



Toby Richards

School House
1941–1944

College No.
5055



Eric Henry Malcolm (Toby) Richards

Toby, as he was better known, was an immensely talented sportsman who represented Canterbury in golf, cricket, and rugby. Described as a big man with a big heart, he was a true sportsman, with many records across multiple sports. In a long golfing career, he was known as one of the longest hitters in the game, including multiple course records, 116 Woodward Cup games, and selection for the national team. He was also President of the Canterbury Golf Association from 1972–74. In cricket, he once scored a century in just 26 minutes for Hororata, including 36 in one over. That same season, he hit 48 in one over against Darfield.

On the rugby paddock, Toby showed equal prowess, trialling for the All Blacks in 1948 and the same year topping the scoring for Canterbury with 47 points. In 1943, Toby was fullback for the history-making Christ's College 1st XV. Dubbed the 'no-hopers', the team scored a massive upset to win 8–6 over the previously unbeaten Christchurch Boys' High School. He was also awarded sports Colours in cricket, rugby, gymnastics, and athletics before the end of fifth form.

Toby grew up in Windwhistle, where he also farmed. His contribution to sport continued with the designing and building of the Hororata Golf Course and the building of the Mt Olympus Ski Field access road.

Toby passed away in 2005, aged 78.



CHRIST'S COLLEGE
OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION