



MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB (INC.)

25TH JUBILEE

1945 - 1970

PROGRAMME
JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Friday, 31st July 1970

Jubilee Dinner at Manhattan Lounge
Commencing at 6.30 p.m.

Saturday, 1st August

Club Day at Hagley Park
Commencing at 10 a.m.

Jubilee Ball at Manhattan Lounge
Commencing at 8.30 p.m.

Sunday, 2nd August

Memorial Family Mass concelebrated by
His Lordship Bishop Ashby at Cathedral
of Blessed Sacrament at 2 p.m., followed
by Afternoon Tea and Social Gathering.

Select Memorials

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FOREWORD

It is a pleasure for me to record my appreciation of the work of the Marist Rugby Football Club in the twenty-five years of its existence.

The Club has provided facilities for boys and young men to play together at their chosen sport in a spirit engendered in them during their school days, but with a broadness of outlook generated by the realization of both players and administrators that they are also members of the wider community.

Recently the question of exclusively Catholic sporting clubs was discussed at a Diocesan Laity Commission meeting following a number of remits opposing these. The Commissioners agreed that, in fact, many so-called Catholic Clubs have open membership both as to players and administrators.

I am pleased to note that the Marist Rugby Football Club is in this category, and that it, indeed, saw the need for an open club long before the general Catholic opinion caught up with the same idea.

I would like to congratulate the Club on its record in the past quarter century. The accolade of a rugby representative at provincial and national level has often been conferred on its members. The Club's efforts to promote sane healthy sport at school and junior level must deserve the gratitude of parents, educators, and the boys themselves. The fine reputation Marist enjoys in the eyes of the sporting community is a tribute to the conduct of players both on and off the field, and to the quality of past and present administrators.

I am pleased to note that the Marist Rugby Football Club is committed to assisting actively the heroic work of the Brothers of St. John of God for intellectually and physically handicapped boys. Surely this commitment to boys who will not normally be representative Rugby material is evidence of a deep Christian motivation, worthy of a Club whose name derives from the Mother of God.

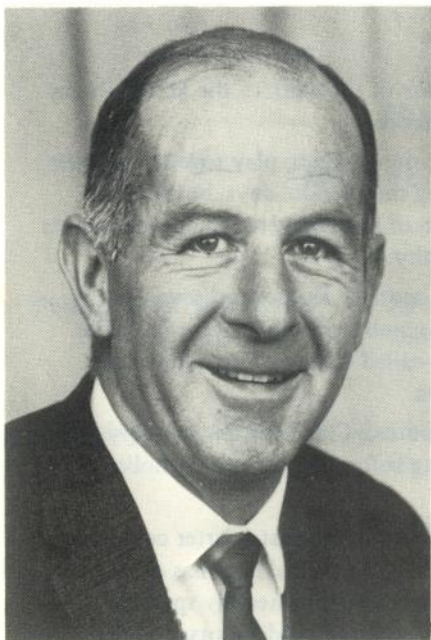
May Mary continue to intercede before the throne of God for the spiritual welfare of all members of the Club, past, present and future, and may its more earthly progress continue.

I extend my best wishes to all, players, administrators and supporters for a pleasant jubilee.

With every Blessing

B. P. ASHBY

Bishop of Christchurch



WELCOME BY PRESIDENT

Players, members and friends of the Marist Rugby Football Club, I welcome you to the 25th Jubilee Celebrations and trust you have a most enjoyable week-end renewing old friendships, reminiscing and playing many a game over again.

Twenty-five years in the life of a Club does not seem very long but when we look back to our small beginning in 1945 and follow the history of the Club with our successes and failures, our triumphs and losses, the joys and sorrows, ours is a good Club, a loyal Club, a Marist Club in the true sense.

I would like to make an appeal to everyone who is connected with the Club to give us all the support that is possible to ensure that when we gather (those of us who are left) for our fiftieth jubilee that we have progressed, and achieved something worthwhile.

My personal thanks to the people responsible for organising these celebrations, I trust their efforts will not be wasted.

R. J. MERCER
President

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GENTLEMEN

This does not purport to be a complete history of the formation and progress of the Marist Rugby Football Club; rather it is the story of a group of men and boys for the most part Old Boys of the Marist Brothers School who wished to band together and play their chosen sport.

These are the forerunners of our present club, men who gave us a background of fine players, good sportsmanship and a record unsurpassed in senior football in Canterbury.

The story continues through the re-established Athletic Rugby Club which, having the background tradition of the M.B.O.B. Rugby Club welded the past pupils of St. Bedes, Marist and sister schools into a thriving, active and enthusiastic unit which was to eventually, in 1945, emerge as the Marist Rugby Football Club.

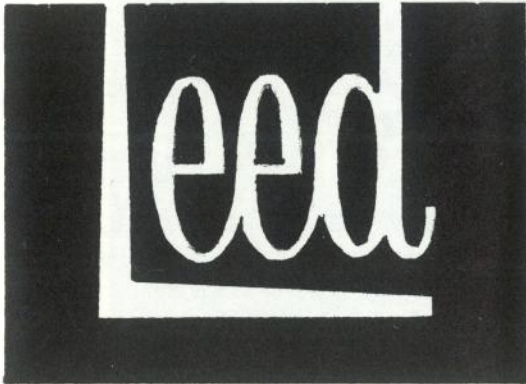
MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL TEAM *Winners 1945 Senior Grade Competition*



Back Row—P. Foley, T. Moran, W. Frame, F. Cassidy, J. J. Small, R. Hann, S. Allom
Middle Row—S. Callanan, C. Flattery, W. Aitken, P. Kearney, W. Burgess, G. Moran
Front Row—D. Callanan (coach), L. Moran, P. McGuire, C. Walklin (captain),
H. Emery, E. Flattery (coach)
Absent—P. Callanan, T. Knowles, N. Morgan, J. Moran, O. Noonan



Marist - Mairehau 5 Stone 1958
Julius Dunne Cup and Referees Jubilee Cup
Coach Norm Grant - Manager Ivan Baylis



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LEMONADE

makes a most refreshing change.

This is the 25th year in which the Club has played under its present name and in its green and white colours. Prior to this the same men were wearing the blue, black and white hoops of Athletic, and upholding all the principles we today work and strive for.

History records that the secretary of Athletic took the first tentative steps to change the name of the club at the end of the 1943 season, but this move came to an abrupt stop due to a mutual disagreement between the Club and the Canterbury Rugby Union, and it was a further year before an application was made to the Canterbury Union for registration as Marist.

Many of our present members will remember that eventful meeting chaired by the late Julius Dunne, where the decision to change the name of the Club was agreed to unanimously by the Special General Meeting. It is recorded in the minutes of that time the enthusiastic calls for the change, the expressions of approval that once again the sight of a Marist team would be seen on the "Oval". One or two are recorded here, not to prove me right, but rather to show the keen determination to emerge once more as Marist:

L. Moran "It will be wonderful to play for a Marist team, and to once again see such a team on Lancaster Park".

T. Knowles "Our Club (Athletic) will never flourish unless we change our name—Marist will be one to rally many who should be with us".

C. Walklin "There will be no shortage of players when we change. Players and supporters will flock to us—it will be the greatest boost to the Club we could get".

Who could ever forget the struggle over the choice of Club colours, which lay between blue, green and red hoops or green and white. This latter combination was already in use by a small "single team" club—Celtic, who led by their Chaplain, Rev. J. A. McCarthy, offered to amalgamate with the newly named club if the choice of colours was green and white. This urging was hardly needed as the lure of the name was surely linked with the colour and it was by an overwhelming majority decided to change name and colour to—Marist, and green and white hoops.

At the time of this decision the colours of the previous Marist Old Boys Club, green jersey and black shorts, were those of Sunnyside Rugby Club which was, at the time, in recess with most of its members still overseas. The reformed club owes much to the support accorded it by old friends who played for Sunnyside and who rallied to its support in its first important year.

In 1944 Athletic ran close to causing a complete upset in the local Rugby Union championship by beating each of the top teams in succession, but failing to enter the final play off.

The new Marist Club was not to be denied, and in its first year it became the senior championship winners, and as the final whistle blew a cry from the bank by a lone voice "We've won six in a row" brought back memories of the glorious history of the first Marists who won from 1919 until 1923, when they had a difference of opinion with the Union and pulled out of the code.

So much for our formation and first success. So many who guided us then have died or found the going a little too tough to remain active in administration. Surely if names are mentioned then someone will be missed out, but at the risk of this I would record some who did so much to keep the spirit alive until the reformation took place. **St. Julius J. Dunne**, President and our first member of the Canterbury Rugby Union, who can truly be said to have died on service to Rugby, while on his way to a meeting of the Union. **W. S. (Bill) Mikleson**—in succession treasurer, Club captain and then our second President. **Bert Frame**, one of the old Marists who was a faithful supporter and committee man of Athletic and Marist. **Mick Piggott**, another committee man of the early years, and one who believed that we were right even when we were in the wrong. These men have all left this world but should never be forgotten as they were the ones who provided the inspiration which enabled the Club to take its first steps on the road to recovery after the War.

They had support from others—**Luke Buckley, Fred Corbett, the Moran, Flattery and Callanan brothers**. It is worthy of mention that from those who came into the Club from Celtic we gained an All Black and two presidents.

MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB—JUNIOR XV 1948
Winners of C.R.F.U. Second-Grade Competition



Back Row—P. A. Sargentina, R. Smith, K. F. Meates
Second Row—J. E. Maybury, L. E. Blair, B. A. Simpson, L. Dawson, D. R. McCormick, D. B. O'Malley
Third Row—R. J. Mercer, P. Dempsey, J. Breen, G. H. Anderson, K. C. Stuart, F. J. Connell, R. J. Connell, C. O'Donovan
Front Row—Mr J. O'Sullivan (president), M. B. O'Malley, B. J. McCormick (captain), D. L. Mannix, Rev. Dr G. H. Harrison (coach), Mr J. McIntosh (club captain)
Inset—D. R. Morgan (vice captain) Absent—R. P. Mercer

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From our bold entry to Canterbury rugby we coasted for two years while a younger team was brought to maturity, and in 1950 we again thrust through to the fore and founded the legend of the mighty fifties. These were the golden days of fast, hard football; of friendships made with other young and vigorous teams—High School and Technical Old Boys. **The premiership was ours from 1950 to 1952.**

Who can forget the crowds who flocked to the Park? Most to see Marist go down, but many were our supporters and in those days before the advent of ecuminism it was as exciting in the stands, enclosure and on the bank as on the field itself. Is it presumptuous to think that it was not coincidence that with the eventual decline of that team the crowds at the Park also faded?

I rather think that it is not.

The Club had so many supporters in those years, men who had made their mark in rugby years before—**Dan McCormick, snr., Alex McDonald, Frank Smyth** and those who were not the top rankers in rugby but were true friends in those early years—**Jack McCormick, “Sarg” Hodgins, Jock Greenlees**, to mention only a few. So few remain to cheer us now.

MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB—SENIOR XV 1950
Winners C.R.F.U. Senior Championship Co-Winners Payne Trophy



Back Row—G. P. Shaw, T. W. Lynch, B. J. McCormick, G. F. Lindstrom, D. R. McCormick, J. H. Barry, K. C. Stuart, F. J. Connell
Second Row—L. J. Buckley (assistant secretary), D. L. Hickey, K. P. Davidson, S. R. Southall, J. R. O.Sullivan (president), K. F. Meates, M. D. Hodgins, J. F. Leonard, P. T. McGuire (club captain)
Third Row—B. A. Simpson, W. F. Clark (coach), J. G. Mullins (vice captain), P. V. Kearney (captain), T. R. Bradley, Rev. G. W. Harrison, D.D. (club chaplain), P. K. Hodgins
Front row—P. J. Collins, P. J. Dempsey
Absent—J. R. Rathburn

Our strength appears to lie in the Under 20 to Senior Reserve grades and over the pasty twenty-five years our teams have won their section thirteen times.

This is the result in many cases of a combination of careful encouragement in under weight teams and a leavening of firm discipline at secondary school, where the finer points of the game are instilled.

We are indebted in this sphere of the Club's activities to the Brothers of Xavier College, Priests of St. Bede's College, and latterly to the Christian Brothers at St. Thomas's for their general assistance.

There are times when we feel that more could be done to aid the Club by their active individual support by way of a word of encouragement to join the ranks of a club that fosters the same spirit inculcated in them while under their care.

To our coaches we owe much for their guidance and willingness to keep young boys imbued with the club spirit. So many have become legends within the Club for their methods of training, their determination to lead the competition and willingness to chaperone teams on trips away from home.

The record gives testimony to their endeavour, and over this last quarter century we have held the Redpath Shield from 1949 through to 1962, excepting 1957, and the Evans Trophy from 1952 to 1962 inclusive.

The contribution made by our Club to football is in great measure due to the remarkable record of the lower grade teams and it was in no small way due to their determination.

It was in these years that **Bill Clark** and **Duncan White** rendered such valuable service to the Club in coaching and committee work, and although we have not risen to those heights for a few years now the spirit remains, and by dint of determination and the Marist spirit, our star is rising again.

This team spirit has had its reward this year when after constant and faithful service to the pack, **Jake Burns** gained selection to the All Blacks, and adds further lustre to the Club image—maybe this will be the catalyst required to meld the Club into a strong force once again and provide the spur so essential for the lower grade teams.

While the senior team provides the image by which the Club is known, it is the performance and support accorded the junior teams that affects the future, and from here I would record the history of this section and pay tribute to those former players who now play their part in guiding the lower grades through bright days and dull.

MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
Senior Team 1957 Runners Up Senior C.R.F.U. Competition



Back Row—J. Collier, J. LeLeivre, T. Longley, J. Ryan, W. L'Estrange, R. Mann,
K. O'Shaunessy
Second Row—R. Mercer (club captain), N. F. Anderson, M. P. Boland, P. E.
Leeming, J. Stuart, M. Hurley, M. D. Hodgins (president)
Third Row—T. Purcell, J. E. Cummings (manager), K. F. Meates (captain),
D. P. White (coach), C. A. McDonald (vice captain), Dr Harrison
(member C.R.F.U.), J. Cadigan
Front Row—B. Reilly, J. Hutchinson

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MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB
Winners C.R.F.U. Under 20 Competition 1967



Back Row—M. A. J. Telford, G. H. McDonnell, D. J. Scott, K. J. O’Gorman,
P. A. Fraher, P. F. Murray
Second Row—B. A. McCrorie (manager), K. A. Cowan, T. M. Hannan (coach),
D. J. Caldwell, W. D. Sullivan (club captain), J. A. Macdougall,
R. L. O’Leary (assistant coach)
Third Row—G. P. Lagan, R. W. Watson, M. J. Ward (captain), E. J. Cummings
(president), A. J. Consedine (vice captain), D. J. Ryan, P. M.
Roseingrave
Front Row—W. M. McKay, J. F. Fitzgerald, C. M. Kirk
Absent—P. McGoldrick

In 1967 we had the creditable and possibly unique experience of a father and son combination in **Ivan** and **Tony Baylis** coaching teams in the under weight grades, and winning their respective sections. *See opposite*

In an endeavour to reduce the “win at all costs” approach which appears to have entered the under weight grades, with its attendant evils of over-enthusiastic partisanship by supporters, Marist attempted to have the under weight competition abandoned, and to give a lead to the code withdrew its 5 stone teams from 1963. Because of lack of support from other clubs for this move and to stop the drift of players these teams were reinstated in 1967.

It is good to look back to photos of small boys in their early years of rugby and see those who have come through the grades and now appear in the senior teams—Brent Kelly, Kevin Treacey, Laurie Counsell, Paul Baylis are just a few.

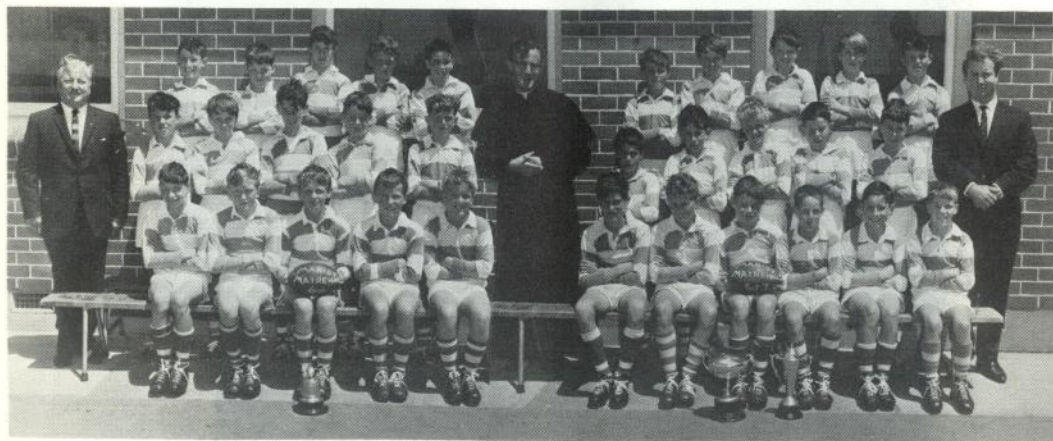
So much is owed to the Marist Brothers who have actively associated themselves with the Club from its very foundation both in administration and coaching, and it is in great measure to their unfailing support that our record in the lower grades has been such a proud one.

These men prepared their teams with care for the School Competition and then with enthusiasm saw that they were in position on time on Saturday to represent the Club.

Many will remember the game between two Marist teams at South Hagley Park when David Petre made headlines by having his broken leg held by splints made from corner flags, and the embarrassment of the two coaches—one lay and one Brother, when it was found that the names of the two boys concerned tackled and tackler, were not on record with the Union!

We can be proud of our Junior Club record and the manner of the players on and off the field, and because it is these boys who are our future strength, our Club is surely in good heart.

I would conclude my meanderings through our history by offering the thought that possibly and most likely I have left unwritten many of the more important incidents which have occurred, and which make for interest in a brochure such as this, but space, time and money all play their part in restricting this work and I leave it to the Golden Jubilee historian to more fully cover the Marist story.



Winners 5 Stone 7 Grade CRUC
Coach - Tony Baylis - Manager Father Murphy

Winners 6 Stone Grade CRUC
Coach - Ivan Baylis - Manager Father Murphy

MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB - SENIOR TEAM RECORD

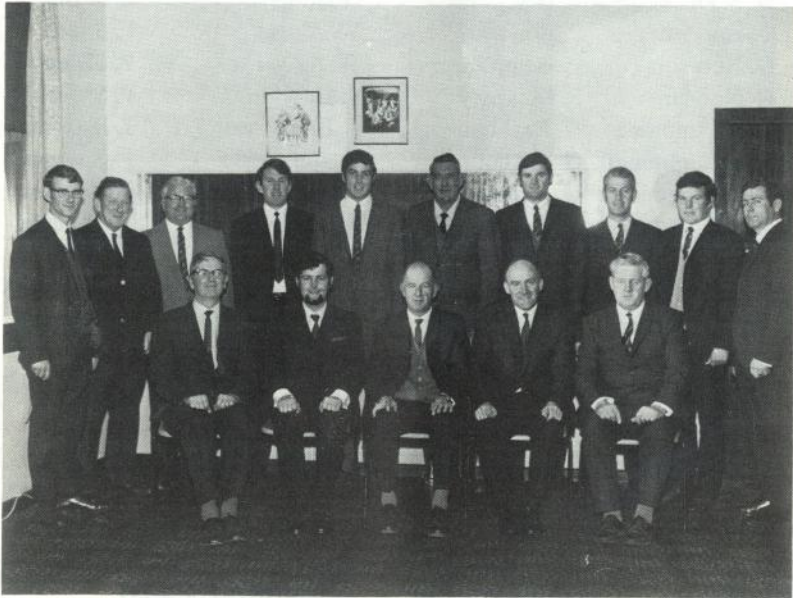
1945	Won Harewood Trophy	
1946	Not Placed	
1947	Not Placed	
1948	Not Placed	
1949	Runners-up Harewood Trophy	
1950	Won Harewood Trophy	
1951	Won Harewood Trophy	
1952	Won Harewood Trophy	
1953	Not Placed	
1954	Not Placed	
1955	Not Placed	
1956	Runners-up Harewood Trophy	
1957	Runners-up Harewood Trophy	
1958	Third Harewood Trophy	
1959	Won D.C.L. Shield	
1960	Won D.C.L. Shield	
1961	Not Placed	
1962	Not Placed	
1963	Runners-up Harewood Trophy	
1964	Not Placed	
1965	Not Placed	
1966	Not Placed	
1967	Not Placed	
1968	Not Placed	Winners 1950 Junior A Competition
1969	Not Placed	Coach - O. Noonan



CLUB EXECUTIVE 1970

<i>Patron</i>	His Lordship Bishop Ashby
Club Chaplain	Rev. Father E. J. Brosnahan
President	R. J. Mercer
Immediate Past President	J. E. Cummings
Club Captain	W. D. Sullivan
Assistant Club Captain	M. D. Dore
Secretary	N. P. Blanchfield
Assistant Secretary	R. B. O'Connor
Treasurer	P. J. Dempsey
Assistant Treasurer	R. Butler

Messrs O. F. Stopforth, R. London, J. M. Harnett, W. L'Estrange, P. A. Woodham, T. Hannan, P. McGoldrick, B. Scott, M. Woodham, O. Noonan, J. M. Burley, I. Baylis, W. Gilroy.



REMEMBER—

SUNDAY, 2 P.M. MEMORIAL MASS
CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

CLUB EXECUTIVE OFFICERS 1945 - 1969

	<i>President</i>	<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Club Captain</i>
1945	J. J. Dunne	J. B. Lagan	W. Mikleson	F. Corbett
1946	W. Mikleson	B. T. O'Connell	T. Fitzsimmons	W. Clark
1947	A. J. Empson	W. Clark	W. Mikleson	C. Walklin
1948	J. O'Sullivan	D. Hodgins	V. O'Connell	J. McIntosh
1949	J. O'Sullivan	D. Hodgins	V. O'Connell	J. Barry
1950	J. O'Sullivan	D. Hodgins	V. O'Connell	P. McGuire
1951	J. O'Sullivan	D. Hodgins	V. O'Connell	H. P. Kearney
1952	R. E. Dunne	D. Hodgins	P. McGuire	H. P. Kearney
1953	R. E. Dunne	D. Hodgins	P. V. Kearney	H. P. Kearney
1954	R. E. Dunne	D. Hodgins	P. V. Kearney	H. P. Kearney
1955	W. F. Clark	D. Hodgins	P. Dempsey	E. Cummings
1956	S. R. Southall	P. Dempsey	A. McDonald	E. Cummings
1957	M. D. Hodgins	P. Dempsey	P. Falconer	R. Mercer
1958	M. D. Hodgins	P. Dempsey	P. Falconer	R. Mercer
1959	J. N. Grant	P. Dempsey	P. Falconer	L. J. Buckley
1960	O. Noonan	P. Dempsey	W. Ainger	L. J. Buckley
1961	O. Noonan	P. Dempsey	W. Ainger	P. Sheen
1962	O. Noonan	P. Dempsey	W. Ainger	P. Sheen
1963	O. Noonan	P. Dempsey	J. Hutchinson	P. Sheen
1964	J. E. Cummings	G. Rathbun	J. Hutchinson	J. Hodgins
1965	J. E. Cummings	G. Rathbun	G. Montague	J. Hodgins
1966	J. E. Cummings	G. Rathbun	M. Stonyer	J. Hodgins
1967	J. E. Cummings	P. Wildermoth	M. Stonyer	W. Sullivan
1968	J. E. Cummings	P. Wildermoth	A. Cowan	W. Sullivan
1969	R. J. Mercer	P. Wildermoth	A. Cowan	W. Sullivan
1970	R. J. Mercer	N. Blanchfield	P. Dempsey	W. Sullivan

REMEMBER—

SUNDAY, 2 P.M.

MEMORIAL MASS

CATHEDRAL OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

SOUTH ISLAND CATHOLIC CLUBS—EASTER TOURNAMENT

In 1947 there was set up the South Island Catholic Rugby Clubs Federation to promote a pre-season competition for Senior teams to be held each Easter.

Ces Walklin, a stalwart of the 1945 team was our delegate to this inaugural meeting, and his enthusiasm did much to assist in establishing a sound foundation for the annual competition which is such an important pre-season trial for Marist sister club teams.

We have had an excellent record in this series winning at Invercargill in the first year 1947, and again in 1949, 1950, 1954, 1969, 1970 as well as being runners-up on many other occasions.

This is an event played in good spirit with no quarter given but free of bad feeling and does much to unite clubs and promote good football.

We are proud of our association with this Federation and pleased with our record.

MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Winners South Island Catholic Easter Tournament Shield 1947



Back Row—D. Hodgins, John Noonan, H. Kearney, J. Barry, J. Mullins, E. Friel,
I. McIntosh, W. Foley, R. Hann, W. Guilford
Second Row—D. White (coach), Jim Noonan, J. Hodgins, P. Kearney, M. Kearney,
P. McGuire, P. Hodgins, O. Noonan, L. Graham
Third Row—A. J. Empson (president), H. Morgan, K. Davidson, F. Scully (captain),
B. O'Malley, C. Flattery, C. Walklin (club captain)
Front Row—B. Duncan, G. Shaw

MARIST RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB—SENIOR SECOND “A” TEAM
Winners C.R.F.U. Senior 2nd Division Competition 1956



Back Row—R. Angland, R. G. Purdie, F. M. O'Connor, J. Collier, N. Orr,
P. J. Burns

Middle Row—J. G. Cadigan, P. B. Laing, M. K. Tarling, M. P. Pope, L. R. McLeod,
W. S. Collins, B. P. Lloyd (manager)

Front Row—M. J. O'Brien, L. J. H. Buckley (coach), J. E. Fahey (captain),
S. R. Southall (president), B. Doocey (vice captain), J. E. Cummings
(club captain), J. J. Stewart

Absent—E. Noonan, K. Harrison, K. O'Shannessy

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Runners Up C.R.F.U. Senior Competition Winners Seven-a-Side

Holders Geoffrey Laing Memorial Cup 1963



Back Row—D. G. Bell, B. L. Connolly, J. F. Burns, P. C. Angland, B. J. Collins,
K. R. Ryan

Second Row—T. M. Taylor, B. P. Lloyd (manager), E. Ward, L. J. H. Price, B. M.
Loftus, P. R. Sheen (club captain), P. C. Alexandre

Third Row—E. L. Noonan, N. T. Curtis, O. M. Noonan (president), O. F. Stopforth
(captain), B. A. Coulter (vice captain), M. D. Hurley (coach),
T. M. Hannan, M. A. Keenan

Front Row—J. M. Harnett, T. M. McKendry

Absent—P. L. Cunningham, T. N. McAra

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PLAYERS OF DISTINCTION

All Black Honours:	T. W. Lynch	1951
	K. F. Meates	1952
	K. C. Stuart	1955
	J. M. LeLievre	1962, 1963
	J. F. Burns	1970
N.Z. Fifteen:	P. R. Callanan	1945
South Island:	P. R. Callanan, P. V. Kearney, J. M. LeLievre, T. W. Lynch, K. F. Meates, C. A. McDonald, K. C. Stuart, J. F. Burns	
Canterbury:	D. H. Ashworth, K. J. Brown, J. F. Burns, P. R. Callanan, F. J. Cassidy, B. A. Coulter, P. J. Creedy, K. Davidson, S. J. Douglas, H. Emery, G. Emery, C. Flattery, P. Foley, E. J. Heenan, D. J. Hickey, M. D. Hodgins, P. V. Kearney, T. C. Knowles, J. M. LeLievre, G. F. Lindstrom, T. W. Lynch, B. J. McCormick, D. R. McCormick, C. A. McDonald, P. T. McGuire, B. R. Mann, J. G. Mullins, B. O'Malley, K. J. O'Shannessy, B. A. Simpson, J. J. Small, J. M. Stuart, K. C. Stuart, C. Walklin	

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