

# The Hardyens' Club

TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS

*Hardye's School, Dorchester, Dorset*

## Newsletter Autumn 2011 : Issue 115

Published Winter, Spring and Autumn

Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor

### The President Writes:-

**Tony and Julia Moore** retired at the end of August and were made Honorary Members of the Hardyens Club. A Deputy Headmaster since he joined Hardye's School in 1984, Tony retired as Head of the Sixth Form. With Dr. Iain Melvin, Mr. Moore has organised the iconic annual Remembrance Day parade, when the whole school usually parades outside the memorial gates. His wife Julia has been the Sixth Form Co-Ordinator, giving valued advice to the Trustees of the Hardyens Club Charitable Trust. Both have been great supporters of the Old Hardyens and we appreciate their help.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES**

**MONTHLY LUNCHEONS.** For some eleven years, Old Hardyens have been meeting every last Thursday of the month at the Dorchester Conservative Club. With the sad closure of the clubroom at the end of August, a new venue is currently being sought. At the last lunch there on 25 August, Conservative Club Chairman Les Cuff warmly thanked the Old Hardyens for their loyal support of the club over a decade or more. Old Hardyens' President Michel Hooper-Immins replied that the standard of the food, drink and the welcome had all been outstanding, expressing his sadness that the club was closing. When a new venue has been chosen, we will publish it widely.

**Monday 14 November.** The 2011 London Dinner is being held in the prestigious House of Commons Dining Room, by kind invitation of Roger Gale, MP for Thanet North, pictured below, who attended Hardye's from 1955 to 1962. The event should be fully booked by the time this *Newsletter* is published, but Treasurer Alan Brown [01202 535034] will know of any last minute vacancies.



Roger GALE, MP

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I am delighted to announce that Dorchester-born **Rt. Rev. Michael Perham** MA, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, has accepted my invitation to be the guest speaker at our **2012 Annual Reunion Dinner**. Michael was at Hardye's School from 1959 to 1964, a near contemporary of mine and Peter Foster's, who were in the year above. We hope Michael Foley, the new Headmaster at Thomas Hardye School, will accept our invitation to attend and speak. The Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday 17 March 2012 at the Sixth Form Centre of Thomas Hardye School, Coburg Road, Dorchester at 8pm.

Full details and the cost will appear in the next *Newsletter*.

If you can't wait until then contact Treasurer Alan Brown at 40 Valette Road, Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 3JD, to reserve your place. Telephone 01202 535034; email: [alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com](mailto:alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com)

All Old Hardyens send sincere Get Well wishes to our esteemed Chairman **Colin Lucas**, who has recently been in hospital. The powerhouse of all matters Old Hardyean, typically the first thing Colin asked me, when I telephoned to check he was out of hospital, was about the Hardyens Club.

**Congratulations to Lucy Compton** of Upwey, on being chosen by the readers of the Dorset Echo as the 2011 Carnival Queen. Her father Paul is well known as the owner of White Motor Boats, which operate out of Weymouth Harbour. Lucy studied at Thomas Hardye School and currently is reading Human Geography at Aberystwyth

## Hardyeans' Club Information

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Hardyeans' Club Website : [www.hardyeansclub.com](http://www.hardyeansclub.com)

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

### **OXFORD LUNCHESES/DINNERS at EXETER COLLEGE**

Your Editor was delighted to hear from George WELCH, following up the mention in the last newsletter of the possibility of re-starting the tradition of a Hardyeans' Oxford Dinner (or Lunch) at Exeter College. George advises that he has had five responses to the proposal. So for the moment this idea is on hold. Please watch the Newsletter for any further developments. Please feel free to contact the Editor who will pass on any contact details.

### **ANNUAL CRICKET MATCH - Club v The School - 13th July-**

**OLD HARDYEANS WIN AT CRICKET AGAINST THE SCHOOL- AGAIN!** by Colin Lucas

The Old Hardyeans won the annual cricket match against the Thomas Hardye School by 24 runs in the usual 30 over match.

First to bat, the old boys were uncertain as to how the wicket would perform. This caused openers Simon Joslin and Peter Moxom to exercise a certain amount of caution. A sure and steady start took the score along to 27, before the loss of the first wicket. A slick catch by Nick Burgess sent Simon Joslin back to the players area- no pavilion!- having scored only nine runs.

Pete Moxom was joined at the crease by Dan Belt and together they consolidated the score to 63, before Moxom was clean bowled by Rob Baney for 39.

Belt was joined by Tony Foot who, whilst spending three or four overs at the crease, only contributed one run. However Belt continued to plunder the School's bowling and was finally caught at mid on having contributed 30 runs, including five boundaries.

Josh Foot and Martin Richards continued to thrash the tiring School bowlers, who were unable to penetrate the attack by the old boys, who took the score to 163, Foot ending with 33 and Richards 35 not out. A goodly target for the School to chase.

It is interesting to note that Tony Foot, the old boys' Sports Officer has played for the side continuously since 1976. Two games were rained-off, so he has played 33 times for the Old Hardyeans against the School. This has to be a record - well done Tony!

Captain Tony Foot, aware the School side were endowed with some considerable batting talent, knew they were to be treated with respect. He decided to open the bowling with wily veteran David Trotter and Don Floyd. The success of that decision was reflected in Trotter bowling six overs, four of which were maidens and conceding only 12 runs in a commendable performance, very ably supported by Don Floyd who took 2 for 20 in six overs. A very satisfactory start. Although Cameron Armfield [14] and Henry Lewis [16] made valid contributions, the School side did not look comfortable at 46 for 3. The innings needed some stability and this was provided by Marcus Evans and Steve Tucker, who put on 53 runs for the fourth wicket partnership.

At this point the match was finely balanced. Astute captaincy brought on Pete Moxom, whose second over was a wicket maiden. He was well supported by Dan Belt. Both bowled six overs- Moxom 4 for 17, Belt 1 for 24. This was enough to see the Old Hardyeans XI safely home, with the Thomas Hardye School all out for 143.

Umpires Geraint Hughes and the evergreen Frank Dike conducted the match with the decorum it deserved. The School XI showed much promise and could well be a side to be reckoned with next year.



*The Thomas Hardy School XI [left] and the Old Hardyans XI [right:]*  
*[back:] Toby Mason, Joe Prior, Cameron Armfield, Steve Tucker, Rob Baney, Lewis Chutter, Colin Lucas [Chairman of the Old Hardyans,] Tony Foot, Mark Derrien, David Trotter, Simon Joslin, Martin Richards, Dan Belt, Frank Dike [Umpire,] John Pearson [Past President of the Old Hardyans.]*  
*[front:] Nick Burgess, Dan Evans, Marcus Evans, Henry Lewis, Sam Roles, Steve Voss, Tim Bowden, Pete Moxom, Josh Foot, Don Floyd.*

*Photograph by Michel Hooper-Immins.*

**You Write** *Membership Secretary Bob Rench and Webmaster Terry Stone* forwarded some of the following

This came in to the Webmaster, we believe Steve Allen is a member.

**From: Steve ALLEN** [mailto:steveallen31@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 03, 2011 8:13 AM

On 17th August Paj (my son) and I are cycling to Land's End from Sandhurst, a distance of 280 miles. We plan to do it in 4 days, cycling 70 miles a day and arriving on 20th August.

We would like to use this opportunity to raise funds for the charity Step by Step and wondered if you could help? You can sponsor us so many pence per mile, or donate a lump sum. Step By Step is a charity for homeless young people aged 16 to 25. To find out about this really worthwhile charity, visit [www.stepbystep.org.uk](http://www.stepbystep.org.uk)

If you want to sponsor us or make a contribution, you can follow this link :

<http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SteveAllen1>.

I work for this charity and can tell you that any money raised will be going to a very worthwhile cause. The experiences and stories our young people have to tell would shock and horrify many people.

Many thanks and wish us luck, especially where sore bums are concerned!

Steve and Paj xx

Follow us on Facebook - Stephen Lindley Allen

**From: Andrew MacTAVISH** [mailto:ajmactavish@tiscali.co.uk]

Many thanks for Newsletter. Always very much appreciated.

Andrew MacTavish

(Head of English & CCF Army section 1970 - 6)

From **John NEWMAN(43-51)**

living in Johannesburg [pebw@worldonline.co.za](mailto:pebw@worldonline.co.za)

In memory of Steamboat Steemson I would like to share a couplet he taught us some 60 years ago:

Caesar adsum jam forte / Passus sum sed Antony

I believe it translates roughly: Caesar was already strong / But Antony passed him (by).

In memory of "Tikker" Cole I would like to share a mnemonic he taught us as a means of remembering the Periodic Table. He said it was about 2 Russian ladies.

H HeLi BeBCNOF(&) NeNa MgAl SiPS Chlorine

It might be useful for the current crop of Chemistry students.

Regards John Newman

**Nick SMITH** [mailto:nickliz43@gmail.com]

**Subject:** Old Hardyans Newsletter 114 - Rob White's email

I read with interest the email from Rob White. I was at Southfields House from 1962 to 1968 and my brother Simon was there from 1965 to 1971, I think.

He has been living in Southern Africa since 1975 and runs a successful health insurance company. I have retired to Dorset after 12 years in the army, 4 years in the North Sea oil industry and 26 years in Holland as a civil servant in a European organisation.

I have not seen the photograph mentioned in Rob's email but I can confirm there was a Nigel Gilmour at Southfields. I thought we always called John Critchley Fred but it was a long time ago.

I would be most interested to see any photos of 1966 which I could forward to my brother Simon.

Kind regards

Nick Smith.

**Henry TILLING**

Writes from : 4 Fountain Place, Loanhead, Midlothian, EH20 9EA Tel: 0131 440 1433 in May 2011

Many thanks indeed for another very interesting Newsletter.

I was specially interested in the second entry about the Oxford dinner. I do not have a written record, but the paper work which I did towards a dinner for old Grammarians (as we still were) must have been in 1977 or 1978. I think the latter is more probable because I was certainly not asked to take any part in a second such dinner before I went down to earn a civilian living.

I have written " the paper work" because I can't remember who first suggested the idea. The dinner was not held in a college but in a restaurant run by a man who had been a scout in University so was well known to, and often visited by, University men. The attendance must have been small. Of course we invited HM who came and also Michael Newte who, so far as we could remember, was the only other Oxford graduate who taught us immediately before the war when he was called up. He was not able to come.

It's very pleasing to know that Alf Barrett is going strong at 90. You will not be able to say that of me for another three years. But my ultimate challenge (which I do not expect to achieve) is to beat my aunt who slipped gently away at 104. When we left her 100th birthday party she said "See you in 10 years" - but she didn't manage it.

Incidentally I also went to the school in 1932 - but not in South Street. The school was by then about 100 yards in a straight line from where we lived in Culliford Road.

With very best wishes to all of you who keep the club going

Yours ever

G H G Tilling

We had an email from **David WILLIS (43-51)** who lives near Ilminster. The following is the gist of its contents.

Please now send the newsletter and all correspondence by email. I have been meaning to ask this for ages.

I am sorry to say that I never come to any events despite not living far away from Dorchester. The truth is that when I have been I haven't known a soul. I do, however, enjoy an occasional event at my old College at Cambridge for groups of contemporaries or particular college clubs. The only similar event I have been aware of a little while ago, was when Major Clark said that he wanted a get together with some of his contemporaries. I gather it went well. Alas I was in China at the time.

I read Donald Culver's contribution (issue 114) where he mentioned the Oxford Dinners. I remember one because Judy Garland and I at the other place invited ourselves along. There being only two of us at Cambridge at the time it seemed a good idea. I think this was in 1955 or thereabouts.

I finished at the School a few years after Donald Culver, Roland Mason and co., not only was I a year younger, but I had to take A levels 3 times to get the required grades. I had a great regard for 'Steamboat' because he was the only member of staff who cottoned on to just how lazy I was and continually told me so. I dropped Latin that year and did Art instead!

**Kevin WOODWARD** [mailto:kevin@kvassociates.co.uk]

I was forwarded the last newsletter by David Lausen as I was mentioned in the Lost Army section!

I can report that I have been found!

We moved to North Devon in 2002 and "left" the rat-race of working & living in and around Slough well behind!

I run my own consulting business – assisting companies with the financial side of their business, and with the use of the internet am able to do most of this without leaving the grounds. We live on a 4 acre smallholding with another 7 acres next door where we breed llamas and pygmy goats, a very different lifestyle from that which we had living in Slough! I would much appreciate if you would add this new email address to your mailing list – [Kevin@kvassociates.co.uk](mailto:Kevin@kvassociates.co.uk) – and to pass on my regards to all those that know me!

Kind regards

Kevin Woodward (1967-74)

\* \* \* \* \*

**OBITUARIES** Sadly we have been notified in the last few months of several Old Hardyans have passed away, see also Membership News from Bob Rench, below.

**Rev. Canon Bryan BARNES**

I am writing to let you know that sadly my father, the Rev. Canon Bryan Barnes, died on the 19th May. I would be grateful if you could update your records with this information and remove his name from your mailing list.

His address was: St. Katherine's House, Ormond Road, Wantage. OX12 8EA

Helen Barnes[mailto:hbarnes01@hotmail.com]

**Peter Anthony BARRETT02/02/1946-11/05/2011**

*This Obituary was kindly supplied by Chairman Colin Lucas*

Peter was the son of Gordon Barrett whose father founded the business of Barrett & Son . The Son being Gordon Barrett. They were Antique & Picture restorers with a shop in South Street and workshops in Charles Street they also became the leading Glass Merchants in Dorchester.

Peter was born whilst the family were living in South Court Avenue (later to move to Maiden Castle Road) on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1946. He was educated at The Dorchester Boys Junior School and then Hardyas School. A noted apple scrumper !! Maths, Science and Latin were his favour subjects. He loved hockey but hated cricket after front teeth knocked out !

On leaving school joined Henry Duke & Son Surveyors and Estate Agents as an Articled Pupil. Married Judy in 1971 and moved to Langton Herring.

Following the take-over of Hy Duke & Son Peter became a victim of redundancy in 1992. He injured his back shortly after this and became increasingly unwell from then on. He was forced to give up golf, a sport he loved.. He took an increasingly active roll in village life. The Parish Council in particular. His greatest claim to fame was persuading people to part with huge sums of money at the produce show each year. A pillar of his community sadly missed by his wife Judy and two sons Christopher & Nicholas.

**Jill LEWENDON**

Anyone who was at South Walks House at the time Peter Lewendon was in charge (and many others) will be saddened by the news of the passing away of Peter's widow Jill on 2nd June.

The funeral was planned for Saturday 18th June at Monkton Church, Winterbourne Monkton

**Major P.W. WELLER, MBE (1941-45)** passed away about 3 years ago. We understand he cut the tape when the memorial gates were first opened.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Membership News** Bob RENCH writes

The report in the Spring Newsletter (Issue 114) of additions to our Lost Legion was partially successful. Kevin Woodward (67-74) who has moved to Bideford in North Devon, was 'found' when he was contacted by David Lausen. Paul Light (58-63) who has moved to Morcombelake in West Dorset was recovered after being contacted by Richard Cummins. Thank you David and Richard.

Attached to the last newsletter sent to those receiving it by post was an appeal for confirmation the newsletters were still being received. Unfortunately we only had 41 replies from 148 that were sent out. Nearly 70 phone calls recently have confirmed others, but we have about 20 members for whom we do not have phone numbers. PLEASE get in touch if you haven't replied or been contacted by the Membership Secretary. [ Continued on page 6

We have learned of the deaths of 5 members as a result of the appeal and the recent phone calls. They are:-  
Rev Canon Brian Barnes (35-40) from Wantage who died in May 2011  
Peter Barrett (57-62) from Langton Herring, Nr Weymouth who died earlier this year  
Major P.W. Weller (41-45) from Moreton Vallance in Gloucester who died about 3 years ago and  
A.E. Miller(33-39) from Dorchester who passed away sometime after the last appeal in 2008.  
Robert W. Bowditch (25-30) from Weymouth who died in about 2008

The appeal has also triggered 11 more members to receive their newsletters by email. Thanks to all of them.  
Since the last newsletter we have also welcomed 3 new members:-

Tony Betts (55-62) who lives in Lewes, East Sussex  
Terry White (52-56) who lives in Bideford, North Devon and  
Roger Birch (54-62) who lives in British Columbia, Canada.

In 2008 we stopped sending newsletters by post to 117 members whose post had been returned and from whom we had heard nothing for 3 years. Those people and 16 email recipients whose post had failed over three years before were removed from the Club database in May this year. Their last details are being kept on a separate database. It is important that we keep our records up to date so that we do not lose more members, so PLEASE keep in touch when you move or change your email address.

**The Hardyens' handsome blue, gold and red tie is available** from our Treasurer Alan Brown, who will be pleased to sell you one. The cost is only £10. Send your cheque, payable to *The Hardyens Club*, to Alan Brown at 40 Valette Road, Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 3JD. Telephone 01202 535034 or email: [alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com](mailto:alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com)

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#### **READERS' FORUM**

**An Appeal for Information** [Donald Clarence Whitaker - Dorset Home Guard](#)

I am researching into the Dorset Home Guard. The C/O of the Dorchester Company as well as Dorchester Grammar School OTC was D C Whitaker. Do you have any pictures of him, Home Guard, OTC or know anyone that can help.

Thanks

**John Pidgeon** <[jcpidgeon@btinternet.com](mailto:jcpidgeon@btinternet.com)>

**From: Graham Davies** <[gd@grifd.com](mailto:gd@grifd.com)> [George Russell Wheeler Obit 2002](#)

I've just been trawling the web re: my father in law George Russell Wheeler BSc MM OBE and came across your obit for him from 2002. I realise it is now almost 10 years since his death but I would like to correct a couple of things:  
Julia his daughter is Rev. Prof. Julia Davies not Davis.

George and his companion George Sim(m)s of the 13th Foot were never captured and he made this point to King George VI when receiving his MM. They both evaded capture throughout and return to the UK sometime in April 1942, as I recall.

You may also like to know that I am in process of developing a website [www.godolphins.org.uk](http://www.godolphins.org.uk) in which I shall be placing his written report on the evasion, or rather part of it, plus images (including some at Hardy's I think) and, hopefully, extracts from the recording he made with a rep of the IWMuseum a year or two before his death. His wife's extended family had two VCs and some five or so MCs and her brother was Major Kenneth Archibald Holland, a long time well known and much respected resident of Dorchester. A little is already on the godolphins site via his name in the index will shortly be redirected to whole section of pages and images, you're most welcome to check on its progress

Graham Davies MSc

Extract from NL no 87 Spring 2002 referred to by Graham Davies

George Russell WHEELER (1927-35)died in April 2002, aged 85

*as reported in the Dorset Evening Echo of 24th April, George Wheeler was a survivor (mentioned in dispatches)of the St Nazaire raid in 1942, captured by the Germans but managed to escape with Canadian commando colleague George Simms from occupied France, both being later awarded the Military Medal. He spent time after the war in Malaya and was made an OBE in 1967 for his work as secretary of the central electricity board there. He retired in 1967 to Corfe Castle, and moved to West Lulworth 15 years ago. His wife Madeline died 10 years ago and their daughter Julia Davis is a professor at Lancaster University. The Funeral was due to be held at Holy Trinity Church, West Lulworth on 25th April.*

*The Editor is pleased to receive corrigenda and addenda to information supplied to the Newsletter. It has been noted that an error crept in to the report of Alf Barrett's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday in the last issue. Alf was of course not at the school in South Street in 1932 but at the, then new, Barnes Way site.*

*Also in response to Nick LEE, who took issue with an item submitted by Jonathan PULLEN: The Editor remembers the occasion referred to in the last newsletter, and is certain no disrespect was intended towards the late Bernard 'Bunny' LEE who found himself in the situation recalled by Jonathan.*