

The Hardyans' Club

TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Hardy's School, Dorchester, Dorset

Newsletter

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Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor

Hardyans' Club Information

Hardyans' Club Newsletter

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

SOUTH WALKS HOUSE JUNE 1949

See You Write for more information - (Bob Rowland)



WOLLASTON HOUSE 1958 - FIFTY YEARS ON!



MONTHLY LUNCHEONS: Last Thursday of the month, except December, 12.30pm for 1pm at the Conservative Club, South Walks, Dorchester. Please contact Colin LUCAS if you intend to come (Tel: 01305 265446)
NB April and October luncheons feature a Gourmet Menu at £15 per head. ALWAYS EXCELLENT VALUE !!

ARMISTICE DAY COMMEMORATION Tuesday 11th November, 10.30am at the School Gates, Queens Avenue.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH - Friday 19th December 2008 12.30pm for 1pm at the Conservative Club. £13.00 approx
Please book place(s) with Colin Lucas

LONDON DINNER - This is scheduled to take place Friday 7th November at the House of Commons, arranged by Roger Gale MP. Due to very early booking required (10th June) members on email were canvassed and all available places snapped up. The only advice is to contact Tony Day for inclusion on a list for 'returns', as your Editor has!

CRICKET MATCH - Club v The School was due to take place in July, but was cancelled due to inclement weather.

NOW WE ALL HAVE BUS PASSES..... **by Michel Hooper-Immins**

We began at Wollaston House in September 1958, the start of our secondary education at Hardye's School and returned fifty years later - to the very day - to relive memories of those long-lost days and renew some of the many friendships made at school. Now we are all bus pass holders, but many of the faces were still recognisable, even if we had got rather bigger, fatter and [in some] slightly deficient in hair over the half century!

On Friday 19 September, 17 of us gathered again outside Wollaston House, 50 years to the day since we started there! From Bucharest, New Zealand, Suffolk, Derby, Oxford and Dorset, the class of '58 came together for a remarkable reunion, excellently organised and planned by Colin Smith.

Today, Wollaston House - at the corner of Durngate Street and Acland Road in Dorchester - is the headquarters of the National Farmers Union and the Dorset County Show with a new name - Agriculture House. Wollaston House had ceased to be Hardye's junior school in the 1970s, when the new Thomas Hardye School in Queen's Avenue took over

from the old Dorchester Grammar School in Culliford Road, renamed Hardye's School in 1954. Thanks to the NFU, the class of '58 enjoyed a tour of the house - trying to remember exactly which rooms our forms inhabited. Now was this 2c or 2b? As adults, we wondered how 20 of us could have sat in the seemingly small rooms - but of course we were much smaller then!

That evening, 34 of the class of '58 came to the Colliton Club for a more formal reunion, with a super buffet provided. There were old photographs to be pored over, so many names came tumbling out - many memories of 1958, when the world was very different. One of those long school photographs, taken by the late Graham Herbert in 1959, held fascinating memories of other classmates and schoolmasters. Names came flooding back. Sadly, a few have left this world, but quite a few are still in contact.

Some I had not seen since leaving Hardye's in 1965, but some of us have remained friends and in warm contact over five decades. I thought it remarkable how little changed many of our faces were from 50 years ago. We promised another reunion in five years time, but maybe we will meet again before that.

Front Page picture details:

Some of the class of '58 outside Wollaston House, fifty years to the day since they all started there! [left to right:] Michel Hooper-Immins, Clive Dickinson, Jonathan Pullen, Peter Kerle, Stuart Hargreaves, Peter Foster, Alan Potter, David Lacey, Colin Smith, Richard Sonley, Tony Salt, Hugh Meyers, Colin Foot, Alan Attryde, Jeff Hallett, Gavin Easton, John Hawthorne, Stephen Gould.

THE EDITOR WRITES

Was it really 50 years ago that some 90 or so nervous 11 year olds in our brand new Hardye's School uniforms arrived at Wollaston House at the start of our long association with the school ? It was good to be back, and all attending were in fine fettle. Elsewhere in this issue, Michel Hooper-Immins, our Press Officer, reports on the splendid 58 reunion, at the Colliton Club. A surplus arose from the venue charge, which included the draw, and two of the draw ticket winners donated the surplus to a charity of their choice.

Our picture shows Colin 'Smudger' Smith handing over a cheque for the Weldmar Hospice to Caroline Nickinson at Joseph Weld House. The picture was taken by a member of the hospice staff. Warmest thanks to Smudger and his organising team and to all for making this such a memorable school event. There is a picture and feature on the '58 reunion in the Dorset Echo, issue dated 24th September 2008. The '58 boys will be back in town on 5th December, at Tom Brown's, 7.30pm !



HARDYEANS AT SHERBORNE

From Paul HADLEY tphadley@shaw.ca

A small lunch gathering of Old Hardyeans took place on August 13th at the Eastbury Hotel in Sherborne. The event was organised by Ron (Major) Clark, bringing together 6 friends (Ron Clark, Paul Hadley, John Mainwaring, Roland Mason, Ray Fooks & Michael Lambden) from the old grammar school all of whom were pupils during the years 1942 – 1949. The 6 were active in sport whilst at school and continued to take part in later years. All had played rugby for the school's 1st Fifteen. Widely spread now over Southern England and abroad, after lunch each were invited to sum up in 5 minutes, the last 60 years of their lives. This proved most interesting and entertaining. Sadly, with an age group well into the 70's many fond memories were recalled of school friends and masters who are no longer with us.



From left to right:

Margie Hadley, Michael Lambden,
John Mainwaring, Ron Clark,
Michele Clark, Paul Hadley, Joan
Lambden, Ray Fooks, Roland
Mason & Marion Mainwaring.
(Unfortunately the spouses of Ray
Fooks & Roland Mason were unable
to attend.)

It was agreed the reunion was a great success and Roland Mason, living in a beautiful part of Devon, has already commenced plans for next year near his home. Roland would love to hear from any Old Grammarians of the same years, who could join a similar reunion next year in Devon. Contact him by email at rolanddawemason@aol.com.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Nigel Newbery

From Friday 13th June we will be moving to the following address:
20 Hurn Lane, Keynsham, Bristol, BS31 1RP. Tel. No. 0117 9869369
my new Email address is: nigelandann@blueyonder.co.uk

Best Wishes, Nigel & Ann

YOU WRITE Thanks to Chairman & Membership Secretary Bob RENCH for forwarding some of these:

From: Owen DAVIES [mailto:Owen.Davies@devonport.co.uk]

Many thanks for this. An excellent and moving read on many levels: a proud past, a highly laudable present and a confident view of the future.

I joined the Submarine Service in 1976 and soon came across Tony Barber but I had no idea he was also an OH. To say he had a rich line in dit spinning (telling stories to the non submariners amongst us) would be the understatement of the millennium. Great company - never forgotten.

Owen Davies

From: Geoff GOSLING Gdgosling@aol.com

I attended Hardye's from 1958 to 1965.

Here is a short update on my activities since leaving Hardye's. I graduated in civil engineering from the University of

Birmingham in 1968 and worked for the consulting engineers Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners in London and Hong Kong until 1974, when I moved to California to go to graduate school in transportation engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. After getting my Ph.D. in 1979, I remained at the university teaching and doing research, mostly in air transportation and airport planning, for the next 23 years. I left the university in 2002 and have been working since then as an independent consultant in aviation system planning, doing a combination of consulting and research for a variety of clients, including government agencies, airport authorities, and a number of research programs. My wife, Katie, grew up in Southern California. We met when she moved to Berkeley to work in the city planning department in 1986 and we married two years later. I have stayed in touch with a couple of close friends from my days at Hardye's, Richard Cummins and Stuart Dewey (also 1958 to 1965).

Sincerely,
Geoffrey Gosling, 805 Colusa Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707-1838, USA tel: +1 510-524-1135

From: Brian HULSE [mailto:hulse.brian@ntlworld.com]

Many thanks for the Club Newsletter which I found most interesting and was my first since being 'rediscovered'! I wonder how many of my contemporaries of 70+ years ago are still to be found amongst the Club members, or indeed are still living in Dorchester or the County. I recall the names of Burden, Tilling, Screen, Boon, Batten, Sparrow, Diament and Lee, some of whom probably had children or grandchildren who where/still are pupils of DGS or the 'Green' School or Hardyes. I look forward to the Autumn issue in due course.

BRIAN HULSE O.B.E. (1934-1938)

From: Roland MASON Rolanddawemason@aol.com

Thank you for sending the Hardyeans letter.
It's good to keep in touch even though I rarely find myself in Dorset.

Best wishes
Roland Mason (see also page 3)

From: LRN MILLS bob.mills@btinternet.com

[Re Previous issue]
Tom Woodward was a contemporary of mine, and would have been at DGS from the late 20's to early 30's.
Not many of our vintage left.

Regards
L.R.N.(Bob) Mills

Major R S (Bob) ROWLAND Hawthorns, 23 St Michael's Walk, Eye, Peterborough, PE5 7XG Tel 01733-223054
sent in the front page photograph of South Walks house in 1949. Here are the details as he knows them (see also Edition 105)

Back Row- Left to Right

Tilney-Basset, Skinner, ?, Roger Rowland, John Rawlins, Jukes, Peter? Bugg, ?, Foster, P.Phillips, Viv Hancock, ?, Bacon, ?,

Middle Row- Left to Right

?, John Newman, Nat? Marsh, Shaw, Shardlow, Bob Rowland, Harry Pouncey, Bernard V. Heathcote, R. Mundy, Vinny Dean., D. Mundy, O'Riordon, ???,

Front Row- Left to Right

Cowper, R.Dean, Eric Davies, ???, H.J.Hale, Mrs Hale, Mr Johnson, Gaunt, Dell, Les Tite.

Comments

Back Row - I seem to remember that there were two Buggs whose father was serving with mine somewhere on the south coast.

Middle Row - I think that Harry Pouncey was from a fairly local farming family. Bernard Heathcote, my particular pal at school, went on to work with Boots Chemists in a fairly senior capacity. The Dean brothers were sons of a doctor and lived (I think) in Shillingstone.

I met O'Riordon in the Army some years later, either in Catterick or Northern Ireland.

Front Row - Eric Davies was the school high jump champion for a number of years. May have been Head Boy and was certainly head prefect at South Walks. I think that the lady on the House Master's right was his mother? I can vaguely remember that H. John Hale came out of the Army and became house master, married the young lady on his left and who had fairly recently had the baby. I can remember Mr Johnson's face but absolutely nothing about him. I'm certain that Les Tite was another local farmer's son.

From: **Martin SCOTT** [mailto:emartinscott@yahoo.com]

Having just completed an extremely busy year in London as The Master of the Honourable Company of Master Mariners, a City of London livery company, My Wife Carole and I are looking forward to a few really quiet years which hopefully will include visits to Dorset and some social revival with OH's and my Uncle who lives in Bradford Peverell.

Martin Scott (1953-54)

From: **Richard SONLEY** [mailto:Richard.Sonley@orh.nhs.uk]

Many thanks for re-sending the Newsletter. Very much appreciated and most interesting with some names from the past! I was in the 1958 to 1965 intake with Michel and Peter and indeed we have met up on a number of occasions in recent years. I'm also one of the geriatric cycling group with Colin Smith, Colin Squibb, Clive Dickinson and Simon Frampton, all of the same vintage.

Very best wishes,
Richard Sonley.

Fred (F J) THOMAS 1938-45) gillie.thomas4@tesco.net

sent in a very interesting booklet produced for the Distribution of Prizes, February 27th 1940, by the Headmaster of Bryanston School, T F Coade, Esq, MA. It includes the Honours List 1938-39, Prize List 1938-39, Officers' Training Corps report of the War Office Inspection July 1939, as follows: Drill and Weapon Training were noted as Satisfactory. However Tactical Training was recorded as 'below average. This is due to the influx of additional cadets, which necessitates all available time being given over to their elementary training.'

Discipline and Turn Out and Arms & Equipment were all recorded as 'good'.

The House Cup was won by Lock House and the booklet ends with the School Song :-

The Original Foundation

The monks in days of old, The torch of learning bore. Waking, toiling, souls assailing
Praying, teaching, heav'nward reaching ----- Work went hand in hand with lore
Labores varii : unus amor

Thomas Hardye, 1569

In days of Good Queen Bess, Men lived the truth no less. One in whom the flame was burning
Built anew our seat of learning. Once again within the door
Labores varii : unus amor

The New School

So we in school today Still use the ancient way. Many tasks and varied pleasure
Fit us for life's work and leisure, One the goal our eyes before
Labores varii : unus amor

The Future

But Lo! Beyond the gates The imperious future waits - Calls to serve the State, the City,
Church or Letters, Commerce, Pity, Music Art or Learning's store
Labores varii : unus amor

Unus Amor

O Wisdom, priceless gift, To thee our hearts we lift, Thro' the years, whate'er their calling,
Thou shall keep thy sons from falling : Tuum, Sapientia cor...
Labores varii : unus amor

Philip H Morton, 1938

[More from this intriguing document if possible next time]

OBITUARIES

John BISS died 12th August 2008 aged 85.

Barry LEYLAND saw the notice in the Times of 16th August and writes: ..I vaguely remember a John Biss at School when I first joined DGS in 1940. He must have been in the 6th form then and I was in the lowly second form. I recall a tall, slim, good-looking boy, full of enthusiasm, maybe House Captain of Pope. He left school in the following year, probably went straight into the armed forces and became a member of that "heroes in our time" generation, of which there were so many 18-19 year olds straight from school.

Whatever became of boys/young men who left school in 1940/41, such as Dunsdon, Jimmy Priddle, Colclough, Westlake, Ginger Marks, Spiller, Richard Frost, and of course Henry Tilling who corresponds regularly ? Perhaps you can ask the question in the next newsletter

FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I cannot count myself a viewer of 'A Place In the Sun - Home and Away' a Channel 4 programme on Friday evenings. I am however grateful to the colleagues who telephoned me with great excitement to tell me that the presenter had showed some prospective house buyers around Dorchester and informed them that the town had the added benefit of being the location of one of the top twenty schools in the country - The Thomas Hardy School !

It is a mystery to me how the programme makers knew that our most recent results were the best ever. The Guardian newspaper ranked us 8th in the list of the highest performing comprehensive schools - so technically Channel 4 was incorrect in its description. A stunning 87.6% of our students gained 5A* - C grades, 76% including English, and mathematics. It is easy to claim that examinations are easy these days but young people can only pass the examinations that are placed in front of them and our students achieve this with great aplomb

Similarly, our sixth form results placed in the highest echelons of achievement with successful A level and International Baccalaureate candidates fanning out to the very best universities in this country.

At all levels the school performed exceptionally well this year and as we embark again upon the search for my successor the successful candidate will be confronted by a very high achievement school that expects to get the best results for its young people.

One of the highlights for me at the end of last term was the Southfield House reunion which took place on July 9th. I was honoured to welcome so many old boys into the school and I believe they enjoyed their tour with the sixth form students. The event in the evening at the King's Arms was excellent and it was a real pleasure to meet people such as Dickie Duckett and re-acquainted with Robin Wallace. I believe that the event was masterminded by Chris Etherington, John Saville and Godfrey Lancashire and I am grateful to them and others for the memorabilia they donated to the school including the Dormitory Cup, the Sedgewick Shield and some highly amusing reports by various head prefects. For me perhaps the most evocative material were the photographs that Godfrey and others had collected, they showed a time of school caps, gabardines and satchels that has now departed forever. Well done and thank you gentlemen.

The Centenary Dinner of the CCF held at Lulworth Barracks was another example of the longevity and tradition of the school. There are very few that can claim a Corps with 100 years service and Lt.Col Skinner and his colleagues produced an evening to remember. The importance of tradition was so well exemplified by the presence of John Stephenson who mentioned in his self-effacing way, that he had joined the corps 70 years ago this year - quite remarkable and a testimony to what this school is all about.

Dr I E Melvin