

# ***The Hardyans' Club***

## **TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS**

### ***Hardye's School, Dorchester, Dorset***

*Life Vice-Presidents:* Donald Culver, John Stephenson, Gordon Crocker, John Pearson, Hugh Griffiths, Michel Hooper-Immins

## ***Newsletter Winter 2015 : Issue 125***

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## **THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL ACT OF REMEMBRANCE PAYS TRIBUTE TO FALLEN OLD BOYS**

With forecasts of heavy rain imminent, the Act of Remembrance on the morning of 11 November was attended by a representative gathering of staff and students, in silent tribute in front of The Thomas Hardye School memorial gates in Queens Avenue, Dorchester. Head Teacher Michael Foley led the minute's silence and a brief Act of Remembrance, culminating in the last post sounded by the bugler. Two detachments of the Combined Cadet Corps were on parade. Councillor Peter Mann, Mayor of Dorchester, attended the occasion.

Names of all Old Grammarians and Hardyans who gave their lives in armed conflict were read - particularly relevant on the centenary of the start of the Great War.

The tradition began in 1957 at Hardye's School and has continued at the modern Thomas Hardye School.

Around 30 old boys from the former schools were at the commemoration, led by President Peter Foster, who laid a wreath.

"It was 54 years ago - in 1960 - that I attended my first Act of Remembrance outside those handsome iron gates and the stone pillars with the wyverns on top, then in Culliford Road," reminisces Hardyans' Club Secretary Michel Hooper-Immins. "I recall it snowed that day in November 1960 and we all got very cold! It makes me and all the other old boys very proud that today's young students still remember the sacrifice of former students lost in action and in such a dignified manner."



### **Photographs :**

*Above:* Head Teacher Michael Foley [centre] leads the Act of Remembrance. Councillor Peter Mann, Mayor of Dorchester, stands third from the right.

*Left:* Garry Batt, Chairman of the Governors of Thomas Hardye School [left] and Peter Foster, President of the Hardyans Club [second left] are among those laying wreaths at the Memorial Gates.

*Photographs by Michel Hooper-Immins.*

Thomas Hardye School is thought to be the only school in the South and South West to maintain this respectful tradition. It began when the stone pillars and iron gates were consecrated in 1957 at Hardye's School in Culliford Road. The Memorial Gates and pillars were rescued from the old school in 1995, before it was demolished, and re-erected outside the new Thomas Hardye's School at the end of Queens Avenue, complete with the twin stone wyverns - the School's historic symbol - carved by the late Ken Batt, art master for many years.

The pillar alongside the memorial gates reads: "*This memorial to those whose names are inscribed on the Rolls of Honour was erected by the old boys, parents and Governors. Dedicated 18 July 1957.*" Inside the new School are two rolls of honour, one for Old Grammarians who fell in the Great War and the other honouring those in subsequent conflicts from 1939.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

### MONTHLY LUNCHEONS.

At the King's Arms Hotel, last Thursday of the month. Enquiries to President, Peter Foster, or Alan Brown, Treasurer, 01202 535034

There is no need to book, just turn up about 12.30pm for lunch at 1pm. A small car park is available behind the hotel for the use of patrons (Entrance through the arch from High East Street). The Hotel's bar menu is available and choices can be made on the day. The next lunches are on Thursdays 29<sup>th</sup> January and 27<sup>th</sup> February. All welcome.

**2015 ANNUAL REUNION DINNER** on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at the King's Arms Hotel. Please see booking form on page 7. A reminder that partners and guests are very welcome and if you know someone who does not receive the newsletter please let them know. All former students of Hardyes, the Green School, and others from which the Thomas Hardye School was founded are eligible to join the Club. Please note that bookings for the Annual Dinner **must** be with the Treasurer by **7<sup>th</sup> March 2015**. Also **please note** the Church service to which Hardyeans are especially invited will take place on the **previous Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March** at St Peters, 6,30pm and will be a Service of Choral Evensong with the Thomas Hardye School Chapel Choir taking part. *Recommended!*

### Hardyeans' Club Information

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For those of you who use Facebook, Alan Brown has set up the following page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Hardyeans/> and it would be good to have some contributions!

Also have a look at the school website: <http://www.thomas-hardye.dorset.sch.uk/>

### **SOME OF THE CLASS OF '58 REUNITED; STARTED AT HARDYE'S SCHOOL 56 YEARS AGO**

Nine Old Hardyeans, who all started at Hardye's School together in September 1958, came together for a reunion lunch at the Colliton Club 56 years later.

It was over half a century ago that the nine first met at Hardye's then Junior School, Wollaston House in Dorchester's Durngate Street, moving to the Senior School in Culliford Road two years later.

Organiser Colin Smith from Weymouth has kept in touch with many of his classmates and is delighted.

"It is always good to see old friends over a pint or three of real ale," says Colin, "we try to get together once a year around Christmas, but this year a few are missing for various reasons, some sadly unwell."

Ken Stephens travelled from Croydon for the Class of '58 reunion and Graham Lush from Southampton.

Richard Cummins had just returned from a holiday in New Zealand that day, but broke his journey home to Ferndown to look in at the Colliton Club. Hugh Slavin came across from Bournemouth, while Stuart "Snuffy" Hargreaves journeyed from Maiden Newton. Clive Dickinson and John Sibley still live in Dorchester.

"Now we all have bus passes, but the years have not diminished our friendship," says Weymouth's Michel Hooper-Immings, who is Secretary of the Hardyeans Club. "Very quickly our minds went back 56 years to the class of '58, Wollaston House, our teachers and our contemporaries, quite a few of which still live locally.

Through email, we keep in regular contact and so much look forward to our annual reunions."



Some of the Class of '58 standing [left to right:] Richard Cummins, Ken Stephens, Clive Dickinson, Colin Smith, Graham Lush, Michel Hooper-Immins.  
Seated: Stuart "Snuffy" Hargreaves, Hugh Slavin, John Sibley.  
Photograph by Neil Gatehouse.

### **A New Year Message from Your President**

So, into another year, a year that sees the 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of our Club. The occasion will be celebrated at the Annual Dinner on 21<sup>st</sup> March, at the King's Arms, Dorchester. We break new ground this year by welcoming our first lady speaker (in 110 years ! ) the Reverend Vicky Thurtell, Team Vicar at St .Peter's Dorchester, in the Dorchester Benefice. Vicky was Head Girl of The Green School, or to give it its official title The Dorset County School for Girls. The actual building is, and has been for a good while now, The Dorchester Middle School, adjacent to the Thomas Hardy School complex, the latter being Castlefield School, and before that The Dorchester Secondary Modern School. It's good to see us bringing together people from the other Dorchester schools. At the Annual Dinner, the Secondary Modern will again be represented, as guest(s) of the President. I hope there will be other representatives present from the Green School and Castlefield.

An outstanding Christmas event, in Dorchester, was the 2014 Thomas Hardy School Carol Service, with a capacity congregation at St. Peter's. There was glorious singing from the Thomas Hardy School Chapel Choir and excellent playing from The Thomas Hardy School Brass Ensemble, which added to the festive atmosphere. Like the School Remembrance Ceremony on 11<sup>th</sup> November, this carol service made your President very proud and humbled to be a part of our great school. Both these events were recorded by the hospital radio team from Ridgeway Radio, for patients in Dorset County Hospital to hear, the Carol Service having several repeats over the Christmas period.

There's a chance to hear the Thomas Hardy School Chapel Choir in March when they sing Choral Evensong at St.Peter's Dorchester on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March. This is the service traditionally attended by Hardyens Club members - this year due to Vicky being elsewhere, it will be the week before the Annual Dinner. So, if you can attend, a warm welcome awaits at St.Peter's.

May I wish you all a very happy and peaceful New Year.

Peter Foster  
President      Hardyens Club

### **Obituaries**

**Professor Michael W Collins** (1950-58), died in August 2014  
**John A Clegg** (1936-44)

#### **Hubert SCREEN**

I regret to announce the passing of my father, Old Hardyean Hubert Screen (1933-40) at the age of 91 in Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath on 6th January 2015. I believe his brothers Donald and Philip followed him into Hardy's, though that would have been around the outbreak of war.

My father enjoyed reading the magazine (as much as his eyesight permitted) and I confess that I will miss receiving it into my inbox on his behalf...

regards  
Andrew Screen

*[The Club extends sincere condolences to relatives and friends of the above]*

## Membership Secretary Report from Bob Rensch

The Total number of Full members in the Club is 740 (as at January 2015)  
Of these 614 receive their correspondence via email and 91 by post.  
The remaining 35 are members of our Lost Legion (23 email & 12 postal)

### **Since the Last newsletter we have been joined by 2 new members:**

Les Mason (1966-69) who lives in Livingston, West Lothian.  
Andrew Hodge (1973 -79) who lives near Langport in Somerset.  
Roy Collins (1941-46) who lives in Weymouth  
Brian Watts (1943-51) who lives in Stoke sub Hambdon, nr Yeovil  
The latter 2 were actually already members but somehow never got on to our database!  
Welcome to them all!

**Thank you** to Matthew Price who responded to the last newsletter and suggested a way that we might get hold of Nigel Sutton. We now have a new email address for Nigel and therefore he has been taken off the list of the 'lost legion'.

**Thank you** also to Ken Stephens who, although not a member, may have given me a lead to trying to recover Eric Shakeshaft (1985-90) from the Lost Legion. I am at present waiting to hear from Eric.

**Sadly** we have received notification of 3 members who have passed away

Prof. Michael W. Collins (1950-58) who lived in Wokingham.  
Mr. John A Clegg (1936-44) who lived in Princes Risborough  
Mr. Hubert Screen (1933-40) who lived in East Grinstead

**Unfortunately** 1 other member has decided to resign from the Club.

Due to his long term illness Monica the wife of Derek Burdle (1952-57) has asked us to stop sending the newsletters.

**I must also report** that 2 members have been added to our 'Lost Legion'.

John D Boulter (1976-82) last address in Dorchester – post returned - moved away.  
G.L.C. Browne (1943-50) last address in London – post returned - moved away.

**It has been brought to my attention** that 2 members of staff, Andrew Gillett and Jenny Osborne, who were receiving newsletters as honorary members, have in the past few years, left the school and no longer receive newsletters.

**Nothing has been heard from** 9 members since the last check in 2011. These members will be removed from the Club database and their details held on a separate database. These members are: **R.W. Davies** (last known address in Brentford), **N.A Hanney** (nr. Buxton), **K.P Hanney** (Wellington), **J.T.iles** 1993-2000 (Weymouth), **S.R. Marshall** (Weymouth), **M.Murray** 1985 (Dorchester), **J.C.Penny** 1934-38(Huntingdon), **J.D.M.Redmill** 1978-85 (Evershot) and **W.J.Symons** 1947-55 (Dorchester).

If you can help us find any members of our 'Lost Legion' I should be very grateful.

Please ensure that you let me know if any of your personal details change, otherwise you may well become a member of the Lost Legion! At the last mailing, 6 members' emailed letters were returned because they had changed their email address. Fortunately just 6 telephone calls rescued the problem.

*Included with the postal newsletter is a form for all members who receive their letters by surface mail so that we can check that the letters are still reaching those members.*

### **You Write**

*Editor's Apologies first of all to **Donald** and **David Culver**. An item in the last edition was erroneously printed as coming from **Donald** when it should have said **David** in the heading.*

### **WHERE ARE THEY NOW??**

Via the Membership Secretary, **Robert Anthony Hayes** asks if anyone has news of colleagues from 1960:

At South Walks House 1960 to 1968 I boarded with **Paul Richard Whitworth Baker**, **Peter "Bluey" Horne** and **Christopher "Kit" Cattell**. I have lost contact with these people but am in contact with **Richard Priddle**. My question to you is this : have you or any of our members got contact with any of these people. I am just about to retire and am curious as to what we all made after leaving Hardyes. I would be grateful for any info no matter how recent.

Regards

Robert Anthony Hayes

*The three above are not members of the Club but if anyone has any information please contact the Editor.*

**David Gargrave** writes about a *Thomas Hardy School Sixth Form Project*

I thought it worth letting you know about an interesting project that I am currently involved with, with sixth formers at the school.

The programme is being run in conjunction with Young Enterprise and my involvement is as a business adviser. Clive Jackson who is Head of Business Studies and Economics is providing the lead from the school. The group are working well at raising finance but as you can appreciate they have significant start-up costs to establish the business.

[Editor: the following is quoted from a November Press Release.

Revamp is a new business formed by Thomas Hardy Sixth Form students Dan Hobday, Laura Shephard, Tess McNab, Tobias Brookes, Amy Cowley, James Duncan and Sophie Colley. The business aims to buy damaged antiques, to repair them with care and their own sense of style and to sell them on.

The students of Business Studies and Travel and Tourism were eager to form Revamp after they became aware of the possibilities behind a successful business; Laura, the head of Operations says 'starting Revamp has been exciting and I hope the future holds many possibilities'. The area of antique refurbishment was decided as an ideal channel for their newfound passion as it allows the students the opportunity to be creative with their products. They hope that by refurbishing items in their own original way they will fill a gap in the market successfully.

Regards,  
David

*Revamp is to be found, says the Press Release, in the Curiosity Centre, Grove Trading Estate Dorchester. If any members feel able to help financially, Dan Hobday, Revamp's Managing Director & Head of Marketing would be pleased to hear. Contact through Editor.*

### **From The Treasurer**

The Accounts Balance Statement for 2014 has been prepared. If any member would like a copy please e-mail or write to me – address at the top of this Newsletter.

A year ago, in the January 2014 Newsletter, I reminded Members that the Annual Subscription for those who pay it has been increased from £2.00 to £5.00 per annum. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those who responded and have altered their payment Standing Orders.

Unfortunately, in spite of my sending personal e-mails to a number of individuals, there are still 35 members who have not changed their payments. Almost the entire annual income of the Club comes from membership subscriptions, and this represents a shortfall of £105. This may not sound a lot in real terms, but it is actually a loss of 11%.

So please, if you are one of those who has not changed your payment, the Club would be extremely grateful if you could do so before the next one is due, and let me know when you have done so.

Alan Brown



## THE HARDYEANS CLUB

**OLD HARDYEANS  
ANNUAL REUNION  
DINNER  
SATURDAY 21 MARCH  
THE GRILL ROOM, KINGS  
ARMS HOTEL,  
HIGH EAST STREET,  
DORCHESTER  
7pm for 7.30pm.**

The Annual Reunion Dinner moves this year to the Kings Arms Hotel, with no increase in price and for the first time, a choice of three for all three courses. However, choices must be made in advance and notified on the booking form. This is the annual opportunity to meet contemporaries and friends from other years at school. The hotel bar is adjacent to the Grill Room, aperitifs and wine will be on sale all evening. There is a small car park at the rear of the hotel. Wives and partners are welcome; the dress code is lounge suits or smart casual. Raffle prizes to help our funds are welcome.

### ANNUAL REUNION DINNER MENU

**MULLIGATAWNY SOUP  
OR GRILLED GOAT'S CHEESE SALAD [V]  
OR COD MORNAY  
-WITH BREAD STICKS**

**BEEF BOURGINION  
OR FILLET OF SEA BASS  
OR VEGETARIAN DISH  
-WITH SEASONAL VEGETABLES, NEW & ROAST POTATOES**

**SHERRY TRIFLE  
OR PROFITEROLES  
OR DORSET CHEESE AND BISCUITS**

**TEA OR COFFEE**

**£21 INCLUDING VAT**

## ANNUAL REUNION DINNER 2015 BOOKING FORM

Name: .....

Home address: .....

Dinner @ £21 No's required..... Table of 8 or 10 required? .....

Years at School.....

**Please indicate choices and numbers from the menu:**

\*Soup ..... Goat's cheese salad..... Cod Mornay.....

\*Beef Bourginion..... Sea bass..... Vegetarian dish\*\*\* .....

\*Sherry trifle..... Profiteroles..... Cheese & biscuits.....

**IF NO CHOICE IS INDICATED, IT WILL BE ASSUMED DISH \* IS CHOSEN**

\*\*\* The Head Chef at the Kings Arms is anxious to discuss a suitable dish with vegetarian diners. Make your suggestion here if you are ordering a vegetarian course:

.....

Hardyeans' tie required ?. YES/NO [Add £10 to your payment.]

E-mail address for confirmation [and receipt if paying by cheque.]

.....@.....

*Please make cheques payable to The Hardyeans Club, and send to Alan Brown, 40 Valette Road, Moordown, Bournemouth, BH9 3JD.*

*If you wish to pay by Internet Bank Transfer, the bank Sort Code is 30-92-69, Account: 00403528, Account Name: The Hardyeans Club.*

*Please, if possible, quote your surname as a reference and e-mail Alan Brown at alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com to let him know when you have paid.*

**PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE – NO PAY ON THE DAY!  
CLOSING DATE FOR BOOKINGS AND PAYMENT: SATURDAY 7 MARCH 2015**

The Hardyeans tie, costing £10, is a smart addition to the wardrobe of all former students, based on the traditional blue, gold and red stripes of the old school – with the addition of the centenary crest. Alan Brown is selling these, add £10 to your dinner payment to receive a club tie.

## From the Headteacher

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A belated Happy New Year to all Old Hardyeans wherever you happen to be reading the latest newsletter. We are well into the academic year and for those students taking public examinations, Christmas marked the half-way point!

Shortly before the end of term we received our exams analysis for 2014 which is produced by Ofsted. Our GCSE results place us within the top 6% of schools nationally and the top 10% for A Level - by far the best performance in Dorset. At the time of writing, 10 students have been offered conditional places at Oxbridge for 2015 so the long tradition for academic excellence continues.

The new sports centre (phase VI) was due for completion by now but we have been beset by one delay after another and the latest date for handover is early March. However, it is a magnificent facility and the wait will be worth it. The new colleges (Henning, Trenchard, Napier and Stratford) are developing extremely well; we are particularly pleased with the enthusiasm youngsters have shown for the various sports competitions and the large numbers turning up to spectate. Music is another strength and anyone who attended the Christmas service at St Peter's or the concert with Imperial College, will testify to the quality. We are particularly indebted to one of our teachers, Peter Oakes, who is a superb choirmaster and brings a professionalism to our performances that is rarely seen in any school choir. We are looking to bring on other young musicians through DASP music so that the orchestra continues to thrive in the years ahead and we are always on the lookout for talent in those minority instruments that are expensive to learn and expensive to buy. If any Old Hardyeans are willing to sponsor a youngster or contribute in any small way, our Music Director, Hannah Trevorrow ([htrevorrow@dasp.org.uk](mailto:htrevorrow@dasp.org.uk)), would be delighted to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual Dinner, but in the meantime my very best wishes for 2015.

Michael Foley

Headteacher