

Please see Michel HOOPER-IMMINS and Peter LEWENDON's reports on the reunion of the contemporaries of 'Major' Ronald CLARK who GRAMMARIANS GATHERING were at the school from 1943-49, at the Dorchester Rugby Club on Thursday 11th October 2001.

LONDON DINNER 2001 Please see Colin LUCAS' report on this event

2002 ANNUAL DINNER and AGMs for both Club and Charitable Association: Saturday 16th March 2002. Minutes of the previous AGM were published in the Newsletter for Spring 2001, Issue 84. The Speaker will be Barry C. BUCKLAND (1959-66), Vice President of Bioprocess Research & Development, Merck Research Laboratories, a short biography of whom appears in the Peter Lewendon Column. FOR DINNER, PLEASE SEE BOOKING FORM AT END OF THIS NEWSLETTER

ADVANCE NOTICE! There will be a concert at St Mary's Church, Edward Rd, Dorchester on 21st September 2002 in aid of the Hardyens Club Charitable Association.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

F J THOMAS,(1938-45) from Mosterton, to 'Tir Na Nog',Groeslon, Caernarvon, Gwynedd, LL54 7ST

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OBITUARIES On behalf of the Club we extend sincere condolences to the families and friends of the following

W H LAWFORD aged 82, of Beaminster. We were advised by his daughter, Mrs BM England of Mosterton, that Mr Lawford died on 30th September 2001. Although in poor health, he enjoyed seeing the newsletter.

Obituaries continued

Allan Robert PIKE(1924-28) died in 2001. Allan's brother David contributes this resume, as the sole survivor of six brothers who all attended Dorchester Grammar School sometime between 1921 and 1934 he offers the following CV.

Allan Robert PIKE 1911-2001: Educated Dorchester Grammar School September 1924-July 1928; University College, Southampton October 1928-July 1932, B.Sc. in Engineering by extension at London University; later Fellow of Institute of Electrical Engineers; 1925-34 played cricket for DGS and Southampton University, rugby and cross-country running also. Practical training in various electrical engineering positions - 1934-5 Assisting Engineer at AV Bosch Engineering; 1935-42 Engineering Executive at Rheostatic Co Ltd; 1942-5 General Manager the Stone Group (Stone Platt) (manufacturing electrical torpedoes);1945-7 Engineering Executive marketing Stone's products worldwide; 1947-54 Managing Director Record Electrical; later Managing Director Evershed and Vignole, Chairman Lillieshall Steel Stockholders. Allan retired in 1981. His hobbies included Golf and Vintage Cars (his last car was an MGB GT V8, bought in 1973. He drove it to Dorchester in 1998 to meet Colin LUCAS and visit the School.)

Brigadier John TURNER of Beaminster

John TURNER's brother Michael (also a Brigadier and LLB) writes from Kings Worthy near Winchester. ..I have been out of touch with the Club for a very long time and, indeed, did not take up membership again until I met up with Colin Lucas at the funeral of my brother, John. John had a great love of Hardye's, although he steadfastly refused to call it anything but Dorchester Grammar School, and he supported it over the years in a number of practical ways. He must have started at DGS in about 1942, leaving in about 1948. He was destined to be a trainee tax inspector, for which he must have been totally unsuited I might add, but fate intervened in the shape of National Service. He was commissioned into the RASC and shortly after converted to a Regular Commission, re-badging to RAOC in 1965. There started a career that spanned the world - Austria, Malaya, Germany, Aden, Sri Lanka. At first he specialised in the supply of oil products and later in the wider logistics world of a modern Army. He rose steadily through the ranks of the Army retiring in 1986 as a Brigadier and Director of Supply Management(Army). He was a gentle person, with a lovely sense of humour and a kindly, caring manner and he was a great family man. As a brother he was always supportive and easy to get along with and when I was widowed fairly early in life he gave me strength and hope at a black time. In his latter years he looked after our ageing mother with devotion, tact and love. Many people will miss him and the world is a poorer place for his parting. Dare I say it he was typical of so many Grammar School boys and girls, giving a lifetime of public service through hard work and devotion to duty. While I am in print I might add a few words about my first wife Heather, who was at the Green School from 1947-54. The daughter of Alderman Douglas Napper, who was Mayor of Dorchester in about 1954, she took up nurse training at St George's Hospital in London, qualifying in 1958. We married in 1959, had three children and six grandchildren and lived a happy if hectic Army life until 1986, when she became very ill. I retired to become the Traffic Commissioner in the SE and Metropolitan Traffic Area and we moved to a permanent home in Bexhill. Sadly she died of lymphoma, after a long and courageous struggle, in March 1993. She has two memorials - a bridge linking the 2nd tee and fairway at the Cooden Beach Golf Club and a plaque at the Aldershot Military Cemetery.

(Editor: John TURNER will indeed be sadly missed. He was a regular attender at the monthly luncheons and always a convivial dining companion.)

The Lord WYNFORD (ex School Governor) Robert BEST, 8th Baron Wynford of Wynford Eagle, died in January 2002 , aged 85, as this edition was going to press. A full obituary appears in the Daily Telegraph of Friday 25th January and there was also a report in the Dorset Evening Echo. Lord Wynford will be remembered as an enthusiastic and supportive School Governor. A Thanksgiving service is to be held at St George's Fordington on 12th February.

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YOU WRITE

David PIKE as the sole survivor of six brothers who all attended Dorchester Grammar School sometime between 1921 and 1934 he says..I feel a bit lonely. I miss my boyhood days spent in Dorchester 1921-1939, when I was called up for military service in the

army finishing up as a Captain in 1946. Dorchester was a great place to spend one's earlier days. As I spent so many years in London after the war (1949-93) I regrettably seem to have lost touch with the old School apart from the Newsletter. I do remember going to one of the London Dinners presided over by Roger GALE, MP, at the House of Commons, where I met some of my contemporaries. Incidentally sorry to see that one of them, C. R. DIXON has passed on. I do hope I can visit Durnovaria before it's too late, although I must confess that my health has not been good of late! I do wish the Hardyans Club every success (and obviously that goes for the present school too). If anyone remembers me my very good wishes.

[The Editor also received a letter from John MAINWARING following the October Reunion which we will try to include next time]

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FROM THE SECRETARY, COLIN LUCAS

The LONDON DINNER was again very successfully organised by Hugh GRIFFITHS at University College, Gower St. Unfortunately, due to heavy traffic conditions, the Head Teacher Dr Iain MELVIN was delayed so as to make it impossible to attend. However a brief report was given on the excellent results attained by The School this year surpassing even last year's results. There are still suitable candidates applying for Oxbridge places, and the future looks as though this will continue to be the case. John STEPHENSON as Chairman of the Charitable Trust said that, although the success of the Trust was now established the Fund needed continual support to enable suitably qualified Students to receive benefits. The Dinner itself was supported by 19 members and their partners, surely we can improve on this?

As usual a small party traveled from Dorchester, namely Colin LUCAS, Peter LEWENDON and Bernard KIRBY. Others attending were: Godfrey LANCASHIRE, David McCRRICK, Hans WELLS-FURBY, Graeme BROWNE, Hugh GRIFFITHS, John and Sheila STEPHENSON, George and Sylvia WELCH, John FARWELL, George FOLEY, Douglas FRY, Peter GARLAND, Steve MERLIN, Dennis TURNER and Richard WILD.

The Menu included (starter) Salmon flakes with warm balsamic dressing; (main) Roast rack of lamb on a bed of red cabbage, with sauté potatoes and sugar snap peas; (dessert) Baked apricot and pistachio tart; Coffee. Wines to accompany the courses were: St Veran 1999; Chateau de Terefort Quancard 1997; Delaforce 1992.

REMEMBRANCE DAY Again the weather was kind and as usual the whole School turned out to listen to the roll of honour read by senior students. As always the CCF were "On Parade" supported by the musical accompaniment of their band. It was noted by several former students that greater interest was now being shown by both male and female students in the CCF. Once again the School was thanked for the kind hospitality shown to the former students and visitors who were superbly looked after as usual.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON Again this year this event was well attended by 55 members and their partners. They all enjoyed a superb Traditional Christmas Luncheon at the Dorchester Conservative Club. Thanks are again due to Peter LEWENDON for his pressgang tactics making sure that those who could would. Well done, Peter.

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The PETER LEWENDON COLUMN

The HARDYEANS CRICKET FIXTURE with the School has been arranged for Wednesday 10th July 2002. Anybody wishing to participate please contact Peter LEWENDON (01460-73927) The game is of "limited overs" commencing 14.00 hours.

The REUNION OF 'GRAMMARIANS' billed to meet R.Q. 'Major' CLARK took place at Dorchester Rugby Football Club on Thursday 11th October 2001. It was attended by 27 Grammarians years 1940-55, one ex-member of staff and the President of Dorchester RFC Harry BREWER. Fourteen wives were also present. From all accounts the evening was a success. Thanks are due to 'Major' CLARK and Peter CRABBE, the initiators.

The pattern of 'decade' reunions may be well worth considering. Peter FOSTER kindly gave of his time to do recordings and Michel HOOPER-IMMINS similarly to take photographs.

B.C.I. BUCKLAND (Lock House 1959-66)

Barry came to Hardye's when his father was posted to the UKAEA at Winfrith. He not only proved himself academically by the time he left but was also a noted competitor on the games field. He played for the 1st XI at Hockey and the Rugby 1st XV which he captained with distinction in the season 1964. This side was unbeaten.

After successful 'A' levels he went to Manchester University, where in 1970 he achieved a BSc in Chemical Engineering. Then he progressed to London University College, where in 1974 he took a MSc in Biochemical Engineering (and a PhD in 1977).

With this background he went to work in the USA and eventually in 1980 began his career with Merck Research Laboratories. He specialised in Fermentation Technology and Cell Culture. Barry has risen to be Vice-President Bioprogress Research & Development. The main activities of his research have been directed towards vaccines, natural products, biocatalysis and gene therapy. This work has produced vaccines for Varicella (Chickenpox), Hepatitis 'A' Rotavirus and more recently research has been directed towards vaccines for AIDS.

He is a member of the USA National Academy of Engineering, has chaired international conferences and is a Fellow of University College, London. This is only a brief summary of his achievements, To quote a Merck publication, Barry "....is an internationally recognised leader in the biochemical engineering field".

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FROM THE PRESS OFFICER, Michel HOOPER-IMMINS

THE SOCIETY OF DORSET MEN

Many Old Hardyans are already Members of the Society of Dorset Men, an illustrious Society of similar vintage and publishers of the Dorset Year Book. The 2002 edition contains an article about the Old Hardyans and as a mutual publicity exercise; we publish this invitation for Old Hardyans to join the Society.

Approaching their centenary year in 2004, the Society of Dorset Men is still in "good heart." The objects are to promote good fellowship amongst Dorset Men wherever they may reside, to foster love of their County and pride in its history and traditions. Members qualify by association with Dorset by birth, descent, marriage, past or present residence. A number of social events are organised across the county.

Records exist of "Friendly Meetings" of Dorset men in London, as far back as the Seventeenth century. In December 1690, a sermon was preached in the Church of St. Mary le Bow, on the "Revival of General Meetings of the Gentlemen and others of the County of Dorset." It is not known for how long these "Friendly Meetings" continued, the next record being of a dinner organised by Mr. G. R. Crickmay in 1898.

This led to the inaugural meeting on 7 July 1904, at 62 London Wall, to consider forming a Society of Dorset Men, under the Chairmanship of Mr. J. C. Swinburne-Hanham. The Meeting is reported as being well attended, including representatives from all parts of the County and supported by letters from prominent Dorset Men, including Mr. Thomas Hardy OM, who was unable to attend.

At that time, there were many men from the County in London, who seldom met a brother from Dorset. Some were young people emigrating to London from the County to seek employment. One of the original objects would be to assist them to find employment and to make them feel that they were not separated from the old County. The original name was "The Society of Dorset Men in London," open to Dorset Men living in the London area and to Dorset Men living in the County and Overseas.

The first Annual General Meeting was held on 2 December 1904 and there were already 150 Members. The first President, eminent Royal Surgeon Sir Frederick Treves Bt., born in Dorchester, later hosted the inaugural dinner of the Old Hardyans Club in 1905. Sir Frederick, a pupil of William Barnes, achieved notoriety by stopping the Coronation of Edward VII at two day's notice, insisting the King must be operated upon for appendicitis.

In November 1982, Weymouth-born Sir Anthony Jolliffe became 655th. Lord Mayor of London; at his invitation, the 1983 London dinner was held at the Mansion House. Sir Anthony Jolliffe GBE was elected President in May 1984, succeeding the late Mr. Simon Wingfield Digby, who had held the office for fourteen years. Mr. Christopher Pope DL and Sir James Spicer are currently Vice Presidents.

The Society's emblem- on a red Coat of Arms- is a silver tower, said to date from Agincourt, whilst the familiar motto, "Who's a-fear'd," was chosen by Thomas Hardy.

Further information can be obtained from the Society's Website: www.dorsetmen.freeuk.com or from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Gordon Hine at Mortier House, Great Yeatmans, New Road, Shaftsbury, Dorset. SP7 8QH. Telephone 01747 852408. Fax 01747 850957. The annual subscription is £7.50.

The following item featured in the Dorset Echo's Wanderer's Dorset Notebook page last autumn

Does any reader remember Ronald Quentin "Major" Clark, who was at Hardy's School from 1943 to 1950? Noted for his military bearing even at an early age, hence the

nickname "Major," he later moved to Mauritius and married a Mauritian girl. Now retired, they are on a tour of Europe- visiting France at the moment. In early October they return to Dorchester and his contemporaries are holding a special dinner in his honour at the Dorchester Rugby Club on 11 October. It is a fitting venue as "Major" Clark was a noted full back and successful School Captain of Rugby Football.

Old Hardyeans stalwart Peter Lewendon, who taught at the School from 1948 [where he was to stay for 36 happy years] remembers "Major" Clark in the sixth form and wonders if there are any other contemporaries who would like to join the celebration? So far, thirty Old Hardyeans and their wives are attending the buffet supper and a few more would be very welcome. Among contemporaries booked so far are Jos & Vinny Dean, Michael Lambden, Brian Dibben, Peter Crabbe and John Mainwaring, all pupils at the Culliford Road school from 1943 onwards.

Readers may remember the above story about Ronald Quentin "Major" Clark, who studied at Hardy's School from 1943 to 1950. The photograph of the men at the Old Hardyeans special reunion at the Dorchester Rugby Club, includes many of his contemporaries from the war and immediate post war years.

Shown are Peter Foster, Alan Sully, Hans Wells-Furby, Paul Thomas, Ronald Clark, Graeme Browne, Brian Dibben, Michael Lambden, Terry Parsons, Mike Burgess, Peter Crabbe, David Nicholls, John Mainwaring, David Downton, Geoff Budd, John Shellabear, Ian Mardon, Harry Brewer, Colin Allsop, Jos Dean, Roland Mason, Peter Lewendon, Colin Lucas, Adrian Downton, Mike Snelling.

Ronald Q. Clark was noted for his military bearing while at Hardyes, which is how he gained the nickname "Major." As a noted full back, he was a natural choice as the School's Captain of Rugby Football.

Working for Unilever, he moved first to Blackheath in London, then to Mauritius and married Michelle, a French Mauritian. Now retired, they toured Europe in the autumn and particularly wanted to return to Dorchester.

A tentative note, earlier this year, to Hardyeans Club stalwart Peter Lewendon wondered if they might be able to meet any of his old school friends, so the reunion was organised. Ronald and Michelle Clark were struck by how much Dorchester had changed; they thought Poundbury was a marvellous development. It was all much changed from when "Major" Clark was at Hardyes in the war years. Organised by Peter Lewendon, the reunion attracted over thirty Old Hardyeans and their wives.

Reproduced from the Wanderer's Column of the Dorset Echo.

FROM THE PRESS OFFICER (continued)

THE HARDYEANS CLUB

Twenty five new Members have joined the Hardyeans Club, thanks to the two features in the Wanderer's column. More came forward as a result of the appeal for contemporaries of R. Q. "Major" Clark and many happy memories were exchanged at the Dorchester Rugby Club, when Ronald and Michelle Clark met a room full of Old

We were pleased the six students have gained places at Oxbridge for the coming academic year. Not quite up to our ten last year but still a very significant achievement. We are now finding that students are much more discriminatory about university entrance choosing the course rather than the institution. When this is linked to the determination of today's youngsters you will know that they will always make their decisions.

The school received its second Chartermark just before Christmas (Silver this time) and was also awarded a Gold Artsmark for our excellent arts provision. Only 167 schools in the country received this accolade. Personally I was very moved and impressed by the Remembrance Ceremony this year. We had a large number of visitors and the students were, as ever, extremely attentive and interested in the proceedings. This is now the only event (apart from fire drills) when the whole school meets as a unit and it was an excellent occasion. Please do join us if you are in the area next year.

Other highlights have been the commencement of the new buildings, due to be completed in August 2002 and the annual CCF Dinner which followed a highly successful Biennial Inspection.

The school continues to flourish and after our results last summer is well placed to make further progress. It is a privilege to be the Headteacher of such an institution.

Perhaps I may finish by reminding Hardyans that the school is applying for specialist Science College status and any support that individuals are able to give would be much appreciated. Many have already done so and I would like to thank them for their support and generosity. Now I must return to our charming OFSTED inspectors. All good wishes.

Dr I E Melvin



MEMBERSHIP RECORDS - UPDATE

In some cases we do not have complete records on file, especially e-mail, fax and telephone details. It would be a great help if members could complete the following form and mail it to the Secretary at 4, Fir Tree Close, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2PY or Fax it to the Secretary at 01305 251159 or E-mail the details to the Secretary at secretary@hardyansclub.com

NAME.....
TELEPHONE.....
FAX.....
E-MAIL.....
YEARS AT SCHOOL FROM.....UNTIL.....

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER (tick one)

BY POST []

BY E-MAIL []

(Please note the Newsletter-by-Fax option is no longer available)

✂ *****

ANNUAL DINNER 2002

On; Saturday 16th March 2002
At: The Thomas Hardy Hall, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester
Dress: Lounge Suits
Time: Following the A.G.M. which is at 6.00pm
Cost: £20 per person

✂ *****

TO: COLIN LUCAS, 4, Fir Tree Close, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2PY
Telephone:(01305-265446)

Please send.....ticket(s) for the 2002 Annual Dinner in the enclosed s.a.e.

Name(s).....

Years at School.....

enclose £.....(£20 per head)

SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: (if any)

PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR STAMPED, ADDRESSED, ENVELOPE