



ARCHIVES

“A goodly heritage, proud traditions, cherished memories”

LIEUT COMMANDER LLOYD MILTON HADLEY

November 14 2009 was a sad day for Scots College when our oldest Old Boy, Lt. Co Lloyd Milton Hadley (1931-1932) passed away in England after a short illness. He was 44 days short of his 93rd Birthday.



Lt. Commander Lloyd Hadley and Mrs Alma Hadley at their home, Lee-on-Solent, Portsmouth August 2009.

During a visit to Europe this year I journeyed to Hampshire and had the privilege and pleasure of meeting this wonderful man and his charming, caring wife, Alma. I asked Lloyd about his early life and he regaled me with many tales.

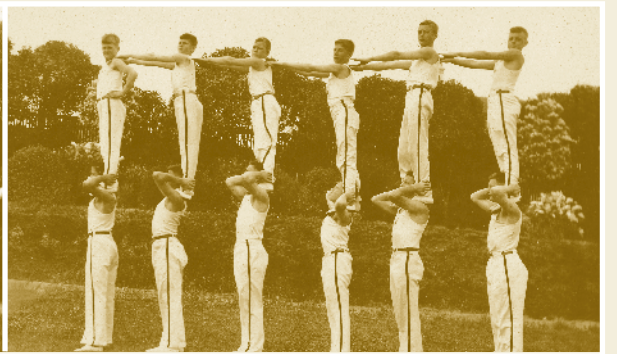
Lloyd was born December 28 1916. He grew up at 36 Mornington Road, Brooklyn, Wellington. His mother, Ethel Armstrong, was left as a little girl and brought up by an aunt. Ethel married Albert Hadley and they had three children Len, (later Sir Leonard Hadley), Betty and young Lloyd.

She cared for the family without the use of any modern conveniences. Lloyd's father Albert, was the 13th of a family of 19 children. He owned his own roller, and traveled all over Wellington, Eastbourne and the Hutt making roads, accompanied by his trusty dog Mickey. He owned an allotment and grew masses of vegetables which he distributed to all the widows in Brooklyn. He doctored Mickey and any stray cats and dogs with his pocket knife, then wiped the blood on his trousers. He built a swing for his family, drilling four

holes into the kitchen roof! When a bath was required and found to be too long for the bathroom, he cut a wedge out of the door so he could shut it, while the bath jutted out into the corridor. He was the most important man in Brooklyn, a J.P.

Lloyd led a carefree life as a youngster. He roamed the hills barefoot, bombed and blasted the gardens of ladies he didn't like and catapulted street lights.





Scots College 2nd XV Rugby Team 1932.

Front L to R: Dougall Hadley Thorpe (Capt.), Roberts Francis Robertson (other names unknown)



Lloyd attended Brooklyn Primary School from 1922-1930. His teacher Mr Ward recommended him for a scholarship at Scots College. Two boys from Wellington, Hadley and Johnson were accepted as day boys and two others as boarders.

"It was marvelous as far as I was concerned to go to a school like Scots. I enjoyed it very much. I entered in to everything and did well"

"JR Sutcliffe was Headmaster, he was a touch man- and had a wonderful strap! We would get walloped with it – I think I had it twice. I had marks across my bottom and it was a privilege to show these marks to all the boys. They were greatly prized. He walloped you as you needed it but was a wonderful Headmaster and very fair".

"To get to Scots I'd have to leave home at 7am each day, catch the tram at Brooklyn to Webb Street, then run across to Kent Tce to get the Seatoun tram. If in a hurry, I'd run over the hills down to John Street, Newtown and catch the tram there. The reverse coming home at night"

"We had assembly twice a week, but I can't remember much about the lessons." A glimpse of Lloyd's school reports indicated he achieved well academically. "I played cricket and of course rugby and loved swimming, but I was best at boxing which was very popular. Mr Duffy was our Physical Education Director and had a boxing gymnasium in Wellington where he trained men in the physical art of boxing. Dad used to take me to Tim Tracey's Gym. I loved boxing!"

"It was quite wonderful to be in the school gymnastics team too. I remember Ken Longmore was in it. We practised very hard. We gave performances whenever a display was wanted – at school, Seatoun and even the Wellington Town Hall."

"I met David Fitzgerald when I first went to Scots. We became life long friends. He used to come and stay at my place. He had a hard time living with a couple of maiden aunts who tried to suppress him but did not succeed. David was a quiet chap, very clever, and matriculated in 3 years – it took me 6!"

"My family could not afford to send me to Scots for a third year and reluctantly I had to leave. I attended Wellington Technical College and did well there – ended up deputy Head Prefect, Captain 1st XV Rugby and 1st XI Cricket."

"When I finally matriculated I went straight to Victoria University to do a B.Com." Lloyd completed 12 of 15 subjects before joining the RNZ Navy for war service as a rating at 24.

His rise in rank was swift.

- 1942-43 Promoted from Ranks to Commissioned Officer. Leading Petty Officer HMS Scylla (Cruiser)
- 1943-44 Sub Lieut HM Dockyard Portsmouth
- 1944-46 Promoted to Lieut HMNS Archilles (Crusier Pacific War). Married 1944.
- 1947-48 Instructing Officer HMS Collingwood

- 1948-49 Promoted to Lieut Commander HMS Theseus Aircraft Carrier
- 1949-51 ASWE Commander M Organisation in HM Ships
- 1952-54 HMNZS Black Prince (Cruiser)
- 1954-56 First Lieut. HMS Ariel ZIC
- 1956-64 Shore establishments UK, Singapore
- 1965-67 RN. Communications Centre Malta, also NATO Post
- 1968-71 Commanding Officer HMS Inscip, HMS Collingwood

Lloyd's Navy career spanned 30 ½ years of which 29 were in commissioned rank in the Engineering Weapons Electrical/Radar Specialisation.

He retired from the Royal Navy in December 1971. After the Royal Navy he was employed as Bursar at Brune Park Community School until 1980. The death of his wife Pearl in 1977 was a tragic blow.

In 1994 romance blossomed and he and Alma decided to elope and marry at Greta Green. They shared fifteen years together until his death.

"Since retiring I have enjoyed travelling the world and enjoyed life". A rich life indeed.

The family of Scots College extends its deepest sympathy to all the Hadley family

"Virtutem Paret Doctrina – Learning Maketh the All Round Man."

*Paddianne W Neely
College Archivist*



The Scots College gymnastic team made up of Bremner, Spence, Nowell, Hunter, C Smith, J Clark, Hadley, Hill, Longmore, Flipp, Edmeades, M Smith and Arnold performed at the Wellington Town Hall 1933.