



MANGERE COLLEGE
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT.

• MANGERE COLLEGE • 1975 •



Principal's Foreword

And so we come to the end of 1975 and to the end of the first five years of the existence of Mangere College. The College has grown up; in fact, it is almost fully grown in terms of buildings and the number of students — next year, close to a thousand are expected to enrol. But like the district, the school is very young. It has not yet developed a character of its own, nor has it achieved the place it seeks nor had the success it earnestly desires. It has some of the finest school facilities in New Zealand, it has a highly qualified and dedicated staff and it has a philosophy of deep concern, respect and anxiety for its students. It can and does provide these students with a wide-ranging programme, cares for their welfare, shows them courtesy and consideration and tries to help them discover, utilise and develop their talents.

But with too many it fails. It is unable to establish in the minds of many students the need for hard work, for good standards, for regular attendance, and an understanding of how important for their future a sound education is. To serve this community well the College needs a much greater awareness on the part of many parents of the vital role they play.

How many parents each day discuss the work done at school and scrutinize their child's books which give them a clear idea of progress, and work habits? How many parents demand that home study be regular and of a high standard? How many parents know just where their children are and what they are doing during their free time? How many parents see that their youngsters are involved in sporting and cultural activities and follow these activities personally? How many parents come to the College to discuss their youngster's progress, knowing that success depends on total co-operation between home and school? What a difference it would make if we could record a 100% passmark in these areas.

It is appropriate that at the end of our first five years we are completing a magnificent addition to the College in the form of a junior Olympic Swimming Pool. This could not have been done without the help of the Member of Parliament for Mangere, the Hon. Colin Moyle, the Manukau City Council and Mr Jack Hadwen, Mr Peter Dale and his staff team and that fine group of parents who have given so much time to the project. The pool will remain a wonderful testimony to their efforts.

At this time we bid farewell to those students who are leaving school and wish them well; and it is with sadness that we say farewell also to departing staff. Mr Gerald Reid was an original member of staff and for five years has been the school's Guidance Counsellor. Those who have worked with him have known well his dedication and deep concern for people and their problems. There have been very few students who have not had the good fortune to feel the warmth of his personality, to know him as a friend and have the benefit of his wisdom. He will be sadly missed. Mr Wayne Strange has been the Head of Science since he joined the staff in 1972. As a young man he took on an onerous and responsible task and carried out his duties in an excellent manner. Miss Katrina Paul and Mr Graeme Murdoch came to Mangere College on their first appointments and leave us as mature and experienced teachers. Miss Paul, in her capacity as Careers' Advisor, has given wise counsel to many students in the quiet and capable manner which is so characteristic of her. We wish these valued members of staff every happiness in the future.





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 Librarians: Mrs B. Foulkes, Mrs E. Ellett (part-time)
 Caretaker: Mr M. Jones
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 School Shop: Mrs S. Jonas

Our College in the Community

Mangere College is at last truly involving itself with the community. There are several examples of this.

The swimming pool, when completed, will undoubtedly attract swarms of local kids who previously, were confronted with the long slog to Jellicoe Park. Hopefully these outsiders will be paying for their paddle — too much work and money have been contributed towards this pool for any Tom, Dick or Rangī to waltz in for free. And hopefully the promise of free passes will eventuate for those who donated their hard-earned or hard-stolen money from the work day.

Night classes seem to be out of season, but they should prove popular when they resume. Nowadays it seems that more people, who have long since left school, are still keen to learn something part-time, whether it be a practical or academic subject. It gives them something constructive to do and also gives them a sense of achievement — they realise they aren't too old to learn. For those who make the effort, night-classes are the answer and at Mangere College the classes should continue, if only for the benefit they bring the community.

Perhaps the most important thing this school lacks is a proper auditorium. An auditorium is long overdue. Not only is it necessary for assemblies, speech contests, drama programmes and school socials but it could be used by the outside community — hired out, for a fee, by the College. It would be useful for large public meetings, parties, balls and socials, political rallies and so on. The auditorium could also be used for such as charity and drama performances. Our present school hall is too small to attract many potential hirers; it has no heating and its acoustics aren't that great. There is no stage for oratory or drama. This is important — we need a stage, curtains and backdrop. Even Mangere Intermediate has a stage in its hall.

A large, fully equipped auditorium will be expensive. Too bad — we need one. At times outsiders borrow our sports fields, hall, tennis courts, gymnasium and other facilities. This should be continued in the future, but for all such utilisation of our amenities there should be a fee charged — reasonable, but a fee all the same. After all, with inflation and a troubled economy, we in our small world of Mangere College must be careful to make the most of our precious resources.

For all that we require, money will be necessary. If only the Minister of Education were Santa Claus! If only Aristotle Onassis had bequeathed us a paltry few million dollars!

— Eardley Dijkstra, 5PR

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YOU ASKED FOR IT...

Manukau Harbour polluted? Does Mangere think so? What a glorious sight for sore eyes — damaged by the smog from the ever so beautiful industrial area of Penrose. Taking a long, deep breath of the smelly air that has been wafting from the sewage ponds adding a perfumed aroma to the district and gently emulsifying with the smog, caused me to have an attack of asthma. To listen to the pylons when it is raining, humming like bees whilst swaying in the breeze — when you can hear it over the traffic — makes music better than the sickly birds that once lived here.

And soon — to harmonise with the singing pylons — there will be a pulverizer at Westfield to beat the timing of their song. We shall have music all the time — until we go deaf, of course.

And then, the local city dump at Onehunga watershore will expand to reclaim part of the harbour so that we shall have a larger dump to go collecting in, scrum-maging through the filth. And, to add to this, will be the sub-station of Onehunga to give us something awe-inspiring to watch whilst we drive over the new Mangled Bridge. It will look fantastic along with the rotting wharf and the factories just before the bridge. Overseas visitors will feel immediately at home and their eyes will fill with tears — from the stinging bite of the air. The southern part of Auckland is growing just like the cities of New York and Chicago, because we are letting it happen in the same way that other cities have so many times before. Ours is just another district that isn't learning or caring about what is done to their homes. We are refusing to learn from other people's mistakes. Everyone from anywhere will feel comfortable in the familiar sites of a 'common' city.

All these things, and many more, will make Mangere a desirable area to live in. For instance, we shall be a residential area hemmed in by the sewage ponds and a thermal power station to the south-west, steel mills to the south-east, a city dump directly north, Penrose industrial district to the north-east and the sub-station to the north-west.

But please, don't feel disgruntled about all this. There will still be nature! And every night, we people of Mangere, can watch the sun setting over the glorious scum.

And all this, because **You Asked For It.**

— Glenys Merrick 5PR





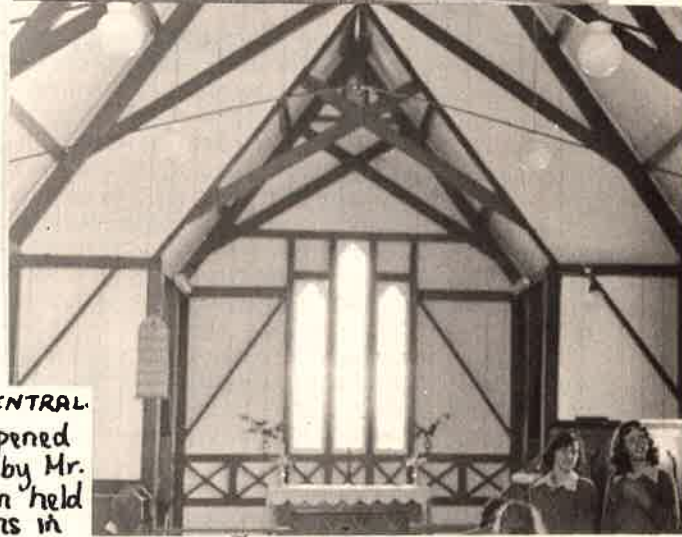
ST JAMES CHURCH, MANGERE, 1857.

The St James Church is a monument to the friendly co-operation of the Maori and British people which existed before misunderstandings caused the disastrous warfare of the 1860's. It is the only surviving Selwyn Church built of stone. The church design is attributed to Dr. Purchas, vicar of the nearby Onehunga parish. It was built for their own use by the Maoris of the Waikato tribe.



MANGERE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MANGERE CENTRAL.

This church, in Kirkbride Road, was opened in 1874 upon a site of an acre donated by Mr. Robert Wallace. Before 1874 services had been held by both the Anglicans and Presbyterians in the schoolroom built in 1859.



SELWYN CHURCH, MANGERE EAST, 1863.

The church was dedicated in 1863 and remained in Otahuhu until 1928 when it was transferred to Mangere East. Inside we see the original Selwyn style at its best; it is unlined and the dressed and painted structural members are well organised. The windows, too, are real Selwyn style, the simple hoop iron sash bars of diamond shape, put it both sides to secure the glass.

MANGERE'S OLD-TIMERS

