

The Hardyans' Club

TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Hardye's School, Dorchester, Dorset

President:: John PEARSON

Chairman: A R(Bob) RENCH

Hon Secretary: Tony DAY (tel 01305 266095)

Hon Membership Secretary: Peter POWELL, 3 Durngate St., Dorchester, Dorset. DT1 1JP
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Hon Treasurer: (Acting) Colin LUCAS

Hon Press Officer: Michel HOOPER-IMMINS

Newsletter

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*Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor

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AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM THE CLUB'S PRESIDENT

Dear Member,

As you will appreciate, postage costs continue to increase and in view of our rising membership numbers, with Hardyans being spread across the globe, the financial cost to the club is a heavy burden. The cost of sending the newsletter in the normal post will be greater now, also, due to the fact that our normal practice of sending the newsletter simply in a folded form will have to cease, and envelopes will need to be used.

In consequence, it is intended to achieve circulation of the newsletter in future electronically as much as possible. This is a much simpler and less expensive and time-consuming method, and the club's webmaster, Terry Stone, will send the newsletter by email to all members who have an email address. If you have such facility but have not yet furnished your email address, perhaps you would kindly do so, at your earliest convenience, to Peter Powell, the membership secretary, courtproduction@aol.com who will notify Terry accordingly.

The proposal is, therefore, that the sending of newsletters in the normal post will cease, except for those members who inform us, as below, that they do not have access to Internet or Email. If a member has Internet access but no email, current and back copies of the newsletter are readily accessible on the Club's website, <http://www.hardyansclub.com>. I would ask therefore that members who need to receive the newsletter by normal post inform the membership secretary, Peter Powell, 3, Durngate Street, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1JP accordingly.

I regret that, in the interest of finance in particular, the club cannot continue sending newsletters in the normal post, save to those members who expressly request this. Your co-operation in returning the information required hereunder will help the club greatly and will be most appreciated.

John Pearson
President.

[Due to pressure on space the form to request a postal newsletter or advise email details can be found at the back of this edition on the same page as the London Dinner Booking Form]

EVENTS DIARY A REMINDER THAT WIVES & PARTNERS ARE MOST WELCOME AT SOCIAL EVENTS!

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS: Last Thursday of the month, except December, 12.30pm for 1pm at the Conservative Club, South Walks, Dorchester. It helps if you let Peter LEWENDON know if you intend to come; he can be contacted at Higher Folly Farm Cottage, Crewkerne, Somerset TA18 8PN (Tel 01460 73927).

NB April and October luncheons feature a Gourmet Menu at £15 per head. ALWAYS EXCELLENT VALUE !!

2006 ANNUAL DINNER and AGM's for both Club and Charitable Association were held on Saturday 18th March 2006, please see reports/minutes later in this issue

CONCERT in Aid of the Charitable Association Postponed from Saturday 7.00pm 1st July 2006 until October, please see Colin LUCAS in You Write

LONDON DINNER is to be held this year on Tuesday 7th November at **Lords** - see end of Newsletter re Booking.

STOP PRESS!! CRICKET MATCH 12th July 2006 at 2pm at the Rec, names to Tony Foot, please. Telephone 01305250137.

SITUATION STILL VACANT!! Hon. Treasurer - Hardyans Club. Colin LUCAS has agreed to remain as the Club's Acting Treasurer until a replacement is found. If anyone is interested in helping the Club in this capacity please get in touch with Colin - for contact details see the Dinner Booking Form at end of this issue.

If any member would like to purchase a centenary tie at £10 each, please contact the Treasurer, who will donate £1 per tie sold to the Charitable Association.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Stuart PALMER

Emmies, Church Lane, Osmington, Weymouth DT3 6EJ
01305 834612 stuart-palmer@tiscali.co.uk

[See also You Write: Hugh GRIFFITHS]

OBITUARY

The following obituary is submitted by Hans E WELLS-FURBY, 33 HIGH STREET WEST COKER YEOVIL SOMERSET BA22 9AP

I saw a notice of the loss of David Hardwicke in the Daily Telegraph on March 4th. As he was a key figure at the school 55 years ago, I enclose my memories of him, mostly factual.

DAVID HARDWICKE

David died suddenly on February 21st 2006 aged 72.

David was captain of Cricket and Rugby 1951-2 and my first thought on seeing the news was of his slow spoken helpful words to essentially second team types such as I was. A second thought was of the Upper VI pooling their pennies to pay for a telegram of good wishes to David and to Donald Kemp who were playing for England U19 Group Rugby XV; David was captain, having been England scrum-half the season before.

This all seems like five minutes ago never mind over five decades in the past. David came up to Oxford in 1954 to read Law. Naturally Hardyens watched his progress with interest. However, there were several strong players in his position during three seasons, and he never came close to selection against Cambridge. If David was disappointed he showed little sign.

It should be stressed that all David's achievements were in spite of a heart murmur. He will be remembered in various ways, playing a vital part in a first victory against Bryanston's 1st XV and being selected for Dorset & Wilts in the County Championship. (In his absence our 1st XV lost) Monty Hill took the lead in ruling that School came before "Adult" rugby when David was again chosen.

Mark Hardwicke, David's brother died sadly young but managed to play more top level rugby at Oxford and for Harlequins. Mark also captained Dorset in the Minor Counties Cricket Championship. David never minded being excelled by a sibling.

David himself was a fast scoring bat. In the later 1950's he opened the innings for Dorchester alongside his Captain, Walter Lancashire. After that David devoted himself to his profession. If example teaches, that was David Hardwicke's way of leading.

YOU WRITE

Professor Hugh GRIFFITHS as written to Colin LUCAS hgriffiths@ee.ucl.ac.uk

Dear Colin,

I promised I'd provide you with some information on my new job. The title is Principal of the Defence College of Management and Technology, Shrivenham. At an academic level this is part of Cranfield University; at a military level it is part of the Defence Academy (which also includes the Staff College at Shrivenham, and Sandhurst, for example). Essentially it is an organisation that provides postgraduate-level education for the whole of the UK military (and some overseas students too), and undertakes research for MoD and for industry. It used to be called the Royal Military College of Science, and it is located just outside Swindon. I take up the appointment in October.

Best wishes,
Hugh

Simon HARRIS sharris5@bigpond.net.au

Wollaston House [forwarded to The Editor by The Webmaster]

I have unsuccessfully tried to send the following email to the Club President. Please could you pass it on to someone who could help me? I was a pupil at Wollaston House from 1966 until 1968 when my family left Dorset.

As an adult I went to Sydney, Australia, where I still live today. Recently I returned to Dorchester for the first time in nearly 4 decades and was incredulous and (literally) traumatised to discover that my junior school had been bulldozed out of existence and that I would never lay eyes on it again. I would love to see some pictures of Wollaston House in the sixties (or any era, for that matter). I have done numerous web searches for images, but to no avail. So I write to you asking whether you have access to any photos of the school from that period that could be scanned and passed on to me. Or perhaps you can recommend someone else that I can contact who could help me. I would be most grateful for your assistance, I am sorely missing my English roots and those two years at Wollaston House were the happiest of any that I spent in England.

Kind regards,

Simon Harris

[Editor: The original Wollaston House, now called Agriculture House and used as offices, still stands in Acland Road. The playing fields have long been a car park and the site of the old stables is under a housing development. I would think you are referring to what we called the Main School in Barnes Way, which was indeed bulldozed to make way for housing development. My years at School were 1958-1964; 1958-1960 at Wollaston House, which we called the Junior School and the remainder at the Main School.]

Colin LUCAS The Treasurer Writes:-

Extracted from the Western Gazette 6th April 2006

In living memory Chris Etherington of Beaminster writes:

In the 23 March edition you made reference in your All our Yesterdays 50 years ago column to the Hardye's School production of "Journeys End". Enclosed was a photograph of the cast. I was the producer (centre of Photo) third right Geoffrey Hutchings far right was Adrian Downton who was later to be the Head of Dorchester Middle School and local Magistrate. There were also two Senior RAF Officers and two Army Majors. The stage Manager was Martin Lisemore who went to the BBC and was the producer of I Claudius.

The play was staged for five nights at The Corn Exchange but the cast wanted to watch a classic film The Benny Goodman Story at the Palace Cinema. They asked the Headmaster R.W.Hill [I think the Head might have been A.N.Hamilton early in his reign, this was possibly the first challenge to his authority – Webmaster] for permission to have time off school to attend a matinee showing on the Thursday. The request was refused but the boys decided they would watch the film; after all they had given up five nights for their show. Deputy Head Dunc Lidbury was outside the cinema and took the names of the boys as they left!!

They were all given the cane for disobeying orders. The boys agreed not to appear in the show that night as a protest but later decided that discretion was the better part of valour and the show went on

Concert at the School Saturday 7.00pm 1st July 2006

LATEST NEWS - THIS EVENT CANCELLED UNTIL OCTOBER!! Please contact Colin Lucas for up to date information about this event.

Once again there will be a large Musical Concert on the School campus using the enormous tent and the talents of the Dorchester schools DASP. The Durnovaria Silver Band has agreed to perform at this concert and use it as one of their 70th Anniversary performances. There will be a raffle and the proceeds will be shared between DASP & The Hardyans Club Charitable Association. Tickets cost £5.00 and there will be Student concessions. It is hoped that the Fireworks display team will be available and a limited drinks refreshment available at the interval. Prizes for the Raffle will be gratefully received and is being run entirely by the Club.

Your support is essential.

Tim VENTHAM 01744 22255 Mob: 07734 116285

Reading about a couple of Hardyans mentioned as members of HM Forces prompted me to wonder whether it is worth starting a specific register of Hardyans who have joined the forces.

I joined the Royal Artillery in 1995 having left Hardye's in 1991. Since then I have run into many Hardyans also serving in the forces. In fact on my first day in my first Battery I met a Hardyean who had left school some 4 years before me - and this was in a Scottish unit based in Sussex!

I feel it would be interesting know who has joined and a bit about where they have spent their time serving in whichever uniform they have chosen. I would be prepared to maintain a register of forces members under the umbrella of the club webmaster if others are interested.

Tim
T J VENTHAM
Capt. Adj. Civ.

[Ed. Please write to Tim care of the webmaster if you are interested in contributing to his database.]

Ian ELLIS 1941-46 3, Newhaven Heights Court Farm Road Newhaven East Sussex BN9 9HD 01273 611018
ianmcdellis@hotmail.com

July 2006 sees the 60th anniversary of the dispersal of the Upper 5th Modern form of 1945 - 1946, except for those re-sitting School Certificate or going on to the 6th form. I thought it might be of interest to write down reminiscences of my time at the school with some observations of staff members of that period. This period covers the transition

from Dorchester Grammar School to Hardyes'. I joined the school in September 1941 and was allocated to Treves house. Membership of a house was indicated by the colour of the stripe in the school tie and the colour of the button on the school cap, which had to be worn at all times around the town.

In many ways the war years were an exciting time to be around. Senior boys left and returned in their uniforms but of course there were also the casualties.

The headmaster then was R. W. "Monty" Hill. In the earlier part of the war he still arrived in a motor car which even then looked pretty ancient. He later took to riding a bicycle, leaning back at an angle which appeared to defy the law of gravity. Most local staff and pupils cycled or walked to school, apart from those using buses or trains from greater distances.

My first form mistress was "Fanny" Osborne who taught Maths to the junior forms. As my first introduction to anything beyond arithmetic, it was completely beyond me. In an early Algebra test, Fanny read out all of the marks until she came to me, saying that she was very sorry but she did not think she could give me any marks for mine. Thus began a long struggle with maths and I felt that my Professor of Physics at RN College Greenwich thought the same way as Fanny, even if he did not say so. Maths for the more senior forms was taken by S.A. "Saffy" Fox or Walter Lancashire, formerly a cricketer of some note.

Latin was taught by C.M. "Steamboat" Steemson. In the absence of younger masters, who had gone into the forces, Steemson was an enthusiastic, if hardly impartial referee of Soccer games. The losing side would be cheered up by him belting the ball up field with a cry of "Come on the lucky Blues".

Junior school French was taken by the formidable Madame Crothers who would enter the classroom screaming "Taisez-vous". Later French was taught by the gentlemanly B. "Bert" Cruse.

English for the juniors was taken by Miss E.M. Hill, the Head's sister, who also taught History and Elocution. I'm sure she had a nickname but I am unable to recall it. [As I remember she was known as the Duchess – Webmaster] Senior English was the province of the lovely D.S. "Dunc" Lidbury. I have never known anyone who could enunciate words so clearly and precisely.

H.G. "Harold" Mann was the Geography man and games organiser. In class he had the unfortunate habit of rapping his knuckles sharply on one's head for any minor misdemeanour. I can still feel the indentations now.

The hyperactive E. F. "Ticker" Cole taught Chemistry in his foul smelling laboratory carrying out experiments which I am sure would now be banned by Health & Safety regulations.

Art was the province of Miss S. H. "Stella" Evans, who was swooned over by the older boys. She taught in a wooden hut which later became the school dining room. This was a novelty as before this, people went home for lunch or brought a packed one. There was a top table for the head and other masters who appeared to be eating the same disgusting food as the pupils. Bishop's buns were our salvation. Monty would say a fine Latin grace which I am unable to recall now, except that it ended with "in Christum Dominum Nostrum".

The first Gym master was a Mr Bale who soon departed for the RAF. He was replaced by "Sid" Hopewell, who I believe was a retired army PTI.

As for myself, I served in the Fleet Air Arm for 21 years, retiring as an Avionics Engineer Officer. I then spent a few years in the commercial aircraft industry before going into the defence electronics business, finally retiring as Sales Director and General Manager of a US firm.

I hope the class photograph reproduces reasonably well. I have added as many names as possible. Inevitably, after 60 years, some may have passed on. Robert Perkins died in about 1947 and a J. Pitcher is listed on the Roll of Honour in "A Phoenix Rising"

I am obviously still alive if not exactly kicking. This is mainly because of modern medical and surgical miracles. I have had major heart surgery and among other ailments have been on dialysis for kidney failure for the last 4 years. I don't get about much apart from visits to my local hospital.

Ian Ellis

[Ian - Your wonderful word-picture of school life will go into my 'Durnovarian Days' book - a compilation of highlights from the Newsletter archive. - More word-pictures and photographs of school days, please - of any era of the school - Many thanks, Editor]



Front Row

Ian Ellis, John Ellery, Major D.C. Whittaker, Form Master, C. Geeves, Robert Perkins, E.B "Ebby" Williams.

Second Row

D.B. Thomas, Ken Hawkins, Paul Thomas (behind), Bernard Watts (behind) J.E.Rimmer, Alan Hedge (behind), Peter Powell, Ivor Jenkins (behind), Peter Thomas, Alan Brush (behind), J.D. Pitcher (behind), R. Martin, Brian Doble.

Back Row

J. Wilson, Phil Hawkins, Philip Screen, Gordon Crocker (then known as Chas), John Hansen, R.J.Head, Alan Brush, A J. Riggs, Peter Feltham

FROM THE PRESS OFFICER

On a wet night in May, seven Old Hardyeans gathered in a High East Street public house for the purpose of consuming a lemonade or two to celebrate the brief return to Dorchester of Alan "Algy" Attryde, on leave from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Some of the class of 1958 at Wollaston House were reunited at Tom Brown's in Dorchester and were later thought to have moved to other hostelries in the county town!

Alan Attryde, born in Dorchester and whose father was once Mayor, is First Secretary and Deputy Director of Trade & Investment at the British High Commission in New Delhi, India. The seven all began at Hardye's in September 1958, leaving in 1965.



Left to right:

Steven Gould,
Colin "Squibby" Squibb,
Clive "Dickie" Dickinson,
Colin "Smudger" Smith,
Alan "Algy" Attryde,
Michel Hooper-Immins,
Stuart "Snuffy" Hargreaves

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

At last the storms of May have given way to much more pleasant weather and as I write this our Year II (Vth Form in old money) are lining up for their Geography GCSE.

This is always a stressful time for many of our students as the Government tests and tests and tests again. The next three weeks will involve over 900 students taking over 230 different examinations and assessments. The cost of this and the organisation necessary needs to be considered in the light of the information we gain about our very able students and those who find examinations more of a challenge.

The school is also considering the ramifications of the new Education Bill which passed through Parliament two weeks ago. It is interesting that the primary aspect of the Government agenda is to create Trust Schools. This new status very much mirrors that of this school and its position since 1944. It is good to know that throughout this time the school has been able to take advantage of opportunities that may be open to others in the future.

Schools are places that are based upon routine and sometimes seem rather boring, although I can assure you with over 2000 students this is not so. Nevertheless any pretensions we had towards excitement were put in their place by Roger Hearing, the Harydyeans' guest at their recent annual dinner. His tales of derring-do in Iraq, Beirut, Somalia and any other hot spot you may wish to mention were enthralling and I know my wife amongst many others felt great sympathy for his partner - especially when he regaled us with a telephone call home to the Home Counties as he sheltered behind a table with bullets flying around the room. Mr Hearing was an excellent speaker and has offered to help the school in any way possible - students will not be accompanying him on work experience.

The Hardyans continue to support the school through the Trust and know that once again this year the trustees made a wise decision in their choice. This is now a very well established annual event and whole generations of students are now benefiting from the generosity of members - both they and I would like to thank all those involved.

Dr I E Melvin.

Hardyeans' Club Charitable Association.

Minutes of the Sixth Annual General Meeting held at the V11th Form Centre The Thomas Hardy School Dorchester 6.00pm Saturday 18th March 2006

Present. J.J. Pearson(Chairman); Colin Lucas (Secretary); Mrs J. Salt; D.C.Lacey;
C.G.Crocker; N.Baker

1. The Chairman J. J. Pearson opened the meeting by welcoming those present

2. **Apologies.** J.A.Stephenson, M. L. Meyers (Treasurer).

3. Minutes

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 19th March 2005 having previously been circulated were amended before being ratified to include D.Lacey and to delete Mrs J. Salt. They were proposed for adoption by C.Gordon Crocker and seconded by C.W.Lucas.Nem.con

4. Treasurers Report.

The annual report prepared by M.L.Meyers Treasurer was circulated to those present and there was high praise for the manner in which the service we received from the Treasurer was presented. The Secretary reminded the Trustees that the Treasurer was coerced into accepting the initial setting up of The Charity and it was now the policy of the Partnership to withdraw from accepting charitable accountancy. This sad news was accepted with regret but under the circumstances great appreciation was extended to Edwards & Keeping for all the work and expertise freely given to the Charitable Association from the inception. The formal adoption of the Annual report was proposed for adoption by C. Gordon Crocker and seconded by D C Lacey. Agreed nem con.

5. Chairman's Annual Report

It was a reasonable year stated the Chairman John Pearson with just over £7000.00 either donated or earned - though this was £2000.00 down on the previous year not altogether surprising considering the disproportional calls on charitable giving around the world due to natural disasters - not to speak of the heavy demands by many private charities through the postal system. One positive event which took place at our begging was The Last Night of the Proms concert held on the school ground in the summer of 2005 in which over 300 students of all ages took part, with quite a number of former students, achieving a high standard in their musical endeavours. For the record the Hardyeans' Bursary has now paid £8000.00 to 9 Students since the inception and currently 6 students are receiving bursaries. After 5 years the Trustees have decided to raise the individual awards by 15% to maintain their value in the face of inflation but keeping the expenditure strictly within the sustainable income from investments. This means that the £500.00 bursary will rise to about £575.00 in future years. We are still a long way off funding a second student each year from our endowments.

6. Future Funding.

Your Council have been examining other fundraising events for the coming years and an appeal to some local commercial concerns who might be persuaded to sponsor an individual student's 3 year bursary, in addition to awards made from the income of our own investments. Any suggestions to further this aim will be gratefully received.

7. Publicity.

Later in the year we shall debate the merits of another broad appeal letter to all Hardyeans for donations and possible legacies. We feel that a steady drip in the Newsletters may not be particularly valuable.

8. Report to The Charity Commissioners.

It has been customary for the Treasurer to complete this on our behalf.

9. Election of Trustees.

The secretary brought to the attention of the Meeting that a nomination had been received in respect of an additional Trustee in the name of Mrs E.M.Keats who was well known in Dorchester for her Community involvement and was a former Governor of the School The nomination was proposed by Mrs J.Salt and seconded by C. Lucas and agreed

nem con. Remaining Trustees were re elected en bloc, having previously agreed to continue. they are C.G.Crocker; D.C.Lacey ; Mrs J. Salt ; Major General J.A.Stephenson

10. Election of Officers.

The following Officers were re elected :-

Chairman J.J.Pearson; Secretary C.W.Lucas; Investment Advisor I.B.Brown; Treasurer M.L.Meyers

The office of Treasurer would be advertised .The chairman again referred to the valuable contribution made by Leigh Meyers and the partnership of Edwards & Keeping in setting up the Charity and sustaining it during the formative years. He also thanked the Investment Advisor Ian B. Brown for keeping our investments on an even keel.

11. A.O.B

There was none.

12. Confirmation of Dates for future Meetings:-

Monday 8th May 2006	Selection of candidates
Monday 25th September 2006	Trustees
Monday 22 January 2007	Trustees
Saturday 17th March 2007	AGM

**HARDYEANS' CLUB
THE DORCHESTER THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL**

Minutes of the **Hardyheads' Club Annual General Meeting** held on Saturday 18 March 2006 at 6:30 pm in the School 6th Form Centre.

Members Present: John Pearson, Bob Rench, Colin Lucas, Alf Barrett, Gordon Crocker, Michel Hooper-Immins, Peter and Heather Foster, Tony Foot, Tony Day and Jonathan Pullen

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Felicity Murray, John Stephenson and Peter Powell
2. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 19 March 2005** – these were approved and signed.
3. **President's remarks** – John Pearson reported that it had been a sad year for the Council with the passing of Clinton Grassby and Jack Westlake who had both been long serving members and wise heads in the Council. John highlighted the need to encourage young blood for Council Membership, and the continuing requirement to find a Treasurer for the Club and the Charitable Association.
4. **Chairman's report** – Bob Rench reported on his year and expressed his thanks to Colin Lucas for all his hard work for the Club including his Acting Treasurer role pending the finding of a replacement, and the monthly luncheons. Bob thanked Peter Lewendon also for his organisation of the Christmas Lunch. A report was furnished on sporting matters and the Officers and Felicity, Minutes Secretary, were thanked for their work during the year. The finding of a new Treasurer had become a major need.
5. **Treasurers Report** – The Treasurer furnished the Annual Accounts and explained them. These were adopted. The Treasurer proposed that life membership be granted to some four members who had been paying monthly by Direct Debit due to an error by the bank. Their continued membership without further payment was approved. The Treasurer suggested also, in view of increasing postage and new envelope costs, that the annual subscription might be raised from £2 to £5 per annum. This was discussed at some length, and, having regard to the desirability of boosting electronic communication, it was agreed that this would be considered at the next Council Meeting. The Treasurer was thanked for his comprehensive report.
6. **Election of Officers and Committee** – It was proposed and agreed that the Officers and Council Members should be re-elected en bloc.
7. **Charitable Association** – John Pearson updated members regarding the finances of the Association which are in good order, the Endowment Fund providing a sustainable annual income of about £1725. This is presently funding six students. Additional ways to raise more capital for the fund are being considered, including an approach to local businesses with a view to achieving sponsorship for three annual payments of £500 - £600 over the three years of a student's tertiary education. A smaller concert is being arranged, on similar lines to the major one of last year, for July, marking the 70th anniversary of the Durnovaria Silver Band.
8. **[The rest of the Minutes seem to have been lost somewhere in transit between the Editor and the Webmaster. I will send them out when they come to light! – Webmaster.]**

LONDON DINNER BOOKING FORM & NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION FORM

Great News! LONDON DINNER 7th November 2006 At LORDS.

It has now been confirmed that **Lords Cricket Ground** is available and we have made a provisional booking. Numbers are restricted to 48. Please book early so as not to be disappointed. Anticipated cost £35.00 per person. Extras include a guided tour of the Museum etc, depending on numbers and timing. We propose to dine at 7.30. so timings may not permit. Please intimate your requirements.

Booking Form

Name.....
Tour cost £6.00..... Dinner Only £35.00.....

Please forward to: Colin Lucas, Treasurer
4 Fir Tree Close
Dorchester
DT1 2 PY

Please enclose stamped addressed envelope

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Hardyans' Club Newsletter Distribution

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