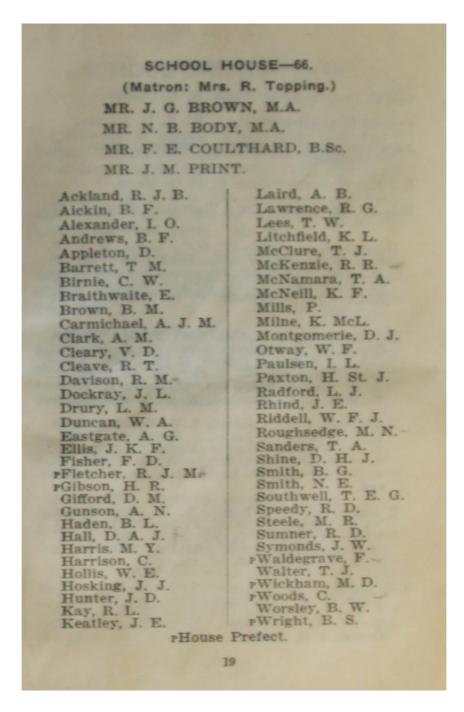
A SPORTY BOY

Allan John MacDougall Carmichael was at Mount Albert Grammar School from 1943 to 1947. He was a Houseboy from the country. His name is recorded in the House List for 1943.



He was in Junior 3A, with Mr MK Penman BSc as Form Master, who, himself, was an Old Boy (1929-1933) and came back to teach here from 1940 to 1947.

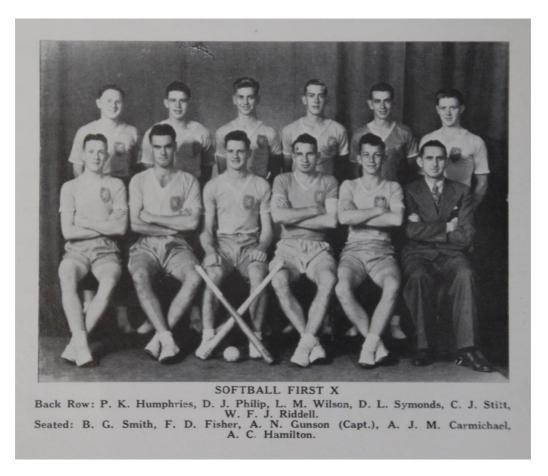
John Carmichael was big for his age, at the time, and he boxed in the Under10st 71b (66.7kg) weight and lost his first bout to a much older boy. Also, he was second in the Junior 100yds Championship, the only championship race for Juniors.

Most boys and masters had nicknames. Carmichael was called Mick because of his surname, though mostly he was called Hoagy (for Hoagy Carmichael, US actor, jazz musician and singer-songwriter).

In 1944 he was in 4French, a class of 40 with Miss Ida Kirk MA, DipEd [A DipEd was not at all like a modern DipTchg, it involved 3 or 4 year-long subjects and a thesis]. Miss Kirk was one of the 'ladies' employed while nine masters were away fighting for King and Country. She, Miss Kirk, was distinguished and of good appearance, she would have brooked no nonsense. John Carmichael was a member of the 2nd IX 'Baseball' team and the 2A Rugby team.

The following year, 1945, he was in 5Non-Latin (a class defined by what it was not). He was one of 43 boys and their Form Master was GG Harvey MA, DipEd. Like Mr Penman, Harvey was an Old Boy (1926-1931) and he returned to teach here (1939-1961). In Boxing the results were very sparse. That year 'Softball' was the diamond sport, and Carmichael was in the A team. In Rugby he was back in the 2As. In Athletics he was in the under 16 category and he was third in 100yds and 220yds and second in the 440yds and third in the Broad Jump. He passed the new School Certificate.

In 1946 he was making a more significant mark on the School's sporting landscape in its Silver Jubilee Year. He was in 6General and Commercial, a class of 47 with Mr GS Coldham MA, OA who was Head of French. He was the Under 11st 71b (73kg) Boxing Champion, and won his bout in the annual Boxing event with King's College. In Athletics he was second in the Open 100yds, 220yds and 440yds. He won the Broad Jump, the Hop Step and Jump and the Shot Put. He also won the 100yds in the Under 17 Group. He was in the Rugby First XV and the First 1A Softball team (though it is called the Softball X, in the photo metadata).

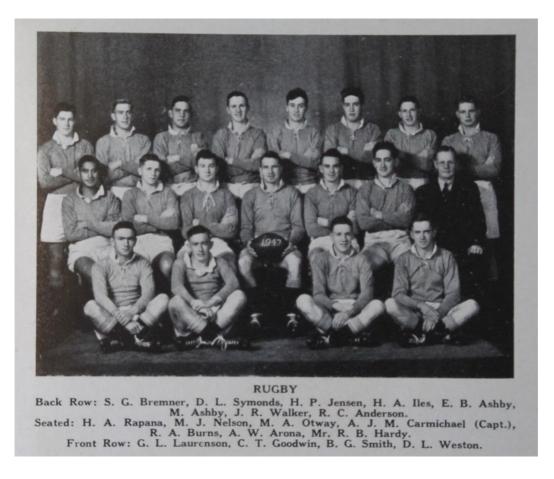


The Coach is not named. He was TM Barrett, not a member of staff, that was Mr LR Bedggood MA, DipEd, ASPE, the Master in charge. Carmichael was Victor Ludorum.

In his final year he moved into 6Commercial where his Form Master was CP Worley BA, BSC, ANZIC, who was Head of Science and a versatile man with a distinguished and courageous war record. John Carmichael had, in 1947, a glittering sporting year. He was Head Prefect of both School and House.



He was the Heavyweight Boxing Champion and the Most Scientific Boxer. In Athletics he was the Sprints Champion and the Field Events Champion; first in the Open 100yds and 220yds and second in the 440 yds, first in the Shot Put and Discus and third in the Broad Jump and the Hop, Step and Jump. He was Captain of the First Softball First IX and Captain of the First Rugby XV.



And, no surprise, he was Victor Ludorum.

John Carmichael took up farming at Oparua. In the sporting arena he played representative rugby for King Country and he was an All Black trialist in 1948. He married and had three children; there are grandchildren and great grandchildren. He was no longer "an only child'.







There was a reunion of the Prefects of 1947 in April 2007. John Carmichael spoke to the Assembly and awarded some sports prizes, including one to Albert Nikoro. Later, he joined his fellow Prefects at the end of term Albertians Lunch at School House and, as Head Prefect, he addressed that group.

On 18 August 2019 Allan John MacDougall Carmichael, aged 89, left this earthly life.

Brian Murphy