!



The 1960's saw a number of changes with the retirement of Miss Mabel Ray, a longstanding staff member who developed the initial GTHS logo. Miss Ray is still talked about in the 21st century.



In 1963 the roll reached almost 800.

Cultural activities and sporting efforts continued. One of the most famous sporting achievements was Dave McKenzie from Runanga, an old boy who won the 1967 Boston Marathon in a record time. Today we have the Dave McKenzie Gymnasium named after him.



In 1961 the school was renamed Greymouth High School, the Technical wording being removed. This necessitated only a small alteration to the already existing logo.

In 1966 the school uniform underwent a moderate revamp



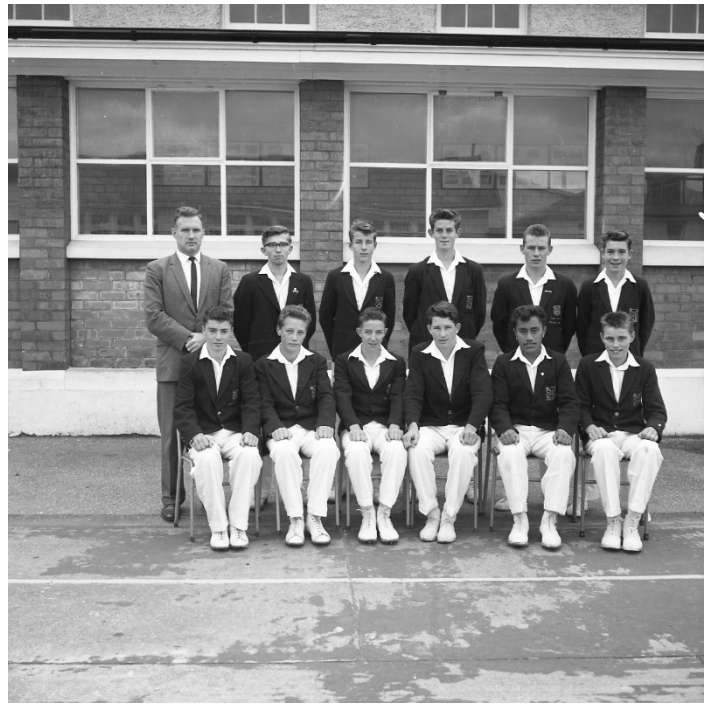
School Sports

Greymouth Technical High School Vs Christchurch West 1960



Throughout the 1960's





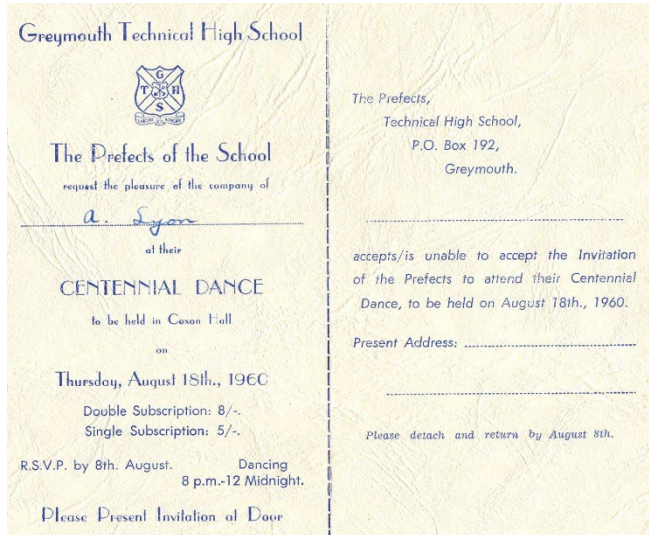
Sports Day 1967



School Sports Training for Boys



Music and culture was popular in addition to sports with visits to Christchurch to see drama performances and enthusiastic students taking part in orchestras and bands. There was even a cultural trip to Noumea.



Students supporting the centennial for Westland province



Front Row: KATHLEEN BLENKIRN, JEAN ROXBURGH, ALISON LIGGINS, JEANETTE HUGHES, JOAN MANNING, JANET BREMNER, MARGARET CAMPBELL, MAUREEN HUGHES, MISS F. WALLACE (Conductor).
Back Row: J. HENRY, K. LEITCH, G. LAING, H. KITCHIN, T. CAMPBELL, P. HODGKINSON.



1970's

23/03/1970

Copyright V C Brown & Son



In 1973 a reunion was held (50th) and enjoyed by many.

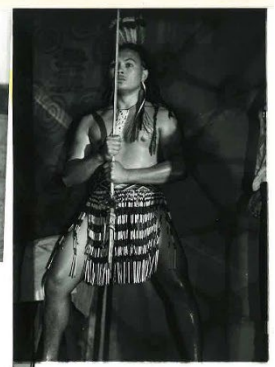
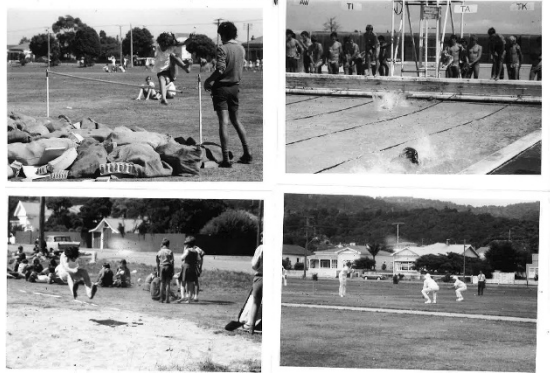
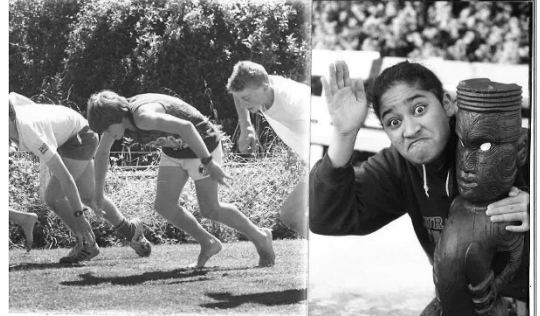
In 1978 the roll reached 912, the largest ever for Greymouth High School. During this time Des Hinch became Principal, he went on to be the longest serving Principal although not without controversy.

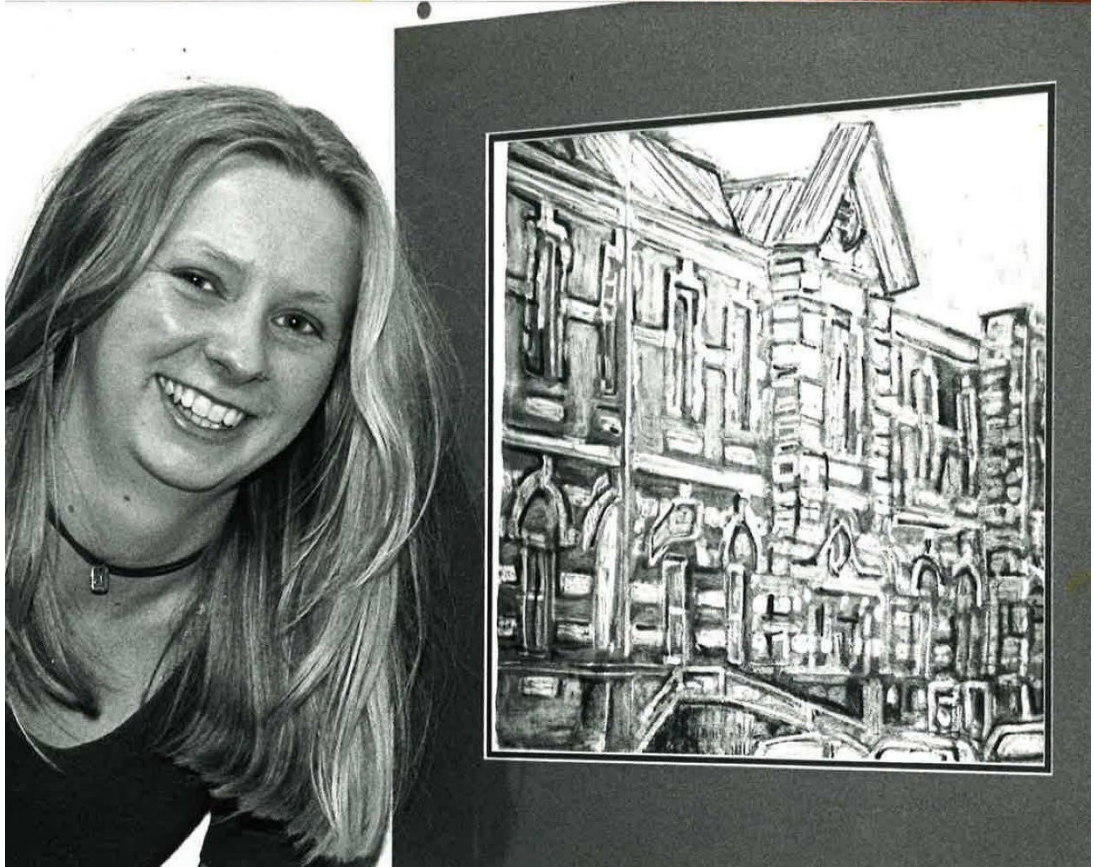
In general the 1970's passed without much incident, although the student voice became stronger and is now an integral part of school decision making.



1974 Greymouth High School 'B' Netball Team

Coach: Mrs Flora Beynon
Team: Beverley Tibbles (Captain), Jo Hart, Jennie Oliver, Alison Warnes, Margaret Neate, Margaret McNeish, Joanne Amott, Carol McTigue.





1980's

The 1980's appears to have been a bit controversial as it marked the end to many school traditions such as the Tribal system, Prefects and the strict uniform requirements. Things that had been regular cultural events with schools in Canterbury dropped off the agenda and staff were in and out from leave.

The school was declared nuclear free.

However, during this time the school expanded and specialized its curriculum, opening up new opportunities for students inside and outside the classroom. The late 1980's saw the introduction of computer suites and sporting opportunities were expanded to include surfing and skiing to name a few. This liberalization of the school was the greatest change of direction the school had seen.



In 1989 concern was noted over the introduction of *Tomorrow's Schools*. A drop in numbers of students meant staff reductions had to be made. It was noted that more students were staying on into the 7th Form.



1990's

The 1990's began with the introduction of Tomorrow's Schools. In 1991 a Board of Trustees was elected with Ray Gunn as Chair.



**GREYMOUTH
HIGH SCHOOL**

Te Kura Tuarua
O Mawhera

In 1992 there were two scandals which damaged the public faith in the school. However the decade had many great achievements. The Science Department won a Bayer Chemical grant in 1993, a new logo was introduced and the schools Asian student exchange programme helped fund a roof for the swimming pool and new computer suites.

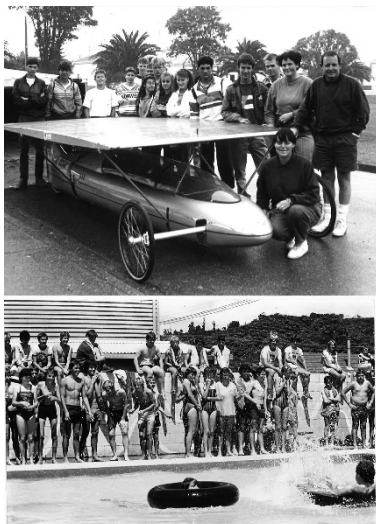
One of the major school achievements was a group of 11 students led by Rob Roney and Malcolm Deverson attending the 1995 UNESCO World Youth Forum in Norway as New Zealand's delegation.

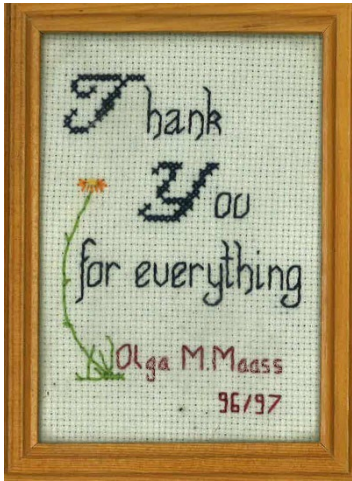
The decade also saw the appointment of John Mote as Principal in 1992, followed by Arthur Graves in 1997.

Jack Flood retired after 35 years teaching at the school.

The roll was very up and down, meaning staff who had been earlier made redundant were reinstated. Structural changes to classes happened and school houses were introduced which remain until this day – Kahurangi, Pounamu, Rata and Tawa. More liberalization of students wearing jewellery occurred and students were allowed to wear hats inside. Hostel numbers were reducing steadily.

Mr J Thomson, former Principal passed in 1997.





Greymouth High School
Boys Hockey Team 1997
Founders Cup - Held in Rotorua

BACK: Tim Wilson, Simon McIlroy, Aaron Amyes, Lyndon Greening
MIDDLE: Adrienne Stackhouse (Manager) Brad Knowles (Capt) Aaron Potts, Jarrad Roberts, Vaughan Rankin, Murray Gill (Coach)
FRONT: James Caird, Nigel Roberts, Scott Gibbens, Andrew Sheard, Gareth Matheson, Michael McPaike, Kurtis Ferrin-Smith

© Damer Farrell Photography

**South Island Secondary Schools
Netball Tournament
OAMARU 1997**



GREYMOUTH HIGH SCHOOL





2000's

Around 2015 saw the closure of the school hostel (now a subdivision next to the hospital) as patronage had got down to one student. This time also saw the development and upgrade of many new buildings such as the new Technology Block, a new gymnasium (Dave McKenzie) and Te Whare Akoranga.

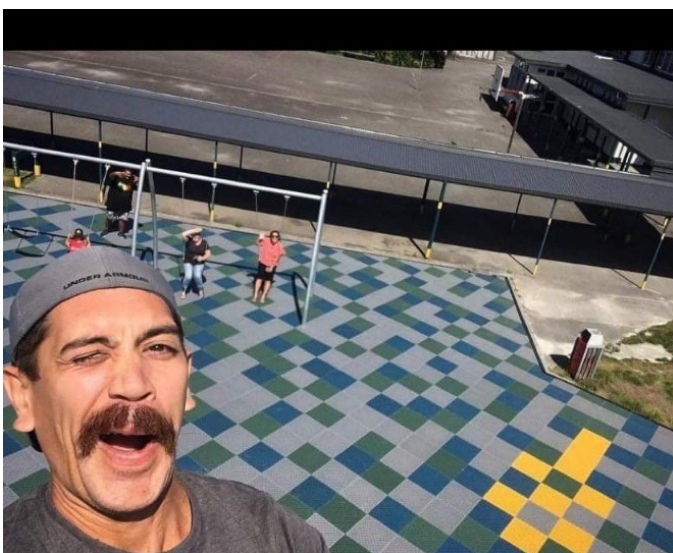


Following the appointment of Principal Jim Luders in 2008, the school again faced challenging times and the Ministry of Education appointed a Commissioner. Acting Principals helped to restore order and a permanent Principal, Andy England was appointed in 2013. With the support of the whole school and wider community, the school regained its composure and focus. Karoro Learning, a tertiary private training enterprise owned by Greymouth High School, was sold off. Mawhera Services Academy and the West Coast Trades Academy re-situated to the Greymouth High School campus. The swimming pool was demolished due to the state of the roofing structure and the neighbouring Council owned pool complex.

A new logo and uniform was introduced in 2017, along with a change in the schools vision and values. Greymouth High School formed a formal cluster with most of its contributing primary schools and continues to operate collaboratively with the community.



Student achievement and pride has continued to improve along with social diversity, key features now include a Kaupapa Maori Pathway, a substantial learning support resource, a space for students facing obstacles to learning through anxiety, and plans for external agencies to be based on site to provide better access to support for students.



Development of the site continues with recent additions being the playground area and artificial turf courts around the south quad area. Half the school has been painted in new, more modern colours and the remainder will be painted when building works are completed – these include new joinery, refurbishment of the science and social science blocks and other works to update interiors. It has been a challenging last 10 years but we are finally getting on top of all

the deferred maintenance that the school could simply not afford. We are grateful for a grant for our artificial turf courts from the NZ Community Trust and the Ministry of Education has supplied additional supplementary funding for infrastructure.



KAUPAPA MĀORI PATHWAY - Nga Here Kahikatea

Kahikatea tū i te uru - Standing strong together.

Kahikatea can't stand on their own so they spread their roots and intertwine them with other kahikatea roots to keep themselves and others stable. Ngāhere means forest, but Ngā Here, is referring to being tied together like Kahikatea - we are each other's strength.

The Kaupapa Māori Pathway started in 2020 with the aim to create a space where rangatahi can be engaged in Te Ao Māori every day, with a culture of high expectations where learners grow from their strengths to become the best versions of themselves. Our goal is to provide a kaupapa Māori pathway so that our students learn and stand empowered as Māori.



Ngā Here Kahikatea is a whānau core class, which has five to six learners from each year level, taking in five new year nines each year. An interview process happens to help determine new students and their commitment to kaupapa Māori. We have flexible options for subject choices in years 12 and 13, it can be a mentor class for interested senior students.

Ngā Here Kahikatea is an environment where our rangatahi can feel proud to be Māori. Our learning consists of:

- Daily karakia, waiata, mihimihi and use of tikanga and te reo Māori.
- Based in te Ao Māori (Maramataka, Matariki/Puanga, manaakitanga, raranga, kapa haka, mau rākau, pūrākau etc).
- Using an increasing amount of te reo Māori.
- A place where everyone is welcome.

- Requires whānau 'buy in' and there is constant contact, with whānau helping out where they can.
- A place to discover what being Māori can mean, to learn the aspects we haven't yet experienced, and to share the experiences we have had.
- A school whānau, giving us a sense of belonging.
- A place with high expectations on individuals to be part of something bigger - uplifting our own mana and the mana of others.



THE HOSTEL

Greymouth High School hostel was constructed to fulfil a need to provide secondary education for rural students on the West Coast, an initiative of James Hutton, Principal at the time. By the end of 1927 boarders were in residence, the earliest co-educational hostel in New Zealand. The official opening was not held until 10 February 1928, by the Hon O J Hawken, the then Minister of Agriculture.



HOSTEL

K.Bryan, T.Siolo, T.Rauli, R.Cross, K.Johnston, T.Martin, T.Marii, G.Graham, T.Bowen, R.Harcourt, K.Peterson, R.Diedrichs, A.McArthur.

Roberta Martin, A.Aspinall, P.Robertson, E.Preston, T.Penala, J. Buchanan, J.Hannah, H.Griffiths, T.Tangata, Valma Kelly, Margaret Russell.

Pamela Richards, Mary Neal, Pamela Rowley, D.Lee, G.Lee, E.Keene (Head Prefect) A.Gillingham (Prefect) M.Shearer (Prefect) D.Nyberg, I.Ioane, Val Linklater, Kiliheke Taulilo, Tunaga Tamaloa.

Margaret Rowley, Mary Evans, Mavis Rowe, Mr.B.Johnson, Mrs.H.Cotton, Miss B.Armstrong, Mr.L.Sullivan, Elsa Gillingham (Prefect) Nooroa Toko, Lillian Jackson.

The hostel complex included two dormitories providing accommodation for up to 40 students and during the 1950s a further two dormitories were added, along with a house master's residence. The Matron always lived on site, and for nearly 80 years various matrons have provided home away from home care and support to borders.

Students initially came from farming and sawmilling communities from Karamea to Haast, however as area schools were built and with improved roading and bus services, a decline in numbers attending

the hostel began to impact. An initiative to increase patronage resulted in groups of Pacific Island students attending GHS and boarding at the hostel through the 1950's and into the late 1970's. Sadly, in the 1990's, and in the early part of the 21st century, numbers became unsustainable and the hostel was sold, finally being demolished for a new housing subdivision in 2015.

It would be appropriate at this time to acknowledge the commendable efforts of those who tried to save the hostel. Long serving Board of Trustees Chairperson Ray Gunn, and hostel Board representative, the late Tony Wood, went above and beyond in their attempts to try and secure the hostel's future. As the Board's representative Tony's support for the hostel, its boarders and Mrs McSorley as Matron included not only advocating for its retention but also many hours of on site practical assistance.

As the Board's representative Tony's support for the hostel, its boarders and Mrs McSorley as Matron included not only advocating for its retention but also many hours of on site practical assistance.



From the very beginning, when Mr & Mrs Hutton opened their home in 1927 to house the first six boarders while waiting for the completion of the hostel, through the following 75 plus years, students have benefited from so many who have given their time and efforts to ensure rural students have had the very best of opportunities to succeed.



A committee is currently being formed to host an

Easter 2025 Greymouth High School hostel gathering. Planning will begin at this GHS reunion. Please take the opportunity to discuss this during the reunion. Expressions of interest and support can be made over the next two years via hostelgathering@gmail.com, or C/- 15 Wilson Crescent, Karoro, Greymouth 7805.

A book will be produced and we ask you to consider writing and sharing your memories, poems, photos and other memorabilia with the committee as soon as possible to assist in making this a very special GHS hostel commemorative book.



SCHOOL HOUSE - 1961

- FRONT ROW: M. Mitchell; C. Ilton; R. Black; W. Diedrichs; P. McBride; K. Anderson; R. Begg; I. Wilson; L. Magatoa; P. Arnold; T. Jacobs; R. Burgess; J. Davidson.
- SECOND ROW: S. Hayden; B. Burgess; M. Nolan; S. Dawes; Mr R. Macfarlane (House Manager); Mrs C. Cotton (Matron); Mr L. Sullivan (House Master); Miss V. Hill (House Mistress); T. Martin; M. Robertson; R. Woolhouse; R. Scott; S. Dunn; P. Bissel.
- THIRD ROW: M. Davidson; B. Jackson; D. McArthur; G. Rowley; G. Jacobs; J. Gardiner; E. McNabb; B. Young; H. Gardiner; M. Dunn; A. Seowan; S. Mitchell; L. Ford.
- BACK ROW: B. McArthur; N. Keene; I. Jacobs; B. Patchett; W. Morris; D. Vincent; J. Cowan; K. Anderson; P. Fisher; S. Davidson; E. Johansen; M. Fitzsimon.



High School Hostel (1968) Uploaded by [Alan Stewart](#)

If you are in this photo then you can [link your name to your profile](#)

Row 4	Kevin Wratt	Bruce Burgess	Ronald Webber	Arthur Fraser	Steven O'Leary	George Friend	Noel Friend	Clifford Morris	John Bailey	Ross Levett	Milan Arnold	Mervyn Hewlett	Laurence Carter	Wayne Mckenzie	Bruce Stewart	Ian Davidson	Alan Stewart	Geoffrey Stewart
Row 3	William Robertson	William Liao	Barry Horne	John Stewart	Andrew Robertson	David Mckenzie	Rex Cummings	Ian Stewart	John Hillier	Graham Flemming	Noel Glass	Rex Reinhammer	Laurence Anderson	Ronald Richards	Yang Hin Chi			
Row 2	Robert Donaldson	Maureen Barrington	Glenys Butterworth	Diane Campbell	Dawn Wilson	Robyn Godfrey	Jennifer Stewart	Ngairi Edens	Lynette Mckenzie	Sheryl Piner	Karen Mckenzie	Judy Campbell	Lorraine Glass	Ann Donaldson	Marilyn Norton-Taylor	Sylvia Dobbin	Wayne Barrington	John Dobbin
Row 1	Glenda Davidson	Ann Burgess	Jennifer Godfrey	Carolyn Hewlett	Jeff Richards	George Rowley	Miss Rust	Mr Davis	Mrs Hillier	Mr Roberts	Miss Roberts	Phillippa Williams	Graham Kitchin	Susan Hewlett	Janice Flemming	Wilma Bartlett		



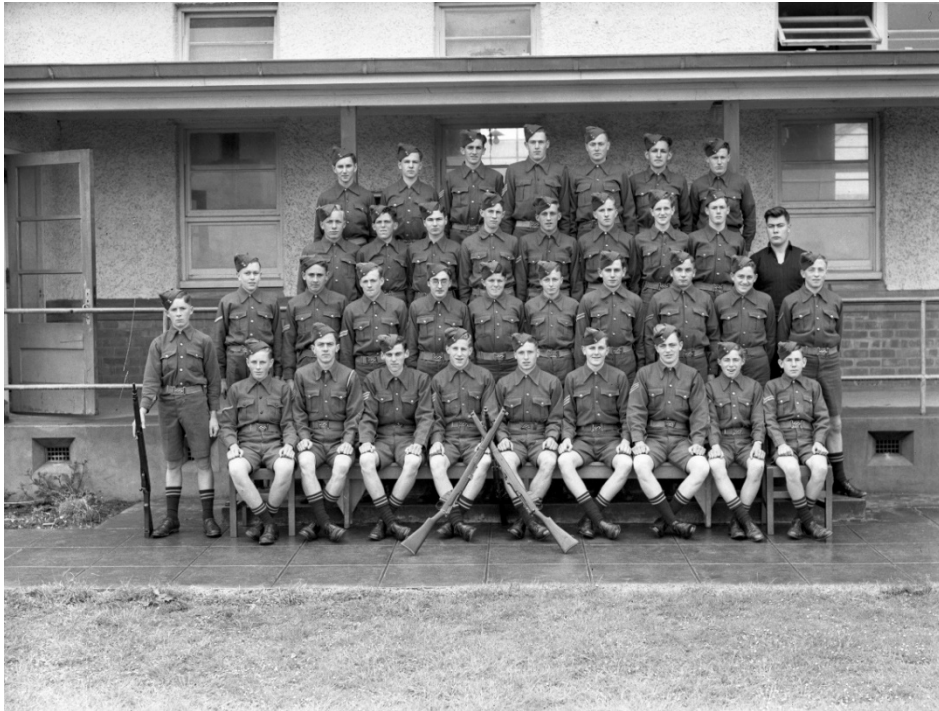
High School Hostel (1971) Uploaded by [Janet Curtin](#)

If you are in this photo then you can [link your name to your profile](#)

Row 3	Shirley Stewart	Gary Sutton	Ngairi Tuck	Boon Heng Tan	Gillian Annear	Kelvin Hooper	Evelyn Pitman	Glenn Tomlinson	Janet Graham	Graeme Pitman	Glenys Butterworth	Lindsay Warburton	Lorraine Tuck
Row 2	Robert Donaldson	Barry Wratt	Ian Molloy	Brendan Green	Kevin Gibb	Alister Annear	Laurence Anderson	Alan Stewart	Kerry McVicar	Geoffrey Stewart	Peter Butterworth		
Row 1	Glenys Klempel	Ross Levett	Yvonne Hahn	Ian Dalzell	Miss Rust	Mr Farrell	Mrs Bassett	Diane Campbell	William Bannister	Evelyn Hewlett	Russell Gibb		

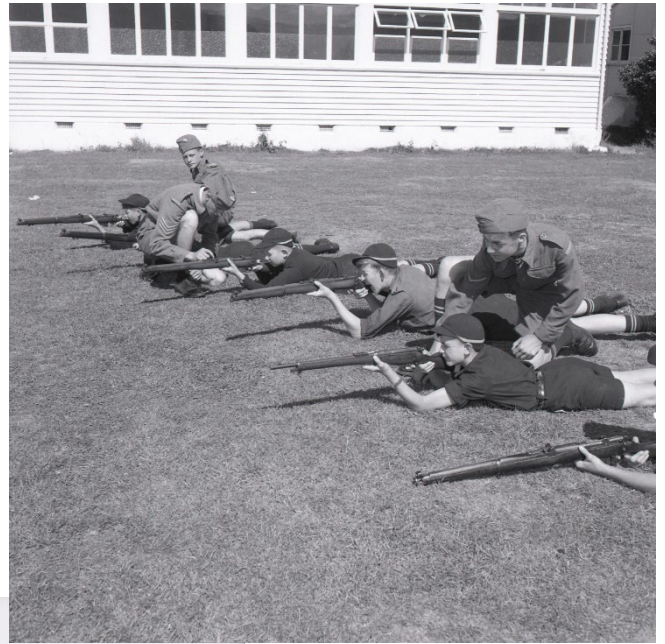
CADETS

1946



1960s





Mawhera Services Academy



In 1996 Allan Wilson (ex-British Army) was the Careers Advisor at the school. Allan saw many young people with little self-discipline and he felt that if discipline was imposed from the outside some of it might stick. He wanted to run a military type programme within the school but at that time it was not agreed by the school.

In 1998 John Wentworth, then a soldier in the NZ Army, contacted Allan to ask if the army could assist the school. This started a long chain of events which saw the formation of "Outdoor Challenge 2000" which was for students at risk of leaving school unprepared for work or further training. The programme ran for a term with the last couple of weeks being completed at Burnham Military Camp. "Outdoor Challenge" was very successful.

After some talk, the NZ Army invited the new Principal of Greymouth High School, Arthur Graves, to visit Burnham Military Camp and the Linwood Services Academy located in Christchurch at Linwood College. This was to see how an Academy was run and it linked closely with the army. Arthur was very impressed and asked if Greymouth High School could do something similar.

In 2001 funding was granted from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) and Phillip Woods was appointed as Director. In 2002 the first intake of students went through the Mawhera Services Academy (MSA). Phillip then built the Academy up from practically nothing and ran a very successful programme until early 2007 when he joined the NZ Police force.

2008 saw John Wentworth join as Director and Lisa Mellish (both ex-NZ Army) as Assistant Director. The Academy continued on in its

Mawhera Services Academy – 2011



Back Row: Hope Bedgood, Jesse Roberts, Anthony Beaumont, Zane Kaahu and Makayla Hippolite
Centre Row: John Wentworth (Director), Michael Hingston, Janae Lowry, Kura Gray, Christine Kelly, Nathan Lives, Anthony Watson, Troy Bennington and Lisa Mellish (Assistant Director)
Front Row: Jean Cave, Kody Murray, Sean Hargreaves, Laken Richardson, Stephen King, Balcy Hills and Ethan Long

professional, no nonsense way to ensure our youth are empowered to achieve, with support, encouragement and knowledge. Sadly, in 2008 Alastair Bromley, one of our students died in an accident while out on an activity with the Academy. He will never be forgotten.

In 2017 Brett Lomey (ex-NZ Army) joined us as Staff and the Academy relocated to the Greymouth High School site. It has been a great thing for other students to see the Academy in action around the site and Staff Lomey now runs a CACTUS type programme (which helps build positive relationships) as a taster for students who might be thinking about moving into the Academy in their senior years. Students can come into the Academy programme from Year 11.



Moving onto site restored the tradition of flag raising and lowering and this formal ceremony is carried out every school day the students are on site. We often see passers by or visitors watching. The students wear a different uniform to our others and are easily identifiable. We are proud of them taking part in the ANZAC Day services around the area each year.



Many of our Academy students have gone on to serve in the regular forces, Army, Navy and Air Force, as well as successfully transitioning to work in our local area. Their achievements are often most important to

themselves as individuals, overcoming personal challenges and other difficult circumstances to succeed.

Burnham 2023



WEST COAST TRADES ACADEMY -Through the Years...



In 2009 a proposal by Greymouth High School, led by then Principal Arthur Graves, on behalf of all West Coast secondary and Area schools was put forward to the Minister of Education to establish a Trades Academy on the West Coast. The proposal was provisionally approved by the Minister, and establishment funding was provided in early 2010.

In February 2010, Greymouth High School commissioned further research into the practicalities of establishing the Trades Academy. In early 2011, the West Coast Trades Academy became a reality. The purpose of the Trades Academy was to assist students to identify and begin their pathway to vocational training and employment while still enrolled at school.

The responsibility of the management of the West Coast Trades Academy was initially delegated to Karoro Learning, a subsidiary of Greymouth High School, led by Russell Nimmo. Karoro Learning employed the WCTA's first Manager, Sarah Caseley in the same year. The lead provider for the training was Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP).



The new West Coast Trades Academy, through TPP, provided training for sixty Year 11 to 13 students in five different subjects including hospitality, early childhood education, building and construction, as well as mechanical and automotive engineering. Students attended Trades Academy one day per week.

The popularity of the West Coast Trades Academy quickly grew, with elevated engagement from students who benefited from learning essential workplace skills while boosting their NCEA results at NCEA levels 2 and 3. Employment outcomes for Trades Academy students were high, which, with the positive NCEA results and strong attendance records led the Ministry of Education to increase funding year on year, supporting more and more students to attend Trades Academy courses.



By 2015, the Trades Academy was funded for 165 places and offered a wider variety of courses to meet the demands of regional and national employment opportunities. New courses included Outdoor Leadership, Cookery and Computer Programming. The format of courses also started to change, with a new partnership with experiential learning experts Whenua Iti Outdoors. Whenua Iti offered week long block courses in Manaaki Tapoi, meeting an essential gap in the Trades Academy curriculum and this led the way to change the traditional format of one day per week learning.



The development of the West Coast Trades Academy changed further in 2016, when Karoro Learning closed and the Trades Academy was re-homed based at Greymouth High School. A new Manager, Tania Washer took the opportunity to review courses, school engagement and learning outcomes.

In 2018, the WCTA offered a new Music Sound and Audio course through weeklong block courses at MAINZ in Christchurch, and Whenua Iti courses increased to offer Adventure Leadership, Uniformed Services and Tourism Operations.

Fast forward to 2023 and Greymouth High school remains the lead provider for the West Coast Trades Academy, with a huge 245 students from across the West Coast secondary and area schools now in attendance. A third training provider, Papa Taiao Earthcare completes the range of courses offered, specialising in one of the fastest growing employment sectors, conservation and earthcare.



The West Coast Trades Academy has gone from strength to strength over the years, becoming an essential part of secondary education for all West Coast High schools and looks forward to continuing its success, with the support of Greymouth High School for years to come.

