

To stay
in touch
with your
Friends

Winter
Edition
2022

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The Hardyeans' Club Newsletter

Published in Spring, Autumn and Winter)



President's letter to Members for the January 2022 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

A belated Happy New Year to you all and I hope 2022 is a much better year for everyone.

As I write this the pandemic does seem to be waning but there is still some uncertainty and we are still constrained by rules which hamper our everyday lives, our businesses and our social activities.

With this uncertainty in mind it is with huge regret that I advise you that once again our Annual Dinner scheduled for 26th March has been postponed. Your Council has reached this decision wisely I feel, both because we are so uncertain of numbers attending and those who might still be anxious and also because of uncertainty at school where all resources are stretched to the limit. I needed to let you know this now as this would have been the usual time for advertising the Dinner and making all the arrangements. We cannot wait until a couple of weeks beforehand.

At our next Council meeting we will be discussing whether we can hold a dinner in the autumn or whether we shall have to postpone for a third year and wait until March 2023.

As you may realise I should have been handing over the reins in March but in view of the above your Council has very kindly invited me to remain as your President until the next dinner. This is a privilege and I will do my best to provide a little bit of continuity until we get back to more like normal.

My thanks to everyone on Council for their work behind the scenes especially our secretaries and newsletter editors Heather and Peter Foster who continue to do such a good job of keeping us all in touch. If you have any stories or topical news please do let us know. We would love to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing you soon and do remember we are still meeting at the Poet Laureate in Poundbury on the last Thursday monthly for an informal get together.

My very best wishes

Godfrey
godfrey.lancashire@btinternet.com



From the Headteacher



Life at school has been a strange combination of disrupted normality. All the elements of pre-covid are back, with the exception of overseas trips. So sports teams are back dominating county tournaments, mock exams took place in the sports hall as one would expect, students are enjoying the full use of the school site and the canteen is doing brisker trade than ever. Alongside this, however, are high student and staff absence rates as high local covid cases continue to make their presence felt, along with the associated cover lessons, work being sent home and, until last week, masks encouraged by all students and staff. During this unsettling time, I am reminded of the vast and often underappreciated resilience of our young people. They have rolled with the punches for nearly two years now, and shown remarkable determination to succeed throughout.

In November, I attended my first Hardye's Remembrance Service. It summed up many of the school's best elements – the students' maturity, the organisation, and the sense of community as all staff, students, many governors and Hardyeans, the mayor and our wonderful Combined Cadet Force came together to remember the fallen. Despite my association with the school being short, I was incredibly proud of it during that service.

In December there were two very welcome returns. Firstly, of a live student theatre production to the school. The Sixth Formers ensemble production of Twelfth Night was every bit as silly, bawdy and riotous as any good production of that play should be, and was such a great way to launch our new drama studio. The second welcome return was the carol concert in St Peter's. Again, my first one. Again, incredible. The combination of students, staff and local choristers, under Mr Bruton's expert direction, created choral music of depth and maturity, and of a quality not normally associated with school choirs. I look forward to attending this beautiful event every year.

Looking forward, the theatre refurbishment project continues apace. It's not much to look at for the moment, as it is currently full of scaffolding so the ceiling can be plastered, but I look forward to the opening, hopefully sometime around Easter, and will of course be getting invites out to Hardyeans once the date is set. Otherwise, we look forward to the school's first set of public examinations in three years. I must say, they are welcome. No system of assessment is perfect, but examinations are an important rite of passage for our youngsters, and one they will be glad of have overcome in future years.

All the best to all Hardyeans.

Nick Rutherford

Thomas Hardy School Community Lectures

All public events usually held at the School have been shelved for the time being.

Forthcoming Club and other events

Monthly Luncheons on the last Thursday of the month at the Poet Laureate pub in Pummery Square, Poundbury.

Club v School Cricket match hopefully this year – watch this space! The Club very much hopes it will be possible this year

Autumn Dinner??? as per the President's letter. Watch this space too!

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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, and more generally, 'You're over 30 and from Dorchester when.....' is a good one.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/284997108221127>



Find us on
Facebook

From the Editors: Whilst Facebook is a valuable way of keeping in touch, please don't forget those who don't 'do' Facebook, and consider writing to the *Newsletter* editors as well, to get a wider membership response

Among recent FaceBook posts:

Some pictures of: U15 Colts from 1969/70, 1st XV from 1972; and comments from Simon Litster, Russ Sims, Philip Mackie, Grahame White, Kelvin Bird, Tim Fletcher, Tom Chadwick, Ted Martin, Kevin Batchelor, Les Mason, Rob White., Trevor Hardy, Neil Archer, Rob Moakes, Chris Munden, Derek Gallop among others. Welcome to Marion Jones (nee Comben)

Do have a look at the Club's FaceBook page - make contact with old friends!

Also be sure to have a look at **Graham Allen's** website (<https://old-hardyans.com>) which contains a wealth of memories – NB the address has changed.

News from the Hardyans' Club Charitable Association

Julia Moore writes:

Last August/September, we received emails from all of the HCCA bursary students, ..As you can see, the reports were written before the students started their 2nd or 3rd years but give a flavour of what they have been up to and how the bursary has helped....

A student studying Accounting and Finance on a Sandwich Year with Price Waterhouse Cooper

I am writing to update you on my progress studying accounting and finance. Although my first year got cut short and my second year has been disrupted quite significantly due to COVID-19 which did bring many personal and academic challenges and I feel University students were largely neglected during the pandemic, I am proud of how well I have been performing over the past year. Upon completion of Year 1 (Level 4) I received an overall first class honours of 81% and have recently received my latest results for Year 2 (Level 5) where I have maintained my first class honours at 74.5% alongside the disruption going into full time online learning. Unfortunately there were not many wider experiences and opportunities due to social distancing rules at the time. However I did take it upon myself to become a Course representative for accounting and finance where I was responsible for researching, representing, and communicating student opinions at formal meetings with staff to negotiate course structure changes such as additional online drop in workshops to help students that were struggling with online learning. I also took the global graduate award course in Sustainability where I learnt from international guest speakers each week about issues in Sustainability and had to try suggest solutions.

In addition, I am proud to announce that I have recently secured an 11 month work placement with PwC in London starting in September as part of my sandwich 4 year degree course after many hours spent in interviews with companies in the Finance industry. Given that finding a job as student is even more difficult COVID-19, many companies have cut back placement and graduate roles so I am extremely happy I was able to secure this and means I will be able to work towards becoming a fully qualified ACA Chartered Accountant.

I can't express enough how much help the bursary has given me - especially over the past year where getting a job is not easy considering most places had been closed so has really helped me pay for general living costs and avoid the stress of not having any money. I cannot express my gratitude enough and I truly believe this has allowed me to focus fully on my studies and finding a placement and was a privilege to not worry about money where I would have needed a job without the bursary alongside the countless other issues COVID-19 has caused myself and the general student population.

A 3rd student studying Costume and Performance.

Thank you so much for the continued support of the bursary, it has helped immensely especially under the circumstances of this year. I will be carrying on into my final and third year.

My second year has been a mixed bag; I've enjoyed getting to know the lecturers and my peers better, however, the course content hasn't been what I hoped for. I was really looking forward to working on theatre performances and creating fun and eye-catching costumes for them, however due to the pandemic, this main feature of my course has not been available to me. On the other hand, I have made some amazing garments including a Victorian bustle and petticoat. This was really fun as it meant that I could use my technical abilities to work out the structure of the bustle, whilst using my creative imagination to design a beautiful and characterised petticoat. It has been difficult trying to carry out a hands-on course at home, as well as trying to gather the supplies and materials needed to create my garments; however, the bursary has been so helpful in helping me to achieve this. I hope that my third year is more interactive and resourceful as restrictions begin to ease. I would love to be able to work on some shows and I believe there are opportunities for me to work with museums which I very much look forward to.

A 2nd year student reading Physics with Astronomy.

My first year at university was not exactly what I expected it to be with all the distance learning. I did manage to make it onto campus a few times to do lab sessions (when we were allowed on to campus) however this quickly stopped towards the beginning of December when restrictions were tightened. It is hard to sum up the year I have had given all the restrictions and coupled with the fact I had to spend the last two terms at home, not even in Leicester, learning over the internet. The course content itself was interesting though. I especially enjoyed the Space Science, Astrophysics and Quantum Mechanics modules and thoroughly looking forward to studying these further this year, in-person as well! I did contact one of the academics towards the beginning of the term about using the 50cm telescope just off site of the main campus but with the restrictions it was not possible to make use of it. Although, with the campus hopefully being open this year I plan to use it for my course and personal discoveries. It has been a tough year having all my lectures in front of a computer screen. Finding the motivation to sit down and research/revise has been hard, so I am very much looking forward to this year when I can finally have my first in-person lecture.

A 2nd student studying Criminology

My first year at Southampton uni went really well. I passed all my modules and enjoyed the experience despite everything being online. I am continuing this year and hopefully I'll make it on to campus regularly.

A 2nd year student studying Marine Biology

I am continuing my studies in Marine Biology and I'm very excited. Although, as imaginable last year came with its challenges with Covid and as a result I had to leave my university accommodation, while leaving university was not ideal my mum ended up watching my online lectures with me so ended up being rather entertaining. Last year's bursary definitely made an incredible difference. With that money it allowed me to gain my first PADI scuba diving qualification which will open so many opportunities when I graduate. This money also meant I could get a qualification with ORCA being a cetacean observer and identifier which enables me to take part in scientific surveys to document the number of whales, dolphins and porpoises in British seas. I am looking forward to the future and the extra PADI qualifications I can get and gain more experience in this field. I would like to thank all the trustees for allowing me to expand my knowledge in marine biology which has improved my university experience and will increase opportunities for employment once I have graduated. I am so grateful as I would not have otherwise been able to partake in these experiences.

A student who has completed a Foundation Year of Art and is now on the first year of a degree in Fine Art

Thank you and the Hardyans Club for the support you have offered me. I'm pleased to tell you that I received a distinction in my foundation year and I'm going to do my degree in fine art.

Although the year was difficult in regards to studying with the coronavirus, it was still a very productive and enjoyable experience. I loved exploring new art techniques and using all the amazing facilities that were available at the art school.

I've also been working full time as a barista at a coffee shop, which has been a great experience and allowed me to make lots of friends.

I'm really looking forward to starting my first year at university, making new friends and getting a new job.

Thank you so much, I really appreciate the support it has helped me out so much.

You Write

re Edition 143 **Brian Lott** writes:

...I would like to thank you for the way in which you included in it the piece about my father's memoirs, 'The Colourful Life of an Engineer'.

If any of your members, who may have grandfathers who were at the school in those days, are interested in contacting me for further information, please feel free to pass on my contact details.

With best wishes and thanks again

Brian

Edward (Ted) Martin writes

I have just received the latest OH Newsletter; it is an interesting read as always.

For those who know me, unfortunately some friends I knew have passed, I thought I would give a little update from Spain where Bridget and I moved in January 2019.

Covid has of course been a serious problem here too but watching the UK from afar, we have always felt safer here on the Costa Blanca than were we in the UK (Bolton). We have had our lockdowns here like the rest of Europe and come through it after 8 or was it 13 long weeks in March 2020. We were fortunate to have a large garden so we kept ourselves busy with various projects including building a chicken coop. (We have four chickens who produce more than enough eggs daily.)

This was followed until Jan 21 by restrictions in opening hours and town-to-town travel including a curfew from 22.00 to 06.00. Masks have been a constant requirement in all public spaces and it was only a month or so ago that this was eased to be for inside public spaces only e.g. shops and where distancing could not be maintained when outside e.g. the open markets. The Spanish are very different to the British and having to wear masks was never questioned. The Local Policia have the power to impose a €600 fine for transgressions. Maybe because they also carry guns, the people do not argue with them!

We are pretty much back to normal now except for the current mask rules and this weekend our local town has put on a series of music festivals. Last night it was ABBA and the local square, the bars with outside terraces were busy. Their tables were properly distanced. It was a great evenings' entertainment.

We have had our Covid jabs with the majority of Spain having Pfizer 1 and 2 within 3 weeks of each other; AZ has had supply difficulties into Spain. The pace has not been as advanced as the UK but are getting there.

It is August now and we have had a couple of heatwaves where our temperatures rose to 39°C but at the moment we are high 20's to low 30's which is of course one of the considerations in our moving here. Food and wine is fabulous and we have just had family visitors for the first time in almost a year. We brought one dog, three cats and two tortoises with us and now have dogs -1/+ 2 and cats +1. The torties are > 100 years old and doing well. I guess I should end my ramblings with a message to all to #takecarein

Best regards

R. Edward Martin (Ted)

Bill Mouland (1963-1970) – A Heathcote mini - Reunion

Fifty-one years after they left Hardys Grammar School, three boarders from Heathcote House met again for a week-end reunion over the 13th/14th November, 2021. Rollo Braham and Bill Mouland, who had both had elder brothers in the school and were therefore known as Braham II and Mouland II, were joined by Jon Bright. With tongue firmly in cheek here is an account of the occasion, with apologies to The Durnovarian. whose style it has shamelessly attempted to copy.

Mouland II was first to arrive, managing to squeeze his car into the tiniest space at the Best Western Royale Hotel and exit via the passenger door. This was an improvement on a previous motoring

manoeuvre in the town in 1970 when he nearly knocked down housemaster H M I Bax in his minivan – a factor which may have led to his subsequent expulsion.

As habitual school cross country champion, **Braham II** could have been expected to be first to arrive but trailed in second on this occasion having parked his car some distance away in Fordington. With typical pluck, he said he would run to get it later.

J S N Bright chose the ‘top of town’ car park close to the hotel but was still late. As he was for breakfast on the following morning. One wonders sometimes whether the school’s efforts to send pupils to Cambridge are really worth the effort.

After brief refreshment, the boys set off on a tour of the town, noting with pleasure that Herrings the art shop was still in existence and wondering why T Hardy had never included the Tutankhamen museum in any of his novels. The closure of the Judge Jeffreys restaurant, where parents often took children who had been starved of any form of nutrition at school, was noted with sadness.

Crossing the road, the group entered St Peter’s Church, scene of so much Sunday morning tedium – or Te Deum as the vicar liked to chant it. Braham II recalled an occasion when the Rev Meiklejohn had announced that there was to be a shared service next week with the Methodists and a member of the congregation had shouted ‘SHAME’ very loudly. Moulard II and Bright had no recollection of this, probably because they were trying to work out how to put their threepenny piece collection money into the offertory bag without actually letting go.

The group now headed for Wollaston House, once the junior school but now the HQ of the NFU. ‘Still full of animals then,’ remarked no-one.



Members noted the wall against which a ball might be bounced; the sash window through which one could escape lessons on hot days and the site of a boxing match involving Ingenhaag. Braham II said there had been a go kart track and that Moulard II had been good at it. Moulard II said he had no recollection of this.

Finding the gate to Icen Way padlocked, the trio walked there via South Walks, reminiscing about the driveway to the out of bounds Convent School before attempting to engage an elderly local man in conversation about the old days. ‘I’m deaf,’ he explained when the attempts

went unanswered.

There was a brief diversion at this point to the old Rectory where Moulard II recalled that a confirmation class had once watched a young woman taking off her clothes in a house opposite. The class became very popular but there were no more sightings. Braham II and Bright said that, unfortunately, they had no recollections of this.

Down Icen Way, Heathcote House, which had been home to the group, had disappeared completely to be replaced by a collection of anonymous flats. This was a disappointment although it was just about possible to make out where the Games Room and Tennis Court had been. An attempt to engage some residents in conversation about it ended when said they had no recollections of this.

Undaunted, the boys decided to take their old walk to school via Chalky Lane, a route which was banned in wet weather owing to the fact that chalk would cling to footwear. Braham II said H M I Bax would cane boys for breaking this rule. Although they had been caned many times, Bright and Moulard II said they had no recollections of this particular misdemeanour.

Just as Heathcote House had disappeared, so had Hardys School which had become a housing estate. The Society looked in vain for the gates, which someone claimed still existed, but did not find them.

Returning towards town, it was noticed that the bakery, which had sustained starving boys by selling them entire loaves to be consumed individually and immediately during play rehearsals and at film evenings was now a pub called the Bakers Arms. Sadly, there was no sign of the Conservative Club, which Moulard II and Mercer I were alleged, falsely, to have once daubed in red paint during a night time break out. This allegation may also have led to their subsequent expulsion. Neither could they find Southfields House.

At this point, Bright announced that he was going to visit Dorchester South station. This lively interest was tempered by the revelation that he merely wanted to use the usual services.

To while away the time, Braham II and Mouland II went to Maumbury Rings, a Roman amphitheatre very popular on Sunday afternoon compulsory walks. Braham II said that he once helped Fall II with his wicket-keeping exercises there while Bright and Mouland II went for a fag. Bright, who had now rejoined the group, and Mouland II said they had no recollection of this, although the latter did say that Consulate menthol cigarettes, as per the advertising, were very good for you.

Feeling parched, the Society decided to eschew alcohol for the moment and had tea and Dorset apple cake at the Potters Cafe in Durngate, close to the sweet shop where the weekly pocket money of two shillings (and if lucky in the church lucky dip two shillings and threepence) could be spent on mint imperials or, latterly, ten Number 6. Braham II said that they would sometimes climb to the top of St Peter's Church tower and attempt to throw mint imperials down people's chimneys. Bright and Mouland II said they had no recollection of this.

Returning to the Best Western Royale Hotel, Bright said he had some work to do and disappeared to his room. Braham II and Mouland II continued to reminisce until his return and then inquired of reception where they might dine being as how the hotel restaurant was closed. 'Everything's fully booked,' came the chorus from other residents but the Old Hardyans were sure their credentials would hold them in good stead and they ventured into the street. Having been turned away by the Raj Poot because it was fully booked, they crossed the road to the Kao San Thai restaurant where a simple mention of the name Hardys secured them a table. Braham II maintained the wonderful eccentricities of the friendship by, thinking they were edible, trying to eat the table decorations which he pronounced delicious, if, given their waxen appearance, a little tough.

After a delicious meal, the OBs decided to stroll through the streets where bouncers had been employed to keep ne'er do wells out of pubs. Bright continued his fascination for trains by insisting on a visit to Dorchester West Station where there were no trains but a branch of the Domino's pizza chain. It was surmised that one could order a pizza and eat it on a journey to Yeovil Pen Mill station.

The group was grateful to the night porter at the Royale Hotel for keeping the bar open until past midnight when stumps were called on a very satisfying day's play.

The following morning, members decided to attend the Remembrance Day parade and were soon being shouted at for standing in the way of a very fast moving column of marching soldiers. The boys took up position opposite the War Memorial and were pleased to see that the marching of members of the school's Combined Cadet Force was just as bad as it had been in their day. Mouland II recalled that in church, members would alter the last line of the first hymn – 'O God our help in ages past/ Our hope for years to come/ Our shelter from the stormy blast/ That's blowing up our bums.' Braham II and Bright said they had no recollection of this.

Bright then announced he had to go home so Braham II and Mouland II decided to walk to the new school to try to locate the old gates. En route they encountered another old gentleman who they attempted to question while he was trying to cross the road. He claimed to be an old Hardyean – born 1945 – and pointed them in the direction of the gates which had indeed been transported from the old school site and were duly photographed.

This lengthy expedition meant that Braham II and Mouland II arrived at the Dorchester Market car boot sale just as it was packing up. Seeking solace in the Junction Hotel, Mouland II espied G Osborne, of the Dorchester Royal Naval Association who had read the Kohima Epitaph at the morning's Remembrance Service and was now being amply supplied with what appeared to be either port or sherry or possibly both. 'Good speech,' said Mouland II, momentarily unable to remember either the word Kohima or the word Epitaph. 'What speech?' replied Osborne, which was the perfect end to a very good reunion. Floreat Heathcote.



[Photos of the trio Then and Now courtesy of Bill Mouland]

Obituaries - Sincere condolences from the Club to family and friends of those mentioned

Josephine Howell forwarded the obituary below in memory of her father

Reginald Robert Charles (Bob) Howell, passed away with his family by his side at Maine Medical Center on September 18th, 2021.

Born between the World Wars in Exeter, England to parents Reginald and Beatrice, Bob served in the Local Defence Volunteers (the humorously portrayed "Home Guard" of TV show Dad's Army fame) while still at high school. His family and friends will long remember his entertaining stories about defending England's Southern coastal roads armed with just a wooden pole, a rifle with ammunition that didn't fit, and coins for the 'phone box to call for help if the enemy did in fact appear. He enlisted in the Dorsetshire regiment of the British Army in 1940, and in 1942 he was commissioned into the Indian Army, serving in India, Burma, and Malaya until his release in 1946 when he went on to become involved in forestry in Burma, extracting teak – with the aid of a troop of eighty elephants!

In 1948 he returned to England and married Jeannette (Jan), the love of his life. They met during a furlough in 1947, on a day he proclaimed "the luckiest day of my life."

Bob had a long and successful business career, evolving into senior positions in the UK at several companies including H.J. Heinz, General Mills and eventually as Managing Director for Europe, Middle East and Africa for Bristol Myers. What he planned as a calm pre-retirement role as Managing Director of the eponymous Ex-Lax company in the U.K saw him moved in 1976 to become head of that company in New York, and later President of Bachmann Foods, both of which were divisions at that time of the General Cigar Company. He then took the helm of the fledgling Telecheck organization in Denver, which during his tenure was acquired by the Boeing Corporation, where Bob ended his career in 1989 as a corporate Vice President.

He then settled in Maine in the house in Pemaquid he and Jan had purchased many years earlier, and became active in several local organizations. He was most recently President of the Friends of Colonial Pemaquid. Bob felt very much at home in Maine, where he lived longer than he had anywhere else in his life. He loved the State and particularly admired the friendly yet independent spirit of its people.

Jan predeceased him in 2006, and he is survived by three children – Josephine (and son-in-law John Kmetz), of Bath, ME, Adam (and daughter-in-law Jayne), of Doylestown PA, and Matthew (and daughter-in-law Donna), of Allendale NJ; and five grandchildren – Henry, Arlene, Charles, Victoria, and Beatrice.

Bob's lifetime motto was "Frequently wrong, but never in doubt".

Bob will be greatly missed by his family and many friends, and will be remembered for his razor sharp intelligence and wit, boundless curiosity, and generous spirit.

A celebration of Bob's long and well-lived life will be held at a future date. Donations were requested for the Salvation Army.

Desmond W B Spriggs who taught at Hardye's from 1967 until 1993 and was Head of Science.

Andrew Scott writes: I was saddened to hear of the death of Desmond Spriggs.

Desmond (Des) was new to the school when I joined Hardye's in 1968. I was taught Physics by Des up to 'O' Level. I also joined the Signals section of the army section of the CCF, where Captain Desmond Spriggs was the officer in charge. Amongst places I visited with Des and the Signals included the Cultybraggen Camp in Scotland and Proteus Camp in Sherwood Forest.

As I mentioned to (Major) Dave Lacey when I met him a few years ago, initially I strongly disliked the CCF, but ended my time at Hardye's, appreciating and enjoying the experiences the cadet force gave me, Self-Reliance, Abseiling, Caving, '303' rifle shooting, and signalling activities to name a few

At the time, and on reflection even more so I appreciated Des's modern approach to teaching. He tried to teach his pupils on more level status than perhaps the more traditional masters at Hardye's, perhaps even acting slightly as a father figure.

In a casual moment one day, Des asked us, what was his nickname used by us, the pupils. We answered "Des", he calmly answered "well at least it isn't rude"

Andrew Scott (Scottie) Years at school 1968-1975

[Anthony and Julia Moore and Professor Hugh Griffiths were among those present at the funeral]

Dr Robin Wallace *The following Obituary is taken from the website of the Memorial Funeral Home in Newport, Rhode Island.*

Dr. Robin Wallace of Middletown, crossed the bar at home on March 20, 2021, after a long struggle, without complaint, with prostate cancer. Born Alan Robin Gordon Wallace on November 20, 1936, in Weymouth, England, he was the only child of Dr. Gordon and Muriel Wallace. Robin grew up sailing in Weymouth with his father. Robin graduated with a Degree in Medicine from Exeter College in Oxford University. He first visited Newport in 1964, when his father was Commodore of the Royal Dorset Yacht Club, the Challenger of Record, for the British America's Cup Challenge, as well as Fleet Surgeon; the same position his son would hold years later for the New York Yacht Club.



Robin desired to do his residency in the United States, and did so at the Children's Hospital in Boston. After completing his residency in the United States, he moved to Newport, and established his practice in association with Dr. Fred Pearce at the Aquidneck Medical Associates. Soon after he commenced his practice, although a British Citizen, Robin was drafted into the U.S. Army where he served in Vietnam as a Major in the Medical Corps. After his service, he returned to his practice on Memorial Boulevard until retirement in 2003. He remained however the 'school doctor' for St. George's School until 2017.

To describe Robin as an icon in Newport is an understatement. Robin quickly established himself, not only as a sought after pediatrician but also as an avid promoter of sailing. As a member of the Ida Lewis Yacht Club he and his predecessor, Race Committee Chairman Robert Conner, were determined to establish new standards of excellence in race management. They trained the members of the Club and at the same time introduced to America a European type of level ocean racing called "ton" racing. The race series for the Sail Cup was an instant success and showcased the race management competence of the Ida Lewis Yacht Club, for which it is nationally recognized today.

Robin not only worked on the water, he promoted sailing events for Newport. As the Chairman of the State Yachting Committee, for over seventeen years, he educated the state legislators of the tremendous economic impact that sailing produced for the state. Probably the most successful events for Newport and the State of Rhode Island were the Volvo Races in 2015 and 2018 which, it is fair to say, would not have stopped in Newport without the efforts of the State Yachting committee advocating for the release of state funding required to support the event.

Sailing was not Robin's only love. He was devoted to St. George's School. He conducted morning "sick call" at the school for over thirty-five years and was instrumental in upgrading the health center and the general wellness of the St. George's community. His gentle and respectful manner gained the confidence of many teenagers and they often sought his counsel and advice. He attended football and hockey games, home and away, to provide immediate medical attention to players on both teams in the event of injury. His devotion to the student athletes was recognized by the school when he was inducted into its Athletic Hall of Fame several years ago.

After the loss of the America's Cup in 1983, Robin was one of the founding members of Sail Newport, a public sailing organization that provides sailing instruction and boating facilities to the public. Currently all 4th graders in the Newport school system are introduced to sailing at Sail Newport. The organization also runs regattas and hosts many different sailing events and activities that contribute to the betterment of the entire community.

Robin was a Commodore of Ida Lewis Yacht Club and also a long time member of the New York Yacht Club. He was active in race management at both clubs this past season as sailing was one of the sports that one was able to participate in during the pandemic. He was also a long time active member of the Newport Reading Room.

Robin has been long loved by several generations of his pediatric patients and their parents and will be greatly missed by them and a wide spectrum of friends. He leaves two cousins in England, his St. George's family, his Sail Newport family, his Ida Lewis family, the Murphy family, his loyal friends Bill and Pat Steel, and a host of friends in Newport and beyond.

Those wishing to commemorate Robin may do so by donating to Sail Newport, 72 Fort Adams Drive, Newport RI 02840.

Back in 2018 Robin Wallace gave a very well-received address to students at the School, during which he recalled his US Army medical service in Vietnam, something few, if any Hardyens could claim!

Around and about the Thomas Hardy School



On Thursday 11th November, students and staff at the Thomas Hardy School held their annual remembrance ceremony at the Memorial Gates entrance to the school. Staff and students, led by Headteacher Nick Rutherford, gathered at the gates to watch the CCF parade, and join in a short commemoration at which names of former students who gave their lives in service of their country were read by present-day students.

Dorchester Town Mayor Councillor Gareth Jones and Mayoress Anne Jones also attended. The students, as always, showed impeccable respect and maturity.

Hardyens' Club President Godfrey Lancashire laid a wreath on behalf of the Club, also present Club Chairman Nick Grassby and Chairman of Governors Anthony Moore.

<https://www.thomas-hardye.net/school/news/> Follow this link to read many news items of interest concerning events at the School.



And Finally:-

Orlando to play for England?

President Godfrey Lancashire writes **Orlando Bailey**, age 20, has been called into the full England squad for the six nations. He was in the THS winning under-15 side that won the national competition. Then after GCSE he went to the Bath academy. Also there are fellow ex-THS students Frankie Reid, Ethan Staddon and John Stewart. Orlando is studying International Development with Economics at Bath.

Although he is not capped he is in the squad so huge congratulations from us all.
I think the last international from school was Brian Keen as front row forward in 1960s ?

Head of Sport Geraint Hughes says:

Orlando has always been a class act, from day one he was special in all ways. A fantastic player coupled with a humble engaging personality. Having played rugby with boys that went on to be British Lions at College he is still head and shoulders above any of them.

Geraint continues: ..His application to the game is second to none spending hours practising his kicking.

I have no doubt that this is the start of even bigger things. Unreal talent for one so young

Flashback to 2017 :

the winning Under 15 team were welcomed by Dorchester Mayor Tim Harries to the Town Hall.



A more recent picture of 'Landy' in a Gloucester v Bath match