

## ***The Hardyans' Club Newsletter***

Published in Spring, **Autumn** and Winter)



President's letter to Members for the Autumn 2022 Newsletter

Dear Friends,

*I do hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful summer despite turbulent times at home and abroad. I hope you have remained well and will stay free from Winter Flu and Covid.*

*School has continued to thrive and students and staff are so pleased to be back in a face to face environment.*

*I felt privileged to attend the Awards Evening at the end of the summer term and witness the fantastic achievements of so many talented students who continue to do the school such credit.*

*It was lovely to see Lou Thompson so deservedly receive the Governors' special award (see separate feature)*

*We look forward to Lou's wonderful catering at our long awaited next Annual Dinner on Saturday 25th March 2023. As this will be our first Dinner for three years, I do hope as many of you as possible will attend to make it special. It will be lovely to meet friends again so do please make a note now in your diaries. We hope to arrange a tour of the school before the dinner, especially a look at the refurbished and magnificent Theatre. More details to follow.*

*Finally I hope to see some of you at the traditional Remembrance Service at the school gates on Friday 11th November.*

*With my very best wishes,*

*Godfrey "*

*Godfrey Lancashire, President, The Hardyans' Club*

To stay  
in touch  
with your  
Friends

Autumn  
Edition  
2022

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a date  
for your  
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*From the Headteacher*



Dear Hardyeans,

The start of the academic year has brought its usual mix of new students and staff, and all have started strongly. Later this month will see our first theatrical production in our new theatre, as students take on A Midsummer Night's Dream, and I look forward to captivating faeries and a hilarious Bottom. Over the recent half-term break, trips ran to Iceland and Malaga for Geography and Spanish students, and were a roaring success – not least because, for some of our Year 11 students, these were the first residential trips of their secondary school journey. Finally, I am delighted to hear that the Hardyeans' dinner will be going ahead in 2023, and cannot wait to see you all there, and to meet many of you for the first time.

With all best wishes from the school,

*Nick Rutherford*

## **Thomas Hardy School Community Lectures**

A Community Lecture was held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022 in the newly refurbished theatre. The first in a long time due to Covid. John Goss-Custard (Visiting Professor, Bournemouth University) spoke about the effect of environmental change on shorebird populations. This lecture was very well attended and raised £213.95 for Professor Goss-Custard's charity 'Smile'.

There are no further lectures planned at the moment. See the school website for further information. Lectures are normally free to attend with tickets bookable at the School Reception. Donations are very welcome.

## **Forthcoming Club and other events**

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

**Armistice Day at the School Gates, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November.** If you are attending, please note that refreshments tea/coffee, cake, are planned to be available afterwards in the Head's office. Numbers limited so please advise if you are coming. If coming by car please be parked by 10.15/10.30 latest as pupils will be starting to line up.

**Pre--Christmas get together for drinks and chat:- Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 12.30pm at the Poet Laureate, Pummery Square, Poundbury**

**2023 Dinner Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2023 Please put this date in your diaries**

## Hardyans Club Contacts

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[www.facebook.com/groups/Hardyans](http://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/thomashardyeshool](http://www.facebook.com/thomashardyeshool) which links into the main

school website [www.thomas-hardye.net](http://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/](http://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:**

Simon Winchester has been in touch, mentioning old teacher Harold Mann, and would welcome contact from contemporaries. Tony Felton, Mark Loosemore, Jeremy Pretty, Tony Betts, Grahame White, Jonathan Pullen and Miichael Cosby among those who commented. Also Philip Mackie commented on some ?1977 CCF AGI photos  
*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* This site is regularly updated . Please note an error crept in to the web address last time!

## You Write

### **From Hugh Griffiths via Godfrey Lancashire, Club President**

Last week I was admitted as a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS). The Royal Society is the oldest continuous scientific academy in the world, dating back to 1663, and it covers all scientific disciplines: physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, medicine, and now more modern subjects such as information technology and climate science. Just 52 new Fellows are admitted each year.

Part of the ceremony involved signing the Charter Book, which dates back to the origin of the Society and has the signatures of almost all of the Fellows: Newton, Darwin, Faraday, Turing and Hawking, to name but a few. The pages are of vellum, which demands a certain care to avoid ink blotches – we were allowed to practice beforehand to be sure there would be no such irregularity.

It is fascinating to see how the principles of science have evolved over the centuries. The Scientific Method is fundamental, and is encapsulated in the Society's motto 'Nullius in Verba' – loosely translated as 'don't take anyone's word for it'. In the 17th century science was conducted by gentlemen scientists (and they were pretty much all men) of private means. They would exchange information by letter, and sometimes by meeting and discussion. It was evident that discussion was a powerful means of furthering knowledge and understanding.



The Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace

My own scientific work has been in electronics, and particularly in radar. In my research at University College London I have been able to devise some new types of radar with interesting and novel properties.

I recall our science lessons at Hardy's. Not only were we well taught, but our teachers engendered in me a sense of curiosity – that there is always more to learn and to understand. I have so much to be grateful for to Desmond Spriggs, Alan Burton, John Hawthorne, Ralph Davies and Tom McClelland, and many others. I can remember some of those lessons as though they were yesterday.

Hugh Griffiths FRS

*Many Congratulations, Hugh, on behalf of the Club*

### **Brian Hulse**

we have received the following from Brian's wife Ann via Alan Brown, Membership Secretary

I am writing to you on behalf of my husband, Brian Hulse, who is unable to deal with emails now. However he does enjoy news that you send when I read it out to him.

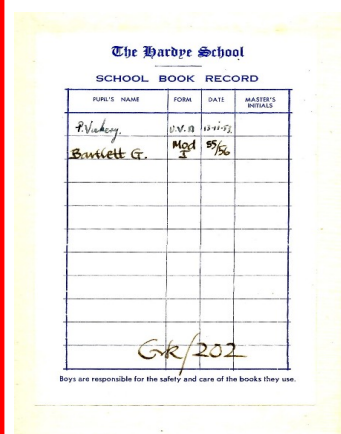
I thought you and others might be interested to know that he will be 100 years old on September 2nd this year. He is rather frail now but does enjoy news from you as well as news he gets about Colchester and Oxford rugby clubs after his service in the army after he signed up in 1939 for the duration of the war.

My daughter and I think he went to Dorchester Grammar School when he was about 11 or 12 years old.

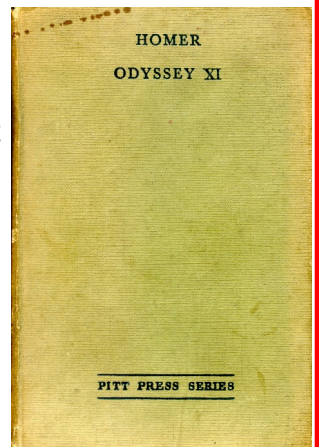
*Many congratulations, Brian, for reaching your centenary!*

### **Bill Johnston**, who attended Hardy's (or DGS, as it was when I began) from 1950 to 1957.

I was amused by the And Finally! story in the Spring 2022 magazine and am ashamed to say that I can beat Mr Kirkness's record!

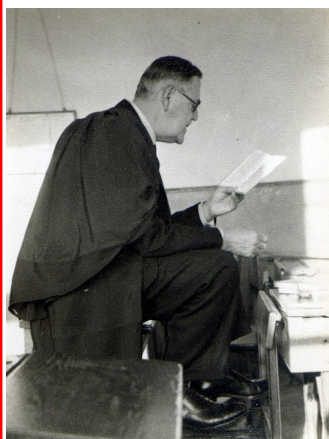


Herewith are two pictures—of the cover of Homer's Odyssey XI, which I studied in the sixth form under Jo Roberts's tutelage; and the borrowers' label, which shows that Gerald Bartlett, the only other boy who studied Ancient Greek with me for A Level in 1957, borrowed it in 1955! Although the label—printed by my father at Longman's Friary Press—bears the school's name the facing page shows that the book was entered into the stocks of Dorchester Grammar School on 24th April 1953. I will return it next time I'm in Dorchester.



Another surprise for Mrs Stevens!

I've added one more unrelated picture.



I took a lot of photos at Hardy's and was actually the official photographer at one of the large CCF parades (during which Captain Russell was presented with some kind of award). As 'Studio Johnno' I put on the notice board many pictures I took at summer camp at Bourley and sold copies to anyone who wanted them. They are very nostalgic, showing everything from the mock A-bomb attack to the 'Wash, rinse and sterilise' bins we had to use for washing up after a meal.

In school I often had a camera and this third picture shows 'Dunc' Lidbury in the normal teaching pose occupied by a number of masters! .....I have more should you wish to do a little piece about my photographic work at Hardy's.

Best wishes,

Bill Johnston.

*[You're welcome to send in a few photos from time to time - Thanks ! – Editors]*



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

**Nigel Drew (1958-65)** sadly passed away 13<sup>th</sup> October 2022, on his 76<sup>th</sup> birthday, surrounded by love and with his family close at hand. The funeral was held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November at Canterbury.

*This sad news came via Jonathan Pullen, Richard Cummins and Simon Frampton. More details on Nigel's FaceBook page – (search for Nigel Drew, Bristol)*

### **Memories of Des Spriggs from Lionel Tarassenko**

Many thanks for sending me the newsletter which reported the death of Desmond Spriggs.

Des was not only my Physics Teacher for A-Level Physics, he was also my Williams housemaster. He had a huge influence on my life as he drove me from Dorchester to Oxford for my Keble College interview (which took place out of sequence). The interview went well and I had six wonderful years at Keble (three years as an undergraduate followed by three years as a doctoral student after a 3-year gap spent in an industrial R&D lab). After a further spell in industry, I returned to be an academic at Oxford where I have been for the past 34 years and, after five years as the Head of the Department of Engineering Science (2014-19), I am now the founding President of Oxford's newest college, Reuben College.

Des was a gentle soul as well as a very committed teacher. He told me that his year at Oxford on a PGCE course (after taking a degree in Manchester, I believe) had been one of the happiest years of his life.

Best wishes,

Lionel

Professor Lionel Tarassenko, CBE FREng FMedSci

## *News from the Hardyans Club Charitable Association*

### **From Julia Moore:**

We heard from all the Bursary Students this summer thanks to the perseverance of Hilary Over. Please find attached their reports some of which are quite lengthy so do feel free to cut down. They have all enjoyed getting back to some sense of normality.

### **Bursary Reports August 2022**

#### **Third Year Students**

**This was the last year for the Bursary** payment. I will be returning to the University of Surrey for my final year in September. In regards to my placement year with PwC, it has been a fantastic year. I have learned a lot during my time and am very proud of what I have achieved. I was based in embankment and was part of the London Audit department. I worked on various Audits for international clients in different industries within entertainment, retail and law firms. Some clients I worked on which you may wish to look up: G4S security, Boden clothing, Global Media, Mischcon De Reya.

In addition, a large part of my placement was spent in college and studying for the ICAEW ACA exams. This is a prestigious chartered accountancy qualification where PwC pays for all the training, college and exams. During my time I successfully completed the 6 'certificate level' exams and 2 of the 'professional' level exams. There are 15 exams in total and by the time I leave Surrey (where I do another 2 of the ACA) I will only have 5 left. Being at PwC also counts towards the 'practical work' experience part of the ACA so I have done 150/450 required hours of the qualification so far. I will be honest in saying it is a very pressured environment and you are expected to always perform to a high standard which can be quite stressful but it is also very rewarding and the work culture is fantastic.

The year was mixed up and split into 'client time' and 'exam time' which was good because you would learn the theoretical elements during exams and then actually apply it when it came time to working in a team for a client. For most of the clients, I would join the team at client site wherever they may be based so often found myself working in various parts of London which was quite interesting to see different companies and offices. PwC is also very flexible so had a split between working from home for 1/2 days and the PwC office for 3/4 days of the week. It purely depended on which team and Audit I was on as different companies have different needs.

I have been offered a return for after I graduate which is excellent. I have however requested that I would like

to move into the 'deals' part of the business, particularly mergers, acquisitions and restructuring. I feel this is where I would prefer working long term based on my experience so far and also allows me to complete the ACA. I will hopefully hear back about that in September!

**My final year at AUB has by far been** the most enjoyable yet! With the pandemic rules now more relaxed, I have been able to further my opportunities such as working on dance shows and collaborating with museums. I have found my final year to be much more independent and creative, I have been able to choose each of my designs and makes myself and have had a lot more creative freedom with them. For my first project of final year, I decided to apply for the Patterns of Fashion Award. This is a national competition where makers must create a historical garment that is as historically accurate as possible; this year we were given the theme of menswear and so I decided to create a Victorian cycling outfit for young men. Although I did not qualify, it gave me the opportunity to delve into manufacturing historical menswear, something which I have not done before.

At the beginning of 2022, I played a role in my university's dance production, A Day of Dance; a day where dancers are able to showcase their choreography throughout the campus, not just confined to their studios. My role was Head of Wardrobe and Alterations, with this I worked closely with the dancers and the costume designers ensuring that all alterations were completed to a high standard and to the wishes of the designers, whilst also making sure that the dancers felt comfortable. My role meant that I ran a lot of the behind-the-scenes jobs, such as booking and setting up changing spaces, organising the costumes by performer, sourcing appropriate accessories, washing and drying the laundry, whilst also altering the costumes so that they fit appropriately. This was a fantastic opportunity as it allowed me to take on a new role which I have never ventured into before. I was able to work with a variety of new industry professionals, which has pushed me further in my abilities.

For my final project at University, I chose to do a personal project. This meant that I was able to manufacture anything I desired; I wanted to pick a topic that I felt was influential and important in fashion history; therefore, I chose to base my project on the Empress Joséphine Bonaparte. The Empress helped introduce the relaxed shape of the Empire Gown, a staple fashion now when we think of the Regency Era. I found a collection of her wardrobe online and decided to recreate one of her looks. I chose a gorgeous Empire gown with puff sleeves and fantastically detailed ruffles and pleats. This look enabled me to showcase my abilities as a maker through the different and various techniques used throughout the garment. Alongside this I created appropriate undergarments such as a corset and slip. This was by far my most rewarding project as I was in total creative control from start to finish. My hard work really paid off on this project as members of Highcliffe Castle have reached out and asked if I would let them display the garment in their exhibition rooms. Once again, the bursary has helped me immensely to create fantastic and historically accurate pieces of work - especially with this garment which is made from 100% silk!

After graduation, I am going to enjoy a well-deserved break before starting my teacher training in September. I have a placement to earn my qualification as a DT Textiles Teacher. I will be on this course for a year, hopefully to then go on to teach full-time. Teaching has always been a passion of mine and I am extremely excited to start and hopefully inspire students to venture into the creative industry.

I would just like to say a huge thank you, the bursary has helped me so much throughout my years at University. It has allowed me to be adventurous with my creations without holding back, and it has taken a weight off my shoulders when it came to budgeting for this course. Without the bursary, I would not have reached the potentials and the abilities that I have done during my time at AUB

## **Second Year Students**

**My second year has been much more enjoyable.**

I was able to make use of the observatory this year. A couple of friends and myself also were trained to use the dedicated astronomy camera, which is normally done in year 3. However, one of our lecturers would like us to do some research for them so pushed for us to get the training this year. We would be looking at the transits of exoplanets by measuring the dip in intensity as the planet passes in front of its star. Hopefully, we can make good use of it for our 3rd year projects along with personal research! It's helpful having the training this side of summer so we can jump straight into it when we get back in September.

Overall, the course has been much more enjoyable this year with everything being in person and I'm looking forward to next year with even more optional modules available to choose from.

**Second year at uni went well.** It was good to be back to in-person lectures. I passed all my modules which I was pleased about. I am assisting a PhD student this summer with their research which will be interesting.

## **First Year Students**

**I've enjoyed my first year at UAL** very much; I love living in London so much, it's a very exciting city and there's always so much going on! I've been working part time at a coffee shop which has also been lots of fun.

My course is going so well, I've been exploring lots of new materials; working in ceramics and creating sculptures. I put on an exhibition too, showing a recent project using film projections, ceramic sculpture and fabrics to create an immersive installation, I was so happy with how it turned out and got amazing feedback from my tutors and peers. So far in my marked units I've received an A which I'm so happy with!!  
I can't wait to go into second year and carry on exploring new ways of creating and move into my new house

**First term largely consisted of me beginning my studies** in Film and French as well as getting to know my surroundings, using my bike to commute around campus and to town. Being a beginner in film studies was daunting at first but I have gained a significant amount of foundational knowledge which I will certainly take with me into second year. Most significantly for me in first term, I joined the uni soul choir and band as the bassist and played two gigs. One which sold out at a local club and one at St. Davids Church for Christmas. The band has been the best part of my first year at uni and I have joined the committee next year as band leader. Later in the year we played at Exeter Phoenix, the Monkeysuit (for charity) and Exeter Cavern (in aid of refugees fleeing war).  
Second Term was very busy for me. I began work part-time as bar-staff at the local bowling alley which was tiring but rewarding overall. As well as this I began volunteer 1-on-1 GCSE English tutoring with Coachbright. I was required to plan a series of about 15 lessons taught over 15 weeks to help the students prepare for their English Literature exam. This was incredibly challenging as it was involved lots of travel and the students often got distracted. Nevertheless, I plan to continue both of these projects next year as they offer great experiences and potentially some professional links if I decide to go into teaching as a career.  
Overall, uni life has been a joy to experience so far. The challenge of balancing studies with social life and working part time has been extremely tiring but I would not change a single thing that has happened during my first year and I feel nothing but excitement and anticipation for 2nd year

**This year has definitely been a lot more normal!** It's been so nice to spend the whole year down in Plymouth and to meet other people on my course and to meet my lecturers face to face. I went for a field week in Wales and saw a harbour porpoise and saw thousands of puffins, this has definitely spiked my interest in sea birds more. This summer and at the beginning of next year I am collecting data on sea birds which I am very enthusiastic about. I am very excited for my placement year, I am doing one placement in Plymouth where I will be teaching AI how to recognise cetacean noises and a three month placement in Spain in cetacean surveying while collecting data for my dissertation. I haven't managed any more diving because I didn't have a dive buddy but I am hoping that with the spare time I will around my Plymouth placement this will be able to change as the person I am doing my placement with also dives. This year has been a struggle due to mental health reasons, however, with my bursary and the help from the university I now have got resources to make studying easier and to help manage my workload so I could still succeed in my studies

**The foundation course at Weymouth College** covers many different areas within art. The year started off experimenting with many different mediums including: painting, printing, illustration, photography, textiles and video. These mini workshops were each a week long, finishing at the October half term.  
My favourite part of this introduction was getting to try new media and techniques. Looking back, I most enjoyed the painting workshop (even though I don't usually paint). This start to the year allowed a lot of experimentation and freedom in my work, especially when trying something new.  
The project I most enjoyed was the collections project, the concept was to imitate museum collections, and displays, this was in two parts, one was displaying things that we had collected, I chose to display a collection of small bird and rodent skeletons I cleaned up, alongside a large collection of polished rocks and shells collected at many different beaches, arranged in colour order. [I unfortunately don't have photos of this aspect of the project]  
For the second half of the project we were still following inspiration from the trip to the museums. I was most fascinated by the various types of dolls that were on display and I created a few of my own. Two were possible hand sewn fabric dolls, and the third was a paper doll, which I illustrated digitally but in a traditional style following an 1895 extant piece.  
My favourite project was a mini half week project after the workshops where we had time to expand on one of our previous ideas from one of the workshops. I decided to expand on the textiles project, creating more costume-y designs, and I used a new type of mono printing technique that I developed myself in order to make these designs as collages. I loved having this extra bit of freedom to expand on my previous ideas, it was great being given time to explore the ideas rather than leaving them as theory this extra bit of freedom to expand on my previous ideas, it was great being given time to explore the ideas rather than leaving them as theory

I think taking a foundation year was a great stepping stone between 6th form and university.

*Club members are always pleased to hear how the students of today are progressing and we wish them all well with their future careers*



## *Around and about the Thomas Hardy School*

Club President Godfrey Lancashire was delighted to be invited to the School Awards evening in July 2022. Guest speaker was Chris Sawyer, co-producer of BBC Radio 1 Breakfast show, He spoke well and hit the spot for the students. At school 20 years ago ? Via mobile link he got Greg James, Radio 1 DJ, to do shout outs for his former teachers including Tony Moore and Hilary Over.

### **Lou gets the Chair of Governors' Award (July 2022)**

Tony Moore writes:

#### *The Chair of Governors' Award*

The Chair of Governors' Award is given to a member of the school community who has gone above and beyond for the school during recent years. Often this person is an unsung hero/heroine.

Lou Thompson, the Catering Manager, has driven huge change within our school catering. She is passionate about students having access to well cooked, balanced meals. She is a great supporter of local businesses and making sensible choices about sustainability and the environment.

If this wasn't enough, during Covid Lou managed the organisation of high quality food hampers for over 200 families each week within the Thomas Hardy School community. This was then extended to other local schools. All fed back the gratitude felt by those who received the hampers. Lou has supported the Hardyears with their annual dinner and has received numerous compliments for her catering and unstinting support of the club.

She has completely transformed the catering provision at THS and is still as passionate about her work today as she was when she started. Lou should be proud of all that she and her team has achieved. For these reasons she received the Chair of Governors' Award at the Presentation Evening in July.

Lou responded:-

It was a great surprise and an honour to be presented with the 'chair of governors' award' yesterday evening for my help in evolving the catering provision at Thomas Hardy school. I would like to thank the governors for the award, those who nominated me, and everyone who has supported and encouraged me along the way.

But most of all I would like to thank my team past and present without whom none of our achievements would have been possible. In particular I would like to say a big thank you to Tina Hansford, Karen Fuller and Julie Newton who were here when I first started at Thomas Hardy in 2015 and who have stuck with me through thick and thin. Change is never easy when we are set in our ways and there's no one more annoying than the new lady that thinks she knows best! Despite many "here we go again" looks from these three, they hung on for the full ride and I am so glad they did. Tina retired during the pandemic after many years of loyal service but Karen and Julie are still part of the team today. Karen in particular has taken on more responsibility as the service has grown for which I am very grateful.

It is an immense pleasure and honour to work at Thomas Hardy School and with such great people. We are proud of the service we provide and will continue to do our best to serve the needs of the school and community



Thanks again

Kindest regards

Lou Thompson

Photos: Lou being presented with her Award by Tony Moore, Chair of Governors, courtesy of Alex Schooling, Thomas Hardy School, and the Award itself, courtesy of Lou.



## *And Finally!*

Do take a look at the School website – lots of news of what the students are getting up to, and an Autumn Newsletter has just been published. You can find this by clicking on the ‘Parents’ tab on the School website, but here are some of the highlights:-

*‘The Music department has had a fantastic start to the new term with over 200 students taking part in co-curricular projects. In September, over 100 students took part in a vocal workshop with professional vocal coach, Charles MacDougal. They learnt a range of songs in a variety of styles and raised the roof of the Thomas Hardy Theatre with their 8-part harmony singing. In the afternoon, 100 middle school students joined them in a fantastic collaboration. This joint venture will be repeated on 29th November in the stunning acoustics of Portsmouth Cathedral, with world-renowned Gabrieli Consort & Players as part of the exciting Gabrieli Roar project, a festive celebration of the spectacular polychoral music of Michael Praetorius and Heinrich Schütz. Closer to home, we held our Autumn Concert at the United Church Dorchester in October, with our sixth-form music students and the Thomas Hardy Singers.’*

A list of successful Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme participants is given and CCF news as follows:- *‘The Thomas Hardy School CCF underwent its biennial inspection on 7th October with reviewing officer Air Commodore Paul Rose. It was a hugely successful inspection, with many cadets receiving awards on the final parade. Maj Kevin Matthews, Capt Gillian Copson, Flt Lt Vicky Nichols, Flt Lt Alex May and Lt Natalie Williams received HM The Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Medal for services to the cadet forces. The school also hosted the first annual Dorset CCF competition against Bournemouth School, Budmouth College and Milton School on 1st October. Thomas Hardy CCF drew on points with Bournemouth, but Bournemouth won the Normandy Cup after winning one more event. The Normandy Cup 2023 will be hosted by Bournemouth School.’*

*Among other items of news to be found on the School website:*

Year 11 Literature and year 12 and 13 Performing Arts students paid an exciting visit on Friday 14th October to the Globe Theatre in London, to see a fabulous production of Shakespeare’s play ‘Much Ado About Nothing’. The students first toured and learned about the building, which famously replicates the 17th-century Globe, and where plays are performed by actors ‘in the round’ to become an intimate, shared experience with the audience.

Next they participated in a workshop, where they explored ideas on conflict within ‘Much Ado’ using voice, gesture and movement. Lastly the students watched the fantastic comedy-filled production, crammed with Shakespeare’s brilliant battles of wit, wordplay, and poetic genius.



Moved to the end of WW2 and northern Italy rather than 17th-century Sicily, the play was brought up to date with minor tweaks resulting in completely different yet relatable and relevant inferences. This was the pinnacle of a day replete with memorable moments.