

Grandad and the Great Coffin Escape Plan

A Postscript

In the last issue I wrote about how my Grandfather was involved in planning the escape of a young New Zealand officer, W.B ‘Sandy’ Thomas, from a German military hospital in 1941.

Sandy Thomas had visited my Grandfather and met my parents in Kenya in the early 50s, so I thought I would find out what had happened to him in the intervening years. To my delight I discovered he was still



The Governor-General of New Zealand, Sir Jerry Mateparae and Major General W.B. Thomas at Government House in Wellington during January 2013

with us as a 93 year old and very active retired Major General living in the countryside in Queensland, so I decided to write to him. He wrote a lovely letter back by return saying he well remembers my Grandfather who “had a great fund of wonderful historical

experiences to fire the mind of the kid which was me”.

Tom Shannon

St Mary’s School Shipton Reunion Gathering

St Mary’s School, Shipton Reunion Gathering will take place in the new Wychwood Inn (Red Horse), on **Friday June 7th**, time to be confirmed.

Did you recognise yourself in the photograph printed in the Feb/March issue of *The Wychwood*? I thought it would be fun to organise a get-together



although I know many of you are still in close contact here in the Wychwoods. Why not come along, meet up with us all and have a good time reminiscing?

If you are interested please contact me on email: jimahudson@sky.com or Rod Wilkinson for more details on: 01993 831856

Jim Hudson

Our thanks to John Vickers for illustrating page 15.