

The Hardyans' Club

TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Hardye's School, Dorchester, Dorset

Newsletter

Spring 2007 : Issue 102

Published Winter, Spring and Autumn

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor

HUGH TAKES OVER AS PRESIDENT



John Pearson hands over the Presidency to Hugh Griffiths, at the conclusion of the 2007 AGM of The Hardyans Club

Picture Heather Foster

The Editor Writes

The handing over of the Presidency of the Club, referred to above, was the prelude to what was, in your Editor's opinion, one of the best Annual Dinners yet staged, with the exception of the Centenary Dinner in 2005. What made it all the more enjoyable was the dispensing with of the top table in favour of smaller groups at individual tables which gave the whole event a fresh image.

It is always a great pleasure to meet current students as they always have something interesting to say and this makes for added diversity of conversation over the dinner table. The fascinating thing about the Annual Dinner is that it is always an occasion for remembering the past and looking to the future. It was good to meet up again with John Barbara, our guest speaker, with whom I had not spoken for more than 45 years, when our paths crossed in the Hardye's CCF.

Heather and I were delighted to present another archive display of photographs and printed material, at the Dinner, which included the 1930 School photograph, kindly donated to the Club by Mrs. Perham, mother of Hardyean Michael Perham, Bishop of Gloucester, with Michael's father somewhere in the ranks and some photographs of the late George Foley taking part in School sport, Hockey 2nd X1 1934 - 1935, drama and music, the Dorchester Grammar School Orchestra, 6th July 1934 the pictures from the late George Foley archive kindly donated by Sean O'Connell, first cousin of George Foley. The picture of the School orchestra is fascinating as it includes Bertie Cruse, playing his trumpet, and Jimmy Whitaker on violin. It is also signed, on the reverse, by all present. Your Editor has made a digital audio recording of the Annual Dinner Speeches, plus conversations with our guest speaker

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and Alf Barrett who talked me through the 1936 School Photograph, with some interesting memories of his time at DGS. I believe our new president located himself in the 1969 school photograph! The 1930, 1936 and 1969 School photographs on display made for some very interesting contrasts, complimenting some 1950s and 1960s South Walks House and some later Heathcote pictorial time capsules. Please see more on the AGM and Dinner elsewhere in this Issue.

Hardyeans' Club Newsletter Spring 2007 Issue

Resulting from one or two requests from the members, I have re-designed the layout of the Newsletter, which I hope will be to your liking. As with all contributions of words and pictures from the Membership, constructive criticism, and suggestions on the Newsletter presentation and layout are always welcome.

Hardyeans' Club Information

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Hardyeans' Club Website and E-mail

Visit the website at: www.hardyeansclub.com

E-mail addresses for the Club officers as follows: please note the prefix "hardyeans" before title

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Hardyeans' Club 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 !!

From our Lunch Correspondent aka Press Officer

Poussin is a small tasty chicken, about a pound and a quarter in weight. Not many readers will have tasted one, but the Old Hardyeans at the April Gourmet Lunch certainly enjoyed theirs. Served with thick bread sauce, carrots, asparagus and baby sweetcorn, it was a delightful meal. Lunch had begun with oxtail soup and finished with trifle- always a favourite among the old boys followed by a sumptuous cheeseboard. With a glass of wine and a glass of port afterwards, it was a perfect start to the new series of gourmet lunches at Dorchester Conservative Club.

The next Gourmet Lunch is on Thursday 25 October. when the menu will be:

Cream of asparagus soup
Fillet of Dover Sole Ostendaise
Gammon with egg and pineapple
Raspberry Pavlova
Cheeseboard and Port

Of course such splendid fare is much appreciated and we would like more Old Hardyeans to attend these Gourmet Lunches, as well as the usual reunion lunches every last Thursday of the month. To book, telephone Colin Lucas on 01305 265446 or Peter Lewendon at 01460 73927. All Old Hardyeans will be most welcome.

ANYONE FOR CRICKET ?

The School will be sending a party of cricketers to Barbados in October 2007 to play five matches and visit underprivileged schools with the aim to make a difference by supplying the schools with cricket equipment and coaching. The target for the tour fund is £25,000. If you would like to make a donation or would like further information please contact Geraint Hughes at The Thomas Hardy School, Queens Avenue, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 2ET. Please make cheques payable to The Thomas Hardy School.

STOP PRESS!! CRICKET MATCH Club v The School in July, no date as yet, names to Tony Foot, please. Tel 01305 250137

LONDON DINNER will once again be held at Lords - Tuesday 13th November 2007 see P6 for booking form

Obituaries

Cyril ALLARD who was Chairman of the Governors and Trustees of the school in the late 80's - a turning point for the school and the time of the appointment by Cyril of our present Headteacher, Iain Melvin. Cyril's sons passed very successfully through the school. His son Roger wrote to Tony Day:

Sadly my father died on Saturday 3rd March in the Care Home in Sidcup near me, where he had been since August 2005. With Dad's long association with the school it occurred to me that there may be other people who might like to come to the service. Not that I am likely to know who they are and I wonder whether I could enlist your help in ensuring that those people who knew Dad in his school role are aware of the arrangements.

Your Editor was one of many who attended the Memorial Service at St Peter's Church Dorchester on 15th March

You Write

Roger ALLARD

Pauline and Roger Allard have a new email address:- rogerallard@tiscali.co.uk
Please update your records and do not send any emails with immediate effect to our old email address (roger@allardfamily.fsnet.co.uk)

Several members wrote in response to school pictures published in the last issue

Chris ETHERINGTON cretherington@tiscali.co.uk

Surprise, surprise, your latest newsletter resulted in three emails within 24 hours from old Southfielders! Last week, at a local book fair I came across a copy of Cochrane's book 'A Phoenix Rising' (I wish I had been able to contribute - there was so much more to impart about life in the 1950s). On page 115 she relates the time in 1961, when Old Southfielders gathered for a farewell party for Walter and Joyce Lancashire. Here is a photo of that occasion.



I can't put names to many but, 4th from left is Richard Hole, 5th from left is Eddie Brown (alias Ted Davies), Back left is Godfrey Lancashire, over Joyce's shoulder is Brian Rees, between Joyce and Walter is Chris Etherington, to the right of Walter is Ian Burch, next is John Saville, Extreme right is ?Hardy. The others are either using their glasses to hide their identity or are older Southfielders who I didn't know.

I have a couple more which I will dig out and let you have.

Best wishes.
Chris Etherington

Richard LOVEYS (1952 - 1959) richard_loveys@yahoo.co.uk

I have just seen with great pleasure the Southfield House picture in the newsletter. I can tell you who the Not Knowns are. On the left is David Perry, whose older brother is on the right of the picture. The one next to Dickie Duckett is Roger Ballard, his younger brother came to Southfield a year or two after this picture was taken. The one with a ? is Graham Allen - whose excellent website you mention.

Thanks for the addresses of the other websites, terrific !

Best wishes

Richard Loveys

I K BRYANT, *Onslow Cottage, 9 Dorchester Road, Sydling St Nicholas, Dorchester DT2 9NU*
Tel : 01300 341382

? The Oldest Hardyean ?

In the Winter Issue of the Hardyans Newsletter there was an item from Bob Mills relating to the death of George Foley, and questioning whether he (Bob) is the oldest surviving member of the 1933/34 sixth form and how many Old Hardyans are over 85. My brother, Colin Bryant, will be 91 on July 21st and lives in Sussex. I shall be 88 on July 20th and live still in Sydling St Nicholas. Both my brother and I used to cycle from Upper Sydling where my father farmed to catch the train from Maiden Newton to Dorchester. In 1934 we moved to Lamperts Farm in the village as tenants of Winchester College (who then owned most of the village). I took over the tenancy from my father and farmed there until I retired in 1986 and moved to the house next door, where my wife and I still live,

Yours sincerely,

I K Bryant

Nigel NEWBERY

Reunion

In each of the past four years I have organised a reunion of my year - the 1953 entry. In recent months a lot of research has been carried out relating to the 1952 entry. The upshot is that on 12th May there will be a reunion at Dorchester Rugby Club where there will be 24 - 1952 entrants, 18 - 1953 entrants and 6 - 1954 entrants. With wives added the total attendance will be 75 (includes both Bob Rensch and John Pearson) plus Peter & Jill Lewendon.

[Editor: We hope for a report for the next edition of the Newsletter]

Nigel SHERRING_Rock Cottage, Casterton LA6 2SF 015242 71257_

I was pleased to see in Issues 100 and 101 that Alan Costello, Ernie Middle and Roger Taunton Rigby are still around. We all travelled by train from Radipole Halt to Hardyes each day. My brother Dr Chris Sherring also used that train. He is a physicist in Princeton, New Jersey, not far from R Taunton Rigby who is I believe an Architect in Boston, Mass (My son is an architect in New York). I am retired and live near Kendal, Cumbria. I think there are only 2 other Old Hardyans in the county - the higher the fewer!

Nigel Sherring (1951-57)

Newsletter Distribution - Important Information

Several Newsletters ago the Membership Secretary made an appeal for those members who have email to submit their details so that the Newsletter could be sent electronically, thereby saving a great deal in paper and the cost of postage. Members without email capability were advised that they could opt to continue to receive a paper version. Sadly many members have not responded despite repeated attempts to ascertain their wishes. If the Membership Secretary does not hear from you NOW you may stop getting your newsletter through default. Also please check the Lost Legion Page on the club website at www.hardyyearsclub.com, some members have changed their e-mail addresses without advising us and consequently no longer receive the electronic version. **PLEASE contact Peter Powell, Membership Secretary** (address on page 2 or by email at courtproduction@aol.com) The list of members Peter is waiting to hear from is as below:-

Allard M.	Fox W.B.	Lush G.	Stark R.M
Andrews Paul	Fox Lewis	Malpas R.	Stark A J R
Bainbridge S.R.	Gaskarth M.	Mardon Ian	Stevens A
Barnett D R	Giles J.	Marshall S.R.	Strong T.A.
Barrett P.A.	Gosling C D	McGregor D L	Tarassenko L.
Barrett P.A.	Gosling A	Meaden W.F.	Taylor A C
Barriball C.R.	Goss Sam	Meaden M.W.J.	Taylor B G
Bartlett Dr P D	Grassby N.D.	Meech D	Taylor R.S.
Bate R.C.	Gray Kenneth	Meyers M.L.	Teague R.
Bedingfield P.S	Green C H P	Miller A E	Terry C
Beling C D	Gregory H L J	Millett R.C.	Thomas D.B.
Beling J.C.	Grigsby M.A.	Minchin P.E.	Thomas M.A.
Bird R.C	Groombridge R.	Mitchard M.	Thorne F.
Bishop A.	Hakes Dr J A	Morley J.R.	Trotman H.J.
Board M.C.	Hall J.A.	Morris S.	True Russell
Boulter J.D.	Harris R.	Moxom D.J.	True M.
Brake H.	Harris P.J.	Oddy J.F.	Truman W.E.
Bratby R.W.	Harris S.C.	Old P.C.	Tuck A
Brinsley Sheridan B	Hartnell M.L.J.	Page M.C.	Turner C E
Broughton L.W.B.	Hatcher R.W.	Palmer N.H.	Turner.RN Capt R M
Brown D.H.B.	Heard R.	Parry R.D.	Umbers R.B.
Brown I.M.	Hedger T.M.	Parsons D.J.	Uncles W.J.
Brown N.L.	Hereward A	Parsons F.W.J.	Venton OBE P.
Budd M.K.	Hiscock E.A.	Paxman Rev D J	Vize Miss A
Burdle D S	Hiscocks R.H.	Pearce Lt Cdr K N	Waite M.M.
Burgess M.J.	Hodges J.D.	Perks J.S.	Walker Nick
Cannon A R	Holcombe J.	Phillips D W F	
Carter T.W.O.	Holland A J	Phipps AH	
Chaney D	Holt B J	Pitfield F.	
Clarke N.J.	Hooper E.S.	Pitman D W	
Cleaver M.	Horsington P.T.	Pope J.R.	
Cole G.	Houghton P.R.	Smith N.R.	
Comeley D P	House P.J.	Smith Jon	
Coombe M.J.	Hume S.A.	Smith J.	
Cousins C.J.	Hunting P.L.	Smith C.J.B.	
Cove R.	Hutchings K.	Snelling M.R.	
Culver D.A.	Hutchinson J.L.	Southerington F.	
Cutler S.J.	Loveys Jervois	Spriggs C.J.	
Darby M.	Loving J.	Stanley R.J.	

From the Headteacher

Examination time is upon us again. It is the very nature of this Government that they want students to be examined all of the time, preferably from before they leave the womb. It is highly questionable whether weighing a pig constantly makes it any heavier but that is the assessment policy we seem to be following in schools today.

The pressure of success on the school is quite invidious and every year we approach the examinations with some trepidation that this might be the year when we fall from our lofty perch. Perhaps this feeling should be called the 'Chelsea Effect' as we learn like their manager that whilst we may be special we are not unique. Time will tell – the league tables never lie.

As well as the usual frantic rush to complete coursework and convince students it is worth doing some work for the examinations, much else continues. We have students going to Honduras, China, Egypt and Kenya over the next few months and we have just said goodbye to exchange students from Spain, Germany and France.

The new sports centre and learning resource centre (library to me and you) is moving rapidly towards completion and the new nursery will also open on time in September.

The school is now designated as High Performing by the Government and is one of two in the whole country with five specialist areas of expertise. We are justly proud of this achievement.

We are now into the cricket season, hence the pouring rain. The young men who are lucky enough to be visiting the West Indies later in the year are working hard to raise the necessary funds. The support of the Club with this tour is, as ever, greatly appreciated. Also in the next few days the Hardyans Trustees meet to select their next candidate for a Higher Education Bursary. Both of these are clear indicators of the wonderful and constant support the school receives from the Club.

We also finally making some headway with the new swimming pool and while progress is still slow I am cautiously optimistic. Once again I would like to thank so many of you who gave support; I know it did much to change the minds of those involved. I will keep you informed on this next important development for the school.

It was a pleasure to attend the Hardyans Dinner on March 17th and to welcome your new President into the school. Of course Hugh Griffiths is no stranger to us and seeing him accept this role can only do more to cement the links between the two organisations.

Dr I E Melvin

LONDON DINNER 13th November 2007 At Lords.

Godfrey Lancashire has made a provisional booking at **Lords Cricket Ground** . Numbers are restricted to 48. Transport will leave Dorchester at 3pm. Please book early so as not to be disappointed. Anticipated cost £50.00 per person. Extras include a guided tour of the Museum etc, depending on numbers and timing. Dinner will be 7 for 7.30pm. Please intimate your requirements.

Name.....

Tour (extra)..... Dinner Only £50.00.....Transport required.....

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

Phone no for further details:01305 265446

Please enclose stamped addressed envelope

HARDYEANS' CLUB
THE DORCHESTER THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL

Minutes of a meeting of the Hardyans' Club Annual General Meeting on Saturday 17 March 2007 at 5:30 pm in the School 6th Form Centre.

Members Present: John Pearson, Hugh Griffiths, Colin Lucas, Bob Rench, Alf Barrett, Peter Powell, John Stephenson, Gordon Crocker, Michel Hooper-Immins, Norman Baker, Peter and Heather Foster

1. **Apologies for Absence** were received from Godfrey Lancashire, David Lacey and Peter Lewendon
2. **Minutes of Annual General Meeting of 18 March 2006** – these were approved and signed.
3. President's remarks – John Pearson reported that he was at the end of his term of office which he had enjoyed greatly. He commented favourably upon the regular monthly lunches, the Centenary and Annual Dinner at the school and two most enjoyable ones since, and the immensely successful London Dinners, with grateful thanks to Hugh Griffiths and to Godfrey Lancashire for last year's new venue at Lords. He updated members upon the growing success of the Charitable Trust which means that the club will now be supporting five students at any one time. This has been enhanced by a generous bursary by the Society of Dorset Men and also the legacy of the late George Foley of £12,500 which has assured sufficient interest for a second annual bursary.

The president thanked the council and its officers for their work during the year, and mentioned, in particular, the labours of Colin Lucas who, apart from all his other strong support, is continuing to hold the fort pending the appointment of a new treasurer.

John wished his successor, Professor Hugh Griffiths, success in his forthcoming period as president, and presented him with the president's badge of office.

4. Chairman's Report – Bob Rench reported upon the past year and the current membership. He called again for the need to appoint a new treasurer, and commented upon the success of the club against the school in the annual cricket match, and hoped this year that golf and hockey might be able to be played. Bob informed members also that the council had donated £250 towards the school's forthcoming cricket tour in Barbados.
5. Treasurer's Report – Colin Lucas presented his report upon income and expenditure for the council's year ending 31 December 2006 and circulated his account to members. The club is currently in a healthy position. There was slight dismay respecting the cost of the school minibus for this year's London Dinner. The secretary reported that this was a matter which could doubtless be negotiated further for next year. Colin informed members that the venue for this year's London Dinner was as yet undecided, in view of the substantial extra cost applied this year by Lords. Gordon Crocker offered an alternative suggestion of The Royal Over-Seas Club. It was agreed that the cheque for £250 should be presented to the school at the meal following the meeting. The president thanked Colin most sincerely for his report.
6. Election of Officers and Council Members – It was proposed and agreed that officers and council members should be re-elected en bloc.
7. Newsletter Circulation – The secretary informed members that the current membership stood at eight hundred and sixty-two, comprising four hundred and seventy-two who receive email, seventy-two who receive normal post and three hundred and eighteen school leavers from 2006. Discussion followed respecting the 'lost legion' cohort of two hundred and twenty-two. There had been no response to either of the two letters sent to their last known address. It was agreed that the names of these two hundred and twenty-two persons should be included in the next newsletter in the hope that someone might have some contact information respecting them.
8. Charitable Association – Further to the remarks tendered by John Pearson earlier in the meeting, John reported that John Stephenson was retiring from his post as a Trustee of the Association. John paid great tribute to John Stephenson whose brainchild the Association had been, and who had been its driving force. John Pearson thanked him for his generosity, time and imagination, and the Association he had inspired had helped to forge excellent club/school relationships. John furnished a comprehensive copy of the Association's work during the year.
9. Date of the next AGM – 15 March 2008

THE HARDYEANS CLUB CHARITABLE ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the seventh Annual General Meeting held at the V1th form Centre The Thomas Hardy School Dorchester on Saturday 17th March 2007

Present.

A.R.Rench C.W.Lucas C.G.Crocker J.A. Stephenson D. J.Lacey J.J.Pearson Mrs E.M. Keats . H.Griffiths

1. Apologies.

Mrs J. Salt I.B. Brown G.W.Lancashire.

2. Minutes.

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held 18th March 2006, having been circulated with the May Newsletter, were proposed for adoption by C.W. Lucas and seconded by J. J. Pearson and agreed nem con.

3. Matters Arising.

There were none

4. Chairman's Report.

The chairman presented a full and comprehensive report appendix 1. See web site

5. Presentation of Accounts.

The Secretary distributed a full and complete set of accounts prepared for the last time by Leigh Meyers who has now retired as Treasurer see appendix 2. See web site It was again expressed in glowing terms of appreciation how well, Leigh and his staff at Edwards & Keeping, had helped to launch this Charity and maintain the records so efficiently during its formative years. Grateful appreciation was accorded to them . It was with pleasure that the Secretary announced that Stephen J. Gould had agreed to his nomination as Treasurer.

6. Report to the Charity Commissioners.

It was agreed that this be authorised as in previous years.

7. Election of Officers.

It was proposed by J.J.Pearson and seconded by A.R.Rench and agreed nem con that the following Officers be elected en bloc

Secretary	Colin W.Lucas
Treasurer	Stephen J. Gould
Investments	Ian B. Brown.

8. Election of Trustees.

Following the retirement of Major General John A. Stephenson., the President elect of the Club Professor Hugh Griffiths was elected in his stead nem con. Tributes were paid to John Stephenson for the tremendous contribution he had made both to the School as Governor and to the Club as Past President. Indeed this very Charity was his "brain child" and his sterling work in achieving the establishment of this charity will never be forgotten

9. Annual Report by the Chairman.

I will take Items 6 (Future Funding) and Item 7 (Publicity) together in this report if I may. A good year with receipts just under sixteen and a half thousand pounds received from donations and investment income. This exceptional figure was, of course, boosted by the legacy of George Foley who died a year ago. This means that we are now in a position to offer a second annual bursary each year in perpetuity in addition to the generous sponsorship of a three year bursary from the Society of Dorset Men made this past year. So hopefully we shall be sending out 5 cheques to five deserving students at least for the next 3 years. This year also saw the increase in value of each bursary to £575. Our total assets for investment are now standing at just under £60,000. A creditable achievement in seven years.

My thanks to my fellow trustees for their support and help and particularly Ian Brown of Charles Stanley for his interest and advice. I am sorry we have not found a replacement Treasurer for the Association and we will probably have to pay a professional accountant to carry out the job which will have to be paid from the income account and slow the time till a third bursary can be affordable. Nevertheless, we lose Leigh Meyers, our Treasurer, at this AGM, and formally thank him for his marvelous work in setting up and guiding the very firm basis we have in the Association Accounts from the financial point of view.

Future Funding – mainly an appeal to local companies – we stated this was our intention last year and progress has been made, albeit slowly, to agree the sort of approach and to whom. We are sharing in another Dorchester Area Schools Partnership concert to be given on Saturday 30th June at the school and we shall drip feed the Newsletter and Website with reminders of the Association and fund as opportunity presents itself.

You will remember that we discussed occasional changes of trustees to keep a healthy and rolling trusteeship. John Stephenson, a founder member of the Association, has announced that it was his intention to retire and not seek re-election at this AGM. We owe everything to him for his vision, imagination and sheer hard work in getting the Association underway and in many ways giving the Hardyans Club a worthy 'raison d'être' and thus establishing a much closer relationship with the School. John, thank you from your co-trustees for your wise and enthusiastic counsel and whilst we may not see so much of you – we know you will be closely watching this facet of the Club. In John's place we are inviting Hugh Griffiths to join us as a trustee.