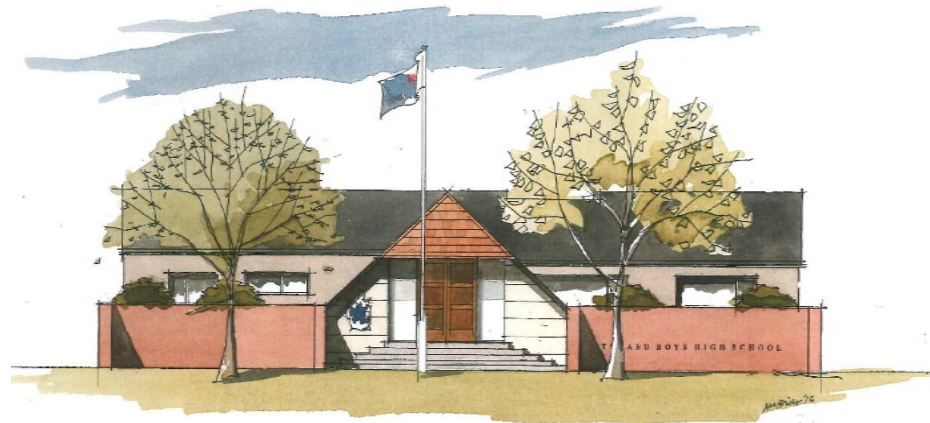




TIMARU BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

The New TBHS Front Entrance: The Gillies Block Refurbishment 2017



Project Background

Timaru Boys' High School has worked since 2015 to improve its main block entrance and associated space, to develop not only the physical environment but service to its community. A refurbishment was undertaken from late 2016 to make the school's front entrance more accommodating and inclusive for guests; especially visiting families. The design takes its lead from our treasured Memorial Library (refer to the photographs below). The entrance has also been rebuilt to convey better the achievements of our young men, from the past and present, and the calibre of the school and community itself.

This project has aimed to address an ongoing access problem as well. Families reported previously finding it difficult and frustrating to locate and access the front counter and its services from North Street, and with it to feel welcomed with ease on first arrival. This arose because after the demolition of the Edwardian main building in the 1970s, visitors entered the replacement building through a small, obscure, ingressed side door, on the south-eastern corner.

This was the only way to access our 'first contact' services and support at the main office and counter, unless people walked right around to the opposite side of the building on the western side. To do this, necessitated walking past middle management and support staff offices, the sick bay, and storage rooms once inside, to get to the main counter.

To remedy this, the old front step and landing space has been converted to new internalised office space, and the front steps have been shifted 'around the corner' to the centre of the southern side of the building, to open things up. The Sick Bay on the corner of the block has remained where it was and been upgraded at the same time – instructed and funded by the Ministry of Education.

The Gillies refurbishment is giving us a more obvious and 'user-friendly' main entrance and better flow through to the front counter. By broadening the foyer and lifting its height, more room and natural light has been brought into the main entrance area too. This change will free up more room for families for better service, and for student and school material to be readily available to them, 'fit for purpose'. The new entrance will also be more befitting a traditional school like ours, and more consistent with our school vision of generating school pride while meeting the needs of our young men and their whanau as best as we can.

With this new foyer comes an opportunity for the Old Boys Association to showcase TBHS heritage material, and to promote the Associations good work with and for Old Boys and the school. Significant donors, from the past and present, will be recognised on the new oak walls going up too.

Where to Next

To achieve all of this improvement Old Boy support has been critical. The support of individual Old Boys, and of the Foundation itself, has been instrumental in producing what we can soon all enjoy. Completion of the job is anticipated within the next few weeks. We have reached the exciting last stage of making decisions about furnishings and other final items to be added. With these in mind, we now make a 'call' to Old Boys out there who may be interested in supporting acquisition of one or more of the following items:

- School lettering and branding (metal) to be fixed on the new brick wall beside the new front steps: \$2610
- Donor recognition boards and signwriting to include previous significant new Gym/Development Trust donors as well: \$3000
- Furniture for visitors and families in reception: 3 seater leather sofa and 3 chairs: \$7000
- Plasma screen and data cabling for exhibiting TBHS/Old Boy audio-visual material: \$1500

Total: \$14110

We need your support to finalise this long awaited project.

Please make donations direct to the Old Boys Foundation Bank Account number: 123159 0038004 00 identified as 'Gillies Project'

Cheques can be mailed to: Timaru High School Old Boys Foundation c/- 211 North Street, West End, Timaru 7910.

As the Foundation has charitable status, all donations are tax deductible.

If you would like to contribute to these items, please pay direct to the above account number of via cheque. Any enquires please make contact with Alistair Wing, Chair of the Old Boys' Foundation, at PH: 0274 996 575 or awing@xtra.co.nz or Nick Mclvor, Rector, at PH: 0274429789 or mcivorni@timaruboysschool.nz . We would love an immediate response as we are endeavouring to complete this project before the 30th June.

Support for one or more of these items, would be appreciated greatly by the school, and would receive appropriate public recognition in our school community.

These items may lend themselves to 'adoption' by a single branch or Old Boy 'class from the past' or another such group, or to the generosity of individuals wishing to support the school in this endeavour.

Scientia Potestas Est.

Yours sincerely,

Alistair Wing
Chair
Timaru Boys' High School Old Boys' Foundation

Nick Mclvor
Rector
Timaru Boys' High School

Photos of the new entrance and foyer as of 17 May.















