



Tāmaki College

EAST AUCKLAND

In This Edition...

Remembering Matua Wally, our former Kaumātua.
Staff members head back to School.
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Plus Pink Shirt Day.



A Mighty Tōtara Has Fallen — Te Wera Nopera Wally Noble, Tāmaki College Kaumātua and Caretaker

Te Wera Nopera, or Wally Noble as we know him, hails from the village of Pamapurua, some 10km south of Kaitiāia. Like some of our Tāmaki College students, he was raised by his beloved Nanas. Wally's Nanas were a great inspiration to him, and it was them who taught him from an early age about the importance of hard work. Like everyone else from the surrounding area, Wally attended Pamapurua School and, after Standard 6, he progressed on to Kaitiāia College for his secondary education.

After Wally left Kaitiāia College, he had the wonderful opportunity to join the Māori Affairs Trade Training Scheme, which was administered by the former Department of Māori Affairs from 1959 until it ended in the mid-1980's. The scheme saw thousands of Māori successfully study and graduate with formal trade training and qualifications and go on to have very successful careers in trade and industry.

At the beginning of the scheme, the only available trade was carpentry, which Wally took up. One of the scheme's advantages was that it specifically targeted boys from country areas like that where Wally was from. As part of his training, Wally and the boys received what Te Ao Hou Magazine described as 'intensive theoretical and practical instruction' in their trade. After the course ended, the boys were placed with employers and completed the remainder of their apprenticeships in the normal way. While they studied, the boys stayed in hostels, mostly run by church organisations.

When speaking to students here at school, Wally has said many times that taking the opportunity to learn a trade has set him up for his whole life. He has managed to do all manner of things: He has worked as part of a group of builders, and he has been in business for himself building houses and commercial buildings. Such is his combination of talent and leadership skills, that he not only had the chance to work on some of the country's biggest projects – some of which were part of the Muldoon government's flagship Think Big scheme – but he was a foreman on those jobs and so had responsibility for directing and leading large groups of men. A couple of examples of these jobs were the Marsden Point Oil Refinery near Whangarei, and NZ Steel's state of the art Steel Mill at Glenbrook. Wally's inspirational story has had a real impact on a large number of Tāmaki students.

As part of that story, Wally tells of how he was scanning through the newspaper one day and saw an advertisement seeking a tradesman to build a marae at Tāmaki College which he jumped at. A chance to use his skills as a builder as well as to be part of constructing a marae would be a perfect fit, he thought. And so, Te Poho o Tāmaki came into being. It is hard to believe, I am sure Wally would say, that that was 25 years ago.

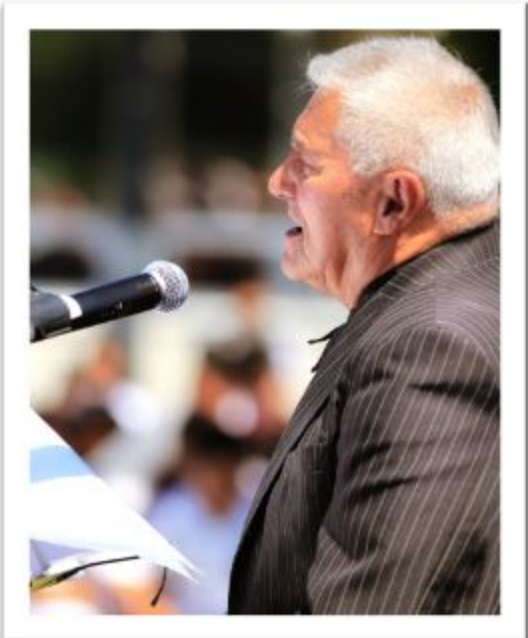
Once the marae was complete, Wally stayed on as an assistant to the Tāmaki College caretaker, Cyril Allsopp, and took over as caretaker when Cyril retired.

Wally has been a staunch supporter of Tāmaki College, its staff and students, for all these years. He is universally loved and admired by members of our community, and is selfless in his assistance to everyone. He has made wonderful hangī, played a major part in keeping the school looking as good as it does, used his formidable array of skills to fix problems of every kind, driven people around, supported innumerable fundraisers, and been a friend to many. Fittingly, he is also Kaumātua of Te Poho o Tāmaki, the marae that he, himself, was such a major part of constructing.

While Wally is still a true son of Pamapurua, and Te Paatu Marae, it is also true that he is equally beloved of Tāmaki College, the Glen Innes community, and Te Poho o Tāmaki.

Written by Executive Officer Neil McEnteer at the time of Wally's 25th Anniversary at Tāmaki College.

Next page, images of the Wally the Orator and Wally the Koro, with granddaughter Ruiha, who is Kaiako Māori at Tāmaki College.



Class of... Staff Members Return to School



Top Left: Class of 2009 Francis Kolo, who teaches English.

Top Right: Class of 2012, Chris Hiko, who works as a Teacher Aide.

Right: Class of 2003 DJ Tuaru Temu, the Tereora Academy Director with Class of 1986, Helen Kolo our Receptionist.



Class of 2005, Doris Taufateau, who teaches Physical Education. Below Class of 2000, Mary Tangi, our Careers Administrator.



During the school holidays staff were given the opportunity to attend a First Aid course. It is interesting to note that about the half the staff who attended the course are former students who now work for Tāmaki College.



Top: Class of 1998, Carol Heka, our Catering and Hospitality teacher.

Right: Class of 1996, Bruce Parsons, our Caretaker.



Top: Class of 2007, Grace Levi, our Cashier.

The House Sevens Competition.





The Power of Pink

Tāmaki College embraces Pink Shirt Day. Above Soana Pamaka, Ruiha Epiha and Russel Dunn. Top right 'Anahina Latu and her wheels. Bottom right Jay Malhotra and son Arman. Bottom left former Head Girl and rising music star Jarna Parsons.



Speak UP
STAND TOGETHER
STOP BULLYING

KŌRERO MAI, KŌRERO ATU, MAURI TŪ, MAURI ORA

FRIDAY 16 OCTOBER 2020



Helen and Francis Kolo with Grace Levi.



Rob Thomas and Makerita Lote-Fepuleai.



Mele Latu and Katherine O'Donnell.



Bruce Parsons and Ebenezer Moses.

Keeping His Promise



Tamworth, sorry, Auckland Warriors, star 'Eliesa Katoa, kept his promise of presenting a jersey to the school, following a memorable COVID 19 affected season, based in both Auckland and Tamworth.



Below; Bob Tizard, Labour MP for Tāmaki and subsequently Ōtāhuhu, Pakuranga and Panmure, taught French at Tāmaki College in the early 1960s.

Bob served as Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Minister of Health and Minister of Defence.

The picture is of Bob with students; Mickey, Laurel, Alma, Vivienne, Christine at the at 1963 School Social. Former students talk of delivering pamphlets as part of his election campaign.

From the Archives

