

# THE RED ROSE 2012

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## **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 (09-10) D Lonsdale (11)

## **ASSOCIATION OFFICERS**

PRESIDENT	Adele Wills
VICE PRESIDENTS	Former Chairmen & Presidents
CHAIRMAN	David Lonsdale
VICE CHAIRMAN	Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe
SECRETARY	Martin Fearn
TREASURER	Stan Rimmer (Acting)
RED ROSE EDITOR	Jonathan Elliott
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Jonathan Elliott
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Jonathan Elliott
COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE	Pam O'Shea
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE	Paul Bagshaw
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Former Chairmen & Co-optees

## EDITORIAL

Hello and welcome to the Red Rose 2012.

I hope that those reading this years publication will do so with some enjoyment from the reminiscences of the School and the College. I write this based on the views of those with whom I have regular contact, so I trust that it may also apply to all 1600 current members of the Association.

You may notice that the OG News section is considerably somewhat light this year, due to a much lower response from members to our annual request for information. As this is often the most interesting part of the magazine for many of its readers, this reduction in correspondence is regrettable. We must hope for a significant increase in news items in future years.

Because email has made communication so much easier, I urge members of all ages and from all parts of the world to send in items, no matter how short. These are always of particular interest to your contemporaries and fellow-sufferers at KGV. Equally, we are always grateful to those who send in longer articles. Without these two items, the Red Rose would wither away, so please keep in touch!

As in previous years, we need to adjust our distribution list and you will find an insert in this years' magazine, requesting information of an additional kind – *'do you still wish to receive the publication?'*

Costs have obviously increased year on year and, with a down turn in income through membership, a happy medium needs to be maintained on the balance sheet. One way is to reduce production costs on the magazine, either through i. Reduced page count, ii. No colour, iii. Reduced print run. This year I have reduced the page count as this brings down both the print and postage cost. Next year, the Committee has agreed to reduce circulation and the method to manage this is by a positive return of information from the membership circulation.

Therefore, if you wish to continue to receive a hard copy of the Red Rose, **you MUST tell us**, confirming your address and contact details. You can do this either by completing the enclosed form and returning it in an envelope to the College, or by emailing the RR editor. Please do complete this. You will not be removed from the membership list, but you will be removed from the mailing list for the 2013 production onwards.

May I wish you a Happy New Year and I hope that you continue to enjoy your Red Rose.

***Jonathan R Elliott – RR Editor (Grears 1973-1980)***

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Dear Old Georgians,

I write as we approach the end of another busy and productive term at KGV, a term that began on a very high note as we celebrated our best ever A Level achievement: a pass rate of 99.6% and high grades of 54% (an improvement of 7% on the previous year). In addition, students on our increasing number of BTEC Extended Diploma courses (with their focus on an applied learning experience) achieved an overall pass rate of 100% with 44% of them achieving all Distinctions, an impressive result. This certainly gave us a very buoyant start to the New Year.

In these times of financial constraint, the College was fortunate to secure a building condition grant last April which allowed us to carry out some essential maintenance work as well as refurbish our Learning Centre and Refectory. The results are stunning! I know that some of you were able to join us for the Grand Opening on 14 December, but for anyone who was not there I include a photograph in this edition that gives a small flavour of these new areas. The Learning Centre is now an integrated learning and support area with a range of different study facilities and computers and also gives access to our new pastoral support staff, Progress Coaches, our Careers Advisor, ICT support and Student Reception. Having seen the very positive impact of colour in these environments, we now want to try and improve the overall appearance of the College as a whole through the judicious use of a few pots of paint!

Once again this year, we have continued to support healthy numbers of students aspiring to Higher Education. We currently have 22 applicants for Oxford or Cambridge and 11 applicants for Medicine or Dentistry. In total, over 350 applications have been made so far with many Universities already having responded with offers to our students and with more to follow in the near future.

There are also a number of new ventures this term. We have recruited 12 Business students to our new Career Academy which pairs a student with a Business mentor to give insight into the realities of working in a Business environment. The KGV Radio Station is also up and broadcasts live every day with a variety of shows and hosts. We have also been working in partnership with Sefton and West Lancs Women's Business Network to offer training and Leadership Awards.

As ever, our students have benefited from a range of enhancement activities and trips. I can report on a number of positive sporting achievements: Jake Barton won the Goldenbelt Light Middleweight Professional British Title and is now ranked number 7 in the independent British rankings; the KGV team were runners up in the Merseyside Table Tennis Championship; Brad

Barnes has qualified for the European Golf Junior Open in Andalucía in January; Beatrice Fletcher has just returned from Italy where she was part of the Great Britain Under 18 Women's Ice Hockey team who secured promotion to the World Division 1 after beating France, Italy and Kazakhstan and drawing with China.

There have been numerous trips including a Business trip to London, a Biology Christmas Lecture at the University of Liverpool, a Religious Studies visit to Liverpool World Museum and the Zen Buddhism Centre and two History students who were fortunate to join the Sefton trip to Auschwitz.

However, I must end my letter with a personal note of thanks to Old Georgian Duncan Burton who arranged a visit to the Guild of Painter-Stainers in London for a small group of A Level History students which I also attended. The trip gave a unique opportunity for students to see first-hand how the Guild system developed and how it still continues to have a highly relevant role in education, industry and commerce today. I know that a number of Old Georgians offer their skills and services to KGV, not least on the College's Governing Body, and it is particularly gratifying to see the relationship between the old school and the new College bearing such positive fruit.

With best wishes for a prosperous 2012,

**Adele Wills**

### **CHAIRMAN'S LETTER**

Dear Old Georgians,

My second term as Chair of the Old Georgians' Association has been notable for the fact that this time, unlike my first attempt in 2007, I haven't had to suffer the indignity of coming last in all three disciplines at the annual snooker, bowls and darts night at the S&B. Admittedly the reason for this is not that I suddenly discovered a latent talent for pub sports, but rather that the event didn't take place! Nevertheless - I regard this as a personal triumph.

Something I am very good at though is sitting around listening to music, and this is an ability that I've been able to utilise fully during the last few months. I was delighted to attend the ever enjoyable 'KGV's Got Talent' evening in the autumn, and was honoured to be invited to officially open

the College's new Learning Centre (library really doesn't do it justice any more) prior to the Christmas Music Concert in December. This fabulous event featured a startling array of excellent young musicians, singers and dancers who thoroughly entertained and indeed moved a packed college theatre.

For me though, the highlight of my O.G.A's year is the annual dinner at Easter and this is, yet again, just around the corner. This time the guest speaker will be my brother, John Lonsdale. His experience of KGV was markedly different from that of most of us, as his was the last year group to pass through the entire school before it was closed and subsequently demolished. Each September he remembers returning to find another wing blocked off and made 'out of bounds': another member of staff gone for good. Having no younger boys following you through, and seeing the building shut down around you must have been an extraordinary experience. Since then John has worked extensively in television as both a director and producer and has been associated with many popular and well known productions over the years. I am looking forward to his talk.

This summer it is my hope to reintroduce a barbeque into the Old Georgian calendar and we are intending to have an O.G. sponsored match at Southport Rugby club next season. Considering the long standing relationship between the club and KGV (and the number of ex-students who have graced the field at Waterloo Road over the years), I feel sure this will be a very popular event. The club historian has a wealth of photographs and records that would be of great interest - details to follow on Maundy Thursday.

In a sad year when the organisations lost one of its stalwarts with the passing of Bob Abram, it is perhaps a good time to remind you all that, if anyone would like to help the Old Georgians by joining the committee and supporting us in our on-going association with the college, the organisation of the dinner and the publication of the Red Rose, they would be made very welcome. Meetings are infrequent and generally relaxed affairs, where the pouring of coffee is given pride of place on the agenda.

I would like to thank those who contributed to the Red Rose Appeal last year, specifically Harry Howard and John Clough

May I wish you all a successful and happy year and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at our annual dinner in the spring.

**David Lonsdale 1973-1980**

## **OLD GEORGIANS' NEWS**

### **Don Compton (Grears 1952-1958)**

Don retired as a senior manager for Ellis and Everard Chemicals in February 2001. He was Captain of Thirsk & North Allerton Golf Club in 2003. Don sends his best wishes to all especially anybody in North Yorkshire. If you want to play golf or just have a beer, please call him on 01845 577462.1-58).

### **Jonathan R Elliott (Grears 1973-1980)**

I must practice what I preach!

Having unexpectedly become a Grandfather this year to a fantastic little boy, I look at my wife and wonder what else we would have done with our time! Still working hard in the I.T. world, actively refereeing and now assessing for Lancashire FA, I am also ticking off those holiday destinations on my 'to do' list. Las Vegas in 2011, Dubai in early 2012 and hopefully Washington DC later in the year. Also been busy with the Red Rose archives (see later and the photo below)

### **Bill Jewell (Edwards 1953-61)**

[billjewell@aol.com](mailto:billjewell@aol.com)

Bill has recently been installed as an Honorary Lay Canon of Truro Cathedral. This results from his voluntary work for the Diocese on the Bishops Council, as Secretary of the Board of Patronage, Chairman of the Diocesan Churches Uses Committee and a Deanery Lay Chairman.

Following a few years training to be a Quantity Surveyor he joined the Army and was commissioned into the Royal Corps of Transport in which he served for 27 years. He had a variety of appointments including a spell as First Lieutenant of an army landing craft and was the Army rep in a Joint Service Movements cell during the first Gulf War based in Riyadh. He retired in 1992 to his family home in Cornwall.

### **Steve Manning (Leech's 1966-1973)**

"After 32 years in the Civil Service (mostly in the Health and Safety Executive), I took early retirement in February 2011 and am now running my own counselling and coaching service (Actuality Counselling) in the centre of Liverpool ([www.actualitycounselling.co.uk](http://www.actualitycounselling.co.uk)). It has taken me 38 years since leaving KGV to work out what I want to do when (if) I grow up and I'm now doing it!"

## **OBITUARIES**

### **Robert Abram (Leech's 1934-42, Staff 1946-1983)**

Bob Abram was born in 1923 and died on July 7<sup>th</sup> 2011 in his 88<sup>th</sup> year. The combination of eight years as a pupil, followed by thirty seven years on the staff, is testimony to Bob's outstanding loyalty and service to his alma mater.

The laurels that crowned his school days grew in the winter mud and summer turf and the school records glint in the distant sunshine of his glory: Captain of Cricket, Captain of Rugby, and Vice-Captain of Athletics.

In 1942 he went to Manchester University to read Mathematics. He was awarded rugby colours in each of his three years there. He played for the U.A.U. XV and the Northern Universities XV; he was a Lancashire reserve from 1948 to 1950. Noticing these achievements, and having a mathematics vacancy to fill, Headmaster George Millward expedited his appointment in 1946 and installed him at KGV for the rest of his teaching life.

Bob more than fulfilled his headmaster's expectations. Encouraged by his mentor, Ike Higham, he devoted himself to coaching cricket and rugby teams with a blend of exhortation and example so many of us remember with gratitude and, in due course, took responsibility for games' organisation.

As an accomplished teacher of mathematics, he was able to contribute at all levels and countless pupils, whether in the sixth form or junior school, prospered from his patient understanding.

In 1953 he took charge of Woodham's House and the pastoral role absorbed much of his time until 1966 when, on the death of his friend Walter Lord, he became Careers' Master. In the following years Bob developed this service which was greatly valued by pupils and parents.

Bob's long service to the School inevitably extended to the Old Georgians' Association. Forty years ago, in 1971, he became our Chairman and planned the first Chairman's weekend, leading a group in early July to Long Rigg, the splendid outcome of Geoffrey Dixon's dream to acquire a field study centre. Since 1967 Bob had assisted with the preparation of the hostel and he was proud to show it to his party. In 2006 he took the Chair once again and led a large and successful weekend expedition to Grasmere in March 2007.

Bob was appointed to a Deputy Headship in 1978 and became Vice-Master of KGV College in 1980. A vigorous personality, he was a major formative influence on the life of KGV.

**Stan Rimmer**

*Several other people have contributed their memories of Bob and these are included after this section.*



**Derek Brown (1958-1965)**

Derek was born in 1947 in Scotland and moved to Southport when he was 11. He attended KGV and, on passing his 'A' levels, he entered journalism, initially with the Southport Visiter. Aged 22, he started work with The Guardian and remained with that paper for the remainder of his career, until his sudden death on February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011, aged 63.

Derek covered many events and locations in his time, which are best detailed in the Guardians own obituary which can be accessed on their website (below). He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Eileen.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/media/2011/feb/27/derek-brown-obituary>

[http://www.scotsman.com/news/obituaries/obituary\\_derek\\_brown\\_journalist\\_1\\_1503498](http://www.scotsman.com/news/obituaries/obituary_derek_brown_journalist_1_1503498)

**John R Edwards (Edwards' 1929-36 and 1937-38)**

John Edwards was born in 1919 and died on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010, aged 90 years. His father, Joseph Edwards, known affectionately as Teddy, was one of the founding masters of KGV Grammar School and, of course, Edwards' House. In John's time at KGV he was a School Prefect, Vice-Captain of Edwards' House and gained his colours as a fast bowling member of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI Cricket team.

From KGV, John went on to gain a first class honours degree in Geography and Anthropology at Manchester University. Having chosen a career in teaching, his service included a brief spell at KGV as well as six years at Cowley Grammar School in St. Helens.

In 1951 John became Head of Geography at the then dynamic and famous Liverpool Institute High School for Boys where he became and remains a legend among the school alumni. Affectionately known as 'Jake' and regarded as an exceptional teacher, he forged lifelong friendships with many of his pupils. His address book contained a remarkable list of professors, judges, surgeons, knights and peers of the realm – all former pupils who kept in regular touch, including Sir Paul McCartney and Bill Kenwright, the Everton Chairman. The Liobians, the equivalent of our OGA, still flourishes and, in 2009, John was invited to attend the annual dinner where he was treated like visiting royalty and stole the show. Many of those who attended will never forget his annual advice to school leavers – “never turn down an opportunity. It won't come again”.

In 1966 John became Vice-Principal of Balshaw's School (now Runshaw College) where he remained until his retirement in 1984.

Over very many years the Edwards family – John, Mary and son David – remained closely involved with the sports club founded by Teddy Edwards

in the 1920's. The Hawks became Southport Leyland Road in 1926 and eventually Southport Amateurs in 1958.

In 1958 John served as Chairman of the KGV OBA, following in the footsteps of his father who graced the office in 1955.

**Stan Rimmer**

### **Dr Roy Henry Garstang PhD (Leech's 1936-1943)**

Philip Broadbent (Leech's 39-44) wrote in from Canada to inform us of the passing of Roy Garstang.

Roy's Valet in the Red Rose of 1943 notes he was a School Prefect, Secretary of the Swimming Club and a member of the ATC. Roy excelled academically and gained a scholarship to Cambridge University. He crammed three years' work in to two at Caius College before moving on to the RAE at Farnborough as a Junior Scientific Officer. He received his BA in 1946, followed by his MA in 1950 and his PhD in Mathematics in 1954, when he went to teach at the University of London.

Roy married in 1959 and moved to the USA in 1964, joining the Science Faculty at the University of Colorado in Boulder City, where he remained for the rest of his career in the realms of Astrophysics, becoming a world authority on atomic calculations. Roy became the Secretary of the University for more than 20 years, during which time he was also VP of the British Astronomical Association, Director of the Fiske Planetarium and Director of the Division of Physics and AstroGeophysics.

Roy even has a planet named after him – 9594 Garstang! Googling Roy brought up dozens of references. The link below is to his obituary from the American Astronomical Society.

Roy died on November 1st 2009, aged 84, leaving his wife Ann and two daughters, Jennifer and Susan.

<http://aas.org/node/3894>

### **Stuart Goodridge (1958-1965)**

Stuart was born in 1947 and attended KGV through to his 'A' levels. He died peacefully at home on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2011 after a long illness.

Stuart gained his PPL on Southport beach at the age of 17 and went on to enjoy his passion for cars and motor racing by combining them with his career. He founded his manufacturing company when he was 23. He is survived by his wife, Trudi and children Daniel, Benjamin, Liberty and Charlotte. Further detail is provided in the Motor Industry Association obituary which can be found using the link below.

<http://www.the-mia.com/Stuart-Goodridge---1947-2011>  
<http://www.thisisdevon.co.uk/Global-entrepreneur-began-kitchen-table/story-11722708-detail/story.html>

**Ken Halsall (Rogers 1949-56)**

Ken passed away on March 15<sup>th</sup> 2011, aged 75 years.

**George Mitchell**

George passed away in January 2011, aged 95. George was one of the boys who joined the march from Woodlands to the new KGV building in 1926 and was an active member of the Hesketh Golf Club.

**Norman Mosscrop**

Norman passed away in May 2011, aged 84. He attended KGV during and just after the war. He was a founder member of Southport Cycling Club and ran his own cycling supply shop which was very popular and successful locally.

[http://www.southport.gb.com/southport/news\\_list/RIP\\_Norman\\_Mosscrop-50462761.htm](http://www.southport.gb.com/southport/news_list/RIP_Norman_Mosscrop-50462761.htm)

**John Porter**

John Porter passed away in January 2011 at the age of 59. He was the popular Chairman of Southport Rugby Club and there- in lies his connection with KGV. John did not actually attend the school, but has a unique place in our history. John moved to Southport from Wigan, having already established himself in his early teens as a more than competent sportsman at both rugby codes, league and union. However, he attended Meols Cop School, but obtained special permission to play for KGV.

<http://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/southport-news/southport-southport-news/2011/01/28/tributes-paid-to-southport-rugby-club-chairman-john-porter-who-lost-his-battle-with-cancer-101022-28068952/>

**Percy Redhead**

The Southport Visiter carried an obituary to Captain Percy 'Pete' Redhead, who died on June 16 2011, aged 94. It is mentioned that he attended KGV, but with no further detail. Percy joined the Royal Navy in 1938, having started work with Ellerman City Lines. During the war, he commanded a

motor torpedo squadron and was involved in the D-Day landings. He re-joined Ellerman after the war, retiring in 1978 with the rank of Senior Master. He passed away from heart problems, leaving his wife, Barbara and daughter, Dianna.

**David Ridout (1958-1962)**

David passed away in June 2010 following being diagnosed with cancer. We received the following (edited) letter from his wife highlighting David's life experiences.

David was born in Southport in 1947. He left KGV early, I think in 1962, to join the Royal Artillery Junior Leaders Regiment. On passing out as a land surveyor he served in Britain and Germany until he left the army in 1968. We then married and lived in Wigan for a short time.

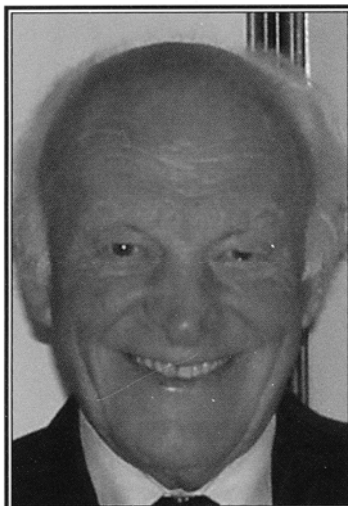
He then joined George Wimpey (builders) as a land surveyor until joining Lancashire CC circa 1970 and stayed with them in various capacities until he took "early retirement" in 1999. We moved to Preston in 1971 and are still in the same house. We have 2 boys, Iain born in 1975 and Alan born in 1982.

David had many interests outside work including rugby league (Wigan) and Ice Hockey (Blackburn Hawks). He and our younger son were at Wembley to watch Southport when they played in the Trophy final in the late nineties.

He became a Governor at the local primary school and then later at the high school the boys attended, becoming Chairman in both cases. He helped with D.O.E. award expeditions at the high school. He took up small bore rifle shooting and coached another OGA, Steve Bond, when he was an England Junior. He was appointed as a Magistrate on the Preston bench circa 1999 and was still sitting a month before he died. He started to become ill late in 2009 and was diagnosed with terminal oesophageal cancer and died on 23rd July 2010. His ashes were scattered on Pillar Rock, the only summit above 3000ft in England and Wales that he had failed to conquer.

**Elaine**

## **PERSONAL MEMORIES**



**Robert Abram**

In 1976, when I arrived at KGV, there were five Old Georgians on the staff: George Wakefield, Bob Abram, Hubert Long, Stan Rimmer and David Miley. They were all an asset to the school and the first three of them had between them, whether as man or boy, already spent more than a hundred years there. What is more, George and Bob were the two most senior members of staff.

They were devoted to the grammar school. It had been an outstanding school, both academically and on the sports field, throughout the years they had known it, as boys before the war and as members of staff afterwards. But they were also delighted to be able to do something different in the last stage of their careers, and they devoted themselves wholeheartedly to ensuring that the college we were creating would emulate all that was good in the grammar school which had preceded it.

I remember Geoffrey Dixon telling me of his appreciation of Bob's loyalty and reliability. Geoffrey did not make such judgements lightly, and he was, of course, absolutely right. Those qualities were immensely important when Bob took over as Deputy Head on George Wakefield's retirement. Effectively, as we went through the process of transition into a sixth form college, Bob became the headmaster of what was left of the school below the

sixth form. It was a great benefit to me to be able to leave such an important part of the job to so loyal and reliable a colleague, and it was similarly a benefit to the boys in the last years of the grammar school to have Bob ensuring high standards with firmness, but also with understanding.

One of my happiest memories of time spent with him is of when each year we took the KGV golf team to Stowe in Buckinghamshire, where I had taught before coming to Southport. The school has a nine-hole golf course in a beautiful landscape garden setting, and for part of the while Bob played golf while I visited old friends. Then we would go for a walk round the grounds, forgetting the immediate issues facing us back in Southport, and I could enjoy hearing to him talk of KGV back in the days of George Millward and Geoffrey Dixon.

In later years we met relatively infrequently. After all, Sussex, where I live, and Southport, where Bob and Jean lived all their lives, are quite a distance from each other. But back in April of this year I went to the Old Georgians' Annual reunion dinner with my two sons, who were both at the school thirty years ago, and Bob was there as well, with his son, who had been the head boy of the school and later, like his father, had become a teacher of Mathematics. I had the pleasure of sitting next to Bob and we spent much of the evening talking together of old times and of former friends and colleagues.

Bob's schooldays and his working life had both been spent principally at KGV. He was a considerable sportsman. He was clearly a good husband and father. He was one of the best and most loyal servants of both King George V School and King George V College. We will miss him.

**David Arnold – former Head Master of KGV Grammar School and the first Principal of KGV College.**

Pupil, teacher, old boy, old Georgian, Chairman, Committee Member.

I only met Mr Abram in 1973 when I joined the school as a pupil. I write 'only' as this spanned the 38 years from then until his passing this year, but this was less than half of Bob's (I can now call him that as a fellow Chair and someone I would consider a friend) life time and commitment to KGV.

I can't comment on exactly where KGV was stationed in line of importance in his life, though judging by his family that I have met and observed, I would place them at number one. KGV and sport probably then compete for second place.

I have often asked people to summarise individuals using one word. If I ask myself the same question of Bob, there are many complimentary words, so let me pick one. I relate this word to describe all of the aspects that I experienced in his contact with people and processes – 'enthusiastic'.

Whether it were academic or sporting, current or former student, teacher or OGA Chair, dealing with male or female, young or old, Bob's enthusiasm for a subject spilled over. His associated encouragement was limitless and I know my personal success at 'A' level would have been diminished without his assistance. I could hog this slot for many lines more. I won't as many others have equal or greater words to write, if not in this edition of the Red Rose, then the next.

**Jon Elliott**

It is very sad to learn of Bob Abram's death.

Apart from meeting Bob and having a short chat at the OG's Annual Dinner I have not known him socially for many years since moving to London at age 25. I used to live at a house in Liverpool Road, Ainsdale, opposite to the Ainsdale Sports Club before moving to an investment job with Royal Insurance in The City, and knew Bob very well as a member of the 1st X there. He was a very good sportsman and also a very good maths teacher at KGV putting him on a par with my much respected Gear's House Master, Joe Mayne.

I never had the opportunity of playing golf with Bob as he was a member of the Hesketh Club and I played at S&A. where many old school pals, including Dr. David Marsh (Captain of Cambridge University and the British Amateur Open champion), Geoff Roberts (English Amateur Champion in 1948) and John Graham were three of the leading players. I bumped into John Graham on Lord Street last year and tried to persuade him to come with David to the OG's Dinner so that we could meet up and chat about those wonderful youthful times again! Maybe next year all being well.

**Gordon Lees.**

I remember Bob Abram well. He never taught me, but he was my housemaster in Woodham's House. I think he took over Woodham's from my first Housemaster, Mr Harry Booth. I remember Bob Abram as a strong, kind and popular Housemaster, and a great cricketer, batting formidably for the Staff XI in the annual game against the school's First XI.

He influenced me without my realizing it until later in my life. When I became a teacher myself, a high school Principal in Ottawa and eventually a Director, I found myself using techniques and phrases I recognized as his. Clearly, he inspired me. I owe him much.

**Harry Corrin (Woodhams, 1951-59)**

## Peter Longhurst

Peter's passing was reported in the 2010 Red Rose. Jonathan Stocker has written in with some memories of his former School Master.

If I remember rightly, the death of Peter Longhurst was reported briefly in 2010. I was hoping to read more tributes to him in 2011, but there was only one such letter. I should like to add my own memories in the hope that they will inspire further reflection on Peter's impact on both the school and the individuals he inspired.

Economics was a well-established 'A' level by the time I 'chose' it (1964), more by virtue of my own distinct shortcomings in other subject areas. With a class of varying commitment, Peter stuck stoically to his task in one of the geography block rooms, often against the odds in terms of our attitude and application. His humour shone through as he attempted to demystify, amongst other aspects of economics, Keynesian theory. An insistence on fresh air often woke up the more lethargic of us, as did his frustrated reprimands of our occasional childishness.

His bon mots, habits and sayings became legend amongst us. I especially remember that, following a particularly crass comment, one boy received the admonishment which immediately became an accolade amongst his peers, "Paton, you c-c-c- runt." Famously also, Peter's utterance "Meum Dictum Pactum", although often utilised as part of a threat, proved to be an appropriate personal statement.

At lunchtimes, Peter would occasionally visit The Richmond for "quick half" or be seen strolling around the field, pipe in mouth, in conversation with a colleague. Often questioned by us in our curiosity, he always took the trouble to answer truthfully. If we turned up our noses at his choice of tobacco, he would utter the words, "H-half a P.D." This, apparently, was the truth. Half a 'Park Drive' cigarette was his pipe-filler, either of choice or necessity.

Peter, as most people of that era will know, was housemaster of Mason's. I was in Spencer's, but noted that he always expected the maximum commitment from every individual in his house, especially in sports and house matches. When the House Choir Competition was instituted in the mid-60s, most houses entered a small choir formed from a nucleus of competent singers. Peter had his own ideas, though, and insisted that every single member of Mason's took part. Not anticipating this, there were gasps of amazement from the watching remainder of the school when an apparently endless stream of boys strode up and crowded onto the hall stage for the Mason's choir performance. Only Peter, it seemed, could have orchestrated this.



I must also add to Peter Gladney's reference (Red Rose, 2011) to Peter's commitment to the sport of hockey. No winter sport other than rugby was officially countenanced at KGV in the early 60s. However, several of us had taken up hockey by virtue of membership of Southport Hockey Club and began practising on the field after school. With the support of Peter Longhurst, we lobbied successfully for a pitch to be marked out and a school hockey team was born. It speaks volumes for Peter that he helped institute a broader official attitude to sports, however reluctantly permission was given. I'm not sure we would have succeeded without his help.

I think that Peter was also involved when the 'colours' system of representative honours was revised to accommodate the award of 'full' colours (previously reserved for rugby, cricket, swimming and athletics) to minor sports such as badminton and hockey. I am personally very grateful to him in this respect. Hopeless at rugby and keen but not very good at cricket, I had always coveted the 'full colours' honour, but never thought it would become a personal reality. I was therefore delighted when Peter promised me the award at the end of the 1966-67 hockey season. However, Peter left KGV for Stowe School soon after and I was omitted from the initial colours announcement. Fortunately though, Peter took the trouble to commend me retrospectively for full colours in hockey, and I was awarded them. I knew then that this was typical of a man whose motto was truly 'Meum Dictum Pactum.'

A few years ago, I wrote to Peter following an Old Georgians Dinner at which I'd had the opportunity to speak to him. He telephoned to thank me for my letter. He needn't have bothered, but that was Peter and we had a long and interesting conversation.

An inspirational man of considerable humanity, Peter will, I'm sure, be remembered with great affection by the vast majority of boys who were fortunate to know him.

**Jon Stocker, Spencer's, 1960-67.**

## SOCIAL EVENTS 2010/11

**Or, won 2 lost 2**

### ANNUAL DINNER

For 2011, we took on board the old adage that a 'change is as good as a rest' and under took two changes in one – a move back to the town centre and thus a change of venue to the Bold Hotel on Lord Street.

The dinner was preceded by the Annual General Meeting of the Association, attended by 32 members, including the Chairman, Janice Darkes-Sutcliffe and 10 committee members.

The Dinner started at 8pm with a welcome from Social Secretary, Jonathan Elliott, followed by Mike Hyde saying Grace. We welcomed our new President, Adele Wills to the top table to complete our formalities into this year's dinner.

In addition to the many members present, we also had a full table of 12 comprising former members of staff who were invited and able to attend. This proved extremely successful for both the staff and OGA members as both parties re-introduced themselves and rolled back the years to the School and early days of the College.

Our guest speaker was Old Georgian, Roger Shaw, who spoke for some time on his experiences of School and life after. This was warmly received following the opening words of both our Chair and President.

The raffle ensued, members were fraught at the sleight of hand demonstrations from OG member Terry Fleetwood, many a litre was consumed and all went off to their respective beds, whether at home or in the local hostelry.

This year's dinner was received with mixed feelings. The area provided for the AGM was compromised as part of the main function room was the only option to host this part of the evening. Aside from the dark, the required air conditioning meant that some members had difficulty in hearing. Whilst the catering was more than adequate, the service was not up to the expected speed. That said (well, written) the evening was enjoyed by all, with any issues constructively recognised afterwards.

A paper referendum was held for those in attendance, which concluded we should a. remain in town, b. retain the Maundy Thursday date, c. keep reviewing the venue options. The Committee has duly recognised these with our choice for 2012.

Attending in 2011 (former staff in italics):

<b>Bob</b>	<b>Abram</b>	<b>Alastair</b>	<b>Ford</b>	<b>Jon</b>	<b>Ridehalgh</b>
<b>Joe</b>	<b>Abram</b>	<b>Mick</b>	<b>Glautier</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>Ridgeway</b>
<b>Martin</b>	<b>Abram</b>	<b>Peter</b>	<b>Griffiths</b>	<b>Brian</b>	<b>Rimmer</b>

<b>Derek</b>	<b>Adams</b>	<b>Roger</b>	<b>Hargreaves</b>	<b>Elaine</b>	<b>Rimmer</b>
<b>Rob</b>	<b>Anderson</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>Harrison</b>	<b>Stan</b>	<b>Rimmer</b>
<b>Colin</b>	<b>Andrews</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Hepworth</b>	<b>Stephen</b>	<b>Rimmer</b>
<i><b>Hilary</b></i>	<i><b>Anslow</b></i>	<b>Dave</b>	<b>Heselgrave</b>	<b>Dave</b>	<b>Roberts</b>
<i><b>David</b></i>	<i><b>Arnold</b></i>	<b>David</b>	<b>Howard</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Roberts</b>
<b>James</b>	<b>Arnold</b>	<b>Des</b>	<b>Hughes</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Rostron</b>
<b>Piers</b>	<b>Arnold</b>	<b>Barry</b>	<b>Hurst</b>	<b>Peter</b>	<b>Rostron</b>
<b>Paul</b>	<b>Bagshaw</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Hyde</b>	<b>Derrick</b>	<b>Salmon</b>
<b>Roger</b>	<b>Basford</b>	<b>Mike</b>	<b>Hyde</b>	<i><b>Michelle</b></i>	<i><b>Sanderson</b></i>
<b>Ted</b>	<b>Batty</b>	<b>Keith</b>	<b>Johns</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Seddon</b>
<b>Graham</b>	<b>Booth</b>	<b>Barry</b>	<b>Jones</b>	<b>Trevor</b>	<b>Seed</b>
<b>Tom</b>	<b>Booth</b>	<b>Roger</b>	<b>Jump</b>	<b>Roger</b>	<b>Shaw</b>
<b>Adrian</b>	<b>Brown</b>	<b>Dave</b>	<b>Keeley</b>	<b>Brian</b>	<b>Shorrocks</b>
<b>Paul</b>	<b>Bullock</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Kendrew</b>	<b>Keith</b>	<b>Shorrocks</b>
<b>Duncan</b>	<b>Burton</b>	<b>Peter</b>	<b>Kenyon</b>	<i><b>Ann</b></i>	<i><b>Skinner</b></i>
<b>Mike</b>	<b>Chalk</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Kermode</b>	<i><b>Gary</b></i>	<i><b>Skinner</b></i>
<i><b>Ray</b></i>	<i><b>Clark</b></i>	<b>Ian</b>	<b>Kettle</b>	<i><b>Alyson</b></i>	<i><b>Small</b></i>
<b>Mick</b>	<b>Clarke</b>	<b>Catherine</b>	<b>Lapsley</b>	<b>Russell</b>	<b>Stott</b>
<i><b>Alan</b></i>	<i><b>Clowes</b></i>	<b>Gordon</b>	<b>Lees</b>	<b>Simon</b>	<b>Sutcliffe</b>
<i><b>Pauline</b></i>	<i><b>Collier</b></i>	<b>David</b>	<b>Lonsdale</b>	<b>Andrew</b>	<b>Sweeney</b>
<b>Eddie</b>	<b>Cowen</b>	<b>Roy</b>	<b>Ludlow</b>	<b>Andy</b>	<b>Swettenham</b>
<b>Graham</b>	<b>Cox</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>Marsh</b>	<b>Jez</b>	<b>Sykes</b>
<b>Jeff</b>	<b>Cummings</b>	<b>David</b>	<b>Marshall</b>	<b>Steve</b>	<b>Tasker</b>
<b>Janice</b>	<b>Darke-Sutcliffe</b>	<b>Charlie</b>	<b>Martin</b>	<b>Stephen</b>	<b>Taylor</b>
<b>Alun</b>	<b>Davies</b>	<b>Julian</b>	<b>McInnerney</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Threlfall</b>
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Mercer</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Tinsley</b>
<b>Alan</b>	<b>Dickinson</b>	<b>Paul</b>	<b>Merone</b>	<b>Richard</b>	<b>Turner</b>
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Dransfield</b>	<b>Belinda</b>	<b>Miller</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Wainwright</b>
<b>Jonathan</b>	<b>Elliott</b>	<b>Tony</b>	<b>Milner</b>	<b>Mike</b>	<b>Waring</b>
<b>Ron</b>	<b>Ellis</b>	<b>Paul</b>	<b>Openshaw</b>	<b>Kevin</b>	<b>Watkins</b>
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Elsen</b>	<b>Graham</b>	<b>Ostick</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Weber</b>
<b>Bill</b>	<b>Farquhar</b>	<b>Ray</b>	<b>Owen</b>	<b>Barry</b>	<b>Whittaker</b>
<b>Darrell</b>	<b>Farrant</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Parkinson</b>	<b>Adele</b>	<b>Wills</b>
<b>Martin</b>	<b>Fearn</b>	<b>John</b>	<b>Pilling</b>	<b>Tony</b>	<b>Wilson</b>
<b>Ronnie</b>	<b>Fearn</b>	<b>Haydn</b>	<b>Preece</b>	<b>Stuart</b>	<b>Wincer</b>
<b>Alan</b>	<b>Fleetwood</b>	<b>Ken</b>	<b>Priestley</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Winnard</b>
<b>Terry</b>	<b>Fleetwood</b>	<b>Charlie</b>	<b>Rees</b>	<b>Chris</b>	<b>Wood</b>
<b>Mark</b>	<b>Fletcher</b>				

### **CHAIRMAN'S WEEKEND**

Unforeseen events postponed the 2011 weekend. Janice and David hope to run a joint event in Spring 2012. If you are interested, please keep in touch and keep an eye on the web site.

### **QUIZ NIGHT 2011 – Royalty Comes To Town**

When we set the date for the 2011 quiz, we didn't know our Royal family would be gate crashing our event. Well, not literally, but it did give John Nelson a theme on which to base some of the rounds.

Attendance was up on last year, some 110 people threw their lot into the evening. Two full staff tables, representing both past and present, held central position in the room. Our Chair took up his usual side room hiding place based upon his teams past performance, trying to ensure staying out of the lime light. Guests had also flown in from the USA (winning the Heads & Tails).

Again, the forethought for the evening was 'fun' – once more successfully delivered by the combination of a fine quiz master and a willing audience.

The winners (below) were a late entry and led by OG Andrew Webster, they fought through to cross the line first at the final hurdle, pushing last year's winners into second place by two points.

Once again, if you are not there – you are missing a treat. To those of you attending – many thanks and see you at the next Quiz Night, Friday May 25'

### **SNOOKER EVENING 2011**

Due to a change in staff and disruption in bookings at the S&B, this event was postponed for 2011, to be continued in 2012.



Former staff members attending this years dinner (left to Right) Mr Clowes, Mrs Skinner, Mr Clark, Mrs Small, Mr Collier, Mrs Collier, Mrs Sanderson, Dr Skinner, Mrs Anslow, Mr Arnold



The Association's President and Chairman



The x-streamers of 1979 celebrate



Quiz Night Winners 2012, led by Andy Webster

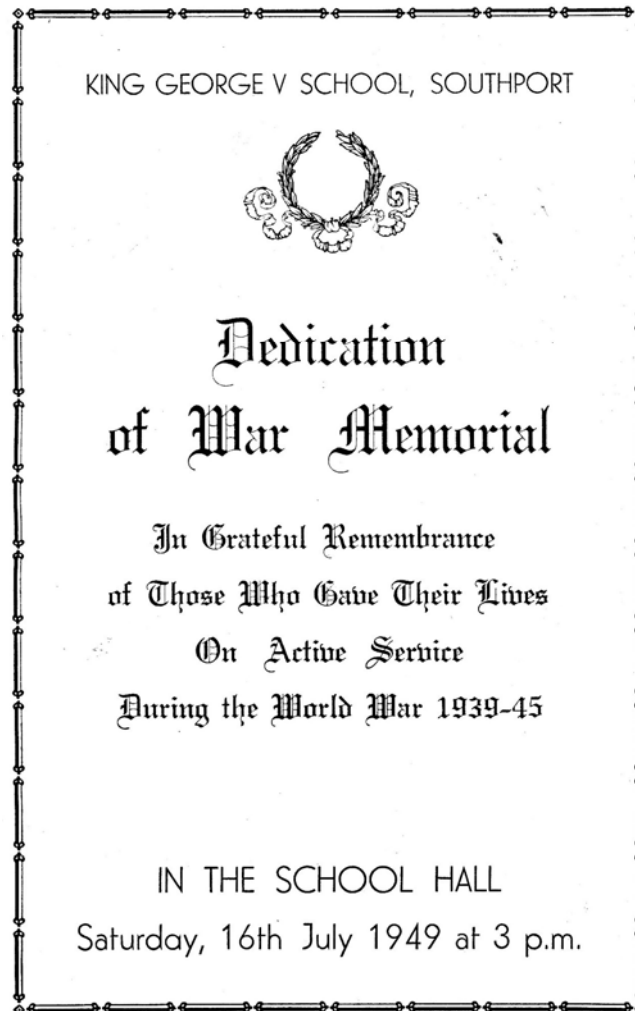


Views from within the new Learning Centre



## UNDISCOVERED MEMORABILIA

My wife's grandmother passed away recently and whilst we were sorting out her possessions, I came across an order of service for a commemorative service held in 1949 for those who passed during the war, one of them being her first husband Kenneth Foster. Below is the cover and the Roll of Honour from that document – Ed.





# Roll of Honour

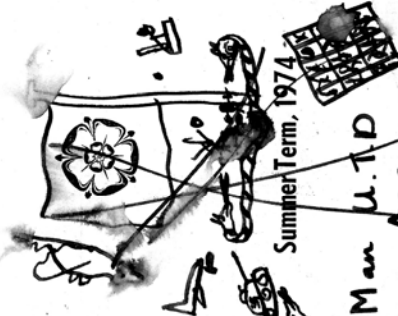


ROBERT HUGH ABRAM	GEORGE ARTHUR MAIDEN
ERIC HAROLD ACKROYD	ALASTAIR DAVID MALCOLM
HOWARD LESLIE ASHTON	JOHN DEREK MARSHALL
HERBERT LESLIE BALDWIN	ROBERT MARSHALL
NORMAN CASSON BANISTER	KENNETH REAVLEY MASON
THOMAS BATEMAN	ERIC KENDRICK MELLODY
HARRY BINNS	ARTHUR DENIS MUNSLOW
EDWARD HUNTER BOND	LAWRENCE EDWARD OSBORNE
HENRY BUCKLEY	KENNETH CRAVEN OSWALD
ROBERT HENRY CARR	FOLLETT MATTINSON PENNELL
EDWARD ROY CLOUGH	VICTOR THOMAS PENNINGTON
LAWRENCE STEELE COLLINS	KENNETH POTTS
DENNIS AUSTIN DENTON	ERIC PRICE
JOHN HOLT DICKINSON	HOWARD WILLIAM RAMSAY
WILLIAM DOBSON	ALLEN FAIRHURST RIDDLESWORTH
JOSEPH HART DOWNS	KENNETH CRAIGLAW RIGBY
CLIVE ENTWISTLE	GEORGE RIMMER
CHARLES ERIC EVANS	JOHN FRANCIS ROBERTS
JOHN RICHARD FENTON	IVOR HAROLD MITCHELL ROE
KENNETH JACK FOSTER	JOHN ARTHUR ROGERS
WILLIAM GORDON	RONALD EDWARD ROLISON
ARTHUR GREEN	GORDON RUSSEL
DONALD HALSALL	WILLIAM HENRY SEALE
DENNIS HARGREAVES	THOMAS SEDDON
FRANK HARRISON	HARRY SEED
FREDERICK BAILLIE HARTLEY	JEREMIAH SHIRM
ERIC WILLIAM HEATON	JOHN HALL SIMPSON
THOMAS HENRY	JOHN PICKSTONE SINGLETON
MAURICE HEYES	ROYSTON SPERLING
JAMES ALFRED BENIS HIGH	GEOFFREY STEEPLES
GEORGE NEIL HIGHAM	ERIC JOHN STREET
FRANCIS PETER HILL	HAROLD SWEET
ALBERT THOMAS ROSS HOGG	RICHARD TAYLOR
LESLIE JENKINSON	DOUGLAS POLLOCK TOUGH
FRANK SUMNER JENNINGS	ALAN VICKERS
PHILIP LANCASTER	GERALD WHELAN
JOSEPH JACKSON LAPES	HARRY WHITEHEAD
ALBERT EDWARD LAW	RICHARD ALAN WHITTAKER
FREDERICK LIPTROT	JOHN JAMES WRIGHT
REGINALD ERIC LORD	JOHN RIPLEY WRIGHT

On a more recent note, I also uncovered all of my old school 'Calendars'. Small, 3 fold pieces of cardboard we were given at the start of each term that were expected to last! Mine did!! Not sure if that is sad or careful. Here is a copy of the cleanest one – Ed.

J. R. ELLIOTT 26

### King George V School Calendar



Summer Term, 1974  
Man U.T.D  
= Ace

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**SCHOOL SOCIETIES**

Lib. ~~2:00 p.m.~~ 3:50 p.m.  
BRIDGE CLUB 6th, 13th, 20th May, 15th July

Rm. 3 EUROPA 3:55 p.m.  
16th May

Rm. 11 FOX SOCIETY 1:00 p.m.  
8th May, 12th June, 10th July.

L.T. GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY 3:55 p.m.  
~~2:00 p.m.~~ 14th May, 2nd July

High School JOINT FILM SOCIETY 7:30 p.m.  
3rd May.

Rm. 21 MUSIC SOCIETY  
School Choir  
Each Monday, Wed., & Friday of term 1:00 p.m.  
Each Monday of term. 3:55 p.m.

Each Tuesday of term. 1:00 p.m. and 3:55 p.m.  
Recorder Ensemble  
Each Thursday of term. 3:55 p.m.

L.T. PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY 3:55 p.m.  
7th May, 9th July.

Room 29 RAILWAY SOCIETY . . 3:55 p.m.  
~~2:00 p.m.~~ 13th May, 24th June, 8th July and  
13th July (expedition).

SCHOOL LIBRARY  
The Library will be open for borrowing and for  
reading each afternoon from 3:45 to 4:15 p.m.

Next term begins 3rd September, 1974

**GAMES COMMITTEE**  
President: The Headmaster

Chairman: Mr. Gale

Committee

W. Thornborough (Ed.) R. McDonald (M)  
J. McInerney (Ev.) P. Broude (R)  
M. Halsall (C) J. Gunns (W)  
J. Dealey (Le.)

Captain of Rugby: C. A. Kersey (Ev.)  
Captain of Swimming: A. Holmes (C)  
Captain of Hockey: S. Wainwright (W)  
Captain of Badminton: B. Hepworth (Ev.)  
Captain of Cross-Country: J. Gunns (W)  
Captain of Chess: C. S. Fitchett (M)  
Captain of Athletics: J. Gunns (W)

# King George V School

## SUMMER TERM 1974

### A P R I L

24 W Mr. Metford  
25 Th Mr. Jones  
26 F  
27 S

29 M Mr. Williams  
30 Tu Mr. Travers  
1 W  
2 Th  
3 F  
4 S

6 M Mr. Bruce  
7 Tu Mr. Rogers  
8 W Senior House Matches Ed. R, M v Le.  
9 Th Senior House Matches G v Ed., S v W.  
10 F Athletics matches at Stanley S.  
11 S

13 M Mr. Greenhalgh  
14 Tu Mr. Fairburn  
15 W Junior House Matches Semi-Finals 4p.m.  
16 Th Athletics 6-sided match (A), Blackburn  
17 F Athletics matches at Liverpool College and  
18 S Ormskirk G.S.  
19 M Junior House Matches  
20 Th Senior Athletic Heats  
21 F 1st XI, U15 XI, U13 XI (A), 2nd XI,  
22 S U14 XI (H) v Hurton G.S.

20 M Mr. Bickenstaffe  
21 Tu Mr. Penry  
22 W Athletics Finals 1st XI, U17.  
23 Th C.C.E. 'A' level examinations begin.  
24 F Athletics 6-sided match at Q.E.G.S.  
25 S Ormskirk.

27th May — 1st June inclusive, Mid-Term  
1. June S 1st XI (A), 2nd XI, U14 XI (H) v  
Kirkham G.S.

J U N E  
3 M Mr. Large  
4 Tu Mr. Cook  
5 W Junior House Matches Le v Hurton v A,  
6 Th Junior House Matches Le v Hurton v A,  
7 F Inter. House Matches R v Le, W v S,  
8 S A v C, Hon v Lu.  
9 M 'A' XI, U15 XI (A), U13 XI, U12 XI (H)  
10 F v Merchant Taylors' S.  
11 S 1st XI, U15 XI (A), 2nd XI, U14 XI  
(H) v Cowley G.S.

10 M Mr. Whistaker  
11 Tu Junior House Matches Le v Hurton v A,  
12 W S v Ev, C v Lu.  
13 Th Intermediate House Matches R v Ev, W  
14 F v Ed., A v M, Hon v Hol.  
15 S U13 XI, U12 XI (A) v Merchant Taylors

17 M Mr. Travers  
18 Tu Mr. Dear  
19 W Junior House Matches Hol v R, Ed v A,  
20 Th M v Ev, W v Lu.  
21 F Intermediate House Matches Le v Ev.  
22 S 1st XI (A) v Southport & Birkdale C.C.  
23 M 1st XI, U14 XI (H), U15 XI, U13 XI  
(A) v Ormskirk G.S.

Mr. Rogers  
Mr. Freeman  
24 M Junior House semi-finals.  
25 Tu School Examinations begin.  
26 W House semi-finals 4 p.m.  
27 Th  
28 F School Examinations end. 'O' and 'A'  
29 S level C.C.E. examinations end.  
30 M 1st XI (H) v Wallasey G.S.

J U L Y  
1 M Mr. Fairburn  
2 Tu Mr. P. J. Davies  
3 W Athletic heats  
4 Th Athletic heats  
5 F Athletic heats  
6 S Founder's Day 1st XI v Staff XI.  
7 M Intermediate House Final.  
8 Tu 1st XI, U15 XI (A), U13 XI (H) v  
Balshaws G.S.

Mr. Cook  
Mr. Stibbary  
8 M 1st XI, U14 XI (A), 2nd XI, U15 XI (H)  
9 Tu Intermediate House Matches 2 p.m.  
10 W 1st XI, U15 XI (A), 2nd XI, U14 XI  
(H) v Blackpool Collegiate S.  
11 Th  
12 F  
13 S

Mr. Puckey  
Mr. Ashworth  
15 M Athletic Sports.  
16 Tu 1st XI v Old Boys. Junior House Final.  
17 W Single Wicket Competition.  
18 Th Term Ends.  
19 F

N.B. The names of the Duty Masters are printed on the right-hand side.

## **36 Years at KGV!**

If someone had told me in 1975, when I was first appointed, that I would still be there in 2011, I would not have believed them. Many of you reading this may think that it shows a complete lack of ambition and fear of change and the unknown. It was commonplace at one stage for a teacher to serve his or her school for their whole career, but not now; it seems that a career minded teacher should move on very regularly onwards and upwards, and I did have some ambition!

The truth is that the institution I started teaching in, KGV Boys' Grammar School, went through many incarnations on its way to the modern sixth form college that it is today, giving me many challenges and opportunities along the way. This, along with the fact that my home was in Southport, and my children were born and went to school here, gave me no real incentive to leave.

Previously, I had taught for 2 years in a 2000 strong mixed comprehensive in Newton-le-Willows and working in the virtually all-male environment of KGV took some getting used to. My first pupils were only a few years younger than me, (a certain David Evans was one of them!) but they made me feel very welcome and I will always remember them with affection.

The first change came towards the end of my very first year at the school when it was announced that the authority were going to disband the grammar schools in Southport; Southport High School would become a girls' comprehensive school and KGV Boys' Grammar School would be phased out over the next five years, to be replaced by a new sixth form college in a brand new building on the same site. The staff had to either apply for posts at the new college or be redeployed to another school in the authority. I waited for the opportunity to apply for a post at the college but by the time it came to advertise 'ordinary' teaching posts, the Maths department was full of staff who had other responsibilities! I prepared myself for redeployment – but then it was decided that they needed one more mathematician; I applied, and in spite of some horrendously sexist and persistent questioning about my 'possible' intentions to have children and return to work by the advisor, I was successful; I will always be grateful to David Arnold for sticking up for me!

Those years of transition were difficult; not just for the staff, but more especially for the pupils. It must have been very demoralising to see your school wound down in this way, particularly for the last intake, with no younger pupils coming in below them. I think it is also a fact that some staff, who either knew they were leaving or had been appointed to the college, did not always approach teaching in the 'old school in the old building' with the enthusiasm the boys deserved. It is a credit to those boys

that they survived it so well!

So, the new college was born. It opened with a mere 550 students, both male and female, and was very much an 'academic' sixth form college. David Arnold said he would like to model us on an 'Oxford College' (he even considered having a croquet lawn in the grounds). The girls had to wear skirts and blouses/jumpers, with a brooch, and the boys jackets and ties! It seems quite bizarre now, but that situation continued for a few years until David moved on for personal reasons and we had our first female principal, Geraldine Evans. Under Geraldine, the college widened its horizons a little, the dress code was relaxed (we allowed the girls to wear trousers) and I was appointed to my first pastoral role since being deputy house 'master' of Grear's house at the school. This was as Maths Divisional Tutor, being responsible for the smooth running of the 6 Maths tutor groups. This post later expanded, on one of the re-organisations of the tutor system, into Faculty Tutor for Maths and Science. I enjoyed this position for many years, working closely with Alyson Small as Head of Faculty and a dedicated group of tutors before making my final job change; taking over the job as Head of Maths from John Wohlers in 2004 – a daunting task!

As 'incorporation' approached, in the mid-1990's, Geraldine decided to retire, and we had a new principal, Hilary Anslow. Under Hilary, and incorporation, the college expanded greatly, both in numbers and provision. Many of us 'old-timers' had to get used to teaching a wider range of courses and I became involved with teaching new syllabuses with more modern approaches, such as SMP Maths and Further Maths, even to my own son, which I thoroughly enjoyed. Although, sadly, this course was removed in one of the many government curriculum changes, it led to us looking for an alternative course for those students who liked Maths, but couldn't cope with the rigours of the standard specification. As a result, we introduced AS Use of Maths, and more recently the new pilot A level in Use of Maths. I believe that this course has widened the appeal of post GCSE Maths enormously and I am delighted that it is still being offered now I am no longer there.

As Hilary left in 2010, KGV approached its next, and possibly greatest, challenge; government cuts led to a 'thinning down' of the college and complete re-organisation of the structure. This seemed the right time to go! I have really enjoyed my time at KGV, in all its phases, and have many happy memories both of the students that I have taught and mentored and the great staff that I have had the pleasure to work with over the years.

I wish the college all the best for the future and will follow its progress with great interest.

**Michelle Sanderson**

## **KGV and the Wider Community**

KGV is not just a College, but a deeply embedded local institution with a history of service to the community; local, national and international. Its community activity long predates the Big Society. The History Department, first under the leadership of Chris Collier (1974-2005) and then of Diane Mackley, has built up a tradition of community links illustrated by the Holocaust Awareness Group, the brainchild of former student Aaron Boasman (2001-03).

Aaron first approached history staff in 2002 with a view to raising money to plant a Memorial tree in the College grounds to commemorate the victims of 20<sup>th</sup> century genocide worldwide. With the blessing of Hilary Anslow, money was quickly raised. A flowering cherry, a replica of the peace tree in Tavistock Square in London, was duly planted on the national Holocaust Memorial Day in Jan 2003. Students arranged a short but very moving ceremony and the tree was dedicated by Rabbi Kaye who had personally witnessed the liberation of Belsen in 1945. Each year since, history students have organised a programme of videos, talks, discussions and exhibitions to mark HMD culminating in a well-attended service on the Friday nearest to January 27<sup>th</sup>, the day that Auschwitz was liberated.

This project has led to many community links and earned KGV a well-deserved reputation for excellence in Holocaust Awareness. The most distant link is with the New Horizons Special School in Ghana who benefit from the sales of the student produced history magazine, Anachronistic particularly from a special edition to mark HMD. Nationally, Aaron was recruited by the Learning and Skills Council as a student consultant on their Citizen Education project, enhancing KGV's reputation further. Locally, KGV history students play an important part in planning and delivering of the Sefton Holocaust Memorial Service at the War Memorial, working with Unison, Mayoral Services and the Association of Jewish ex Servicemen (AJEX). In 2011, students gave up a lot of time to mount an Exhibition entitled "Untold Stories", displayed at Southport Town Hall and then in several Sefton Libraries. This included contributions from local primary schools, thereby forging more community links.

Local press coverage of HMD at the college led to the Lubitsch Foundation to offer 2 places on their 2006 Auschwitz trip and the Holocaust Education Trust to give 2 places each year since. The students then disseminate their impressions and experiences and speak at the Sefton Service. Some readers may have read about the 2011 visit in the Champion in November. The journalist was most impressed.

Sadly, the memorial garden, lovingly tended by successive students, came under constant attack from the KGV Flopsy Bunnies who munched

contentedly. The College cat, George, failed signally to keep the rabbits at bay and I was no more successful. Peter McQuahe (ICT Tutor) built the current raised bed in the shape of a Star of David, around the trees. Local memorial stone masons kindly donated a stone tablet. The rabbits were forced to migrate to pastures new outside the Geography office where their antics were more welcome and the plants grew much better. The garden was threatened by the College building plans 2008-10, but was reprieved due to the financial climate. If readers pass by in January they can see the tree festooned in small yellow stars in each bearing the name of a child victim of the genocide.

The College and local community can be proud of the successive cohorts of students who have given so much time to a remarkable and low cost project. Long may it flourish!

The simple idea planted by Aaron, like the tree, has blossomed.

**Pauline Collier, Assistant Principal (1991-2006) and Holocaust Tutor.**

### **RED ROSE ARCHIVES**

The School magazine, the Red Rose, was published most terms from 1921 to 1979. 'The Georgian' was then produced from 1980 to 1984, followed by the 'KGV College Magazine'.

Following the first meeting of the Association in July 1947, it was two years before the Old Georgians Annual Newsletter was first issued in 1949 and picked up by Stan Rimmer in 1965. It was re-named the Red Rose in 1995.

A full set of school magazines is hard bound and can be found in the College Learning Centre, along with an initial set of OGA Newsletters. Many spare copies were held in open folders until this summer, when a large renovation of the LC took place. The OG saw the opportunity to assist in this move and withdrew these copies for auditing. In a further step, the OGA also decided to 'loose bind' a full set of these spares to ensure that they are not miss-placed or damaged. Almost a full set was identified and bound by Jon Elliott, with many other spares now being stored in air tight containers. However, there are five issues not in this set and if anyone has a copy of these and would like to donate them to complete the set, this would be much appreciated. The missing issues are:

Vol 1 #2 (July 1923); Vol 26 #2 (April 1947); Vol 47 #2 (April 1968); Vol 55 #1 (Dec 1975); Vol 57 #1 (Dec 1977)

### **30 Years Ago**

In 1982, the Grammar School building was finally demolished. As promised 12 months ago, further photographs of various buildings and from different angles follow in this section, recalling the glory days of a once fabulous building. This collection is from Old Georgian, Martin Lockyer who risked personal safety in his efforts to clamber the rubble around him.



The final centre section of the main building





The reverse view, from what used to be the school hall, looking towards the front corridors.



Looking out the same building towards the Geog Block.



(From the main road), the Wood/Metal Work room in the foreground, with the lower (connecting) & upper corridors missing from the main building



The art and music rooms on the 2nd floor in the main building



The original gym

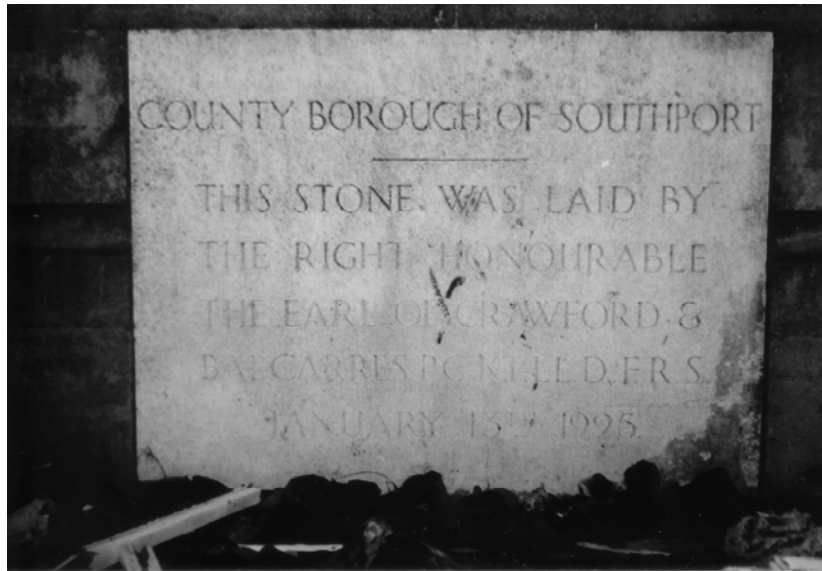


The Prefects room, front, top and centre!



The original Library





The Foundation Stone

### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

Dear Jonathan,

Re your request for stories etc. relating to the Grammar School building.

In the early 1950's I moved, with my wife and child, from a bed-sit over my parent's shop on Liverpool Road Southport to a railway cottage on the outskirts of London in order to pursue a career in electrical/mechanical engineering.

Three decades and several house moves later my mother wrote to me from Southport to tell me that my old school, KGV, was being demolished and that bricks from the building were offered for sale at £1.00 per brick. She asked if I wanted any. I declined on the grounds that I had no use for old bricks and the cost of postage would be prohibitive!

Recalling this I wonder if bricks from the old school building were actually offered for sale at the time and if so how many were sold, how much money was raised and to what purpose was it put?

I also recall that there was an aeroplane propeller of wooden construction attached to an interior wall near to the art room in the tower of the old building. There was a story attaching to that propeller which, if my memory is correct, was to do with an aeroplane which crashed in the school grounds many years earlier.

What happened to that propeller? Did it become a victim of the demolition or does it now reside somewhere in the College building?

Does anyone have the answers to these queries? It would be nice to know.

**George Griffith (Woodham's 1938-1943)**

-0-

Dear Jonathan

In the 55 years since leaving K.G.V. I have often wondered what happened as the school would surely decline after my exeunt! Many years later I passed down Scarisbrick New road to find the edifice in the process of demolition not surprising since, even in my day, the school was sinking in the middle, proven by the step cracks in the covered ways leading to Gym, Workshop and Refectory. All this despite the presence of precise rows of Cypress trees presumably designed to spread root growth into the soil in order to help support the institution.

On seeing, this, my first thought was to summons the towns elders and demand what they were doing to perpetrate the destruction of a legend. I had visions of a Wembley style extension to Haig Avenue football ground, but no, they were close to becoming dodoised like Accrington Stanley (I eat my words). I considered high rise Rachman style tenements and even a public tip, but I need not have worried for Phoenix was about to rise.

Visiting Southport some 20 years later I felt a loss until I remembered that it is the memories and achievements that count - not the bricks and mortar.

If I may reminisce, we had three Welsh teachers by the name of Evans – big Taff, middle Taff and little Taff. Big Taff, our history teacher for whom the beginning of history started with either Xerxes or Cyrus: albeit a little earlier than the Christian church, was also skilled in dynamics for he correctly calculated that at the moment of a long window opener swung from a radius of 20 feet would have maximum propelling effect on some

poor boy's behind. All these men had influence on my subsequent life, why else would I have remembered them!

I remember writing to Geoffrey Dixon 8 years ago in response to a Red Rose article he wrote about Old Boys. He replied in due course thanking me for my reply. He apologised for the delay because he had had a "slight" repercussion of the heart problems recently encountered – as a ninety year old!!! He may not have even remembered me despite the fact that he foisted six strokes of the cane on me with the faithful Arthur in attendance and saw me in detention from time to time – all of which were no doubt deserved, subsequently left a positive psychological impact rather than negative resentment. I regarded this then, as now, a measure of the way K.G.V. turned out their boys

Some years ago I was contacted on "friends re-united on the internet and immediately came across David Walker and John Pilling with whom I played tennis at the Sphinx Club and more recently with Mike Halton who was in the same year as me. Overtime Mike and I put together one of those classes. Joyce and Ronnie Fearn were my next door neighbours and commoners like me at the time.

Now resident in Cyprus and retired I encountered my third K.G.V. boy Mike Gibbons and his delightful wife Ros (ex High School)) not 10 miles down the road in Kouklia. The school will remember Mike as a very credible swimmer. We socialise from time to time and reminisce over school days.

I extend my good wishes to all who have passed through K.G.V's portals before, during and since together with the teachers and form members with whom I spent 6 years – memorable at the time and 56years later still very much alive in my mind.

The earliest recollection I have of K.G.V. is my first Christmas issue of Red Rose magazine indicating where I might purchase uniforms (Smallwood & Anderson of Lord Street), coal (Burt Render of Tulketh Street), carpet maintenance (Southport & Birkdale Carpet Beating Co.), coach travel (Gores of Nevill Street) and musical instruments Allan Smith, Eastbank Street). It also gave us news of boys now attending in the hallowed halls of Oxbridge and the specialised universities. By comparison, life seemed simpler then.

I treasure my copy, Vol. XXX no 1, it is one of the few things that have survived the moves and ups and downs of life. It is of course bequeathed to the school archives when the time comes. The staples are rusty and there



are livery blotches on the white(ish) cover of Red Rose December 1950 – presumably it drinks the same brand of scotch as myself – I have often wondered why the bottle emptied so rapidly.

My best wishes go to the school, principal, masters and pupils who still continue the heritage of K.G.V.

In retirement my partner and I left England to retire to Cyprus. I have always regretted that the country I left is not the country I was born into. The memories of K.G.V., the education I received together with the character and confidence building helped me to develop and left their mark on me with a gratitude not to be forgotten.

To you all,  
Sincerely,

**David Spencer, Edwards 1950-1956**

Dear Paul (Bagshaw)

I am not sure of the year that I left Halsall CofE School with a scholarship to KGV, but I think it was 1932 and I was fortunate enough to be selected for the very first 2 Trans Form. The delivery of the Red Rose for some years now, due to my advancing age no doubt, has reminded me of those long past days for once...

...I got to know Frank Hampson well when we both served together in a Southport TA unit in France. We volunteered for RAF aircrew training but we were told we could stay in the army and become glider pilots.

I hope you have read The Dan Dare Biography which is an excellent biography of the lives of Frank and Marcus Morris, who must be regarded as the joint producers of the Eagle magazine. Our paths crossed again after demobilisation when my pre-war career continued and Frank, at the invitation of Marcus, when at Art School, agreed to illustrate a parish magazine. The partnership flourished and the Hulton Press became world-wide publishers of the Eagle which had become much more than the original parish magazine.

I have always believed that Frank's rejection as a wartime pilot was offset in his drawings and ideas of future space flight. The work of Frank Hampson and other artists show drawings of space developments which came to pass and which originally came from his imagination. Perhaps the Meekons and Treens were a concept too far! But how do we know?

**Harry Howard**



## **THE THORNLEY SOCIETY REMAINDER MEETING**

Former school master James Honeybone sent in this summary report from the 2011 meeting of former members of the Thornley Society. Their group remains active, meeting annually for walks and rambles as originally set up in the school in the 1960s.

The Thornley Society Remainder Meet,  
Robertson Lamb Hut,  
Langdale,  
Lake District,  
Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011.

### **Present in alphabetical order**

Mike Dodworth (1960-66)  
Phil Frampton 1964 - 1971  
Jim [ Tony ] Honeybone 1964 - 1970  
John Laws  
Joe McManners  
Doug Mellor  
Keith Osborn (1961-67)  
John Seddon (1964-72)  
Geoff Wright (1961-67)

On the Friday Dodworth, Honeybone, Laws and Osborn did Lingmoor Fell, but not Pike o' Blisco, and ate happily in The New Dungeon Ghyll where Frampton, Mellor, Seddon and Wright joined them. Seddon had thoughtfully offered to bring Frampton to the Meet, but both had to return home that evening.

On Saturday McManners joined the Meet and he accompanied Mellor, Osborn, and Wright to a cliff (Little Blake Rigg) in The Duddon Valley. Dodworth, Honeybone and Laws did Harrison Stickle. Another excellent meal was taken at The New Dungeon Ghyll.

On Sunday the Meet adjourned to Ambleside's Apple Pie for Bath Buns before climbing Loughrigg.

The next Meet will take place as usual at the Glenbrittle Campsite on the Isle of Skye at the end of April 2012.

**James Honeybone**  
**Master i/c The Thornley Society**  
**KGV**

## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

### **THE CHAIRMAN'S WEEKEND**

(tbc)

The 2012 Weekend is yet to be confirmed. Please contact David Lonsdale if you wish to take part.

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### **THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DINNER Thursday 5th April 2012 at 7 pm The Prince of Wales Hotel, Lord Street, Southport**

#### 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 2011-2012
  - Chairman
  - Honorary Treasurer
  - Honorary Secretary
  - New Committee Members
- 8 With new Chairman presiding: Date of next OG meeting
- 9 Any Other Business

The 2012 Old Georgians AGM and Dinner will take place at **The Prince of Wales Hotel, Lord Street, Southport** on Thursday 5th April, with the AGM commencing at 7pm and the Dinner at 8pm.

#### **PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF VENUE.**

After our change to town centre last year, we polled members on their support for the change. Overwhelmingly, the shift in to town was supported, but a change of venue was suggested, hence this year we are at the Prince of Wales Hotel.

## **Menu**

Duck Pate with melba Toast and Cumberland Sauce

-

Tender Roast Leg of Lamb in Pan Gravy and Mint Sauce  
Chef's Seasonal Vegetables

Vegetarian option

-

Hot Sticky Toffee Pudding with Vanilla Custard

-

Cheese & Biscuits

-

Coffee & Mints

Dinner tickets at £28 available from Jonathan Elliott or Stan Rimmer.  
Cheques payable to 'Old Georgians Association', in advance please,  
so that the organiser is not fully occupied pursuing late payers.

Please note that any cancellations made after **30<sup>th</sup> March** may not be refundable. Bookings **MUST** be confirmed to either Jon Elliott or Stan Rimmer. Any unconfirmed bookings at that date will be withdrawn. This is due to losses of over £150 in each of the last two years.

### **OLD GEORGIANS QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

Following the successful events in 2009/10/11 when over 100 people attended, we will be hosting another night in 2012.

This will take place on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at the S&B Cricket Club, starting at 7.30pm prompt.

Tickets will be available from Jon Elliott & committee members and include a hot supper and entry in to the raffle.

Teams can be UP TO 6 members. Please note teams of 8 and over will be split into at least two teams. Please confirm by Monday 21st May 2012.

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### **THE SNOOKER NIGHT – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

The 2012 event will take place at the S&B as usual, 7pm for a 7.30 start. Tickets will be available from Jon Elliott & committee members.

## 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 Reminiscences and photographs from 1920 to 1979 – 81 mins Also available from Broadhurst's Booksellers, Market St, Southport.	£7
GEOFFREY DIXON REMEMBERED DVD – Video of Geoffrey himself, with tributes from colleagues & former pupils – 87 mins	£7
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, Lord Street, KGV College in the Snow. (A4 Colour)	£5
75 <sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY RED ROSE BOOK – Stories of KGV (1920-2001) A very small number of this 160-page book now available.	£7
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 and is similar to the Colours Tie.	£18

Southport Photographs by Martyn Snape - smartpics@btinternet.com

## CONTACTS

### GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

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01704-543169 [\*\*martin.fearn@lineone.net\*\*](mailto:martin.fearn@lineone.net)

### OGA EVENTS & MEMBERSHIP

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07969 889843 [\*\*jonelliott61@hotmail.com\*\*](mailto:jonelliott61@hotmail.com)

### RED ROSE MAGAZINE

Jonathan Elliott, 2 Beresford Drive, Southport PR9 7JY.  
07969 889843 [\*\*jonelliott61@hotmail.com\*\*](mailto:jonelliott61@hotmail.com)

### OLD GEORGIANS TIES

Stan Rimmer, 361 Liverpool Road, Southport PR8 3BT.  
01704 576713

### KGV MEMORABILIA

Paul Bagshaw, 46 Lyndhurst Road, Southport PR8 4JT.  
01704-565075 [\*\*paul.bagshaw@talktalk.net\*\*](mailto:paul.bagshaw@talktalk.net)

**Red Rose Magazine**  
**Confirmation of Requirement**

Please complete this insert and return to:  
The Red Rose Editor,  
2 Beresford Drive, Southport, Merseyside, PR9 7JY

Or send an email to [jonelliott61@hotmail.com](mailto:jonelliott61@hotmail.com), with the same information.

Name:  
House/ Attendance Years:  
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Email address:

**I DO / DO NOT  
wish to continue receiving the Red Rose at the above address.**

Personal update for OG News Section (PTO if needed):

Please note, you **MUST** return this information to remain on the mailing list.