

## **Peart House History**

Peart House, named after the Headmaster who was killed in action in World War II, was born in mid-winter 1947. Its original 82 members were taken from Town House, which went out of existence, to be replaced by Peart and Marsden.

Since the original division was mainly geographical, Peart drew its strength from the outer suburbs, especially towards the south and east, but there were usually some daily travellers from the North Shore, Herne Bay, Mt Albert or even Titirangi. This basis of recruitment was ended with the creation of a third day-boy House in 1959. The first Housemaster of Peart was R B Sibson, who continued to lead the House except for a short period in 1950 when J D Lewis took over, until his retirement at the end of 1971. In 1969, when the growth of the house necessitated a division, J D W. Monigatti, who had been associated with Peart for many years, became co-Housemaster. He was joined, on R B Sibson's retirement, by B R P McWatt. The structure of dual Housemasters was discontinued in 1976 when J D W Monigatti retired and B R P McWatt continued as sole housemaster until 1982. Since then Housemasters have been:

- \* I R Walker 1983-1989
- \* J Feeney 1990
- \* D C Macpherson 1991-present

Over the years the size of the House increased to just over 110 members, which from 1980 on included girls for the first time. This created a need for more Tutors to cater for the needs of the House. The continued growth also put pressure on facilities and after successive moves from beneath the old gymnasium, now the Resource Centre, to the old School House, finally in 1976 Peart moved into brand new home in the day-boy complex.

To complete the sense of identity a Peart House crest was devised from designs submitted by a pupil, S R Cashmore. This was a gold lion on a Cambridge blue shield. The lion was chosen to commemorate the fact that the Headmaster whose name Peart bears, was an old boy of Auckland Grammar School. It is also the symbol of courage. The pale blue background, the House colour, symbolises truth and steadfastness, also carries the motto, "Veritas Praevalet" (Let Truth Prevail). The date, 1947, on the shield is the date of foundation.

The aim of the House still remains to provide for a balanced development of mind, body and spirit - the "mens sana in corpore sano" of our founding Housemaster - for this alone gives those qualities needed in a world of change and challenge.