

THE RED ROSE

2010

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Bust of King George V,
On display in KGV College

EDITORIAL

I am sorry to inform those Old Georgians who may not know, that Red Rose Editor Alan Bond had a second stroke last year and is not able to produce the 2010 Red Rose. The good news is that he is now recovering and sends his best wishes to everyone. The bad news, at least for me, is that I have been plucked from the grey wheelie-bin of writing to edit this year's edition, a task I last performed in 2002. Luckily, I am not alone, because there is help from Jon Elliott, David Lonsdale and Stan Rimmer. As Editor in Chief, Alan will oversee the final version for approval.

The Association has at last understood the benefit of electing women to the Chair, with Catherine last year and Janice this year. The result of this means that we are no longer accused of working to Taliban procedures, but there may be some very old, Old Georgians who fear that this could be just one more unwelcome step towards women getting the vote.

Although this edition follows the general pattern of previous years, it seemed a good idea to feature present College students, so that those who left some time ago could find out what it is like to be at KGV today. As you will read in the Principal's Letter, the College continues to expand, in its academic achievements and in its student numbers.

Another new section in this year's edition is '21st Century Southport', included in order to inform those Old Georgians who may have left the area some time ago, how much improvement has taken place in the town since the beginning of the century, largely through the benefit of European funding, ending Southport's slow drift into grey dullness.

One of the functions of the Association is fund-raising, not just to meet the cost of printing and posting the Red Rose, but also to provide support to KGV through the Vulnerable Students Fund, as well as the making of contributions to the various subject departments. We have a number of OGs who make donations, either by annual standing orders or through single payments, to The Old Georgians' Association. We would welcome such help from any others who wish to offer it.

The Annual Dinner is a regular occasion for Old Georgians to meet up, but there are opportunities for other gatherings during the year, such as the Chairman's Weekend, usually in the Lake District, and the Snooker Night. From time to time, individuals decide to arrange a get-together in Southport for their contemporaries, and with the use of the internet, this has never been easier. So...what are you waiting for?

Please send in news for the 2011 Red Rose, and tell us of any change of address. This year the Red Rose will be available online. This will complement, but not replace, the printed version. www.kgv.ac.uk

Paul Bagshaw (Acting Editor)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians,

Since my last letter to you, Ray Clark has retired from the staff after an outstanding forty years of service. His contribution as teacher, tutor, housemaster, examines officer, friend and colleague has been exceptional. We wish him a long and happy retirement.

As Principal of the College and your President, I am proud to report to you that, over the last year, in relation to teaching and learning, sport and music, results and achievement, The College and the students have enjoyed another outstanding period of success:

- Despite the opening of the new Sixth Form Centre in the south of the borough, we had more applications and enrolments than ever.
- All our BTEC courses at both Level 2 and Advanced Level 3 achieved 100% pass rate in summer 2009.
- A Level passes were again above 98%.
- KGV students played for the English Colleges National Rugby Team.
- We have two Sports Ambassadors for Southport.
- Musicians left here in summer to take places at the Royal Northern College of Music and the Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts.
- KGV students took up places at Oxford, Cambridge, Imperial College and Kings College, London, and universities nationwide.
- Students visited Beijing to follow an intensive Mandarin programme.
- The International Baccalaureate had its first cohort of students.
- Over 60 College students are engaged at Gold, Silver and Bronze levels in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme.
- Over 50 adult students are taking Foundation Degree programmes.

After what will have been 18 years, I will hand over the baton and this highly privileged position to the new Principal of the College in August 2010. During my time in post:

- The College has grown from 500 to 1650 students,
- The curriculum has expanded exponentially,
- The College, as the school before it, has remained successful and highly respected locally, regionally and nationally,
- The Fearn Building, with the Geoffrey Dixon Lecture Theatre and the Millennium Building, has been added to the estate.

In many ways, it is the perfect time for the handover. When I started in 1992, the College was a Local Authority institution. In April that year, following the Further and Higher Education Act, we began the transition year to prepare for becoming an Independent Corporation. Since then, the College has been in three Government Departments. At present we are in BIS, currently Peter Mandelson's department. In November 2009, the Apprenticeship, Skills, Learning and Children Act received Royal Assent.

This means the College will move to the Department of Children, Schools and Families, currently under Ed Balls. This will be a whole new chapter, whatever happens in the General Election.

I will be sure to tell the new Principal of the outstanding qualities of the staff, appointed by Geoffrey Dixon, David Arnold, Geraldine Evans and myself, they will inherit. I will also inform them about the excellent Old Georgians' Association of which they will be President, including our outstanding Chairman, John Rostron MBE.

Throughout my years as Principal I have always been so grateful for the strong partnership I have always enjoyed with the staff, the Governors and the Old Georgians. A number of you come to our concerts and plays, and over the years you have supported vulnerable students and academic departments by making most generous donations.

I have enjoyed your company, the annual dinner, your talents, your generosity, even your humour. Now, I have one request. I don't know if the constitution allows, but after I leave, may I join you as a member?

Yours, as ever,

Hilary Anslow OBE

HILARY ANSLOW

During my teaching career I worked alongside many colleagues who displayed admirable gifts and qualities in the way they went about their tasks. Some distinguished themselves by an ability to bring their subjects to life with inspirational teaching. Others possessed the skills to establish highly successful relationships, both warm and genuine, with students, colleagues and parents. There were those whose organisational talent and fine attention to detail guaranteed that education was practised with admirable effectiveness, and some with personalities to bring infectious optimism and imagination to illuminate the educational workplace. The final group consisted of people whose leadership qualities resided in good example and policy-making that was intelligently designed and sensitive to the needs of those responsible for its delivery.

A few possessed more than one of these special qualities, and a very small minority had them all. Hilary Anslow has been one of this number. No praise is high enough for her eighteen years of service to King George V College, and it is not surprising that she was invited on several occasions to join educational discussions at 10 Downing Street, and also that she appeared in the 2000 Honours List. Understandably, it has been disappointing for her that the new college building has been delayed, but her legacy is found, not in bricks and mortar, but in educational benefits that her many colleagues dispensed, and that thousands of students have received. As a former governor, and as a friend, I thank and congratulate Hilary for what she has achieved. Her retirement is well deserved.

Paul Bagshaw



Hilary Anslow

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians,

It was with some trepidation that I accepted the honour of chairing the meetings for the Old Georgian's Association. I was a student in the first cohort of approximately 150 girls to attend the newly formed KGV College and David Arnold led the many changes that were a necessary part of the transition from Boy's Grammar School to the Sixth Form College that has now been in existence for over 25 years. I guess that really does qualify me as being an 'Old Georgian'! In her speech at the 2009 AGM, outgoing Chairman, Catherine Lapsley, thanked all the members of the Old Georgian's Committee who had supported her during her term of office. She referred to them as her 'league of gentlemen' and indeed, I too have come to see them in this way. It has been and continues to be a real pleasure for me to be involved with the Old Georgian's and it has nurtured my sense of pride in being part of a long tradition of excellence and achievement that informs the reputation of KGV College.

This year has not only given me the opportunity through the many social events in the calendar, to renew acquaintances with friends from long ago, but also to see for myself just what a vibrant and thriving place KGV is. My own son Tam, completed his A' Level studies at the College this summer and I went along with him to collect his results on that very important day. Also accompanying us was my youngest son aged seven. I wondered what he thought about the buzz and excitement that was the accumulation of two years of study.

Amidst all the fervour of that day, right in the Centre of the Hall was Hilary Anslow. Calm and controlled as ever sharing her delight in the reactions of the very many successful students as well as offering wise and caring words to those who had not quite got the grades they were hoping for. For me that moment encapsulated all that KGV stood for and why the Old Georgian Association is so important. It is a thread that connects us all, whenever we were at KGV.

All those young people, about to begin new lives beyond KGV, whether at University or forging a new career, leave KGV for pastures new and may not yet quite realise the significant role that KGV has played for them. It is right and proper that The Old Georgian Association exists so that when the time comes, as it has for many of us, there is a forum to re-visit and re-connect with those past and what for all of us are formative times.

I have had the pleasure of attending several events in my capacity as Chair; this included two musical evenings and the Christmas Concert at

the College. The talent shown by the students gives ‘The X-Factor’ a run for its money!

I thoroughly enjoyed the company, food and wine at the OGA’s Annual Dinner.

For me in this year, the most fun was had at the Quiz night in the spring. S&B Cricket Club was filled to capacity for a competition like no other. The team who won were past and present staff members! All who attended had a wonderful evening and we are looking forward to organising a follow-up event next year.

S&B also hosted the traditional beer – sorry; Snooker, darts, bowls and hotpot - evening in November. My husband and Old Georgian Simon went along as my representative. I knew he would have a much better time with the event than me - which he did. I would be interested to hear from any female Old Georgians who would like me to organise a social event on the more ‘girly’ end of the spectrum.

Before this takes place I have the eminent task of organising a weekend away in the Lake District. Past accounts of such occasions lead me to believe I have much to live up to, as those weekends are talked about for years to come and I don’t want to be held responsible for a wet weekend in Windermere! Details of what promises to be a (very) happy, (slightly) healthy and (possibly) action packed two days will be posted soon.

The Old Georgian Association continues to raise funds to enable it to support the College in which ever way is deemed fit. The Committee is grateful to all who have given their financial support to enable this to happen. It is entirely due to your generosity at events such as the Annual Dinner (which this year raised over £1,000) and contributions at other social functions that such support is possible. As the effect of the ‘credit crunch’ bites into all frontline services, I know that the support of the Old Georgians will continue to make a small but welcome contribution to KGV College. Such funding does and will make a real difference towards supporting the most vulnerable students attending the College.

I would like to thank all those who have welcomed and supported me in my role this year. I have been so impressed by the dedication and hard work that goes on ‘behind the scenes’. It only remains for me to echo the sentiments of past chairmen and conclude by saying ‘Long may the College and the Old Georgians Prosper’.

Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe 1979-1981
Form Tutor: Dr Skinner

FORMER CHAIRMEN OF THE ASSOCIATION

KGV OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

T P Spencer (24) W Beetham (25) R E Sanderson (26-7) C I Minshull (28)
S J Hargreaves (29) A V Cunliffe (30) W M Towers (31) A V Cunliffe (32)
R E Sanderson (33) A D Sawyer (35) P Slater (36) G K Bridge (47)
D F Sutton (48) P Slater (49) T E Booth (51) G P Wakefield (52)
L Duckworth (53) J W Lord (54) J Edwards (55) S C Wilford (56)
K Rostron (57) J R Edwards (58) R A Lloyd (59) H E Nettleton (60)
G Barnes (61) G Walton (62) H H Long (63-4) M B Enright (65)
H Evans (66) A V Langfeld (67) A Fairclough (68) H J M Royden (69)
D Brown (70) R Abram (71) S B Rimmer (72) A J Chandler (73)
J R N Petty (74) S B Fletcher (75) J N Rostron (76)
C W Jerram (77) E G Cowen (78)

OLD GEORGIANS' ASSOCIATION

T H Dutton (79) G Livesley (80) M M Lockyer (81) R Fletcher (82)
J C West (83) J J Marriner (84) G T Seed (85) M J Waring (86)
R A Barnett (87) B M Rimmer (88) J R Pilling (89) P D Bagshaw (90)
R C Fearn (91) E A Ogden (92) J R Elliott (93) R O Jeffs (94)
M J Fearn (95) A Bond (96-7) C Threlfall (98) M R E Hyde (99)
G F Dixon (00) S L Bond (01) A D Hughes (02) J P Marsh (03)
K F Edwardson (04) D Burton (05) R Abram (06) D Lonsdale (07)
Catherine Lapsley (08) Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe (09)

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| PRESIDENT | Hilary Anslow |
| VICE PRESIDENTS | Former Chairmen |
| CHAIRMAN | Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe |
| VICE CHAIRMAN | Catherine Lapsley |
| SECRETARY | Martin Fearn |
| TREASURER | Alan Bond |
| RED ROSE EDITOR | Alan Bond |
| MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY | Jonathan Elliott |
| SOCIAL SECRETARY | Jonathan Elliott |
| COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE | Hilary Anslow |
| FOUNDATION TRUSTEE | Paul Bagshaw |
| GENERAL COMMITTEE | Former Chairmen & Co-optees |

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KGV in the Snow, 2010

TRIBUTES

STAN RIMMER

In 2009, having organised 41 Annual Dinners, Stan decided to hand over the reins. Of all those who were involved in the activities of the Old Georgians Association, he is truly unique. In 1965, shortly after joining the KGV staff, he was elected Honorary Secretary of the Old Boys' Association, organising his first Dinner in 1966. During 13 years at KGV he edited the Newsletter, forerunner of today's Red Rose. He also organised fundraising events for the 1970 Jubilee Fund, set up to purchase Long Rigg and convert it into KGV's outdoor pursuits centre at Sedbergh, after which it became a regular venue for the Chairman's Weekend.

Over the years, Stan maintained contact with countless former KGV pupils and College students. It is greatly to his credit that over 200 Old Georgians from the UK and beyond attended the 75th Anniversary Dinner in 2001, and that the fundraising event continues to be well-supported from far and wide. Those who run the Chairman's Weekend look to Stan for advice. His attention to detail and comprehensive experience provide invaluable support for those who may be leading an event for the first time. He was Chairman himself in 1972, yet his beneficial influence spans fifty years. He is, in the truest sense, the Elder Statesman of the OGA, and we are all indebted to him for his dedicated service to the organisation.

JOHN PILLING

John Pilling was Chairman of the Association in 1989, after which he took over the post of Secretary, holding it for eighteen years, during which he discharged his responsibilities with admirable conscientiousness. The taking of minutes at meetings is not the most attractive occupation, yet John never failed to record an accurate and detailed account of whatever had been discussed. His other quality was that of reliability, for he was ever available to help with the organising of events. He was a regular part of Chairmen's Weekends, and a lively personality at the bar. We thank him for his service to the Association.

MIKE HYDE

Mike Hyde, Association Chairman in 1999, was the first holder of the position of Membership Secretary. He brought new and streamlined efficiency to the recording of members' details by setting up and maintaining a database of Old Georgians. He applied his long experience of working with Customs & Excise to the needs of the Association, not least by refining the delivery system of the Red Rose. Mike continues as a member of the Committee, and we are grateful for his continuing support.

RAY CLARK

Ray Clark retired from the Mathematics Department of KGV College in July 2009. He joined the staff of King George V School, straight from St Catherine's College, Oxford in September 1969, having been educated at Cowley Grammar School in St Helens. His length of service to KGV puts him in the 40-Years club, along with Alan Lessiter, Barry Mawer, Dave Miley and Maurice Amer.

Ray's talents were more than just mathematical, as his proficiency in Cricket, Table Tennis, Five-a-Side and end of term acting clearly showed. Earlier in his career he performed the role of Examinations Officer, where his painstaking attention to detail was of great value, along with an obvious care for the welfare of students. His dedicated contribution to KGV College will be much missed.

BLEDDYN DAVIES

Because the news of Bleddyn's death reached the Red Rose on December 22nd 2007, just one day before the printers' deadline, it was possible to include only a brief tribute to him in the magazine. It is now time to feature a more comprehensive appraisal of his career.

Bleddyn Davies joined the staff of KGV straight from university in September 1963, and brought with him two invaluable skills: Classics and Rugby. In the classroom he gave much to, and demanded much from, boys of all ages. His Welsh enthusiasm contributed considerably to the quality of learning and of sport, his commitment to the latter stretching beyond Rugby to cricket and outdoor pursuits at Long Rigg.

In 1968 Bleddyn became Housemaster of Gear's, where he exercised dedicated pastoral care over those in his charge, and led them to the winning of the Jubilee Cup in 1974. His value to the School was considerable, and he was much missed when he moved on in July 1976. *(Please Jon Elliott's personal recollections later in this edition).*

OLD GEORGIANS' NEWS

BOB ABRAM (Leech's 1934-1942)

Bob was one of KGV's distinguished schoolboy sportsmen who returned to join the teaching staff of the School and College from 1946 until he retired in 1983. He was appointed Deputy Head in 1978, later rising to the dubious position of Vice-Master. He was Chairman of the Old Georgians in 1971 and again in 2006, and remains a member of the OG committee. He is still a regular on the golf course.

PAUL BAGSHAW (Spencer's 1949-1955) paul.bagshaw@talktalk.net

Paul continues to make films with Old Georgian director colleague, David Town, and their most recent production 'Secrets' received its première last October. During 2009 a short film, 'Blood Lake', won five awards, two of which were at the IAC International and the UNICA World Film Festival. Paul has recently completed a novel entitled 'The Late Matthew Gardner', based upon the same true story as 'Secrets'.

JOHN BRINDLE (1999-2002) jeb@kgv.ac.uk

After leaving university, John started work in the Music Department at KGV. His first post was that of music technician, but he is now the coordinator of Music Technology courses. In addition, John is currently working towards a MA in Music Education at Edge Hill University, and has recently been awarded full membership of the Audio Engineering Society. He married Ruth, a former student at KGV, in August 2008.

JOHN COTTERALL (1939-1946)

John owes his interest in History to 'Fat Bill' Marsden at KGV, but he later discovered that local history fascinated him most of all, hence his publications 'The History of the Southport-Preston Railway', 'North Meols to South Ribble', 'Our Part of Birkdale', and 'Churchtown – The Village that gave birth to Southport'. His talks "I am a Lancastrian" and "I am a Merseysider" are given to Probus, the W.I. and to church groups.

EDDY COWEN (Spencer's 1945-1952) egcowen@aol.com

Eddy is a retired solicitor who now spends his time watching Sky Sports, reading the Guardian, and swearing at Blair and Brown for making Labour unelectable and ensuring the Tories will be in power for the rest of his life. He dragged himself from playing Scrabble to attend his daughter Naomi's wedding (now Harrison), at KGV 1984-86, and for numerous holidays with his partner, Pamela.

KEN EDWARDSON (Leech's 1945-1953)

Ken qualified with honours in Medicine at Liverpool in 1960. He became Consultant General Surgeon at Clatterbridge in 1968 taught students at Liverpool University. His interests include climbing with the Old Georgians Mountaineering Club, which he helped to found, exhibiting his sculpture, leading a dog team in the Arctic, camping in Antarctica, sailing, and flying light aircraft after gaining a pilot's licence at the age of 55.

RON ELLIS ronellis50@hotmail.com

As well as Southport FC reporter for the Champion newspaper, Ron is also the paper's theatre and arts reviewer, putting his next Johnny Ace crime novel on the back burner. However, Nirvana Books, his publishing venture, is coming on apace. After his own 'Southport Faces', 'The Village that was Formby', a coffee table book by Joan Rimmer, has sold out its first print run in six months

MARTIN FEARN (Spencer's 1973-1980) martin.fearn@lineone.net

Martin is Assistant Co-ordinator of Mathematics at Cowley Language College, St Helens. He plays in a Sixties Rock 'n Roll Band called Grimly Fiendish in and around Southport. His 'other half' lives in Bristol, so he spends a lot of time on the M6 and M5 visiting his family. Martin is the Secretary of the Old Georgians' Association, a role which he has enjoyed more than he expected.

ROB FLETCHER (Mason's 1965-1972)

robletcher@fletcherssolicitors.co.uk

Rob continues as Manager of Fletcher's Solicitors, and sits as a Deputy District Judge. Within the past three years he has been accredited as a Commercial Mediator. In 2007 Rob cycled alone from Rotterdam to Jelina Gora in Poland, covering 750 miles in 7 days, to raise almost £5,500 for the Spinal and Oncology units at Southport Hospital, yet he later fractured his pelvis falling off his cycle in Aughton. In 2008 he was Captain of Hesketh Golf Club and continues as a Governor of KGV.

JOHN GALL (Mason's 1956-1963) galls@talktalk.net

John married June Bridge in 1967 and they have three daughters – all teachers – and four grandchildren, with a fifth on the way. After two headships in Kirkby schools, John retired in December 2005 from the headship of Farnborough Road Junior School, and was invited back to serve as temporary head at Farnborough Road Infants, and at Holy Trinity Primary. One of his main activities now is competition swimming.

GEORGE GRIFFITH (Woodham's 1938-1943) gh_griff@hotmail.com

One of George's KGV memories is of Squadron 652 of the ATC (he very much wanted to be a wireless operator), hammering copper sheet and wielding the gas blow-torch in Metalwork. Less happy was when the whole class were called out and given two hefty whacks across the bottom with the blackboard pointer by Mr Mayne, for not disclosing which boys had been bullying a refugee. The bruises stayed for ages, and he lived in fear of his mother noticing them. He is a piano-accordion enthusiast, and would be pleased to hear from any OG's with an interest in free reed instruments.

ROGER HARGREAVES (Rogers 1949-56) rogerdelia@onetel.com

Roger, like his father Les (known at KGV as Elsie), had a career in teaching, as well as working for the British Council for several years in East and Central Africa. Now retired, he occupies himself with music, theatre, computing, photography, the church, voluntary work and walking in the Lake District. Roger and Delia make regular trips to visit their grandchildren in the Czech Republic. At present, he is busy learning to play the saxophone and trying to paint but not, as far as we are aware, simultaneously.

COLIN HILTON (Spencer's 1966-1973)

After holding the position of Senior Assistant Director of Education for Knowsley, and Director of Education and Leisure for St Helens, Colin was appointed Liverpool's Director of Education and Lifelong Learning in 1999. He now holds the post of Chief Executive for the Liverpool City Council.

MIKE HYDE (Rogers 1945-50)

Mike enjoyed KGV in the Millward years and then spent the next four decades as a military and civil servant, whilst playing county badminton and cricket. During the past ten years he has had various parts replaced, and this, along with a daily lubrication of burgundy, is keeping everything working fine. However, 52 years married to Pat is probably the main reason for his continued well-being. As a former OG Chairman, he is still an active member of the Committee.

ANDY LOUGHLIN (1984-1986)

Andy Loughlin is a lawyer at arvato in Bootle. His first novel, 'The Silent Hive', was published last year. He describes it as a fantasy romance, and is the result of four years work. The book is available through the internet from Amazon and from Arima Publishing.

PHILIP McLEAN (Spencer's 1949-1956) Padhmcl@aol.com

After retiring from the post of HM Ambassador in Havana, a position that followed his tenure as Deputy Ambassador in Beijing, Philip became Director General of the Latin American Centre in London, and also Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Latin American Studies at the University of London. Since then he become 're-domesticated' under the influence of his wife, Dorothy – daughter of KGV Classics master, Robert Kirkby. He undertakes voluntary work in Oxford in college governance and church management, as well as looking after the elderly.

JIM MARSH (Mason's 1954-1961) jimanddimarsh@hotmail.com

After retiring from his posts as Housemaster and Head of History at Hutton Grammar School in 2004, Jim has attempted, so far unsuccessfully, to bring his golf handicap down to single figures. Visits to a grandson in London and to a daughter and son-in-law in Vancouver have involved Jim and Di in increased travelling. As a former Chairman of the Old Georgians' Association, Jim urges younger former Students of KGV to join.

ZOE MATTHEWS (2004-2006)

Zoe, whose father Keith was Head of Music at KGV College, gained a place at the Royal Academy of Music after completing her A levels at the College. Her recent distinction has been her membership of the European Youth Orchestra.

ALEX MORAN (2004-2007) alexander_moran@hotmail.com

At KGV I studied Theatre, English Language and Film, with the intention of pursuing a creative career, be it acting, writing or directing. In 2007, I landed a major part in a film entitled 'The Secret', directed and produced by two Old Georgians, David Town and Paul Bagshaw. On the day of the audition I had the choice of attending or going out with my mates. Thankfully, I made the right choice, and it is intriguing to think about the butterfly effect that audition had.

Through 'The Secret' I met Mike Donaghy from Banks, who took his 'A' levels at Runshaw College. We quickly realised that we shared a passion for film, so we formed our own company – Serenity Pictures – and set out to make our first project, a comedy sketch film called 'Chocolate Moon', supported by the Sefton Youth Fund. serenitypictures@hotmail.co.uk

We used a crew of young film makers and actors from all over the north of England who were enthusiastic and willing to contribute to the project. 'Chocolate Moon' had its première at FACT – The Foundation for Art & Creative Technology – in Liverpool in November 2009, having been

promoted by Dune FM Radio, the Champion newspaper and BBC Radio Merseyside.

We made the film because we enjoy comedy and had a few silly ideas we wanted to bring to the screen. Our influences are from the likes of Big Train and Monty Python, so if you're a fan of these you should enjoy the film. It can be viewed online by searching for 'Chocolate Moon' on www.youtube.com We are currently filming a documentary and live events, as well as running a workshop for the training of teenagers at a Southport high school

DAVID NEWTON (Rogers 1960-1967)

On leaving KGV, David took a teacher training course at Edge Hill, qualifying in PE and English. He then started his teaching career at Ruffwood School, Kirkby, working there for 19 years before taking up the post of Deputy Head at Whiston Higherside Community Comprehensive School, later being promoted to the Headship. Under his leadership the school went from strength to strength. Having retired from teaching, David now works as an independent education consultant in Knowsley.

EMMA NEWTON (1988-1990)

After A levels, Emma took a year out to work as a nanny in Italy, before gaining a B.Ed. Honours degree from Essex University. Her first teaching post was at a primary school in Harwich, after which she returned to Southport and taught in Liverpool. Her next position was at Scarisbrick Hall School. In 1999 Emma married, and now has three children two girls and a boy. She undertook part-time teaching in Sefton, before starting a postgraduate diploma in deaf education at Manchester University.

TOM NEWTON (1998-2000)

Following gaining 'A' levels, Tom embarked upon a Veterinary Science degree at Bristol University, completing in 2006 when he became a member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. After two years of general practice in Lancashire, Tom and his girlfriend took six months out to travel around the world. They are now both practising vets in Northumberland, with a case load of equine and farm animals.

ERIC OGDEN (Spencer's 1946-1952)

Following a career in the Civil Service, where he met Lillian, Eric moved to banking in 1960, later becoming manager of the National Westminster Bank, one of whose customers was Sir Matt Busby. Since Eric retired in 1996 and, with an interest in the Friendly Society, he became Grand Master of the Independent Order of Oddfellows. He was Chairman of the Old Georgians Association in 1992.

MIKE PENDLEBURY (Gear's 1948-1955)

In 2008 the Institute of Physics announced that Old Georgian, Professor Mike Pendlebury working with his colleague Professor Keith Green, had been awarded The Chadwick Medal and Prize for their outstanding contributions to the measurement of the neutron electric dipole moment and of other properties of the neutron. This marked the culmination of 30 years research at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, University of Sussex. They play leading roles in developing the next-generation experiment expected to lead to a ten-fold increase in sensitivity.

DAVID PRESTON (Gear's 1944-1952)

David retired from teaching at Eton in 1989 to live in Plockton in the Scottish Highlands, where he produced and sold paintings. He also made six appearances in the TV serial 'Hamish MacBeth'. He was enticed out of retirement in 1999 to teach for sixth months in Australia, and was later appointed Hon. Secretary and Manager of the Melbourne Savage Club. He remained a Melbourne resident and is in his sixth year of Choral and Gilbert & Sullivan performances.

ADRIAN RIGBY (Spencer's 1962-1968)

Adrian left Southport in 1976 to work in the Midlands with Kraft Foods/McVities. In the past 15 years he has followed a career in Logistics with Kuehne & Nagel & NYK Shipping Line. He is now semi-retired and living in Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire. He remembers old chums: Giz Izatt, Mike Halsall, John Stansfield, Neil Sandyford, Ian Smith Crallan, Keith Eckersall, Pete Forshaw and Graham Wood. He asks if Dave Charters is organising another 60s Reunion as he was out of the country last time.

JEFF THOMPSON (1949-1956) edsjjt@bath.ac.uk

Jeff, known to his KGV friends as 'Pompey',

He featured in the 1989 Honours List as a recipient of the CBE.

DAVID THORNTON (1998-2000)

After A levels, David gained a place at Durham University where, in 2003, he graduated in Politics. He is now a Senior Consultant in Recruitment working in London, and was recently married.

SUSAN THORNTON (1999-2001)

Like her brother, Susan moved on to Durham University after A levels at KGV, and gained a degree in Sociology. She lives works in Recruitment and lives with her partner in Manchester.

OBITUARIES

PETER G LONGHURST

We regret to announce the death of Peter Longhurst who joined the staff of King George V School in 1954. His efficient organising of the Economics department resulted in its growth to a point where it became a popular choice for boys entering the Sixth Form. As Housemaster of Mason's for eight of his twelve years, Peter was equally successful, with the House winning the Jubilee cup in three consecutive years. His interest in games of all kinds had an influence over members of the School for many years. In 1966 he left KGV to move into the independent sector by taking up a post at Stowe School in Buckinghamshire.

SAM PERRY

Sam Perry was born 1918 and died in December 2009 at the age of 91. He was the first Old Georgian to play Rugby for England, gaining seven caps, as well as playing for the Barbarians. After leaving King George V School in 1936, he studied for a degree in Biochemistry at Liverpool University before seeing action as a Captain in the Second World War. He spent a total of 1,165 days in Prisoner of War camps in Germany, Italy and Silesia - escaping on three occasions - having been taken prisoner by Rommel's army early in the North Africa campaign.

At the end of the war, Sam undertook PhD research at Trinity College, Cambridge, winning the Prize Fellowship, before becoming Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Birmingham. As a Fellow of the Royal Society, Sam served on a wide range of committees, often as chairman, in this country and abroad. He had more than 300 scientific papers published, and his work directly informed the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease in modern medicine.

Photograph 4
Sam Perry

SOCIAL EVENTS 2009

ANNUAL DINNER 2009

The 2009 Annual Dinner was held on April 9th at Formby Hall. It was preceded by the Annual General Meeting of the Association, attended by 32 members, including the outgoing Chairman, Catherine Lapsley, the Chairman-Elect, Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe, and 11 committee members.

The Dinner started at 8pm with a welcome from Social Secretary, Jonathan Elliott, followed by Mike Hyde saying Grace. The top table was enlarged to seat an increased number of Old Georgians, but without their President, Hilary Anslow, who was in China with KGV students on a field trip. In Hilary's absence, Catherine Lapsley presided, and John Rostron, Chairman of Governors, delivered the President's address.

This was the first time in the past 40 years that the event was not organised by Stan Rimmer, who stood down after the 2008 Dinner. He was therefore able to relax with a few pints more than usual, having handed on 'a smoothly-oiled machine' to his successor, Jon Elliott.

For the first time, the event was chaired by a female Old Georgian. Because the Dinner was successful, with good food, service and speeches, Catherine was able to smile amidst the congratulations from all present. A high standard was set by the speakers, John, Catherine herself, and the guest speaker, David Reardon.

David was a KGV student from 1981 to 1983 before moving on to catering college, and then to work under the supervision of Marco Pierre White before opening his own restaurant. After several successful years, he joined the family business where he has remained. His reminiscences about the College were both snappy and entertaining, ad rounded off the trio of speeches in good cheer. The Raffle was, as always, most successful, raising £700 for Association funds.

Catherine also made a special presentation to Stan Rimmer to thank him for his past works on behalf of the OGA.

Those attending the 2010 Dinner are asked to send diet requests or notes of cancellation at least one week before the event. Any cancellations after that will have to count as donations because we cannot claim any monies. All enquiries regarding the Dinner, to be held at Formby Hall on Thursday, April 1st 2010 should be directed to Jon Elliott.

CHAIRMAN'S WEEKEND 2009

Despite the former Chairman's best endeavours to scupper any attempts to run a Weekend, a meet did take place. The keen and loyal members of the Old Georgians' Association met for extreme sports and excessive indulgence. What a weekend of mad March fun we had! On the

Friday night, people arrived from everywhere to a warm and welcoming hotel in Grasmere, with fine Cumbrian cuisine and a well-stocked bar.

Old friends chatted and shared their experiences, with the majority behaving in a mature fashion, whilst a few stayed too long at the bar – no names mentioned. All made it to breakfast, and most to the traditional walk – left for the sensible; right for the mad. Whilst the lefties survived unscathed, a number of the righties were not so fortunate. It was wet, wild, windy and wonderful. Soggy butties, soggy bottoms, soggy socks and soggy everything.

When all were dry and rested, we enjoyed a delightful dinner on the Saturday night, enabling everyone to chat and to make new friends and acquaintances with all generations of Old Georgians. A great success and, hopefully, one that will be repeated in years to come. Good luck, Janice.
Catherine Lapsley, Chairman

QUIZ NIGHT 2009

In 2008 The Quiz Night was introduced to the OG calendar. Because of its success, it was retained and enlarged for 2009. Led by Catherine Lapsley, we engaged an external quiz master was brought in and the event was transferred to Southport & Birkdale Cricket Club, enabling no less than 118 people to attend.

The event produced a level of entertainment well above that of the traditional quiz, with specialist round of music, pictures and even dancing – yes, dancing! Half way through the event, a fine supper was served to members of the 23 teams involved.

An early leader was the team led by Alan Bond, but frequent vocal challenges came from the table of Mark Day and Dave Heselgrave. The battle for last position was contested by Dave and Di Lonsdale, and Simon and Janice Sutcliffe. Dave, in particular, distinguished himself by earning points for dancing, and leading a version of the okey-kokey. Not quite Mastermind, but worthwhile nonetheless.

As the final rounds drew near, the Lapsley and Kettle teams were in serious contention, but were eventually outgunned by the dark horses of the evening. Hilary Anslow had heeded the call for a KGV Reps team and, proving that experience and knowledge wins through, her chosen reps did her proud. A team comprising Mr & Mrs Ray Clark, Mr & Mrs John Wohlers, Mr & Mrs Leon Metford, and Pauline Collier cantered into the lead to be worthy winners. The Chairman, Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe, rose magnanimously from her chair to present the trophy and prizes to Ray Clark and his team. A most successful evening for all present, to be repeated on 7th May 2010.

Jon Elliott

SNOOKER EVENING 2009

The Annual Snooker Evening was held at Southport & Birkdale Cricket Club on 27th November 2009, and was attended by 17 participants. The Snooker Tournament was won by Tony Milner, with Jonathan Elliott runner-up. Stuart Wincer won the Darts Tournament with Paul Merone as runner-up. The winner of the Bowls was Mark Day with Stuart Wincer in second place. The evening made a profit of £52.

This event was first introduced in 1993 and has matured into a smoothly-run evening with a core set of participants. Most of us still wonder why we get knocked out in the first round each year, but get over the disappointment with beer and hot-pot.

As someone who has not gone beyond the first round over the past two years, I was relieved to get as far as the semi-final in one event, and to the final in another. At last, my own trophy on the mantelpiece, rather than the care of the Darts trophy Chris Parkinson forgot to take home in 2007.

In a world of increasing sex-equality, it is a shame that none of our female colleagues seems to have any interest in taking part. Invitations have been extended, but not taken up. Perhaps they will come to the 2010 event, which I hope will see the introduction of an 'electronic event'! You will have to be there to find out what it is.

Finally, the evening is not the same without Alan Bond commanding the floor around the darts board, so we look forward to seeing him back, on November 14th 2010.

Jon Elliott



Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe and Catherine Lapsley



Stan Rimmer and Catherine Lapsley



Quiz Night Winners

(Left to Right: Mrs Wohlers, Mr J Wohlers, Mrs Clark, Mr R Clark, Mrs P Collier, Mr L Metford, Mrs Metford)



Snooker Night Trophy Winners

(L to R: Tony Milner, Jon Elliott, Stuart Wincer, Mark Day, Paul Merone)

21st CENTURY SOUTHPORT

If you left Southport more than ten years ago, you may not be aware of the recent changes that have taken place in the town, and how much more vibrant the resort is today. It should be noted that the many improvements, some of which have been driven by European funding, have transformed the town's formerly rather tired image.

Among the major developments has been the complete renovation of Southport Pier, the construction of a new Sea Wall alongside the Coastal Road, much of which runs along the track bed of the old Cheshire Lines Railway, and an iconic Marine Way Bridge over the Lake, clearly visible from St Annes on the other side of the Ribble estuary.

The large area stretching from the old Sea Bathing Lake to that of Peter Pan's Pool has now become Ocean Plaza, the north side of which contains McDonalds, Pizza Hut and various retail outlets such as Matalan. The south side is home to a variety of restaurants with a wide range of international cuisine, a Premier Inn, a multi-screen Vue Cinema and a Premier Bowling Alley. Each side of Ocean Plaza there are extensive parking facilities. To the south of this area is a new Eco Centre. On the Promenade is a new Ramada Plaza Hotel, which looks out over the Marine Lake and is built on the site of the old Floral Hall Gardens. The Floral Hall, itself, has been renovated, as has the Southport Theatre, and between the two is the Southport Convention Centre.



Southport Pier



The Marine Way Bridge

A short distance north along the Promenade is the old Promenade Hospital building, now refurbished to create luxury flat accommodation. The pavements on both sides of Lord Street have been completely renovated, and much work has been undertaken to improve the gardens. The Monument has been cleaned and the pavements around it extended. There is a new piazza in front of the civic buildings – Town Hall, Arts Centre, Art Gallery and Library – but, with the exception of the Town Hall, these have been closed for complete renovation, which may take up to three years. There is a new luxury hotel – The Vincent – built on the site of the former Palace ABC Cinema.



Lord Street

The whole of Chapel Street and part of Tulketh Street have been pedestrianised, improving the environment for shoppers, and increasing the number of street musicians in the area. The Cambridge Arcade has an extension, Cambridge Walks, which leads to Eastbank Street. Marble Place is another arcade connecting Chapel Street and Tulketh Street. Great improvement has been made to Hesketh Park, and there is a new Southport & Formby Hospital and, at present, a park is being created on the land either side of Bentham's Way, formerly used for tipping. There is much in the town to appreciate.

NINETY YEARS AGO

The Southport Municipal Secondary School for Boys was founded in September 1920, and occupied a building named The Woodlands, along with some disused Army huts. It was situated at the north end of Lord Street where the Law Courts and the Fire Station now stand.

At its opening there were 110 boys in the School, and the first Headmaster was George Millward MA. He was assisted by six members of staff: Mr Edwards (Geography), Mr Mason (Physics), Mr Spencer (History and English), Mr Gear (English and Latin), Mr Rogers (Mathematics) and Mr Charnley French).

Later in that first year, four Houses were formed to cater for the individual supervision of boys' progress, as well as for social and athletic

purposes. They were Gear's, Mason's, Charnley-Edwards and Rogers-Spencer.

As was the custom in those days, school discipline was maintained largely by prefects and by detentions after school or Saturday mornings. Industrious pupils were rewarded with an extra half day during each half-term holiday. School dinners were provided at a cost of one shilling (5p).

In the summer of 1926 The Woodlands boys carried desks, chairs and other items from Lord Street to Scarisbrick New Road, the location of a new establishment, King George V School.



STAFF 1920

J. Edwards; G.C.D. Mason; T.P. Spencer
A.T.L. Gear; J.W. Rogers; O.A. Millward; J. Charnley

KING GEORGE V SCHOOL
1920-1970

Woodlands Staff 1920

SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

In the July issue of the 1931 Red Rose it was announced that building of a block comprising gymnasium and workshop was to be started that term. Unfortunately, this had to be postponed owing to the economic crisis. We are happy to be able to state that the School will have a properly equipped gymnasium and manual by the end of 1935, building operations having already commenced.

Messrs W. H. Smith & Son,

Ltd

479 Lord Street

extend an Invitation to Boys of King George V School
to call in
and browse round the Books. They will not be pressed
to buy.

5/- The "Woodlands" Pen 5/-

Specially made for school use

To K.G.V.S. Boys who mention "The Red Rose"
A discount of 25% on these pens will be allowed.

Other names from the past advertising in the 1935 Red Rose were Smallwood & Anderson School Outfitters, Aldridge's Radio, Seal & Ball Cycles, James Fay Sportswear, Gore's Coaches and Allenscot Grocers.

AN IMAGINARY SKETCH OF THE BBC (Extract)

The studios are modern. So modern, in fact, that there is a calendar for 1936 hung on the wall. There is also a modern clock with dots and strokes instead of figures. Despite this, the announcer manages to say: "The tayme is nau twenty fayve and fifteen sixteenths minutes pest wen." Possibly he reads the calendar.

In order that speakers shall know how long to speak for, there is a series of green and red lights in operation, equalled only by the Blackpool Illuminations. The penalty for speaking after the appearance of the red light is an accompaniment of Greenwich pips which, though they may be beautiful in themselves, are not a fitting background to a monologue.

H.M. (IVa Mod)

FIFTY YEARS AGO

In 1960 one arrives in Germany with certain preconceived ideas as to the German character, usually based on the opinions of one's countrymen. Whatever may be said, the Germans are not held in high esteem by the British public. Yet on arrival, one finds these ideas to be wholly

unfounded. A fanatical heel-clicking race proved to be a most hospitable nation one could hope to visit.

There are, however, certain aspects of the German character that the English ridicule – often, I think, justly. I remember one occasion when, on trying to gain audience with the headmaster of the exchange school, I was confronted by an enormous German, who enquired as to my reason. I replied: “I want to shoot the headmaster”. Instead of bursting into fits of hilarious laughter, as I did in appreciation of this witty remark, he punched me. I concluded that the Germans have a weak sense of humour.
P. N. Walker Upper 6 Modern

THE TELLY COMES TO KGV

Before the old die-hards cry “decadence”, or prospective new entrants rub their hands in anticipation of education without tears, we must point out that our TV can be used only within narrow limits. The handsome light oak cabinet, with its thirty-inch screen, is placed in the hall to the right of the stage.

Unfortunately, programmes cut across the periods of the timetable, and we cannot overcome this difficulty, as we can with sound broadcasts by using a tape-recorder. Perhaps the visual tape-recorder is on its way. Television surely has a great future in education. We welcome its arrival.
Red Rose 1960

JAZZ CLUB

Meetings have featured a wide range of Jazz styles – Modern, New Orleans, Revivalism, Stan Kenton’s experiments in Progressive Jazz, Bilk, and Barber. One of our main achievements has been that of disturbing members of the Gramophone Society.
Red Rose 1960

In 1960 the numbers of teaching staff at KGV was 39. By 2009 this number had risen to 92.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Three years after King George V School was demolished and KGV College was built, the Principal in 1985 was Geraldine Evans and the Vice-Principal, Roger Mitchell. Trevor Seed was the Old Georgians Chairman.

CIDER WITH ROSIE

The College production was ‘Cider with Rosie,’ the story of a young boy brought up in a large family in post-war years. The performance drew enthusiastic praise for its quality. In particular, the Red Rose paid tribute

to Garrett Doyle, the boy who performed the principal role of Laurie Lee, by commenting that “he obviously had first-hand experience of being a drunken seven-year-old, as this part was played particularly effectively”.

Mark Yaffé

THE COLLEGE COUNCIL

There has been a lament over the powerlessness of the College Council. “The Council will never produce a revolution in College because it is not designed to. My greatest disappointment was the Governors’ refusal to allow girls the option of wearing trousers, after the majority of them had decided they would like to. College Council ran the ballot and backed its decision. Mrs Evans had to consult the Governors who rejected it without even asking why we had proposed it. The people said to me, ‘Council is powerless. You can’t even get a result over a minor thing like that.’ I could only dumbly smile and nod.

Philip Pitt, Council Chairman 1984-5

JANET LAWLEY

Janet has been appointed Head of Bury Grammar School. Anyone who has been a student or staff member of KGV will know already how central she has been to the life and development of the College. Janet has given generously of her time and has always been able to draw upon wider experiences and broader perspectives. Her commitment, her warmth, and her caring concern make an impact wherever she goes. The sheer volume of her interests in no way obscures her fundamental humanity. Bury Grammar School’s gain is our considerable loss.

KGV Magazine, 1985

TEN YEARS AGO

HUBERT LONG

In 2000, we learned of the death of Hubert Long, a former Chairman of the Old Georgians and a regular member of the committee. The Red Rose featured this tribute:

Hubert Long was one of a small number of young men in a largely elderly staff in 1949. Significantly, almost all these young men were Old Georgians. Hubert immediately showed his dedication to his school by volunteering to start the Scout Troop, which had flourished before the Second World War.

Later, in the 1960s, Hubert became Housemaster of Evans, and increased further his influence upon boys in his charge. In the classroom and workshop he was a first-class designer and craftsman with an original flair and an insistence upon accuracy, which boys soon appreciated. Hubert was a serious-minded man with sensible views, which invariably

commanded attention in the staffroom. Even more, he was one who had a lifelong unswerving loyalty to his School. We shall not forget him
Geoffrey Dixon, KGV Headmaster 1949-1976

When the Southport Visiter of September 1st 2000 published the death of Hubert Long, he was described as 'a former teacher of KGB'. It's always the ones you least suspect, isn't it?

Appropriately, the Old Georgians chose the former KGV Headmaster Geoffrey Dixon as their Chairman in 2000, which allowed us to hear his significant address to those at the 75th Anniversary Dinner in 2001.

EXTRACTS FROM THE WEBSITE GUESTBOOK 2000

Mike Vernon, may I apologise for elbowing you frequently in the back in scrums during a House match? I believe you went on to beat us. Hope your back is better.

Simon Biddolph, Oxford

I was at KGV from '44 to '49. (In the 1900s, that is!)
Douglas T Ross, Toronto, Canada

Hello I left last year, and I am saaaaad. Will someone please speak to me? Anyone?

Dave Molineux, Southport

If anyone had as bad a time at the hellhole they call KGV, join a club of like-minded individuals, share your stories of woe, and let us know how your life has improved since you escaped the institution's evil clutches.

Mark Eyres, De Montfort University

THE HONOURS LIST

Two members of the Association were honoured in 2000. Hilary Anslow, Old Georgians' President and Principal of KGV College, received the OBE for services to Further Education. Ray Jeffs, Chairman of the Old Georgians 1994-5, received the MBE for services to the community of Southport, and for his Chairmanship of Queenscourt Hospice.

OLD GEORGIANS STUDENT AWARD

The recipient of this year OGA Student Award was Daniel Pulford, for his contribution to the College and fellow students. Daniel took part in several events, volunteering his time and contributing to marketing the College.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Alan,

G'day to all OGs from one Down Under. After 60 rewarding years in the precision sport of target rifle shooting, I retired from competitions at National, State and District levels on June 30th to pursue Collecting.

My transport these days is an Opel-built small delivery van – ideal for outback touring – and my driving now far exceeds 2 million km. Headed north to sunny Queensland on a trip of almost 5,500 km and taking in Charters Towers, which I first learned about in the Geography room when ‘Squeaky’ Hardaker fired our imaginations with gold mining in Australia.

In sugar country on the coastal sector harvesting was in full swing, the many refineries working around the clock, crushing crops carried on an incredible network of narrow gauge cane railways. Back inland I was in coal country where mile-long trains headed by three electric locomotives snaked towards Gladstone to meet big orders from China and India. Next year I'll probably make Normanton on the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Ian A Young (Rogers 1940-1944)

PO Box 321, Wingham, NSW 2429, Australia.

Dear John Pilling,

I am the secretary of the Dutch Foundation WO2GO. We are studying the 70 crashes by allied planes on the island Goeree-Overflakkee during WW2. Unfortunately, some 35 crew members are still missing. We plan to erect a monument next year to remember those brave men.

We are looking for data on the RAF pilot Alexander Jeremiah Shirm who was shot down over the North Sea in 1942 at the age of 25. His name appears in the Roll of Honour in the 2001 Red Rose, ‘Stories of KGV’. We would like to know more about Alexander Shirm, in particular, whether there are members of his family we could contact. I hope you can help us.

Kees Stoutjesdijk k.stoutjesdijk@wo2go.nl www.info@wo2go.nl

ALEXANDER JEREMIAH SHIRM

Son of Charles William and Caroline Mary Emily Shirm of Birkdale
Buried at Ouddorp General Cemetery – Zuid-Holland, Netherlands.
Row 2 Grave 6

Just having a surf and came across this guest book. I was at KGV from 1974 to 1979 in Edwards House. After being a complete failure and

getting no O levels, I am now a Betting Shop manager for Gala/Coral group, so thanks to Mrs Sanderson for her Maths teaching.

Peter Bamford, Southport.

Still strange that so few end up visiting the site. I occasionally enjoy a little nostalgia. Some of my time at KGV was grim; some was great; swings n roundabouts. I definitely learned something from being there, even if I was a god-awful student, as any of my 1971-76 teachers will verify. I always wonder what a reunion would turn up.....

Colin Jones, Liverpool.

PRESENT KGV STUDENTS

I have had some of the most amazing times here. Getting up at 6 am to get to college on time has been such a chore, but the laughs and the random times made up for any anger we may have felt. It is the students who make KGV, and continue to do so. I think it would be hard to find such an eclectic bunch of misfits anywhere else but at our college. Would-be musicians stand alongside promising politicians; the paint-spattered Picasso's party with chemists; the budding journalists like me with the oh-so-brash thespians. Nowhere else could provide such a wide range of inhabitants of our own little community – a place we called home for two years, and one we all slightly miss once we have moved on.

My time at KGV has been, well, a struggle: the numerous absences, the dreaded coursework deadlines, the stern words of 'this is your final warning', still send stabs of regret through my body. Academically, I didn't make the most of this successful institute, but it's the life lessons we have all picked up here, which we have truly flourished on. We realise who our true friends actually are; we realise our career ambitions. KGV is a place where romance blossoms, where hearts are broken, and where rebellion occurs. The place where we truly belong.

Lauren Roberts

Life can be pretty mundane at times; nobody can deny that. What makes KGV so great is that it provides one hell of a challenge, something everyone needs to stir up life and to stay sane. Even though the work is difficult, the teachers are all very helpful and the Learning Resource Centre has a huge range of facilities related to lessons, careers and universities. The quality of the teaching staff is complemented by others who offer counselling and student support, in order to solve students' problems. Quite simply, KGV is amazing.

Shaun Walton

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

THE CHAIRMAN'S WEEKEND – 12th/13th March

The 2010 Weekend will be held at Ambleside on Friday and Saturday, 12th and 13th of March. For further information, contact the Chairman, Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe at 20 Salford Road, Ainsdale, Southport, Tel.No. 01704 577339 e-mail: sutcliffe.Janice@sky.com

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THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Formby Hall Golf Club
Thursday 1st April 2010 at 7 pm

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for Absence
- 2 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Chairman's Report
- 5 Honorary Treasurer's Report
- 6 Educational Foundation Report
- 7 Election of Officers 2010-2011
 - Chairman
 - Honorary Treasurer
 - Honorary Secretary
 - New Committee Members
- 8 With new Chairman presiding: Date of next OG meeting
- 9 A new proposal from the Committee
- 10 Any Other Business

THE ANNUAL DINNER – 1st April

The 2010 Old Georgians Annual Dinner will take place at Formby Hall Golf Club on Thursday 1st April, immediately after the AGM.

All are welcome to attend the Annual General Meeting which starts at 7 pm. The Dinner follows at 8 pm and the guest speaker will be Mark Sutcliffe (KGV 1979-1981), Managing Director of Strategic Leisure. Mark advises a range of clients in the sports & leisure industry, and has been involved in the development of projects for the Commonwealth and Olympic Games. In 2007 he participated in the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race raising funds for charity.

Menu

Melon Fan

-

Goosenargh Chicken, with a Rosemary and Lemon Infusion
Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetarian option – Ormskirk Mushroom Pate Bake

-

Fruit Crumble & Custard

-

Coffee & Mints

Dinner tickets at £28 available from Jon Elliott
Cheques payable to ‘Old Georgians Association’, in advance please,
so that the organiser is not fully occupied pursuing late payers.

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OLD GEORGIANS QUIZ NIGHT – 7th May

Following the successful event in 2009 when 118 people formed 23 teams, there has been a demand for a repeat in 2010. This will take place on Friday 7th May 2010 at the S&B Cricket Club. Tickets will be available from Jon Elliott & committee members.

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THE SNOOKER NIGHT – 12th November

The 2010 event will take place on Friday 12th November 2010. Tickets will be available from Jon Elliott & committee members.

www.kgv.ac.uk select Old Georgians select Calendar of Events

THE WEBSITE

The OGA website can still be found from the home page of the College web site. The content is regularly updated with regard to dates and events, but the other content and layout has remained the same for several years. If anyone would like to lend a hand at re-designing the GUI, please contact Jon Elliott.

WHAT THE ROMANS DID FOR US

Knowing your arts from your elbow

As I write I am sitting in a drab dressing room at the Lyceum Theatre in Crewe. It's panto time again - the show relay is blaring out the overture to the second act - which means I have 34 minutes before Prince Valiant chops through the briars, kisses my daughter Belle, and wakes us all up from our 100-year sleep. Time for a small glass of Port – I love Sleeping Beauty!

The unremitting beige woodchip in this horrid little box is in stark contrast to the downstairs; where there is one of the most beautiful auditoria I have ever had the pleasure of playing. Typical of the Victorians – all front – and don't spoil the servants with a little luxury.

35 years ago I had a similar experience as I walked through the rather smart and impressive front entrance for the first (and last) time as a first year student in a rather grey plain room, devoid of pictures and entirely unlike the explosion of colour that I'd left behind at Primary School. I recall spending some considerable time staring at the ageing photographs on the walls of the main corridor, in particular the production shots of the old school plays. There before me were the casts of Romeo and Juliet and The Tempest staring rather self-consciously out at me in their striped tights, exotic hats and ridiculous slippers. By far the most uncomfortable looking image would belong to a fresh-faced young boy, normally standing centre front, clutching the hand of some taller boy and – wearing a dress!

Having little knowledge of theatre history, and absolutely no common sense, I momentarily considered the possibility that these images might be the original photographs from the plays' opening nights at The Globe 350 years ago – and that the stern-looking man at the edge of the group could be the Bard, himself! Anyway, realising that this was unlikely (how could a school afford such rarities?) I decided to have nothing to do with any drama for the duration of my stay, for fear of being the unfortunate individual deemed feminine enough to undertake the role of Juliet or Ophelia...or whoever, and suffer the attendant ribbing and questioning of my sexual orientation.

Now the 1970s wasn't a time when there was much drama on offer at KGV as I recall, so my determination not to become involved was undermined by a complete absence of offers to do so. All the acting I did during my teenage years took place after school with the amateur groups in Southport. So did my education prepare me for a life on the boards? Well, yes. T.B. Johnson left an enduring legacy in my ability to decipher and enjoy Shakespeare verse, and John Wohler's brilliance in the Maths department has resulted in the Tax Man still being on speaking terms with me after 25 years of self-employment. Almost unbelievably, even my smattering of Latin has been useful on more than one occasion when

trying to guess the meaning of some word. French, Physics – they’ve all come in at some point. Even the careers lesson, where I was told ‘not to be stupid’ when I suggested that I might drop an A level and go to drama College, helped in a roundabout way.

If KGV did anything for me, it did this – it gave me the ability and confidence to feel comfortable in any company – and no man’s fool. As an actor, that has paid off for me time after time. The Christmas and Good Luck cards around the mirror brighten this place up considerably. In the reflection I can see striped tights and ridiculous slippers on my rail, waiting to be put on for the finale. Leon, our Dame, wanders in to steal some make-up from me – fresh-faced and beaming in his extraordinary dress and exotic hat. I wonder where he went to school!

David Lonsdale, 1973-1980

OLD GEORGIANS’ MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

Less than two years after joining the KGV staff, Geoffrey Dixon invited selected senior boys to join with him and enjoy rock climbing in the hills of Wales, the Lake District and beyond. I was never quite sure of the criteria he used to invite us. My personal experience was when, on one wet lunchtime, he found me suspended by my arms from the central part of the metal roof supports in one of the classrooms. “I will see you in my office at four o’clock,” he said and left. At the appointed hour I presented myself, expecting either a Saturday morning or six of the best. Instead, he asked me to accompany him on his next climbing trip in north Wales!

Never having been on a mountain, let alone climb one, it was an experience never to be forgotten. We stayed at Ynys Hettws, a climber’s hut down the Llanberis Pass. John Hyde and I joined Geoffrey to attempt a climb known as ‘The Parson’s Nose’ on Clogwyn-y-Ddisgl. It was here that we learned the rudimentary skills of rock climbing. On the same afternoon John and I were told to climb Caib Goch buttress. Taking turns at leading alternate pitches, somehow or other we succeeded without coming to grief. From then onwards, we were captivated by the sport.

Photograph 12
1956 Group

In those early days, nylon was just being introduced to the world. We used hemp ropes, which would absorb water and double in weight. Our boots were shod in iron clinkers and tricunis. Vibram soles had not been invented. Nobody wore helmets and, in Britain, the use of pitons was considered to be cheating! On climbs that had very small holds, the use of tennis shoes was allowed, hence 'the tennis shoe climb' on the Idwal slabs. During those climbing meets, long and lasting friendships were developed, and continued long after leaving school.

In 1953, Peter Brunt and I decided that we should still continue to enjoy such companionship after leaving school, so we formed 'The Old Georgians Mountaineering Club' – known as OGMC. Geoffrey Dixon agreed to be the President, and we would act as Chairman and Secretary. A small fee was required on joining to cover costs such as postage, guide books and other items. Peter was a member of both 'The Wayfarers' and 'The Fell & Rock' clubs, and I was a member of 'The Climbers' Club'. This gave us access to all the climbing huts in Britain.

In the early days we held a minimum of three meets a year – at New Year, Easter and summer. Membership rapidly increased amongst both boys who had already left KGV by 1953 and others who left later. Often, GFD was invited to join us, which he did with great enthusiasm.

There were times we would meet in Glencoe or on Skye. Being impecunious students, our only mode of travel was hitch-hiking – the motorways had yet to be built. On average, it took us three hours to travel from Southport to the Lake District or to the North Wales valleys. Skye was two days, camping overnight. One year, when Geoffrey was holding a climbing meet in the French Alps, Neil Booth cycled all the way there, climbed for two weeks, and cycled back again!

A few years after we left KGV, the School purchased what had been the Isolation Hospital for the town of Sedbergh. This was a fine Victorian edifice nestling at the foot of the Howgill Fells, and was converted by members of the staff into a hostel and field studies centre. Having been offered use of the building during winter, we enjoyed many happy days walking and climbing in the Howgills.

Many years have passed, but we still meet each winter to walk in the high fells. Last February we had our 55th winter meet in Borrowdale. Nine of us experienced the splendid days on the hills and the excellent food and drink at the Scafell Hotel. We usually meet in early February, and Old Georgians are always welcome to join us.

Ken Edwardson

FROM TREPIDATION TO JUBILATION

We all have our heroes, I have several; people we remember for various reasons, aspire to be or look up to in awe. Mr TBL Davies, Bleddyn or, to those not employed by the school affectionately known as 'Blod', was and always will be, one of mine.

I joined the school in 1973 into 2B. After journey from front door to lecture theatre to main hall to form room, I was introduced to my new House and its 'management team'. Enter Mr Davies, my new (to me) Housemaster. Looking a commanding figure, tall and well built, dark hair and a moustache, delivered a welcome in a strong Welsh accent. Respect and authority were written all over him as he addressed his charges in Gear's house, welcoming everyone to the new term, laying out his plans (mainly sporting) for the next year and re-iterating some of the rules and guidelines he expected us to follow. Somewhere along the way there was mention of something called the Jubilee Cup, but as I had no idea what this was it somewhat flew by me.

It wasn't until the third year that Blod took charge of my formal education in his capacity of teacher. Mr Clough's foundation building of *Ecce Romani* was well placed, but Mr Davies grip on *Flavia et Cornelia* made the experience more entertaining and thought provoking for myself and several others who were not too convinced that Latin would be a central part of our lives at any pointing time.

Back to that first term and it soon became apparent that Mr Davies was a determined and commanding person, but also had a thoughtful and humorous side. Never risking the line that is required to be drawn between master and pupil, he always managed to engage in a joke or conversation (mainly sporting) that made him more human to us 'newts'. Gear's was a happy place to be as we had a great leadership team (with Mr Mawer as Tutor and 'Fitton' as House Captain) and the year rolled on through the Autumn Term towards Christmas.

One thing that was impossible to ignore about Mr Davies was his passion for Rugby Union. I was in the fortunate position of being fairly tall for my age and a decent runner and I was soon drafted in to the pack of the House Junior Rugby team. Thus we were honed and trained by our Welsh guru into a fearsome (well, to other first years) fighting unit. We kept good favour with our leader as several of us made the U12s school team and continued to improve, winning the Junior section of the inter-house school rugby. Words were not required from Mr Davies at the next house meeting; his face was enough, the beam on his face when he walked into the room made all the pain of the last few months worthwhile. That word 'Jubilee' was mentioned again.

Soon, Summer term arrived. Exams ensued and whites were adorned. Mr Davies enthusiasm for all things sporting ensured even the dumbest blond in our house again proved fruitful as we came runners up in the junior cricket. As it came to the end of term, it was obvious there was still something on his mind.

On the last day of term, we went to our last House meeting of the year. MR Davies was strangely quiet as the meeting started but brightened up when a piece of paper was passed to him part way through the meeting. He didn't make much fuss, but congratulated several first year boys on gaining a place in the express stream the following year. It was obvious this had some significance to him, but as to what, we did not know.

Final School assembly followed, with each house making its way in turn to the hall. Various notices were read out by Mr Dixon, trophies presented for School and House events and, just when they thought it as all over, the word Jubilee was mentioned. The Head Master, referred to the fact it was awarded to the House with the best academic, sporting and behavioural records during the year. Mr Dixon mentioned how the year before had been a close run thing, with the decision changing on the final day of term. This time, the result was reversed, with Grear's lead that had been in place for a few days finally being confirmed.

The trophy was awarded, hands were shaken, Grear's were cheered (with some exceptions) and the grin on Mr Davies' face said it all. He spoke to several of us before we left school that day and he was made up with winning the cup. Whilst a recognised victory for our leader, he made sure we knew we were all part of it. Mr Davies was glowing in victory, but gracious with it. He shared our house experience with everyone an ensured we worked as a unit. My experiences under Mr Davies helped me become House Captain and I looked to display some of his behavioural examples whilst in the roll. I hope I did not disappoint him, though by then he had left for pastures new.

Regrettably, I only met him twice more, both times through the Old Georgians. Pleasingly, he knew who I was, rattled off various memories of the House and its activities and even thanked me for being one of his 1973 Jubilee winners.

Amongst many things under Mr Davies I learnt to win with dignity and enjoyment, but to accept defeat and look to improve.

I understood that achievement was gained through work and thought, not by sitting back and waiting 'for it to happen'.

I learnt to address a contentious situation in serious manner, but to be prepared to fix it with a firm hand and level of humour.

To a corner stone in the foundation of my future life – thanks!

Jonathan Elliott, Grears 1973-1979

THE LADS FROM THE 60s ARE NOW IN THEIR 60s

Something odd happens as we age: as the past becomes clearer, the present gets more confusing. I knew every title and artist in the Top Twenty for every week in 1964. In 2010 I can't even tell which are the songs and which are the singers, let alone name a single one of them.

As my 60th birthday loomed, I looked back and realised, with some consolation, that at least all those in my KGV year would be destined to suffer the same fate. But, where were they? What were they doing? How had I any hope of contacting lads I hadn't set eyes on for 43 years?

All would have been lost, but for the Internet. A bit of googling and sniffing round some of the online forums devoted to Southport soon put me in contact with one 'old boy', and there was also friendsreunited.co.uk Within a few weeks ad traced down my old school pal, John Fozard, who came up with the idea of a KGV reunion when we reached 60.

This was all well and good, but I now live in Switzerland, and even John had moved to the lush pastures of Wilmslow in Cheshire. How could we contact former classmates and agree a date and a place? In 2008, with our 60th birthdays getting uncomfortably close, we bit the bullet by deciding on a date – June 12 2009. While John looked for a venue, I built a website – www.kgvreunion.co.uk - which was the focal point of contact.

Slowly the names started arriving on the website, at the rate of one or two a week, until we had over 40. We didn't recognise all of them because some were from years above or below us. John wondered if Gary Symons, an American who had introduced us to Bob Dylan and who did a fair impression of him with guitar and harmonica stand fixed around his neck, would make contact. I thought it unlikely. Gary had not been in the UK since 1968, and no-one had any idea where he was. Thanks to a post announcing the reunion on a Yahoo group, Gary came over.

The venue, the Cinnamon Lounge just off Lord Street, proved an ideal choice. We had a private room upstairs for drinks, and could order meals to be eaten downstairs late in the evening. Of those who made contact, some now live abroad; others were not free on that night and so could not come. There were over 30 of us with WAGS.

We had cushioned the shock of meeting again after over forty years by posting photos of 'now and then' on the website. Some were mercifully unchanged; others were unrecognisable, but I'm not divulging who was who. Names, faces and tales of the past and the intervening years were exchanged throughout a convivial evening. The reunion was such a success that there were calls to repeat the meet-up in twelve months time. That was ambitious, even for us, but when we reach 65 in 2014, we will be meeting up again. By then, John and I hope to have many more names.

Paul Bilton

KGV COLLEGE NEWS

Over the past year KGV College students have been fortunate enough to participate in over 75 out-of-classroom activities, from subject related conferences and seminars to trips abroad. They have included:

- ICT students experiencing a team-building day at Rock & River Outdoor Pursuits Centre.
- Film & Media students travelled to Disneyland, Paris.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award students endured some of the worst weather for this year's expeditions. After the water in the pipes froze, they were forced to use water from a stream. In October the DoE students were subject to wind, rain and freezing temperatures whilst on the Lake District fells.
- German students went to Berlin, and Spanish students to Madrid.
- Students, staff and the Principal travelled to Beijing, China for three weeks, attending Chinese language lessons at Sinoland University, and travelling to places of interest.
- Students and staff spent an eco week in the Lake District.
- Geology students visited Shap, Arran, Ingleton and Anglezarke.
- Philosophy students were given a tour of the Tate Gallery on Twentieth Century Art, how it looked and how it felt. This was followed by a discussion at Liverpool University with eminent aesthetician, Nikos Gkogas.
- College concerts continued to be an eclectic mix of classical, popular and new material.
- This year's College sell-out production was 'We Will Rock You'.
- During Holocaust memorial week, students held a week of events to remember those who were part of the Nazi genocide, culminating in a memorial service.

The most disappointing event in 2009 was the collapse of the LSC College building scheme, which left the College – ready to start building in February – without the funds to go ahead. The Governors are now reviewing options for more modest developments, so that KGV can continue to thrive and accommodate increasing student numbers.

The College held a 'Wear It Pink' week to raise funds for Breast Cancer. A number of activities were held, including a talent contest, sporting events and raffles. Over £1,300 was raised for the charity. Students also raised money for the Marina and Kenny Dalglish Appeal, and provided 50 hampers for the rotary Club to pass on to needy people.

KGV EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation was set up as a registered charity in 1988. Its purpose is to administer moneys derived from the Golden Jubilee Fund and the proceeds from the sale of Long Rigg Outdoor Pursuits Centre. There are four trustees: The Principal and Vice-Principal of KGV College, the nominee of the College Association, and the appointee of the Old Georgians' Association. Its function is to:

- 1 Provide for KGV special benefits not supported by external funds.
- 2 Help promote the education of students at KGV College.
- 3 Provide facilities for the academic staff of KGV College.

At the annual meeting of the Foundation in December 2009, it was decided to make a donation to the College of £8,500, £3,000 of which was to provide equipment for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which has involved an increasing number of students in recent years. Offering support to assist the success of outdoor pursuits is most fitting for a Foundation whose funds originated in part from the sale of Long Rigg.

A COMERTIAL BRAKE

Now that you have neerley finished reeding this yier's Redd Rows, we thourt it was apropiette to encourage you al to joyne in the meny sotial eventes hapening in 2010. A moast werthwile tryp is the Chareman's Weak End. Don't beleave al the nastie roomers you may have herd aboute druncken oargies and wyfe-swoping. Annother knot-to-be-mist occasion is the Anuel Diner, held at Fawmby Haul Golfe Clubbe. Altho the speekers are usually boreing and the foode is a bit stail, the drink is oakay and the Raffel is nearly exsiting with amaizing pryzes like soks and undaware.

Then their is the Snuker Tornament, witch also inclewds Dartes and Boles. Olde Gorgons shoud rememba that these events are desined, knot juste to bring people together, butt also to raze fundes to suport King Gorge V Collage and al the lazey stewdants waisting publick mony preatending to worke harde at there coarses, whilsed takeing drugs, getting roring drunke, and faleing to gett into Uxbridge. At leest that saives on steudent lones.

Finaly, it is impoartent to noat that not al Olde Gorgons our olde. Some are stil jung, fitt and viggerous. How ever, it mussed be admitted that many are in there doatage. Some have fourgoten other peeples' naimes, whilsed quiet a fewe have fourgoten there own. Stil, they our knot doing any one any harme as they go aboute there shopp lifting in a pieceful weigh. Lifting a shopp is not eesy, particulally for the eldally.

Tiped by KGV Collage matuer stewdant Gloria Nitface who apolloigizes for her folty spelchequer.

MEMORABILIA

The items below are available at the Annual Dinner or by post from:
Paul Bagshaw, 46 Lyndhurst Road, Southport PR8 4JT. 01704-565075
Ties: Stan Rimmer, 361 Liverpool Rd, Southport PR8 3BT – 01704-576713
Cheques payable to: Old Georgians Association. All items are Post Free.

KGV REMEMBERED DVD – Video programme featuring OG’s £7
Reminiscences and photographs from 1920 to 1979 – 81 mins
Also available from Broadhurst’s Booksellers, Market St, Southport.

GEOFFREY DIXON REMEMBERED DVD – Video of Geoffrey £7
himself, with tributes from colleagues & former pupils – 87 mins

AERIAL PHOTO of KGV School & College 1980. (A4 Colour) £5
AERIAL PHOTO of KGV School in 1950s. (A5 B/W) £5

PHOTOGRAPHS of Southport Pier, The Marine Way Bridge, £5
Lord Street, KGV College in the Snow. (A4 Colour)

75th ANNIVERSARY RED ROSE BOOK – Stories of KGV (1920-2001) £7
A very small number of this 160-page book now available.

KGV SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 1930. (A5 Facsimile) £5

OLD GEORGIANS TIE – Black, 2 Red & White Stripes, Red Rose £9
1930s VINTAGE OLD GEORGIANS TIE – The is Silver, Red & Black £18
and is similar to the Colours Tie.

Southport Photographs by Martyn Snape - smartpics@btinternet.com

Aerial Photograph 13
KGV School n the 1950s