

# THE RED ROSE

## 2016

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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 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&97) C Threlfall (98) M R E Hyde (99)  
G F Dixon (2000) 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)  
N Spencer (12) M Duffy (13&14) M Day (15)

## **ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2015-16**

PRESIDENT	Adele Wills
VICE PRESIDENTS	Former Chairmen & Presidents
CHAIRMAN	Mark Day
VICE CHAIRMAN	Matthew Duffy
SECRETARY	Martin Fearn
TREASURER	David Lonsdale
RED ROSE EDITOR	Jonathan Elliott
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	Neil Spencer
SOCIAL SECRETARY	Jonathan Elliott
COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE	Pam Shea
FOUNDATION TRUSTEE	Catherine Lapsley
GENERAL COMMITTEE	Former Chairmen & Co-optees

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

Dear Old Georgians,

Yet another eventful year has flown by! As I sit to write my letter again, the first term of the year draws to a close and a new term beckons with yet more challenges. Our 'interesting times' are continuing!

Last year, I talked about the College's Ofsted troubles in my President's letter. I'm pleased to be able to report that we have made significant progress on all fronts and our regular Ofsted Monitoring Visits have shown that we are most definitely moving forward. In December, just a few weeks ago now, we had another full inspection which fully endorsed the progress we have made. This is a great relief and a copy of the report can be found on the Ofsted website. I'm particularly pleased at the positive comments that inspectors made about our students whose behaviour was described as 'exemplary'. We know that KGV has always been a good training ground for the upright citizens of the future!

The post-16 educational landscape continues to be a rugged and hazardous terrain. We are still steering our way through funding cuts and tighter budgets which are certainly not getting any easier. We are also in the middle of a new set of post-16 reviews aimed at ensuring the efficiency of the educational offer across a wider area. The stated aim of these reviews is to create a smaller number of larger and more efficient colleges across the country as a whole. Once again, it feels as if educational policy is being driven by fairly rigid views of what efficiency is. By our next dinner, we should be clearer about what this might mean for KGV, but we can be certain that more change is on the horizon. The only thing that we can be absolutely clear about at the moment is that standing still is not an option.

In spite of these distractions, our students continue to make good progress and we have had another batch of excellent results this year. We pride ourselves on our enrichment experience for students and all subjects offer something that encourages students to step beyond the confines of their exam syllabus. We have had a number of exciting overseas trips – Iceland for Geography students, New York for Business students, Vienna for Psychology students, Paris for Art students – with perhaps the most exciting being a 2 week summer expedition to Thailand. Next summer, students are off to Costa Rica and there are plans for Uganda the following year. Closer to home, Geology students have spent a week exploring rocks on the Isle of Arran while Business students visited some of the major financial centres in London and Classics students have been to the British Museum. And that's not to mention the Duke of Edinburgh which regularly takes students to the Peak District and the Yorkshire Dales. I'm really pleased to have been invited to St James's Palace this year to see 8 of our students receive their Gold Award from the Duke himself.

So, in spite of our challenging financial context, we are proud of the educational experience that we continue to offer our students and the wonderful achievements this leads to. This is what has always made KGV the college it is today.

**Adele Wills**

## CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians

I am happy to report that 2015 appears to have been another positive year for the Association.

The annual dinner on Maundy Thursday at the Prince of Wales Hotel on Lord Street was the normal well attended and enjoyable event. In May, the OGA Quiz night was held again at the S&B Cricket Club. Jonathan Elliott (who organised the event) and David Lonsdale (who was the excellent quizmaster) must be congratulated on providing such an entertaining evening. Both the annual dinner and the quiz contributed a reasonable surplus in funds which has allowed the Association's finances to continue in good order.

In June, I had the privilege of attending the KGV College prize giving ceremony on behalf of the Association. The students receiving the prizes had achieved some amazing things and were a real credit to the College. It was refreshing to meet such talented young people clearly excited and ambitious for their futures.

During the year, it was decided that we should further promote the idea of reading the Red Rose on line. We sent out a postcard for confirmation that members still wanted the hard copy. This magazine is obviously a key part of the Association's activities. I personally find the "blasts from the past" and reports about what people are doing with their lives, a fascinating read. Taking the magazine on line will save printing costs and should make it more easily available for many Old Georgians.

The committee meetings during the year have been most pleasant affairs – but for me also reflected the current reliance of the OGA on the continued dedication and enthusiasm of a small number of people.

The challenge over the next few years will be to try and attract more interest from former students of the sixth form college. More use of the internet (enabling members to get in contact with each other), the Red Rose going on line, and easier ways of joining the OGA that have recently been introduced for College students, will hopefully help with this. The bond between today's students and the College may well be different to that between the old grammar school and its former pupils (not least because today's students only spend 2 years at the College) – but given the "networking" world in which we all live, I hope that the OGA may perhaps increasingly be used in the future as an alumni organisation for the College and its students.

I look forward to this year's annual dinner at the exciting new venue of the Ramada Hotel on the Promenade, and to seeing some old friends and maybe meeting some new ones. I would also like to encourage all our OGA golfers to take part in the (3<sup>rd</sup>) Annual Golf Challenge. I have taken part in the first two and as a keen golfer, I can assure you that the event is challenging, competitive, but fun!

**Mark Day – Evans, 1973-1980**

## **EDITORIAL**

Hello again!

Welcome to 2016! I do hope that you have had a good 12 months since our last publication and that you enjoy this year's read.

Thank you to those who returned the postcards to us or contacted us in any other way to confirm that you want to continue to receive the RR in hard copy format. We went through this process to assist in cutting unnecessary cost, not to deprive you of your magazine. Anybody who still prefers the hard copy in the post is more than welcome to continue to receive it that way, so long as we know that you are out there at the address we have for you!

Please continue to send in your news. This can be by post or email. We are always waiting to hear how our members are faring, so please do keep us up to date. This edition is a little lacking in this area, so please do send in your news for the 2017 edition.

Your support for the College and its students continues to be generous. Please let it always be so. Donations to the Association have been extremely forthcoming this year and the committee thanks all who have contributed.

In 2015 we lost a stalwart member of the Association. A common definition of the word is "A loyal, reliable, and hard-working supporter of or participant in an organization or team". Other words can be added: faithful, committed, devoted, dedicated, firm, steadfast, unwavering... etc. Paul Bagshaw was all of these and more. There are more words about Paul to follow, but from one friend to another, from one 'Ed' to another – Paul, thank you and you are missed.

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

### **MEET THE CHAIRMAN - MARK DAY**

Before my family moved to Southport in 1973, I grew up in London (where I was born) and Birmingham.

I joined the boys' grammar school half way through the autumn term in the middle of one of Mr Hodgkinson's French lessons. I was 12 years old and already 6ft tall with a few whiskers, a deep voice and a cockney accent. As such I was rather conspicuous amongst my fellow students which, whilst being a little embarrassing, did allow an advantage on the rugby field (until my peers annoyingly caught up with my early development).

I thoroughly enjoyed my time at KGV. I was in Evans house and became house captain during my final years. I played rugby and cricket for the school. I even managed to do half a length of Butterfly in one of the house swimming galas at Victoria baths.

Academically, I somehow found myself in the “x-stream” and achieved some reasonable O levels – but then managed to flunk my A levels. The extra year afforded by the x-stream fortunately



allowed me the opportunity to re-sit my A levels. The silver lining to this was that my “extra year” coincided with the opening of the sixth form college, when girls arrived at KGV for the first time. On balance, I think this was probably my favourite year at the school.

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After KGV, I scraped into Leeds University where I spent some wonderful years obtaining a degree in Civil Engineering.

Following university, I trained and qualified as a chartered accountant with Ernst & Young in London. During this time, I met my wife to be, Tracey (a Geordie) and we were married in Newcastle in 1990. In the same year, a chance opportunity arose in Ernst & Young’s Liverpool office and as a consequence my new wife and I moved back to Southport where we have lived ever since.

After leaving the accountancy profession in 1992, I worked in a number of financial and general management roles for various businesses around the North West. For the last 7 years, I have been working for a care organisation that supports people with profound learning disabilities and complex needs in Chorley and Leyland.

Tracey and I have two children, Natalie (who also went to KGV College) and Lucy. Natalie has just finished an MSc at Trinity College in Dublin and Lucy is in her first year at Birmingham University.

Aside from my family, my great passions are rugby (which started at school), golf (I have been a member at Hesketh Golf Club in Southport for many years), and caravanning (which I’ve only recently become brave enough to tell anybody about).

My lifetime ambition remains to play rugby for England. I have recently bought some new boots; last week managed to run around Hesketh Park without stopping and hope to be selected for the Six Nations squad in a few weeks’ time.

## OBITUARIES

### **Paul Bagshaw (Spencer's, 1950-55)**

My memories of Paul go back to the art room at KGV in the mid-fifties when he, along with other A level art students would occasionally emerge from their adjoining room into my O level class making ridiculous faces and funny walks which succeeded in making us laugh to the puzzled annoyance of Mr. Harrison our art teacher.

Fast forward to the sixties when we were both heads of art at different grammar schools (who would have thought it?) and our paths crossed again through a mutual art teacher friend. We occasionally got together with others to exchange views and share a few pints. It turned out our approach to the subject was very similar in that we believed art was not simply something for those with talent and should be more than a pleasant interlude in a fairly dull week. Art had a rich history, design concepts and ways of seeing could be taught. It was a serious subject to teach- but still fun (see above).

Cut to 1974 I joined the staff of Ruffwood, a large comprehensive in Kirkby. Here Baggy as he was familiarly known to both staff and pupils was rebuilding his teaching career. He had been asked to set up a special unit for the troubled and troublesome members of the school community for which there was no shortage of candidates. After he was appointed head of sixth form he was able to combine teaching these special pupils as well as some A level students says much for his teaching skills. He was a gifted teacher and used very innovative approaches to encourage the reluctant learners. For example, he composed many original songs which he used in lessons to help them perform as well as engaging them in the making of short films. At the other end of the scale he successfully encouraged and coached many hesitant sixth formers, many from culturally deprived backgrounds, to apply successfully to Oxford and other top universities.

Paul disliked the changes taking place within education generally in the late 80's and in particular his own school. Rather than become increasingly cynical (never his way) he left teaching to start a new career at a time some might be looking towards a quiet retirement. In the early 90's he set up a successful video company thus enabling him to indulge his growing passion for film making. Its success was due to his skill and talent for communicating in words and images and also his persuasive charm when it came to marketing. Those who were ever asked by Paul to do something will know it only too well. As the demand for promotional videos declined he turned his talent into making amateur films which became for him an all engaging passion and his productions won him many awards. He persuaded me (see above) to help him in one of his early films and this led to others over a dozen years during which time Paul became a friend as well as a colleague. Looking back I am glad I allowed him to involve me. I saw at first hand the qualities he had brought to bear throughout his life. Despite being a single person he loved to engage with others and at his best he was great fun to be with. Despite his own strong views on many things he enjoyed working collaboratively and sharing ideas. He was never more at home than when working with young people and he continued to offer work experience, advice, encouragement and opportunities to express their talent. To the end, Paul never really left the classroom.

These brief snippets fail to do justice to someone I remember as a creative, cultivated, caring man who influenced many lives for the better. Hopefully they may add a little to your own recollections of him and to what he himself recalled in his books.

**Dave Town**

Most Old Georgians knew or knew of Paul. 'Baggers' was as nice a fellow as you could hope to meet. Kind and thoughtful, fair and helpful, but with an underlying determination to see things were done right, such that he could also deliver an accurate criticism when called for, sometimes pointed, but always fair!

I met Paul over 25 years ago at my first Committee meeting. At all times he was available for advice, as well as actually 'doing stuff' himself. I am indebted to his friendship and guidance as a fellow Old Georgian. Perhaps one of the key things to say about Paul is that, although I am/was his junior by some 25 years, he never treated me that way; I only ever saw him treat people as equals, regardless of age, background and all the other divergent characteristics that we have to recognise these days.

Paul and I had a shared interest in Manchester United. As a season ticket holder, I was able to offer Paul chances to see the team playing. Although we have seen plenty of success over the years, the style of football became less exciting over the last few seasons, but this did not dampen Paul's enthusiasm for the game and for his love of the Red Devils. He always managed to draw something positive from the result, regardless of the level of performance – something he did in many aspects of his life.

I saw Paul less than a week before he passed on 20<sup>th</sup> February. In his weakened state, he was still polite, inquisitive as to my well-being and still hopeful Utd might win the league again! Cheers Paul.

**Jonathan Elliott**

In addition to film making and writing Paul was a keen supporter of MUFC and an enthusiastic member of the Labour Party. At Old Georgians' gatherings or weekends away, a mischievously dropped critical comment about either his team or his politics would immediately stir Paul into action and he would defend his preferences vigorously.

He was a good soccer player. At KGV in the lunch break, soccer was played with a rugby ball. Dribbling skills were mastered with difficulty and by few, but Paul was very adept, often entertaining the rest of us by steering the oval ball deftly round and between the trees that skirted the playing fields. "Come back Paul, all is forgiven" was a familiar cry.

Paul attended his first Old Georgians Dinner in 1989. At the AGM he stepped into the shoes of Hilary Royden and became the Hon Secretary of the Association, serving under the Chairmanship of John Pilling. In the following year Paul and John swapped places and in 1991 Paul's Chairman's letter was published in what was still known as the Old Georgians' Newsletter. In 1992 the publication became the Red Rose, adopting the name of the late Grammar Schools once termly magazine. The change of name was the brainchild of Paul and the new editor, Jon Elliott and



proved to be a real shot in the arm for the publication which has since gone from strength to strength.

**Stan Rimmer**

### **Alan Edward Ball (1938-45)**

Please note my father Alan Edward Ball born 1928 died on 27 November in London. He succumbed to dementia which he bore bravely for more than 12 years.

Sorry I do not know which House he was in, maybe you could let me know? I do have somewhere the list he wrote in his 70s of the exact order of fellow pupil's surnames he remembered the teacher read out every morning during registration!

Dad left King George V after his Higher School Certificate. He took the UK Civil Service Administrative Officer exams and was posted to Hong Kong where he became the Chief Administrative Officer in the role of the Secretary of the Prisons, Fire Services and subsequently the Police Departments. Hong Kong was also where he married Jeanette and had 2 children Pamela and David.

Kind regards,

**Pamela Ball**

### **Philip Carder (1963-69)**

Philip was born on 1st January 1952 and attended Churchtown Primary School before going to KGV where he did well and was moved into the 'fast stream'. He gained 10 'O' levels and 4 'A' levels whilst at school and then went on to Liverpool University where he obtained his degree and became a Bachelor of Commerce. His first job was as an Articled Clerk with Price Waterhouse and he passed all his exams whilst with them to become a Chartered Accountant.

His love for cricket continued all his life and he co-founded Churchtown Cricket Club in 1987 and they are still going strong today. His other passion was Southport Football Club and he was a founder member of Trust in Yellow and helped to raise £25,000 towards the new floodlights before he died.

Philip was diagnosed with a rare form of Leukaemia in March 2014 and sadly passed away on 24th January 2015. He is greatly missed by his partner Doreen, his sister Janet and his nieces and nephews.

**Janet Hart**

### **John Cook (Mason's, 1942-47)**

John passed in October 2014. His death was sudden and a shock to the family. John had fully enjoyed life, both in the Merchant Navy and later as a National Account Manager for a large company. He had three children, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

## **Christopher Dyer (Mason's, 1949-53)**

Christopher passed away peacefully on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2015, aged 80.

His family moved from Liverpool to Southport in January 1949 and he started at KGV in the 4<sup>th</sup> year – one of the youngest as his birthday was November. He always spoke affectionately about the school. He was happier there than at previous schools and was proud to be an 'Old Georgian'. He took part in several stage productions, directed by his English teacher, Mr. George Wakefield. As a result he always had a good stage presence, both in public announcements and in lecturing to students.

He met a life-long friend at the school, Brian Sourbut, who sadly died in 1991, also of cancer. They both went to Oxford University after doing National Service – Christopher to St. Peter's College (then Hall) where he graduated with an MA in Theology.

From there he gained a PG Diploma and went into teaching English in Secondary schools and then into Special Education. He specialised in Autistic Spectrum Disorder and ultimately became Inspector/Adviser in SEN in the London Borough of Newham.

In his 70s he followed a course in Shakespeare studies through the Shakespeare Institute in Stratford on Avon and gained an MA from the University of Birmingham. He put his love of Shakespeare down to the good teaching of Mr. Wakefield

We married in 1977. He had two daughters by his first marriage and we now have five grandchildren.

Christopher died peacefully at home of bile duct cancer on November 13<sup>th</sup> 2015

**Angela Dyer**

## **Stanley Gerrard (Mason's, 1939-44)**

Stanley's daughter wrote to us to inform us of his passing in July 2014.

## **Andrew Greenhalgh (1942-47)**

We are sad to report the death of our father Andrew Greenhalgh on August 22<sup>nd</sup> 2014 - he was 84.

He was born in Bury and moved to Southport attending we think KGV from 1942-1947.

Dad did his National Service in the Royal Signals and went on to get an external science degree from Liverpool University while working for Tate and Lyle.

We moved to South Wales for 18 months where he worked for what was then British Nylon Spinners (later Duponts) in Pontypool before returning to Southport in 1961.

He worked in various work study roles including work study manager for the Littlewoods Group at their head office in Old Hall Street Liverpool. After Littlewoods he did some consultancy work including time spent out in Kenya.

Dad always enjoyed doing up the houses we lived in and he extended this to set up his own small property development business. He also ran McCabe & Greenhalgh, a

small electrical, plumbing, water treatment and refrigeration contracting company in Birkdale.

He carried on working until he was 80 focused on the water treatment arm of the business which was the area he particularly enjoyed. He also owned and managed a student house in Ormskirk.

Dad was also active in the local community having been involved in his earlier years in tennis and table tennis then Round Table, Forty One Club, Rotary and Probus. When in Round Table he was heavily involved in organising the pop concert in 1967 when Black Sabbath headlined at the Sea Bathing Lake.

The 4 of us followed in his footsteps to KGV in several different ways, spanning 17 years! Mark did the traditional 11+ to A Levels, Ian passed the 12+ then at 16 left to attend Hutton and join the Lancashire Police, Matthew did the 11+ and at 16 left to go to Welbeck and then on to officer training at Sandhurst to pursue a military career, Simon first went to Merchant Taylors and then attended KGV Sixth Form College.

We gave dad a rousing send-off which the funeral director described as one of the best he'd ever been to at Southport Crematorium - we repeated a lot of it to the many friends and relatives gathered at the Hesketh Golf Club.

Our mum still lives in Southport as do Ian, Matthew and Simon; Mark is in South Cheshire and our big sister Jane is out in St Louis, USA.

**Mark, Ian, Matthew and Simon Greenhalgh**

## **Philip Holland (Staff, 1966-73)**

Mr. Philip Holland, who taught us English language and literature at KGV in the 1960s, has died after a long illness. I am in the unusual position of having been taught by Philip and directed by him in several school plays, and then having met up with him again thirty years later when we became friends. This came about through the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford-upon-Avon where Philip had been a regular member of the audience for many years and where, in the late 1990s, I happened to be working. From the RSC House Manager, I received a note which read, "Are you the boy I taught at KGV?" After a brief phone call confirming that I most certainly was, I met up again with Philip and his charming wife, Jeanie, at their home in rural Worcestershire.

On the teaching staff at KGV, boys will remember Philip Holland as part of an inspired and dedicated team of English teachers which also included George Wakefield, Brian Johnson and Kenneth Ward. The teaching we received from these masters prepared us not only for the GCE examinations but also for life. When we were required to read Shakespeare out loud in class, Philip refused to allow us to drone on in the way that Lancashire school boys have a tendency to do. Instead he *directed* us, and of course, Shakespeare suddenly came to life!

Philip produced no fewer than four of the school plays including 'The Government Inspector', 'Portrait of a Queen', 'The Hollow Crown' (in conjunction with the Southport High School for Girls) and 'Julius Caesar'. These full-scale productions

involved Philip in months of preparation, most especially during the summer vacation. Off he went to the RSC wardrobe department at Stratford-upon-Avon or to Berman's and Nathan's theatrical costume hire in London to kit us out as Russian provincials, Victorian statesmen or Roman conspirators. In conjunction with Mr. Long the woodwork teacher and Mr. Harrison the art master, Philip worked to produce original and visually striking stage sets for the school play. He was rewarded with full houses and fulsome praise.

But Philip Holland's extra-curricular activities on behalf of his pupils did not finish there. He took us to the theatre to see real actors, not just locally in Southport at the Little Theatre but to Liverpool to the Playhouse, to Bolton to the Octagon, to Manchester to the Library Theatre and then by coach all the way to Stratford-upon-Avon to see some of the greatest actors of the day including Donald Sinden, Ian Richardson and Judi Dench, at a stroke turning many of us into lifelong playgoers! Back in the classroom, the impact of these theatre visits also meant that Philip Holland was able to teach us to a much deeper level of understanding. Such quality of teaching is not only inspired, it is inspiring too. On behalf of all of us, thank you sir.

**Dr. Alan Halliday (Rogers 1963-70; with the approval of Philip's wife)**

## **Henry “Harry” Howard (Roger’s, 1930-37)**

Henry (Harry) was born on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1919 of farming stock in West Lancashire, but following matriculation at KGV he decided upon a financial career with the Halifax Building Society in the Southport branch. After serving in the TA and then in the Army Air Corps as a glider pilot during WW2, seeing action at Dunkirk, Sicily, D Day and lastly Arnhem where he was taken prisoner, Harry returned to the Halifax where, from being pre-war dogsbody, he progressed over the years and retired as his Society's Regional South West Manager, based in Bristol.

Harry had many interests, including some aptitude as a cricketer and golfer, but he considered Round Table and Rotary Club memberships, JP services on Hull and Bristol benches, and volunteering as chairman with Minehead RNLI as important additions to his life's work in retirement.

He was married to Ruth for nearly 50 years until her death in 1989, shortly after moving to the North Somerset coast where they had enjoyed many family holidays. They are survived by two daughters, Alison and Sally, 4 grandchildren and to date, 2 great grandsons.

Despite living in the South of the UK for many years, Harry still considered himself a Lancastrian and often spoke of his time at KGV. In fact he included some reminiscences in his life memoirs which he wrote during the last few years of his life, they indicate something of the different attitude to education in those years between the wars and the sacrifices parents often had to make in order for their children to stay at school. He wrote,

*“Grammar School education could be bought by those able to afford it for their children. I was never able to get my father to explain how he could afford to obtain my entrance in 1931 to King George V School in Southport. I am certain that*

*they both deprived themselves of many necessities, let alone luxuries, during that desperate decade between 1925-1935, to enable me to enjoy the education and start in life which otherwise would have been denied me.*

*I was a bit of a swot and still have an enduring admiration for my form master Alan (Lettuce) Lessiter. At the beginning of my first year, the Headmaster, in agreement with the Governors, decided to cram School and Matriculation Certificate examinations into four instead of five years. I was a member of this first Transistus form - a transition in time I suppose - and Lettuce stayed with us for the four years. I had a trial in the School Bantam XV in my first year and had reasonable cross-country success for my House as well as later in the House cricket team. But that was it. Application to my studies and homework, which my Mother supervised, was order of the day. Needless to say all twenty four of that form matriculated. We had no excuse not to. But the year was 1935 - World economy was still in a state of deep depression. I decided that my parents had borne my educational expenses long enough, and that I would not continue in the sixth form for two more years with no guarantee of a university scholarship."*

Harry died on November 16<sup>th</sup> 2015, aged 96.

**Alison Newnham, daughter.**

## **Colin Hunt (Leech's, 1974-1980)**

I looked up what the word Eulogy meant when I was asked to deliver one at Col's funeral.

"A speech or piece of writing that praises someone highly."

This was supposed to be about Our Col – how the heck was I going to fill five minutes with high praise? Five minutes of high jinks and mischief seems more likely! Actually it started off nearer an hour – but I knew Col wouldn't want me to waste too much drinking time. Our Col was one of the best blokes I've ever known – but it wasn't the sort of things that count as 'high praise' that made him that. So forgive me if I just tell you how I remember my little brother.

Most kids these days get driven to school by their parents – When I started school I too had an escort to make sure I was safe – Our Col! Ok so he was only 3 years old – but we would set off together, me on my bike and him pedalling his tricycle furiously – not just to keep up – but to make sure he won the race!! – sound familiar?

It wasn't long before Col started Churchtown Junior School himself. As brothers we were always competing with each other – and by that I mean fighting! But woe betides anyone else that dared to have a go at his brothers or sister. Throughout school every potential bully soon found out that if you took on Neil Hunt – it wouldn't be long before you had Colin to reckon with too.

Col's passion for sport would soon manifest itself at Churchtown and as well as being on every team going - every spare minute would see him playing football or cricket. It was around then that his allegiance to Everton started – something my mum's half of the family has to answer for.

We were not supposed to go through the Botanic Gardens on the way home from school – but the park was far more fun than the road. When a thin layer of ice had covered the lake Col – inevitably – tried to walk on it and went straight through the ice into the lake. Col of course was completely unfazed. More than could be said for mum when she found his soggy clothes on the kitchen floor!

Col, of course, passed his eleven plus which meant he would go on to KGV Grammar. A school where they played rugby not football. No problem for Col – it gave him the chance to be an even bigger hooligan than football did. He did well initially at KGV and academic success in the first year saw him elevated to the Xpress Stream.

Col shone at sport – playing for Leech's and school teams, but he didn't abandon football altogether. The 10th Southport Boys Brigade gave him an avenue for that too – and a whole batch of new friends to get up to mischief with. Boys Brigade Camps were an annual holiday away from parents that Col threw himself into with relish. Getting a severe case of sunstroke barely slowed him down – nor did ending up in casualty in Edinburgh having cut his leg open on a fence. Col's taste for beer developed early too – dad's home brew being in plentiful supply. As he got a bit older a post BB pint in the Bold or the Hesketh was routine. As a landlord Col probably wouldn't now approve -- but there was little surprise when he went to the Hesketh on his 18th Birthday with Mum and Dad for his 'First Pint' and was greeted as an old friend by the bar staff with the question 'The Usual Col?'

Sixth form then beckoned and Col had his eye on a graduate entry to the Police Force – but distractions got in the way. Col's Poker School in the common room might have earned him a few bob but such distractions put paid to University. Undeterred – he joined the police in the usual way, going through Police College and on to work in Liverpool, just after the riots. Col was Constable 6969, earning him the nickname 'PC Pervert' which I always suspected he rather relished.

He wrote his first car off whilst in the Police (A kind of Hunt family tradition) In Col's case on his way home in the snow, knocking himself out in the process and waking up in an ambulance. Later Col also wrote our sister Jan's first car off to save her the trouble – he was always considerate like that!

Col then met his first wife and became the father of Nicholas and Sean. That was not a marriage destined to last and separation brought with it a painful separation from the boys – Col hid how much that hurt when he could - but I know how much pain it caused him.

The Police though turned out not to be Col's cup of tea and he left to join the fire brigade where he made a successful career until a combination of injuries meant he could no longer serve and he was 'invalided' out. Mind you – those incapacities didn't stop him foiling a smash and grab on a jewellers on Lord Street when he leapt on the escaping villain and pinned him to the floor – getting bitten in the process. Col was not one of life's 'passers by' and the expression 'Have A Go Hero' is a perfect description of his approach to life. Always with that grin on his face and always ready to have a go – at absolutely anything – although maybe not always the hero!

Col met Sheryl in 1994, in Southport; they fell in love and married 19 years ago. Col was still a fireman at the time but was hobbling about on crutches due to a football related injury.

Col and Sheryl decided to try a new adventure becoming pub landlords. Their first pub was in Stoke on Trent, their second in Bamber Bridge in Preston. They did very well here and made the pub a successful business, but as the brewery increased its demands, Col and Sheryl decided to leave. Moving to Leeds to stay with Col's brother Neil and his wife Dawn, the four of them decided to buy a free house, The Ingram Arms at Hatfield near Doncaster.

This pub became Col and Sheryl lives, they are so proud of the pub and the many fantastic friends they have made over the years. Running a busy pub was demanding but Col loved it. He got involved in all the sports, Football, Cricket, Darts and Dominoes; he would have a go at anything. There was of course his legendary pint of John Smith's cask, which was his much loved drink except if not at home he would drink Guinness. 'Nobody keeps their cask like me' he used to say.

Col also tried his hand at being a drum tech - for his mate Kev's bands Van Hooligan and Crimes Of Passion. Going on tour with the latter where Col earned the aptly named title as the World's worse Drum Tech. Kev even got him a T-shirt stating such which Col proudly wore all the time.

Col had only recently embarked on a new adventure, being a Grandad! A role he embraced as enthusiastically as ever. He will be sorely missed by so many, his family of course and his plethora of friends who are far too numerous to mention, but you all know who you are and your friendship was valuable to Col.

It may seem wrong at such a sad time but whenever I remember our Col I will smile. From mischievous schoolboy to a pillar of any community he settled in. From the world's best pint puller to the world's worst drum tech. A proud dad and an even more proud granddad. A fierce rival and a ferocious friend. And most importantly of all - Soul mate to Sheryl.

Our Col will be missed by everyone who knew him and I for one will relish my memories for ever. With that in mind and with apologies to Terry Scott and also to D.E.Williams, I ended the eulogy on a little song:

Who got up to mischief with that cheeky grin?  
Who fell in the lake when the ice was thin?  
Who dumped his girlfriend cos she boasted 'bout him?

Our brother!

Who poured petrol on the garden fire?  
Who Crashed his own AND his sister's car?  
Who was the KGV 6<sup>th</sup> form poker school star?

Our brother!

Our brother said it wasn't he, who caused all the mayhem in our family  
Our brother said that it was me – Our brother could be rotten.

Who broke the window with his football?  
Who sprayed beer around the hall?  
Who shot the sparrows on the garden wall?

Our brother!

Who shot ducks with arrows made from sticks?  
Who drank so much whiskey that it made him sick?  
Who split his head open on the incinerator bricks?

Our brother!

I know he was good when he was asleep.  
But you didn't know what he was dreamin' about did ya?

Who was always there when you needed him most?  
Who was the Ingram Arms favourite host?  
Who kept the best pint between both Coasts?

OUR lovely, lovely brother.

### **Neil Hunt (Leech's, 1973-1980)**

*Ed – Colin passed suddenly on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2015 of natural causes.*

### **Roger Jump (Gears, 1954-61)**

Roger attended KGV between 1954 and 1961, and was a stalwart of Gears House, for whom he played in the Inter-House sporting competitions at almost every sport, including those which he wasn't particularly good at. His first name was Roger, but at some point in his KGV career it was discovered that his middle name was Thomas, and we all began calling him 'Tom', which somehow stuck with him for the rest of his days. Tom was an outstanding scholar, and a good all-round sportsman, so when it came to electing a Head Boy in his final year at school, it was a foregone conclusion that Geoffrey Dixon would choose him. In that final year he was also captain of the 2nd XV rugby team and the 2nd XI cricket team, being a natural leader of men, but as such he was not awarded his full colours in either sport. I only learned about 50 years later that he was mortified about this, as he was unable to wear the distinctive Full Colours blazer which First team players were entitled to do, and which so impressed the girls from the High School. This, however, was his only gripe, and in all other respects he remained a great admirer and supporter of KGV throughout his life, and a passionate defender of the Grammar School concept, which had given him, and so many others from an unprivileged background, the opportunity and the necessary skills to excel in later life.

From KGV he went up to Cambridge, and after graduating he joined the Central Electricity Generating Board, rapidly rising to occupy several Senior Management positions. After privatisation he joined Powergen, and from 1988 he was the Executive Director and Chief Engineer of the Company until he retired in 1998.

He married Ann Westwood, a Southport girl, and together they raised their daughter and two adopted sons (twin boys). They moved around the country several times,



and finally settled in Nailsea, near Bristol, but Tom never lost his love for KGV, and he became a regular attendee at the Old Georgians Dinner each Maundy Thursday. When he was diagnosed with a brain tumour in 2014, he displayed the same positive spirit which had enabled him to achieve so much in his career, and which was so admired by all of his school friends and former work colleagues. He is sadly missed by his loving family, and all who knew him.

**Jim Marsh**

## **John David Lewin (Evans, 1950-57)**

Born on 28<sup>th</sup> July 1939, David Attended KGV until 1957 when he left to read Maths and Physics at Queens College Cambridge. After attaining his Honours Degree, he began his lifelong work as a research physicist at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory with the Science Research Council. Some of his important collaborations are noted at the end of this obituary.

He was not only a scientist but also a man of letters”, extremely well read and had great literary sensitivity. He held very strong views about what was just and unjust, much of which came to light in his letters to the Guardian newspaper, his membership of 38 Degrees and also of other campaigning groups fighting in justice. He found it easier to express his feelings and views in writing. True to form, he never boasted of his cleverness but was one of those people who you knew was intuitively bright and academically gifted. We married in 1972 and had two children, our son, now living in Adelaide with his wife and two sons, and our daughter living and working in Oxford. David and I enjoyed the usual hobbies: reading, theatre, music and lots of travelling, including working out different ways to get to and from Australia. Walking was very important to David, refusing to use the car to go to work and preferring to walk a mile to the bus pick up point. He continually enjoyed early morning walks after he retired and it was on one of these on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2014 that he had a fatal cardiac arrest.

Thank you KGV for giving him all his early opportunities and encouraging him to question and think.

**Joyce Lewin**

“Superconducting Proton Synchrotrons”, by PF Smith and JD Lewin.  
Nuclear Instruments and Methods vol 52, P298 (1967)

“Experimental and Theoretical Studies of Filamentary Superconducting Composites”, by MN Wilson, CR Walters, JD Lewin and PF Smith.  
J Phys D vol 3 p1517 (1969)

“A search for anomalous hydrogen in enriched heavy water, using a time of flight spectrometer” (co-authored).  
Nuclear Physics B206, p333 (1982)

“Coherent Interaction of Galactic Neutrinos with Material Targets”, by PF Smith and JD Lewin.  
Physics Letters vol 127B, p185 (1983)

“Dark Matter Detection”, by PF Smith and JD Lewin.  
Physics Reports vol 187, p203 (1990)



**Prefects 1956-57.** David is back row, first on the left.

### **Michael J Liptrot (1952-59)**

Michael's wife wrote to us to inform us of his passing in February 2015.

### **John Michael Pendlebury (Grears, 1948-55)**

Mike was born in Burnley on the 1st December 1936. The family moved to Southport in 1948 and Mike started at KGV School in that year. He was a late developer and went through the A stream until he reached the 6th form when his innate intelligence started to flourish. He passed A level Physics, Maths and Chemistry and Scholarship level Physics and Maths with flying colours and then won a Major Open Scholarship to Queens' College Cambridge in December 1955. He gained a 1st Class Honours degree in Natural Sciences (Physics) in 1959, and stayed on to take his Ph.D. working on atomic beams under Ken Smith at the Cavendish Laboratory. In 1962 Mike and Ken moved to the newly formed University of Sussex to start the Physics Faculty there. Not long after the move their focus changed from atomic beams to neutron beams and then to the generation of extremely slow or 'ultra-cold' neutrons which could be trapped in a 'bottle'. In fact Mike has been described as the

'father' of ultra-cold neutron physics in the UK. He started a series of measurements of the electric dipole moment of the neutron. Although electrically neutral the existence of an electric dipole would imply a small separation of the positive and negative charges within the neutron. The fact that the universe is not an equal mixture of matter and anti-matter requires that the neutron has a dipole moment. Mike's careful measurements demonstrated that if the moment exists at all it is so infinitesimally small that it severely constrains any ultimate theory of how the forces of nature work. If the neutron were enlarged to the size of the earth, Mike's apparatus would have been able to measure an effect as small as a grain of sand. Truly he could 'see a world in a grain of sand' as William Blake wrote.

Mike met his first wife, Jenny, at Sussex. They married in 1965 and had two children.

In 1990 Mike accepted the invitation to be academic head of fundamental and nuclear physics at the Institut Laue-Langevin (ILL) in Grenoble, and spent five years there helping to restructure the institute. He was given a personal chair in experimental physics at Sussex University in 1997.

In 1998 his wife, Jenny died of the cancer she had been suffering for some time.

In 2004 Mike was joint winner with Professor Keith Green of the High Energy Particle Physics Group Prize of the Institute of Physics: "For their organisational and intellectual leadership, over many years, of the pioneering experiment at ILL Grenoble to measure the electric dipole moment of the neutron."

He fell ill with bowel cancer in 2006 but pulled through a number of crises and operations and chemotherapy sessions. During this time he was greatly helped and supported by Rosaleen Ockenden, a friend of Jenny from their days at Oxford together.

In 2008 Mike was joint winner, again with Professor Keith Green, of the prestigious Chadwick medal of the Institute of Physics: "For their outstanding contributions to the measurement of the neutron electric dipole moment, and of other fundamental properties of the neutron."

In 2011, Mike and Rosaleen got married and they lived together in Rosaleen's house in Oxford which was convenient for Mike's continuing cancer treatment. It was also close to his daughter, Sarah.

Mike continued to contribute to the research he had been involved with for so long and to take part in other activities including walking in the Lake District. So much so that those of us who knew him began to believe that he would survive us all. And so it came as quite a shock to learn of his death on the 1st September 2015.

My own personal recollections of him come from our time together at KGV and also from various activities connected with Emmanuel Church youth club. We both lived in the Churchtown area of Southport, Mike in Preston New Road and I in Cambridge Avenue. I remember one party we both attended as we approached our later teens. We played 'spin the bottle' in which one of the girls spun the bottle and whoever the bottle pointed to when it stopped got a kiss. Mike demonstrated his understanding of probability theory by sitting close to the spinning bottle subtending a greater angle than the rest of us thus ensuring a better chance of getting a kiss!

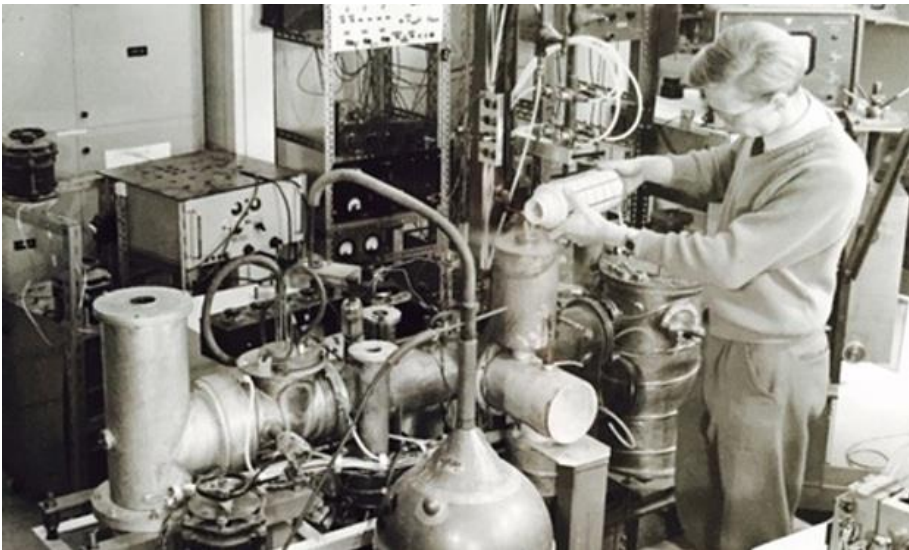
After we had taken the Cambridge entrance exams in December 1955, we were persuaded to stay at school until we went to college. During that time Mike and I undertook various activities including building radios with valves – no solid state

devices in those days! We also gave a talk or two at the school Scientific Society about 'Wireless'.

At Cambridge we found a short cut through narrow lanes and college quadrangles to get from my college, Magdalene, to his, Queens. Most Sunday mornings we met up to go to the Round Church together.

After Cambridge, Mike and I moved in different directions but we converged again in later years. Firstly, after meeting Rosaleen, he spent more and more time at her house in Oxford near where my wife and I now live. And secondly, by chance, I joined up with a group of survivors of Geoffrey Dixon's climbing adventures, who are now organised by Ken Edwardson, with an annual walking trip in the Lake District. Mike was a member of this group and we were able to recapture the walking holidays of our youth, such as a trip to Scotland and a sunny walk up Ben Nevis. He bore all the problems associated with his cancer with great fortitude, and it is remarkable that in the spring we were walking together in the Lake District and in the autumn he finally succumbed to the disease.

He enjoyed travelling to conferences and for pleasure, mountain walking, and singing. Throughout his life, he had been a member of many choirs. Despite being seriously ill for nearly a decade, he never lost his love of physics and the desire to communicate with others, discussing new publications by email until days before his death.



**Mike in his early days at Sussex University**

Mike is survived by Rosaleen, by his daughter, Sarah, and son, James, and by three grandchildren and five step-grandchildren.

Among the many tributes at his funeral from eminent physicists from all over the world was this from Dave Wark, FRS, and Head of Particle Physics at the Rutherford Appleton Lab:

“Thanks for sharing this very sad news about Mike. He fought his cancer for so long, and with such optimism and good humour. But the thread runs out for all of us, and all you can do is leave the world better for your having been in it. Mike certainly did that. His contributions to physics will live on, but for those who knew him what will really live on is what a wonderful person he was.”

There will be a memorial service for him at the Meeting House of the University of Sussex on Friday 29th April 2016.

**Barrie Whittaker**

### **Denis Robinson (Gears, 1949-50)**

Dennis was born in January 1934 and joined KGV when he was 15. He died on 21st April 2015 aged 81.

He spent a life time in banking and was a gifted sportsman. He was Captain of Southport Amateurs FC. Dennis was always a generous supporter of the Association and a regular attendee of the Annual Dinner. He passed after a long spell of illness, fighting bone cancer.

### **Stephen Andrew Seddon (1932-39)**

Andrew passed away peacefully on August 11<sup>th</sup> 2013, aged 90.

### **Ruth Shorrock (1980-82)**

I write to let you know that Ruth Shorrock (nee Johannesson) died suddenly in Munich on the 23rd March 2015 at the age of 50.

Ruth was born in Ormskirk in 1964, and a number of years later moved with her family to Formby. She was the in the first year of student at Range High School in Formby. She then attended KGV in the second year of Girls in 1980 which is when I first met Ruth and we went on to get married in 1985.

She briefly attended Manchester University, but decided to leave and start a career in banking at National Westminster Bank, and was pleased when she convinced the manager to bring in the smoking ban in her branch while she was pregnant with our first child Hannah. After a number of years' service in the bank Ruth went on to joined her father's business as an Independent Financial advisor.

She loved life and more importantly liked to talk to people – she had a knack of making people feel at ease – and also had a great sense of humour. She was not one to walk on the other side of the street when someone was in need and it was not uncommon for her to invite them into our home for a cup of tea and something to eat.

Of the many good things she did she always said her most important achievement was to bring up, our children: Hannah (who also attended KGV 2004-06), Samuel & Rebekah which she called her three heart beats.

She was much loved by her family and will be missed by all that knew her.

Yours Sincerely

**Tim Shorrocks**

## **Neville Spencer (1946-52)**

Neville passed away suddenly at home on the 7th February 2015.

Neville Spencer was born 6th February 1935 in Bishop Auckland, County Durham. He moved first to Crosby in 1941 when his father accepted a new position as a chief projectionist at one of the new "picture houses" that had just been built in Liverpool, prior to this his father had been a pianist in the cinema to accompany the then silent movies. After moving to Grange road in Southport he was accepted into KGV and went on to excel in maths and engineering. Neville had an exceptional memory, patience and attention to detail, skills that he utilised when he self taught himself how to build antique watches and clocks.

After leaving school he joined the RAF and served as an engineer for 6 years, primarily on the Sunderland flying boats that were still in service after WWII, until meeting his future wife Dorothy whilst on leave back in Southport. He returned and they were soon married. Neville spent several years working in the automotive industry until finally going self-employed, using his knowledge of "Horology" he opened up his own shop in Liverpool, repairing and building antique watches and clocks, later moving into Blue Coat Chambers. Several of the clocks he built from scratch can still be seen around Liverpool today.

Neville and Dorothy's daughter Susan was born in 1968, in 1973 Dorothy returned to her role working for the Government at Smedley Hydro, it was only in the 1990's when Dorothy retired that it became known that for many years she had undertaken sensitive and surveillance work for the Government in relation to tracing IRA members, it was one of their proudest moments when they were invited to take tea with the Queen as recognition.

Outside of family and work life Neville's greatest passion was for Everton FC, a season ticket holder since his younger years he rarely missed a match and was still a regular and passionate supporter. Since moving to Liverpool at a young age the city enthralled him, it still held him awe until his death. When he retired in 2000 he regularly played golf and crown green bowls and together with his two Grandchildren they kept him healthy and active.

**Neil Spencer**

## **Thomas Robert Tasker (1936-44)**

Dear Jonathan

I write to advise you of the death on August 26<sup>th</sup> 2014 of my father, Thomas Robert Tasker, born 5<sup>th</sup> August 1927.

My father attended KGV from (I think) 1936 to 1944. I'm afraid I don't know which house he was in. Although he wasn't an active member of the Old Georgians, he always enjoyed receiving the annual magazine, and that is what has prompted me to write to you now.

After leaving KGV my father worked for a short time for a bank, and then went into the family building business, where he worked until the 1970s. After that he changed tack completely and decided to embark on a course of further education which eventually led to a degree course in Italian Art and Architecture at Lancaster University. He worked as a part time lecturer for the WEA and other institutions until his retirement.

He was also a Lay Reader in the Anglican Church, most recently at St Aiden's in Bamber Bridge, and a few years ago received a medal from the bishop recognising 75 years as a chorister.

I know my father was very proud of having attended KGV, and always remembered his time there with fondness and affection (as do I, having worked there for 15 years myself!).

Yours sincerely

**Pam Ball (Daughter and former KGV College member of Staff)**

-0-

The Association received news, but no further details, of the passing of the following members:

**Peter Stephenson (Woodhams, 1939-46)**

**Peter Walton, March 2015**





**A**



**B**





**C**



**D**



**E**



**F**





**G**



**H**

## PHOTO GALLERY

The previous pages showed a selection of photographs from this past year events.

**OGA Golf Challenge** – some of this year’s challenge competitors

A – Rob Fletcher, Terry Fleetwood, Alistair Ford

B – Chris Stitson, Ian Knowlson, Ken Priestley

C – The organiser (Chris Stitson) assessing the first tee.

### **Annual Dinner**

D – The top table in various stages of debate! LtoR: Martin Fearn, Neil Spencer, Adele Wills, Ronnie Fearn, David Lonsdale

E – Nearest table, facing, LtoR: Alun Davies, Ken Priestley, Ian Kettle, Stuart Wincer, Graham Cox; back Lto R: Neil Hunt, David Marshall, Ian Knowlson, Chris Stitson

### **Quiz Night**

F - Mark Day (Chairman) presents the Annual Quiz Trophy to the winning captain – Mrs Tracey Day, leading “Not Mark Days Team” team! As the name would suggest, Mark was not on this team!

### **Opening of the New Arts Building**

G: the newest recruit to the Association, with Principal Adele Wells and one of our longest standing members, Mr John Pilling

H: a view of the new building from Scarisbrick New Road

## MEMORIES OF OUR CHAIRMAN

It is often commented in emails and at events that the Chairman is an unknown quantity to many of the OGA members. The RR has now introduced a new section whereby the Chair can informally write a piece about himself, in any format or content desired (page 7).

However, in this first instance of the article, I have also covertly invited former class members to send in any of their recollections of the Chair! I hope this article is well received!

***Ed***

I got most of my formative sex education from Mark. Let me put that in context! He was the only person I know that had a TV in his bedroom (“only a small black and white one” he would protest when accused of being highly privileged) which was mainly used to watch late night films of a particularly arty nature!! Being the sharing type that he is, he would always describe the most interesting scenes in vivid detail. If further evidence was needed, many of us will also recall him reading out extracts from “Forum” magazine on the rugby coach whilst passing round a bottle of lager (1 sip each) donated by his Dad.

**Paul Merone (Spencer’s, 1973-1979 and Mark’s Best Man)**

This 'cockney git' turned up halfway through the first term in 1973 when 2B was well established. I still have no idea why he wasn't in attendance when term started, I must ask him at the AGM. He obviously arrived to impress and credit to him, he did. 'Emu', as he quickly became known (to do with his running action and short legs, despite his 6 foot+ frame), took our Northern wit (well, *we* thought it [wit] was) in his stride, joined in all things sporting and mischievous and soon merged into the meld. For some reason, he thought adopting Manchester City as his team of choice would help, but in the most part it didn't! Although Mark spent the best part of the next 6 years (we were both 'X'ers) gripping my waist through the school rugby teams up to and include the 1<sup>st</sup> XV, my most endearing memory of him was his journey to school. Mark (Dog) Dransfield and I would wait on Park Avenue at our meeting place for him to appear, most often late. I was on my Carlton Continental racer and Dog on a similar model, when Emu would appear, day after day, on what could only be described as his little sisters Raleigh Shopper. Yes, **Shopper**, not **Chopper**. Recalling that he had a 6'2" frame, I am still surprised that he survived the verbal onslaught from the newts, but that he did was a tribute to the chirpy cockney. Actually, I do recall one other incident. I think it was the 1<sup>st</sup> XV game at King Edwards or some other such 'scouse' pretender to our dominant rugby crown, that just prior to the match, Mark complained of a dull ache in his groin area. Mark Edwards advised him to apply some pain relief cream to the inside of his jockstrap, pull the elastic tight and just get on with it. Mark followed our pack leader's instruction and spent most of that game outsprinting everyone on the pitch. Eddies pain relief cream was, of course, a 1970s version of Deep Heat and Emu had decided he needed to apply a large dollop to last him the whole game. Enough said!

**Jon Elliott (Gear's, 1973-1979)**

## OLD GEORGIANS' NEWS

### **Denis Pulman**

Denis has updated us with some family news. His eldest son, Nicholas (Spencer's 66-73) who was Head Boy and Exhibitor to St. Catherine's College, Cambridge, has just retired from the teaching profession. He spent 38 years at Aldenham Scholl, Elstree attaining the position of Head of Geography and a Senior Master.

### **Adrian Rigby (Spencer's 58-64)**

Adrian lives in Tenbury Wells and sent us a short note. "Just to say, now reached 68 years & still in decent shape, still enjoying working in the Logistics Industry although part -time, together as a Regional Football Scout for Huddersfield Town FC & being my 40th year of involvement with Football having worked for Everton, Wolves, Watford, QPR & now Huddersfield following a brief playing career."

### **Peter Rigby (Edwards 66-73)**

At school, Peter distinguished himself as a House captain, senior prefect and Deputy Head boy. He was also 1st XV rugby captain 1972/73 and IST XI cricket vice-captain

1973. In December 2013, he retired as CEO Informa after 30 years' service, 25 as CEO. He is living near Cirencester with his wife, two dogs, two cats, three children and two grandchildren. Peter is still playing cricket and has a number of non-executive posts in the business media and information market places. He wishes his year group and everyone who remembers him the very best. He is on linked in.

**Noel Shearer (Amer's, 73-80)**

"I've had a change of employment in the last few months and have recently taken up a role as Director of Quantity Surveying for Cunliffes Ltd."

**Geoff Stocker (Spencer's 55 - 62)**

Geoff has moved south to Lymm, Cheshire where his daughter and grandchildren live. He continues to volunteer on the Steam-hauled narrow-gauge Welsh Highland Railway (Caernarfon / Porthmadog) as a Buffet Steward and can now make more frequent forays (Well worth a visit). He is also active in local CAMRA Real Ale support and continues to try to grasp the finer points of practical golf and crown-green bowls. Contact E-mail address remains: [gsto2512@aol.com](mailto:gsto2512@aol.com) - he would be delighted to hear from contemporaries."

**KGV Archive – 2016 Update**

This is the current register of photographs that we have in our archives. If you have any others, please can you send us a scanned image.

School photo: 1923, 25, 27, 30, 33, 37, 43, 46, 52, 55, 58, 61, 64, 67, 70, 77  
College photo: 1984, 88

Athletics: 42, 46-49, 51, 53, 55, 56, 58, 59, 62-66, 69.  
Cricket: 40, 41, 44, 46-56, 60, 63-68, 75.  
Rugby: 41, 43-47, 49, 50, 51, 53, 55, 56, 59, 61, 64, 66, 68, 70, 74, 79.  
Swimming: 40-42, 46-48, 50, 52, 55, 57-62, 64, 66, 68, 69, 71.  
Hockey: 71-75, 77, 78  
Prefects: 44-47, 49-52, 54-56, 60-62, 64, 66, 68-71, 74-77, 79.

**Donations**

Several OGA members have generously sent in financial donations towards the operating and running costs of the association and the Red Rose. Our thanks extend to:

Denis Pulman, Peter Gordon, Mike Alexander, David Charters, Ken Wilson. Geoffrey Weir, Barry Ramm, Derek Adams, Cyril Hershon, JD Adams.

## **SOCIAL EVENTS 2015-16**

### **AGM & ANNUAL DINNER**

The 67<sup>th</sup> OG Annual Dinner took place at the Prince of Wales Hotel, Southport, on the evening of April 2nd 2015. Those attending the dinner are noted at the end of this article.

The AGM ran smoothly under the guidance of the Vice- Chairman, Neil Spencer and we welcomed Mark Day (Evans, 73-80) into the vacant seat, albeit he was actually in Dublin attending his daughter's exhibition at Queens University. Our outgoing Chairman, Matthew Duffy, was hospitalised, so for the first time to anybody's recollection, neither the new or old Chairs were present at the AGM and Dinner. The agenda was swiftly dealt with (the minutes are now available on the OGA web site) and the meeting closed in record time, with nothing controversial to report and a band of hungry members waiting to move on to the Windsor Suite for dinner.

The Prince (of Wales Hotel) did us proud with a fine meal. Much improved on previous years. As ever, they closed with excellent coffee and a mountain of cheese. For those of us in the know, doggie bags were presented at the end of the evening to ensure cheese on toast and welsh rarebit were the order of the day over the Easter period!

Adele Wills addressed the attendees as President, noting the very difficult time the College was going through.

David Lonsdale spoke on behalf of the Chairman, noting the very recent passing of Paul Bagshaw. He welcomed contributions to the archive, again recognising John Rostro's recent work to collate many items of photographic and written memorabilia. He also noted that all bar one (as far as we know, they are listed later in the magazine) School photographs are now framed and available at the College.

The Golf prize giving followed, with the raffle rounding off the evening. The raffle raised £510 with a further £65 in donations gratefully welcomed.

Please note that the 2016 Dinner will be held at the Ramada Hotel. Our thanks extend to the Prince for their hosting of recent events and we are only implementing a change policy to keep the event fresh for everyone.

Attending in 2015:

Martin Abram, Derek Adams, Hilary Anslow, Geraldine Aughton, John Aughton, Tom Booth, Adrian Brown, David Brown, Paul Bullock, Duncan Burton, Mike Catrall, Ken Coppock, Graham Cox, Alan Cunliffe, Alan Davies, Pauline Davies, Alan Dickinson, Peter Dickinson, Jonathan Elliott, Martin Fearn, Ronnie Fearn, Terry Fleetwood, Mark Fletcher, Rob Fletcher, Alistair Ford, Ian Greenhalgh, Mark Greenhalgh, Roger Harrison, Dave Harrison, Neil Hunt, Barry Hurst, John Hyde, Mike Hyde, Alan Jones, Barry Jones, Jean Kay, Tony Kay, Caroline Kaye, John Keeley, Elizabeth Kelly, John Kermod, Ian Kettle, Ian Knowlson, Catherine Lapsley,

Sarah Lapsley, David Lonsdale, Jim Marsh, Dave Marshall, Joanne Matthews, Julian McInerney, Belinda Miller, Tony Milner, Eric Ogden, Ray Owen, John Pilling, Ken Priestley, George Rimmer, Stan Rimmer, Peter Rostron, Michelle Sanderson, John Seddon, Ian Smith, Jim Smith, Neil Spencer, Jim Stanley, Chris Stitson, Geoff Stocker, Andrew Sweeney, Steve Tasker, John Wainwright, Paul Whitehead, Adele Wills, Dr Tony Wilson, Stuart Wincer, Chris Winnard, Alan Wright

### **OGA GOLF CHALLENGE 2015**

The second playing of the Bob Abram Trophy took place this year at the challenging Hesketh Golf Club where, on a dry, bright but breezy day, 8 fearless players took on this renowned Open qualifier course.

Due to a last minute drop-out, and with the first 3-ball (*Rob Fletcher, Alistair Ford, Terry Fleetwood*) already half-way down the first fairway (well not actually on the fairway - just a figure of speech), those remaining (*Ken Priestley, Ian Knowlson, Dave Harrison, Steve Rooke, Chris Stitson*) oobroke one of the cardinal rules of golf etiquette and duly set off playing as a 5-ball!

Our intention was to split into two groups of 2 and 3 but after much banter and hilarity on just one hole nobody was willing to forego Rookies entertaining stories and bad, bad jokes and so we continued to play the whole round together. Dave assured us that we'd be okay because he was a past Captain and that if anyone challenged us then we were to blame Rookie because he'd been a professional golfer and ought to know better!

Luckily nobody complained and a most enjoyable round was had - one of the best days golf that I have ever experienced with laughter and gamesmanship in equal measure to the beauty of Dave's metronome-like driving, Chris' Buddhist-like levels of concentration, Ian's feats of escapability, the accuracy of Ken's putts and Steve's fully rotated hip!

Congratulations to our worthy winner, Dave Harrison, on his home course, with a total of 37 Stableford points.

Special thanks to Dave Harrison and Rob Fletcher for their sterling efforts with the club to secure us tee times and a reduced fee.

Arrangements for the 2016 playing of the Bob Abram Trophy are currently being finalised and all golfers are invited and encouraged to join us - if this year's event is anything to go by then a brilliant day's golf and camaraderie are guaranteed. Places will be limited so please register early: all queries to Chris Stitson at [stitson.chris@btinternet.com](mailto:stitson.chris@btinternet.com).

And now, to the results....



## **The Bob Abram Trophy**

1st place - 37 points - Dave Harrison (Hesketh GC - Hcap 6)

2nd place - 32 points - Steve Rooke (Windermere GC - Hcap 3)

3rd place - 31 points - Rob Fletcher (Hesketh GC - Hcap 19)

Longest Drive - Chris Stitson (Newark GC)

Nearest the Pin - Terry Fletcher (no club)

*Ed – not being a golfer, I am not sure how Terry got the ball nearest the pin without a stick to hit it with! ☺*

## **QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June**

A change is as good as a rest, or so they say. Well, in this case it certainly worked! We changed quiz master and format for this year, with David Lonsdale taking over the mantle as the man with the answers!

Although the previous years had been good fun, the overall cost of running the event had escalated, so we set out to correct this, not least with David providing his time for free.

87 eager quizzers took to their marks as David launched the event with several ‘at the table’ sheets (faces, anagrams etc.) rounds and then into the quiz for real, diving into several timed rounds covering the Arts, Maths, History, Sport and others.

Spot prizes were available with ‘Heads and Tails’ and the raffle provided several opportunities to walk away with a prize.

Mark Day, our Chairman graciously presented the prizes, moving on to the trophy for the evening, presenting it to Not Mark Day’s Team – led by his wife, Tracey! No, this was not a fix, but it certainly put him into a fix acknowledging the superiority of his wife’s team over his! Well done to the second placed led by Martin Fearn and Terry Fleetwood, with The Muttley Crew (Ian Kettle/Jon Elliott) one point further back.

**See you all on June 10th 2016!!**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hi, Jonathan,

I recently discovered this cutting in my archives, of which I have no memory at all. It's probably from the Southport Visiter in the 1960s, but a search on Google, indicates that it might have been 1959 when double white lines were introduced.

I thought I'd share it with you, and see if you know anything about it, and who the guilty pupils were.

Best wishes,

Derrick Salmon

### SCHOOL-LEAVERS' PRANKS

**D**DOUBLE no-overtaking lines were introduced on Britain's roads by the Ministry of Transport a few months ago—the same sort of lines were introduced into the corridors of King George V Grammar School in the early hours of yesterday morning.

Members of the staff who arrived in the building early found that double white lines had been painted along the floors of the corridors, the locks of the doors leading into the school had all been filled with well advertised glutinous product, and a pair of female unmentionables had been left in the staff room.

The sabotage raid had been carefully planned by school-leavers. They entered the building at about 5 a.m., 30 minutes after four prefects, who had been guarding the school all night, left the premises.

Unlike marauders from Universities, who seem to get away with all sorts of pranks, the pupils responsible at King George V were soon discovered and they spent their last morning at school cleaning up the mess they had made.

"We intended to leave our mark on the school," said one of the boys yesterday, "Instead the school has left a mark on us—I shall have housemaid's knee for the rest of my life after this!"

Dear Jonathan,

I was very interested to receive my copy of The Red Rose and as always have read it with the greatest interest. I had hoped to attend the dinner this year but we shall be away over Easter.

I thought I would write to you, having seen the sad news of the death of a great friend of mine, Harry Foster. I played rugby with Harry for several seasons once he had returned from Waterloo and decided to devote the final part of his career to the

Southport club. He was a mountain of a player and we relied on him hugely; he was also invaluable for all the advice and encouragement he gave to the younger players. I in fact played with him in his final match for Southport, one that has gone down in the club's history. After the game there was a ceremony where he burnt his boots as a gesture of farewell; however, when we got back on the bus for the homeward journey I asked him if he had any regrets about this; with a smile he said, "Oh the boots weren't mine, I found them in the changing room."

Thinking of Harry and his achievements I wondered if anyone has made a list of all the representative sporting honours gained by OGs over the years. It would be good to have these in the archives. I thought of the following (though there should be many more) but I wonder if this could be properly researched. (Where there is an asterisk it indicates that I am not absolutely clear that the honour was achieved.)

### **Rugby Union**

**Prof Sam Perry:** Cambridge Blue 1946 and 1947 (the only OG to play in the Varsity Match); Barbarians; 7 caps for England

**Gordon Rimmer:** 12 caps for England; 1 for the British Lions (the only OG to do so); well over 50 caps for Lancashire

**Harry Foster:** well over 50 caps for Lancashire; Reserve for England

**\*Geoff Topping and \*Neil Booth** capped for Lancashire.

**Len Barton:** many caps for Cumberland and Westmorland; England trial

**Nobby Slack:** many caps for Cumberland and Westmorland

### **Rugby League**

**Bob Burdell:** played for Wigan and St Helens; played for Wigan in the 1970 Challenge Cup Final at Wembley

### **Football**

**Tony Waiters:** 5 caps for England; later manager of the Canadian national team

**George Bromilow:** 2 caps for Great Britain in the 1956 Olympic Games

### **Tennis**

**Terry Walsh:** represented Lancashire on several occasions

### **Cricket**

**Bert Richardson:** played 27 first-class matches for Derbyshire from 1950-53, including dismissing the West Indies test captain

### **Athletics**

**Barrie Whittaker:** represented Cambridge University on several occasions and would have gained his Blue but for an unfortunate injury

**Darrell Farrant:** bronze medallist in the hurdles in the Welsh National Championships in 1960

### **Golf**

**David Marsh:** Cambridge Blue and Captain of the University team; played for England 75 times; English Amateur Champion in 1964 and 1970; sank the winning

putt for the GB and Ireland Walker Cup team in 1971; captained the team in 1973 and 1975; Captain of the R&A

\*Roger Basford: Oxford Blue

My best wishes,

**Darrell Farrant**

Dear Jonathan

I am writing this short article in remembrance of my old housemaster, the late Peter Longhurst. I write it in a number of capacities one of which was that for three years I was literally his right-hand man. For three years at the dining table I sat on his right side, a position of some importance, having dominion over the distribution of things like potatoes and custard, important items for adolescent boys. Although I was never taught by Mr Longhurst, who was universally known by my fellow pupils as Percy, we were able to talk about many subjects other than education. In fact the benefit of not being taught by him probably enhanced things. Percy made it clear that his new house, Masons, was to be the best in the school. Everyone must strive to gain points for every cup and trophy with the object of winning the overall cup, the Jubilee cup. It was to this end that for a short time we had a major falling out. It was to do with the boxing competition, shortly in my time at KGB to become defunct, and the gaining of maximum points. I had got through a round but in the process had damaged my right hand and an x-ray showed a fracture, a crack in the distal end of the fifth metacarpal. I would not be able to use my right hand without a great deal of pain and therefore I explained I would not be able to fight. I was called to Percy's classroom during the break time. He insisted I fought on the following grounds. The opposition was also a boy from Masons and I could go in and lose and the house would get points for the winner and points for the loser and thus go on to the next round with maximum points. 55 years later one can reflect how times have changed. Not only do we no longer have school boxing competitions but can one imagine the furore of trying to make someone fight with a broken hand. Nevertheless, to Percy, the points issue made this a perfectly clear situation. From my point of view the thought of trying to fight with one hand, although undesirable, was not the chief issue. The fact was, I did not want to lose against Dave Black. I didn't like him and didn't think he was worthy to beat me. There was the humiliation and loss of face factor. I seem to remember we argued the point for about 20 minutes after which he gave up. It was never mentioned again. Please allow digression with reference to the boxing competition as all information about it is now historical. The following year was the last year of the competition and after that it was disbanded. In my group was a young man, Laurence Hanlon. He was a Southpaw and had decided that although the perceived wisdom was to lead with the non-dominant arm and leg he would reinvent the wheel and perceive something unbeknown to others. He would lead with his right hand, his dominant side but also his left foot. He believed that nobody else had thought of this. Needless to say when he met his opponent, Mike Carr, Mike could see the enormous gap to Laurence's chin and thumped him with his right fist

and knocked him out. Mike Carr was my next opponent and news of Mike's hammer had spread throughout the school. My corner decided I'd better move to my right to keep away from this fearsome weapon. After three rounds the judges considered it was a draw but in view of my lack of aggression Mike correctly won the fight. Laurence Hanlon went on to become a LibDem councillor, and Mike I believe has now since passed on. It was my last fight in the competition as the competition was never held again.

A more amusing situation occurred with the choir competition. Most houses collected their best choristers and presented an acceptable choir. Others simply gave up the ghost and declined to enter. To Percy neither scenario was acceptable. The whole house, conducted by the head boy, Charlie Martin, was the only way for Masons to go. As it happened I was in the upper fifth at the time and delayed on the day of our last practice. I therefore entered the school hall from the back to see the stage almost completely full of Masonites droning asynchronously and discordantly. In front of them, with his back to me, was Charlie Martin, holding his baton in the same way that most men would hold a rattlesnake, weaving it up and down and sideways regardless of the rhythm of the music in 1-2-3 time. Needless to say Masons came last but in fact, because three houses had not entered, we came fifth. Percy expressed great satisfaction over this. The same 'must enter' approach also occurred in the elocution competition. For me this was a step too far and I managed to get the day off school. It was the only time I had ever done it and required the ingestion of soap, in the event, barely a quarter of a bar sufficed. Even then it was difficult to persuade my stepmother who had been a nurse in the Queen Alexandra's and had been awarded the Burma Star to relent, despite my genuine retching. The elocution competition was every year made more amusing by the supervision of the Latin master, universally referred to as Lush on the grounds of his pronunciation. It was the ultimate irony to us boys that he should be the final arbiter of elocution! He of the phrase – Gesh out you Sheasar in Brishain. Each year at the end of the competition he would announce that the shandard of elocushun thish year hash not been ash good ash previous yeash.' As a result of Percy's efforts, that year, Charlie Martin went up onto the stage and received the Jubilee cup from the Boss. He and his fellow colleagues from that year were not to know that we won the Jubilee cup for the next two years, three years running in all. Percy was vindicated and Masonites walked proud!

My chats with Percy were always pleasurable. He was somewhat old-fashioned in his point of view but was nobody's fool. He was noted for the equation  $I + R = MF$ . In other words integrity and resolution give moral fibre. We divined that he had lots of it and we didn't! At the end of the school year in 1963, I went off to medical school and to my eternal regret never saw or spoke to Percy again.

Dr C R Rees Masons 1956-63

PS. I was a GP for 38 years until retirement at but still do locums and appraisals and despite a hip resurfacing 14 years ago, still attempt to play football. They tell me I will be 70 in a few weeks.

Hi Jonathan,

I Just came across the attached over the Christmas break – probably too late for any 2016 comment, but hopefully of some benefit to the archives if an alternative copy doesn't exist. I think this would have been the 1971 season.

If an alternative copy doesn't exist, I would be happy to obtain an additional hard copy and send to you/the school in the post.



I'm afraid that apart from myself, back row second from left, I can only recall the names of two others – I think....Pete Brodie, back row third from left and Nick Pulman, front row fourth from left. Both of whom were in their final year, the Upper sixth at the time. (which might help with dating)

My own appearance, as a "junior", in the Senior athletics team at the time was as a result in part of achievements in the annual "cross-country" run around the eastern end of the Kew estate (School-Scarisbrick New Road-Southport Road-Turning Lane-Town Lane-Everard Road-Scarisbrick New Road-School) 1969 – 3<sup>rd</sup>;1970 – 1<sup>st</sup>; 1971 – 3<sup>rd</sup>; 1972 – 1<sup>st</sup>; 1973 – 3<sup>rd</sup>

I think that Messrs Butterworth and Pulman were ahead of me when I didn't win. My finishing time for 1970 or 1972 was reputed to be the fastest ever recorded at the time for the age group – however I was never subsequently able to confirm whilst in attendance. I doubt if the records still exist, however if they do I would be delighted to hear of them.

Regards,

Gordon A Croome

Leech's 1968-1973

## I GOT MORE THAN I BARGAINED FOR

### **David Charters (Edward's 1958-65)**

In 2000, I had the opportunity to sell my business to a merchant bank in London and retire. But I was only 53. What was I going to do to adjust to a quieter and more peaceful life?

I set myself 3 projects. The family tree, started but by no means finished, learn to play the 5-string banjo (a throwback to Sunday evenings at The Bothy Folk Club which met in a room above the Blundell Arms) and to find old KGV friends, of whom many I had lost track (n.b. the T B Johnson use of language).

To achieve the latter, in the days before the friends reunited website got going properly, I contacted the few with who I was still in touch, either regularly or on my Christmas card list. I asked them to let me know of anyone they were in touch with and, like the stone thrown into a still pond, the ripples went out.

One person I was still in touch with, having worked with him in a Liverpool stockbroker's office for 5 years was an old Churchtown Junior and KGV acquaintance, Glyn Morris who was by now living in Surrey and working in the City. I had moved to Cambridge, where I am still, in 1973.

Over time the numbers grew and I became a very determined detective. Gradually I built up a list of over 100 names of people who had been in my year and the idea of a reunion was conceived (see Red Rose 2004). Sadly, Glyn Morris was not one of those attending, although he had looked forward to the event so much. He died at Easter 2003 and I had attended his funeral. There I met his widow, Penny and his twin daughters, Katie and Claire, and his son, James who was like a pea from the same pod - an identikit offspring! We all spent some hours together, reminiscing, as I was the one who had known him longest. My wife and I said our farewells and returned home. Penny kept in touch by sending me a birthday card each year and even found some old Churchtown Junior photographs when tidying through the house.

Then, in 2010, my wife was diagnosed with cancer and died. I contacted Penny and we talked and talked. Gradually the friendship developed, we began to see more and more of each other and we are now life partners here in Cambridge. Her younger twin daughter has just received a proposal of marriage and we are like a family.

So a school reunion can change your life. I would recommend it!

Ps Some may remember Glyn's mother who taught at the old Emmanuel Infants' School, in Marshside Road, now demolished

*Ed – Mrs Morris taught me at Emmanuel School. An excellent teacher and very friendly lady.*

## **A BATTLE WITH MEOLS COP**

**John Roberts (Rogers 1955-62)**

Back in 1959 we had a very white winter. After a week of inter-house snowball battles, usually at the front of the school for which there were no winners and a lunch hour pelting of the hapless on-duty Mr Honey resulting in detention for a goodly number, we were forced to face Meols Cop which while our attention was turned, had stepped, en-masse, over the low fence and invaded our playing fields even to our rugby pitches. Considerably outnumbered, we pluckily held them off with well-aimed snowballs until the tide began to turn and reinforcements from second sitting lunch arrived. But, do you know, some of those Meols Cop b\*\*\*\*\*s were making their snowballs with lumps of coke and stones! Consequently, the relatively well organised and good natured battle quickly degenerated into zig zag lines and scattered brawls. Meanwhile, my particular protagonist threw his snow ball from very short range, missed and followed up with a swinging blow to my head which caused much mirth being wide of its mark, weak and pathetic. I took up my best boxing stance but before he could square off he was felled by my friend who, seeing the situation took matters into his own hands and leapt on the MCB bringing him down to the snowy ground. At much the same time, the tempo of the battle petered out until the two sides, including the squashed lad withdrew, each no doubt claiming victory.

I became a senior Army officer, my friend a Personnel Director of noteworthy negotiating skills. Clearly, we each owe our successful development to the playing fields of KGV.

## **HERKENBOSH 2013**

*David Wynn contacted the College about a visit that he had made in 2013 to Germany, to visit the site where his grandfather is buried. Although neither are Old Georgians, one of the fellow flight crew, Gordon Russell, was and Gordon is listed in the Roll of Honour on the web site (<http://www.kgv.ac.uk/OG/Roll-Of-Honour>)*

*We have included his letter as it is of interest to many people.*

My father was the flight engineer and Gordon Russell was the air bomber in Lancaster LM 320 which crashed on 26th May 1943 near the village of HERKENBOSCH in the Netherlands killing all crew members.

Other families and friends may take some comfort from knowing how their loved ones who lost their lives in aircraft raids on Germany during the last war are remembered by even small villages in the Netherlands.



On Thursday 27th May 1943 The Daily Mail reported, under the headline “5 “COOKIES” a minute by RAF, Dusseldorf pounded for an hour in war’s greatest bad-weather attack” The report then gives further information about the raid on the night of 25th/26th May and reports the loss of 27 bombers during the mission.

On 24th May 2013, 70 years later, a memorial was unveiled in Herkenbosch, Netherlands in memory of the crew of Lancaster LM 320 that crashed that night and the crews of all the 5 other aircraft that came down in the vicinity of the village during the war.

My father was the Flight Engineer on LM 320 of 100 Squadron. They had taken off from RAF Grimsby ( Waltham ) at 23.23hrs to join 758 other aircraft in the raid. The previous night he had flown in a raid on Dortmund. The crew were:-

- S/Ldr. P R Turgel DFC aged 22 Pilot
- P/O I A Wynn “ 35 Flight Engineer
- F/O D Harvey “ 32 Air Gunner
- Sgt. J Hudson age unknown Air Gunner
- F/O J M Marnoch aged 30 Wireless Operator/ Air Gunner
- F/O H N Petts “ 25 Navigator
- F/O G Russell “ 22 Bomb Aimer

My mother was told that the plane had been brought down by Flak at 01.36 on the 26th May and as the Germans would not allow anyone to approach the crash site he was reported as missing. It wasn’t until April 1946 that he was confirmed as dead and buried with 4 other crew members in a collective grave. Two of the crew were identified and buried separately.

We now know that the plane was not brought down by Flak but was shot down by Hauptmann Manfred Meurer who later lost his life in the war, aged 24.

In 2012 I wrote to the local authority in the area of the crash to see if anyone could give me more information as I wanted to visit the site on the anniversary of the crash. They put me in touch with a Dutch family from the village who have researched the wartime plane crashes in the area of their village, HERKENBOSCH.

My brother and I together with our wives arranged a visit which we thought would be a family remembrance event.

We could not believe the welcome we were given by the family and people of the village. Their feelings can probably be summed up by the following extract from an E-Mail sent to me by the family,

“WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE WHOLE COMMUNITY FOR WHAT YOUR FATHER AND HIS CREW MEMBERS DID FOR US TO END THE OCCUPATION OUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS WERE LIVING UNDER DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR”.

The Dutch family talked to eye witnesses to the crash and located the actual crash site where, using metal detectors, metal from the plane was found.

A local hotel gave us free accommodation and the Dutch family did everything they could to make our visit a memorable one.

Unbeknown to us until a few days before our visit, the village had banded together to erect a memorial to all the planes and crews that were killed in plane crashes near their village. (They pointed out that not one aircraft had hit the village; a further tribute to our pilots who they believe did everything in their power to avoid crashing on their homes.). They had obtained from a museum part of the engine from a Wellington, together with the propeller, and this is now mounted at the entrance to the village. There is a plaque showing the names of all 27 aircrew who were killed in the locality, together with a board giving information about the various aircraft, dates of the crashes, etc.

My brother and I were invited to unveil the plaque at a ceremony on the evening of 24th May.

The Exeter branch of the Royal British Legion provided me with a RAF Roundel at short notice and my brother and I laid it at the Memorial alongside about 6 other wreaths and floral tributes. We understand that it is now proposed to have a service at the site every year and for a group of villagers to visit the War Cemetery at Jonkersbos near Nijmegen where all the aircrews were eventually buried.

The whole visit was very memorable but in particular the warmth and friendship of the Dutch is something we will remember for the rest of our lives.

**David J Wynn**

### **KGV HISTORY IN THE PRESS**

Geoff Wright is the Southport Visiter's Nostalgia columnist, and one of the region's most eminent local historians. He is also a leading member of North Meols Civic Society, and an expert on many aspects of Southport life, both past and present. During 2015 he has written several articles about KGV in the paper. The links to the Visiter's website articles are included below.

#### **The Changing Roles Played By The Woodlands (Visiter, Feb 2015)**

<http://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/news/history/nostalgia-with-geoff-wright-8641991>

#### **Boys Had A Right Royal Time At The King Of Schools (Visiter, Feb 2015)**

<http://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/news/history/schools-out---geoff-wright-8685879>

#### **How KGV School Began To Sink In The Middle (Visiter, March 2015)**

<http://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/news/history/nostalgia-with-geoff-wright-8732804>

#### **Mixed Fortunes as School Enters the 21<sup>st</sup> Century (Visiter, March 2015)**

<http://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/news/history/nostalgia-with-geoff-wright-8784793>

## **In the Context of Eternity,** **A Short History of the Christian Church.**

This summer *In the Context of Eternity*, a short history of the Christian Church by David Arnold was published. David was the Headmaster of King George V School from 1976 throughout the years when it was being reorganized as a sixth form college, and left in 1983. He is a regular supporter of the Old Georgians and the Annual Dinner.

It is his first publication since *Britain, Europe and the World, 1871-1971*, which some Old Georgians will remember from their schooldays. The book is 280 pages long and deliberately pays as much attention to early centuries as to more recent ones.

It was described by the editorial director of a leading London publishing house as ‘a lively and readable one-volume history of Christianity, challenging the view that ancient history came to an end in the fifth century and that nothing of significance then happened until the Renaissance. It explains how an extraordinary intermingling of the Roman Empire, Christianity and Barbarism produced the most dynamic society the world has ever known, and how the modern world of the scientific revolution, capitalism and liberal democracy emerged from the interaction of Christianity and Barbarism on the ruins of Rome.’

An American publisher wrote that it is ‘quite amazing. By a miracle of organization, by clarity of expression and the sharing of considerable knowledge it presents a remarkable survey of the history of Christianity.’

A Cambridge Professor of History described it as truly remarkable and exceptionally clearly and attractively written. A senior Roman Catholic priest and canon lawyer said it was a delight and he wished he had had a copy when he was a young seminarian. A Lutheran Professor of Theology wrote to say that he intends using it in his lectures to help explain how the Christian faith developed. A former Bishop of Durham said that he was seduced by the fluency of the writing and the freshness of the approach.

It is available for £10 from Waterstones and from Amazon.

## **CHASING TWO TRIBES**

An interesting face off occurred in February, whereby two OGA members were, unknowingly, recording TV game shows at Pinewood Studios in adjacent studios at the same time! Studio 4 was commissioned by the BBC to record the second series of their 6pm slot gameshow, *Two Tribes*, hosted by Richard Osman. In studio 3, Bradley Walsh was in full swing with series 9 of *The Chase*. It only came to broadcast

time in June and August, that Graham Cox (The Chase) and Jon Elliott (Two Tribes) realised the state of play back in February.

Here's a summary of how it went!

1000 – after a 30 minute prep from each producer and with make-up and wardrobe sorted, GC and JE made their way into the respective studios for a walk through on set. The format was walked through, allowing both to answer questions and get used to pressing the buzzer – would that help later?

1100 – with the audience in place, recording of both started at a similar time. GC was up as the first contestant. For those that know him, his decisions would not have been a surprise. Having taken £9000 into the head to head with the Chaser, Graham opted to take up the £21,000 offer – and he was successful!

Meanwhile over in studio 4, JE was fighting his way through the first two rounds. This show starts with 7 contestants and has three knockout rounds to take the show to a 2v2 semi-final. Teams change each round and are confirmed by answering a question, 'yes' or 'no'. Having confirmed that he did NOT want to live forever, IS a romantic and Does like sport, JE answered several questions correctly to advance through the rounds and got through to the semi-final.

1130- Graham hits the final chase, with 2 other team members with him. Their total was an excellent £30,000. In their two minutes, they achieved a total of 21 questions correctly answered.

1140 – Jon is in the semi-final. His team race ahead to a 4-1 lead, where the best of 5 winner goes into the final. Nerves get the better of the team as the score moves to 4-2, 4-3 and then 4-4. On a do or die 50-50 question, Jon's team mate buzzes and picks the wrong 50% - he's out!

1140 – Controversy (see the youtube clip!). Having had 7 push backs and only getting 2 correct, the "Beast" is on 20 questions correct with 2 seconds left. Did he answer before the time up jingle started? Well, in the studio they were convinced not. But on play back, a few milli-seconds robbed them of the £30k prize fund!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HSL6YNYGZzU>



Post competition time, this is Graham's recollections of the lead into and the actual day...

I've always enjoyed participating in general knowledge quizzes and I'm occasional frequenter of pub quizzes, although I'm not a member of a regular team or quiz league. I've also enjoyed several of the Old Georgians Quiz Nights at Southport and Birkdale Cricket Club over the years, a great fun event that I'd encourage all Old Georgians to support. Spurred on by my family's encouragement, I decided to apply for a TV quiz show. My wife and three teenage daughters have no interest in quizzes and I suspect they were keen to help me find a competitive outlet for my passion, as they are somewhat bemused and bored by the whole thing. I chose to apply to "The Chase", ITV's daily tea time quiz showcase, as I'd watched it over the last couple of years and, like many an armchair viewer, was convinced I could do better than many of the contestants. I also enjoyed the format of "The Chase", as it's not simply about answering questions; there are also tactical aspects to the game. The objective is to beat "The Chaser", one of four professional quizzers who are set up on the dramatic and imposing TV set to compete with the contestants, both individually and as a team. I have to concede that the potentially large money prize was an added incentive, as you don't get that on "Mastermind" or "Brain of Britain".

After submitting my online application form, I was invited to an audition at a Manchester hotel with around 20 other hopefuls. After a series of interviews and test quiz questions, both on and off camera, the TV production team thanked us all for coming and read out the names of just four of us as the successful applicants. Four months later I was called down to the TV studios at Elstree in Hertfordshire, where on a cold February morning I and my three fellow contestants were collected by taxi from the hotel at an unearthly hour. We spent two hours being briefed in the green room including a practice on how to turn around on set. The production assistant complimented me on my turning technique, which I felt was a little gushing as turning around isn't a skill of which I'm particularly proud.

I didn't feel nervous in the studio, probably because we were straight into the recording with no time to think about it. The Chaser was revealed as Mark Labett, a man mountain of 6' 7" and known as "The Beast". I was relieved to get through my individual round and make it into the "Final Chase", although my one regret was dad dancing on camera to an old song by 5ive, a cringe-worthy moment that I hoped in vain would be edited out. Our team accumulated a prize fund of £30,000 and three of us made it through to the final chase where we set what we felt was a respectable score of 21. However the Beast pipped us at the post with an answer that was right on the buzzer. There was some controversy on social media after the broadcast that his answer was in fact after the buzzer and we should have won the prize money but my own feeling is that we could and should have got a few more questions right. If we'd done that then we would have won by a clear margin.

The disappointment hasn't put me off TV quiz shows; in fact I've put in an application for "Fifteen to One" on Channel 4 and you may well see me on there in the New Year.

**Graham Cox (Edwards, 1974-80)**

## **2016 EVENTS**

### **THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL GOLF CHALLENGE**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**-Venue to be confirmed-**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> *Annual Golf Challenge* will be held on the afternoon of the Annual Dinner and is open to all OGA members. A trophy will be presented to the winner, with prizes awarded to lower places and the longest drive.

The event may be held at the Hesketh Golf Club, although alternatives are being considered. Tee off times will commence at around 1100.

The entry fee is **£30 per player**. We are requesting the entry fee in advance to ensure that we secure the course for the competition. The closing date to request a place will be **Friday March 18th**. We cannot guarantee there will be any tee slots remaining at this late date, but we will take later entries if places are still available. Cheques should be made payable to the Old Georgians Association.

Please send you entry fee to Jonathan Elliott by March 18th. Jonathan is working with Chris Stitson (the real golfer) to organise this and you can also contact Chris for further information if required. Chris' number is 01636 830036 and his email is [stitson.chris@btinternet.com](mailto:stitson.chris@btinternet.com). Please send any correspondence by email to both Jonathan and Chris.

Please ensure that you include the following information with the entry fee:  
Players Name; their handicap; email contact; telephone contact; preferred tee off time; preferred players (to tee off at the same time, max 4 per tee time).

The facilities and catering will be available to you, but there may be an additional charge that you will have to confirm with the Hesketh Golf Club (01704 536897) quoting our event.

**THE OLD GEORGIANS'**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DINNER**

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

The Ramada Hotel, Promenade, Southport, PR9 0DZ (01704 516220 )

**AGM**

Commencing 7pm

**Annual Dinner**

Commencing 8pm

4 Courses – Vegetarian option on prior request

Dinner tickets remain at £30 and are available from Jonathan Elliott or Stan Rimmer. Cheques payable to 'Old Georgians Association', in advance please, in order that the organiser is not fully occupied pursuing late payers on the evening.

Contributions to the raffle prizes are welcomed.

Cancellations made after **Friday 18th March** may not be refundable. Bookings must be confirmed by **Monday 21st March** to Jon Elliott. We will accept requests after that date, but places cannot be guaranteed

**THE OLD GEORGIANS'**  
**ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016 (provisional)**

S&B Sports Club, Trafalgar Rd, Birkdale, Southport (01704 569951)

Last year's changes worked well and we will be continuing with the arrangements at the S&B.

Catering is no longer included, but excellent bar snacks are available from 5.30pm until 8pm if anyone still wants to eat at the venue.

Doors are open at 7pm for the quiz to start promptly at 8pm.

Tickets, at £6 per person, will be available from Neil Spencer, David Lonsdale, Jon Elliott & committee members.

Teams can be UP TO 6 members. Please note teams of 8 and over will be split into at least two teams and will have to sit separate from each other. Smaller teams can merge and you can bring more than one team if you wish. If you wish to reserve a table, please confirm by Wednesday 8th June 2016.

## MEMORABILIA

The items below are available at the Annual Dinner or by post from:  
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

## CONTACTS

### GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Martin Fearn, 4 Palm Grove, Southport PR8 6AD.  
01704-543169 [\*\*martin.fearn@lineone.net\*\*](mailto:martin.fearn@lineone.net)

### RED ROSE MAGAZINE & OGA EVENTS

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

### OGA MEMBERSHIP

Neil Spencer, 13 Cemetery Road, Southport PR8 6RH.  
[\*\*peely13@sky.com\*\*](mailto:peely13@sky.com)

### OLD GEORGIANS TIES

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

### KGV MEMORABILIA

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



## **2016 New Year Honours**

As we were about to go to press, we heard of the Association's latest member to be honoured by Her Majesty The Queen, Jeffrey Fox.

Originally from Manchester and Southport, Jeffrey settled in Newcastle upon Tyne following time spent in Toronto, Canada and London. He completed his National Service in the R.A.M.C. Educated at the Universities of Liverpool and Toronto, he originally intended to be a Pharmacist, but commerce beckoned and as his main love was food he spent the next four decades in the Catering Industry. Still involved in that sector he currently runs his own Business, supplying Emergency Self-Heating rations to many of the UK and EU Emergency Services.



Still involved in that sector Jeffrey currently runs his own Business, supplying Emergency Self-Heating rations to many of the UK and EU Emergency Services.

Jeffrey has served the Newcastle Upon Tyne Jewish Community in a number of Charitable capacities for over 40 years. It is for this work that he has received his honour!

Having been elected in 2012 to serve the usual 2 year term as National Chairman of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen & Women, in 2014 he was invited to serve an almost unique third year and thus was National Chairman until May 2015. During his term of Office, Jeffrey has steered AJEX through many changes. These include the transfer of the Jewish Military Museum to the Jewish Museum, the streamlining of the Head Office Administration including the upgrading of the IT systems and the re-organisation of the Management structure. The media coverage of AJEX Events has increased substantially and communications with the membership has been improved. Attendances at the Annual AJEX Parade and Remembrance Ceremony have increased as well as that held at the National War Memorial Arboretum.

In 2015 Jeffrey was invited to join the Armed Forces Jewish Community which Represents those Jewish Men & Women currently serving in HM Armed Forces.

**Our congratulations to Mr Jeffrey Fox, M.B.E. (Masons, 1945-52)**