

THE RED ROSE



20 07

The Magazine of the
Old Georgians' Association

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians,

A particular highlight of 2006 has been the honour of MBE awarded to John Rostron, our Chairman of Governors, and one of your fellow Old Georgians. John's work for the College over the 15 years that I have been Principal has been outstanding and I know that his contribution goes back to before my own appointment by a number of years.

No one deserves it more. His commitment to voluntary, unpaid public service is remarkable. His service to King George V College before, during and after incorporation has been exceptional. His chairmanship as leader of the board during important years of development for KGV has been central. How proud Geoffrey Dixon would be.

The quality of governorship at the College was given the highest possible grade by inspectors. In addition to his 19 years of service for KGV, John has also given decades of unpaid service in governorship in both the primary and secondary sector in Sefton. He has chaired Farnborough Road Primary School Board and Greenbank High School.

John is also well known in Southport for the charity work he and his wife Christine do for the Osteoporosis Society and for the work he does for the dental and medical community. I could not be more pleased that he has received this award from Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

I am delighted to present a report for 2006/07 demonstrating outstanding achievement and continued excellence for King George V College. During this year we had our best ever set of A Level results, (up from 97.7% to 98.4%). In addition to that, 48% of those passes were at A or B grades.

35 courses achieved 100% pass rate at A Level. In summary it was a very good year for students.

In addition to academic success, between January 2006 and January 2007 our students went on approximately 100 curriculum visits/out of classroom activities. Just as Long Rigg in the days of the School was there to provide a different experience for students, so these 100 visits provide a different, out of classroom experience for students. For some it may be participating in a Parliamentary debate in the House of Commons with other 16 – 19 year olds nationwide, for others it may be visiting Chester Zoo with the Psychology Department to study animal behaviour. It may be a trip to Arran for the Geologists or a visit to the Law Courts in Liverpool for Law students. The variety is extraordinary, and the extent to which staff are prepared to enhance the learning of their students, just as in the days of the School, is impressive.

The trust fund set up from the sale of Long Rigg facilitates these activities. The Educational Foundation supports each of those individual students who could not afford to participate in the out of classroom activities without financial help. As Old Georgians, you can be very proud that the legacy of Long Rigg is that no student is prevented from participating through lack of finance. The Trust set up is used by trustees to ensure this. Paul Bagshaw, the Trustee representative of Old Georgians strongly represents this ideal. 128 students were supported by these funds last year.

A new venture for the College during the year 2006/07 has been to set up a link with mainland China. I was very privileged to travel with the Director of Children's Services, Bryn Marsh, Councillors Maureen Fearn and Vincent Platt, 4 primary school headteachers and 3 colleagues from 2 secondary schools. We travelled to Chongqing (a city of some 12 million people) and we worked very hard through interpreters with the Nan'an District Education Officers and individually in the schools with which we are linked.

KGV is linked with Verakin High School, a very impressive establishment. I have signed a formal agreement with them which says that we hope to undertake some teacher exchange and the sharing of ideas. We may at a later stage do some student exchange and we will certainly set up email correspondence between students.

The next step is for the Principal of Verakin High School, Mr Chuxx to come to KGV in March 2007 along with other headteachers and with senior representatives from Nan'an District Education Office. It is a new venture for the College which I genuinely believe will enhance the general knowledge and understanding of our students in a way that will be very important to them in the future.

I have already spoken to our Head of Economics, Mary McDonagh, about ensuring that our General Studies programme next year includes broader aspects of globalisation. I am more and more convinced that our students are quite simply unaware of the phenomenal rise of South East Asia. As they take up their place for higher education and the world of work, they need to understand that China's manufacturing base has grown so significantly over the last decade, that this will affect the way this country prospers or doesn't in the next decade. Engaging with that agenda is essential for our future leaders and professionals.

Hilary Anslow OBE

Principal

THE CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

I was delighted and honoured to accept a second term as Chairman for the year which celebrates the 80th anniversary of the founding of King George V Grammar School. My previous term was in 1971.

There are many people I must thank for all their help during this year. In particular my predecessor Duncan Burton, Paul Bagshaw, Alan Bond, Mike Hyde, John Pilling and last but not least, Stan Rimmer.

I would also like to thank Peter Lynas for keeping us informed about all the developments at the College.

I was pleased to attend the Music Concert at the College. The performances of the students were excellent and they deserved a much larger audience. Stan Rimmer organised the evening at S & B Cricket Club involving bowls, darts and snooker together with a fine hot pot supper. It was my first visit to this event but it will not be my last.

At this time in December we are looking to find my successor and I am sure you will be happy with our choice. When you receive the Red Rose we will be enjoying the Chairman's weekend in Grasmere. The response to this has been very gratifying.

The arrangements for the Annual Dinner are in the safe hands of Stan Rimmer and the full details are shown later.

My Guest speaker will be Old Georgian Steve Rooke who is the Senior Club Professional at Windermere Golf Club. I look forward to seeing you at the Dinner.

Bob Abram

Leech's 1934-42

EDITORIAL

Old habits, like old ways of thinking, die hard. I still watch Southport F.C's home games at Haig Avenue. This is largely due to the fact I can pronounce all their names and they swear in English and also because it's "my team" as distinct from a Russian mobster or an Arab sheikh. I expect these journeymen to give all they've got and a win on their wages means so much more than a win by a team with eleven foreigners diving about as though they were in the Victoria baths.

I usually stand (remember standing?) on the terrace nearest KGV, which, since the ground was brought up to safety standards, is open to the elements. So when they let a soft goal in and I turn away so as not to see the opposition kissing each other, I am looking at the college sports hall which stands astride the old 1st XV pitch. So I look towards Meols Park and there I see the excellent block of classrooms standing where our beautiful, ramshackle cricket pavilion stood. On the still enormous playing fields there are a couple



of soccer pitches, their goalposts planted in the middle of the 1st XI square. By this time I've decided it's time to watch Southport, wiping the odd tear away, caused by the cold wind on the open terrace, of course.

Headmaster
(Captain of
Master's XI)
tossing up with
John Hyde
(Captain of 1st
XI) 1953



1st XV 1952-3

**Durham Steele Brocklehurst Baddeley Brown Buckels Johnson Bond
Burgess JB Hyde Bracken Marsh (Capt) Smith R Booth N. Harris
Topping Shaw**

The reality is that I get great pleasure in knowing that the College is excellent both academically and as a community which brings the best out of students. It is a sadness to me that those students who have sporting skills mainly play in teams in the town. The sports hall has an excellent modern gymnasium and it is used to exercise when time allows but there cannot be that incredible feeling of belonging to a team. Then I remind myself that many lads in my day hated sport and being pressed in to playing was agony.

It's when I read the College Report and see that the education system has never stopped changing and will be subject to more politically motivated alteration in the near future that I wonder how the staff cope as brilliantly as they do. When I played cricket at Crossens and we were a very successful side, my captain used to say – 'never change a winning game, always change a losing one'. It still seems to apply whether I'm looking into or out of Haig Avenue and it allows me to include a couple of my favourite photos.

Alan Bond

Editor

Old Georgians' Association Officers

PRESIDENT	Hilary Anslow
CHAIRMAN	Bob Abram
VICE CHAIRMAN	Duncan Burton
SECRETARY	John Pilling
TREASURER	Alan Bond
RED ROSE EDITOR	Alan Bond
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Mike Hyde
SOCIAL COMMITTEE	Stan Rimmer
COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE	Peter Lynas
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE	Paul Bagshaw
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Previous Chairmen plus co-opted members

ADDRESSES

LEAVERS, OG MEMBERSHIP AND OG TIES
Peter Lynas, KGV College
Scarisbrick New Rd, Southport, PR8 6LR. Tel 01704 530601

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
John Pilling, 372 Gravel Lane, Banks, Southport PR9 8DB
Tel: 01704 226961

ANNUAL DINNER INFORMATION & BOOKING
Stan Rimmer, 361 Liverpool Rd, Birkdale, Southport PR8 3BT
Tel: 01704 576713

RED ROSE MAGAZINE
Alan Bond, 822 Liverpool Rd Ainsdale Southport, PR8 3SL
Tel: 01704 579373 E-Mail: alan@abond.go-plus.net

KGV MEMORABILIA
Paul Bagshaw, 46 Lyndhurst Rd Birkdale, Southport PR8 4JT

OG MEMBERSHIP & DATABASE
Mike Hyde, 84 Bull Cop, Formby, L37 8BZ. Tel: 01704 876734

Former Chairmen of the KGV Old Boys' Association

1924 T P Spencer	1925 W Beetham	1926 R E Sanderson
1927 R E Sanderson	1928 C L Minshull	1929 S J Hargreaves
1930 A V Cunliffe	1931 W M Towers	1932 A V Cunliffe
1933 R E Sanderson	1935 A D Sawyer	1936 P Slater
1947 G K Bridge	1948 D F Sutton	1949 P Slater
1951 T E Booth	1952 G P Wakefield	1953 L Duckworth
1954 J W Lord	1955 J Edwards	1956 S C Wilford
1957 K Rostron	1958 J R Edwards	1959 R A Lloyd
1960 H E Nettleton	1961 G Barnes	1962 G Walton
1963 H H Long	1964 H H Long	1965 M B Enright
1966 H Evans	1967 A V Langfeld	1968 A Fairclough
1969 H J M Royden	1970 D Brown	1971 R Abram
1972 S B Rimmer	1973 A J Chandler	1974 J R N Petty
1975 S B Fletcher	1976 J N Rostron	1977 C W Jerram
1978 E G Cowen		

Former Chairmen of the Old Georgians' Association

1979 T H Dutton	1980 G Livesley	
1981 M M Lockyer	1982 R Fletcher	1983 J C West
1984 J J Marriner	1985 G T Seed	1986 M J Waring
1987 R A Barnett	1988 B M Rimmer	1989 J R Pilling
1990 P D Bagshaw	1991 R C Fearn	1992 E A Ogden
1993 J R Elliott	1994 R O Jeffs	1995 M J Fearn
1996 A Bond	1997 A Bond	1998 C Threlfall
1999 M R E Hyde	2000 G F Dixon	2001 S L Bond
2002 A D Hughes	2003 J P Marsh	2004 K F Edwardson
2005 D Burton		

NEW GEORGIANS

This year has seen 37 new members joining our ranks of which 25 are those who left College in Summer of 2005 and 12 are those who left between 1949 and 2000. This takes our membership up to 1206, an increase of 26 on 2005 .

To the following New Old Georgians – Salvete

Leavers in 2006

Eddie Allanwood
Adam Ben-Yousef
Elizabeth Berry
Naomi Bowditch
Elizabeth Bradburn
Ruth Briscoe
Louisa Burman
Amanda Cass
Mark Cranshaw
Jamie Donald
Kate Forshaw
Carrie Griffith
Lucinda Harvey
Tom Ibison
Rachel Little
Sarah Lloyd
Matthew McCormack
Alex Monks
Sean Morrissey
Stephen Paweleck
Faris Sinjab
Paula Thomson
Andrew Watt
Rhiannon Williams
Luke Woodham

Leavers before 2006

Chris Baker	00
A R Ball	74
Ray Dove	78
Jeff Fox	52
Colin Hilton	49
Ron Hilton	52
P Kennedy	00
Peter Miles	78
Brian Viner	81
Michael Whalen	78
Tony Wilson	52
Ken Wood	78

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?

The 2006 Red Rose was returned by the Post Office from the addresses we currently hold on our database for the members listed below. The list shows their last known location and their final School or college year. Can anyone provide details of their current whereabouts?

This list is new, but that is not to say we have made contact with those members on the 2006 list so information about them too is needed.

Information please to:-

Mike Hyde, 84 Bull Cop Formby, L37 8BZ Tel: 01704 876734 or Alan Bond 01704 579373. Email: alan@abond.go-plus.net

NAME	LAST ADDRESS	LEAVING YEAR
K E Bridge	Prestwich	?
R Broughton	Hawkshead St	2002
G Charlick	Canada	1939
A Chupeau	Duke St	1995
D Clayton	Fisher Drive	1997
P P Cornes	Wigton	1977
D Cunliffe	Warrington	?
M Davidson	Jerusalem	?
M Duffy	Leeds	1990
A Elston	Ainsdale	1986
M Fuller	Fairhaven Road	2001
Ms L Harris	Fleetwood Drive	1998
Mrs A Hayes	Aldershot	1990
R Mann	Dundee	1982
A Meredith	New Zealand	1955
M D Paget	Hesketh Bank	2002
J E Robson	Coudray Rd	1963
A J Smith	Crumpsall	1977
Ms S Tang	Leicester	1990
D White	Withington	1987

DINNER GUESTS MARCH 24TH 2006

Bob Abram, Joe Abram, Martin Abram, Rob Anderson, Colin Andrews, Hilary Anslow, John Anslow, Derek Adams, John Aughton, Paul Bagshaw John Baird, John E Ball, Ted Batty, Martin Bennett, Alan Bond, Diane Bond, Stephen Bond, Adrian Brown, David Booth, Graham Booth, John Booth, Neil Booth, Robin Bowen-Williams, John Bryce, Paul Bullock, Duncan Burton

Mike Chalke, Dick Chapman, David Charters, Candice Clements John Cotterall, Eddie Cowen, Alun Davies, Mike Davies, Alan Dickinson, Peter Dodworth, Ray Dove, Ken Edwardson, Mark Elsen, David Ellis, Don Evans, Martin Fearn, Ronnie Fearn, Alan Fleetwood, Mark Fletcher, Rob Fletcher, Alison Ford, Brian Forsdike, Phil Frampton, Nigel Fraser, Ed Galloway, Andrew Greenhalgh, Peter Griffith, Vittorio Guidi, Phillip Halsall, Roger Hargreaves, Dave Harrison, Bob Hayden, John Hepworth, Dave Heselgreve, John Hoyle, Alan Hoyles, Brian Hoyles, David Howgate, Barry Hurst, Des Hughes, Mike Hyde, John Hyde.

Peter Jackson, Ron Jackson, Richard Jenkin, Roger Jump, John Kendrew, John Kermode, Dave Keeley, Ian Kettle, David Latchford, Catherine Lapsley, Sarah Lapsley, Gordon Lees, Brian Livesley, David Lonsdale, Nick Lunt, John Marshall, John Mercer, Tony Milner, Jim Marsh, Alan McKenzie, Robin McKeown, Paul Mullen. Susan Newton.

Graham Ostick, Ken Owen, Ray Owen, Eric Ogden, Brian Ormesher, Ian Ormesher, John Pilling, Cedric Platt, Geoff Pearce, Graham Pearce, David Pearson, Don Porter, Bob Ratcliffe, Mike Ratcliffe, Charlie Rees, Peter Rostron, John Rostron, Christine Rostron, Katie Rostron, Sarah Rostron, Trevor Rimmer, Arthur Rimmer, Brian Rimmer (Southport), Brian Rimmer (Leeds), Elaine Rimmer, Frank Rimmer, Stan Rimmer, Steven Rimmer, Dennis Robinson,

Derrick Salmon, Andrew Seddon, Trevor Seed, Brian Shorrock, Jim Stanley, John Seddon, Derek Steele, Geoff Stocker, Andrew Sweeney, Laura Taylor, Chris Threlfall, Steve Threlfall, Terry Tilsley, Dave Trotman, Eric Usher, John Wainwright, Peter Walker, Chris Winnard, John Weber, Mike Wareing, Kevin Watkins, Russell Watkinson, Michael Whalen, Barrie Whittaker, David Williams, Tony Wilson, Stuart Wincer, Kevan Williams, John Wood, Graham Wood, Ken Wood, Alan Wright

TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

When I browsed the 'Old Georgian' of 1982, I came across articles which told the tale of a troublesome time. Articles by the College Staff, the student Council and the individual students all painted a similar picture of a College trying to leave behind a system that had worked well and having to put their efforts into making a new system produce results just as good. It certainly wasn't the happiest year in our history so all the more credit to those staff and students who started to shape today's College.

ACADEMIC STAFF

Head Master D.J. Arnold M.A.

Pembroke College, Oxford, Fellow Commoner of Jesus College Cambridge

Vice-Master R. ABRAM, B.Sc., Manchester

Vice-Mistress J. M. LAWLEY, B.A., Scholar of the University of Bristol

Senior Master and Tutor for Admissions M. R. SMITH, B.A., Leeds

Director of Studies J. CLOUGH, B.A., Manchester

Senior Tutor P. J. RICHARDSON, MA, Wadham College, Oxford

N. HARRISON, A.T.D., Liverpool College of Art

E. S. GALE, Dip.P.E., Carnegie College

T. B. JOHNSON, B.A., Leeds

D. MILEY, B.Chem., M.R.C.S., Liverpool College of Technology

V. J. MORRELL, B.A., London School of Economics

M. E. AMER, B.A., Leeds

H. T. MARSH, B.Sc., Manchester

P. J. COMFORT, B.Sc., Manchester

S. SMITH, M.A., Scholar of Christ's College, Cambridge

J. R. WOHLERS, B.Sc., Hull

D. H. HUGHES, B.A., Manchester

R. CLARK, B.A., St. Catherine's College, Oxford

B. MAWER, B.Sc., Hull The Revd. M. D.

WHYTE, B.A., B.D., Manchester

F. E. LARGE, B.Sc., Liverpool

A. PRICE, M.A., Scholar of Newnham College, Cambridge

A. C. SMITH, B.Sc., Royal Holloway College, London

M. BOWRAN, B.A., Durham

J. A. FAIRBURN, B.Sc., Birmingham

T. M. STEVENSON, B.Sc., Ph.D., Liverpool

A. S. FREEM, B.A., Durham

A. CLOWES, B.Sc., Wales

C. J. COLLIER, B.A., York

J. METCALFE, B.A., (Open)

G. J. SKINNER, B.A., Ph.D., Lancaster

M. SANDERSON, B.Sc., Manchester

M. B. COCHRANE, B.Sc., Sheffield

R. J. DOLLERY, B.A., The Queen's College, Oxford

K. H. MATTHEWS, B.A., Durham, B.Mus., London F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M.,

P COLLIER, B.A., Bristol

P. S. NIEDZWIEDZKI, B.A., Scholar of Pembroke College, Cambridge

A. F. M. SMALL, B.Sc., London, M.Sc., Birmingham

P. B. ELLIS, B.Sc., King's College, London

R. E. FAIRBURN, B.Sc., Liverpool

J. E. BRADSHAW, B.Sc., Liverpool Polytechnic

V. R. CHADWICK, M.A., Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford

H. K. HAUGHTON, B.Sc., Nottingham

A. P. STOPYRA, B.A., St. Edmund Hall, Oxford

D. J. BURNS, Dip.P.E., Bedford College

P. D. WALKER, B.A., York

G. STEAD, B.Sc., Ph.D., Hull

V. A. ASHTON, B.A., Exeter

L. W. DEARNLEY, B.A., Leeds

P. R. TOWNLEY, B.Sc., London School of Economics

College News

There is a sense in which the academic year 1981-82 marks the end of an era at K.G.V. It is the last year in which there are boys in the school below the Sixth Form, and it is very probably the last year in which the main school building will remain standing. The school became King George V School in 1926 when it moved into its splendid new buildings in Scarisbrick New Road. It was just fifty years later in 1976 that a decision was taken to change K.G.V. from a boys' grammar school into a mixed Sixth Form College. At the same time another decision was taken to knock down the main school building, which was being rendered increasingly unsafe by subsidence, and build the new college next to it.

The process of reorganisation was necessarily a long one. The last boys to enter the school under the old eleven-plus procedure have continued to use the Western end of the old school building while the rest has bit by bit been taken out of use. For those who like to make the worst of things it is possible to see them as the victims of reorganisation, caught unhappily between two different systems. For those who prefer to make the best of things it is possible to see them as having the best of both worlds: a grammar school education up to the age of sixteen and a sixth form college education afterwards. Either way they will have left school by the end of this term, and soon afterwards the demolition contractors will probably move in. Architects are already looking the main building over and planning its destruction.

In the final phase of redeployment brought about by reorganisation four members of staff who between them have served King George V School for thirty-five years will be leaving at the end of term:

Mr. H. T. Marsh, at K.G.V. since 1966, in charge of Chemistry in the school since 1979, and housemaster of the old Evans' House from 1977 and of Hargreaves' from 1979.

Mrs. J. Metcalfe, at K.G.V. since 1974, in charge of English in the school and also of Higham's House since 1979.

Mr. M. B. Cochrane, at K.G.V. since 1976, in charge of Physics in the school and also of the new Evans House since 1979.

Mr. R. J. Dollery, at K.G.V. since 1977, and in charge of Modern Languages in the school since 1980.

The other member of the school staff, Mr. J. E. Bradshaw, will be staying here in 1982-83 in place of Mr. B. Mawer, who has been seconded for a period of fifteen months to a post as Regional Information Officer for the Microelectronics Education Programme in Merseyside and Cheshire.

If 1981-82 marks the end of an era for the school it also in a number of ways marks a new beginning in the college. The new college buildings were completed just after the start of the academic year, then in the autumn the building site was at last cleared and a few trees planted, and in the spring of this year some grass was sown in the area between the college buildings and the Scarisbrick New Road. At about the same time some decisions were taken by the Sefton Education Committee about what was desirable for the future development of the site: a boundary with Meols Cop High School, the retention of the stone plinth to the external walls of the school building and the provision of a hard playing surface within that area, the retention of the old Changing Room Block as a pavilion and of the old Geography Block as an outdoor pursuits centre and minibus garage. But recognizing the desirability of these measures does not provide the money for them, and when there is little enough money in public funds to pay for much of this. All the same the generosity of many parents enabled us to spend £8,000 this year converting the old Advanced Chemistry Laboratory into a Careers Centre, and at the same time the students raised the money to buy a greenhouse for the Biology department. We may well be able to do more of the same.

We started 1981-82 with a new structure of the day which above all involved changing from forty-minute to fifty-minute teaching periods, and the start of the college year also saw the arrival of four new members of Staff: Mr. P. D. Walker, Tutor in charge of Politics, Miss V. A. Ashton (German and French), Mrs. L. W. Dearnley (History), and Dr. G. Stead (Mathematics). At the same time Mr. P. J. Richardson took up his post as Senior Tutor. There was another addition to the staff in January, when Mr. P. R. Townley joined us from Priestley Sixth Form College, Warrington, to teach Economics. The only other changes in the teaching staff have been temporary ones. Mrs. A. F. M. Small and Mrs. M. Sanderson were both away during the second half of the year on maternity leave. Now, with their babies born, they are re-joining us.

We expect to start next year with a teaching staff of 42 and a total of about 560 students. It is, of course, the last year in which the new intake will include those who have been pupils at the two former grammar schools, King George V School and the Southport High School for Girls.

The College Council 1981-2

Traditionally all organizations within a school or college have a small article in the yearly magazine, stating the achievements of the society or club concerned. I do think it gets somewhat tiresome to read of innumerable trips to the Lake District, and victories of various teams at this, that, or the other.

Of course, I could say the same about the Council—we have achieved what we believe to be the right allocation of space in the college; £700 has been spent on the heating system in the careers centre etc.

The council's very existence this year can be treated as an achievement. As usual, almost total apathy both among students and many members of the council, prevented any significant rise in the status of the council. I think that this apathy is the most important problem the college as a whole must face. It can be seen both in the academic and non-academic facets. Academically, one only has to look at the amounts of tea and coffee consumed daily to see that the apathy towards study is becoming more than worrying. Non-academically, the membership of many committees is laughably low.

That aside, I feel that the council has progressed and matured considerably in the three years since its embryonic existence. Initially many people missed the point of the council, thinking of it as a students union and a vehicle for flattening the autocratic repression of the staff! Since then the role of the council as perceived by both myself and by the college as a whole, has changed. It has developed into a student dominated forum of discussion and advice.

Looking now at the college in total, it seems that we have at last put down some roots in the place. All building is over, and the grass actually seems to be growing at the front of the science block. Apart from the occasional tiff about such things as flowery dresses and shaving, staff and students seem to get on well. I have not yet met anyone who has been told off about both! It is also good to see the students driving flashier cars than the staff, as well as being better at any sport you care to name! Seriously though, we all get along very well, and we must thank the staff for being human at least part of the time!

Many people think that a lack of militancy means a lack of weight. This is untrue since the council, as a sensible and non-aggressive girder in the framework of the college, has served to influence and aid decision-making by those with the power to take decisions. As Chairman of the council I have noticed that democracy means bureaucracy. The degree to which procedure and policy dominates not just our isolated system but society as a whole, is enormous. Also the democracy of the council becomes largely irrelevant if the members fail to participate in the actions of the council. I hope future councils will remember this, as many issues on which the council had to express an opinion went undiscussed at meetings due to shyness, boredom or apathy.

The correct thing now is to thank all members of the Council, executive and non executive for their work during the past year. We have pushed forward greatly this year and those who have helped know that fact and this is reward enough. However, the council would barely exist but for the constant metaphorical feeds of Baby Bio by Miss Lawley! She has helped us be our own people and our debt to her is great.

Finally, I would like to mention members of the executive who have formed the spine of the council. Vice Chairman Laura McMurray, Treasurer Fiona Campbell and the irrepressible David Brownlow as Secretary. Good luck to Yolande and her crew in the year ahead.

Daniel Rollick

Team Games at KGV

Much of the reputation of K.G.V. School was based on its sporting record. Rugby and hockey in the winter and cricket in the summer were played to a standard equal to that achieved anywhere in the country. But, with the run-down of the school over the last few years and the inevitable disruption caused by re-organisation, K.G.V.'s sporting reputation has dropped. Traditional fixtures based on matches from under 12 to 1st team standard have become impossible, pitches have been lost due to building, keen and able staff have departed, with the result that few team games have been played and no real quality has been achieved.

Now that the period of re-organisation has been completed, and the sports hall has been built, the opportunity exists to build a new tradition. In winter 1982-83, the college plans to play outdoor team games on Wednesdays only; substantial fixture lists have been arranged for Rugby, Association Football and girls Hockey. Further fixtures are in the pipeline, and at the start of the Christmas Term, all students will receive a printed fixture card, sponsored by the Trustee Savings Bank. There will also be matches in squash, badminton, volleyball, basketball, cross-country and table-tennis. If such a programme is to succeed then those students opting to play team games will need to make a substantial commitment. There will be matches almost every Wednesday afternoon and if we are to yield good teams, then players must attend a training session. In summary, give team sports some commitment at the start of next term, and it will prove worthwhile. All the preparations have been made — now it's up to you!

Thoughts on the last year

Many people do not appreciate that King George V School still exists as a grammar school. The last intake of pupils to K.G.V. was in September, 1977, and since then the school has become gradually smaller. The structural defects of the building have become aggravated with time, and now only a fraction of the building is in use, most of it being unsafe.

It is not just the physical differences which account for all of the changes at K.G.V., the atmosphere is very different. There are few pupils who could admit that they feel part of a school — like the ageing window frames, the spirit of K.G.V. is becoming warped, despite efforts of school staff to involve school pupils in college activities. There is a melancholy air in the school and the vandalism which has emerged over the last two years underlines this feeling. Although K.G.V. will be closed at the end of the academic year, the reputation of the school will live on. Past pupils have made their marks on desks and corridor walls alike, but now their memory fades and crumbles along with the plaster.

Andrew Jackson

Left KGV 1982

NEWS DESK



John receiving the MBE from the Queen

John Rostron MBE Evans 1956-64

On behalf of all our members, I wish to add our congratulations to those written by our President in her letter on page 2. The Association is most grateful for the work he has done at the College and the part he plays behind the scenes. John is the Captain of

Royal Birkdale Golf Club for 2006. This follows his brother Peter (Evans 1954-62) who was Captain in the Open Championship year 1998 and presented Mark O'Meara with the claret jug. This is the first time in the club's history that brothers have been Captain of Royal Birkdale Golf club.

Pauline (Polly) Collier

Polly Collier, a long standing member of staff and of the Senior Management team, retired at the end of December 2006. She has a record of outstanding service at the College starting in 1977 as a part time History teacher. Then followed a number of posts: Equal Opportunities Co-ordinator, Tutor responsible for Student Enterprises, Acting Head of politics, Marketing Assistant and Head of Learning Support. Since 1998 she has been an Assistant Principal / Head of Student Services, whilst continuing to teach History.

Much of her focus in recent years has been to build up a wide range of support for students with learning difficulties (Dyslexia, Asperger's, etc.), plus support for students with financial and other problems, including those who live independently. As manager of the Student Hardship Fund, she was the point of contact with the Old Georgians' Association when donations were made. The college now has a national reputation in this field. Polly will undertake some part time History teaching in 2007. Her photograph appears in the Accounts section showing her receiving the latest cheque from the Association together with Michael Blackburn who will take over the running of the Hardship Fund. Thanks go from the Association to Polly for her work in the College community and we wish her a long and happy retirement.

The Old Georgians' Association Award

You will have noted that your committee had not presented prizes to the Heads of departments for a couple of years. It was felt that asking members of an extremely large staff to compete for three or four prizes was not the ideal way for the Association to assist the College. We have instead decided to offer an annual award to be called the "Old Georgians' Association Award" which will be presented to the student who has best served the College community. A prize of £100 will go with it and the winner will be selected by the College student council. This body of around fifty students has representatives from each tutor group and across all ages and so all of the 1300 students will be in the running. Donation to the Student Hardship Fund is the first cause to which we have made an annual commitment and this award will be the second. Paul Bagshaw is in the process of creating an artistic trophy which will carry a small plate with each winner's name. It will be presented along with the other prizes which are listed in the College Report, by our Chairman, in Spring on a date to be decided.

Now that's a career change!

When last I sent some news, I reported after five years as a solicitor in Wigan I retrained for the ministry in the Church of England. I was ordained in 1981 and served first in Liverpool and then in several parts of Lancashire, ending up as Archdeacon of Lancaster from 1999-2005.

In December 2005, I became General Secretary of the Conference of European Churches, a body embracing 124 Anglican, Old Catholic, Orthodox and Protestant Churches across 34 European countries. This involved my moving to Switzerland so that I could work out of the Ecumenical Centre in Geneva. I am now happily ensconced in a flat on the outskirts of Geneva and enjoy the challenge of a new job and a new country. The excellent language teaching at KGV in the late 60's has borne fruit as a great deal of my week is spent doing business in French and German as well as English. And to think that I only took up German in LVX so as to get out of doing chemistry! I have daily cause especially to be thankful to George Berry who gave me an enthusiasm for the German language which has never left me. Any who remember me are welcome to contact me at colin_w@bluewin.ch

Colin Williams

Evans 1963-69

Snooker , Darts and Carpet Bowls Night

The tournament was held in Southport and Birkdale Cricket Club on Friday 10th November. Our young-at-heart Chairman, Bob Abram, hosted a most enjoyable gathering. The organisation of three events running simultaneously is a sight to behold and all attending are involved several times - quite exhausting. There is a break for Hot-Pot and Apple Pie of the highest quality and time to catch up with each other's progress through life. Competitions are fiercely contested and trophies were proudly carried off by the following:

Snooker	Winner Andrew Malley;	Runner-Up Gary Hughes
Darts	Winner Gary Hughes	Runner-Up Stuart Wincer
Carpet Bowls	Winner Alan Bond	Runner-Up Ian Kettle

Yorkshire Exile

How interesting to find a connection to KGV after all these years. I started in September 1959 and left after my A Levels in 1966. I was in Gear's House curiously with Mr Evans (Little Taff) as House Master. I now live in Huddersfield. Regards, **Ken Ball** Tel: 01484 312889

This was an email from Ken in June – Hope he will tell us more next year.

The Brothers Gale

Sadly, in the 2004 Red Rose, I reported the death of Eric Gale . He had been an outstanding member of staff from 1957 to 1990, being Housemaster and Head of P.E. He would have been rightly proud of his son David's achievement of winning the BBC North West Disabled Sportsperson of The Year award for 2006. He received the award at a special ceremony in Manchester which was shown on BBC One North West on December 6th. David won the Bronze medal at the Paralympic Games in Athens in Sept 2004. Then, in September this year, David won the Gold Medal for the Discus in the World Paralympics in Holland.

David, who is 38 and lives in Churchtown, went to Stanley High School and was seriously injured in a car crash in Crete in 1996. Since then he has entered numerous European and World Championships and is looking forward to



competing in the Paralympics in Beijing in 2007 and again in London in 2012.

David told reporters he was “..delighted to have won this award. It was a great night and to receive an award for doing something I love is brilliant. I would like to thank everybody at the spinal unit in Southport Hospital who encouraged me to start throwing the discus after my accident. Without their help, I would never have received this award.”

Eric’s son Peter went to KGV in 1976 as part of the penultimate intake of boys into the grammar school .He was in Edward’s and left in 1982. Peter is an actuary working for Swiss RE in London. He lives in Eaton Bray in Bedfordshire with his partner Claire and their two young sons. He comes back to Southport several times a year to catch up with his brother.

National Sixth Form Debate

Earlier this month, a group of sixteen 1st and 2nd year A-level (mainly History and Politics) students travelled down to Westminster to take part in an annual national sixth form debate, held in Committee Room 10 of the House of Commons. The topic of the debate was on extending the use of nuclear power to meet Britain’s future energy needs. The students were organised in two teams of eight: one supporting the government motion and the other opposing it. Each team had spent some time in the weeks before the Debate, preparing material and becoming familiar with parliamentary procedure.

The students acquitted themselves well, speaking more often than any of the other colleges represented. Their arguments were clear, incisive and well-researched. In the end, the impassioned pleas of the Opposition on health and safety won the debate and the Government’s motion was defeated.

Students followed this with a fascinating tour of the Palace of Westminster, where they were able to go round both Houses and walk through the Division Lobbies.



They returned to Southport at the end of a long day, exhausted, but enthused, having acquired a first-hand insight into the workings of our parliamentary system. They are all extremely keen to take part in next year’s debate.

Polly Collier

OBITUARIES

T.B.Johnson

1934-2006

Brian Johnson died peacefully in hospital on December 19th. He taught English at KGV from 1957 to 1962 before moving to Kings’ School, Macclesfield. He returned to KGV in 1964, was Woodham’s Housemaster from 1966 to 1969 and Head of the English department from 1969, until his retirement in 1991. He is survived by his wife Claudie and daughters Charlotte and Jenny.

Kenneth Wright

1924 – 2005

Kenneth Wright died suddenly from heart failure on 16 June 2005. He was a member of Rogers’ house from 1934 to 1940 and was in the Express Stream. Ken left KGV at 16 and went to work for Southport Council, where he met his future wife, Lulu.

During the war, Ken served as an officer in the Royal Navy, and was stationed on the English Channel coast, in the Pacific Ocean and Ceylon. Ken remained in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve after the war. Ken joined Service Finance Corporation Ltd in Blackburn, rising to become the Managing Director. He continued to live in Southport.

Ken was an enthusiastic member of Blackburn Rotary Club since 1962, taking part in the meetings, committees and charity work, serving as President in 1973-74, and was Captain of the Quiz Team. He was Treasurer of the Blackburn Branch for the Guide Dogs for the Blind. In retirement, Ken became a voluntary driver for kidney patients going for dialysis. Ken and Lulu had been happily married for 54 years when Ken died. Lulu’s health was failing and, sadly, Lulu died 11 days later. They are survived by their two sons, Ian and Graham, who both attended KGV.

Stan Cobham

1917-2006

Born in High Park, Stan attended Wennington Rd School before going to KGV in 1928. He excelled on the sports field gaining his colours for Rugby and Cricket and winning the Badminton Trophy for Leech’s. Owing to his father’s premature death he had to leave in 1933 and become the bread winner. He served his time as a high quality painter and decorator. At the age of 18 he was signed up by Preston North End but his football career was thwarted by the onset of war and in 1940 Stan joined the Coldstream Guards

His first duties were guarding civil and military establishments during the blitz. This included Chequers with Sir Winston Churchill in residence. During this time he played for Watford F.C. against the big London teams such as Arsenal who included the Compton brothers.

He was then selected to be part of the new 6th Guards Tank Brigade formed for the D-Day assault. The brigade landed on Gold Beach, Normandy and fought its way up the coast into Germany. On one occasion his tank was hit, he and two others escaped through the side but his mates going out of the turret were killed by snipers. In March 1945 his brigade crossed the Rhine at Wesel with Stan leading the crossing in a scout car driving his Colonel across a bailey bridge at night under heavy fire.

In May 1946 he was demobbed, returning to his wife Phyllis whom he had married in St Paul's church in 1942. They have two children, David and Derek. Stan then joined the Fire Brigade in Southport, finding the discipline, bravery and camaraderie he was used to, and retired in 1972 after 26 years service and received a medal for "Exemplary Fire Service". He was too active not to carry on working, so being a trained ambulance man, he joined the Ambulance service wearing the uniform with pride for 10 more years.

He retired for good at 65. His elder son, Southport Party leader David Cobham, said in his eulogy, "Future generations have a lot to thank people of Stan's generation for. They were a generation blighted by a war they could have done without, but what fine people most of them turned out to be."



Fred Jones

1924-2006

The news of the death of Fred Jones (Woodham's 1935-40) was kindly sent by his brother-in-law Norman Allen (Edwards' 1939-45). Fred died on October 20th in Barrie, Ontario, Canada. He joined the Royal Navy and served on the Destroyer HMS Kempthorne during World War Two. After the war, he was in the London Metropolitan Police force for eight years and in 1955 he emigrated to Canada with his wife and two daughters together with his brother-in-law Norman. In 1972 he gained a B.A. Sociology degree at the University of Western Ontario. He retired in 1985 from the Federal Civil Service as a supervisor of Benefit Control. Between April and August 1989 Fred and his wife circumnavigated the world on a Polish Ocean Lines freighter.

Although he and Norman lived in different locations in Ontario, they made regular visits together and enjoyed discussions on events that occurred during their time at KGV.

Brian Moyle

1957-2003

This obituary appeared in the Bradford Telegraph and Argus on Friday 30th May 2003 and was kindly sent to me by Steve Brooks

Brian was a pupil at KGV between 1968 and 1973 in Grear's house. The newspaper recorded tributes paid to a popular hotel and restaurant manager who died of heart failure at home on May 23rd aged 46. After leaving School he went to Preston where several of his family lived. Brian had been the general manager at the Toby Carvery, formerly The Beeches in East Morton, Bradford for eight years. Previously he was manager at the Airedale Heifer in Sandbeds for 11 years. He leaves his wife, Paulette and two children Scott, 15 and Hannah 12. The lodge manager at the carvery told the newspaper: "Everyone was shocked at the news of Brian's death. It was totally unexpected. He was a very popular and highly respected employer, friend and licensee. He was a dedicated family man, devoted to Paulette and the children.

COLLEGE REPORT

Since the last report students have undertaken a wide range of activities, including:

Health and Social Care students took part in an activity day at Lake Windermere
Biologists went to the Ainsdale sand dunes to carry out work as part of their coursework. 2nd year Philosophy students attended a seminar at UCLAN

Geography students visited the Ainsdale sand dunes as part of their coursework
Geology students travelled to Arran to undertake work for their course

Historians visited Hoghton Tower

The re-arranged Politics trip took place for students to go the Houses of Parliament. The original London trip was cancelled due to the London bombs.
English Literature students attended a performance of "The Tempest"

Chemistry students attended a seminar at Lancaster University

Classics students attended a seminar on "Greece and Persia" at Liverpool University. A group of students sat the pre-university aptitude test pilot

There was a wide range of Christmas activities, especially involving College musicians.

FOSTER REVIEW

Sir Andrew Foster has produced a major report for the government on the future of further education, which includes Sixth Form Colleges. The sections about Sixth Form Colleges are almost 'by-the-by' or 'matter of fact'. Basically, it says Sixth Form Colleges are doing an excellent job, leaving them alone to get on with what they are good at, and to treat them as a distinctive brand. There is a strong inference that DfES and LSC have not given Sixth Form Colleges the distinctive support they deserve.

A brief quote may be of interest:

Sixth Form Colleges

We have given a lot of thought to the position of sixth form colleges within the FE college system. Inspection evidence, high learner satisfaction rates, higher than average success rates and significant numbers gaining Beacon status, all point to sixth form colleges being a success model for 16-19 provision. They have a distinctive and clear mission, which is primarily focused on academic achievement and progression, and is well understood and respected by the general public. Sixth form colleges are able to generate genuine choice for young people because the scale of their operations enables them to sustain broad curriculum options.

Investors in People

The College was re-awarded HP status following the re-assessment allocated to us free of charge after our complaints about the original assessor.

March

AE Faculty staff organised a 'Madness Weekend' for their staff and students. They stayed in the Achille Ratti Climbing Club hut on the summit of Dunmail Raise near Grasmere and spent the week and the weekend walking, visiting location sites and bonding. All who participated enjoyed the event very much and returned to College on the Monday in good spirits, but exhausted! A2 Geology students travelled to Shap as part of their coursework. Geography students visited Preston as part of the course looking at urban areas.

April

The College Production of "Disco Inferno" took place and was a great success.

A2 Business Studies attended a seminar at Manchester Met.

Geography students visited Langdale to continue work for their course.

The AS Biology Chief Examiner, Bill Indge, came to the College to talk to students to help prepare them for their forthcoming examinations

AS Business Studies students attended a seminar in Manchester

May

UCLAN Linguistic staff ran student workshops at the College for our English students. Drama Students attended an event at the Contact Theatre in Manchester. Congratulations to our Young Enterprise Talented' who won the Sefton Young Enterprise competition.

Melissa Soggiu wrote, produced and performed, along with her friends, in her own play 'The Canterville Ghost'. It was a huge success raising over £250 for Cancer Research.

Community Award

KGV has been selected to receive one of the awards for Community Heroes and students. Maggie Hilton and the Principal will be attending the event at Tree Tops to receive an award. The Community Heroes is an initiative by the Mediamix group of newspapers, which includes The Southport Visiter and Midweek Visiter, in conjunction with the Rotary Clubs of Sefton and West Lancashire.

Prizes and Amenities

On Friday 19th May the College will award its annual prizes to students. So far we have prizes for the following categories:

The Sports Scholarship

The Nicholas Holt Award for Business

The Hilary Royden Award for Law

The David Hall Memorial Award for Music
The David Sutton Award (for a student who has overcome difficulties whilst at KGV)

The Citizenship Award

The Sue Laidler Community Award

The Rev T T Williams Award for History.

The Chairman's Award to Student Governors

We hope that we may have one or two categories more. As last year the Chairman of Governors, John Rostron, will come into College to present prizes at the event in the Geoffrey Dixon Lecture Theatre.

White Paper

The Government's White Paper on Further Education is now published. Paragraphs in the Foster Report about Sixth Form Colleges needing to be supported as very successful institutions and given special recognition by the DfES and LSC appear to have been taken seriously, supporting "a strong and growing sixth form college sector."

August

Obviously, since the last report the main activity of students has been to prepare for and take over 5000 examinations (over 15000 individual papers)! While GCSE results are due after writing this report, the college's A level results have again been outstanding, with an A level pass rate of 98.1%, and 49% of all grades at A or B.

31 subjects (out of 42) achieved pass rates of 100% and 7 had only one failure. Results day (17th August) was therefore one of celebration for the large majority of students, with few needing to find alternative university places to those hoped for. This week sees some 800 applicants completing their applications to start A, BTEC and GCSE courses: the college expects to have a total of about 1390 students in September, slightly higher than the c. 1365 this year.

Other Developments

The local Learning and Skill Council completed its 'Competition' for a new sixth form provision in the south of Sefton, and is recommending to DfES that a new sixth form centre (effectively a new college) be constructed close to Litherland High School in Bootle: this is planned to open in 2008/9. KGV College is supporting this development and advising those involved in developing the new centre, which is to be undertaken by Sefton as the centre will technically be a school rather than a college.

Peter Lynas

Vice Principal

Many thanks from the Association for coming to our Committee meetings and keeping us so well informed and writing the College Report.

BOOKSHELF

Ali, Pelé, Lillee and me

I don't manage to read much non-fiction in spite of sleeping with a Librarian. However I found time to read Brian Viner's hilarious memoir "Ali, Pelé, Lillee and me". I include some of the critics words and a short piece from the book in an attempt to get you all to read it. Available widely, first in hardback and now in paperback Starting with what the critics said:-

Brian Viner's formative years as a sports nut coincided with what he argues was the greatest sporting decade of all time. The 1970s gave us the greatest football team in the history of the game and Muhammad Ali in his pomp. The Ashes changed hands four times, Red Rum kept winning the Grand National, Gareth Edwards scored Rugby Union's finest try, Nadia Comaneci became the first Olympic gymnast to record a perfect 10, Virginia Wade won Wimbledon in Silver Jubilee Year and Kevin Keegan fell off his bike on Superstars.

When the decade ended, Viner was in his last year as a teenager. If he wasn't watching or playing sport during the ten years before that, then he was either at school or asleep. Or both, if it was one of Mr. Ashworth's physics lessons.

BRIAN VINER
*Ali, Pelé,
Lillee and Me*
A Footballer's Childhood, Young Heroes



He expertly weaves together his life as an impressionable, sports-mad schoolboy at KGV with his modern incarnation as a sports writer for the *Independent* newspaper. Many of the stars he watched, wide-eyed in the 1970s, he has subsequently met in the course of his job. As well as a memoir, this book is a funny and affectionate chronicle of the ways in which England has changed, for better or worse, over the last thirty years.

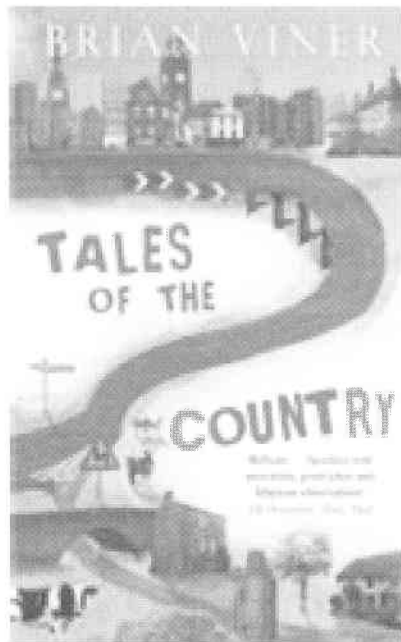
And an extract from the book:-

"...the most memorable Johnners quotes were the witting or unwitting bloopers – 'the bowler's Holding, the batsman's Willey'....'Neil Harvey's at slip with his legs wide apart, waiting for a tickle'-while of course his most cherished piece of radio commentary is the famous giggling outburst with Jonathan Agnew after Ian Botham hadn't quite managed to get his leg over-'Oh do stop it Aggers' – which I, like many cricket fans, would

include among my desert island discs. It's simply impossible to listen to it without feeling better than you did a moment or two earlier.

Which is how reading the book felt to me. Now I discover Brian's previous book published in July 2003, so the least I can do is tell the readers about it and that it is widely available in paperback for £3.99 One critic wrote:-

Brian Viner is an experienced writer and it shows. He is witty, stylish and has a great sense of humour and the professional ability to stand back from his own situation and describe it in a way that appeals to



everyone. Yes, he is describing an English situation, but his story is so well written that it is universally appealing. This reviewer read with a map of London and another of England alongside. Not necessary but did add to the enjoyment. Do read this book. You'll snigger, chuckle and laugh out loud. What more can one ask from a book?

Joanna Lumley said :- 'Gorgeous, terribly funny and truthfully observed and containing a wonderful and gentle philosophy'

Alan Bleasdale wrote:- 'Very, very funny and moving too. A wonderful book

Brian is to be the Annual Dinner

speaker in 2008 so even at my rate, I should have read it by then!

How I came to Write "Southport Faces"

by RON ELLIS

Back in 2004, after my seventh Johnny Ace book had been published, I decided to take a break from writing crime novels. I have always been interested in reading and collecting books about the history of Southport but it occurred to me how little these books told us about how people who lived here in earlier times spent their days. I decided to write a book that would give people reading it in a hundred years time an insight into how people in Southport lived in the latter half of the 20th century, their work, their social lives and their hobbies.

Obviously I needed to get as many well-known people in the public eye as possible as, not only were they the ones who were taking an active role in shaping the town's future but they would also be more likely to sell copies! At the same time, I did not want to feature celebrities who lived in the town but took no active part in its activities. There were a number of lesser-known residents worthy of inclusion as they had done so many different things in the town that their lives were almost a social history of the post war years.

Most of the forty-eight people I interviewed were men which, I suppose, reflects the balance of the sexes in public life. Also few of them were under 50 for obvious reasons. In addition, I added over 200 photographs of the town past and present, many in colour, many previously unseen, which gave a quality coffee table look to the book. Old Georgians are represented by, among others, Bob Abram (ex-teacher), John Rostron (Governor) and ex-pupils (Ronnie Fearn, Harry Foster, etc).

The project took me two years to complete and such has been its success that I am about to embark on a follow-up volume entitled 'Southport Places' in which I will look at various established institutions in the town and the people who work or play there. For starters, I have considered Boothroyds, the Fire Station, Smedley, the Market Hall, S&B Cricket Club, Southport Rugby Club, the Hospital (or what's left of it!), plus a golf club, a social club and a pub.

All further suggestions will be welcome.



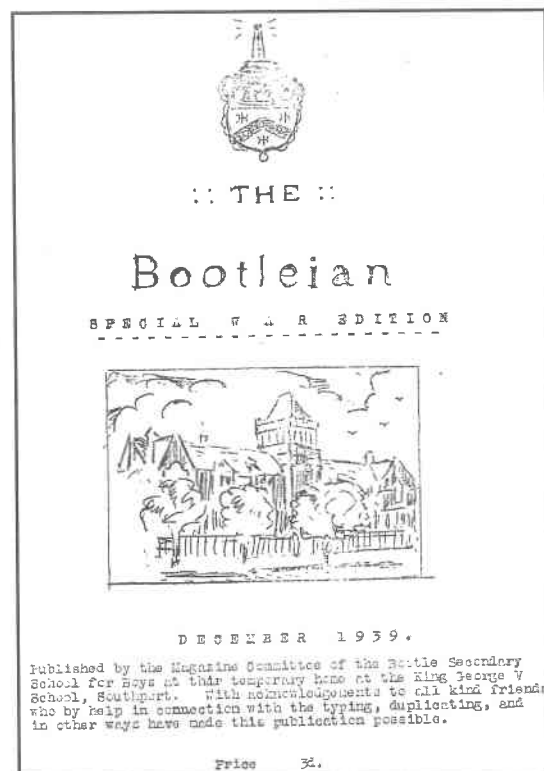
The photo shows Ron shaking hands with Paul Cook, Southport FC's new manager, before the match against Droylesden on Saturday 16th December in the second round of the F.A. Trophy (the old Amateur Cup). The 'Port left it a tad late scoring the only goal in the 93rd minute! This

season the team which is in the Conference, has turned full-time professional. Paul Cook is in his first ever season as a manager and came from Accrington Stanley. Sadly the team is bottom of the Conference at New Year and Cook has just been sacked. Occasionally Kevin Williams comes to Haig Avenue and we commiserate, but he has Burnley FC to go home to.

Ron writes about the matches for The Champion mid-week newspaper. The photo came from an excellent website www.southport.gb.com Should any of our readers feel pangs of homesickness, check it out for all the latest local news.

EVACUEES FROM BOOTLE AND LIFE IN SOUTHPORT

The Secretary of the Old Bootleians Association, Mr A.J. Williams, is in the process of transcribing all the copies of the Bootleian on to CD and as he finished the December 1939 edition, he realised it contained many references to the boys' experiences of Southport. He kindly sent a copy to Principal Hilary Anslow who sent it to me and I have extracted some very poignant reading. Bootle was badly bombed being close to the docks and by the 1945 only 25% of the town's houses were left standing.



school this term, we have the very happy duty of tendering to Mr Millward and the boys of the King George V School our most cordial thanks for their warm welcome and generous hospitality since we came here on the 1st September. In every way they have shown themselves kindly, considerate and wholehearted in their efforts to make us feel at home and the Bootleian is confident of the assent and support of the whole school in recording our deep gratitude and very best wishes. Our debt and our creditors are such that we are happy to be debtors.

The Bootleian December 1939

If our format has changed, this is but a faint reflection of the great change this term in our manner of living. We, who dwelt in the delectable places of Bootle, now sojourn in the dwellings of others in Southport. Much has been said about evacuation, and stories abound about it and are now getting stale with use, but one thing remains a constant and ever new source of wonder and amazement to us. It is the patience of the kind people of Southport who continue not only to bear with our shortcomings and close the blind eye to our weaknesses, but even to treat us as though they are glad to have us. We can never repay their kindness to us in our time of need, but we would, here and now, like to assure them of our gratitude for what they have done, coupled with sincere wishes that despite us they may have a happy Christmas and New Year. We do not, you observe, say 'Merry Christmas. Such a wish in time of war would be out place.

This war has changed things for everybody, and in the first order we think of the numerous Old Boys who are now serving in the Navy, Army, Air Force and the Mercantile Marine. All have suffered the inconvenience of active service, many no doubt have already faced danger in many forms. Two especially we would mention; W Currie who left B.S.S.B about 25 years ago and Ronald Paterson 1932-1937 whom most of us remember, were saved from the awful pilot boat disaster so near to our own doors at Southport.

Distinction has come to the school in another and more peaceful way. R. R. Pittam, School Captain 1936 - 37, who gained a State Scholarship to Cambridge and last June was first of his year in Law in the whole of the University, has been elected President of the Cambridge Union. This is a signal honour and the more remarkable since, about 10 years ago, another Old Boy, G W Jenks, attained the same distinction. We doubt if any other secondary school of the size and status of ours has ever provided two Presidents for the Cambridge Union.

Upper VA

. Our form consists of 21 boys though it has been reduced by 25% cent since our evacuation to Southport. We find the Southport people very nice and they have helped to improve our Lancashire dialect, One member of our form has had very little sleep these nights, We attribute this to the number of stars that have appeared lately in the sky.

Lower VA

We did not think that we should be writing a report this term for the magazine but nevertheless here we are. All of our billets are very comfortable and it is a new experience for us to be so long away from home. We have nearly all changed our billets once at least, through no fault of our own.

We are thankful that Southport food is good and plentiful and we cannot vouch for the truth of the story that one evacuee having "grouched" just after a meal was told that he ought not to grumble but rather to be thankful for his nice tea. "But I didn't like it," he said. "Well you must have something to be thankful for." "Yes," came the hesitating reply, "I suppose I ought to be thankful I wasn't sick."

X Alpha

We are all new boys to the school but owing to the evacuation we soon got to know each other well. At first we had school in the afternoon and walks and games in the morning. We worked hard at Nature study in the Botanic Gardens and Hesketh Park and everybody in the form can now recognize a 'conker'. Now we have school all day Southport is quite a change from Bootle and on the whole we are pleased with our billets. We hope our landladies are pleased with their evacuees.

B.Boyle- Captain

Those Bootle Boys

We are not alone in our exile. Some boys from schools in other danger zones, chiefly London, are temporarily our classmates. Two of them, who are in X Alpha have written exclusively for the 'Bootleian', their opinion of the boys of our school. Our chief grouse is that Bootle boys suffer from a perverted sense of humour which leads them to believe that just because our bicycles are venerable antiques they are a fit subject for mirth and, though we may be wrong, we cannot agree. What do we think of Southport? It is fine and the King George V boys are lucky to live in Southport and have such a beautiful school in which to work.

RCBray

Muses Corner

Once did we wander in fair Bootle's ways
And breathe enrapt the perfumes of her air.
Along her pleasant paths on Summer's days
And darkened Winters, all our joys were there.

E'en now our thoughts to Bootle wander,
We seem to see, this dank drear afternoon
Squelching along in Stanley Road a bus
That spatters mud o'er coat and hat and shoes.

From childhood days our hearts had fondly thought
That there's on earth no bliss more to be sought
Than leaving home on foot or ancient bike,
To Southport shore to cycle or to hike.

Now we are wiser, we'd much rather spend
In Bootle than in Southport, our weekend

F. M.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cross country to Long Rigg

In the words of the Rev. W Awdrey; "The sun shone, the fields were green and the birds sang". September 1969 was just like any other autumn day in Southport in 1969, but for me it was the first day at a new school in a new town. The town was yet to gain its Coast Road, the Victoria swimming baths were still just past Gore's Tours garage and still split swimmers into Ladies and Gentlemen. I was a "newt", a new boy - cap, blazer, new long kegs. It was a long walk down the central drive of the school. I knew no-one; no-one knew me. It was some time later in the LT that I finally met Mike Crook and he befriended me. It was the start of a great friendship and a wonderful schooling.

So what did KGV ever do for me? Preparation for life, etiquette training, friendship across decades, a love of writing and public speaking, a step to college and a degree, social skills. Too much to list. Oh, and poor singing."Climb every mountain, ford every stream....." rang out through the changing rooms at Poulton-le-Fylde Grammar school. "Are this the lot that sing?" said a perceptive Poulton runner" they're really good you know". We went on to be the victims of a farm muck-spreader in an adjoining field, but we were the KGVCCCT (KGV Cross-Country Team), so we beat the boys from the Fylde. Great names ran, like Chris Cameron, Steve Brookfield, Brian Armstrong, Nige Crompton, Brain Sloman, (who wasn't!) Alistair Crompton and "Bog" Marsh, team manager and mini-bus driver. Oh, and myself; Team Captain. We seemed to excel when the weather was inclement; rain, snow or a combination of all three.

Although Southport was a somewhat flat training ground we managed to put some miles in down on the Birkdale dunes with our Coach, for there were many schools inland (yes, I know that there were none out at sea!) where the terrain was very different. Bury and Clitheroe were very much on the side of big hills and featured deep, sticky mud, but we were unperturbed. We just ran harder. It was always amusing to run against Merchant Taylor's, we were not very bothered about keeping our kit or ourselves clean. In this we were unlike the nice boys from Crosby who were easily put off by some judicious splashing, shoving or sending them flying into the dyke. This was one of the great things about KGV - the Cross-Country Team. For years the school rugby teams hogged the lime-light of a morning assembly, with results being read by the Head.

Then the KGVCCCT started to win - and sing. We sang before matches, we sang in the mini-bus and we raised the rafters afterwards, win or lose. The theme from the "Sound of Music", one of my least favourite films incidentally, became our tune. In a curious mix of styles and influences, we ran in knotted handkerchiefs, ties were worn as bandannas and we sprouted baseball caps. Each to his own. We still won many of our fixtures.

I also held the position of School Social Secretary, which meant I always believed I was expected to entertain people or find them entertainment. We did organise two very successful discos; I even have the original art-work - a poster by Baz Andersen to show to those keen on mid-70's advertising! Many stunts were performed in the name of entertainment, including the Great KGV Art Theft, six blokes dressed as High School girls dancing as "Bums and Co" on the stage (the crowd did go wild) and the rather questionable dunking of a Moggy 1000 in Fine Jane's Brook. Deputy Head George Wakefield always seemed to know that I had something to do with each and every misdemeanour and would haul me into his office regularly. He was a very perceptive man and just knew he could make me tell him what was going on by arching those accusing brows of his, even if I actually knew nothing of the activity in question!

As a representative of law and order in the School (I was a Senior Prefect too), a certain level of conduct was expected. Surprisingly, we all took this quite seriously. We held self-generated etiquette lessons in the Prefects Room next to the library. This had been tastefully decorated in the style of a famous contemporary album cover - Dark Side of the Moon by Pink Floyd. This meant it was all black with just a heartbeat wave in primary colours at waist level. We liked it anyway. All credit to the School; we were given carte blanche (or in our case, *noire*) to decorate the place and add a dart-board, which provided much amusement.

To this room my parents donated a metal-framed studio couch, featuring gold nylon cushion covers over the old green original fabric. It was found that a person could be duped and bundled into one of these covers, then carried out of the school and even left outside The Shop in Haig Avenue (Baz again) or outside the Staff Room. In this latter case, how did Bog Marsh know (without the bundle speaking), that Dave Proctor lay tied within? Sorry, Dave.

Long Rigg the hostel always produced some classic moments, but also seemed to allow staff and students to operate more along the same wavelength, level or some other plane of co-operation. Apart from being a beautiful place just outside Sedburgh village, the atmosphere of the place and the fascinating field trips we undertook, allowed Geography to become visible, Biology tangible and sleep almost impossible. Football against the Staff was a laugh, especially with the washing-line at garrotting height. And oh, how we enjoyed taunting the local Public School-boys for still wearing short trousers and funny hats. One such taunt ended in a ferocious stone-lobbing contest by the river, trying to soak one another.

Although my heart had already been set on engineering from a lesson at Primary School in Blackpool, my love for reading and writing this language and also public speaking was honed at KGV. My eternal gratitude to various teachers, but especially "Grebo" Douglas. He made me "Guardian of the Black Spot" in Room 9, where the wasters of the class would be made to stand, but also brought the language, both spoken and written, to life in a most vivid way. The Fox and Debating Societies both gave opportunities for speaking and as with any avenue of learning at KGV, was there for the taking. So many other opportunities presented themselves at the place, such as being able to play rugby with your favourite Masters and just maybe deck them if they held on to the ball for too long.

Especially around the more senior members of the School, "things" seemed to happen. If there was ever a bunch of people in town or out and about having a good time, one could guess that they were from KGV. We just seemed to be able to generate excitement and amusement wherever we went. Lunch-times were definitely no exception. For a long time we had a regular icecream van pull up outside School and keep us all fed. One day we decided to have a bit of fun with the vendor and a toilet cistern ball-cock float was painted black, with the cartoon-inspired lettering "BOMB" written on the side and a suitably smoky "fuse" was lit on top. This was thrown into the van, whereupon a terrified purveyor of ice-cream cried out "Mama-mia! Eeza bomb!" [he was typically (for an ice-cream salesman) Welsh, you see] and hurled the device out of his van.

There was many a character in the school. From our own famous crooner, Mr Mark Almond of "Soft Cell" fame, through to less well-known people such as Brian Griffiths. Griffio could ride or drive anything. I remember him

cycling along the narrow front wall of the School grounds and then pulling wheelies. He "borrowed" many vehicles, including a milk float, a furniture van, a Corporation bus and apparently a train. Most of the vehicles would be driven past the gates for us to see at lunch-time. And where is Gaz Carr, or "Action Man" as we called him, for his claimed amorous activities amongst the females of Southport? What happened to you, Phil Murley, who went on to be under-Butler to HM The Queen? Did Steve Ambrose ever go on tour with a famous rock band? Is Will Fletcher a leading light in the Forestry Commission - he went on to Bangor University to become a "Lumberjack"?

Dedicated to the memory of a great friend, rugby player and Head Boy, Jonathan Ball.

Ian Pogson

1969-1977

Paul Bagshaw was commissioned by the College to make a video showing what life was like for three KGV students who had gone on to Oxford. It will be shown to students aspiring to go to University and to Oxford and Cambridge in particular so they get a realistic idea of what to expect. Whilst familiar with life in the spotlight, Paul asked them to write to me and the letter from Sophie Richards, in her first year, is followed by one from Paul Sagar who is in his second year and one from Dan Martland in his third year.

Being at Oxford: Musings at the end of a first term.

If you have ever experienced the rage of a cyclist possessed, the frustration of tying a black ribbon round your neck for a ten minute ceremony (none of which you can understand) and / or the excitement garnered from discovering that the library actually has your book (or that G&D's has accepted your petition for star-fruit sorbet), then you can only be in Oxford. A place we like to call 'the womb' - removed from the real world, a place to grow and develop, albeit far from warm.

Here academic excellence takes on a whole new meaning; from being the 'chosen ones' at college (a place where everyone knows your name) to a bubble where your best is never good enough. No matter how many extra-curriculars or awards you can put your name to, there is always someone cleverer, prettier, better adjusted or here the most noticeable; richer. It's not good enough to be well rounded, you have to be spherical.

Everyone knows that the typical Oxford student can work hard, what the Oxford student then feels the need to show everyone is that we can party

hard too. The need to collapse after an eight week term is as much to do with nights at the Bridge as it is nights in the library. Taxing as the lifestyle may be, the smugness of an essay done in crisis time that still amounts to passable is what we thrive on. It's our adrenalin.

In the Oxford Union, a venue host to luminaries such as Tony Benn, Pierce Brosnan and George Galloway (and that's just in my first term) the ambition of the audience is palpable. Everyone here has aspirations that the majority don't dare to aspire to for fear of failure. Here failure is not an option; if we've got this far then why can't we change the world? Most of us will probably be disappointed. The realisation of that (because deep down most of us know it) is what propels us further. It's what made us apply to somewhere where you get 20 book reading lists for an essay due in a week in the first place.

The truth being that no matter how hard it is, how many knocks your confidence takes, when you're tottering home on a Friday night (cobble streets may be pretty but they are lethal in stilettos) chips in hand, and you look up towards the Rad-Cam and the rain starts to blur your vision of the spires, there is nowhere you'd rather be. This is what most of us have wanted since our early teens. The very thought of the day when we finally get to wear our mortar boards (not just hold them) edges ever nearer and the thought of being rudely ejected from the 'womb' and into the real world causes us all to cling to those spires and ceremonies; we spend half our lives becoming spherical only to realise that in the real world it's the triangles and squares with the protective corners...

Sophie Richards

Being at Oxford

At the time of writing I am just about to finish the first term of my second year at Balliol College, Oxford. I must say, it doesn't feel like almost a year and a half since I was a student at KGV, but time does seem to fly by in the academic hot house of studying Politics, Philosophy and Economics at Balliol.



My experience of Oxford University has been an extremely positive one – however it hasn't always been smooth sailing. My first term studying PPE at Balliol was, to say the least, something of a system shock. Going through the academic system of school and sixth form I had never been pushed to anything like my absolute intellectual limits, while I had always taken it for granted that I would be top of the class.

Within a week of being at Oxford, it was clear that things were going to change. I suddenly found myself surrounded by intellects that were as sharp – and often sharper – than mine. Combined with an academic workload which was quantitatively and qualitatively in advance of anything I had ever experienced or even imagined (and I gained 5 'A' grade A-Levels), Oxford left me feeling dizzy, and more than a little insecure.

However, as I am rapidly discovering, many of life's most important lessons are not always learned in comfort. I did eventually adjust to Oxford life – even if sometimes that meant working ten hours a day for four days straight, desperately trying to meet two essay deadlines a week, whilst musing bitterly about friends at other establishments writing two essays a term! But equally, I learned that one must not work all the time; College Football is my passion, and I have found the time to establish some truly wonderful friendships in Oxford, friendships I hope and expect to last a lifetime.

And it is inspiring to reflect on what Oxford has given me so far. First and foremost, my intellectual capacity has been developed to a level I never imagined. It is difficult to explain, but when comparing my ability to read and comprehend complex works now to just 18 months previously, the difference is staggering. It's as though in my whole life my mind was working in second gear, and now suddenly I'm accelerating in fifth. Oxford also teaches one how to deal with pressure which is both externally and internally imposed, while some of the most important lessons I've learned have been about self discipline and, in essence, growing up; in Oxford if I take today off, then I *have* to work doubly hard tomorrow.

One's appreciation of costs, benefits and pay-offs becomes acute. But further, Oxford has taught me many lessons about life in general. I have come to know and love individuals whose paths I would never have crossed if I had not had the opportunity to come to Oxford. I have also found that sitting down in a room to receive direct personal criticism from a leading world expert – that unique opportunity provided by the Oxford tutorial system – is not a purely academic experience. Having to accept that criticism, which can range from the scathing to the inspiring, teaches one important lessons about personal

character – and sometimes about how to deal with individuals who are often more than a little eccentric!

I can now safely say that there isn't anywhere in the world I would rather be than studying PPE at Balliol College Oxford, not just for the opportunities it will afford me, but for the experiences it has provided me with so far. Yet I will always be indebted to the dedicated teaching staff of KGV who through a mixture of dedication, excellent and committed teaching, and a network of support and advice, got me to even think about applying to Oxford in the first place. And I will be forever grateful to the staff of KGV who ensured my application would be successful.

Paul Sagar, Balliol College 2006

Being at KGV

The idea of sixth form college, at first daunted me. But now eighteen months on, I can honestly say the KGV experience has been one of the best of my life. College life is busy, A levels are demanding and work must of course come first. But secondary to the academic side I have begun to appreciate just how valuable KGV is in growing up.

Two years sounds a long time, but amidst the chaos of exam preparation, it really does fly by! Now half way through my second year, it feels as though I have only been here 5 minutes. KGV is such a busy place there is always something going on, sports fixtures, the college production not to mention the endless parties! I have lost count of the posters wishing fellow students happy birthday posted about the buildings.

Since starting college I have made many new friends, some of which I know I will keep in contact with for many years to come. The memories I have, and good times I continue to have will stay with me for life, wherever I end up next.

Some things never change and the workload at college is still as demanding as ever. And studying English, Politics and Media certainly adds to that, being mainly essay based subjects. But I have realised now that I really don't have long left at all and soon my KGV life will be coming to an end. I will become one of the many ex students, and will always remember KGV fondly.

Dan Martland

December 2006

16th February 2006. My copy of the Red Rose arrived last week and has been read diligently. There is always a deal of interest and one naturally looks for items pertaining to one's own time at the school. Never disappointed.

The very last post on the website guestbook from Vic Calland would never have seen the light of day not so very long ago. All part of 'progress' I suppose. That said, I admire your candour in publishing the letter for I abhor censorship in all forms. I am delighted to see that you are wont to chide the odd correspondent for a misuse of English grammar. One wonders what they were doing in English lessons. Daily I have cause to be thankful to the many splendid masters at the old KGV who gave me such a good grounding in all scholastic matters.

You will also note that in my eyes, Southport is still in Lancashire. I do not acknowledge the existence of these bastardised regions such as Merseyside. All this from a Yorkshireman, too.

With every good wish,

Maurice Farrar Isle of Man

1938-1945

I'm all for telling it how it is, Maurice, keep it up!

Dear Alan,

I must be one of the oldest OG's (Rogers' 1931-1935). I only returned to the fold a few years ago through a chance meeting with John Pilling, but not a single form mate's name have I spotted in the Red Rose during the intervening years. Nor has there ever been an obituary that I could recognise.

I suspect that Anno Domini accounts for most, if not all of my school colleagues. I was a country lad from Halsall travelling daily with several others from Barton, Halsall and Shirdley Hill to Kew Halt on the 'Altcar Bob'. In 1931 I was the oldest pupil in an intake of 20 entrants that year for the inaugural Transitus experiment, 2X. Alan Lessiter remained as our form master for the four years to Matriculation and School Certificate. I was a bit of a swot and George Millward was disappointed in me, in that I did not stay on but for personal and family reasons left and joined the Halifax Office in Southport. Following service in WW2 I had a successful career in the Society I became the South West Regional Manager and ultimately retired here.

Harry Howard, Minehead

Rogers' 1931-1935

Any contemporaries out there to talk to Harry?

Dear Mike (Hyde),

My wife and I returned to live on the coast at Lytham after 32 years in Clitheroe. We were both primary school Head Teachers and I worked for Lancs LEA as a consultant for School Administration using computers from 1994 to 2001. We now walk, play bridge, visit France and I research the Special Operations Executive 1941-44 (website www.soe-french.co.uk).

Glad to see the Rostrons still involved- I knew John at Farnborough Rd School. Keep up the good work with the Red Rose - much appreciated.

David Harrison

Woodham's 1956-1963

Dear Alan,

The photograph in Red Rose 2006 sent in by Jeffrey Fox, gave me quite a boost. You see, probably like the people in the picture, I am now at the age when, having played a game of golf and retired to the bar, someone approaches and asks me with whom have I been playing and it takes me about ten minutes to recall their names.

So it was an enjoyable and rewarding exercise to put Christian names (or should that now be forenames?) to some of the initials recorded on the photograph. Frank Baddeley, Ken Birch, Adrian Brown, Bill Burgess, Joe Davidson, Jack Dobbie, Ken Edwardson, Mark Elsen, Ken Farr, Brian Forsdike, Jeffrey Fox, Donald Gregson, Derek Holden, Richard Jenkins, Donald Makepeace, Norman Nutter, Brian Oldfield, Conrad Clater, Roger Harold David Smith (younger brother of Derek Harold Richard Lawrence Smith and both sons of Brigadier Smith), Michael Stock, Richard Stopforth, Brian Townes, Norman Wright, Neil Wolstenholme and Robert P G Williamson.

John Gaunt, whose name is missing, is seated next to form master Brian Hughes, the son of Churchtown Council School's Headmaster. I used to cycle home with John. His party trick, along with Eric Durham was to ride down the steps from the White bridge joining Hesketh Drive to Beresford Drive.

Ken Birch amused the French class one day when asked by Froggy to say where he lived, speaking in French, of course. His reply was something like "Je demeure forty seven Part Street". Conrad Slater was always most precise. As George Wakefield was compiling the form register Conrad was asked his name, to which he replied "Slater C H sir" causing George to record him as Chater! Best wishes to everyone who remembers me - the nerd with the camera that took pictures on sports day. Now where did I put my spectacles?

Derek Holden Rufford

1946-1952

Come on Derek, if your memory is that bad, how long did it take you to remember all those names?. You must have found your glasses because you recognised yourself! You weren't a nerd, they hadn't been invented then, we had another name for you. Well you would have had a camera probably pinched from your Dad's Camera shop on Lord St opposite the Grand. Many's the time I gazed through the security shutter at Zeiss, Leica and Kodak cameras and came out with a roll of film. No Japanese then. Have you kept any Sports Day photos you can share with us?

I didn't know Brian Hughes was the son of Mr Hughes, my Headmaster at Churchtown, though I never did know his Christian forename. So what about a few reminiscences from your class mates for next year? like this next one!

Dear Alan,

Imagine my surprise when I looked at the latest Red Rose and saw my form's photograph sent to you by Jeffrey Fox! There was some doubt as to which form and year it was. Judging from the form master, (Brian Hughes), I reckon it was 4A in the year 1948-1949. Looking at the names, I remember all but one of the lads in that form, though today I would only recognise Richard Jenkin ("without the s" he always had to say). I still keep in touch with him. Unfortunately, I can't recognise myself on the photo any more! I am now 70 and about a third of these 4A people started off in KGV's last Form 1 in Autumn 1945 (Our form master was Mr Wakefield). In fact I can remember the whole of the register for that form 1 perfectly, but have great difficulty nowadays in committing to memory anyone's name at all! I joined your form, Alan, in the Lower Fifts and spent 2 years in the Upper sixth, leaving in summer 1954, so probably spent more years at KGV than most people.

I was hopeless at running at school, but started with marathons when I was 45. I still run. I managed about forty 10-kilometre fun runs last year, though it now takes me about 55 minutes to get round!

Conrad Slater Windermere

Rogers, 1945-1954

Crikey Conrad, nine years! Don't know what to say about that! But I enjoyed meeting you at the 2006 Dinner after 52 years.

Dear Alan,

As you know, I only joined the Association last year (better late than never), attended the Annual Dinner and pleasantly renewed old friendships and acquaintances. My interest was awoken when my daughter gave me a copy of the video "KGV Remembered" which prompted me to call Paul Bagshaw who was very helpful. I then discovered my daughter Julie Petrie and her husband Gilbert were negotiating the use of the Talbot Hotel, which they own, in the making of Paul's film "The Mirror". Julie and Gilbert feature in the film and I have a speaking part (about 3 words, I think) but Ronnie Fearn stole the show.

I attended the school from 1945-1950 and was school swimming captain during my last 2 years. I also represented Lancashire County in the Butterfly event during the same period. My brother Brian, who joined the Association at the same time as myself, attended school between 1939 and 1945 and has kept a copy of every "Red Rose" during his time at school.

Alan Hoyles Ormskirk

Dear Alan,

I am the son of Joseph (Froggie) Charnley and at 84, still battling with life! Here are a few of my recollections. The Scouts had 2 tiny rooms about 6 ft wide at the top of the stairs on the left side of the school. We built a canoe in there and had to put it out through the window. About 1930 two RAF biplanes came down on the fields in fog and hit the goalposts. A damaged propeller hung in the Art room for years. Mr Mason articulated exactly and never slurred a syllable. He had a passion for honesty and sometimes fun. He once gave me the leads from a magneto and spun the shaft. Mr Higham taught chemistry somewhat like Mason. He made nitroglycerin for us on the bench and demonstrated that "only the bit under the hammer will explode!" Mr (Joe) Mayne was a forbidding man who wore white gloves because the skin of his hands cracked using a machine gun in World War 1. However he ran the Boy Scouts and during our yearly camps in Wales, showed every care for us.

Mr Hope was undistinguished as a teacher but with uncanny prescience – as the final bell rang he would be half way down the drive. He had almost Wildean wit, he was offered a lift and replied "no thanks I'm in a hurry". R.J. Thompson who lost an arm in WW1 but loved all things German, which caused him some trouble in the 1930s. Despite the loss of an arm, he could build radios. I later came to know him well as a charming and generous man. J W Rogers whose grasp of maths was so great that he was unable to teach some of the middling difficulties, so we lived for his rare sickness when Mr Millward would make all plain.

Of the boys, I remember John Culshaw who later died tragically of a medical mistake. He persuaded giants like Solti, the VPO and divas to make *The Ring*, the best recording ever made and still revered. He lived opposite the school and his mother gave piano lessons there. I recall S.K.Runcorn later famous and an F.R.S.. He could swim a length of the big bath without breathing. For myself, I graduated MB in 1945 and served in the RAF for 3 years. I worked in orthopaedics till 1964 and then fled socialism to Michigan

I published substantial papers on surgical treatment of severe fractures of the forearm and the ankle.

I have had an eventful surgical life, surviving a ruptured aorta in 1992 (it killed Einstein), then heart surgery in 2002, survived colon cancer and have a clean bill of health. Went blind in one eye and nearly in the other until my sight came back thanks to an injection of the wonder drug Lucentis into the eyeball, here in Ann Arbor

Lucky man!

Arnold Charnley

Mason's 1932-1939

Letter from the Editor

Having achieved a 52 page magazine weighing 99.9 grammes I find I have the luxury of this space . It gives me the opportunity to thank Mike Hyde for proof reeding the first draught. Its' not everybodys' fourte to comb the text's for all the misplaced apostrophe's and incorrect spelling's. But Mikes' a chap who nose whats swat so I put this bit in after heed red it.

*My Grandsons' cracker joke was :- What do you call a pig with three eyes?
Answer - A piiiig.*

*Three passengers were sat at one table in a train. One was a cheap accountant, one was an expensive accountant and one was a tooth fairy. Soon they noticed a carrier bag on the table and as the train rattled along, it fell open and they could see wads of money – fivers, tenners, twentys , thousands of pounds. Just then the train entered a tunnel and it was pitch black in the carriage. When it came out of the tunnel the money had gone!
So the question is, who took it?*

The answer is – the expensive accountant, because there's no such thing as a cheap accountant or a tooth fairy.

Maybe I should have left the space.

The Editor

THE KGV COLLEGE WEBSITE

The website is now quite excellent and a pleasure to visit. The 'Virtual Tour' and the courses information show just how well this multi-million pound annual turnover establishment is run. Access to the Old Georgians' section has changed slightly from last year but is easier than ever.

- (1) Search in your browser for www.kgv.ac.uk This opens the KGV homepage. Click on "Old Georgians" in the drop down menu on the left hand side.
- (2) To enter the Guest Book click on the red rose icon alongside it, then click on the button in the centre which alternates between "click here" and "view my guestbook".
- (3) All the messages or 'posts' since the guest book was created in 2001 are still shown as there is tons of room on the computer. To write a message, click on 'post' and fill in the on-screen document.
- (4) The 'odd' message, or reference is acceptable but offensive messages which show a regressive trend since leaving KGV are quickly trashed.
- (5) To reply to an email click on the envelope icon and the new message form opens ready addressed.

Extracts from the Old Georgians' website Guest Book

Only at KGV for a year for a year (1969-70) but went to St John's Ainsdale for 4 years before that. I was such a tiny child I was one of two kids they didn't have a blazer for, I think Marc Almond was the other. Eventually got one. Moved constantly from age 11 and often wonder what it would have been like to stay at one school for all my academic life.

Luckily my travels resulted in a life of touring with bands, TV production, music videos and a good life in Los Angeles in the TV and now the digital media world. Have a lovely wife , 15 years married and a 13 year old who avoids homework just like his Dad did, the fruit does not fall far etc. I get back to the NW at least every year and just joined the Southport F.C. Supporters Trust. I often think of KGV and the people I knew- Michael Davis, John Caine, Michael Foster and Headmaster Dixon who wrote to my Dad once and told him I was too "gentle" an academic boy for the school. Fun days!

John Bryan

Manhattan Beach California

KGV Cross-country team lives on! Engineering degree from Lanchester Poly, Coventry. Started with Land Rover, married Sharon (ex- of Meols Cop and High School) in Southport and moved to Bromsgrove. We have three children, Sarah, Ashley and Jessica. Stayed with her and Land Rover

through BAe and BMW ownership. Had a ball. All I learned at KGV stood me in good stead. Ended up in Shanghai when made redundant. Now with Ricardo trying to teach the Chinese how to build cars, (very sore head!). Still ride bikes (Triumph RS955) listen to 70's music and still see Stu Galey, Will Morgan and Geoff England. Still in love with Sharon. Would like to see more of you guys – we had fun. Remember the discos, the Great KGV Art Theft, the Cross-Country Team, Griffon stealing a bus, the Ice Cream Wars??! Call me on 07966 430 806.

Ian Pogson

Amers 1969-77

Born in Southport, now retired and living in Hobart, Tasmania. As someone has already said, we didn't seem to win anything. Have fond memories of those halcyon days nevertheless.

John Nicholas

Leech's 1949-55

Born in Southport, now live in Rossendale. I hated school with a passion but KGV made me what I am today and I'm happy, so no hard feelings! I was in the same year as Vittorio Guidi who spoke at the 2002 Dinner. I wish I'd been there for that one. I also used to know Dave Lonsdale quite well. I now work as an industrial electrician, specialising in laboratory fume extraction. A little dry but it pays the bills. In my spare time I'm a motorsports marshal. I too have seen Neil Hunt crash his Formula Ford. Still, at least he's got the bottle to have a go! Anyone who knows me is welcome to get in touch, for a laugh, via email.

Tim Saunders

1975-82

Liverpool University 1942-1944. Admiralty/RNVR 1944-1947. University again 1947. BICC Ltd, Cablemakers from 1947 to 1984. Now retired. Would like to hear from anyone from those distant KGV days!

John Goldberg

Evans 1935-1942

Originally from High Park, attended Norwood Road School. Left KGV in 1957 and spent 7 years with Royal Signals, after which I joined Norway's largest commercial bank. Married a Norwegian girl (still wed to her). We have two boys, one a lawyer and one a film producer. We live in Gjettem, just outside Oslo. Served a 3-year stint* as Resident Representative in Singapore of the largest commercial banks in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Denmark respectively, under the then name of Nordic Banking Group and was sent off for an MBA.

Have recently retired as Senior Manager of the Norwegian bank's International Department. My old French and Latin masters would be amazed to hear that I, even I, managed to learn a second language. Would love to hear from old school chums from Trans X and up. Last time I was in Southport I was saddened to see neither of the schools still standing – that doesn't make me feel any the younger!

Derek Howard

Leech's 1950-57

(* The word Derek typed was *stunt* which I thought was a Freudian slip, but maybe not?)

Another chapter in my life is about to come to an end as I complete 32 years with Midland/HSBC and take early retirement on 31st March. The first part of my career with the bank was spent working in branches in the North West. I took on a fresh challenge in 1987 as a trainer, where I spent 13 years travelling the UK, running courses and delivering in-branch training. In May 2000 I moved to the National Help Desk in Bootle taking IT Support calls from the branches, central processing sites and global service centres. I was also Call Coach for my colleagues.

My partner Alan and I will have been together 28 years this year and are both retiring together and moving from his farm in Bickerstaffe to our new home in Ashurst. We intend to spend our time travelling and motorcycling.

Garry Owen (Cohen)

Leech's 1966-1973

Last entry in 2001 – Delighted to say moved away from Midland/HSBC bank after 28 years to pursue a career 'til retirement with Alliance and Leicester. We live in Rhos-on-Sea, Colwyn Bay. My boys are doing well: Peter at Loughborough studying Civil and Environmental engineering. Colin is at Surrey studying Financial Maths! Matthew is at 'A' level stage at Ysgol Bryn Elian hoping to attend Swansea to study Engineering Design. Both Peter and Matthew achieved Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards. Don't children grow up fast!

My brother Paul (Mason's 1958-1964) still lives in Switzerland. Sad to learn of lost colleagues. Best friend Henry Nutter died suddenly late 2004. I believe he was in Gear's.

David N Everett

Mason's 1964-1972

Blimey I knew some of the guys who left posts on here! Anyone would think that schooldays were the best days of our lives. Well I did enjoy my time at KGV (lessons did get in the way of more important stuff though), but were they the best days of my life? Let's see. I've toured the bulk of this hemisphere with acts from Joe Strummer to Nirvana. Some of it was bloody hard work but most of it involved times considerably better than school, even with such superstars as the Nolans (**** I wasn't going to mention them).

For fun I race a Formula Ford 1600 single seater. Far more fun than writing off my Vauxhall Viva during school break. Mind you, I have now managed a much more violent accident than that one! I even win races on occasions. John Wray witnessed a second place at Mallory Park but Dixie Butterfield and Mick Boler both witnessed rather more dismal performances. I am part owner of two pubs although I don't really drink any more!. I also get a good quantity of fuel for my adrenalin addiction by going skiing as often as I can.

So no, despite good times and lots of great people at school, they were not the best times of my life and I certainly intend to avoid growing up too much and have some more even better ones. Those who remember me may well raise an eyebrow at the mention of my participation in sport. Curriculum authors should note- try sports which don't involve the kind of balls made from bits of animals Motorsport involves different balls altogether! Add a greater use of speed all round and remove the word "team". Had that been the KGV sporting regime I would have been the first in the queue. I'd be interested to know if Mug Rimmer ever found Stump.

Neil Hunt

1973-1980

A pity more people can't be encouraged to contribute to the Guest Book. This is my second posting. I see many (OK a few), people found the site through Googling. Just thought you might like to know that the Google Earth site allows you to zoom in from a gerzillion miles up in space and see the (new) school. I'm amazed to see that Southport F.C. is still standing! Sad to see that the telescope which Frank Large and a bunch of us hoped one day to get working, has disappeared. Also there seems as if there are no cricket or rugby pitches on the grassy land.

I'm still in Bangkok running a Mycology lab. Amazing considering I got an E in Biology A Level (Mol Davies had written me off, no doubt) and was trained as an entomologist! The invitation is open to anyone who passes through the Big Mango to contact me for a beer or twelve.

Much amused to read of David Morgan introducing the Sedbergh Sheep to Pink Floyd. The Old TB hospital was a fun place. Trying to play footie on the grass out front on a distinct gradient plus the sheep to dribble round.

Nigel Hywel-Jones (Nigel Jones)

Mason's 1970-1977

ANNUAL DINNER

Maundy Thursday, 5th April 2007 8 p.m.

Formby Hall Golf and Country Club, Southport Old Rd, Woodvale

Tickets £22

Dress: Lounge Suits

A.G.M. 7 p.m.

Speaker : Stephen Rooke (Gear's 1962-69)

Steve has been the Senior Club Professional at Windermere Golf Club since 1978. Whilst at KGV he played for the England Boys' golf team in 1968 and in 1971 was selected for the England Youth team. He has amassed 35 caps for Lancashire, was a European tour player, 1975-77 and the P.G.A. North Region Captain in 1991. At KGV he played Hooker for the 1st XV and was a fine bowler in the 1stXI, once taking 6 wickets for 0 runs against Balshaw's Grammar School, Leyland

Menu

*Prawn platter
Gateau of Seasonal Melons (Veg.)*

*Roast Sirloin of Beef
Wild Mushroom Risotto (Veg.)*

Selected Vegetables

Profiteroles

Coffee and Mints

THE O.G. A. ACCOUNTS FOR 2006

At the time of going to press last year the Association accounts for the calendar year 2005, (which is our financial year), were incomplete. The accounts for that year, now kindly audited by Duncan Burton, together with my unaudited accounts for 2006, are shown below.

<i>INCOME</i>	2005	2006
Life Memberships	168	121
Donations	579	508
Profit on Annual Dinner	919	1031
Profit on sale of Photos, Prints & Ties	15	51
Profit on Snooker & Darts Night	-	4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	1681	1715
<i>EXPENDITURE</i>		
KGV Projects	200	200
College Music Evening	28	-
Production and Postage of Red Rose	1128	1108
Printing, postage, stationery	15	7
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL	1371	1315
Excess of Income over Expenditure	310	400
<i>ASSETS</i>		
Cash at Bank	2244	2473
Stock of ties	542	531

Using my as yet unaudited figures, I can report the following. The Dinner is still the major fund raiser. In 2006, the ticket price was held at £21, and this helped raise the attendance from 124 to 152. The Golf Club has increased the meal price again for 2007. By reducing the menu and not having cheese and biscuits, the price will increase to £22, otherwise it would have to be £23 in order to maintain our very modest profit margin.

The printing and binding of the Red Rose will again be placed with a local printer, quotes having been obtained. The weight of the Red Rose will be kept just below the 100 grammes mark and it will be classed as a Large Letter under the new system and the cost will remain 37p second class in the UK. We still have a good stock of ties, so there will not be any expenditure

on them for a year or two. Whilst we did not take on any major commitments, we did give £200 to the Student Hardship Fund, the occasion shown in the photograph. Michael Barker, holding the cheque will take on



the running of the Student Hardship fund from Assistant Principal and Governor Pauline (Polly) Collier, on her retirement in December 2006. I'm the good-looking one, (if a little plumper than days of yore) shaking Polly's hand.

Donations to the Association

The gratitude of the Association is offered to all those who have given financial help in 2006. Donations are extremely important, as can be seen from the accounts and this year, they have been most generous.

Our thanks go to:-

Chris Baker, Adrian Brown, John Bryce, Duncan Burton, Maurice Farrar, Harry Howard, Peter Longhurst, Tony Mercer, Derrick Salmon, Arthur Rimmer, Stephen Salt, Conrad Slater, Brian Whittle and Stuart Wilby.

Alan Bond (Treasurer)