THE RED ROSE 2018

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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&16) R Ellis (17)

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2017-18

ACTING PRESIDENT Anne-Marie Francis VICE PRESIDENTS Former Chairmen & Presidents **CHAIRMAN** Ron Ellis VICE CHAIRMAN Mark Day Martin Fearn **SECRETARY** David Lonsdale TREASURER RED ROSE EDITOR Jonathan Elliott MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY Neil Spencer Jonathan Elliott SOCIAL SECRETARY Matthew Duffy WEB SITE MANAGER COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE Pam Shea FOUNDATION TRUSTEE Catherine Lapslev Former Chairmen & Co-optees GENERAL COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians

It is hard to believe a year has gone by since I wrote my first letter to you and what a momentous year it has been!

In a nutshell the theme of the last year has been Success Starts in Southport. We put that slogan on buses, bus stops and posters, websites, post cards and letters. We always believed that Southport had faith in confidence in KGV and really wants it to succeed; this campaign captured that emotion and reinforced it with facts about the College in 2017. Those facts, I am delighted to report, include fantastic results, satisfied students, small class sizes, increased enrolments and a very positive Ofsted report!

Of course we need to offer academic excellence; our young people deserve nothing less. Once again we secured excellent results in the summer and August 17; A level results day was the scene of a fabulous celebration barbeque at KGV with happy and relieved students over the moon with the results they received. Once again the very large majority went on to university a significant proportion to Russell group destinations, but each and every one of them (because of the support we offer) went to the right institution for them.

The falling student numbers at the College has been a huge concern and action needed to be taken to address the drift out of the area. The only way to counter this was to prove and promote the quality of the offer at KGV. Huge efforts have gone into communicating our students' success stories and engaging effectively with feeder schools. This work was a huge priority over the last 12 months and resulted in increased recruitment in September 2017. A 20% increase in student numbers gives us the confidence to believe we have turned the corner and can grow and grow!

September was also the month that Ofsted visited. They carried out a full inspection of the College over 2 days. Five inspectors, watching lessons, analysing data and meeting with staff and students judged the College to be Good and agreed with our assessment that we are offering a positive and fulfilling experience to the young people of Southport and the surrounding area. It was a great day for us all. Full credit is due to the Governors, staff and students who were really tested during the course of a very thorough inspection process and it was a very proud day for us all when the sign outside of College went up reading KGV is Officially GOOD!

The future of the College has been secured by the merger with Southport College. Meaning there is a wholly inclusive offer in Southport; an academic route at KGV and a professional and technical route at Southport College. There really is no need to leave the borough to access high quality post 16 education.

The name and identity of KGV is protected and the College can go from strength to strength with the security of being part of a bigger and more resilient organisation while at the same time preserving the very special and unique offer delivered at the Scarisbrick New Road campus.

There is much to celebrate and much to look forward to. We maintain our vision of being an Outstanding College and the stars seem aligned!

Anne Marie Francis Acting Principal

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians

My inauguration as Chairman took place several minutes before the Annual Dinner at the Ramada Hotel after which, as the retiring Chairman was unable to be present, I was called upon to make an impromptu speech. An entertaining if inauspicious start.

The first event of the year was the Annual Quiz Night at S. and B. Cricket Club on October 16th. As a departure from the usual format, instead of a quizmaster we had a D.J. who, between rounds, delighted (or deafened as the case may be) the audience with an impressive selection of numbers from the 80's.

A vast array of questions meant it was midnight by the time the prizes were presented and coaches were called. A photographs of the winners appeared in the Southport Champion. Funds were raised at the event and contributed towards the awards made to deserving students at KGV College.

In previous years, the College has invited the Old Georgians to their annual Music Festival, with this year being no exception, although on an informal basis. We are assured that there is no significance in this, with further informal invitations being sent out for the Christmas Concert. Although now on a considerably different footing and operating model than the days of the Grammar School, we aim to ensure that there is no widening divide between the members from the Grammar School days and those from KGV College, including all in every OGA event.

The program for the forthcoming year looks exciting. As mentioned elsewhere in these pages, our venue for this year's dinner is the Hesketh Golf Club, Southport on Saturday 21st April, with a Golf Tournament at the club on the day before.

Plans are still being discussed regarding the Centenary Gala Dinner in 2020 and a KGV Exhibition at The Atkinson.

My tenure as Chairman ('reign' sounds a trifle grand!) ends in March. It has been an honour to hold the post and already plans are in motion to appoint my successor. I wish her or, indeed, him, the best of fortune.

Ron Ellis

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 2018 Red Rose.

Are we running out of steam?

I sincerely hope not, but you folks out there have stopped sending in information about yourselves. Surely you are still doing interesting things, having worthwhile experiences and progressing in various walks of life?! Please do keep sending items and news in throughout the year so we can publish and update everyone.

We do have some interesting articles this year from specific OGA members, but please keep the general updates coming as well.

Terry Fleetwood has revived the "Class of '74" and they are now a group of 50+. Where are those of you from the previous 10 years? Why not follow in Terry's footsteps and re-engage with former friends and year mates.



Mike Alexander is doing just that, with his 1959-1966 group. If you have not already been in touch with Mike, please contact him on... michael.alex@btopenworld.com

We are only 2 years away from 2020 and the Centenary celebrations for KGV. The Annual Dinner in that year will be extended into a Gala Dinner event. The evening being planned will include entertainment, memorabilia, video recording and invitations to special guests. More importantly, the evening of celebrations will be designed for OGA members AND partners. We expect this to be a black tie event, including dancing during the course of the evening – so partners will be essential for this to be a success.

So, as we run into the 2018-19 period, can we all look to this event and start to build our plans to attend, bring together groups of friends and colleagues and build up the Centenary spirit for this one off gala event. 2020 will soon be upon us!

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

OBITUARIES

Alan Bond (1936-2017)

My dad was born in Southport on the 9th January 1936 to Phyllis & George and initially they lived in Mount Street before moving to Lexton Drive. With his dad away during the war my nana was left to keep an eye on him and ensure he understood the importance of trying hard at school and gaining a good education, which he did.

He went to Churchtown junior school and then on to KGV which is the route he also guided me through. At KGV he was in the best house, which as he would have told you was obviously... Edwards and he subsequently ensured I was in the same house during my time there too. He played as much sport as he could, turning out for KGV 1stXV & 1st XI (that's cricket not soccer for the youngsters here, "soccer" was frowned upon at KGV back then). He did however also go on to play football at Southport Amateurs & cricket for Crossens.

He went on to earn a place at Manchester University where he eventually graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1957.

He started work in 1957 at English Electric spending time in Preston at both Warton and & Salmesbury where he engineered various systems on a number of military aircraft including The Lightning and the high speed high altitude Canberra Bomber where he contributed to it setting a world altitude record.

He then had a period with English Electric in Rugby, where he engineered a series of steam turbines and in 1961 he moved to British Aircraft Corporation (BAC) Preston, where he was fortunate to be able to work on some of the most advanced aviation technology of the period, including an aircraft then known as TSR2 which was secret at the time and Britain's first supersonic strike aircraft capable of flying at Mach 2.

In 1962 he spent a year at what is now known as Cranfield University but back then was Cranfield College of Aeronautics where he attained an MSC in some kind of clever plane stuff which he never really explained to me, well he did but it was really clever plane stuff so I'm afraid I just nodded whenever we discussed it.

In 1963, following Cranfield, he returned to BAC in Preston where he became chief inspector on various military aircraft such as Jaguar and MRCA, now known as Tornado. I came along in 1964 and I remember when I was about 9 or 10 he was building a room in our loft at Fylde Road and he needed wood for the floor boards. He announced that this would not be a problem as he was going to use a packing crate from work. The packing crate turned out to be one that had had a complete jaguar aircraft wing in it so you can imagine the size of this thing and it arrived on a low loader that blocked Fylde Road. Needless to say, he had enough wood.

My Mum & Dad met 67 years ago. This year on September 4th they celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary. They started off life together in Fylde Road and that's where I grew up living next door to my cousin's family until we moved away.

In 1975 we had a change of scenery as we moved to Kinver in the West Midlands when he became Engineering Director for a company that engineered high reach fork lift trucks He continued to play as much sport as he could, including playing cricket for Enville. In 1978 we returned to Southport which enabled me to attend KGV. My dad bought into a company in Liverpool called British Electric Vehicles

where he became Engineering Director working with Terry Dutton. Over the coming years his company was acquired by larger and larger groups and he stayed with it until he left in 2002 and spent a couple of years consulting until he retired in 2004. Dad became a member of Southport Links Rotary in and it's President where he was able to utilise his engineering, photography and organisational skills and as I said John Tarpey will say something about that next.

His first stroke was in 2009. Having initially scared us all my dad was instantly determined that this would only be a temporary setback and despite affecting his speech and preventing him driving for a few months he would always tell you he was getting better. His second stroke, in 2010, was a much more serious one but once again he was absolutely determined to beat it. This time he could barely walk and for the last 7 years he has needed permanent daily care from my mum.

Despite his condition he was always pleased to see you. He always smiled and would make time to talk to you and was always interested in what you were doing. Given his condition my dad could not leave the house alone so we acquired an electric wheelchair which affectionally became known as the Bond mobile and he regained some independence. So much so that he was often out for 2-3 hours at a time. When quizzed as to his whereabouts he would reply "around and about"! I imagine a number of you have had to dive for cover as he flew through Ainsdale on the pavement. He loved it, he was able to get to the computer & painting class here at the church (I think this may even be on now).

At the start of August ago my dad fell over at home and cracked his head on a door frame. He spent 3 weeks in hospital recovering before coming home. Sadly, the day after he came home he had another brain bleed and was rushed back to hospital. We were informed that he would not recover from this and he was allocated his own room in the EAU at Southport. As a family we organised ourselves so that by staying in his rooms in shifts there would be someone with him when he passed. The staff there was outstanding. Very caring and helpful and we were also helped by Martin Abrahams who came to support us. My dad passed on Monday 18th September at 11:30. He wasn't alone, he wasn't in pain, and it was all very peaceful.

Steve Bond

Ed – I would just like to record condolences on behalf of the OGA to Steve and his family. Alan was a true gentleman and spirit of positive attitude. He was our Chair in 1996 & 1997, asking to run for a second year, the first time in OGA history, such did he enjoy the role. Alan was instrumental in the success of the Annual Games Evening through the 90s and 00s, running the darts competition each year. Thank for your help and enthusiasm!

Alan attended KGV Grammar School from 1947 to 1954. He was a School Prefect for two years and gained a Southport Major Exhibition in 1954. In his final year he was House Captain of Edwards, gained his 1St XV Rugby Colours, 2nd XI Cricket Colours and served on the Games Committee. On leaving school he attended Manchester University where he gained a BSc (Hons) in Engineering.

Alan became the 48^{th} post war Chairman of the Old Georgians Association in 1996. He embraced the role with great energy. His predecessor in the Chair, Martin Fearn, had begun an appeal to raise funds for the new Sixth Form College building. Alan vigorously continued this project and, after a most eventful and happy year, the Association was able to give the princely sum of £6000 to the College. The money was used to help furnish and equip the Library and Learning Centre in the new building.

So compelling was Alan's enthusiasm for the Association that the Committee had no hesitation in asking him to continue as Chairman for a second year, the first Old Georgian to gain this distinction. Alan was a respected leader and a good companion.

Stan Rimmer

Ed - Roger Wood wrote to us about two of his friends, and fellow Old Georgians, who passed in 2016 – Rod Bradbury & Ian Maxwell.

Captain Rodney Bentley Bradbury (1941-2016)

Rod passed away in September 2016 in Southport. He attended KGV from 1952 – 1959.

"Rod was a friend of mine for many years and we flew light aircraft together for many years at Woodvale. He had a career as a Marine Pilot working in his later career for Brixham Pilots and use to pilot container ships and tankers up and down the channel as far as Germany, He would be ferried out to meet the ships and sometimes by helicopter and be lowered down onto the deck!.

Previous to that he used to travel the world on cargo ships but I'm not sure in what capacity.

Up until the last few years he used to attend the Old Georgians annual dinner."

Dr. Ian Hunter Maxwell (1942-2016)

Ian passed away on December 2nd 2016 in Denver, Colorado, USA. He attended KGV from 1953 to 1960 and was in Edwards's house.

"Ian was my cousin and studied chemistry at Gonville & Caius and then went on to get a Doctorate at Gonville. He married his 1st wife in Cambridge, 17th September 1966, incidentally the same day that I got married also in Cambridge. He went to work in Geneva (not sure where, but probably at the university) where he met his second wife.

Ian then emigrated to America in the 1970s, where he worked at the University of Colorado in Denver, specialising in cancer research.

He died unexpectedly from pneumonia last December leaving a widow but no children. I was just about to arrange a trip to visit him when he died."

Roger Wood, Edwards 1953-60

Brian Seed (1928-2017)

Brian passed away after a short illness on October 16th 2017, aged 88.

At KGV he proved himself both academically and in sports, gaining full colours for the Rugby 1st XV and a regular member of the school Athletics team. He attended teach training college at St Mark and St John in Chelsea, before returning north for a career in teaching at primary level. He worked in Ormskirk and Bretherton, before returning to Southport and Linaker Street School. He ended his career at St. Philips where he was Head Teacher.

In retirement, Brian loved to walk. He led a group every Wednesday to various locations, including the Trough of Bowland, Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District. He also had a passion for classical music, regularly visiting the Liverpool Philharmonic.

Brian will be missed by his wife, Rosa, his two daughters, Cath and Deborah and, of course by his younger brother and fellow Old Georgian, Trevor.

Ian Alfred Young (1940-45)

Ian's brother, Graeme, wrote to us on February 18th 2017.

"My brother, Ian Alfred Young (89) was at KGV until he left the Sixth Form to serve in the Royal Navy until January 1948. On Thursday 9th February he passed away peacefully in hospital at Taree NSW, just one day before his 2017 Red Rose magazine arrived in his PO Box.

Ian was born in Southend on 26th May 1927 and, at the outbreak of WW2, our family moved to Ormskirk, our father having an important job at the Mersey Docks & Harbour Board at Liverpool for the duration of WW2.

In the 75th Anniversary Edition of the Red Rose (pages 28-29), you will find the contribution that Ian sent, entitled "A School At War". I read from this when delivering his Eulogy at his funeral, attended by our family and members of several target rifle clubs. A bachelor all his life, Ian was a brilliant shot, won several championships and prize meetings, trophies, Queens Badges and had represented his state (NSW) and Australia at national, international events and at World Games.

I recall him mailing to KGV some time ago his published life story entitled "Bone In The Fishcake", which weighed 1KG with its 372 quarto-sized pages and its many photos. His book continues to sell steadily here in Australia and has found its way in to other countries – to New Zealand, South Africa and France. Only a few weeks ago, Ian had completed a brilliant short story (fiction) which was snapped up by his publisher Mike Davies to include in his own latest book "Memories, Why?", a collection of short stories written by several budding authors from teenagers to the elderly and first published in Australia."

Ed – Ian's book can be found in the library at the College.

OLD GEORGIANS' NEWS

Ed - This section may seem to be a little short of content (it is!), but we also now have the "Letters to the Editor" section, where more information on fellow OGA members can be found.

Graham Cox (1974-80)

Graham featured in the 2017 RR in the article about game shows. Subsequently, he took part in 15 to 1. He won his episode and made it into the Grand Final. After some difficult questions Graham came a commendable third! Well done.

Don Macleod (Masons, 1971-75)

Don wrote recently to sign up to the OGA. He attended KGV from 1971 to 1975 and was in Mason's house. He went on to Liverpool to get a B.Eng. in electrical and electronic engineering then Leeds to get a PhD in electrical; engineering. He has lived in the USA since 1982.

David Marshall (Grears, 1974-79)

David wrote with the following summary update...

"So.... Working for JTI (Japan Tobacco International) since 2003, started in Salford Quays, then Luzern Switzerland, Toronto, Madrid and now Amsterdam. Latest job is Internal Audit Director (sort of AC12 if you watch Line of Duty) started about a month ago. Lots of travel in the job, already been to Malawi, Kazakhstan next week and Nigeria later in the year. Married to Carol > 25 years, no kids, Bolton season ticket holder continuously since 1984. Part of the Marshall brothers diaspora, only 1 left in Southport, me, 1 in Los Angeles and 1 in Nagoya Japan. Still a bit of a plane nerd but finding it harder to tell modern planes apart, all those Airbuses look the same these days. Crap golfer, did a few ½ marathons and one full marathon recently but knees beginning to pack in.

That's about it really."

KGV Archive & Memorabilia - 2018 Update

All of the school photos that we currently have are now uploaded to the new web site: www.theoldgeorgians.co.uk The only possible exception would be 1940, but it is not known if a photograph was taken that year. In addition, each is now printed and framed. Several are hanging in the College and the remaining will be following soon.

Roger Wood (Edwards, 1953-60) sent in these two photographs...



Old Boys Dinner Dance 1961



Junior Prefects 1960

Back row, left to right: Derbyshire, Ronnie Elliott, Roy Knapman, David Brown, Bill Wattleworth, Dickinson

Front row, left to right: Alan Bradley, John Sephton, Derek Palmer, Donald Cameron, Bradshaw, Mike Stott, Roger Wood, Mo Hesketh

OGs in Sport

Last year we asked for information relating to Old Georgians who had had success in the field of sport. This followed an insert from Darrell Farrant. Darrell has written with further information.

Dear Jonathan,

Thanks for your email and I was glad to know that my original research had aroused some interest. I have had a most interesting correspondence with David Preston (Grear's 1944-52), a contemporary of mine whose career has crossed mine at several different times. He wrote to me from Melbourne and explained that he had played rugby for Waterloo, had been Captain of Rugby and Secretary of Athletics at Sheffield University and had later played some rugby for Cambridge, without actually winning a blue. He played in the same Cambridge side as JMC Davidson, one of the unluckiest players not to win a blue, being passed over about two weeks before the Varsity Match for a player who was widely regarded as inferior.

Thus Sam Perry remains the only Old Georgian to play in the Varsity Match, winning blues in 1946 and 1947 and subsequently winning 7 caps for England in the second row. He was a very distinguished academic, being a pioneering researcher in the field of muscle biochemistry. After a Lectureship at Cambridge he became a Professor at Birmingham and achieved the honour of being elected as an FRS. He also had an outstanding war record, having escaped from German POW camps no less than three times.

I had the honour of meeting him once when he paid a visit to the Southport Rugby Club, probably in the late 40s and my father introduced me to him. He eventually died in 2009 at the age of 91.

Gordon Rimmer I knew rather better and played a couple of times with him towards the end of his career. He gained 12 England caps as a scrum-half and also played one Test for the Lions in a narrow 6-3 defeat to the All Blacks at Wellington in 1950. He was also a regular member of the Lancashire team for many years.

There was one memorable afternoon in 1949 when Harry Smith had invited him to drop in to our first year games afternoon. He played in our usual practice match and we were all enthralled with the skill and speed with which he participated.

He later ran a sports shop in Leyland Arcade in partnership with another good OA rugby player, Keith Smethurst. After his rugby days were over he became a very keen and successful golfer, becoming Captain at Hesketh in due course.

Gordon died in 2002 at the age of 77.

I hope this is of interest.

The Red Rose has also been in touch with several individuals who have kindly written about their sporting memories...

From the Old World to the New World by Tony Waiters

Going to KGV changed my life - initially for the worse. Football was my game and what did they play at KGV? That strange game of rugby. I claimed before taking the 11+ exam that gave the top echelon a scholarship to the Grammar School that I would deliberately fail the exam so I could go to one of Southport's football secondary modern schools.

Well, I didn't, as my pride and my mother and father made sure it did not happen. I went on extra after school courses to prepare me for the exam.

I didn't pass too convincingly as I ended up in 2B, the lowest of the three classes in the first year. But I did grow up to love rugby and it helped prepare me for my professional soccer goalkeeping career.

KGV also gave me the education to do well enough in the exams of the day - the General Certificate of Education - to allow me to successfully apply to Loughborough College. The time at Loughborough helped me enormously in my later coaching career.

After my second year at Loughborough, I signed as an amateur for Blackpool FC and was playing for their reserve team. It meant I had to leave the college on a Friday night to get back to the north of England in preparation for the Saturday afternoon game.

I had Saturday morning lectures and was told that I could not leave to go north.

"Just watch me," I said, and quit Loughborough to turn full-time with the pro club. It was never a decision I regretted, but those two years at Loughborough set the scene for my successful coaching life.

My playing career went pretty well. I player over 300 games in the top English division including 5 games for the England team, but decided in my early 30's to get into coaching. I felt I could have a greater impact on results as a manager/coach than I could as a goalkeeper.

I spent time as the England Youth team coach that won the European championship in 1973. was on the staff of Liverpool FC during the Bill Shankly, Bob Paisley, Joe Fagan era - the best learning experience of my entire career - and worked for the English FA as their regional coach in Northwest England.

After which I became the manager of Plymouth Argyle club, where we gained promotion and went to the semi-finals of the League Cup as a 3rd Division side. After 5 years the wheels began to fall off and I want the way of all management flesh. I was fired!

It gave me a wonderful opportunity - not that I appreciated it at the time. I signed a four month contact with the Vancouver Whitecaps in the North American Soccer League and we've been in BC, Canada, ever since.

As you can well appreciate it was night and day compared with English football or soccer as it is called there.

I could tell you many hilarious stories about life in soccer in North America including a monkey climbing up and across the crossbar after a goal was scored in Dallas; 2 foot high corner flags at the JFK stadium in Washington; and many more

stories as the game began to establish itself in the new world. In fact, I am in the process of writing a book entitled, "From the Old World to the New World - a Soccer Journey." But that is for another time.

During my time in the North American Soccer League we won the Soccer Bowl to become the league champions. Then I coached the Canadian World Cup and Olympic team, first to the Olympics Quarter Final in 1984 and then to qualify Canada to the World Cup in Mexico, 1986.

The game still has a long way to go here in North America, but it is moving in the right direction.

The United States has just failed to qualify for the Russian World Cup 2018, which is a disappointment for the game here as they have qualified every year since we (Canada) got there in 1986.

There will need to be some re-thinking and changes, but it will happen and the game will continue to develop. In the Major League of Soccer this year (as I write) they have averaged crowds of 25,000 with Atlanta United leading the way with 48,000 and the Seattle Sounders with 43,000.

Most leagues in the world and many in Europe are way behind the MLS and would love to have crowds as healthy as this.

The game is here to stay and America and Canada will only get better.

Tony Waiters was a contemporary of Stan Rimmer's. His praise of Stan as player came in the following statement "Stan was a very talented soccer player, but I don't know if the clubs in Lancashire were aware of it so probably did not get any offers. As well, at that time it was a good idea to get a degree."

Tony's full career history through playing, managing and coaching can be found in many places, including Wikipedia. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tony_Waiters) When I asked him to single out a single career highlight, I was expecting to hear about his inclusion in the pre-World Cup '66 squad of 40, but I was pleasantly surprised when he stated it was his achievement when managing the Canadian National Team and taking them to their first FIFA World Cup tournament in 1986. -Ed-

Recollections of KGV Cricket by Simon Sutcliffe (1971-77)

When Jon Elliott asked me to record some reminiscences of my time in the KGV cricket team in the mid 1970's I thought it would be a simple task, but when I actually sat down to start tapping away at the keyboard I realised just how hazy my memories are. I had no option but to search the attic for my scrap books and see what I had preserved in the form of written and photographic evidence.

The first cutting I found from the Visiter reminded me that at the age of 14 (1974) I was awarded some finance from the Mason Memorial Fund to attend an Easter holiday Lancashire Schools coaching course at Liverpool University. There is also a photograph of a singularly skinny kid with a mop of hair easily obscuring both ears. Did I ever actually look like that? Hard to believe but the evidence is indisputable.

Most of the following pages of my scrap book are full of cuttings from the Formby Times reporting on matches I played for Formby Cricket Club. That reminded me that while nearly all my fellow cricketers at school played for S & B or Southport Trinity, I cut my teeth in adult cricket a couple of stops down the line. It reminded me of playing summer holiday midweek Under 15 and Under 16 matches for Formby against S & B – always highly competitive affairs.

There are then a couple of pages where I seem to have cut out entries from the Red Rose recording KGV seasons. It would appear that I played for the 1st XI in 1976 and 1977. More of that shortly, but I should first describe an earlier recollection of cricket at KGV. This consisted of a PE lesson with Roger Stitchbury, who organised a match for our form (L5X) in a time slot of 40 minutes, or to be precise 30 minutes when changing time had been factored in. That meant 15 minutes batting per team, and each team had 12 or 13 players! My team went in first and I opened. Now I knew that opening batsmen were required to see the shine off the new ball, not play an attacking shot before lunch, and get to grips with the corridor of uncertainty. With this in mind I played an immaculate forward block to the first ball. I repeated this to the second ball, and indeed the third. At this point in the proceedings Stitch bellowed from the other end – "Come on Sutcliffe, it's not a test match. Give it some bloody welly!" Although Stitch had not been at the school long I had learned that it was not good to argue with him so on the fourth ball I threw caution to the wind and attempted to hit the ball into Haig Avenue, with no success whatsoever. My stumps destroyed I returned to the changing room to ruminate angrily (but unobtrusively) on Stitch's limited knowledge of cricket. However, with the benefit of hindsight I now have to admit that his philosophy of the game was way ahead of its time. Giving it some welly is now so much part of modern cricket that it is hard to believe that in the 1970's we so much admired Geoff Boycott and Chris Tavare as icons of the English game. I now find myself regularly repeating the exhortation to give it some welly when I'm coaching the boys at Merchant Taylors' where I now run the cricket. Anyway, back to the 1st XI. I note from the Red Rose that the summary of the season and match scores were written by Stan Rimmer. Stan was a real KGV man and I recall very fondly how encouraging he was to all those who played sport at the school. He also taught me German for a year, though I seem to remember it was a simple task to side-track him onto rugby, football, cricket or anything else which took our fancy. I don't seem to have done much in 1976 but Stan's notes show that I did come top of the bowling in 1977 with 17 wickets from 9 games at an average of 7.8. He also notes that in our annual game against S & B I took 5 for 51, and that two Old Boys of the school, Tom Rimmer and Geoff Thornton, scored 43 and 48 respectively for Southport, I remember that match very well actually. I took the first 5 wickets to fall and had my eye on all ten, but my spell was ended when Tommy Rimmer hit a ball back down the pitch at head height harder than anyone had ever done against me before or, indeed, has done since. I just managed to protect my face by intercepting the ball with my left hand but it was so badly bruised that I had to stop bowling – and I dropped the catch! Many years later when I joined S & B and captained the 1st XI I reminded Tommy of this occasion and he too remembered it. I got to know him quite well as he was 3rd XI captain – another stalwart of Southport cricket to whom many owe a good deal.

The 1977 XI was captained by the late Jonny Ball, a sportsman of talent and charisma. In 1982 when I played for Warwickshire at Trafalgar Road he sought me out in the bar and was typically warm-hearted and convivial. He contributed a huge amount to both rugby and cricket at KGV. When I look at the team photo recollections come flooding back. On the right of the front row is my good friend

from that time Rob Oakley – a very fine player indeed. He came top of the batting averages and was also a more than useful off-spinner. On the left of the front row is Alec Hodge who bowled his left arm seamers with a combination of both aggression and good humour, and he played his club cricket at Southport Trinity. He was older than me but I remember how encouraging he was when I first got into the team.



Back (LtoR): A.Swettenham, N.Shallcross, S.Sutcliffe, D.Edwards, M.Beard, D.Mottershead.

Front (LtoR): A. Hodge, R.Wilcox, J.Ball, B.Taylor, R.Oakley

Next to Alec is Richard Wilcox, or Twirl as he was most commonly called. He bowled left arm orthodox spin with skill and guile. Also on the front row between Jonny and Rob is Bruce Taylor, a talented all-rounder who could turn a game with bat or ball. On the back row there is Andrew Swettenham, Noddy Shallcross, myself, Dave Edwards, Mike Beard and David Mottershead. I do remember David was a highly-rated goalkeeper who had trials with Liverpool and I seem to recall he played regularly for Southport FC juniors. Those of us who attended matches at Haig Ave, in the days of Provan and Fryatt, were very impressed with that. Andy Swettenham was a good all-round sportsman and Noddy Shallcross a promising younger player that year. Dave Edwards was a steady and reliable cricketer and Mike Beard could swing the ball nicely. We had a good team and achieved good results. The school 1st XI remained unbeaten by any other school from 1975 to 1977. This was partly

because we had talented players but also because we had a good spirit and were looked after by a very fine man in Stan Rimmer.

In the 40 years which have elapsed since I left school I have played and coached cricket in a huge variety of contexts, both professionally and recreationally. I continue to have an unquenchable thirst for the game even though my playing days are long gone. All sorts of primary influences during my youth have been responsible for this – my father in particular, Formby CC, and my brother with whom I played incessantly in the garden. But playing cricket at school was also important. It was the first experience I had of playing for a good team, of learning to respect my team mates and opponents, and of accepting success and failure as equal imposters. So, thank you KGV, thank you Stan Rimmer, and thank you Roger Stitchbury for telling me to give it some bloody welly. I never did become very good at that myself but it is advice which, in a re-phrased form I have passed on to many young batsmen since!

Simon can also be found on Wikipedia, with a summary of his professional playing career (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simon Sutcliffe).

He played for Oxford University, the combined Oxford-Cambridge team and then for the County of Warwickshire.
-Ed-

Sport In My Life by Dr. David Marsh

Jon Elliott invited me to write about the part sport played in my life. After some careful consideration, I hope you find the following of interest.

I started my schooling at Farnborough Road in the late thirties. It must have quite an experience though I remember very little of that time and have no recollection of any storm clouds gathering or war brewing. It was not until I started in Form 1 at King George V School that I recognised learning and discovered the benefits of being extremely well taught.

In those long disappeared times we cycled from home in Hillside to school and gathered on the way I suppose what maybe the beginnings of a peloton. There were few cars and therefore less danger and little pollution. We hardly missed a day off school.

We were placed in Houses - one of the best features in such a big school (650 pupils then) and this provided a ready-made competitive part of life. Our house system encouraged competition (perhaps sadly unfashionable these day for young people). We wanted to improve our skills. We liked our fellow sportsmen though welcomed the opportunity to play sport against them.

Rugger was the prime game played with cricket, athletics and swimming also playing an important part in the school calendar. My housemaster was the example I needed in sport. Ike Higham, who became a lifelong friend, a fellow golfer, spoke about his love of the game of golf which I had just started when I arrived at school in the mid-40s. He was also a first class rugby player, having been a reserve fly-half for Lancashire, a strong county team.

Then into the sixth Form and for me deciding to follow a career in medicine, if possible. This had been an ambition held since quite early in my Junior School. There was no family history in medicine but I wished to follow the example of our

family GP. Interestingly, my younger brother, Peter (also a pupil at KGV and fellow golfer) similarly became a GP, before settling in the USA.

In its relatively short history of 30 years, KGV had regularly sent pupils to Oxbridge and this became my goal. It was Cambridge for me and thus I started Natural Sciences in 1953 at Gonville and Caius College. The second half of my training, the clinical training, could not be completed at Cambridge so I moved to Liverpool University. This had the bonus of enabling me to continue golf in Southport and on the other famous North West courses whilst still a student.

Golf had been a hobby of mine since 1946 when my father asked a great friend if he would propose Peter and me to be junior members of Southport and Ainsdale Golf Club, the only Club then accepting such young members. This became a prime inspiration as I watched great players, both professional and amateur, play in competitions. There were many tournaments in the North West, an area rich in Championship Courses. Golf as a junior in the mid 1940s was not always considered an appropriate sport for schoolboys – too selfish a game. However, I was lucky as the encouragement at S & A in the early days, and then in Lancashire as a boy and also as young player whilst a medical student and then as a golfer with ambition to play for England, could not have been bettered. S & A Internationals, such as Sam Robinson, Dixie Rawlinson and Geoff Roberts (an old Georgian) gave of their time and skills to help enthusiastic juniors. How lucky we were.

Being chosen to play for England Boys whilst still at school was a dream come true. Then the dream continued with selection as a Full International whilst a student at Cambridge. During this time my mentors were people like Gerald Micklem, Leonard Crawley and Raymond Oppenheimer. They inspired several generations of young English golfers, guiding them and encouraging them, always there with help and words of wisdom. Success brought praise but they were there in times of trouble just as strongly giving advice and holding out hope.

Subsequently I was chosen for Walker Cups and then England and Walker Cup captaincy. 1971 was a special memory as Great Britain and Ireland beat the USA for the first time in thirty three years. There was a good party in St Andrews that night. After standing down as Chairman of the English Men's Selectors I had a very happy few years as a Selector for the England Boys team, at a time when names like Justin Rose, Nick Dougherty, Luke Donald and towards the end of my time Tommy Fleetwood, Andy Sullivan and Andrew Johnson were around. This was tremendously exciting and rewarding.

England Golf runs a successful and efficient programme finding promising young golfers, organising coaching for them at area level and looking, always, for talent to promote to the England Boys squad. This elite squad gets tremendous support both in practical and golfing terms. They will play golf all over the world – probably in South Africa for their winter coaching and then in Europe and beyond.

In 1969 I became a member of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews serving on the Rules Committee, becoming Chairman. This post means you referee various tournaments — including The Open and the Masters.

In 1990 I became Captain of the R &A and had a memorable year representing them all over the world. For me this was the greatest honour an amateur golfer can be offered.

I practised Medicine in Kirkby for thirty two years, both as a GP and in Occupational Medicine.

One of my main interests outside golf was soccer – particularly Everton Football Club. It was a joy to watch their golden years in the 80s under Sir Philip Carter and Howard Kendall. I was invited to join the Board in 1988 and subsequently had three years as Chairman. This was a time when names like Graham Sharp, Peter Reid and Trevor Stephen were playing. This coincided with the formation of the Premier League – an interesting time. It's difficult to believe how much money this has generated.

So much of what I learnt at KGV had an enormous influence of what happened later in my life. The values and the discipline that were instilled in me strengthened a resolve and a sense of purpose.

Thank you King George Vth School.

Shooting For The Top by Steve Bond

I started shooting when I was 6. It was all I ever wanted to do and so naturally I got quite good at it. My granddad shot game for food and I just wanted to be like him. He taught me the basics, we practised a lot and I got the hang of it early on, I always wanted my own gun but my mother wouldn't let me have one unless I joined a club to learn to use it correctly as she didn't want me "turning out like granddad". So at 16 I joined Southport Rifle Club which shot 0.22" rimfire rifle indoors at the Drill Hall in Southport and outdoors at Altcar. Fairly quickly I was selected to shoot 50m prone and 50m 3 positional rifle for Lancashire U21s at the age of 16 and moved clubs to Wigan and ROF Chorley where the county coaches shot. I went on to shoot for Lancashire seniors becoming county champion on a number of occasions. My father had a huge part to play in my success, driving me all over the country most weekends to compete and practise. At the age of 17 I was selected for the GB U21 squad and shot all over Europe, setting a U21 British record in the European Championships in Romania in 1983. I went on to captain the U21 team in my final year as a junior. Following U21 success I moved straight in to the senior squad, one of the youngest ever to do so and competed at senior levels on a number of occasions. My main rivals were fellow junior Mike Babb and Olympic Gold medalist Malcom Cooper, who I came second to in the Olympic trials in 1984. Malcom went on to win gold again that year in LA. Once I graduated, I got married and acquired a family, a job and a mortgage and my father was no longer driving me around so I stopped shooting internationally. Having trained nearly every day since I was 16 I needed a break, I carried on shooting at County level for about 25 years and now still shoot for Appleton RC where I have been a member for nearly 40 years.

Other notables are as follows:

- Sam Perry played rugby for England
- Gordon Rimmer played rugby for England & British Lions
- Ian Young competed in shooting at international level and at the World Games

- Joanne Nicholas played badminton for England and GB
- Tony Rodwell had success in football with Blackpool.
- Steve Bond took up rifle shooting and competed internationally for England
- Roger Basford won golf blue in the winning Oxford team of 1964.
- Neil Booth won rugby caps at county level for Lancashire
- Nigel Wilkinson and Nick Allott both played for Waterloo 1st XV in the 1980s

Darrell Farrant is further collating information about former pupils and students of the School and College, seeking out those who achieved sporting recognition at County and higher levels.

If anyone can further assist in Darrell's research, please will you email him on: darrellfarrant@btinternet.com

If anyone would like to write an article for the Red Rose on their sporting achievements, please do send it in to Jon Elliott

REUNIONS

CLASS OF '74

Terry Fleetwood has been busy – Quiz, Golf, Dinner, Buffet Night, Quiz...
He is obviously auditioning for the role of Social Secretary at the next AGM!
But also a big thanks to Terry as the donor of the 1973 School photograph.
Anyone not already involved and wishing to join the group should contact Terry as soon as possible: terry fleetwood@hotmail.com

CLASS OF '66

As previously mentioned, Mike is co-ordinating a contact group for his school year+. He was at KGV from 1959-66, but is happy to include anyone around that era, including anyone starting in 1959 or finishing in 1966. Please contact Mike on: michael.alex@btopenworld.com

PHOTO GALLERY

The centre pages show a selection of photographs from this past year's events.

OGA Golf Challenge – some of this year's challenge competitors

- A Mark Woolston, Phil Edgerley, Mark Robertson, Will Thornborough, Mick Lonsdale, Ken Priestley.
- B Terry Fleetwood, Dave , Geoff Lawson, Alistair Ford, Howard West and Andy McIntosh.
- C Chris Threlfall (last year's winner), Chris Stitson (not last year's winner), Ken Priestley (still trying to win) and Mark Woolston.

Annual Dinner

- D –Chris Threlfall presenting the Bob Abram Trophy to the winner of the golf tournament, Mark Robertson with the organiser, Chris Stitson
- E <u>Standing</u>; Richard Bradley, Craig Kersey, Mark Somerset, Will Thornborough, **Colin Campbell, Barry Mawer, Tony Allen, Dave Miley, John Wohlers**, Mark Robertson, **Leon Metford, Maurice Amer**, Geoff Lawson, Ian Morton, Rick Harding, **Pauline Davies**, Alistair Ford, Peter Broude and Paul Windham.

Kneeling; Andy McIntosh, Tim Patrick, Howard West, Derek Barnett, Terry Fleetwood and Barry Culshaw.

(Teachers names are in bold; also present were **David Radcliffe and Stan Rimmer**).

F – Chris Threlfall, Ken Proestley, Stuart Wincer and Neil Hunt, reminiscing with old photos of the school with Mrs Davies.

Quiz Night

G – Chairman Ron Ellis presents the winners prize to Debbie Claire (nee Wilcox), together with her husband Steve (the only non Old Georgian in the team), Steve, Chloé Fairfoull-Mendelsohn and Lee Butcher.



A







D







SOCIAL EVENTS 2017

AGM & ANNUAL DINNER

The 69th OG Annual Dinner took place at the Ramada Hotel, Southport, on the evening of Saturday 29th April. This was the second year at this venue, but the event date was changed from Maundy Thursday to a Saturday at the request of many members.

The AGM preceded the dinner and for the first time proved to be unusual in the management of the meeting, considering that the role of Chair fell to the Treasurer, David Lonsdale, in the absence of the President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary! Aside from the usual affairs, a healthy bank balance was reported; a decision on next year's dinner venue was deferred to the next OGM and the new Chairman, Ron Ellis was proposed, seconded and voted into the seat vacated by Mark Day, our Chairman for the previous two years.

The Ramada once again provided a most hospitable room and environment, accompanied by good food, served by friendly staff. The move to Saturday was effectively a positive. We gained around 30 members that we would not normally have in attendance. Some regulars were not present, but this was generally due to personal events being pre-arranged well in advance of the new date being announced last year.

David Lonsdale proposed the toasts from the top table. Jonathan Elliott read out an apology from the acting President and her summary of College events over the previous twelve months. David then covered some aspects of the Association before handing over to new Chairman, Ron Ellis. Ron took time to introduce himself, hinted towards some interesting stories about his role as an escort to a former Miss World and promised to fill in the details at his formal Chairman's speech in 2018! As the content may require censoring, it is advised anyone interested attends next year's dinner in person!

The evening closed with the Golf prize giving, the raffle and then the committees thanks to everyone for attending, finally wishing them a safe journey home.

It is worth noting that the 2018 dinner will again take place on a Saturday, this time the 21st April 2018. The venue has changed due to rising cost at the Ramada and the Hesketh Golf Club will be our hosts for 2018.

The Committee recognises that there is mixed opinion on holding the dinner on Maundy Thursday, or an alternate Saturday close to Easter. There are many reasons for this, but your opinion *does* matter. If you wish to make a comment about the date and your preference, with a reason, please email Jon at jonelliott61@hotmail.com, putting "Date – Annual Dinner" as the subject.

OGA GOLF CHALLENGE 2017

The annual competition to win the Bob Abram Trophy took place for the third time, returning to last year's location and the hospitality of the Hesketh Golf Club. Attendance was up on last year, with the competition friendly but fierce through the day.

This year provided the players with a dry is cool day and the competitive numbers increased on the previous year, which we hope to achieve year on year as we move forward.

There were no notable events to mention in the actual golfing activity and, sadly, the interesting tales that were told came with the caveat "what's said on the golf course stays on the golf course". Safe to say that some of the stories left scorch marks on the fairway.

Our thanks to this year's players: David Fildes, Mick Lansdale, Geoff Lawson, Ken Priestley, Mark Robertson, Chris Stitson, Chris Threlfall, Mark Woolston

Arrangements for the 2018 playing of the Bob Abram Trophy are currently being finalised and all golfers are invited and encouraged to join us. We are looking to hold the event during Friday 20th April 2018, the day prior to the dinner.

Places may be limited so please register early: all enquiries to Chris Stitson at stitson.chris@btinternet.com.

The Bob Abram Trophy 2017 (results)

1st place - 42 points — Mark Robertson 2nd place - 37 points — Chris Stitson 3rd place - 33 points — David Fildes Nearest the Pin (4th) — Mick Lonsdale Nearest the Pin (11th) — Geoff Lawson

QUIZ NIGHT - Friday 6th October 2017

With the second event to time shift, the Annual Quiz was a great success at the S&B Club this Autumn!

The winning team this year were new to the competition. Well done to Debbie Claire (nee Wilcox) and her team, where husband Steve was the only none Old Georgian. The other members of Team Claire were Andy, Vicky, Chloé Fairfoull-Mendelsohn and Lee Butcher.

See you all in October 2018!!

2018 SOCIAL EVENTS

THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DINNER

SATURDAY 21St APRIL 2018

The Hesketh Golf Club, Cockles Dicks Lane, Southport, PR9 9QQ.

AGM Commencing 7.15pm

Annual Dinner Commencing 8pm

Please note that the dinner is <u>NOT</u> on Maundy Thursday. Following on from last year's change, the Committee has decided to remain with the change for a second year in order to fully reflect on the impact to attendance.

A Saturday night after Easter but before the May Bank Holiday was deemed to be the most suitable to assist in travel and avoid holidays.

4 Courses – Vegetarian option on prior request

We have managed to reduce the ticket price this year, which is back to £30 and are available from Jonathan Elliott or Stan Rimmer. Transfers, cash or cheques, payable to 'Old Georgians Association', in advance of the evening please. If you do make a transfer, please ensure you put your name as the reference and email Jon Elliott to confirm.

Contributions to the raffle prizes are welcomed.

Cancellations made after **Friday 13th April** may not be refundable. Bookings must be confirmed by **Tuesday 17th April** to Jon Elliott. Any not confirmed will be released. We will accept requests after that date, but places cannot be guaranteed. Jon Elliott is on <u>jonelliott61@hotmail.com</u> or 07969889843. You can also contact Stan Rimmer (01704 576713).

THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL GOLF CHALLENGE

Friday 20th April 2018

Hesketh Golf Club

The 5th *Annual Golf Challenge* will be held on Friday 20th April. The competition is open to all OGA members. A trophy will be presented to the winner, with prizes awarded to lower places, the longest drive and nearest the pin.

The entry fee is expected to be £30 per player. This will be requested in advance of the day once the date is confirmed to ensure that we secure the course for the competition. The closing date to request a place will be Friday April 13th. 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 April 16th. 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. 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; name of members golf club; 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 Golf Club quoting our event. Please ask for Karen and mention the OGA event.

THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 5th October 2018 (provisional)

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

We will be continuing with the arrangements at the S&B. Excellent bar snacks are available from 5.30pm until 8pm if anyone needs to eat prior to the quiz. Doors are open at 7pm for the quiz to start prompt at 8pm.

Tickets will be available from Neil Spencer, David Lonsdale, Jon Elliott & committee members.

Teams can be <u>UP TO</u> 6 members. 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 3rd October 2018.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Jon

I understand from my friend Andy Swettenham you are eager to add to your data base of Old Georgians names of still living old Old Boys however humdrum their lives have been.

1948 was the year I commenced KGV, at the same time as Stan Rimmer in Evans House. Unsure of the year I left but think it would have been 1954/5

Lived for ten years on The Isle of Man working for a West African House for whom I travelled extensively in East and Central Africa. Subsequently went to live in London where with a partner we started a business cleaning and maintaining theatrical and operatic costumes.

As the result of an accident around 2000, which resulted in a broken leg, I decided to retire and return to the North West where resided most of my friends. I had never married but in 2002 I took the plunge and married the widow of a KGV contemporary Carl Cohen (Masons from 1947) with whom I had been a life-long friend. And that's about it!

David Gerald Mann

Dear Jonathan,

I wonder if I am too late to send in a contribution to the forthcoming Red Rose?

I have attached a photograph of a group of scouts from the 1967 Denbighshire camp (taken by yours truly), which you may wish to include. It was taken at Gwrych Castle and features (amongst others) Robert Hepworth (far left), Mike Moss (next to Rob) and Derek Smith (3rd from right).

On a personal note, I remain a Visiting Fellow in Solar-Terrestrial Physics at the University of Central Lancashire (dabbling in things ionospheric).

All the best to my old friends from 1964-71.

Martin Birch



Darrell, hello

I noticed your article re "Sporting Life" in the 2017 Red Rose publication recently received. Coincidentally I was in the company of Derek Shaw (Rogers 1952-59) just yesterday and it brought back to mind the trip to Bruges with Walter Lord in 1958 with yourself and Derek as his side-kicks in assisting with the "control" of the group of second formers (aged 13). I was one of those, being in Grears and attending KGV

from 1956-63.

I went through University and enjoyed a sales/marketing career in the energy business, initially in gas and then in oil with ExxonMobil for 30+ years both here and abroad. Married a Southport girl, now with 2 grown up children, and living on the outskirts of Reading. It was in a local Bridge Club that I met up by chance with Derek, who I had not seen since our school athletic days together! Yesterday over lunch we went through some KGV photos, and included in these was your goodself with Walter Lord, Derek and the group of boys.

I have a feeling that I met up with you just by chance whilst on family holiday in the Loweswater area at a time that you were at St. Bees school - perhaps the mid to late 70s. It is only a faint memory, and maybe just my imagination.

Still, re the Sporting Life request for information, I managed to win the Hop Step Jump (now Triple Jump) title for Lancashire and, separately, the North of England. I represented these two bodies from 1964 to '68 in various county matches and regional meets such as vs the Combined Services etc. Also through my initial exposure to Badminton via Walter Lord's school club, I have been on the International panel of badminton umpires for 30 years officiating at International matches, Commonwealth Games, World Championships and the like, here and abroad. This year, I think will be my last.

Best wishes to you, Alan Wright (Rogers, 52-59)

Ed – Alan wrote to Darrell in response to the sporting article last year.

Hello Darrel - trust you are well?

Have read with interest your article on Sporting Life in the 2017 edition Red Rose.

A couple of items you may like to include. Jim Marsh won a Blue for soccer at Oxford. I toured Wales with the UAU and played for the English Universities against Scottish Universities.

You may remember me as one of the centres who played inside you at Southport RUFC in Harry Foster and Neil Pidduck's time!!

BW Charlie Martin (resident in NZ since 1984)

Lovely to hear from you, Charlie, and I do indeed remember playing with you in the back line at Southport. We last met, I think, some years ago when you came over for the OG dinner and we had a good chat then about old times.

My article on OG sports successes has aroused considerable and very valuable

interest. I had not known about your own achievements or Jim Marsh's soccer blue; I shall pass this on to Jon Elliott who is co-ordinating the information for the Red Rose.

With all good wishes,

Darrell (Farrant)

Dear Jonathan

Thanks for your help to date in seeking contact information for the lads from my era. Please can you put an entry into the Red Rose, asking anyone from the 1959 to 1966 era gets in touch with me so that I can re-introduce everyone and potentially arrange a get together at the annual dinner.

Many thanks

Mike Alexander

michael.alex@btopenworld.com

Hello Jonathan,

I enjoyed reading the last copy of the Red Rose. Full marks to everybody involved in its production.

In January this year I moved to Milngavie which is about 6 miles north of Glasgow city centre. My son and his family now live about 2 miles away rather than over 40 which was the case in Dunfermline. It was a wrench to move after over 37 years in the same house but we have settled in nicely, live in pleasant surroundings with views of the Campsie fells to the north and open woodland to the south. With a large garden to the rear which was made beagle-proof at great expense all is well with us.

Kind regards Steve Salt (Leech's 1956-63)

The School Play at KGV in the 1960s

By Dr Alan Halliday (KGV, 1963-70)

One of KGV's most distinguished Old Boys is former Director Russell Jackson, Director of the Shakespeare Institute and textual advisor to the Shakespearean actor, film-maker and theatre director Sir Kenneth Branagh.

Jackson and I were in the same house at KGV in the 1960s, Rogers. Every Christmas term, he was commissioned by the Editor of *The Red Rose* to review the forthcoming School Play. One review was signed off with an adapted quote from Shakespeare's *Hamlet*, "The play's the thing!" And for many of us at KGV – masters, boys and audiences – it was the highlight of our year, and a great deal of hard work went into making it the success it always was. Theatre costumes to fit had to be found, hired or made. A set, and sometimes a change of set, had to be designed, built, painted and put into storage until needed. Extensive and often exhausting rehearsals were held, gradually leading up to the public performances which were performed on the wide but shallow stage in the main school hall.

In 1962, KGV put on a very popular production of *When We are Married* by J. B. Priestley: a northern comedy, doubly so because on this occasion the northern wives were played by northern schoolboys. The director, senior English master Mr. George Wakefield gave them an extensive repertoire of double-takes, false exits, shocked expressions and funny walks which rendered audiences helpless. Even Mr. G. F. Dixon or "the Boss" as the Headmaster of KGV was always known, found it funny and "relevant".

But in 1963, when I arrived at KGV as a *newt*, George Wakefield followed last year's comedy with more serious fare: Robert Bolt's *A Man for All Seasons* about the life and death of Sir Thomas More, nobly played by C. R. Stubington to a professional theatre standard. Costumes were traditional Tudor period; but the single set was an *avant-garde* wooden construction, plain and linear but strong enough to support the players, designed by the art master Mr. Harrison and built by the woodwork master, Mr. Long. Skilfully lit by three sixth-form boys: T. P. Whitehead, P. H. Jackson and P. Molineux, the plain wooden set was enough to suggest a number of very different locations from Henry VIII's chambers at Hampton Court to More's house at Chelsea to the place of Sir Thomas More's execution. At the end of the performance, there was a collective gasp from the audience when C. J. Heyes as the Common Man raised his axe and appeared to bring it down on the neck of the martyr - saved by a blackout, crucially timed by Mr. Wakefield himself, and followed by a fast curtain.

Traditionally, auditions for the School Play took place at the end of the summer term; and the role of director would pass every two years or so from one member of the English teaching staff to another. But those with the potential to become leading boy-actors had already been identified during the academic year. They were set to learn overnight a Shakespeare speech and then stand up and deliver it in class the following day. Those who were word-perfect and demonstrated a natural feeling for the blank verse and a sense of the dramatic were invited to audition. And it was evident that some of these boys already had a real theatrical ability or talent. To give them more experience, they were put up in front of the whole school for the Junior Elocution Competition to see if, at the age of fourteen, they could bring off a

soliloquy from *Macbeth*, "Is this a dagger that I see before me?" Apparently brutal, the sink-or-swim technique always seemed to work; and it was possible for the director to choose a play and build around it the available talent.

But the School Play was not popular with everyone. Many masters disapproved of it as a complete waste of school time, and very vocally too. How wrong they were. In later life, a successful performance in the KGV School Play enabled an Old Boy to speak confidently in public, as a teacher or a lecturer, or the chairman of a board meeting.

But there were other masters who did get involved and contributed generously in several different ways: directing the stage lighting; co-ordinating the areas backstage; maintaining the wardrobe and supervising swift costume changes; selling tickets in advance, tickets on the night and programmes on the door; selling non-alcoholic refreshments to the audience before the show *and* during the interval; and providing someone to pull hard on the ropes of the stage-curtain at the right time.

Boys in the School Play were so well-rehearsed and the *mise-en-scene* on-stage so carefully prepared, I can't remember anything going wrong in performance as it often does on the professional stage. No-one forgot his lines or was late on-stage. If anything *did* go wrong, it would do so during the dress rehearsal, traditionally the time when such things happened. For instance, at the dress rehearsal of Mr. Brian Johnson's production of *The Physicists*, a science master was bending over behind the scenery to make an electrical connection when one of the Physicists, nobly played by K. S. Whittaker, opened the wrong door and revealed an enormous backside.

The sets were hand-painted by the outstanding art master, Mr. N. Harrison. When Brian Johnson directed *Hobson's Choice*, set in an Edwardian Lancashire factorytown in an old-fashioned shoe-shop, Mr. Harrison painted in *trompe l'oeil* detail shelves of shoeboxes, the shop counter and a window with a view of the foggy town in the background. Then between the scenes, a boy on a trumpet in the wings played the old music hall tune, *Dirty old town!* Dirty old town! Perfect.

The English masters were always popular with the boys, none more so than Mr. Philip Holland who directed the KGV School Play on three occasions: *The Government Inspector* by Gogol in 1967, *Portrait of a Queen*, a dramatic life of Queen Victoria and Albert in 1968, and *Julius Caesar* in 1969. Philip Holland gave up his school summer holiday hiring costumes from as far afield as the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford-upon-Avon and Bermans and Nathans, the theatrical costumiers in London. As a result, the shows always *looked* good: and it was encouraging to wear a costume which still bore the name-tag of John Gielgud or Dick van Dyke. But during the vacation, Philip Holland also spent a lot of time preparing the script and working out the moves so the boys would know exactly what to do when the time came to do it.

Rehearsals were held after school, starting at 4.15pm when the school was empty and it was already getting dark. The familiar school corridors now looked weird and eerie. We used to drift up and down them while we waited to be called. Along the walls, there were framed black and white production photographs of School Plays past, going back to the 1930s. The titles of the plays and the names of the boys who had appeared in them were given along the bottom edge of every *passe-partout*. The titles I remember included *Richard of Bordeaux*, *The Lady's Not for Burning* and

Spring 1600, all West End hits in their day and indicative of KGV's ambitious theatrical aspirations at the time.

First nights were held on a Tuesday evening, starting at 7.30pm. The show closed on the Saturday evening of the same week with no matinees. And the Boss was present at every performance, emphatically seated in the middle of the front row, making facial expressions throughout the show that were not necessarily encouraging. In *The Government Inspector*, as the Mayor of a provincial town in nineteenth century Russia, I had a speech to the audience which finished, "What are you laughing at? You're laughing at yourselves!" which, for various personal reasons, I wished to address to the Boss himself. But Philip Holland talked me out of it by explaining that "yourselves" was in the plural and was therefore meant for the audience as a whole and not the Boss in particular.

In a break with tradition at KGV, Philip Holland staged a reading of *The Hollow Crown* for one performance only at the end of the summer term of 1968 in conjunction with the Southport High School for Girls, and on this occasion the girls' parts were performed by real girls. At the end of the show, as I was describing the descent of Arthur into the Vale of Avalon, I noticed the Boss, the Mayor of Southport, the local MP, members of the teaching-staff and the board of governors scrutinising their watches in the half-light, anticipating work tomorrow.

The last School Play in which I was involved was *Julius Caesar* in which Philip Holland cast me as the well-meaning but rather dull Brutus. When Caesar was assassinated, a Crowd of at least a hundred KGV boys in Roman costume were on the stage or huddled on steps leading up to it. As Caesar was stabbed and hit the dexion, there was a very carefully directed silence which went on for a count of eight which, in terms of stage-time, is a *long* time. But the silence was finally broken by an *ear-splitting* scream from one hundred unbroken voices as the little Roman newts jumped off the stage and ran down the aisles screaming *piercingly* until they were out in the corridor where Philip Holland had directed them to fall silent again, making no sound or movement whatever. At this point, from the stage I had a perfect view of the Boss's face. Sheer pain. But then, "the play's the thing!"

Photos of many of these productions can now be found on the web site - Ed

CLASS OF '74 - 2017 UPDATE

50 years. **50 YEARS!** 50 years since the group were Newts. Just the excuse needed to have another weekend reunion of 'The Class of 74'. Friday evening, sat in a Southport restaurant reminiscing about those halcyon days of short trousers, prefects who looked like men and of having the fear of God put into you by Neck Smith.

The restaurant was in a converted bank on the corner of London Street and Lord Street. Terry had been able to negotiate a table far away from the youngsters who were destined for a night of frivolity. Had we been in their midst the wretched tales of our turgid, sorry lives, lived out in faded dreams as well as denim, would have put a dampener on their hedonistic designs. We too had hope once.

September 1967 had seen us arrive at KGV from as far away as Crossens and Curchtown, from Pinfold Lane and Parbold. That famed seat of learning that would set us on the path for great things.

Zoom forward 50 years to September 2017 and the group was similarly diverse though with some extra miles for both the journey and the waistlines. Spud had zooted in from Perth, Melon from Vancouver and Terry from Ainsdale. Fordy had walked across the road. All were pissed before Andy Mac and I arrived after our epic drive from London so any conversation about the intervening 43 years was a waste of breath. Westy too pitched up, all the way from Slough and Wainey from Geneva. Rammy came from so far away (Nottingham) that he didn't arrive until the after party at the Tap & Bottle where the incoherent blathering went on well into the early hours. Braces, his usual self: The chap who'd put the super into cilious. Derek Barnett and Will Thornborough both up for a night out with 'the lads' which would offer a brief respite from the demands of their recent marriages It was a late night both beer and conversation flowed but we had to recover quickly for the following day's events.

On the Saturday, seven of the group had arranged to play golf at Garstang, a course well renowned for holding the water. It had rained heavily the night before; we had the course to ourselves. Reliving our youth it was decided that a 'seven ball' would be the best approach to this round of golf. We teed off in various directions and the stories and laughter never stopped, throughout the entire soggy round.

On the Saturday evening we had organised a buffet meal, at The Hesketh Golf Club. We invited, at our expense, our old teachers from KGV and were glad to see, chat and drink with; Tony Allen, Maurice Amer, Pauline Davies, Barry Mawer, Leon Metford, Dave Miley, David Radcliffe and John Wohlers. Unfortunately Stan Rimmer, Phil Stainton and Colin Campbell were unable to attend but we had already met with Stan and Colin at The Annual Dinner in April.

The buffet was a great success. There was a 'KGV Quiz' for 30 minutes which the teachers obviously won, being a lot older and wiser than their pupils. Most of the 'lads' travelled home on the Sunday and having spent virtually the entire weekend with our 'schoolmates' guilt struck, four of us agreed to treat our wives to a

Monday night curry – very generous!

And all those 'great things' that KGV had prepared us for? Nothing to report on that front. Captains of industry? My arse.

So, there we are. A brilliant weekend, full of non-stop laughter. Here's to September 2067.

The 'Class of '74' is an expanding group, currently consisting of 53 ex-KGV pupils all of whom either left after their A-levels in 1974 or their O-levels in 1972. If you would like to join the group please email terry_fleetwood@hotmail.com The above narrative is a joint effort from Chris Watson and Terry Fleetwood



Early arrivals on Friday night: Left to right: Steve Wainwright, Andy Holmes, Steve Rowson, Alistair

Ford and Terry Fleetwood



Saturday Garstang Golf:

Starting on the left and going round: Will Thornborough, Mick Lonsdale, Andy Mac, Julian McInerney, Howard West, Steve Bracher and Terry Fleetwood.



Monday night curry picture:

Starting on the left and going around the table: Karen Fleetwood, Gill Ford, Margot Holmes, Carol Rowson, Alistair Ford, Terry Fleetwood, Andy Holmes and Steve Rowson.



The 2011 Red Rose had a feature titled "Everything KGV", with entries about things and places named after King George V. One thing missing was the notable hotel in Paris, which the Ed visited in 2017.

If anyone else has any photographs of their appearances in KGV related locations, please send them in!

Thanks to Alan Murgatroyd for the following photo taken in 1949.



THE THORNLEY SOCIETY 2017

The current membership, in alphabetical order by first name:

Doug (Mellor 1962 – 69), Geoff (Wright 1961 – 1967), Joe (McManners 1964 - 1969), John (Laws 1959 – 1967), John (Seddon 1964-1971) and Keith (Osborn 1961 – 1967) were in KGV's Sixth Form Climbing Club known as "The Thornley Society" in the Nineteen Sixties. I, Jim Honeybone (1964 – 1970), had taken over running the club when Geoffrey Dixon retired from the post. Recently Mike (Dodworth) joined the group.

The Thornleans Skye Meet May 2017 (or how I learned to love camping) by Mike Dodworth

"No!"

"....well OK, maybe not a Hotel but a B and B, some have gourmet breakfasts you know...."

Withering looks.

"Surely we need our dignity", I said, "at our age. It's all we have, camping is so squalid"

"Camping is what we do...camping is what we are" came the stern reply.

And so it was that on a beautiful Sunday evening of the 7th May we pitched our tents at Glen Brittle campsite on the Isle of Skye.

We were the remnants of the late 60's KGV Thornley Society, who served in the society under Jim Honeybone, and now after 50 years, still under the leadership of Jim Honeybone and renamed the Thornleans.

We were six, Me (Mike Dodworth), Johnny Laws, Joe McManners, Keith Osborne, John Seddon and of course Jim Honeybone. We had met for lunch at my house in Helensburgh and driven up to Skye, two cars plus my old 1959 MGA.

John Seddon having had some message from the Gods concerning the weather had been up there since Thursday, enjoying exceptional conditions.

Doug Mellor the nominal alpha male of the group was missing as he was still recovering from heart surgery, complicated by severe injuries sustained at the last Thornlean meet when he had attempted flight from one of the top bunks in the Robertson Lamb Hut and landed on his head. Geoff Wright had also cried off due to a back injury, probably caused by lifting heavy Scousers during his career as a paramedic.

My worst fears were realized after a chilly night when we woke up to frost on the tents. I made the point again about hotels as we huddled together in Jim's elephant palace of a tent and watched Jim stir the porridge. Plans were made for the day. It is not uncommon to form two groups an A group and a B group. Jim being in his eightieth year, and me who just feels like I am in my eightieth year were forming the B group, and doing a gentle walk up to Corrie Lagan.



The campsite – left to right – Seddon (seated), Dodworth, (cooking), Osborn (drinking), McManners, Honeybone, and photo taken by Laws.



Doing the Dubhs

The A team however were bent on "Doing the Dubhs". This is a classic and strenuous mountaineering expedition, which starts with passage in a boat from Elgol to Loch

Scavaig and hence to the beautiful Loch Coruisk. From Coruisk the route takes boiler plate slabs of The Cullin, up and over 3 peaks, Scurr Dubh Beag, Scurr Dubh Mhor and Scurr Dubh an da Bhein. The route emerges on the main Cuillin ridge. From here it descends into Corrie na Ghrunnda and back to the campsite.

Jim and I, having finished our stroll to Corrie Lagan, waited expectantly at the campsite for the heroes return. We confronted the moral issue of whether it was right to go to the pub for dinner with our comrades at risk in the mountains (yes of course it was!) and then finally at 7pm John Seddon, the youngest and fittest of the Thornleans arrived at the campsite looking as if he just had a stroll to the post box. He told us that the others are close behind and so we decamped to the Old Inn at Carbost for dinner and a pint.

Tuesday morning, as we gathered round the porridge pot to decide what to do, it became apparent that one party had to go to Elgol to collect the cars from the previous days exploits. So it was that John and I decided to head out along the peninsula to Rubh'an Dunain whilst the rest of the group drove off to collect the car. The walk to Rubh'an Dunain some 8 mile round trip was fascinating. At the end of the peninsula is a small lochan joined to the sea by a canal thought to be 12th century and built by Vikings. Indeed it appears to have been a Viking boat building centre. In the afternoon we regrouped at the campsite. The rest of the group having recovered the cars had taken the walk from Elgol pier to what is locally known as King Charles' Cave where he hid after Culloden, the rest of the world knows it as Prince Charles's Cave. A bit of Scottish wishful thinking that has survived nearly 250 years.

Wednesday was dull with rain threatening and so with some relief the Thornleans retreated to their home from home, the Arriba café in Portree. This is an excellent Mexican themed restaurant which is traditionally where the Thornleans spend most of their time on the Skye trips, watching the misty landscape as the rain drops run down the window. We had discovered that John, who as a flying instructor, and therefore highly organized, had a map marked with suitable lowland walks around Skye. Such foresight and planning is not a hallmark of, nor even desirable on, Thornlean meets. We forgave John since he is still young and new to the ways of true "festering". So after breakfast we set off on a walk along Loch Sligachan which became interesting when we arrived at the mouth of the Loch and could overlook Sconser and the tiny ferry terminal for Scalpay.

Thursday dawned bright and John pulled out his now famous map and a book of walks to go with it. By now I was exhausted and could only nod dumbly as a 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ mile walk starting at Uig and taking in the 2000ft peak, Ben Edra, was proposed and accepted by the Porridge Council.



MGA in the campsite

Since my MGA has only 2 seats most of the driving burden had been absorbed by others, so I volunteered to drive and Keith took his place in the passenger seat. It was a lovely run; I will to this day swear that Keith (a keen biker) said it was almost as good as being on a motorbike (high praise indeed!). It was a magnificent walk and took us to the edge of an escarpment with stunning views of the Quirang, what a day!

By Friday I was completely knackered, but Jim our senior member, was determined to make it onto the ridge, and set off with John in tow to climb Scurr Dearg on Friday morning. The route was to skirt the Inaccessible Pinnacle and drop down to Corrie Lagan via the screes, a formidable undertaking.

The rest of us, exhausted from the day before slunk off to the Arriba Café in Portree, had a magnificent breakfast and had a walk spent picking wild flowers on the outskirts of Portree. We were at the campsite to greet the return of John and Jim both in great shape.

That evening, having changed our allegiance from the Old Inn at Carbost to the Taigh Ailean at Port Na Long, in the interest of better food and no live music, we enjoyed a great last night and also bumped in to a lady from Southport, whose brother was from KGV and known to most of us, John Fozard!

You are never that far from a Sandgrinder.

Saturday was dull and raining as we broke camp and headed back south, meeting up at the Green Welly in Tydrum for a coffee and final farewells.

I left with a strange feeling that whilst any right minded 60- something should really stay in hotels, camping actually had a fascination of its own, maybe next year.......



Coming down from Ben Edra

Glen Brittle

Above, acres of sky, blue sky then grey, pierced by towering peaks of grey-black, bare, rough gabbro, the Black Cuillin, a barren landscape of shattered crag and wild lochen, huge stark amphitheatres of high crags, rough scree, boulders and stone shoots, a playground for raven, eagle and the illusive ptarmigan and climbers 'doing the Dubhs', Sgurr Dearg and Sgurr Alasdair, the highest of all.

Below, the sea, shimmering, forever changing, washing sandy shores where dunlin and plover chase the waves and trill their breeding love song and oystercatcher and curlew probe for worms in the grey mud, where sand martins burrow and build their nests in sandy cliffs and grey geese graze sweet hay meadows.

Between, a hinterland, of blaeberry and heather, rowan and mountain ash, of pipit song and cuckoo call, ferny glen and faerie pool, where crystal-clear burns tumble through narrow ravines filled with birch and alder and rocky paths lead ever upwards to wild corries, crags and the Ridge to fulfil climbers' dreams. *John Laws, May 2017*

SOUTHPORT ON FACEBOOK

A very interesting page has been set up on Facebook, called The Southport of Yesterday. There are many entries now in there and lots of information amongst the personal reminiscence.

The two photographs below appeared showing the old school hall in its finer days.





The group can be found at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/116925672271965/?fref=ts

FOR SALE

Our previous stocks of memorabilia have now been depleted. OGA ties can still be obtained from Stan Rimmer. If you are interested, please contact Stan: 361 Liverpool Rd, Southport PR8 3BT – 01704-576713

Cheques payable to: Old Georgians Association. All items are Post Free.

OLD GEORGIANS TIE - Black, 2 Red & White Stripes, Red Rose £15

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KGV MEMORABILIA Jonathan Elliott, 2 Beresford Drive, Southport PR9 7JY. 07969 889843 **jonelliott61@hotmail.com**

We have a new website for registration, enquiries and historical information:

www.theoldgeorgians.co.uk