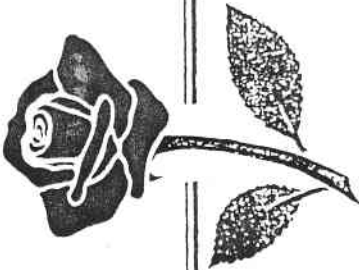
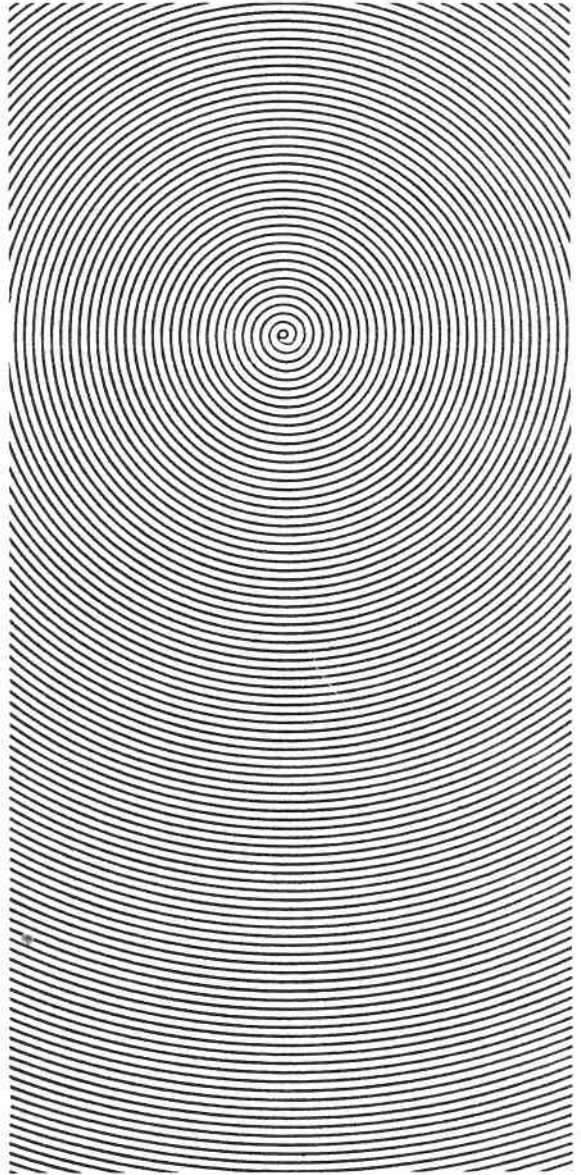


OLD GEORGIANS



Newsletter 1991



# OLD GEORGIANS ASSOCIATION

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President	Mrs. G.P. Evans
Chairman	Mr. P.D. Bagshaw
Hon. Treasurer	Mr. J.A. Fairclough
Hon. Secretary	Mr. J.R. Pilling
Committee Members	All Past Chairmen
Staff Representative	Mr. R. Mitchell

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Mr. J.R. Pilling,  
15, Lynton Drive,  
Hillside, Southport,  
PR8 4QP.

Information/Booking Forms should be returned to:

Mr. R. Mitchell,  
King George V College,  
Scarisbrick New Road,  
Southport,  
PR8 6LR.

# NEWSLETTER 1991

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work and play brought out the best in pupils who came under his influence. The success of Edward's House between 1967 and 1978 is testimony to his ability to inspire.

One of his proudest achievements came in 1978, when KGV, in its last year as a grammar school, won the National Lifesaving Championship, a competition open to all schools in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. To mark this success, the Commonwealth Council awarded him their 'Medal of Recognition' for services to the Royal Lifesaving Society. His skill in teaching lifesaving continued when the Sixth Form College was opened in 1979, and we have held the Saunders Trophy for the past three years.

The transition from the Grammar School to the College was not an easy task for Eric as he lost the services of many of the staff who had helped in running school teams but, despite the problems of staffing, he has managed to maintain five to seven team games on Wednesday afternoons. Continued success has been maintained by the badminton team in winning the Merseyside Top Schools Competition on many occasions and, as previously mentioned, the Lifesaving. Eric also introduced many new activities into the curriculum; including trampolining, archery, unihock and volley ball.

*Stan Rimmer & Dave Miley.*

### **MRS AUDREY PRICE**

Mrs Audrey Price retires as Tutor in Charge of Physics, and as a full-time physics teacher, at the end of term, after a distinguished career as a teacher and personal tutor. Mrs Price was a Cambridge mathematician who changed to physics, finding greater satisfaction in applying mathematics to unravel problems in the physical world. Her teaching career has been varied. She taught in West Africa and at several schools in this country, most recently at the Southport High School for Girls and the College. She was appointed to the College when it was established and as Tutor in Charge of Physics seven years ago.

Mrs Price has been a very successful teacher. She often intrigued her students when she said she believed that the main ideas in physics could be written on a post card and then the rest was just the application of common sense. This clarity of thought has enabled her to inspire the able student, but also to help those who found the 'mysteries' of physics more difficult to cope with.

As a woman she has been an encouragement to girls coming to study physical science in the College but, at the same time, she has been most effective in her guidance of boys. Perhaps coping with her two sons, both of whom studied science in the College, helped her in this last respect. Mrs Price has always set high standards of work and conduct. Her shrewd sense of judgment, coupled with a compelling sense of humour, have enabled her to be a trusted guide, teacher and friend. Her subject has enthralled her throughout her career and her enjoyment and enthusiasm have been imparted to many a student.

True to form, Mrs Price will probably continue with studies for an additional degree after her retirement. Fortunately, her colleagues and students will continue to enjoy her company as she will teach in the College next year on a part-time basis. We all give her our best wishes for the future.

*Peter Richardson.*

## **34 YEARS OF SERVICE**

### **J. AUSTIN FAIRCLOUGH**

**Appointed Treasurer to Old Georgians in 1957; Retiring in 1991**

Joseph Austin Fairclough is an institution. Austin is one of this Association's few links with King George V School's first home at "The Woodlands" where he was a pupil for some time, before taking part in the 1926 migration from Manchester Road to Scarisbrick New Road. He was present at the formal Opening of the new School by the Earl of Derby in October 1926. Austin recalled those memories vividly for us in the Video produced to mark the Sixtieth Anniversary celebrations.

When Austin left the School his interest in figures led him into the profession of Accountancy, in which he served for the greater part of his working life in Southport. However, it could be said that he never really left School as he was a keen supporter of the Old Boys Association from its early days, and again in its revival following the end of the War in 1945.

I first met Austin when I was a pupil at the School some 45 years ago. We both attended St. Cuthbert's Church, Churchtown, where there was a flourishing Badminton Club of which Austin, his wife and my parents were keen members and I followed in their footsteps.

Austin's mind for figures was at least as good and nimble as his footwork on the badminton court. It was a great personal pleasure to me when he was elected Treasurer of the Old Boys Association in 1957, a position which he has held with distinction to this day. He also served as Chairman in the year 1968 to 1969. Austin has been a good steward of our finances; it is thanks to his unremitting effort that the Association's financial position has been firmly based for many years. This has enabled the Association to support projects for the benefit of the School, and latterly the College.

We were all upset when Long Rigg had to go, for on Chairman's Weekends, and on other occasions too, Austin enjoyed walks on the hills nearby while, in the evening, his witty stories entertained the company.

Yes Austin, we have enjoyed serving with you over many years and we are sad that, after a long period of excellent devotion to duty, your ill-health makes you feel you must lay down your pen. We shall miss your questioning, "Where does the money come from?", whenever the Committee thinks of spending a little. We shall miss your cheerfulness over adversity.

**H. J. M. Royden**  
**(woodhams 1954-49)**

As we go to press, we have just had the sad news of Austin's death on Monday 11th February

## A TRIO OF RETIREMENTS

At the end of the Summer Term 1990, the College said goodbye to three members of staff with more than 75 years of service to KGV between them.

### MR JOHN CLOUGH

John Clough joined the Classics Department at King George V School in 1956. Initially, he was a shy and rather diffident member of the staff, but it soon became clear that he was a fine teacher. As time progressed he showed a sharp rapier-like wit. This wit was, in later years, to be embellished by the trait, peculiar to Wigan, of outrageous overstatement.

He was for some years in charge of the Chess Club. During this time the school developed a very high reputation in the North West, particularly in the Sunday Times Competition. As official team chauffeur I was able to bask in his reflected glory.

When Long Rigg was purchased he was a very hard-working member of the team of staff and parents who developed it into the establishment it became. It made little difference whether it was a working party to decorate, or a raffle to be organised to raise money, he was one of the first to offer his help.

During this time, having taken over the Classics Department, he developed the range of subjects offered. These included the introduction of Ancient History as an 'A' level option. He was also responsible for arranging a wide range of courses as part of General Studies. In addition he was for many years Housemaster of Rogers. Under his leadership they were a House to be feared in all Inter-House competitions. He is remembered with affection by all past members of the House who never fail to ask how "Jack" is getting on, whenever or wherever one meets them.

One of David Arnold's best ideas on the inception of the College was to ask John to take on responsibility for the Admissions procedure. This gave full rein to his great organisational skills. He also continued to widen the scope of General Studies.

Throughout John has been supported by his wife Anne, a classicist like him, and a talented family of four children. I feel privileged to have known them.

Enjoy your retirement John. Take it from me, it's a lot better than working!

*Bob Abram.*

During the last two years, since he assumed overall responsibility for 'A' Division, I've worked very closely with John on the pastoral side of College life. I've enjoyed doing so, and have appreciated his involvement and support. Typically self-effacing but always well-informed and astute, he shows wisdom, tolerance and firmness in his judgments. A very fair-minded man, I've chuckled (occasionally laughed out loud, not always at the appropriate moment) at his sense of humour and respected his self-command.

*Viv Chadwick.*

In these days of performance indicators and profiling there is a risk that to

describe someone as a "good schoolmaster" is to pay them a back-handed compliment. I can say it of John because he certainly is a good schoolmaster, but he is not just that. He has played a major role in managing the transition from Grammar School to Sixth Form College. He believes that management, like politics, is the art of the possible and that new ideas have to be sold to the 'troops' and 'those out there'. Ever a man of the clear desk and orderly filing cabinet, he set an example that many have admired and few attained.

He taught his colleagues as well as his students, usually by example, but also by the judicious use of "the quiet word", never resented and usually acted upon. He has a remarkable knack of spotting problems as soon as they appear on the horizon and enabling appropriate action to be taken. Like the 'Man on the Clapham Omnibus' only more so, the 'Man on the Wigan Train' represents sanity and a sense of proportion.

At Christmas 1989 John completed his hundred terms of service to KGV and, with that century safely in the bag, he has decided that it is time for a declaration. His time at the crease extends over more than half of KGV's total innings. He deserves a standing ovation all the way back to the pavilion but will probably opt for a characteristically low key departure across the field to Meols Cop Station. Only then will we realise how much we shall miss him.

*Roger Mitchell.*

### ERIC S. GALE HEAD OF P.E. 1957-1990

Eric Gale, who retires this summer, is one of several members of the former grammar school staff who have given well over 30 years service to KGV. A Cumbrian by birth, he was educated at Nelson Grammar School, Wigton. From there he joined the Army, achieving the rank of sergeant during his service in Italy.

On leaving the Army in 1949, he went firstly to Culham College, Leeds, where he studied Physical Education. His first teaching post was Head of P.E. at Creighton School, Carlisle, from where he joined KGV as Head of P.E. in 1957.

An outstanding all-round sportsman himself, he made a great success of continuing and furthering the high sporting standards for which the grammar school was renowned throughout the North West. In the 60s and 70s his enthusiasm and inspirational style rubbed off on to so many young and not-so-young members of the teaching staff who, under his guidance, coached and organised teams which did battle with, and scored frequent successes against, the likes of Manchester Grammar School, Cowley Grammar School, Merchant-Taylors', Queen Elizabeth Grammar, and countless others.

He always laid great emphasis on the enjoyment of recreation and its importance in the development of healthy minds and bodies. By widening the choice of activities available to pupils, he has earned the gratitude of many who had little or no aptitude for rugby and cricket.

From 1967 he enjoyed an important pastoral role in the life of the grammar school as Housemaster of Edward's House. His sympathetic nature, genial personality and easy approachability, allied to his insistence on high standards in

## The President's Letter

### A Farewell and a Welcome

I must start by paying a warm tribute to the memory of David Sutton, a KGV Old Boy who eventually returned to Southport and became our Deputy Chairman of Governors. He died in the Spring from a heart attack. It was the College's good fortune to have David on the Governing Body just as we were taking responsibility for running our own budget. His calm good sense, sharp intellect and knowledge both of education and the commercial world served us well. I valued these abilities highly but felt his loss even more because he became a personal friend. His kindness and understanding were limitless. Generations of students benefitted from his knowledge and experience of interviews and selection panels. The David Sutton Award has been established to fund one award each year to be given to the student, selected by the staff, who has overcome most obstacles in attaining their career ambition. Contributions are still welcome; cheques should be made payable to the "David Sutton Award".

This year has been one of the most exciting in the whole of my professional career. As a result of the 1988 Education Act, the College became responsible for managing its own budget of £1,314,206. Although we do not yet enjoy the full advantages of a numbers-led budget, and will not do so for another three years, our achievements in this first year show what a liberating effect this fundamental change has had. The first internal decorating for 11 years has taken place and the Drama Hall, entrance foyer and offices show the benefits. The Language Lab. has been renovated, a spare classroom made out of an office and adjoining cupboard and a new carpeted social area provided for the students. For the first time the College has a Chartered Librarian on its staff and benefits from increased numbers of office employees. The biggest project is the development of a supported self-study unit attached to the Library. Here students will be able to organise their own studies with the help of computers, audio-visual aids, tapes, slides and a variety of book and paper resources. If you would like to help this project as an Old Georgian and have your name commemorated, contributions to the furnishings would be welcome. A small plaque on each item so donated will note the giver's name.

The College Production, a Liverpool Family Saga, will be staged from April 16th - 18th. Do phone the College office, Southport 530601, if you would like to reserve tickets.

With an increased number of applicants, a building repair and renovation programme, major curriculum innovation and a healthy response to advertisements for vacancies, KGV welcomes the 90s with confidence.

Geraldine Evans

## The Chairman's Letter

If you can negotiate the Town Hall steps with enough energy to have in reserve the power to push the revolving door, you may enter the inner recesses of the civic catacomb. At the end of a plaster-board corridor place your ear to the door of the Ainsdale Room to hear the words of the silver-tongued and silver-haired, if not all silver-spooned. Hours are spent over minutes, mail from males is read and own-brand chocolate biscuits are dipped into warm coffee. The air is thick and heavy with reminiscence and Vick vapour-rub. The Old Georgians are in geo-stationery orbit. Ah, but . . .

All of this is probably actionable because at least part of it is untrue. What is true is the message for Old Georgians; we must continue to pursue our two main objectives. The first has always been to enable former students to keep in touch with news about their contemporaries, their teachers, and the activities and achievements of school or college. The Annual Dinner and the Newsletter assist in attaining this end.

The second objective, sometimes overlooked in the past, is that of offering the best possible service to King George V College, its staff and its students. Over the past year a number of Old Georgians have given up time to make practical links between the Association and the College by participating in mock interview panels, giving advice and counselling at Careers Advisory Days, acting as adjudicators at Public Speaking Competitions and offering Work Experience to College students.

As Chairman I urge all who read this newsletter to contemplate ways in which they might increase the commitment of Old Georgians to the College and its enterprises. There is an enormous range of expertise residing in the membership and not all of it has, so far, been exploited to the best advantage. I ask you to contact me with any ideas you may have in this regard.

In conclusion I offer the best wishes of the Association, and Honorary Life Membership, to three recently retired College teachers: Audrey Price, Eric Gale and John Clough. I recognise too the perennial efforts of Stan Rimmer in organising the Dinner, and the time sacrificed by Roger Mitchell at the College to keep alive Old Georgians' membership and contacts. Above all, I pay warm tribute to the long and faithful service given by Austin Fairclough, both as Treasurer and as a charming and witty member of this Association.

I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the Annual Dinner on Maundy Thursday. There are no steps to negotiate and no revolving door to push, but you might catch a hint of vapour-rub on the air as you enter.

Paul Bagshaw

## NEWS OF OLD GEORGIANS

Ackroyd, Prof. R.T.  
(Woodhams 32-40)

After retirement from government service he now runs a research group on Radiation Transport at London University.

Ashort, Stephen R.  
(P6 84-86)

Graduated from Hull University with a degree in Chemistry in July 1989. He is now working for Central Edible Oils in their Bootle Laboratory, doing research and development.

Baldwin, J.G.  
(A1/A9 83-85)

Passed the Bar Vocational Course at the Inns of Court School of Law in 1990 and is now a Pupil Barrister in Liverpool.

Barton, G.B.  
(Spencers 34-44)

Studying "the legacy of the nineteenth century novel". People as well as Maths now!

Barton, Richard  
(Gears/M2 77-84)

Graduated in Maths from Durham University in 1987. Currently working for Coopers & Lybrand in Reading.

Bell, P.R.  
(H4 83-85)

Graduated from Lancashire Polytechnic with an upper second in Law and Politics in 1990. Presently studying for an M.A. in International Relations and Defence Studies at Lancaster University.

Counce, P.A.

Currently employed by the Delta Group after obtaining a B.Eng.(Hons) in Combined Engineering at Coventry Polytechnic in June 1988.

Crompton, N.E.A.  
(Hollands 71-77)

Leading a Radiation Cytogenetics Group at the Paul Scherrer Institute at Villigen in Switzerland.

France, A.D.  
(Gears 67-70)

Appointed Dean of the Lancashire Business School at Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston.

Gow, C.R.G.  
(Woodhams 75-80)

Currently acting as expert on Nineteenth Century European Painting with Sotheby's in New York.

Hartwell, B.J.  
(Masons 21-24)

Is living in retirement with his son (Ian Hartwell, Masons 1954-61), and his wife.

Hershon, Dr. Cyril  
(Spencer's 48-55)

Two books published this year: *Ripples*, with Rev. Peter Hill, a collection of new Christian/Judaic stories, and *The Castles of Cary*, a Norman history.

Hughes, A.D.(Des)  
(Rogers 48-56)

Has taken early retirement from a lecturing post in St. Albans, having completed nearly thirty years. About to set up a Sports Injury Clinic in partnership with the Bedfordshire Area Health Authority.

Jenkin, Richard  
(Masons 45-54)

Appointed Senior Forestry Adviser for Asia, Pacific and Latin America with the Overseas Development Administration, Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

Hulme, P.M.  
(Gears 55-62)

Trading Director for Tate & Lyle International Ltd., London.

Johnson, Cyril A.  
(Spencer's 24-31)

Now retired after a lifetime in advertising.

Joss, Martin  
(Lunns 73-79)

Studying part-time to qualify as youth worker.

Preece, Haydn  
(Hollands 77-79)

Graduated from University of Kent with M.A. in Modern History. Currently Head of History and Head of Third Year at Northfleet School for Boys, Gravesend.

Reid, Alan  
Woodhams 59-64)

Now Chairman of Grant Reid Communications of Dallas, Texas, which hires accommodation in Paris and London to Americans.

Robinson, Stephen John  
Gears/New Evans/H3  
7-83)

Graduated from Sheffield University in 1986 with an upper second in Accounting and Financial Management. Qualified as a Chartered Accountant with Grant Thornton International in 1989.

Ryan, Anne-Marie  
35 82-84)

Qualified as a dentist from Manchester University in 1988. Now working with a practice in New Mills (Derbyshire).

Sach, Keith  
Rogers 62-67)

Has been involved in management and consultancy. Currently heads the leisure safety segment of a firm of international architects and leisure planners.

Staples, Ruth  
5 82-85)

Graduated from Teesside Polytechnic in 1988 with Graduate Diploma in Physiotherapy. Now working as a senior physiotherapist at Sheffield Children's Hospital.

Stith, James  
Masons 44-52)

Retired from British Telecom last year and is now operating as an independent business consultant. He is Chairman of Clarke and Tilley, a medium-sized software house.

Smith, K.M.  
(Edwards 31-36)

Became a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical Engineers in 1971. Retired ten years ago from the Principal Lectureship in Electrical Engineering at Huddersfield Polytechnic.

Stringfellow, Martin  
(Woodhams 70-76)

Now Manager of German Banking with Kleinwort Benson Ltd. Also married in February 1989.

Sweeney, Gordon  
(Masons 77-84)

Travelled to India to take a Yoga Teachers' course, staying for 14 weeks. On return won the national championship of the board-game "Britannia", for the second year running.

Sykes, J.J.  
(66-73)

Has recently completed a two year course at Manchester Business School for a Master's degree in Business Administration, and is now working in Germany for Agfa-Gevaert in strategic planning.

Tarpey, Alison R.  
(76-78)

After two and a half years with the Southport Visiter, Alison has been awarded the Russell Harty Scholarship, a joint award of BBC Radio Lancashire and Red Rose Radio. The scholarship includes a bursary of £6,000 and a place at Lancashire Polytechnic for a year to study radio and television journalism.

Thompson, Prof. J.J.  
(Woodhams 49-57)

Appointed Deputy Chairman of the Schools Examination and Assessment Council in 1989. Also received CBE in the June 1989 Birthday Honours List.

Topping, Chris  
(Leechs/H 75-81)

Graduated in Law from Sheffield University 1985. Qualified as Solicitor in 1988, working in Liverpool with Jackson and Canter. Married in July 1987 to Kathryn Willis.

Wilson, A.A.  
(Edwards 28-36)

Received OBE in New Years Honours List 1986 for services to Civil Defence.

Wood, Paul  
(85-87)

Currently in final year of a B.Sc. in Maritime Geography at Cardiff University.

Worsley, E.W.  
(Rogers 42-47)

Qualified as a Colliery Manager in 1958 while working for the National Coal Board from 1947 to 1968. Over the next 20 years worked for two companies supplying mining equipment. Now running his own company as an agent for mining equipment.

## Special Announcement

K.M. Smith, whose career changes are detailed in *News of Old Georgians*, wishes to say, paraphrasing Mark Twain, that reports of his death in last year's Newsletter were much exaggerated. He remains grateful to T.H. Dutton for proposing his re-admission to the Old Georgians, as well as to the land of the living.

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## OBITUARIES

**Sutton D. F.** (Grears 1936-43). A former Chairman of the Old Georgians and Vice-Chairman of KGV College Governors. Died 1990.

**Geldard B.** (1953-4). Died November 1990, in Southport.

**Sourbut B.** (Masons 1946-53), formerly Lecturer in English at St. John's College York. Died January 13th 1991, in York.

**Flemming C. F.** (Physics Master 1945-73). Died July 1990, in Southport.

### **An appreciation of C. F. Flemming:**

Cliff Flemming, who died on July 4th 1990, joined the Physics staff of KGVS in April 1945, remaining until his retirement in 1973. For the last twenty years of his career he was Leech's housemaster.

In his younger days he was an enthusiastic hockey coach, introducing boys to a sport not previously available as an option on games days; later he enjoyed coaching the school golfers. He started the Photographic Society and many hours in the dark room were spent in imparting his careful, scientific approach to young photographers, and he recorded school events, especially the annual play. Every year he gave a new group of actors immortality on the corridor walls. His contribution to the school orchestra continued unfailingly, his flute giving invaluable support to a succession of music teachers.

He will be remembered by his colleagues and his pupils for his patience and sympathetic understanding of others' problems; signal qualities in both his teaching and his pastoral work as a Housemaster. He was a gentle man.

We offer our condolence to his widow, his daughter, two sons and a number of grandchildren. Both his sons are Old Georgians; Christopher a doctor in general practice, Michael a principal scientist at Harwell.

**George Wakefield**

## OLD GEORGIANS ANNUAL DINNER

SOUTHPORT & BIRKDALE CRICKET CLUB

Thursday March 28th 1991

The fine club facilities of the County Cricket Ground in Trafalgar Road are, once again, our choice of venue for this year's Dinner on Maundy Thursday. We regret that our President, Geraldine Evans, is unable to attend and we are very grateful to Geoffrey Dixon for agreeing to preside again.

The menu will be as follows:

Cream of Leek and Potato Soup

\*

Sea Food Vol-au-Vent

\*

Chicken in Mushroom Sauce  
with selected vegetables

\*

Meringue with Fresh Fruit

\*

Cheese and Biscuits

\*

Coffee and Mints

Dinner will be at 8 p.m., preceded by the Annual General Meeting at 7 p.m.  
Tickets cost £13 and are available from -

Roger Mitchell at King George V College, Tel. 530601  
Stan Rimmer, Tel. 76713 Paul Bagshaw, Tel. 65075

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### CAR BOOT SALE

On Saturday June 1st the Old Georgians plan to participate in the KGV Parents' Association Car Boot Sale. Proceeds will go to College funds. Those who can provide items for sale should phone Alan Chandler (67743) or Tommy Dutton (533216). Items should be brought to Alan Chandler at 2D Richmond Road, Birkdale.

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### AUTUMN SOIREE

An Old Georgians Soirée will be held at the Town Hall on Friday November 15th at 8 p.m. Wine and savouries will be served and musical entertainment will be provided by students of King George V College. All profits will go to charity and the availability of tickets will be announced in the local free press in the Autumn. Further details from Paul Bagshaw (65075).

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

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**Date:** Thursday 28th March 1991

**Time:** 7.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Southport & Birkdale Cricket Club.

### Agenda:

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Last Annual General Meeting
3. Matters Arising
4. Chairman's Report
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Officers for 1991-1992
7. Any Other Business