



The Hardyeans' Club Newsletter

Published in **October**, January and May

Annual Club v School Cricket Match took place on **Wednesday 17 July**
Hardyeans Club 236-2, The School 95 all out

The annual cricket match between Hardyes School and the Old Hardyeans took place on Wednesday 17th July 2019. This year the game was played in a format of 30 overs a side on Dorchester CC's ground. The game was played in glorious sunny conditions on a perfect batting wicket and as tradition dictates the Hardyeans Club batted first. Openers Simon Mitcham and Adam Barrett looked in sparkling form as they put on a hundred for the first wicket in just 12 overs. The



school's opening attack of McNab, Grey and Quinn were punished in equal measure with shots all round the wicket. Mitcham reached a fine half century before he retired on 55. The introduction of spin in the form of Oliver Osborne saw the first wicket fall with Dan Morris being well caught by Hannon for 1. Runs then continued to flow as Barrett brought up a quick-fire half century until he was stumped by Grey off the bowling of Osborne for an excellent 89. Dan Belt (45 not out) and Josh Foot (24 not out) added late quick runs to bring the Old Boys total to an impressive 236-2 at Tea. The School's innings never really got going with Callum Chaldicott (2-21) and Rowan Scott (0-26) bowling steadily for the first 10 overs. For the School only Messane (23) and Quinn (16) reached double figures as the spin attack of Josh Foot (2-16) Simon Mitcham (2-8) and Rhys Cole (4-3) routed the School for just 95 the lowest score for some years.

This was the second year that the School not been as competitive as they would have liked but they were up against an Old Hardyeans side again boasting all eleven cricketers with Dorset Premier League experience with the soon to be 2019 County Champions, Dorchester, providing the backbone of the side. The School were young again this year missing a few senior players who had understandable exam commitments. Hopefully many of them will have an opportunity to make amends next year.



Club President Godfrey Lancashire was on hand to present the Colin Lucas Cup to winning Captain Tony Foot who was playing in his 41st Old Hardyeans' game having left the School in 1976

[Pics by Heather Foster: Top, President Godfrey Lancashire presents the Colin Lucas Cup to the winning Club Captain Tony Foot and below, Godfrey thanks the teams for taking part.]

To stay
in touch
with your
Friends

Autumn
Edition

2019

In
this
Issue

From
the
Headteacher

You Write

Reports
from
HCCA
bursary
recipients

Around
the
School

From Julia Moore, Chairman of the **Hardyeans Club Charitable Association**,

Recently we have received updates from several students, two of whom who have just completed their first years at university and college of dance and who have written to give updates on their progress and the importance of the bursary to them. I am sure that Hardyeans will enjoy reading about what they have been doing.

I have successfully completed my first year at Theatre Arts College and write to give you a report of my progress.

The year has been most enjoyable but very hard work. We start at 8:30am and continue to 6pm and sometimes 8pm. The course involves mostly physical dance studies in addition to academic work so each day is quite exhausting. However, I expected this work-load because Laine is the top college within the musical theatre and dance industry.

During the year we receive continuous assessments. In February I was awarded 'A*' for contextual studies, 'A' for jazz artistry and 'B' for jazz, tap and acting. At the end of the year I received a mark of 92/100 for jazz technique.

The bursary was very beneficial because I had to buy specialist dance and sports clothing, shoes as well as academic books and stationery essentials.

At college there are no halls of residence, therefore all students have to obtain private accommodation. I was fortunate to obtain an en-suite room within a lovely family home, one mile from the college.

I am very thankful for the bursary which has been a great help. After a very happy, hard-working first year I am looking forward to making further progress in the second year.

***I am writing to thank you** for my bursary and to inform you of my first year at University studying Natural History. After returning from my gap year of travelling the Americas, I realised how great my passion was for the environment. Working in an animal rescue sanctuary in Costa Rica, it became apparent that with a degree and knowledge, I could contribute even more to the well being of animals and their environment. I have learnt so much this past year at university, and it has led to work experience with the RSPB in Scotland working on the Osprey project, which was featured on BBC's Spring Watch. I have had the opportunity to improve on wildlife documenting and science communication via journalism, film and photography, which seems to be the career path I am steering towards.*

I have achieved firsts in all my exams and coursework, which was very gratifying. Now I look forward to a course trip to Iceland at the start of September, with the aims to study the unique ecology and geology of the country. Along with further practising my photography skills and perhaps getting a shot of the northern lights (touch wood!).

Thank you again for your support.

This student received a one off grant to help with the cost of this recent trip to Japan. The other two are in receipt of the three year Bursary Award

I have just come back from my amazing trip to Japan, where I participated in the UK-JAPAN 2019 young scientists workshop and I would like to say a huge thank you for your contribution which helped make this happen.

I took part in an ongoing research project into the synthesis of two polymers, Nylon and Polyurethane, using a Diol and Triol type of the alcohol Poly(propylene glycol) and a diisocyanate as a catalyst. This research can be used by industry for two purposes; as a way to improve the yield produced in mass production, and to improve the environmental impact the process has on our planet, as the reaction produced CO₂ gas as a biproduct, so one of our experiments investigated how to reduce that.

I also had a lot of experience in Japanese culture as I visited multiple temples and shrines, my favourite being the Kiyomizo-dera temple as it had breath-taking architecture and gardens! This trip was a once in a lifetime opportunity as I had first-hand experience of life as a research scientist as well as working in an international team and I have made life-long friends with whom I will remain in touch with. Thank you so much again, I will remember this trip for the rest of my life.

I confirm that the second bursary payment has been transferred and very gratefully received. The first bursary was extremely helpful during my first year at university and I intend on putting this one towards new books I need for my new modules and course trips that will greatly enhance my uni experience.

Thank you once again for the bursary that has been extremely helpful last year and for the duration of my course

Thank you again for the bursary and all you do for me! I have received the money for this year! Now for the update! I am in my 3rd Year at uni and it is my Placement Year where I get the chance to work in industry! After applying at the beginning of last November and going through multiple interview stages, I got chosen out of all the applicants to work for Matalan in their Head Office as a trainee buyer for the Home and Living department! So, I have moved up North to Liverpool coming up 3 months now! I was so excited to move up and start afresh doing a role that I aspire to be doing after uni! I was very surprised in a good way at the amount of responsibility that I have already been given! For example, I am in charge of cushions and throws (soft furnishings) and the main job role I have is to help create new ranges for Matalan and monitor the start to finish process of all the products! I've only been working for 3 months and I feel as though I have already learnt so much which isn't surprising especially as I am working with a team of passionate experts! I also have the chance to help out with all the behind the scenes work that goes into creating products in terms of supplier meetings, communicating with suppliers to make changes or adjustments to products, help at shoots for marketing and even help out at conferences and shows. Just today and yesterday I volunteered to help set up Matalan's annual Homeware Leadership Conference where we set up the Autumn/Winter 2019 range for all of the Heads Of and Area Managers to see what will be selling this winter! As part of this, I was so excited to help set up the fashion show side of the conference and doing this has made me even surer that this is the career path I want to be taking after uni!

Living in Liverpool is absolutely amazing! I decided Liverpool over London as it is still a city but it is less hectic! I love the buzz that there is everywhere although I have yet to explore the whole of the city but I have the rest of the year to do so!

I am so excited to see where this year takes me and what else I will be doing! I think it is important to have a placement year to trial out somewhere new in a job role that is in an industry that I am looking to go into! I know that in my career I want to achieve an inspirational role that actually has effect and I believe that I am well on my way to this!!

Julia Moore

Chair HCCA

Staff Pen-portrait – Gary Symes

Gary has been employed by the Thomas Hardy school since 2002 and took over as senior site manager in 2014



He was born and bred in Dorchester. At school he says: ..my favourite subjects were PE and English. On leaving school I worked for Eldridge Pope brewery for 20 years, 15 of which were spent as a manager in the cask ale brewing department.

After Eldridge Pope I started work at the Thomas Hardy school.

As senior site manager I make sure of the security of the school, repair and maintenance and to keep the school looking to a high standard. I have 3 other outstanding site managers that work tirelessly around the school.

When not at work I love to watch football and spend time with my gorgeous granddaughter Sienna

Gary and his team certainly keep the school and surroundings in good order. If you were at Hardy's in the late 70s maybe you remember Gary?

From the Headteacher



Thank you to all who supported our canteen fund-raising campaign last summer culminating in the summer ball. We received some incredibly generous donations from former members of the school, raising in excess of £38,000 to enable us to purchase new refectory tables and matching benches. It has made a tremendous difference and the entire facility surpasses all our expectations. We have also built two studios on the first floor for dance and drama, significantly improving our capacity for performing arts. We would now like to target the theatre for refurbishment and development. It is an excellent space but not up to the standard of a medium sized regional theatre. More about this in a future edition.

Exam results in the summer were not record breaking, as in 2018, but still excellent. 83% of students achieved a pass in mathematics and 88% in English. For a comprehensive school - youngsters enter the school on or about the national average for attainment - these are remarkable outcomes. At A level the pass rate is consistently high at 98% and the number of grades at A or A* has not dropped below 25% for several years; 80% of entries achieve grades A-C. We had our normal cohort making it to the top universities including Oxford and Cambridge and on GCSE results day you may have seen the BBC live broadcast from Thomas Hardye on the breakfast show.

The school's reputation is growing all the time. Through the teaching school we support several other schools. Last week we were working in Bedford assisting schools and colleges in the borough to raise performance at sixth form level. We train new entrants to the profession as well as providing training and development for established teachers and school leaders. The school is over-subscribed and very full! We admitted 430 students into the sixth form in September bringing our post-16 numbers to 800 and 450 youngsters joined the school in year 9. We are delighted to be in this position but we are very close to full capacity with more children in the school system than ever before. The 2020s will be a challenge!

I hope to see some of you at our Remembrance Service on Monday 11th November with the traditional laying of wreaths at the school gates.

Best wishes

Mike Foley

Thomas Hardye School Community Lectures

Monday 11th November 2019 Fireworks - Real Science or Just Bangs? Matthew Tosh

December 2nd 2019 'Heligan and Eden and the future set in stone' Sir Tim Smit KBE, Executive Co-Chair Eden Project International and Executive Vice Chair & Co-Founder Eden Project.

Spring Term 2020

February 10th 2020 'The Creativity Code: How AI is learning to write, paint and think'
Professor Marcus du Sautoy OBE FRS, Simonyi Professor for the Public Understanding of Science and Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford.

March 9th 2020 to celebrate British Science Week 'The Crowd and the Cosmos' Professor Chris Lintott, University of Oxford.

Venue: All lectures will take place in the School Theatre

Time: All lectures start at 7.00pm

Admission: Free of Charge, tickets available from school reception (or ring 01305 266064) and Tourist Information Centre (in Dorchester Library) from 9.00 am on release date (normally 2 weeks prior to each lecture). Maximum 4 tickets per person.

Donations are welcomed at the end of each lecture. (The money raised goes to charitable causes.)

Also check out the school website for other public events that may be of interest including a new series of History Lectures which began in September with one entitled **See It – Shoot it!** Drawing upon research conducted for the completion of his recent book, *See It/Shoot It*, published by Yale University Press, Dr Christopher Fuller revealed that the CIA's covert drone program is not a product of 9/11. Rather, it is the result of U.S. counterterrorism practices extending back to the Reagan administration.

Ideal for A-level students, and members of the public with an interest in history. an exclusive opportunity to hear Southampton University's world class experts discussing their cutting edge research.

Lectures begin at 18:00 in Thomas Hardy School's 6th Form Centre.

Entrance is Free, with the option to make a donation to charity. Doors open 17:45

Wednesday 20th November 2019 – Chris Prior: "I would annex the planets if I could": Cecil Rhodes, Britain and building an empire in Africa'

Other Events

Saturday 16th November 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Dorchester The Thomas Hardy Singers with the Thomas Hardy Orchestra and Guests: Puccini - *Messa di Gloria*; Finzi - *For St Cecilia*; Mozart - *Flute Concerto no 2 in D Major, 1st Mvt*; Vivaldi – *Bassoon Concerto in D minor, 1st Mvt*.

Tickets £10 adults £2 students from Dorchester Arts in the Corn Exchange or Thomas Hardy School office

Thursday 19th December 7.30pm, St Peter's Church, Dorchester: Carol Service The Thomas Hardy Singers and musicians – *Always a popular event!*

Forthcoming Club and other events

Monthly Luncheons take place on the last Thursday of the month at the Poet Laureate pub in Pummery Square, Poundbury. These are informal gatherings, 12.30pm onwards. Do come along!

Remembrance Day Ceremony – Monday 11th November 2019 at the School memorial gates

You are cordially invited to attend and may prefer to meet in the main school entrance area at 10.35am, in order to proceed to the gates with members of the school's leadership and governance team. Light refreshments such as tea, coffee, biscuits/cakes will be provided in the Headteacher's office afterwards, as usual.

Christmas Get-together

An informal gathering is planned at the Poet Laureate, Pummery Square on Thursday 19th December to meet for a drink from 12 noon onwards

Date for your diaries: 2020 Annual Dinner is scheduled for **Saturday 28th March** with guest speaker Ross Dewar, Worcs CC coach– more details in the next issue!

Hardyans Club Contacts

President: Godfrey LANCASHIRE Life Vice–Presidents: Gordon Crocker, Anthony C W Day, Peter Foster, Hugh Griffiths, John Pearson

Chairman: Nick GRASSBY

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www.facebook.com/groups/Hardyans is the official Club facebook page for news of Club members and friends. and check out the School site www.facebook.com/thomashardyeschool which links into the main school website www.thomas-hardye.net on which can be found news of events at the school including the Community Lectures. See also www.facebook.com/groups/452234394961667/ for news of Dorchester Secondary Modern; Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester, Dorset. There are other Thomas Hardy School-related facebook sites.



Find us on
Facebook

Among recent posts:

Les Mason (1966-69) advised the sad news of the death of **Nigel Hillier** – the funeral was due to be in Exeter 27th September. **Peter Randle (1967-70)** **Neil Archer (1966-70)**, **Rob White (1964-72)** and **Jonathan Pullen** responded

Also **Jane McKell** who'd love to hear from old Green School friends, particularly those attending 1965-71

And from **Philip Mackie, Paul Matthams, Russ Sims, Chris Slade** and **Iain Lynch**

Do have a look - make contact with old friends!

You Write

from **Harry Dike**

Jeffrey Perks - an appreciation:

Jeff (Southfields 1957-1962) as mentioned in the previous newsletter, died, aged 73 in March 2019.

His funeral was at Piddletrenthide in April and my biography below has been assisted by the eulogy his brother in law, Ron Holland, gave that day.

He was born in Staffordshire in 1945, his father a Royal Navy senior officer, settled the family in Marnhull, North Dorset, in 1955.

It was here that his abiding love and identification with rural Dorset began. After boarding at Hardy's country life rather than the peripatetic life of the services appealed. He spent a year on a farm near Sturminster Newton and then three years at Seale Hayne agriculture college near Newton Abbot in Devon. After college he managed Rockpitts Farm near Plush for thirty years and it was here that he and wife, Pauline, brought up their three children.

He was always a keen sportsman and was instrumental in founding Plush Cricket Club's new ground and in making the Brace of

Pheasants pub's summer activity cricket. He played, managed and curated until taking that final position behind the stumps: umpire.

Always interested in the mechanics and building he was competent at most skills necessary in agriculture and after finishing farm management he had a variety of jobs locally including helping friends with their own businesses.

At school my memory (possibly apocryphal) is one of admiration for his physical fearlessness and the story that most gripped us younger boys was of a gang deciding it would be funny to steal his school cap as he walked alone through the Borough Gardens one afternoon. He knocked two of them down and put the rest to flight.

His ready angular smile, slight stutter and willingness to have a go are much missed.

HD.

You Write (continued)

From Daud Rashid. [This correspondence was originally sent about 2 years ago but never received ?? so it is included now, better late than never!]

I have just been informed by William Barnes that I'm listed in the Lost Legion section of the Hardyans' Newsletter #132. Sorry about that. I must have forgotten to inform you of my new email address. (The old) one stopped when I left Shell last year after some 30 years with them in various locations abroad most recently five years in Dubai / Iraq.



On 4th November (2017) I attended the Celebration of Life service for my old Hardyes tutor Norman Baker who died 12 Oct 2017 aged 93. It was great to meet a few old class mates and members of staff there; see attached group photo, from left to right: Brian Savage; Alan Lambert; Tony Spence; Michael Miller; Des Spriggs; Steven Yates; Mark Abbott; me.

Regards,
Daud

Daud Rashid
1973 - 1980

Around and about the Thomas Hardy School



On Monday 30th September the THS Sixth Form were pleased to welcome The Bishop of Salisbury, Nicholas Holtam and Lindsey Fielder Cook representative for climate change at the Quaker United Nations Office. After a discussion of their life and work they focused on the issue of climate change and presented a faith perspective on the recent Extinction Rebellion protests. Over 120 students were in attendance. It was a very enjoyable afternoon and lovely to see so many students ask pertinent questions and staying behind after the discussion to chat to our speakers informally.



Congratulations to former Thomas Hardye students Maggie Ayles, Juliet Braidwood, Louisa Bratby, Henry Ridgway, and current Year 12 student Benedict Richardson, Year 11. They have been awarded prizes and certificate from representatives of Dorset Asset, Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Institution of Engineering and Technology in recognition of their work in Design and Technology.

Maggie, Juliet, Louisa and Henry each received Valter prizes worth £50. Henry for his ash bench, Maggie and Juliet for their textiles projects and Louisa for her educational toy. Benedict received £150 from the Institution of Engineering and Technology for his electronic countdown timer for sailing.

'Rising Star' in Art



The Arts Society Dorset County again selected several Year.13 art pieces to be submitted for the prestigious RBA annual Rising stars exhibition held at the Mall Galleries London annually. Nadia Jenkins' painting of "Nigel and teddy" was selected by the RBA Rising Stars judges and her painting went on display in the Mall Galleries London along with twenty other students from across the country. Nadia is currently studying BA Architecture.

Congratulations Nadia.

Thanks to Susie Pearson and the Arts Society for their continuing support and time with the Art department at Thomas Hardye.

For further information please visit:

<https://theartsociety.org/arts-news-features/awards-rba-rising-stars>

With thanks to the THS website and 6th Form webpages