

DIARY: 1958

FEBRUARY

26 Wed

I have to report at the P.P.T.S. building opposite VUW on this date.

MARCH

3 Mon

Had a photo of the group taken in the early afternoon, then free 'till Friday. Went to Petone by train with some (boy) friends.

6 Thurs

Heavy fog in afternoon. Bought a small B.I. membership badge. Finally visited the museum.

7 Fri

Enrolled today in the morning.

8 Sat

Saw Ron Crawshaw leave for England this morning.

9 Sun

Went to Halliwells for dinner and tea – went for a swim at Worser Bay – cold too.

10 Mon

Started lectures today – wasn't so bad as I thought though classes were large.

11 Tues

At 8 pm, had some advice on how to study. After this we had a banquet (excellent) provided by the E.U.

12 Wed

Saw a hit and run driver today. The girl was not seriously hurt though, but she was on a pedestrian crossing.

14 Fri

Two huge explosions. I heard the 9 pm one when going out to collect my washing. NB: Did washing today!

15 Sat

Came third in a junior 220 yards.

16 Sun

Didn't go to church.

17 Mon

Endeavour (a New Zealand survey ship named after Captain Cook's ship) arrived from the Antarctic. Jets flying around.

19 Wed

Had my first haircut at a good Barber's shop in town. I asked him to cut it short and he really did (short means it will be a long time before I have to go – and pay – again).

22 Sat

Came last in two events and second last in a third at the (?university) inter-faculty sports. The social the B.I. was supposed to have had was postponed.

23 Sun

Went out with the Halliwells to their friends at Linden. In the evening went to the Methodist (church) where there was a play acted.

24 Mon

Started practising basketball with some B.I. boys for an hour after tea.

25 Tues

Received my present but opened it on the Wednesday, my birthday.

26 Wed

Guessed I had a cake – didn't know I also had the green pullover. The day was very wet.

27 Thurs

At 11:30 a Globemaster and a Stratojet flew over – refuelling (?) on the last lap (?). During the afternoon a Valiant and a Canberra flew over. Had a three-course dinner for the evening meal. Took just 17 minutes to get home from the university.

28 Fri

Another plane flew over today. At 5:15 about I looked out the window and saw a joinery factory on fire. Six fire engines turned up and 22 trams were held up. More smoke than flames although a lot of damage done. This “shop” a university contract too. (?)

31 Mon

I walked back from university today – it only took me 20 minutes.

APRIL

1 Tues

April Fools’ day. Nothing at all happened at university and there were no initiation ceremonies. Walked to Varsity this morning.

2 Wed

Found out today that one did not have to go to varsity the next day for my one lecture.

3 Thurs

Just moped round all day and in the evening went to the “Roxy” cinema and saw the movie “Twelve Angry Men”. Also saw the MG racing car with the Morris Minor engine in one of the garages in town.

4 Fri

In the afternoon, 27 Russian ships of a whaling fleet arrived. In the evening at 12 pm (sic) we went to the “Roxy” again and saw a Lewis-Martin film (good too). This ended at 3:15 am. “Moped” round and arrived home at 5:15 am and I never went to bed but stayed up the rest of the night. Films: “War Arrow” and “Money from Home”.

5 Sat

Felt a little tired this morning after my “sleep”. In the afternoon Jim C and I went to see the Russian whale vessel and spent about 2½ hours looking over it. We also managed to get some souvenirs (matches, cigarettes and coins).

6 Sun

Got to breakfast 1½ hours late. Still, I managed to get three pieces of toast. In the afternoon went out with Halliwells and two boys around the suburbs, Kaori, Wilton, Northland, Wadestown, and Khandallah park. Saw whaling fleet from Onslow Road. Had tea at their place.

7 Mon

Spent the whole day out with the Halliwells. We firstly went to the beach at Wainui-o-mata and had out lunch on the way back. Then we ended up at Days Bay and had a boat ride. Had a good lunch (lettuce, tongue, tomatoes, etc). Just got home in time for a good dinner (three-course).

8 Tues

Spent today at home doing a bit of swot. In the late afternoon, I had a go at cutting Graham Hillman's hair, and was quite successful except that the two Jim's came in and started interfering. His hair looked like a monk's and everyone thought it was horrible.

9 Wed

Started Varsity again. Swotted in the Botanical Gardens this afternoon. In the evening I went with the C.Y.F. (Church Christian Youth Fellowship) to the Opera House to see "Love from Judy". We were up in the 'gods'. My free packet of Hansells fruit drink (?from a company) arrived today although I never saw it until Wed.

10 Thurs

Saw a tremendous vapour trail from some jets this morning. From 10.30 – 11.50 I did weight training. I also practised some facinting (?fencing) From 8 – 9 pm we did some gymnastics and had a game of basketball.

11 Fri

The Russian whaling fleet left this morning.

12 Sat

In the afternoon we had a water fight and Graham soaked. In the morning I made up the free fruit drink. In the evening, we had a dance and a really good supper. I also saw the end of an accident when a motorbike hit someone after doing 60-80 mph down Kent Terrace.

13 Sun

I wrote a record letter today to parents (10 pages plus another page of recipes). I had to get another envelope from Graham to hold it all.

14 Mon

Received my 'huge' parcel today (fruit, socks, milk shake powder, etc.). Continued my weight training and wasn't stiff or sore at all this time. Decided (persuaded) to hitch-hike home.

16 Wed

Had another haircut. Found out today when my term exams were. Also, did some weight training and improved the presses each by 10 lbs easily. In the evening, an “old boy” of the Institute (30 years ago) came in and told us of his days. He is trying to get a reunion of all the old boys.

18 Fri

It rained today and in the morning it really poured – after I had got to Varsity. It stopped in the afternoon. First rain we have had for some time.

19 Sat

Swotted in the morning. From 12 – 2 pm I went to Newtown Stadium to play basketball (or rather to be put into a team). In the evening Jim C broke a window with a billiard ball and to save him from trouble they said his elbow went through it.

20 Sun

Saw John and Jan Halliwell at church today. In the afternoon, Graham and had a look over two Australian frigates



“Queenborough” and “Quickmatch”. We got below decks which apparently was not allowed.

21 Mon

Wrote Keith a letter for his birthday.

22 Tues

Bought “College Algebra” today for 22/6. Posted Keith’s birthday letter and a 10/- note.

23 Wed

In the evening went to the CYF “Pot Pourri” evening. I arrived late but so did every one else. Saw a couple of “Fact and Faith” films and played one game. Discussed conference also.

24 Thurs

Went to see about getting my bank account changed. Cashed a cheque at Ian (?Jan) McKay’s. Received a box of apples. Also got a birthday card from Jim and Daphne Powell in Gisborne.

25 Fri

Did quite a bit of swot today (ANZAC Day). At 4.15 pm Hillman and I went down to the Cenotaph to hear the playing of the retreat. It was short. There was also a “beggar” there who was trying to cadge a cigarette I think.

26 Sat

Had another basketball practice today.

27 Sun

Went out with Clive, John and Ken (from church) for a bike ride to Brandon’s Rock. We rode about 20 miles all together.

29 Tues

Watched a game of soccer at the Basin Reserve most of the night, out of my window.

MAY

3 Sat

Lionel’s 21st birthday party today at the BI. Had a dance and games (putting out the candle) and afterwards had a good supper.

4 Sun

Was out at Halliwell’s all the afternoon. Played my first games of chess for about a year and won three out of four of them.

5 Mon

Had out Maths (a) and Chemistry exams. They weren’t too bad.

6 Tues

Had Maths (b) and Physics exams. They were harder than Monday’s exams. Had our first competitive game of basketball in the evening at Newtown Stadium. We beat Eastern by 9 points to 8.

7 Wed

In the morning, I played billiards, etc. In the afternoon, went to see the movie “Blue Murder at St. Trinnian’s”. Then saw “Bridge over the River Kwai” in the evening. On arriving back, our room was in tatters – sheets and everything had been thrown everywhere.

8 Thurs

Lectures resumes today just as if there had been no exams or days off at all. Posted a very quick letter home 10 minutes before the mail-box was emptied. Packed my suitcase this evening and it felt very heavy.

9 Fri

Took the suitcase down to the railway station for checking-in – it was only 42 lbs and cost 10/9. Only had one lecture today. I missed the capping parade. I also got Bruce's chemistry book today.

[May holidays in Gisborne. Hitch-hiked to Gisborne.]

25 Sun

Was tired after travelling all day on the train from Gisborne. Arrived back at 10:10 pm, 20 minutes late. Three of us took a taxi so it only cost 1/6 each instead of 5/- each.

36 Mon

Back to 'work'. Got back our Physics Terms marks today. I only got 46%. Was still fairly tired today after yesterday's trip. Also received our Paper B in Maths – $18/50 = 36\%$. Tried get corduroy trousers but Ian was away 'till Friday.

27 Tues

Back to normal today. In the evening (9:30 pm) I played my second game of basketball for the season. We lost to Melrose by 15 to 7. I scored another 2 points.

28 Wed

Received our Maths A term results – 26/80. Total for maths was 46%. Noticed a difference in the number of hours of sunshine – Sun rises now at about 8 am and sets at about 5 pm. Got the latest "Salient" (university newspaper) today.

29 Thurs

One of the boys at the institute (Tony Stephens) was killed today when he fell from a crane at Kauwharawhara.

30 Fri

On my way to town, saw "Spud" Taylor [former teacher at GBHS - the one who caned me] and got a ride to the PIC (?) where Ian was still at lunch. Also, I saw an accident in Lambton Quay (it seemed to have involved a pedestrian).

JUNE

1 Sun

Turned up for Bible class and there wasn't any. Went out to Bell's (church friend) at Island Bay in the afternoon.

2 Mon

Queen's birthday today. Did quite a lot of swot. In the evening the light kept on flickering for about 15 to 20 minutes then went out. We rang everyone up on the phone then (why?).

3 Tues

Went to Weir House to get my political party sympathies told by Peter Bennett. I am just on the socialist side tending slightly to be a liberal. Had our basketball (game) at 10:05 pm. We lost 11 (or 13) to 6.

4 Wed

Had out Chemistry practical exam today – identifying unknown substances. I got four answers but I don't know if they are right. At 7:30 pm went to a Judo class at Varsity. Arrived home and had my dinner at 10 pm.

5 Thurs

In the morning I went to Whitcombe and Tomb's annual sale. Only got ??? books. I also got a new cheque book from the bank. It cost me 5/-. Saw a film in organic chemistry lecture today.

6 Fri

Went to Whitcombe and Tomb's again but never bought anything. In the evening (7:30 pm) I, Hillman and a couple of others went and saw the movie "Tittfield Thunderbolt" at the Institute 'theatre'. It was quite good seeing it again.

7 Sat

Had out usual basketball practice today. After than had finished, Hillman and I went for a walk up Mount Victoria and along the top to the lookout. At midnight there was a severe electrical thunderstorm. The street lights were off for a bit also.

8 Sun

Nothing happened today. I never went out in the afternoon and stayed home and tidied various things up.

9 Mon

Got our Chemistry practical results today. I got 38/50 which wasn't bad. Swotted in bed until 11 pm tonight. The threat of a ducking (?) was in the air but didn't happen.

10 Tues

Bought 15/- worth of paper from Whitcombe's sale. Also two 21-gun salutes were fired (for the Duke of Edinburgh's birthday). After basketball (we beat Europa 10-8) we had to remain to keep the scores. I arrived home just in time to see the end of an 'initiation' fight.

11 Wed

Saw a Fact and Faith film today (Hidden Treasures). In the evening after finishing Chem practical early (5:45 pm) I did not stay for Judo but came straight back home to swot. We saw a film on sound in the Physics lecture today.

12 Thurs

No organic chemistry lecture today as Prof Slater had a meeting of some sort. (Barry Scott mended my shoe yesterday).

13 Fri

Did my first washing this term today. Washed my good pullover too. In the evening I went with John Bell to see a modern version of the play "Julius Caesar" at Rongatai College. It was good too.

14 Sat

Nothing unusual at all today.

15 Sun

Went out to Bell's in the afternoon for tea. Had a game of monopoly and this time I won (I was the banker!).

17 Tues

Went and saw an exhibition of glass-blowing at lunch time at varsity. Very interesting. Lost out game of basketball in the evening by 9 to 2 against Caltex (?) , who are the leaders of our grade competition.

18 Wed

Fooled around in the new lifts in the Science block with Eddie. I never went to Judo today. I won't go at all now. Will give it up as I do not have the time.

19 Thurs

John Todd (classmate of mine at GBHS) put an alarm clock under the bench before the maths lecture today. At about 5:15 pm in Woolworths (Cuba St) I saw potguts (??) that we saw at Palmerston North (Uncle Ken's brother-in-law).

20 Fri

Bought some rough paper from Whicombe's sale today and also browsed through other books. In the evening saw the movie "Carve her name with pride".

22 Sun

Went to Halliwell's for dinner and the afternoon. I came second in the game of Scrabble we played.

24 Tues

On my way to varsity I realised I had forgotten my coat and on my way back to varsity with it a guy picked me up and took me as far as Cuba St. In the afternoon I got my railway tickets. At night time we won our game of basketball 16-10 against Eastern. It rained today.

25 Wed

Noel Wilson's 21st birthday party in the evening at the 'Den'. It rained all night which was also the NZ première of the movie "Around the World in 80 Days". I saw the big searchlight they were flashing around for the occasion.

27 Fri

Went to the King's Theatre and saw "Don't go near the water". It was good too. I also got a key (?for what) made for myself at Woolworths.

28 Sat

Was at home by myself almost (alone) on Saturday night. Nearly everyone else had gone out somewhere. I borrowed Graham's bicycle to go to basketball practice.

29 Sun

Went out and saw Auntie Hilda (Uncle Arthur's wife). We went for a ride with some other lady and later on I saw Mary and Dick. In the evening, Uncle Arthur arrived back from

Taupo. I borrowed Graham's bike again and rode through the tunnel going there and without a light coming back in the evening.

JULY

1 Tues

Used Graham's bicycle to go to basketball – we lost to Kilburnie Gym 12-7. Only $\frac{1}{4}$ of my penalty goals were successful this night.

2 Wed

Never did any weight training today. Went 'shopping' after 12 pm. Bought some lunch in town (very expensive) and bought a maths book at Whitcomb's. Bought some cocoa at the Boys' Institute 'Cafeteria'.

3 Thurs

Nothing much happened today. Spent about $\frac{3}{4}$ hour in Technical Books (shop) but couldn't decide which Physics books to buy. Just after tea, Joy (my cousin) rang up and told me about Roger (another cousin) being in Hastings Hospital. Packed my case tonight.

[??10 days spent where. Gisborne? Term break? – surely not at this time.]

13 Sun

We arrived back at about 9:50 pm. It was early I think. The three of us caught a taxi and this time it cost us $\frac{2}{4}$ each.

14 Mon

Construction started on the new Student Union Building today. Graham Hillman also replied to a letter from the French Ligation.

15 Tues

We actually used the new Science building today – for a Chemistry lecture. I also bought my tickets for the August term break today.

16 Wed

I finished my lab early today. When I arrived back home we decided to go and see the movie "A tale of two cities". It was excellent.

17 Thurs

Nothing much happened today except that on the way home I heard a fire engine and so I went and had a look at the fire. It was something burning at the back of an old wooden building in Vivian St.

18 Fri

Again went to the pictures (movies) in the evening at the Majestic cinema – “Witness for the Prosecution”. Quite good. Afterwards we were going to wait and see the Governor General come out of the cabaret there but never did.

19 Sat

Nothing unusual today. Had the usual basketball practice at 12:30 pm.

20 Sun

I played my first games of billiards this term, I think. Had tea at Bell's. Took ages to get a tram which only went as far as Berhampore as another tram had broken down and they were repairing it.

21 Mon

In the afternoon after varsity had finished I went and saw Ron Crawshaw (classmate from Gisborne) arrive in the ‘Rangitoto’ (liner). So did Graham Hillman and as a result he missed his lecture. We arrived back late but still got our dinner. They actually started building the new Student Union building today.

22 Tues

In Organic Chemistry, we got a new lecturer (Dr Johns). We had another game of basketball in the evening and this time we beat Rongatai 15-8. I got 4 points.

23 Wed

Last chemistry practical class in the old building today. In the evening, Hillman and Don Barrier (my room-mate for this year) went to see “Around the world in 80 days” so everything was rather quiet.

25 Fri

In the evening, went out with Johnstone to see the ‘thriller’ “Wrong Man” by Arthur Hitchcock. It was based on fact but there wasn't much suspense in it.

26 Sat

Has a basketball practice at 8 am at the YMCA. At 12:30 pm, we played a YMCA team from Masterton and beat them.

27 Sun

All the afternoon and evening I went out to the Harper's. They are going to get me a couple of tickets to visit Parliament.

28 Mon

We used a science laboratory today in the new block today.

29 Tues

Nothing unusual happened today. Just the same old routine.

30 Wed

Helped a lady push her car to the side of the road after it had run out of petrol. Today we got another (teaching bursary) cheque.

AUGUST

1 Fri

Never went out today due to the party tomorrow.

2 Sat

Another basketball practice. We also had a bit of practice at cricket. Kevin's (BI resident) party in the evening and it ended in the early hours of the morning. We bought him a couple of table clocks.

3 Sun

In the afternoon I went with Graham to St. John's Bible class. After this, we went to the Catholic Church (St Mary of All Angels) with the Bible class.

4 Mon

Got Mum's letter today; I was quite surprised.

5 Tues

Had basketball at 7:45 pm. We had to default to Europa as all out team had not turned up but in an unofficial scrappy game we won 17-12. I didn't get to bed much earlier even though we had exams the next day.

6 Wed

First two exams today. Maths wasn't so bad. Went down to see about getting a car [driver's] licence but found out they don't supply cars for license tests.

7 Thurs

! Reminder: Reserve a Railcar seat for return trip from Gisborne.

Only one exam today. Intended to do a lot of work the rest of the day but that wasn't to be. Hillman fed our BI lunches to the seagulls that were on a roof below window.

8 Fri

Rotten Maths exam today. After the Chemistry exam in the afternoon we got our seat numbers and then I bought a Physics book. We saw the movie "Carry on Admiral" in the evening and then had a sojourn in a coffee bar. (Did some washing today.) Visited Parliament for a few minutes.

9 Sat

Quite bad weather today. Had a good basketball practice. Played billiards the rest of the afternoon and night. Too tired to go to the pictures again so I went to bead 'early' (10:30).

10 Sun

Went to Bell's again in the afternoon for tea and got a ride back to Church just as I was about to hop on the tram.

11 Mon

Didn't get any results from the exams today. Nothing unusual happened.

12 Tues

Hillman and I had a good fool in the lifts in the new science building. In the evening we played Caltex again and lost 9-6. I only scored 2 points.

13 Wed

Got home after varsity in about 12 minutes – quite fast going. We went to Parliament that evening and sat in the speaker's gallery (using the tickets Uncle Arthur had given me). The Northern Maori M.P. was trying to beckon us to have a look around I think.

14 Thurs

Ian Archer and I went out to see the Ford (motor car assembly) works. Between the station and the works we hitched rides. We also talked to the Unit [train] driver on the way to Woburn Station.

HOLIDAYS

SEPTEMBER

7 Sun

Arrived back from Gisborne at 9.55 pm. Three of us took a taxi which cost 2/4 each. I couldn't sleep that night either. I was too hot.

8 Mon

Varsity started again though no different than usual. Went to bed early and had a fairly good night. I forget to give Michael (my cousin Joy's boyfriend) that present. Had yesterday's railway lunch (provided by my mother) today – it was good.

9 Tues

We missed Curtis' Chem lecture and swotted instead. At 9:25 pm I played my first basketball for a month against Tech. We won 17-9. I only got one point through a penalty.

10 Wed

Gave Joy's present to Michael at last.

11 Thurs

A DC-6 flew over Wellington at 8:40 am to commemorate Kingsford-Smith's cross-Tasman flight. In the evening we had a "short, sweet" meeting with the hostel house captains (?about what).

12 Fri

In the evening we went to the St. James cinema and saw "Violent Playground". It was all right. Then we went and bought a 2/- cup of chocolate at the Sorento after meeting more of the jokers coming from the "State" cinema.

13 Sat

Early morning basketball practice. I slept in and so had to hurry down. Did some swot the rest of the day.

14 Sun

Nothing exciting happened today. I spent the afternoon at the Institute and in the evening, Don Barrier came to church with me.

15 Mon

Hillman told me he was definitely going to go home on Wednesday. I was not accredited today in Science French so will have to sit the examination.

16 Tues

Hillman hitch-hiked home today. We won our game of basketball against Melrose 12-6. I only got 2 points.

17 Wed

Nothing unusual happened today except that I sent Graham's bicycle home today on the train.

18 Thurs

We had our Science French exam today. We also finished our Organic Chemistry lectures. In the evening at the BI, we had a talk by a fire officer and after that a talk by M. Chamberlain. We got no work done as a result.

19 Fri

Stayed home and swotted all night. On my home from the bank I actually bought 3 lbs (2/6) of Granny Smith apples.

20 Sat

Had another basketball practice at 8 am. At 1 pm I left for Naenae where we had an inter-church sports meeting. I won the 'mile' and came 2nd in the 100 yards and 'hop, step and jump'. Had tea at Cooks' and arrived home at 8:45 pm to find our room completely wrecked. It took one hour to clean up.

21 Sun

Ransacked Falkner's and Renouf's rooms after BI chapel (they were the suspects for ransacking our room). Swotted Physics lab during the afternoon. Had to give a 'paper' on Zaccheus in the morning.

22 Mon

Got up at 6:15 am and swotted. Went to [bed] a little earlier to do more study the next day.

23 Tues

Only had one lecture today so I came home early and swotted all day. I only just got to basketball – the joker never turned up in his car to pick me up. We lost to Rongatai 18-9. It was the last game of the season.

24 Wed

I finished my last Chemistry practical class today. Got up at 5:15 am and swotted.

25 Thurs

Had our Physics practical exam today (the only reason I had to go to Varsity today).

26 Fri

Got IIIA terms pass in Maths. In the evening I went, by myself, to see “Around the World in 80 Days”. It was extremely good and worth the 5/7 it cost (price much higher than usual movie price).

27 Sat

Nothing unusual today. Swotted all day. Our timetable for final exams arrived today.

28 Sun

Had a bash at cricket (downstairs on the grass) in the afternoon and then learnt how to ride a motor bike. In the evening, Don, Terry and I went to St. Peters church. Also I wrote a letter to Hillman today.

29 Mon

Went to get my last cheque but the joker was on holiday for a week. In the evening the Governor General’s place (visible from our BI window) caught on fire – at least you would think so by the number of fire engines. I also got ducked tonight.

30 Tues

Bought a chair today. Had all day off. Don bought his Norton motor-bike today and I had a ride on it. At 8:30 pm Matron gave us a ‘feed’ and after that we played with Don’s motor-bike.

OCTOBER

1 Wed

Had the afternoon off and spent 1½ hrs fixing Don’s motor bike. In the evening I went for a long ride on it and changed thru’ all the gears – on my second ride ever. [Note added in 2010: And I might add, without a licence or a helmet!!]

2 Thurs

Had the whole day off again. Went for a 20-25 minute ride on Don's motor bike round Brooklyn. In the evening we 'ran' down to the public library and back.

3 Fri

Went to the movies at the Boys' Institute – "Where no vultures fly". It was good.

4 Sat

Swotted all day. I actually went for another run in the evening. I went to bed fairly early.

5 Sun

In the morning I went up to Newlands to see about buying a motor-bike. In the afternoon, we went for a swim at Thorndon baths. Joy and Michael were there also.

6 Mon

Got up fairly early again as usual during the week. Had our Chem practical exam today – it was not difficult. In the evening, had a visit from the joker in the shop where I bought the chair. (He wanted to change the one he had sold me as it was actually part of a set.)

7 Tues

All day off. Swotted all day. Went and got another chair to replace the one which belonged to a set and he gave me a 10/- reduction for inconvenience. It was very overcast today but only once did a slight drizzle occur.

8 Wed

Had our chemistry terms exam today – short answers. Handed in our keys to the lockers in the chemistry lab. Rained a little bit today. In Physics lecture an 'Honours' (fourth year) student walked in and 'shot' Humphries (the lecturer) with a CO₂ gun.

9 Thurs

All day off again. It poured at times today and drizzled the other times. Went to bed early as I had a heavy cold and was feeling pretty crook (NZ slang for 'sick').

10 Fri

Last day for lectures. In Physics, crackers and darts were thrown and 'Goon show' songs came over the loud speakers. Moped around town till Maths lecture with Eddie looking for a present for John. It poured most of today.

11 Sat

Nothing much happened today. It was a miserable rainy day though it was fine but windy intermittently. Couldn't swot at night as I had an attack of asthma.

12 Sun

Rained all day. Never went out because of my asthma. I had quite a lot of medicine but it didn't do much good.

13 Mon

Rained today and I was feeling pretty crook. Got up for breakfast but went back to bed and swotted.

14 Tues

Still overcast and drizzly. Got out of bed and swotted all day again.

15 Wed

Sunny today. Swotted all day again. Almost 100% well again except for a cough.

16 Thurs

Hot today. Sunbathed at dinner time.

17 Fri

Went to varsity to get our Physics lab books [?] and I discovered I came 35th out of 184 in the last Physics terms exams (63%). Never did much work in the evening. After going to varsity I had a haircut at a different barbers than usual. False alarm at 11:30 pm at the local pub near the Institute – four fire engines turned up.

18 Sat

Swotted all day. Nothing unusual happened.

19 Sun

Played round with Don's motor bike for a long time in the afternoon. Saw a Moody film "The mystery of the three clocks" in the evening.

20 Mon

Swotted most of the day. Rang Pop up late in the afternoon (visiting Wellington on business) and had dinner at the Grand Hotel. In the evening we saw the movie “The one that got away” after seeing the ferry off (I think just looking not seeing anyone off).

21 Tues

Had lunch with Pop today. A false alarm in the morning and then a real fire after tea.

22 Wed

Saw a wrecked train (?tram) in the afternoon. A truck had just hit it. Went to town to see about getting passes for the “Southern Cross” (liner) but they weren’t giving them away today.

23 Thurs

Had a look over the “Southern Cross” today for about 1¼ hours. Fairly wet today.



24 Fri

Worked hard all day (13 hours all together).

25 Sat

Rained most of the day.

26 Sun

No Bible class so I never went out in the morning. Had to prepare our own dinner as matron was away. I helped a bit too. Swotted for a bit in the afternoon. Saw “I beheld his glory” at Church in the evening. Also saw John and Jan, Bev and John, Mrs Halliwell (visiting from Gisborne).

27 Mon

Worked quite hard today – Labour Day. It was wet which was a typical sort of Labour Day for Wellington.

28 Tues

Had our Chemistry (a) exam in the afternoon. It wasn’t bad – I knew most of the stuff but I think I didn’t write it down as well as I could have.

29 Wed

Had all the day off. Swotted Physics and Chemistry most of the day.

30 Thurs

Had our Maths (a) exam which wasn't as bad as I thought it would be. Swotted (tried to) in the evening. The parcel from Pop for John Christenson's (?) 21st birthday arrived today.

31 Fri

Had our third exam – Physics (a). About 2:30 pm we went and had a look at a drapery store which had almost been burnt to the ground. [Note for letter home:[Shall I bring some Coca Cola home with me?]

NOVEMBER

1 Sat

Only did a small amount of swot today. Went to John Christenson's 21st birthday party in the evening at Halliwell's. It was good fun.

2 Tues

At 6 pm left for Lower Hutt to have a youth tea at 5 pm in the Town Hall. Then we had a meeting with Dr Bader.

3 Mon

Swotted all day. Nothing unusual happened.

4 Tues

Same as Monday.

5 Wed

Had our Chemistry (b) exam in the morning – it wasn't anywhere near as bad as I thought it was going to be. Swotted for Maths in the afternoon and evening – or tried to. Guy Fawkes Day was celebrated in our corridor and throwing fire-crackers out the window.

6 Thurs

Maths (b) in the afternoon. It was quite easy – nothing like what I expected.

7 Fri

Had our Physics and last exam today. Saw the movie "The naked truth" at the Embassy cinema in the evening.

8 Sat

It seemed funny with nothing to do so I saw two movies “Gideon of Scotland Yard” in the afternoon and “Across the bridge” in the evening.

9 Sun

Went to the Halliwell’s for dinner, tea and afternoon. Sunbathed in the afternoon. Saw a big gorse fire in Melrose. Tried my skill at a hoola hoop – was quite successful after a bit. Church was at Vivian St in the evening.

[University holidays November to February]