

West Taieri  
and  
South Taieri Rugby Clubs



1900-2000

Photograph by courtesy TAIERI HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Outram circa 1900

**WEST TAIERI RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB  
1900 - 2000**

**SOUTH TAIERI RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB  
1946 - 1958**

## **Centennial Publication**

*to commemorate*

## **100 YEARS OF RUGBY**



Researched and compiled by Beth Preston

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I would like to thank the members of the Centennial Committee for the many hours they have put into the planning and preparation for the reunion weekend. Our secretary, Mrs Michelle Taylor, deserves a special mention for her competent handling of the minutes, registrations, correspondence and many other various tasks over the last few months.

We are grateful to the Taieri Lions Club for their involvement with the weekend catering and this has helped to keep our costs to a minimum. Our thanks also go to Les and Irene O'Brien of Crofters Arms Hotel, Mosgiel for their sponsorship.

I believe our rugby club is quite unique, having been a junior club that has been involved with the ORFU for the past 100 years and is still going well. My committee acknowledges the fact that the fine condition of the Outram recreation ground and clubrooms is due to the commitment of the players and supporters throughout the years.

We hope you will enjoy this booklet. It has been prepared so that the history of the club can be recorded for present and future generations. Minute books prior to 1931 have been lost but ORFU records were used to fill in those gaps. Much of the information has also come from the memories of many people of the area. Every attempt has been made to get the information correct and we apologise for any errors in the spelling of names from the past.

In conclusion and on behalf of the Centennial Committee, I would like to extend a warm welcome to players, ex players, supporters, committee members and any others who have been involved in the South and West Taieri rugby clubs. We hope you will have an enjoyable weekend and take away many memories.

*Brian Thomson*



Back Row: Kevin Doherty, Brian Doherty, Dean McAlwee, John Stringer, Lew Williams, Phillip McNeil  
Front Row: Ron Taylor, Michelle Taylor (Secretary), Brian Thomson (Chairman), Allan Chisholm (Treasurer),  
Graema Daniell Absent: Lynette Deans, Ray Warnock

A new year and a new century – 1900. A new beginning too, for rugby in Outram and that would take place later in the year. Rugby had been played in the West Taieri area for several decades as it had in other parts of the Taieri Plains. The first record of football being played on the Taieri was in 1876 at a school picnic at what may seem to us in the year 2000, the unlikely place of Otokia. That first day of 1900, a sporting event took place in another corner of the plains at Berwick. The Caledonian Sports had already been drawing crowds of athletes and spectators for thirty years. The Taieri Advocate in its issue later that week reported on the various events, flat race, walking race, running high leap, turning the caber, wrestling, bicycle racing and hurdles to name just a few. A new event that year was clay pigeon shooting which was contested with enthusiasm. A great attraction was a pipe band from Dunedin which was kept busy all day. The next week's issue of the Advocate included an advertisement from J.E. Wildey, Tinsmith and Plumber who announced that he had commenced business in Outram and "trusted that by charging Dunedin prices combined with first class workmanship to merit a fair public patronage". Mr Wildey's business joined the other 15 businesses already operating in the town serving the population of 420 people. Among those were five storekeepers, one baker, one chemist, one bootmaker and a butcher. In that same issue of the newspaper, Mr W.H. Anderson proprietor of the Terminus Hotel advertised his finest quality wines, ales and spirits, along with horses and buggies for hire.

The next sporting event that month was the Berwick and Maungatua Gun Club meeting where Mr A McDonald won the trophy. Later that same week, a farewell social was held at Outram by the West Taieri Brass band for Mr W Bringans who was leaving the district. Mr A Chisholm on behalf of the band, presented the guest with a handsome travelling bag.

On February 7th the Advocate carried a report that a committee had been formed to select ground for a bowling green in Outram and to book members for the club expected to begin operations next season.

Meanwhile in that year of the Boer War, patriotic fervour was sweeping over the Plains as it was all over the country. A report of a Patriotic concert in the Berwick Hall stated that every seat was occupied. Mr Snow presided over the meeting and said, "the large crowd in attendance showed that people were prepared to help the mother land". Later that month a meeting at the Drill Shed in Outram enrolled 63 young men to form a mounted infantry corps to be called West Taieri Mounted Rifles. Mr H.V. Fulton was nominated Captain and Messrs J.B. Blair and P.K. Low lieutenants.

The women of the area were not to be outdone, when the sum of £50.0.6 was realised at their grand flower show held in the Societies Hall. The money was used to purchase two horses for the contingent and they were to be named "Floral Fair" and "Jumble".

Later on that year, a send off was held for four young men who were going off to the front at Transvaal - they were troopers, Andrew, Kent, McKellar and Anderson. Meanwhile at the Magistrates Court, Outram, A.H. O'Keefe was charged with allowing two cows to wander and fined 12 shillings.

In April, the Advocate reported on a meeting in Outram convened by Mr Snow, to form a committee with the aim of supplementing the Dunedin Indian Famine Relief Fund. Those elected to the committee were Mrs Cattan, Miss Dale, Dr Cattan, Messrs Snow, Chisholm, Bathgate and J. White.

At this time the motorcar still hadn't made its appearance in the Outram streets. Transport was undertaken by horse and gig or by the train that departed from Outram around 7am for its trip to Mosgiel then returned at 6pm each day. The Outram streets were now lighted by electricity and the improvement prompted a Mosgiel ratepayer to write a letter to the editor of the Advocate stating that it was about time the larger town followed suit.

It was against this social background that the West Taieri Rugby Club was formed 100 years ago.

THE 'KICKISTS'- PRE-1900

The first record of football in Outram was on the 14th of February, 1883 when the following report appeared in the Taieri Advocate.

*"The Outram people are going to sport a team of "kickists" this year. A preliminary meeting was held and it was duly decided to form a football team. At the next meeting the election of officers will take place. We hope to see Mosgiel follow the example now set."*

Several days later on the 17th of the month the following letter appeared in the 'Letters to the Editor' column:

*"Sir, I noticed in your last issue an announcement to the effect that a football club had been formed in Outram. I would suggest that a similar club be formed in Mosgiel. We have a number of young men in this locality who are experts at the game and I am sure that a club could be formed that would take good men to beat. We should get our club into good form by playing with the Outram team and "whopping" them once a week just by way of preparation for better matches. Signed... I am etc Half Back"*

Maybe it was that letter that stirred Mosgiel footballers into action, because less than a month later the Taieri Football Club was formed. It appears that there was a healthy competition between the two towns as a further letter this time from an Outram supporter was printed in the 'Letters to the Editor' column on the 28th of July:

*"Sir: Some time ago an impudent letter appeared in your columns, advocating the formation of a football club in Mosgiel, and the writer in a bragging manner threw out the suggestion that the Mosgiel footballers should practice by thrashing the Outram footballers once a week. I forget what signature this cheeky letter had, but I would just call attention to the fact that the club in Mosgiel which was to beat everything that came its way, has been licked in every match it has played. What has my bragging friend to say now. Signed...I am etc Outram"*

In the years up to 1900, the West Taieri Football Club was established twice. The first time was in 1890. After the first game for that season the following report appeared in the Taieri Advocate on the 25th of June.

*"The opening match Captain v Deputy Captain of the West Taieri Football Club was played on Saturday last on the field kindly granted by Mr Patrick and resulted in a win for the Deputy side by a goal and a try to a goal. Before play commenced, Mr Snow the president of the club, called the members together and thanked them for the honour they had conferred upon him in electing him president and expressed the hope that all their games would be played in the most friendly spirit and with evenness of temper. The president then set the ball in motion and from start to finish a very fast and well contested game was witnessed. The tries were secured by Wyllie, Heenan and McLeod. Mr White acted satisfactorily as referee. It is difficult to single out any one individual player as they all played a rattling good game. It may be fairly stated that with practice and a better knowledge of the game, the West Taieri Club will be able at a distant date to put a team in the field which will give a good account of itself"*.

In its issue of the 13th August 1890, the Taieri Advocate reported on a match played against the Melrose team as follows:

*"This match was played at the Mosgiel ground on Saturday and resulted in a decided victory for the Dunedin team. The match was not a very brilliant one for the town team by their superior knowledge of the game had a great advantage on the Outram players who at times appeared to be a good bit at sea. In the second half they played with pluck and*

*worked hard but were not able to hold their own. However it was their first match and they showed they have good stuff in them. One thing they deserved credit for, they played a quiet game without talking or wrangling and in this respect they set an example that might well be copied by older clubs."*

The 1891 season turned out to be a rather dismal year for the club as it played 9 matches and lost them all. To make matters worse the team scored no points at all in 6 of those matches! Some of the players that year were - T.Snow, J. Methven, E.McPhail, J. Grant, J. Blair, D. White, P. Bett, P.K. Low, E. McLeod, J. McLeod, P. Bathgate, D. Wyllie, G. Wyllie, P. Taylor, J. Heenan and C. McPherson. At the end of the season the following report appeared in the ORFU journal:

*"The club's record for this year was by no means a brilliant one. The club's non-success was due to a variety of causes, among which may be mentioned - the ignorance of the game shown by the majority of members; the difficulty members had in getting away because of no half-holiday being recognised in the township; the large district over which members are scattered; the apathy shown by many of the residents of the township and the distance which separates the club from other clubs."*

There is no record of the club in 1892 or 93 however it was re-established in 1894 and a new and more successful start was made when they played 10 matches, winning 3 and drawing 1 of them. The players were H. Monk, C. Monk, P. Bathgate, E. McPhail (captain) R. Smeaton, G. Bruce, W. Duff, R. Marshall, W. Scott, D. Scott, C. McPherson, J. Frew, J. Cameron, J. McLean, A. Moore, Jas Andrew, John Andrew, R. Chisholm and R. Duff.

## THE OFFICIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CLUB IN 1900

A notice appeared in the Taieri Advocate on the 9th of May 1900 stating that a football club had been formed at Outram which was to be called the West Taieri Juniors. The elected committee was President, John White; Vice Presidents, Messrs Rutherford, Snow, Bramble, Duff and Wyllie; Captain, P. Bathgate; Deputy captain, C. Anderson; Secretary/treasurer, D. Alexander. The club joined the Otago Rugby Football Union and entered a team in the second grade competition. Its registered colours of blue and brown stayed that way until 1925.

## THE EARLY YEARS

The first few years of the new century weren't particularly successful for the club, with the team losing more matches than they won. However, according to the ORFU records, 1907, 1908 and 1910 could be considered very good seasons. In 1907, of the 15 matches played, 9 games were won and 3 drawn giving them 102 points gained and 48 points against for the season. The members of the team were R.T. Wilson, E. Marshall, A. Imrie, John Bathgate, James Bathgate, James Patrick, W. Bathgate, W. Little, W. Leask, John Reid, W. Watson, R. McDonald, W. Neill, F.M. Wright, R. Neill, A. Little and John Little (captain). Similar results were achieved in 1908 when 11 matches were played and 8 of those games won and in 1910, 11 matches were played with 8 won and 1 drawn.

Further success came to the West Taieri players in 1918 and 1919 when the club finished runners-up in the junior-grade competition in both of those years.

At the end of the 2nd grade competition in 1918, West Taieri and Zingari 2 were the leading teams and a final match was played at Carisbrook. For West Taieri, J. Bathgate and W. Little scored a try each and J. McLeod a try and a drop kick. The final score was Zingari 13 to West Taieri 12.

In 1919 the final was played by West Taieri and Ravensbourne on Carisbrook. Scorers for West Taieri were F.Wright, J. Bathgate and S. Martin - a try apiece and J.McLeod a conversion. Final score was Ravensbourne 14 West Taieri 11.

The next 15 years weren't particularly bright as far as end of season results were concerned. One thing that changed during this period though was the team colours. About 1925 they became maroon and blue and stayed that way until 1941.

West Taieri's fortunes however, were changed quite dramatically by the arrival of Les Scott to the team. Les played for Taieri and in 1929 had been selected to represent Otago in seven provincial games and in 1930 against a British team. Les came to Outram to work on a market garden and because his working week included Saturday morning, he transferred to the West Taieri Club. His first year with the team was in 1934. That season 13 matches were played and 11 won and West Taieri won the 2nd grade B team shield for the first time in its history. The final game was a play-off against Southern B on Culling Park. The West Taieri team members were: L. Johnston, J. Carruthers, T. Walker, A. McKay, K. Waldron, F. Doherty, J. Gorman, W. Low, A. Fleming, C. Low, L. Scott, W.Gibson, R. Viney, A Forbes, S. Mitchell, T. Robson, J. Low, S. Low, A. Allan, and W. Gridgeman.

One of the team members at that time, Bill Gibson was a Dunedin man who drove buses for the Peninsula Bus Company. When a Dunedin team was to travel to Outram to play the locals it was Bill who drove them as well as the referee to the ground. Bill then took the field with the West Taieri team and after the game he returned all his opponents to Dunedin.

History repeated itself the next year - 1935. The team did it again - they won the competition again beating Southern B in the final. This year again there were 13 matches played and West Taieri won 10 and drew one of them. The team members were mostly the same as in 1934 however four new names appeared in the line-up: D. Fleming, G. Marshall, R. Findlay and J. Cookson. The annual ball that was held in August, became a Victory ball and complementary tickets were issued to the captain and vice-captain of each team in the 2nd grade B competition. The shield was displayed in the window of Walmsley's General Store and afterwards in the two hotels.

After 1935, Les Scott's name disappeared from the lists of members recorded by the O.R.F.U. and West Taieri's results moved back to the pattern of some good years and some bad ones. During the war years, the rugby team went into recess. Three players lost their lives while overseas - they were Bert Ferguson, Roy Hamilton and Ron Davis.

In 1946, the team was reformed and entered into the 2nd grade competition. With the new team came a change of colour to green. This change came about as a result of the shortage of any sort of clothing after the war. White jerseys were purchased and these were dyed green. Within a few years however maroon and blue jerseys became available and the club to the present time has retained that colour.

That year pre-season friendly matches were played against both Brighton and Middlemarch rugby teams. The club played 16 matches for the season but won just 4 of them. At the end of the rugby year arrangements were made for a friendly game against Middlemarch to take place at Outram. By way of entertainment for the visitors it was proposed that they be taken to the hotel for tea then invited to a dance at the A & P hall and conclude the evening with supper. However if the hall wasn't available that evening, it was suggested that the visitors be supplied with beer at the Drill Hall and non-drinkers be taken to the local pictures!

The team continued strongly through the 1950's although by this time there was only one team and that was entered into the 3rd grade section 2 competition. In 1959, West Taieri came in joint winners with Union after playing 16 games, winning 13, losing 3 and drawing

2 matches, 170 points for and 114 against. There were great celebrations by the club in 1960 - the home side had won the 3rd grade section 2 competition. The team had played 17 games and won 15 of them, losing just 1 and drawing 1 game - 222 points for and 60 against. Celebrations included a smoke concert in early September and a social evening later in the month for which two tickets were sent to the ORFU and the Green Island, Taieri and Ravensbourne clubs.



*Coach Jack Stringer and players.*

## THE CHANGING SHEDS

From the very early years - maybe even prior to 1900 - there was a small, wooden, one roomed changing shed at the recreation ground. However, because this shed was quite inadequate to cater for two teams, visiting sides often changed into their rugby gear at one of the two Outram hotels before proceeding to the grounds. After the match the players returned to the hotel to change again. This arrangement of course suited the hotel proprietors very well. A concrete shower room was built on to the back of the shed in 1948. The club was grateful for the financial assistance from the Outram Town Board, the Taieri A & P Society and the Otago Rugby Football Union towards this improvement. The shower supplied hot water, considered rather a luxury at that time. In 1952 a new two roomed shed was built to replace the old one. The trees for the timber were donated by Mr Morell Shaw, carted by C.H.Hyslop and Sons to Berwick where they were milled at Robinsons saw mill. The roofing iron was donated and one of the committee recognised a good deal, when he carted the iron home and sold it to the club for £1 per sheet! Hee and Syd Mockford assisted by many members in a good team effort constructed the shed. The West Taieri Club felt a real pride in their improved facilities when hosting city clubs.

In November 1968 the changing shed was destroyed by fire leaving the club without any facilities. As a short term solution, two small sheds were moved to the ground. The following year the Rugby Club and the West Taieri Scout Group agreed to combine in an effort to have a hall built that could be used by both groups. Plans were drawn up and the cost of the building was estimated to be \$10,000. Further scrutiny of the plans however, revealed that there was no provision for a changing room for the rugby players. The plans were altered



*The temporary changing sheds.*



*The open-air showers!*

accordingly. Before building could commence, the club had to become an incorporated society and this was attended to in 1970. By 1971 fund raising for the new building was well under way by means of catering, various raffles, tug-o-war events and rivacades. All the team members and supporters made a big effort and none more so than Les (Percy) Milne, a stalwart of the club over many years.

The new pavilion was available in February 1972 for the rugby club annual meeting. The official opening took place in April with Murray Rose, the local Member of Parliament officiating. The next year however, a plan was drawn up to extend the new building to include a social room for the club. So the fund raising continued! By 1984 the committee were again discussing an extension to the clubrooms which were proving inadequate to cope with the extra players now that there were two teams plus the supporters. Building was under way by 1986 and fund raising had taken on a new urgency. Trees were felled for fire wood sales, manure collected and sold (ordinary manure for most orders and pedigree manure for specialist rose growers), large numbers of sheep were crutched using the voluntary labour of committee members and of course raffles and more raffles!

## THE 1980'S

While all this was going on, West Taieri rugby was achieving good results. Two teams had been entered into the 3rd grade competition in 1984 and the red team finished 1st equal in section 1 and the blue team did well in section 2. In 1985 the top team was entered into the 2nd grade competition and finished the season half way up the ladder. The second team had been entered into the 3rd grade contest and performed creditably. The 1987 season turned out to be another very successful one for the club. The second team finished runners up in the 3rd grade section 2 competition being beaten in front of a large home crowd. In 1987 the committee received a request from Phil McNeill to enter a team of older players into the competition. At the end of that season all three West Taieri teams finished in the top 5.

Right through from the very early years, the end of season has always been marked with various friendly games such as married v singles and other similar grade teams from outside the area. In 1988 however, a golf tournament was planned and the club played Old Boys at Clutha with both a men's and women's team. At the AGM later that year, president B.King noted the death during the year of club member, David Daniell whom he stated would be remembered as a good player and friend.

## THE FINAL DECADE OF THE CENTURY

A second playing field at the northern end of the ground was developed and fenced in 1989/90. By 1991 further clubroom alterations were being discussed by the committee and a new changing room and shower block was completed in 1992.

Good rugby results were achieved by the first team - now in the Senior Reserve grade - they finished 2nd in 1990 when they played right through to the final before losing the last game. In 1991 and 1992 they finished 3rd in the competition. The second team in the Open Grade was having a hard time and the "Oldies" team were struggling to get members. The Senior Reserve team continued with good results through 1994 to 1996 when they finished the seasons well up on the points table. A high point in 1994, was the securing of Brian Lochore as the speaker at a pre-test function in the clubrooms on the Friday night prior to the game South Africa v All Blacks.

By 1996 only one West Taieri team was being fielded. At various times over the last century, local players were in short supply and this is the situation at present. The decade has ended with the West Taieri team being composed of players not only from Outram, but also from Mosgiel and even from Dunedin. Due to the dedication of the committees over the years however, the grounds and facilities at Outram are in an excellent condition and second to none in Otago.

Who knows what the next century will bring to the West Taieri Rugby Club? The last 100 years though, has brought the highs of success, the lows of defeat, the hard work of fund raising, the commitment of practice and the responsibility of administration. Perhaps though, the most rewarding part of belonging to the club has come from the comradeship of joining with team-mates in a common cause and the resulting life long friendships that developed over the years.

It was the opening of the duck shooting season and the West Taieri "hill" boys were late for the match at Outram. Because the home side was short of players the referee wanted them to default. Lew Williams explained to the referee that there was snow on the tops and the boys would have been held up feeding out the stock and to wait a little longer. They would also have plenty of swedes with them when they arrived. The "hill" boys eventually roared in showing some fairly obvious signs of alcohol consumption and the game commenced.

## TAIERI PLAINS SUB UNION

The Sub-Union was formed in 1933 for 3rd grade teams from West Taieri, Momona, Berwick, Henley, Waihola and for a time Allanton. The matches were played earlier in the afternoon as very often team members were needed to enable the 2nd grade competition side to field a team. The players were mostly inexperienced with little knowledge of the game.

The Berwick rugby ground was at Robert Petrie's paddock located adjacent to the bus depot on the main street of the township. Hec Wilson started his rugby as a schoolboy for the Berwick School then as a 14 year old playing for the local team. In later years he went on to play for the All Blacks from 1949 - 1951. Other players in the Berwick team were Les Lyders, John Withers, Bill Thompson, Allen Miller and Don Grant. Allan Ferguson of Outram recalls one particular game when he was playing for West Taieri against the Berwick team. He was playing half back and was heading for the line for a magnificent try. Just a yard short of the line, Berwick's five-eighth Hec Mockford, knocked the ball from his hands and Berwick won the game. Allan well remembers the ribbing he received from his team-mates after the game!

Some of the players for the Momona team were Les Gamble, Bill and Haydn Barron and Andy Thornton. Their playing field was one of Moynihan's paddocks on the corner of Kirks Drain and Miller roads. Henley's playing field was a paddock owned by the Reid family and situated near the corner of Centre and Marshall roads on the opposite side to the Henley School. Very little information now exists about the Waihola team apart from the fact that it was composed mainly of members of the Sinclair family - brothers and cousins.

The Allanton team's playing field was first located on the Lindsay property on the south side of the old Allanton bridge. The goal posts were constructed from willow trunks which needed trimming before the start of the season. Eventually however, because the farm animals were inclined to rub up against the posts and sometimes knocking them down in the process, the field was relocated to the north side of the bridge adjacent to Donald Reid's sheep yards. Doug Lindsay of Allanton, who was a boy at the time, can remember the Waihola team coming to Allanton to play the local side. The players and their supporters arrived on the twenty to ten morning train and departed late afternoon on the twenty to five train. Doug can remember the noisy Waihola contingent walking across the bridge with their liquid refreshments in stone flagons carried in sugar sacks on their backs. Some of the Allanton players at that time were brothers Eric and Lindo Ralston, brothers Ernie and Russell Newman, Albie Hastie, Jimmy Weir, Bill Rennie, Joe Urquhart and Les Dowie.

A team from the Taieri Plains Sub-Union was selected to play against the South Tuapeka Sub-Union at Waitahuna on the 21st July 1934. The players were: Backs: E. Mockford (Berwick) F. Dickson (Henley) H. Mawdsley (Henley) H. Mockford (Berwick) J. Geary (Henley) G. Marshall (West Taieri) Forwards: Petrie (Momona) J. Hook (Henley) S. Dickson (Henley) J. Gorman (West Taieri) Williams (Momona) Bisset (Momona) C. Popham (Henley) Colquhoun (West Taieri) Emergencies: Back: R. Geary (Henley) Forward: G. Spiers (Henley)

The sub-union was disbanded in 1937.

## THE SOUTH TAIERI RUGBY CLUB

The South Taieri Rugby Club was formed in 1946 and was an amalgamation of the former Berwick, Allanton, Henley and Momona sub-union clubs. The first president was Jimmy Stewart, the first coach Urban Rutherford and club captain Davie Baird. Practices were held at the school grounds and competition matches were initially played in a paddock on the Moynihan farm on Miller Rd. However for most of its existence the club used one of Bob Sprott's cow paddocks. This paddock was not popular with the visiting town teams because of its very often mucky condition. For the first year or so Bob Sprott's woolshed was used for a changing shed although later George Cashmere loaned a shed for the visiting teams to use for this purpose.

The team members in 1946 were, Ernie Newman, Edgar Lyall, Bunny Taylor, Bill Veitch, Gordon Williams, Albie Morrison, Max Popham, Reg Costello, Wattie Wilson, Roy Wilson, Johnny Bisset, Jimmy Stewart, Urban Rutherford, Allan Ralston, Herb Paterson and Jack Popham. The team colours were brown and white. In 1947, Bill Bisset was appointed coach - a position he held until leaving the district in 1956.

The team had its successes over the years. In 1947 they were runners up in the 3rd grade competition when they won 11 and lost 4 games for the season. They did even better when they won the competition in 1955. That final game was against West Taieri and played at Mosgiel. The score was 6-0 and made up of two penalties kicked by Russell Jury.

The club celebrated the end of each playing season with a smoke concert held in the Momona hall. At these popular all-male functions, much eating, drinking, yarn telling and presumably smoking took place. The club also held 2 balls - the first one in 1946 and the second in 1949.

The South Taieri Rugby Club finally went into recess in March 1958 and then formally closed in July 1965.

The South Taieri team had a player by the name of Derek McLellan. Derek was the stationmaster at Allanton and had to travel down to Momona for his rugby. Matches were often delayed awaiting the arrival of Derek from his duties of "putting the train through". When West Taieri and South Taieri played the final at the Mosgiel grounds, the game was again delayed due to a mix up. Someone had forgotten to collect Derek on the way and Russell Jury had to drive back to Allanton to pick him up. However the result was worth it when South Taieri won the game and the trophy.

## EARLY RUGBY FAMILIES OF WEST TAIERI

### BATHGATE

It was in 1861 that the first of the Bathgate family arrived at Outram. Scottish born Alexander, a 68-year-old widower was accompanied by some members of his family. His eldest son John, was the only member of the family to settle permanently in the West Taieri district.

Five of John's seven sons played rugby for West Taieri between the years of 1891 and 1910 although one of the sons Jim, played a game as late as the late 1930's along with his own son Lewis who was also a member of the team. Another of Jim's sons, Alan, played for the local team about 1946 and 1947. Melville and Bill who were John's grandsons played for West Taieri during the early 1920's. Bill transferred to Taieri in 1926 and went on to represent Otago in 34 matches between 1926 and 1931. Don, another grandson played a few games for the local side in 1948. Ross Bathgate, a great grandson of John is the latest member of the family to play for West Taieri during the mid to late 1980's.

### FERGUSON

The Ferguson Family came to Outram from the West Coast well before 1900. That first family was Peter and Sarah who had seven sons and 3 daughters. One of the sons, Arthur played for the West Taieri Football club in 1905. Another son Bill, had a family that included six sons, Bert, Bill, Peter, Allan (Darby), Frank and Ron who were all members of the local team during the period from about 1936 and 1948. In the next generation, Frank's son Stuart and Darby's son Graeme both played for the West Taieri club.

### LOW

Charlie Low of Scottish origins arrived in Outram well over 100 years ago. Two of his four sons, George and Alex were early players for the West Taieri Football Club. Another son Jack settled in Outram and had five sons who were all players for the local club. These brothers were Stan, Jack, Charlie, Bill and Alex who played during a period of approximately two decades between the mid 1920's and 1946. Bill Low was a particularly good player and was selected one year to play for Otago but had to decline because of lack of transport to get to practices and matches etc. About that same time the Kaikorai Rugby Club invited him to join their senior team but this too was reluctantly declined by Bill for the same reason. The four older brothers who were all members of the 2nd grade team played in both the 1934 and 1935 sides that won the banner each of those years. The last generation of the family to play for West Taieri, were Alex Lows sons, Doug and Graeme, who played during the 1980's.

### DOHERTY

The Doherty family has a history of involvement with the West Taieri club covering the period from the early 1900's to the present day. Francis Doherty of Ireland was a young man when he arrived in Otago in 1878. He had three sons, Frank, John and Charles. Charles played rugby for West Taieri before serving overseas in WW1 where he was lost in action. Frank and John began the two branches of the Doherty family that still farm in the area.

John played for the team during the 1920's and later moved onto the committee. He was president of the club in 1950 - the 50th Jubilee year. John's only son Len joined the rugby club around 1947 and was team captain for several years. Later on he coached the team for two years. Len's son Fred, played schoolboy rugby at West Taieri during the late 1960's and early 1970's before continuing on as a player for the club during the 1980's. He was secretary of the club for seven years.

Frank had five sons, Paddy, Charlie, Jock, Des and Brian, all of whom played for West Taieri during the 1930's and 1940's. Brian went on to become captain of a NZ University Rugby team. Paddy served as club secretary in 1934-35. Des was involved with the formation of the West Taieri Schoolboy Rugby about 1964 and coached them in 1972-74. He was made a life member of the club in 1985. Of the next generation, Paddy's two sons, Brian and Colin began playing rugby for West Taieri during their school holidays - indeed Brian continued playing right through to the 1990's. He was also club secretary in 1975. Colin played for the local club for the 1972 season. Des's two sons, Kevin and Peter have also contributed much to West Taieri rugby. Apart from playing for the club for many years, both have served as club presidents and coaches.

The family's latest generation of rugby players consists of Kevin's two sons, Richard and Tim who played schoolboy rugby at West Taieri during the period from 1984 to 1994 and Peter's two sons Cameron and Blair, current members of the local schoolboy rugby team. Richard Doherty is playing senior rugby for West Taieri this year.

The club wasn't having a good season, they had lost more games than won and this was another match that didn't seem to be going their way. The score was 8 to 6 against them and the opposition team was determined not to let them cross the line again. West Taieri were desperate and time was nearly up. Then, Bill Low broke from the ruck and headed for the goal line. The opposition full back who was thundering up behind made a huge lunge and grabbed Bill's shorts but our man of the match went over the line undeterred, shorts around his knees and bare backside uppermost.

## NOTABLE PLAYERS AND COACHES

### BILL BISSET

Bill Bisset began his rugby playing at Momona School. When he left school, Bill played for the Momona team in the Taieri Plains Sub-Union 3rd grade competition. Later, he transferred to the Taieri Club and by 1939 was a member of the First Fifteen team. He then went on to represent Otago in a match against Southland in 1940.

During the war, Bill was first a member of unit teams in New Zealand, and on going overseas was a member of the Combined Forces fifteen in Egypt (a composite side of British, South African and New Zealand players). In 1942 this side played matches against the Air Force and the Royal Navy.

After returning to Momona, Bill took up the coaching of the newly formed South Taieri Rugby team and continued with this until 1956 when he and his family left the district.

### DAVE YOUNG

Dave joined the West Taieri Rugby Club in 1946 and remembers the team being a very inexperienced group of 17 to 18 year olds.

In 1950, Dave transferred to the Taieri Club and played in the senior team for 7 years. He remembers scoring a try in his first game for Taieri on Carisbrook. At the end of that season, Dave was selected to play in the Otago team. Over seven seasons, he played 35 games for Otago including 2 games against international teams - Fiji and Australia. He toured the North Island twice with Otago teams.

Some of the people he met during those years who have gone on to become rugby legends were, Vic Cavanagh, Charlie Saxton, Roy Neiper, Arthur Marsdin, Laurie Haig, Kevin Skinner, Hec Wilson and Peter Johnstone.

### LAWRENCE KOVALESKI

Lawrence started playing rugby as a schoolboy at the Allanton Primary School before joining the South Taieri Rugby Club based at Momona. About 1948 he transferred to the Taieri Club and was a member for many years. He was the captain of the Taieri team that won the Senior Competition in 1955. Lawrence represented Otago between 1951 and 1957 during which time he played 50 games for the province. He was captain of the Otago team in the Ranfurly Shield game against South Canterbury in 1957.

A friend of Lawrence, Paul Booth, remembers "Kov" as a hard and skilful player with the leadership abilities to motivate his team. Off the field and particularly at social occasions, he was quite a comedian with a quick wit that made him popular with fellow players.

### G F McKELLAR

Gerald McKellar who was the son of Outram's stationmaster Archibald McKellar, played rugby for the West Taieri team in 1901. At some stage later he moved to Wellington and while playing club rugby there was selected to play for the All Blacks in 1910. The following year he returned to Dunedin and joined the Pirates club and while a member represented Otago in 11 matches from 1911 to 1912.

## HEC MOCKFORD

Hec was one of West Taieri's great supporters; He was a player, committee member, treasurer, secretary, chairman for 9 years and coach for 8 years. Hec came to Berwick in the late 1920's to work on a farm on the Waipori Rd and it was soon after that he became involved with the Berwick football team who took part in the Taieri Plains Sub-Union competition. When this competition folded he continued his rugby at Outram. He was a great worker for anything that needed done for the benefit of the club. It was Hec and his brother Sid, who organised the building of the replacement changing shed in 1952. He also organised firewood cutting at Berwick as a fund-raiser for the club. Hec was instrumental in recruiting new players from the Berwick Forestry Service. His widow Ola remembers Hec's car packed with Berwick players regularly travelling to Outram for practice or matches and she also remembers the car packed with players arriving back at the Mockford home at all hours and expecting to be fed. During Hec's time as driver on the Berwick Bus Service to and from Dunedin, it was he who transported the team to various games around Otago. He is remembered as a very good natured man on or off the field who always looked for the humorous side of any situation.

## ALAN AND DES HANSEN

Alan Hansen who was nicknamed 'Bull Moose' commenced coaching West Taieri in 1969. When necessary he played the occasional game and some opposing coaches reckoned his rucking did more damage to West Taieri than the opposition. A couple of seasons later, his brother Des joined him and they both brought discipline and commitment to the team. Even though some players had a long way to travel, training was two days a week. Practice was intense and if a player missed training he was stood down no matter how good he was. The Hansen era 1969 to 1974 was one of the high points for West Taieri. Des went on to be a successful coach of senior Marist and University teams in Christchurch.

## CHUM BERRY

During the late 1920's and 1930's, West Taieri had a one-legged coach by the name of Chum Berry. Chum was a half brother of Arthur Free of Huntly Rd and worked for him on the market garden. When Chum was 20 years old and living in Christchurch he broke a leg during a rugby match. As a result of complications, the leg had to be amputated and Chum got around on crutches for the rest of his life. However the disability didn't stop Chum's involvement with the West Taieri team. He was the club's chairman in 1933 and again in 1939 and 1940. He also coached the team for a number of years. It is reputed that he could kick a goal from the half way mark. Chum was a very fit man and his bike which was fitted with a fixed sprocket, was his means of transport. There were many times that he biked from the Huntly Rd property to the races at Wingatui.



## THE LADIES' COMMITTEE

In earlier times, rugby clubs did not permit women into their clubrooms when rugby functions were being held. The West Taieri Club's after match functions, club meetings and the smoke concerts of the earlier years were very much all-male affairs. Indeed, while the players were socialising after the Saturday matches the girlfriends had to sit outside in the cars waiting for the men to come out. It wasn't until about the mid 1970's that women started attending various club functions and then usually in the back room attending to the catering. By the early 1980's the women were selling pies at the Saturday matches and this arrangement became more formalised when they began meeting regularly to co-ordinate catering for opening and closing days and other club functions. Food sold on Saturdays was extended to include cheese rolls, crisps, soft drink, tea and coffee. Later still, the committee purchased a deep fryer and hot chips was added to the selection. The profit made each year is returned to the clubrooms in one form or another. Some improvements supplied by the committee have been drapes and cushion covers and the honours board etc.

Janet Warnock was appointed delegate to attend the West Taieri Rugby Club's meetings. By 1989, Janet and Lynette Deans, Carol Neame and Nicola Adam were members of the rugby club's social committee. In 1991 Janet Warnock became the club's secretary.

Each year a group from the West Taieri Ladies' committee attended the annual Otago Rugby Ladies' dinner. In 1995, the Otago Rugby Lady of the year function was held at Balclutha and Janet Warnock was nominated for the title by her women's group and to everyone great delight, she went on to a well deserved win.

The social side of the Rugby Club has always been an important part of their activities. This took the form of smoke concerts and dances when a generous supply of alcoholic beverages and food formed a prominent part of the evening. For example in August 1965, the West Taieri Club's minute book lists the refreshments to be ordered for a social evening as follows:-

Two 18 gallon kegs of beer, 2 dozen bottles of beer, 5 bottles of gin, 3 bottles of whisky, 2 bottles black currant gin, 2 bottles merry widow, 2 dozen bottles of lemonade, 1 bottle pimm's, and 3 dozen bottles of soft drinks.

As far as the food is concerned the following was to be laid on: 7 dozen pies, 25 dozen savouries, 30 dozen mixed sandwiches and 20 dozen mixed cakes. Whew!

## SOME MEMORABLE GAMES

One very wet and cold day in the early 1970's, West Taieri travelled to Ravensbourne for the annual Rosebowl match. None of the Ravensbourne players turned up at the ground. The West Taieri team then went to the local hotel and found the Ravensbourne players gathered there. After a few drinks it was agreed that they would forgo the rugby and settle the Rosebowl with a game of darts. The game was pretty even until Lew Williams failed to throw a double 13 and lost the match. When they returned to Outram and coach Jack Stringer heard they had lost the Rosebowl playing darts he was upset in the extreme.

West Taieri were playing Union at the North Ground in an ill-tempered match. The hostility was possibly aggravated by the inconsiderate remarks made by the country boys who couldn't tell the difference between the Maori, Samoan and Tongan players. In the dressing room, coach Alan Hanson urged the players to get changed fast. He then led them down to the Union dressing room, opened the door with his boot and announced in his usual diplomatic manner that if they wanted a fight, now was the time - either that or they could shake hands. Union players were at a slight disadvantage - some were still in the showers, some half dressed and some still with their trousers around their ankles. Good sense prevailed and an enjoyable social hour followed.

The Holy Cross College in Mosgiel played friendly games against various teams. They were termed 'The Priests'. West Taieri played a pre season game against them at Peter Johnstone Park in the early 1970's and beat them. Lew Williams, a replacement kicker put 4 out of 4 over but when his 5th kick went over as well, the coach and line umpire Alan Hansen, waved it away. When asked why, Alan said "if you had got five out of five you might become big-headed and we can't have that in our team"! That was the only game the 'Priests' lost that year and they wanted a return match but West Taieri declined. They wanted their record intact.

In 1972, West Taieri were playing Zingari at Outram. Zingari had a first grade player on the wing who seemed to easily find holes in the West Taieri defence and the referee appeared to favour Zingari. Colin Moodie and Kevin Doherty, the reserves on the sideline discussed this and Colin decided to even things up a little. When the Zingari winger burst through near the sideline, Colin shed his jacket, rushed on to the field, shoulder charged the winger and flattened him. The West Taieri forwards worked the winger over and Colin retired to the sideline and replaced his jacket. The winger didn't know what happened.

South Taieri were playing Pirates at the Momona grounds, which had a high and thick gorse hedge at the western end. Ernie Newman, fullback for South Taieri, attempted to field a deep kick by Pirates, misjudged it and rushed back to retrieve it. Two Pirate players following up behind assisted him right into the middle of the gorse hedge. Ernie was still removing prickles several days later.

Ray Spencer recalls being a spectator at a match at Berwick that was probably the last rugby game played in the township. It took place about 1937 when Ray was still a schoolboy and was a friendly game between the local team and a team of older farmers from the area - some ex-players and some not. The older players were led on to the field by a piper and

each of them carried across their chest a green fern which had been collected from the bush earlier in the day. Geoff Lyders for the older team was late arriving at the game and the match had already started when he made his dramatic appearance. He came in style wearing a wide brimmed hat and hob-nailed boots seated on the back of a motor bike which was driven straight on to the field while the game was in progress. Geoff jumped off the bike and was straight into play. Ray's father Arthur was a member of the older team and Ray remembers how his mother looked after her husband's teeth while he was on the field. The official team just managed to win the game in the final minutes.

## ... AND SOME MEMORABLE CHARACTERS

Two hard case West Taieri rugby supporters were Bob Drummond and Jock Hendry. Bob used to abuse the referees by calling them one-eyed and Jock used his walking stick to trip up the players in the opposing team to stop scoring. Both men were banned from attending matches at Outram for a period of time.

In the very early days the West Taieri club had a player by the name of Jimmy Kirkwood. Jimmy was completely bald and although a tough man quick to use his fists, he was inclined to be sensitive about his lack of hair. To hide this "affliction" he always wore a cap. Opposing teams took great delight in targeting that cap and removing it whenever the opportunity arose during a game. Whenever this happened, Jimmy immediately stopped whatever he was doing at the time - be it involved in a ruck or open play - retrieved the cap and replaced it.

Alf Ryan played for West Taieri for several years in the late 1920s before transferring to the Taieri team in 1930. He rode his push bike from Outram to Mosgiel and when the team was playing in Dunedin, caught the train along with the rest of the team, then travelled by tram to the ground. After the match was played - and there were no after match functions - it was back out to Outram again by train then push bike.

Keith Mockford remembers an amusing incidence before a match at Outram. The two teams had just greeted each other when the referee indicated that it was time to commence the game. Jim McKinlay a spectator of very large proportions jokingly remarked that he had better get his togs on. The shocked expressions on the faces of the visiting team was something worth seeing as they maybe contemplated meeting Jim in the scrum



*Jock Hendry*

## THE GOLDEN OLDIES

It was in 1991, the team of "oldies" that was formed in 1987, took part in the International Golden Oldies Rugby Festival held in Perth that year. This international event began in Auckland in 1979 and the competition in Perth was the seventh time it had been held. In 1989, with the trip in mind, intensive fund-raising began and a good money earner was lamb tailing undertaken by the "oldies" group. The team from Outram was called the "West Taieri Wanderers" and as only seven Taieri men were able to participate, the addition of eleven players from Queenstown made up the full contingent.

The West Taieri men were, Robin Gamble, Ralph Nichol, Brian Flett, Philip McNeill, Lew Williams, Ian Nichol and Bruce Flett. That year, 177 teams from 18 countries competed. The emphasis of the event was certainly not on winners but very much on fun, irreverence and self-indulgence. The West Taieri team took that philosophy on board with them when they left Dunedin Airport en route for Perth. The full jumbo jet carrying Golden Oldie players and supporters ran out of beer before it reached Australia but, although the alcoholic spirits were low, the players spirits were high when the plane reached its destination. Some players were short of legs by that time.

The festival was extremely well organised with meals, transport and all needs attended to. Each team played four games during the week. The march pass on the Monday with 170 teams and 18 nations represented was something very special to be experienced. A trip to Fremantle by train or bus mid-week was undertaken with over 6000 players and supporters.

It was late on the Friday night, the West Taieri Oldies were out on the town and the buses had stopped running. Robin Gamble was a bit tired so he was placed in a supermarket trolley. Philip McNeill was pushing him up the ramp to an over-bridge when exhaustion overcame him. During the transfer to Ian Nichol, the trolley slipped out of their grasp and careered backwards down the ramp somehow dodging cars onto a 4-lane motorway. Robin discovered the meaning of fear. Ian couldn't catch the trolley until it hit a curbing and overturned. During the rescue attempt, Ian hit his leg on the trolley and lost a fair amount of skin. Robin and the six others decided a taxi would be the best option and they all piled into a 4 seater taxi in spite of loud protests from the driver.

The dinner on the Saturday night with everyone seated ended a week that will be a life-long memory for all those who took part..



## RUGBY SCORING MODIFICATIONS

An extract from information supplied by Dave McLaren - rugby historian.

Many changes in the way that rugby points are scored have taken place in the last 125 years. As early as the 1870's, matches were generally decided on goals alone. There was no credit given for a mere touch down for this only entitled the touchers down to a "try at goal". This was taken opposite to the place of the touch down in the field of play, a placer was used and the defending team could charge the kick. In that way, a match could be won by 1 goal to nil by a team who had scored a single touch down and converted the goal while the losers may have scored 6 touch downs and failed to convert one. By today's thinking that system was rather unfair!

In some of these early games, points were arbitrarily applied. When Auckland toured the south in 1875 and played Otago in what is still recognised as the first ever inter-provincial match, the home side won by 9 1/2 to 1/2. Goals counted 6 points, touch downs 2 points and if you had to force down behind your own goal line this was called a "minor" and you conceded 1/2 a point. That concept had disappeared by 1877.

For the 1880 season the NZ rugby unions then in existence had, by consensus, adopted a scoring system for New Zealand although this continued to be the subject of local variations. A try scored 1 point, goals from a try counted 3 points and dropped goals gave a team 4 points.

There were minor variations given to scoring values all over the world until 1905 when the universal system was adopted. The scoring was set with tries - 3 points, conversions - 2 points (still described as goals with a total value of 5 points) penalty goals - 3 points, dropped goals - 4 points and goals from a mark counted 3 points. Up until the 1937 season, a side which had been awarded a penalty had to retreat from the mark and use a placer for an attempt at goal while the transgressors were allowed to charge as for a conversation.

In 1948, the value of the dropped goal was reduced to 3 points from 4. In 1972, the points awarded for a try were increased to 4 and again in 1992, the value went up again to 5.

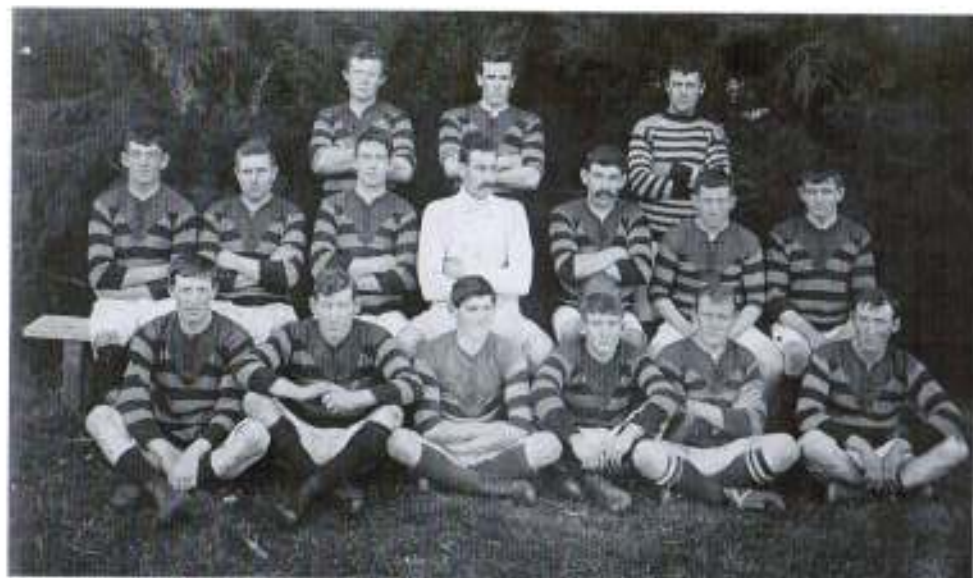
A big dance was held to mark the opening of the new hall and clubrooms. The dance band had the amplifier turned up high and the beat of the drum was too loud. Philip McNeill asked the band to turn it down a little on two occasions. Although they obliged, within a short while the music louder than ever. Philip was displeased so he went up to them for the third time, his foot slipped and the side of the drum disappeared. He did not have to ask again.

During a match against Port Chalmers, West Taieri player, Philip McNeill landed a blow on one of the opposing players. Philip was rather taken aback when the player's mother rushed on to the paddock and angrily took to him with her umbrella.



**1903**

*Back Row:* James Cameron (Referee), Arthur Ferguson, Frank Wright, Colin Anderson, Ted McLeod, Robert Duff, William Leask, John Bathgate, John Baird  
*Front Row:* Robert Neill, D Carmody, William Bathgate, William Snow, John White, Charles McPherson, John Little, James Bathgate



**1908**

*Back Row:* J Dow, R McDonald, R Murray  
*Middle Row:* W Little, W Leask, W Watson, W Martin (Referee), J Little (Captain), W Bathgate, O Hughes  
*Front Row:* J Patrick, Jack Bathgate, Geo Bathgate, Jas Bathgate, W Steele, Peter Bathgate



**1905**

*Back Row:* P McDonald, J Milligan, W Little, J Patrick, R McDonald, J Little, R Mather  
*Middle Row:* W Neill, B Wilson, A Little, J Stanaway, J Watson, T Hanley  
*Front Row:* O Hughes, J Bathgate



**1914 At Middlemarch**

*Back Row:* R B Neill (Line Umpire), A McDonald, A Little, Jas Miller, J McLeod, O Hughes, W Grant (Coach)  
*Middle Row:* J Nichol, L Hughes, W Roberts, F Miller, C Doherty  
*Front Row:* W Robson, C McLeod, Jas Bathgate, Geo Bathgate, A Brown



**1934 Winners Second Grade, Section B Shield**

*Back Row:* L Johnston, J Carruthers, T Walker, A F McKay, K Waldron, P Doherty, J Gorman, W Low  
*Middle Row:* W Ryan (Coach), J McKenzie, D Fleming, C Low, L Scott (Captain), W Gibson, J Doherty,  
 R Viney, A Fraser (Selector)  
*Front Row:* A Forbes, S Mitchell, T Robson, J Low, T Mulqueen.      *Insets:* S Low, A Allan, W Gridgeman



**1938**

*Back Row:* Vic Kard, Frank Ferguson, Gordon Thomson, Jack Brensell, Frank Gibson, Ted Collings,  
 Bill Thomson, Arthur Hamilton, Ted Gibson, Grant Thomson  
*Front Row:* Des Doherty, Alex Low, Ron Davis, Bert Ferguson, Roy Hamilton, Allan Ferguson, Lewis Bathgate,  
 George Welch



**1949**

*Back Row:* L Doherty, E Neill, D Young, F Knight, A Robertson, W Thomson, L Milne, G Welch,  
 J McLaughlan (Coach)  
*Middle Row:* J Findlay, F McCabe, A Hughes, S Mockford, P Robertson, R Young  
*Front Row:* Eric Hyslop, R McNeil, J Latinen, H Mockford, P Hughes



**1955**

*Back Row:* P Gruppelaar, A Wilkinson, T Kirkwood, L Hyslop, T Mockford, D Shaw  
*Middle Row:* R Milne, L Doherty, T Graham, S Mockford, J Hyslop, G Stewart, K Gruppelaar  
*Front Row:* K Howell, E Hyslop, E Neill, L Milne, H Mockford, J Stringer, L Gruppelaar



**1959 Joint Winners 3rd Grade, Section 2.**

*Back Row:* T Mockford, J Stringer, J Levido, L Hyslop, N Duncan, E McDiarmid  
*Middle Row:* L Doherty (Coach), N Clark, D Bain, D Dore, N McMillan, J Smith, H McMillan, B Parsons, A Wilson (Vice President)  
*Front Row:* A Scorgie, D Dnaas, K Mockford, H Mockford (President), A Wilkinson (Vice Captain), P Usherwood, H Drivers



**1972 Third Grade**

*Back Row:* P McKee, P Booth, C Moody, J Maskill, B Flett, D Aitken  
*Middle Row:* A Hansen (Coach), P McNeill, R Dougherty, G Grant (Club Captain), D Lobb, K Doherty, D Hansen (Coach)  
*Front Row:* B Nichol (secretary), B Doherty, D White, C Doherty, I Nichol (Captain), M Nichol, B Flett, L Williams, J Stringer (President) *Absent:* W Grant



**1981 Third Grade, Section One - Winners National Mutual Sportsmanship Award**

*Back Row:* R Tomkins, W Bisset, D Low, D Moni, M Scorgie  
*Middle Row:* J Grant, J Neame, I Nichol, G Little, R Nichol, T Kirkwood (President)  
*Front Row:* A Mains, K Doherty, M Thomson (Vice Captain), T Braid (Coach), P McNeill (Captain), B Thomson, P Doherty *Absent:* R Gamble, I Hamilton, B Doherty, E Scott (Secretary)



**1983 Seven A Side Team - Winners of Metropolitan Seven A Side**

*Back Row:* B Bisset, W Flockton, M Scorgie, P Doherty  
*Front Row:* F Taylor, B Thomson (Captain), T Braid, T Kirkwood, S Neame *Absent:* P McNeill



**1984 Third Grade, Section One - Joint Winners of Competition**

*Back Row:* F Taylor, G Marsh, B Bisset, W Harwood, G Cuthill  
*Middle Row:* R O'Brien, W Hockton, B Harrex, J Stringer, B Roberts, G Gordon, T O'Brien  
*Front Row:* A Moore (Coach), M Scorgie, R Staples, K Taylor (Captain)  
 T Kirkwood (President), R Nimmo (Club Captain), R Woodhead, W Hyslop (Coach)



**1987 West Taiari Golden Oldies**

*Back Row:* D Mori, B Flett  
*Middle Row:* B Thomson (Club Captain), S Stevenson, K Wilson, B Roberts, R Larkin, K Cookson, A Chisholm (Coach)  
*Front Row:* B King (President), M McKenzie, G MacRae (Captain), P McNeill, K Doherty



**1984 Third Grade, Section Two**

*Back Row:* S Taylor, R Tomkins, K Ruthven, I Nichol, R Warnock, B Doherty, P Connor, D Hyslop, G Sutherland  
*Middle Row:* I Frazer, G Barron, M Thomson, M McKenzie, S Neame, W Hewson, G Wallace, R Gamble,  
 F Doherty, M Gorinski  
*Front Row:* R Nimmo (Club Captain), B Ashton (Manager), P Doherty, B Thomson (Captain),  
 T Kirkwood (President), B Flett, P Booth, T Braid (Secretary), K Doherty (Coach)



**1987 Open Grade, Section One**

*Back Row:* F Taylor, K Bain, D Hyslop, M Gorinski, F Doherty, P Timoko, M Deans  
*Middle Row:* G Bezett, S Neame, M Booth, S O'Connor, B Doherty, G Wallace, B Ashton (Manager)  
*Front Row:* B Thomson (Club Captain), B Harrex, L Moore, B King (President), M Scorgie (Captain),  
 G Daniell, R Warnock (Coach)



**1987 Open Grade, Section Three, Purple - second place in Grade 3 competition**

*Back Row:* S Taylor, S Mitchell, P O'Brien, T Kirkwood (Vice Captain), B Thomson, D Daniell  
*Middle Row:* R Tomkins, W Flockton, S Thompson, R Shields, A Kydd, C Stringer, D Ashford  
*Front Row:* K Shields (Coach), G Marsh, P Connor, B King (President/Captain), R Bathgate, P Doherty,  
 R Nimmo (Assist Coach) *Absent:* D Peat, P Lobb, G Jackson, R O'Brien, G Mumm



**1990 Open Grade One - Runners up in Competition**

*Back Row:* D Hyslop, P Lobb, B Harrex, P Timoku, B Wilkinson, P Bisset  
*Middle Row:* R Larkin (Manager), D Kydd, G Wallace, P Bell, A Grant, R Pernam, D Leonard, S Neame,  
 R Warnock (Coach)  
*Front Row:* K Bird (Assist Coach), S Taylor, B Stevenson (Captain), P Cashmere (Vice Captain), G Daniell,  
 M Scorgie (Club Captain), P Doherty (President)



**1990 Open Grade Two**

*Back Row:* A Geary, A Chisholm, R Gamble, I Nichol, B Doherty  
*Middle Row:* R Smith, D Blair, G Kilpatrick, M Deans, B Thomson, L Scott  
*Front Row:* P Doherty (President), K Doherty, P McNeill, K Cookson (Captain), G MacRae, T Kirkwood,  
 M Scorgie (Club Captain)



**1990 Open Grade Three**

*Back Row:* B Connor, R Martin, P Fox, G Fallowfield, R Kinley, R Jeffrey  
*Middle Row:* B Adam (Manager), F Taylor (Coach), M Hutton, G Jackson, R Redman, B Deuchrass,  
 M Scorgie (Club Captain)  
*Front Row:* L Moore (Assist Coach), B Beentjes, K Cullen, P Perkins (Captain), R Daniell, D Waby, P Doherty (President)



**1992 West Taieri Golden Oldies**

*Back Row:* A Wilson, S More, A Grant, P Taylor, M Anderson  
*Middle row:* L Scott, M Gonneski, N Dale, P Doherty (President), M Booth, A Epiha, G MacRae  
*Front Row:* A Chisholm (Coach), S Taylor, B Thomson, P Mita, F Taylor, R Warnock (Club Captain)  
*Absent:* P McNeill, D Blair, R Gamble, B Doherty, K Thompson, S Thompson, Matt Trevor



**1992 Open Grade One**

*Back Row:* R Daniell, C Stringer, M McLennan, L Beattie, A Beattie, G Jackson, M Hamilton, D Redman  
*Middle Row:* R Warnock (Club Captain), A Greenan, K Samson, G Thomas, P Fox, B Adam (Manager),  
 R McCutcheon, P Cashmere, L Moore, P Doherty (President)  
*Front Row:* D Smith (Coach), P O'Neill, K Cullen, D Waby (Captain), M Small, R Tomkins, G Sinclair, K Bird (Coach)  
*Absent:* R Martin, J Sidon, G Wybrow, D Sim



**1992 Senior Reserve**

*Back Row:* C Stringer, M McLennan, B Harrex, S McArthur, S Neame, C Knight  
*Middle Row:* P Doherty (President), D Bain, W Small, O Kydd, G Daniell (Vice Captain), D Hyslop, M Scorgie (Manager)  
*Front Row:* R Warnock (Assist.Coach/Club Captain), S Taylor, B Stevenson (Captain), R Jeffery, G Cuthill, R Perkins (Coach)  
*Absent:* R Timoko, P Lobb, D Peat, W Hyslop, D Sutherland, R Cameron, M Cowie



**1993 Senior Reserve**

*Back Row:* G Cuthill, W Small, B Harrex, M Tamakehu, N Ward, D Waby  
*Middle Row:* R Warnock (Club Captain), G Wallace, R Cameron, D Kydd, D Scott, G Daniell, B Adam (Manager)  
*Front Row:* P Doherty (President), A Beatty, D Bain (Captain), D Sim, S Neame  
*Absent:* P Cashmere, F Taylor, B Stevenson, P Lobb, B Wilkinson, P Young



**1993 Open Grade One**

*Back Row:* R Bayne, P Wilson, R Sinclair, R Jeffery, S Stevens, S Flockton, G Sinclair  
*Middle Row:* A Fright (Manager), R Warnock (Club Captain), G Thomas, L Beattie, C Connor, A Madigan, C Knight (Coach)  
*Front Row:* P Doherty (President), M McLennan, J Sutherland (Captain), M Hamilton, A Taylor, D Smith (Coach)



**1993 Open Grade Two**

*Back Row:* M Small, G Sinclair, D Sutherland, M Anderson, W Hyslop, D Hyslop, J Cooper  
*Middle Row:* R Warnock (Club Captain), C Miller, K Diddam, T Wilkins, S McArthur, R Nichol, P Fox, A Sinclair (Manager)  
*Front Row:* P Doherty (President), K Cullen, L Moore (Captain), S Taylor, R Tomkins, K Bird (Coach)  
*Absent:* P Timoko, A Grant, C Stringer, M Sinclair



**1994 2nd Grade**

*Back Row:* D Smith (President), D McAlwee, B Taylor, M Brensell, M Hamilton, R Warnock  
*Middle Row:* W Flockton (Coach), A Taylor, R Sinclair, R McKay, A Sinclair (Manager)  
*Front Row:* R Tomkins, G Sinclair, W Smail (Captain), P Wharehinga, S Flockton, M McKay



**1994 Senior Reserve**

*Back Row:* R Warnock (Club Captain), G Daniel, B Harrex, D Leonard, J Sutherland, D Sim, D Scott, B Adam (Manager)  
*Middle Row:* P Cashmere (Coach), P Lobb, S Neame, S McArthur, A Spencer, M Down, R Bayne, K Cullen (Assist. Mgr)  
*Front Row:* A Cadzow, J Wild, W Harwood, G Bezett (Captain), G Cuthill, D Watby, D. Smith  
*Absent:* D Bain, C Knight (Coach)



**1997 Senior Reserve-5th in Dunedin Metropolitan Competition, Winners Clarks Junction Shield, Snow White Cup**  
*Back Row:* D McAfee, D Gray-Smith, W Small, A J Greenan, A Taylor (Club Captain), A C McKay, D Sutherland, S Taylor  
*Middle Row:* G Daniell (Assist. Coach), M Swanson, R Nichol, R Roff, J Sutherland, M Adam, D Sim, B Adam (Manager)  
*Front Row:* R Warnock (President) B Clark, A Luff, B Harrex (Vice Captain), S Neame (Captain) G Sinclair, R Jeffery, R Perkins (Coach). *Absent:* G Bezett, M Cowie, D Hyslop, W Hyslop, T Sutherland



**1999 Winners of Snow White Trophy, Harkness Cup**  
*Back Row:* Al Greenan, D Oglvie, G Morrison, R Bayne, C Head, M Burrell  
*Middle Row:* D McAfee, G Lea, J Sutherland, G Bezett, K Alison, A Bird, R Anderson  
*Front Row:* B Adam (Manager), J Templeton, B Harrex (Vice-Captain), D Hannah (Captain), S Taylor (President), D Bain, J Chapman, J Stringer (Coach/Club Captain) *Absent:* R Jefferies, G Cleave

## South Taieri Rugby Club



**South Taieri Rugby Team 1946**  
*Back Row:* Ernie Newman, ? Albie Morrison, Max Popham, Edgar Lyall, Bunny Taylor, Les Gamble, Reg Costello, Wattie Wilson, Bill Veitch, Gordon Williams  
*Front Row:* Roy Wilson, John Bisset, Jimmy Stewart, Urban Rutherford, Allan Ralston, Herb Paterson, Jack Popham



**South Taieri Rugby Team 1948**  
*Back Row:* Max Popham, Gordon Bisset, Jack Popham, Robbie Bisset, Lawrence Kovaleski  
*Middle Row:* Bill Bisset (Coach), Roy Wilson, Jimmy Stewart, Allan Ralston, Ernie Newman, Noel Hunt, Les Gamble, Ewan McDonald  
*Front Row:* Wattie Beattie, Alf Dickson, Urban Rutherford, Herbie Paterson, John Bisset, Bill Veitch, Wattie Wilson



**South Taieri Rugby Team 1955 - Winners 3rd Grade Competition**

*Back Row:* B. Cashmere, M Taylor, J Allan, G Smith, A Sutherland, C Bryant

*Middle Row:* G Bain, R Jury, A Matheson, N Clark, D Bain

*Front Row:* G Cashmere (Club Captain), C Wilson, A Gold, G Bisset (Captain), D Ross, M Miller, R Taylor

**WEST TAIERI RUGBY CLUB**

**CLUB CHAIRMEN**

F.Caterer	1931
A Free	1931
W J Ryan	1932
A W Berry	1933
H Fraser	1934
S Low	1935-36
W J Ryan	1937-38
A W Berry	1939-40
S Low	1941
Club in recess	
J McLaughlan	1946-49
J Doherty	1950
H Mockford	1951-53
E Neill	1954-55
H Mockford	1956-60
L Milne	1961
N Clarke	1962
T Kirkwood	1963
N Clarke	1964
R Brunton	1965
J R Scott	1966
D Dore	1967-68
J Stringer	1969-76
K Doherty	1977
T Kirkwood	1978
B Findlater	1979
T Kirkwood	1980-86
B King	1987-88
P Doherty	1989-93
D Smith	1994-95
R Warnock	1996-98
S Taylor	1999

**CLUB SECRETARIES**

W R. McKercher	1931
F.Caterer	1931-32
E.Titchener	1933
W.Griggeman	1934
F.Doherty	1935
R.J.Walker	1936-37
J.Anderson	1938-39
G.Welch	1940-41
Club in recess	
F.Hyslop	1946
D.Young	1947-49
D.Hughes	1950-51
J.Bain	1952
L.Hyslop	1953
J.Stringer	1954-61
P.Grappelaar	1962
H.Mockford	1963
L.Mitchell	1964
R.Scott	1965-68
W.Nichol	1969-74
B.Doherty	1975
P.McKee	1976-77
E.Scott	1978-81
T.Braid	1982-84
I.Doherty	1985-91

Janet Warnock	1992-95
D.Smith	1996
G.Daniell	1997-99

**CLUB COACHES**

H.Fraser	1931
W.Bathgate	1932
W.Ryan	1932
H.Fraser	1933
W.Ryan	1934
A.McKay	1935
H.Fraser	1936-37
A.W.Berry	1938
C.Leary	1939
A.Free	1940
S.Low	1941
W.Low	1941
Club in recess	
E.Ball	1946
J.McLaughlan	1946
L.Esplin	1947
L.Aitken	1948
H.Mockford	1949-50
J.Hay	1951
J.Bain	1951-52
H.Mockford	1952-57
W.Thomson	1953-54
L.Hyslop	1956
L.Doherty	1958-59
C.Garden	1960-61
J.Hyslop	1962
H.Mockford	1962-63
D.Doherty	1964-65
J.Stringer	1966-67
H.Ashton	1968
A.Hansen	1969-74
D.Hansen	1972-75
W.Nichol	1975-76
M.Pearce	1976
D.Aitken	1977-1979
T.Braid	1980-83
A.Moore	1984-86
K.Doherty	1984-85
K.Shields	1987
R.Warnock	1987-92
K.Bird	1987-93
P.Doherty	1988
D.Aitken	1988
R.Perkins	1991-92
D.Smith	1991-93
C.Knight	1993-94
P.Cashmere	1994-95
W.Flockton	1994
W.Hyslop	1994
R.Flockton	1994
B.Stevenson	1995
L.Moore	1995
F.Taylor	1995
R.Perkins	1996-98
J.Stringer	1999

## SOUTH TAIERI RUGBY CLUB

### CLUB CHAIRMEN

J. Stewart	1946-47
U. Rutherford	1948
J. Smellie	1949
G. McDonald	1950
E. McDonald	1951-54
B. Robertson	1955
W. Bisset	1956
E. McDonald	1956
L. Gamble	1957-58

### CLUB SECRETARIES

E. Lyall	1946
W. Veitch	1946-47
J. Stewart	1948
R. Jenkins	1949
D. Costello	1950
W. Bisset	1951-52
I. McNeill	1953-54
R. Summers	1955
D. Ross	1956-58

### CLUB COACHES

R. Jenkins	1946
U. Rutherford	1946
Bill Bisset	1947-56
S. Dickson	1949-50
W. Paterson	1951-53
B. Robertson	1955
D. Provan	1956
B. Robertson	1957

## LIFE MEMBERS

H. Mockford	1961
A. Mann	1961
J. Stringer	1962
L. Milne	1973
W. Nichol	1981
D. Doherty	1985
A. Ferguson	1986
T. Braid	1989
J. Hyslop	1990
P. McNeill	1992
A. Chisholm	1995
I. Doherty	1995
B. Thomson	1995



Outram 2000



**West Taieri  
Rugby Club**