

THE RED ROSE

2017

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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)

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS 2016-17

ACTING PRESIDENT	Anne-Marie Francis (from June 2016)
PRESIDENT	Adele Wills (to June 2016)
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

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

Dear Old Georgians

I have to say that 2016 has been an enjoyable year as my second successive as Chairman of the Association and I am pleased to report a number of notable highlights.

The annual dinner in April was a wonderful evening. The new venue at the Ramada Hotel overlooking the Marine Lake has proved an excellent choice for the last two years - with many guests commenting on the quality of the food and catering – and as such we will be returning there for the dinner in 2017.

An interesting motion, passed at the Annual General Meeting held on the same evening, will see the annual dinner move away from Maundy Thursday for the first time in 2017. This has come in response to many members commenting that they have been unable to attend dinners in recent years because of family holidays that often tend to be booked over the Easter period. It is hoped that this change will be supported by members and lead to a further increased attendance at the event.

During the summer, the College saw a change in leadership with Adele Wills leaving after six years serving as Principal. Anne-Marie Francis, the Vice-Principal, took over as Acting Principal. It was interesting to meet Anne-Marie at the OGA meeting in June, when she informed those present of the various challenges that the College is likely to be facing in the future. Having met and talked, I feel that her experience and enthusiasm will be invaluable to the College during the coming months.

The annual quiz night took place slightly later this year. Despite a typically wet and windy October night, the evening at the S & B Cricket Club was a complete success – and it was great to see some younger faces amongst the attendees this year. I would note however, that I remain unconvinced that the highest structure in Southport is now the Marine Way Bridge – knocking Christchurch into second place?

We also have a new website up and running – www.theoldgeorgians.co.uk
My thanks to Matthew Duffy for setting this up.

It has been my privilege to serve as Chairman of the Old Georgians Association for a second year. Having now been around for more than 12 months and seen what everybody does – I feel it is appropriate for me to use this opportunity to thank the other officers of the Association for their continued efforts. They all do a fantastic job regardless of their role and without them, I am sure things like the Red Rose and annual dinner would simply not happen.

I look forward to an interesting 2017 and to seeing many of you at our dinner on April 29th.

Mark Day – Evans, 1973-1980

EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 2017 Red Rose.

The President has already highlighted the changes afoot for the College. While these will affect those on the ground at the College, our membership and association remains as strong as ever and will continue the function of providing a common platform and process for keeping former students of both the Grammar School and College in touch, through communications and functions. The Association will continue to support the College and work in partnership to maintain the OGA for all.

Constructing ideas and collating information for presentation can be a challenging task. Presenting the Red Rose magazine to the Old Georgians membership is certainly no different.

OG members continually underestimate the interest readers have in hearing news about our members. This leads to a sine wave of information from year to year and this year has seen us a trough – not for the first time. Please DO send information through, preferably by email on anything you deem to be interesting about yourself from any angle. Your fellow members WILL be interested.

We have a new section this year, titled “The Naughty Corner”. I invite more entries for next year. We also have an idea for information or stories about former staff members, to be titled “Teacher Feature”. If you would like to contribute, please do so.

Finally, I am researching former students of both the School and the College, seeking anyone who has been honoured. By ‘honoured, I mean a Knighthood, Lord/Lady etc. and anyone with an MBE/OBE/CBE. If anyone can provide any information on specific individuals or the best source of core information, please can you send me an email.

Finally, I have been asked a couple of times what “*Ed*” in italics means after some articles. It signifies that the comment has come from me! Cheers

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

ADVANCE NOTICE

The 2017 Annual Dinner is being held on

SATURDAY 29th APRIL

Please note, for 2017 this is a change from the usual Maundy Thursday event. See page 42 for further details.

OBITUARIES

Dr. Stuart Neil Booth (Rogers, 1947-54)

Neil died shortly after his 80th birthday in a home in the Lake District of the Parkinson's disease which he had fought for the last 40 years of his life. The second of three sons of Harold who taught history at K.G.V from the early thirties to the early fifties and Jean, who taught English at K.G. V. during the war years, he joined his elder brother Graham in Rogers in 1947. He was one of the outstanding sportsmen of his generation. Captain of the athletics team, capped as a member of the Lancashire schoolboys team, captain of the Liverpool University team and for a time a member of Waterloo's first team, although too light to play in the scrum in 1st class rugby. He was somebody who took to Geoffrey Dixon's climbing expeditions with enthusiasm and on one occasion cycled to the Alps, climbed a few peaks and cycled back home again. He was not all brawn however. Music was a passion throughout his life and at school as a violinist he led the School Orchestra.

He went up to Liverpool to read medicine with his friends Ken Edwardson, Peter Brunt and Sir Miles Irving with whom the annual visit to Borrowdale was an event he thoroughly enjoyed; but after taking a BSc in Anatomy he decided he wanted to be a G.P. He married Anne and they had two sons David and Stephen. Soon after qualifying he joined a practice in Barrow in Furness where he stayed for the rest of his professional life until his medical problems forced him to retire early to Underbarrow. Retiring from rugby he became a very competent golfer, playing of a handicap of four, and then took up sailing in "Liver Bird" and "Finmara", cruising to Wales, Scotland and on one occasion circumnavigating Ireland. He was a very competent navigator and mechanic and so good with his hands that he built his own furniture and a replica of a Victorian sailing skiff, and despite the problems of controlling the brush, because of the shakes, became a very competent water colourist – truly a modern Leonardo!

Graham Booth, Neil's brother.

John Clough (Master & Vice-Principal, 1956-1990)

John Clough was born on the 4th January 1931 in Didsbury, Manchester and grew up in a world of rationing and National Service. His family were initially comfortable but, following the early death of his father when he was 6 years old, life became less straightforward.

He did well at school and was awarded a Scholarship to Manchester Grammar School. When choosing his subjects for School Certificate he was fond of recalling that the schoolmaster advising him said, "Well Clough, you don't seem to be much good at anything ... you had better take Latin and Greek". This is a typically self-effacing story from a man not afraid to make himself the butt of the joke for comic effect.

He won a place to read Classics at Cambridge following his National Service but ultimately turned this down to stay near to his mother who was unwell at the time. Instead, he continued his studies at Manchester University where he was awarded a First Class degree in Latin and Greek; he completed his teacher training in 1956.

As fate would have it, he arrived at Manchester University at the same time as his future wife, Anne, who was also studying Classics and was to become the undoubted love of his life. It was during their teacher training year that their relationship developed and they were married on 9th August 1958. Put simply, John needed Anne and Anne needed John and together they added up to very much more than the sum of their already considerable parts.

Family was always John's number one priority and he placed his own needs and ambitions very much towards the bottom of the list. He was always interested in what his wife and children were doing, he was there to support when things didn't go to plan and proud of their achievements, however big or small.

At heart, John was a private man, which meant that his emotions were rarely on show; strong emotions though, he most certainly had about the things that were important to him and those he loved. Within the family it often fell to his wife, Anne, to act as go-between; outside the family it could make him hard to get to know but, for those who persevered, he was well worth the investment of their time.

At home he was a man of simple pleasures; he was never happier than just being left to his own devices sitting in his chair reading the newspaper or a thick book on military history, or one of his many train magazines. He also liked to laugh and many former colleagues and students can testify to his sharp, rapier-like wit. His charming, occasionally cutting sense of humour was fundamental to his personality, and often his way of by-passing his natural reserve.

An intelligent man, he was a strong believer in education and the merits of hard work. He possessed a tremendous general knowledge and throughout his life he was capable of soaking up information, ordering it and presenting it efficiently and clearly. He was astute but rarely pushy with his views – if you asked for his opinion he would give it and he could always be relied upon for thoughtful, well-considered counsel. Within the school setting he was undoubtedly a man capable of delivering the 'judicious quiet word'.

John taught at KGV for his entire teaching career, from 1956 until he retired in 1990; 34 years, during which time he completed over 100 terms, teaching Latin, Greek and Ancient History and rising to the position of Assistant Vice-Principal. To quote one of Dad's former Headmasters, "John was a remarkable man and a good man, he was an outstanding Schoolmaster and the School was fortunate to have him on the staff for so many years". When asked what he did as an Assistant Vice-Principal he was fond of saying, I suspect only half-jokingly, that part of his job was to "try to stop the Head from introducing their next daft idea". He was certainly no 'Yes Man', but nor was he against change; at heart he was very much a pragmatist, focused on 'the

art of the possible' and the best interests of pupils and staff. Once decisions were taken he was professional and loyal to a fault.

An internet search for 'John Clough' and 'KGV' threw up some interesting stories from former pupils, perhaps the best of which was: "Jack Clough (*which was his nickname amongst the students*) used to take us for Latin at one time. I think I would have liked to know him in adulthood since, looking back; he had a marvellous wit and sense of humour. I remember he once gave me 25 lines for swinging back on two legs of my chair. He dictated what I had to write whilst beating out every syllable with a ruler on my head. The line he dictated was, 'Despite my undoubted skills as an acrobat, I must in future learn to make use of all four appendages supplied on my chair by the ratepayers of the County Borough of Southport' ". Perhaps not an approach that would meet with approval these days, but clearly appreciated at the time.

John retired in 1990 and he was able to enjoy many, well-deserved years that were quieter and more relaxed. His final years were affected by dementia, which slowly robbed him of the phenomenal memory and sharp turn of phrase that were integral to his personality. He passed on 22nd July 2016. He leaves a wife, four children and seven grandchildren who will always love and remember him and feel very grateful for all that he gave them.

Francis Clough – John's son.

John Clough was a Wigan man and I always thought it strange that, while so many people lived in Southport and worked in the surrounding towns, such as Wigan, he lived in Wigan and worked in Southport. He was a member of staff and Head of Classics at King George V School for many years before I arrived as Headmaster in 1976, and he was still a much valued Director of Studies, responsible for the academic administration of the college, for many years after I left in 1983. But I shall not write about that. Instead I will mention a few encounters which caused me to value his advice and remember him with admiration and affection.

Shortly after I arrived at KGV I spoke to the teaching staff about how I expected them to deal with the students. Afterwards John Clough said to me, 'You know, you can't expect them all to be DJA clones, Headmaster.' He was, of course, right, and it is invaluable for someone in any position of responsibility to have a colleague like that who is prepared to speak his mind.

Later, when I proposed doing something or other (I cannot now remember what it was), John said, 'I wouldn't do that if I were you, Headmaster. George Millward tried it and it didn't work. Some years later Geoffrey Dixon tried it, and it didn't work then either. So you'd probably do better to drop the idea.' I did.

During the winter of 1978-9, the so-called winter of discontent, there was a one day strike by the members of the National Union of Public Employees, and every

secondary school in Merseyside, other than the independent schools and KGV, closed for the day. At a staff meeting during morning break, the day before disaster was predicted; representations were made to me about why we should close. I explained that I had decided that we should continue with our normal work for the not especially impressive reason that that was what we were paid to do, and we should carry on unless prevented from doing so.

There was a pause. Then John Clough said, ‘Well, we all think you’re wrong Headmaster. But if you’ve made up your mind, we’ll be right behind you.’ That settled it. He was sufficiently respected by his colleagues that there was no further discussion. I would have liked to have hugged and thanked him, and did so more than thirty years later when we both went to Bob Abram’s funeral.

After I left my successor had the war memorial taken down, together with the pictures of her three predecessors. It all seemed to her to smack too much of a boys’ grammar school. It was typical of John Clough that he rescued them and hid them away quietly until the climate changed with another change of Principal and it was possible for him to bring them out again.

Magister sapientissimus, eruditissimus et dilectissimus erat, scholae Regis Georgi Quinti.

David Arnold. November 2016.

Michel Glautier (Spencer’s, 1947-51)

Michel William Edgard Glautier, Belgian by birth, British by choice (nationalisation), French by temperament and moral outlook, Swiss by virtue of having chosen to retire to Lausanne, died in Poland on April 1st 2016 at the age of 83, of an unexpected heart attack. He had enjoyed a long and distinguished academic career on both sides of the Atlantic forming friendships with academics and players in disparate spheres of activity. As to his academic achievements, I cannot do better than reproduce his biographical notes in “The Caring Society” published in the USA in 2013: “Michel Glautier is a graduate of the Universities of Manchester and London, and has a Doctorate in Management Sciences (with distinction) from the University of Paris. He has been on the Faculty of the Universities of Sheffield and Manchester, Professor of Accounting and Control at INSEAD, Fontainebleau, and at ESSEC, Paris, and O’Bleness Chair Professor in Public Accounting at Ohio University. He has been Visiting Professor at several universities, including the University of Denver, the University of Minnesota, San Diego State University, the University of Texas at Austin, and at the University of Western Australia. He has worked as a consultant at the International Trade Centre (GATT/UNCTAD), Geneva, in the area of development finance and as a consultant in international insurance risks. For many years, he was a Membre du Jury National du Diplome d’Expertise Comptable in France. He has authored 11 books on accounting, costing and international taxation, including Accounting Theory and

Practice (co-authored) now in its 8th edition, Cost Accounting (co-authored) and A Guide to International Taxation (co-authored with F.W. Bassinger, formerly Senior Partner with Deloitte, Haskins and Sells). He has written many articles on related matters for UK and USA academic journals. This however does not tell the story of Michel as a school boy or as a rounded man. He was born in 1932 in Lessines in Belgium; his mother Maud Thomas (a Southport girl), his father Rufin Glautier a mining engineer who had served as a Cavalry officer in the Belgian army. 1

In 1939, when war broke out, Michel was 7 years old and his father was, as Michel later recorded, "having an adventure in the Belgian Congo under a long term contract of employment as a mining engineer", Michel did not see him again until 1947. In 1944 after 4 years of German occupation, the Glautier family took advantage of Madam Glautier's British nationality and made their way to England and to Southport. It was then that I met Michel – he was twelve – and his younger brother Daniel and Nicole his sister. None of the children spoke good English – practise within the family had been dangerous during the occupation – and to help Michel to adapt he joined the Scouts and I began a 3 year stint helping him to improve his oral and written English. In 1947, Michel enrolled at K.G.V., enjoying rugby and swimming, the highlight of his career being in his final year when he acted as boat escort for Scot Horton on his three and half hour 10 mile swim across Morecambe bay. In 1951 he went to Manchester University graduating B.A. (Comm) in 1954 and was then called up for National Service. He joined 611 (West Lancs) Squadron and trained as a Radio Technician – but not before resolving the problem that he was now an adult Belgian National by becoming a British Citizen. National Service was followed by his marriage to Pauline, starting a family and embarking on a career in Accountancy where he quickly established that with his ability with numbers and his wide ranging mind, the demands of private practice were not going to hold him. A short term contract with the Inland Revenue in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) beckoned. Here his second daughter was born in Bulawayo and he joined the British South African Police Reserve. This at a time when the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland was under pressure because of the 'white supremacy' in Southern Rhodesia. Returning to England, Michel started on his academic career with appointments at Manchester and Sheffield Universities and then to France where he gained his doctorate at Paris and established his reputation at the International Business School at Fontainebleau. He travelled widely in Europe and the USA as visiting professor and consultant at the International Trade Centre in Geneva, and through being engaged in a contract with the United Nations and a member of the Think Tank established by Margaret Thatcher, in which the McWhirter twins also served. 2

In France he became President of an investment company charged with securing an income for retired Roman Catholic clergy. This activity led to lasting friendships with two Polish prelates, Father Tomoshinski and Henryk Hoser who is now the Bishop of Warsaw – Praga in Poland. These friendships lasted some 30 years and led to Michel becoming friendly with Lech Walesa, the ship-yard worker who was to become the Chairman of the SOLIDARITY Trade Union and then President of Poland in 1990. Michel's standing and recognition in the academic world was

established, and his understanding growing of the extent to which multi-national corporations with their global activities now had the power to destroy whole societies by moving both employment and tax resources between nations, not to create wealth, which could be shared, but to secure a greater portion of that wealth to themselves. While in no way abandoning the logical approach of economic theory, Michel came to believe that it was the duty of the State to protect its citizens against economic attack as well as armed attack, and those governments which failed to recognise this need, by curbing the excesses of globalisation, would be at risk. Where he had once been the proponent of maximising shareholder value, he embarked upon a philosophical study of the changes which needed to be made if Capitalism was to survive. In his last 10 years he regarded this as his most important work, and he set about writing his trilogy, the first two books being: 'The Social Conscience' (2007) 'The Caring Society' (2013) both published in the USA. I last spoke to Michel on the morning of New Year's Day this year. He planned to move from Lausanne to the Dordogne, an area of France which he loved, and having finished the final book in his trilogy, 'The Common Good', to secure its publication. Sadly, 'The Common Good', unpublished, rests in his laptop.

Duncan Burton, Spencer's 1940-47

David Percival (1974-80)

It is a great sadness to report the death of my friend and fellow Old Georgian, David Percival, who died in June, 2016 just a few days short of his 53rd birthday. David had his primary education at Churchtown Junior School, which is where we first met. In the following ten years, he progressed from short hair, short-trousers and cap to long hair, ripped jeans and denim jacket, with a passion for the heavy metal and rock bands that were in their golden period at the end of the 1970's. It includes AC/DC on their Highway to Hell Tour at Liverpool Empire in 1979, where ironically we were confronted by their lead guitarist in short trousers and school cap. We cycled together to KGV School in those formative years and I remember a conversation with David, the gist of which was that he could really not imagine a life without the Midnight Lounge and Follies Rock nights. David's thirst for life, his engaging personality and his enquiring mind meant however that he was not going to be defined by any period in his life but rather the whole journey.

David obtained a Masters in Biochemical Immunology in 1989, at the end of a six year stint at the Ministry of Defence at Porton Down, working on defence strategies against biological attacks on the UK and its Armed Forces. He then moved into commerce, working initially as a Research Manager at Unilever on the development of their 'Clear Blue' pregnancy testing kit. Senior roles followed as a Research and Development Director in the field of medical diagnostics. His travelled widely as a requirement of his work, especially in the US and China. His last role before his

untimely death was at Bio-Rad Labs in Oxford, managing new product research in their oncology section.

Although following a career in science, David had an artistic side, with a strong early influence from Tolkien's Lord of the Rings driving his tastes towards fantasy, mysticism and mythology in his collections of figures, paintings and sketches. He was also a devoted pyromaniac when Bonfire Night came around. David could always find a middle way; between family and work, conventional and bizarre, private and social. Indeed in later life, after many years living in North Wales, he insisted to define himself as Welsh-English. So, I think of David today still in a mid-point of his own definition, neither on a Highway to Hell or a Stairway to Heaven, but rather in Middle Earth, walking in the forest of Lothlorien.

David is survived by his sister, Sally, his life-long soul-mate, Veronika and their two children; Elanor and Isobel and is mourned by many who miss his wit, charisma and friendship.

Ken Priestley (Lunn's 1974-79).

Dennis Robinson (Grears', 1945-50)

Dennis (Denny to his Bantam Team Mates) was born in January 1934 and joined KGV in 1945 after passing his Scholarship at St. Philips School. He died on the 21st April 2015 at the age of 81 after a prolonged battle with bone cancer.

He left KGV at the age of 16 with his School Certificate to join Barclays Bank because (in his own words) he was not up to University Standard. However he did rise to be the Northern Area Manager of the Barclays Bank Group. Possibly he underestimated his capabilities or was too modest, as was his usual wont.

Dennis was probably best known at KGV for his sporting ability and leadership at Rugby and Cricket. He captained the Bantams, leading a team that had never seen a rugby ball before the age of 11 (including my good self) against teams from Public Schools and the rugby strong holds of south-west Lancashire. These teams had been brought up playing rugby from the age of seven or eight and some teams that did not respect the age, height or weight limits. We lost a lot at the beginning but due to the team spirit and skill of our scrum half Captain we eventually beat teams from Stonyhurst and Merchant Taylors.

Dennis was also Captain of the Colts XV and Captain of Rugby for Grears in the same periods.

He also was no mean cricketer playing for KGV and Grears. However he did fall foul of one Joe Mayne after being clean bowled, first ball, by one Mike Hyde in a House

Final in which he described, after walking back to the Pavilion in front of the whole school, “as a nightmare” However worse was to follow in the shape of Mr. Joe Mayne slowly walking towards him and confronting him with “Why did you get out?” Insult to injury ? !!!

Although football was taboo in the minds of some KGV Masters, Dennis used to raise and lead KGV teams to play against Southport Schoolboys on some Saturday mornings at Meols Cop. We all knew how to play football before coming to KGV and we kicked rugby balls about after lunch so we always gave the town team a good game. This eventually led to Dennis becoming a member and later of Captaining (Leyland Road) Southport Amateurs.

To think that Dennis would lead such KGV immortals such as Stan Rimmer and Ted Dewhurst in winning the Northern Amateur League Championship at FOOTBALL would have turned George Millward in his grave. (He gave me a Saturday Morning just for kicking a tennis ball before school).

Dennis met his future wife, Maureen, at the tender age of 16 and had been married for over 60 years. They raised two sporting sons, Paul and Michael, who in turn had their sons to which Maureen and Dennis have closely followed, with pride, their academic and sporting educations. Needless to say, from all those that knew Dennis to all of his family, we are very sorry for your loss.

Cliff (Tommy) Teale – Gears 1945-50

Brian Shorrock (Rogers, 1942-49)

Brian passed away on 15th June 2016.

John Tomlin (Woodham's, 1968-73)

John Tomlin (Woodhams, 1968-72, or 73) passed away during September 2016 a victim of cancer. John and I along with Brian Moyle (Gears 1968-73, who died in 2003) were all in the nursery together and learned to read and number in the same class at St. Simons & St Jude's, moving obligatorily to Norwood Co Primary at 7. Later we would all three be at KGV. John spent all but a single year of his entire education in the same room or lab with me; we started smoking together, played truant together, nicking his mum's Nimble bread for our chips and he taught me, around 12 years of age, how to delicately nudge the arcade machines along Neville St to get money out. For 2 short years we were inseparable and at the end of one summer term, we stood outside his house and tore from each other, as a rite of passage, the striped blazers that had become redundant due to our passing into the upper school.

One fondly remembered story of John which indicated his courage in the face of inevitable corporal punishment from H. Smith (Maths), was that in order to amuse his classmates he explained during the afternoon lesson that his absence, from the morning lesson of the same day, had been due to his visiting the Floral Hall to buy tickets for the Wrestling! He was hit about the head and later slipped but received a huge morale boosting laugh from us all for his devil-may-care bravery.

A lovable rascal with a dry sense of humour, John was never quite at home with the academic pretensions of a Grammar School and he announced that he would leave KGV at the earliest opportunity. I believe he suffered peer pressure as many of his friends beyond school were destined to become apprentices and had wages while John's pockets, like many of us, were running on empty. However, along with his brother Alan, John created a plastering business in Southport which prospered and though I only met up with him on 3-4 occasions following school years, our friendship remained constant and I would ask after him to members of his family. John left a wife, 4 children, several grandchildren and to me many unforgettable fun memories.

Steve Brooks

Alan Venables (1944-51)

The Association received the following in November.

“Jonathan, I recently learned of the sad passing of a fellow Old Georgian, Alan Venables. Alan attended KGV in the mid 1940's and was about 4 years ahead of me. I only have a few details about him. He was instrumental in me going out to Africa in 1959 and we both served in the Customs and Excise Department of the Federal Government of Rhodesia and Nyasaland during the early 1960's. He later moved to South Africa where he died on the 29 October. He has a son David who, I believe, lives in Churchtown and daughter, Wendy, who lives in South Africa. I wondered whether you had already heard the news and, if so, were planning to include it in the next Red Rose.

Kind regards, Mike Thompson”

Ed - At this time, we have no further information other than that provided by Mike.

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 2016 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.

KGV Archive & Memorabilia – 2017 Update

All of the school photos that we currently have are in the process of being uploaded to the new web site: www.theoldgeorgians.co.uk

A summary of the content is below. Our thanks to John Rostron for the many hours spent in collating and scanning these. If you have any others, please can you send us a scanned image of the photo, or the original if you want to donate it to the archives? We specifically have gaps in the school photo of 1940, 1949 and 1973. Does anyone know if there actually were photos taken in those years?

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.

We are also seeking donations of anything deemed to be memorabilia. These could be photos or programmes. We are also seeking any articles of uniform that are unique and original to KGV, such as the Full Colours Blazer, or the official cricket team cap. If anyone has any items they would like to loan or donate, please contact Jonathan Elliott.

Ed – 7 (yes, sad, I know) ties all originally earned/owned by me are shown in the centre photos. Can you identify what they are?

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 them.

Sporting Life

Darrell Farrant is collating information about former pupils and students of the School and College, seeking out those who achieved sporting recognition at County and higher levels. For example, Darrell's recent correspondence:

Good afternoon, John.

I can now give you the details of my latest research which clears up the loose ends from our last correspondence.

Neil Booth did win Lancashire rugby caps.

Geoff Topping played for the Lancashire Schools' team in 1955 and subsequently, during his years at Manchester University, was reserve for the senior county side but missed out on selection because of injury.

Roger Basford won golf blue in the winning Oxford team of 1964.

Please publish this information if you wish to, and by all means repeat my request for any similar achievements to be emailed to me.

My best wishes,

Darrell

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

SOCIAL EVENTS 2016

AGM & ANNUAL DINNER

The 68th OG Annual Dinner took place at the changed venue, the Ramada Hotel, Southport, on the evening of Maundy Thursday, March 24th 2016.

The new venue provided a refreshing change in several aspects, location, style, décor and catering amongst them. The change was received from those attending with an over whelming 'yes' regarding the choice of venue for 2017!

The AGM preceded the dinner and ran through the regular agenda (the minutes can now be found on the new website. The key point of order that was raised was during AOB. Consideration was given to changing the date of the 2017 AGM and Annual Dinner away from Maundy Thursday. This review had been requested by several members and it was therefore deemed to be valid of debate and a vote. The motion placed was for a trial for 2017 of holding the event on Saturday April 29th. This date is after Easter and outside of school holidays. It is also part of the May Bank Holiday weekend, allowing members more time to travel. It was noted that, being a Saturday night, the meal price would increase and this was accepted. The vote was cast and the change was accepted by a majority of 26-1.

The dinner event was a most enjoyable affair. The table layout ensured that members were sat with their requested fellows, in ample space and with a clear view of the top table and access to the bar!

The food and service were excellent. The selections of wine and beer were most satisfactory. The conversations and humour were in free flow all evening.

Our President, Adele Wills, addressed the ensemble, explaining the current position of the College and the planned way forward in what was accepted as difficult times. Some questions were raised from the floor and were addressed by fellow Old Georgian and current Chairman of Governors, Julian McInerny.

Our Chairman, Mark Day, then proceeded to thoroughly entertain the crowd with his recollections of School. His speech was humorous, well thought out, amusingly derogatory and equally complimentary of the Grammar School, the staff, fellow students and the day to events.

The prize giving for the Golf completion then took place, followed by the raffle. The evening was closed with thanks to those attending and wishing them a safe journey home.

OGA GOLF CHALLENGE 2016

For the third time, the competition to win the Bob Abram Trophy took place, 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.

Arrangements for the 2017 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 the day prior to the dinner (Saturday 29th April). Places may be limited so please register early: all enquiries to Chris Stitson at stitson.chris@btinternet.com.

The Bob Abram Trophy 2016 (results)

1st place - 38 points – Chris Threlfall (Hcap 20)

2nd place - 36 points – Julian McInerney (Hcap 14)

3rd place - 34 points – Alistair Ford (Hcap 12)

Longest Drive – Alistair Ford

Nearest the Pin – Mark Woolston

QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 7th October

Our original date in June was postponed due to clash of bookings at the venue and we re-arranged to an autumn date for those wishing and able to attend.

David Lonsdale was unavailable with work and we therefore invited in a local quiz master to test the mettle of those in attendance.

This has become quite a competitive event and this year was no different, although some may say that the questions were kept at an easier level than previous years.

Others say you need to remember what you know; you don't have to be 'clever' to win. Both of those were true, which made for a very enjoyable evening.

The banter in the room was kept alive by Terry Fleetwood, although it was with the protective help of his team mates as others were close to skinning him in the best possible way!

After two rounds, there was only a 3 point spread between the teams. Introducing this information to the pack only made the huddles tighter, the whispers quieter and the tight cupping of hands over answer sheets like a wall around a medieval mound.

We had an interlude where everyone took part in a game of 'Play Your Cards Right', with the eventual winner taking away the £20 cash prize.

And so to the final marking and announcements of positions! This year we opted for larger teams, which may also have contributed to the high marks attained.

The quiz was played over 7 rounds, with a total of 75 points to play for. The lowest placed team was positioned with 58 points, a great effort and in previous years, may well have won. In third place was Dave Heslegrave's team with 64. Second were the College cast led by Anne Marie Francis with 66. In first place was Terry Fleetwood's OGA gang with 67 points!

In the spirit of good sportsmanship, the trophy was presented to Terry and his team, but the 6 bottles of wine for the winners were given to Anne Marie's team of 6 (given there were 9 in Terry's team, we didn't have enough).

Thanks to Terry for proving that the "Class of '74" is still alive and well! Attending for the first time were: Steve Bell, Steve Bracher, Will Thornborough, Andy McIntosh, Richard Bradley, Mick Howarth, Rob Garner, Gary Holmes, Pete Ramskill, Chris Watson and Howard West.

Other OGAs attending included Martin Fearn, Ian Kettle, Mark Day, Neil Hunt, Graham Cox, 'Mugsie' Rimmer, Jon Elliott, Matthew Duffy.

See you all in October 2017!!

PS – here is one that nobody got correct...

Prior to Jim Davidson, there were 3 presenters of the BBC's Generation Game. Bruce Forsyth and Larry Grayson were two. Who was the third?

Answer on page 44.

THE THORNLEY SOCIETY 2016

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.

They continue to meet twice a year – sometimes joined by Mike (Dodworth 1960 – 1966). In summer they camp at Glenbrittle, Isle of Skye. In autumn they stay at The Wayfarers' Climbing Club Hut in Langdale, The Lake District.

The Skye weather this year from Monday 23rd May to Friday 27th May was not good. We had occasional glimpses of the top of the Cuillin Ridge which is usually the chief aim of The Meet. But we didn't want to go up, get into cloud and miss the view. So this year we had five days of exploring the Island's fine walks in satisfactory weather usually after a trip to the wonderful Café Arriba, in Portree, Isle of Skye, where decisions were made. My chief memory is that of a new ferry trip across from Sconser to Churchton Bay on the Island of Raasay. Highly recommended because of its unusual nature (hybrid powered combining diesel electric with lithium ion batteries). Fascinating!

Johnny Laws writes a beautiful piece about the week which deserves more publicity

Camping Glenbrittle.

Early morning skylarks, the sound of waves breaking on the shore, cuckoos calling, the first cuppa, conversation, laughter, plans, maps, preparation, the approach walk, moorland, peaty smells, mountain rivers, steep paths, rough gabbro, The Cioch, In Pinn, sardines, sustenance, huge skies, panoramic vistas of the Cuillins, sea, islands, remote headlands, eagles soaring, the long decent, aching legs, The Old Inn, good ale, haggis, ceilidh music, the 'bus' home, the communal tent, reading, a wee dram, companionship, the patter of rain on canvas, deep sleep.

Thank you, Johnny.

The Langdale Meet this year is firmly fixed for 31st October to 4th November. Off we go again!

More next Year

Jim Honeybone (former Master and House Master)

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, Chris Stitson, Ken Priestley

B – Dave Fairclough, Andy Webster, Mark Day

C – Chris Threlfall (winner), Julian McInerney (runner up)

Annual Dinner

D – Stan Rimmer's table and a view of the room

E – Adele Wills (President), Mark Day (Chairman)

Quiz Night

F - Mark Day (Chairman) presents the Annual Quiz Trophy to the winning team – Mrs Rebecca Fearn, Martin Fearn, Terry Fleetwood, Stuart, Steve Bell, Steve Bracher, Will Thornborough, Andy MacIntosh, Michael Taylor

Memorabilia

G – Part of our memorabilia collection – School and College ties, in order from left to right: School (1973); Full Colours (1978); Prefect (1978); 1st XV Rugby Tour (1979); College (1979); OGA (1983); OGA Special Edition (2010).

H – School blazers. Our thanks go to Alan Fleetwood and Ed Hunt for donating these two school blazers for the memorabilia collection. To save photo space, both have been worn, don't worry, they haven't been morphed into a single jacket! Alan's Junior blazer is the burgundy and black. Ed's Full Colours blazer is the tri-coloured jacket. Please ignore the model, some would say dummy!

If anyone has any additional or different items they would like to contribute, please contact Jon Elliott



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Jon,

Regarding the Visitor photo of the KGV Orchestra at Southport Music Festival, 1962:

As captioned, the photograph is of the School Orchestra at that time, posed on the staircase of 'The Atkinson'. According to my diary of that year, the date of festival competition was Tuesday, 2nd October and we came second to the Girls High School in the event.

Those of us in both Orchestra and Madrigal Group were able to return as members of the latter the following night to redeem the school's musical reputation and win our class.



I cannot name all the group pictured and indeed I am totally ashamed of my thirteen year-old self for ruining the photo by posing rather stupidly and being caught with my eyes shut. However, I hope that some of your readers might recognise either themselves or colleagues from the era.

Those I can recall are mostly from my year group (1960 - 1967). Please forgive any errors: (Front Row.) extreme R. - Derek Tabron, with John Roberts to his R. (Second Row) Next to Roy Rimmer is Michael Armitage, then Paul Hepworth and Ian Allardyce, with Paul Gander extreme R. (Third Row) next to Roy Rimmer is Mike Millward, then J.B.Emslie and David Turner, myself and Ray Broughton. The only other ones I can name are the bespectacled Ian Pond, with to his R., Leslie Sawyer, behind whom is Philip Davies. Paul Millward is behind Ian Pond's R. shoulder. My apologies to all the others I cannot now name.

Roy Rimmer, Head of Music, left KGV at the end of the Autumn term that year to take up a post in Blackburn. Our last public event with the Madrigal Group under his direction was the school carol service at Holy Trinity Church on 19th December, 1962. The next day, my diary records, the Madrigal Group sang carols at the final school assembly on the last day of term.

Best wishes,

Jon Stocker

Dear Sir,

I was looking at your website whilst trying to see if I could find out anything about my late father's schooldays at KGV, and noticed in the online edition of Red Rose Magazine 2015 edition a photograph sent in by a Mr Peter Walker. My mother has a copy of that photograph because the chap in the distance at the back of the far right hand side of the picture (who appears to be, using modern parlance, 'photobombing' an official looking group photo!) is none other than my late father E.E (Eric) Glassberg. Eric was born in October 1930 I believe and so would have been at KGV around the mid to late 1940's. He was the elder of 2 brothers at the school with his younger sibling Jack. I think they both enjoyed their days there tremendously and were keen rugby players both of whom later went on to play at lower levels for Southport RUFC.

Although I never went to KGV myself I have a further and more tenuous connection with the school because my housemaster at Clifton where I was sent to board aged 13 was another old boy of the school, Cyril Hershon who would be some years younger than my late father. I will see if my mother has any more KGV photographs when I next visit her and if she does will scan then to you in case they may be of interest.

With best wishes,

Jonathan Glassberg

Dear Jonathan,

Please include the following in the next issue of the Red Rose magazine -

"Since 2011, Martin Birch (Woodhams 1964-71) has held the post of Senior Visiting Fellow in Astrophysics at the Jeremiah Horrocks Institute for Mathematics, Physics and Astronomy (University of Central Lancashire).

And now for something completely different....

Does anyone remember the Scout Camp of 1966 near Brotherswater? Here is a picture of the departure from KGV which appeared in the Southport Visiter. There are a few faces I still recall - Rob Hepworth (near-centre, with my hand draped nonchalantly on his left shoulder), Mike Moss, Victor Callan, and John Wainwright, to name but a few. What a time we had - a river dam, a swimming hole, and a climb up Helvellyn. Halcyon days, indeed!"

Dr. Martin Birch

07973 672960

mjbirch@uclan.ac.uk



Jon

You might be interested in this. From my brother Mike.
Not sure what year but I'm guessing 80 or 81; KGV in its phasing out stage when there was no year below him.

Dave Marshall



Jonathan

're photo page 18 (RR 2016): I was at the High School during this period. I recognize Alan Rodwell - back row 2nd from the right, and Brian Cookson - middle row 1st on right. We were in Leyland Road Youth Club together. Brian and I were also in the choir. He was a good tenor.

Alan did Modern Languages. Brian did Classics at Manchester. When I arrived there in 1959 he was still there studying for an MA.

As I have reported in the past, I taught Classics at the old High School, KGV College, then Greenbank and Birkdale. I am delighted to report that my legacy lives on! Julia Clayton now runs a thriving Classics Dept at KGV and Joanne Aughton has reintroduced Latin at Greenbank. I taught them both at the High School.

Regards,
Dorothy H Hughes

This Prefects photo from 1961 came in from Bill Jewell.



Dear Mr. Elliott

My name is Cliff Teale and I am sorry to burden you with a request but it is something I have to get "off my tonsils", so to speak.

I was at KGV from 1945 to 1950 and did not hit the heights academically, just scraping a school certificate. Possibly that was because I spent most of my time on the Rugby and Cricket fields (Bantams, Colts, 2nd XV at age 15) both during and after school. I did sort of redeem myself later in becoming a Chartered Accountant and eventually, step by step, the General Manager of Black & Decker in Italy, England, Europe and the Eastern Hemisphere before being seconded to the USA in 1988. That is my home today. However this is nothing to do with me it is about Dennis Robinson.

I kept in touch with Dennis until early last year and then probably because we had recounted all our memories and subsequent happenings with our families I lost contact with him. Needless to say I was dismayed to learn of his death in your recent on line edition of the Red Rose although it was not really a surprise because of his

long standing battle with cancer. However the point of this I was surprised at the errors in the announcement and was of the opinion that a little more should have been written about him. To this I certainly think the errors should be corrected in the on line version of the Red Rose and at the same time perhaps you could add a little more "padding" to the announcement as he deserves it and it is nice for his family to know he was, at least in my eyes, a gentleman and certainly contributed to the sporting activities of KGV even if he did leave at the age of 16, similar to myself.

First of all, the statement said he joined KGV at 15, not at age 11. Second he was there from 1945 - 1950 not 1949 -1950. His name was DENNIS not DENIS. That was all sloppy.

If I may, the announcement should have included that he was Captain of the Bantams and the Colts 15, one of the best scrum halves KGV ever had (including Gordon Rimmer). He was also Captain of rugby for Grears in the same period. After leaving school at age 16 he pursued a career in Banking earning the post of Northern Area Manager until he took early retirement due to his Cancer problems.

A tremendous family man he certainly will be missed by his wife Maureen, sons Paul and Michael and many grandchildren.

I apologise for this rambling, I have no doubt you can verify all this with maybe Stan Rimmer, Mike Hyde and Alan Cunliffe (he played with us for the Bantams). However both Dennis and his family deserve more respect than a string of typos and half-hearted condolences. I will watch hopefully for a revision of the on line Red Rose.

Kind regards
Cliff Teale, FCA

Ed – apologies have been made to Cliff and to Dennis' family. The information provided was accepted as accurate and additional information, now provided by Cliff, was not made available at the time for the 2016 edition.

Dear Jonathan

Regarding the double white lines prank mentioned in the Red Rose. I'm pretty sure it was at the end of the summer term in either 1958 or 1959. Harry Brooks (Leech's, 1st X1 cricketer) was missing from the house meeting on the last day of term and Mr Fleming (cough and spit) was very perturbed at Brooks' absence believing that he had been expelled for his actions. I think he was reinstated after cleaning the corridors.

My dad (a widower) died in November 2014 age 97 having lived in his Causeway house in Crossens since early 1949 (I was age 4 at the time). I believe he was the only survivor of tenants who first occupied a house on this estate after they were built. My family link with Southport is gone but one of these days, perhaps the 100th anniversary (2025) I'll make the effort.

I recently became a caseworker for SSAFA the forces charity, making use of my navy time. Having been without our own dog for 8 years (we exercised a friends Labrador) whilst having grandchildren responsibilities my wife and I motored down to South Wales last September to pick up a 2 year old beagle (Rosie) who had been in welfare kennels for 6 months for jumping fences and chasing sheep! We have high fences having had 3 beagles prior to Rosie and having a beagle again means all is well in the world and I'm fitter and lighter.

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

Hi Jon,

Just a word of thanks for the 2016 edition of the Red Rose.

Gordon Croome's article on p38 includes a pic to which I can add the following IDs.

Back Row, 1st left: Family name Moss. He was distinguishable by a skin graft to his nose and may have been a prime mover in the KGV fencing club as I recall.

Seated, 1st left: Bruce Fox.

Cheers,

Jon.

Hope all is well with you and you're enjoying the cracking summer weather. Still, the Euros are now long forgotten as we can remember the valiant efforts of Team GB.

Maybe it's the tedium of the endless grey weather, but I had a rare moment of inspiration this morning.

I was wondering - was Mr. "Raz" Berry actually a commando in the Second WW? Where did the deputy head pick up his bullet/shrapnel in the knee? (I remember there was a piece on him when he died in the RR). What is Andy Freem up to these days? There will be older and more recent teachers that might be worth a write up.

It could be called "Teacher Feature" - or is that a bit school magazine-ish? Am I just talking rubbish?

Regards, Chris.

Ed – Chris, good idea! All, please write in with any printable stories or information you may have. Please note that John Clough passed earlier this year, see the Obituary section.

Dear Jon

I was at school from 1952 until 1959 in Rogers' house. It was with interest that I read your e-mail about memorabilia as I have my red and black striped blazer that I wore during 1958 and 59. In the pocket of the blazer is an original hymn book that I used for all of 7 years. It's a bit dog-eared now but it's hardly surprising as it was mandatory to be allowed into assembly only with your hymn book.

I also have my red and black cap.

Please let me know if these items are of any interest to you.

Kind regards
Alan Fleetwood

Jon

After starting training as a Quantity Surveyor changed course and in 1966 Commissioned into the Royal Corps of Transport. Served in a variety of units in Northern Ireland, Germany, Cyprus, Ascension Island and Gulf War 1, but mostly up and down the A303. Served twice with Tank Transporter units causing chaos on the roads with the 'Mighty Antar' tank transporter. A tour of duty as the First Lieutenant of an Army Landing Craft was probably my most enjoyable. Commanded a staff car squadron in Wilton and went on to work with the TA and as an Instructor at the Army School of Transportation. My last years were spent in Aldershot as the Transport & Movements Operations Officer for the whole of the south of England. Retired in 1995 to my home in Cornwall. Married in 1997, yes, a bit late.

Sport - once rugby boots hung up was off-shore sailing ultimately became an RYA Yachtmaster (Ocean) and an Examiner. Had own boat (a gaff cutter) for 13 years. Acted as a Navigator in the Army off-shore sailing team for 9 years and was awarded Army Colours for off-shore sailing.

A St John Ambulance member since 11 years old, most dealing with Youth activities, ended up as County Commissioner in Cornwall. Was appointed to the Order of St John in 1972 aged 30. Was told I was youngest to be appointed. (Record now broken). Promoted to Officer in 1983 and to Commander in 1996.

Took active part in local church; member of Deanery and Diocesan Synods. 6 years on Bishops Council and Diocesan Executive. Made Honorary Lay Canon of Truro Cathedral in 2011 (now Emeritus).

W K Jewell. Edwards 1953 -61

Hi Jon,

Please find attached a jpeg of the KGV prefects in 1973. From memory this includes both Senior prefects (whose badge had the rose coloured red) and Junior prefects (whose badge was plain). But there is at least one pupil I know who was a prefect and who isn't in the photo (John Williams- Roger's House).

The four wearing colours blazers are:

Back row: Paul Darwin. Front row (Looking left to right): Peter Rigby, Nicholas Pulman (School Captain) and Craig Kersey.

These were only awarded for full colours as I recall and I certainly don't remember them being permitted for general wear. In fact, I don't think they were readily available from Rawcliffes and were only available from boys who had left the school after 6th form. To call them "hand-me-downs" doesn't seem quite right but I think that is what most of them were. I believe that a couple of the boys on the photo were actually entitled to wear a striped blazer but were unable to acquire one and so remained in black throughout the year. But perhaps (I left in 1973) more blazers were made to satisfy the demand and that could be why they were worn more generally during the second half of the decade.

Kind regards,

Neil George (Spencer's 1966-1973)



Ed – the Full Colours blazers continued as hand me downs as they were no longer made after 1973. For the record, the junior blazers were still available from

Rawcliffes for the 1973 and 1974 intakes.

Hi Jon,

Here are a couple of photos for you. The first is Masons House under 'Neb' Lessiter. I am second from right on the front row. Second is the old building.

All the best

Ron Ellis (Masons 1952-59)



THE NAUGHTY CORNER (the one about...)

Those members who have registered their email addresses with the OGA were invited to send in any stories that could be placed into a section titled "The Naughty Corner". Here are some of the printable replies...

... Summer Skives

Dear Jonathan,

Thank you for your email. Although my striped blazer went west long ago, here's a brief entry for the naughty corner:

"Summer Skives"

I'm not quite sure, with the school wall at the front so low, no gates and the back way to Haig Avenue open at lunchtimes, why we chose to find a difficult route ducking beneath the Football stands, squeezing between it and the neighbouring garden and then crawling along a wall to escape. But that's what we (Keith Johns, Trevor Davies and I) first did towards the end of one summer's lunch break in '59. Once in Haig Avenue, we set out down Scarisbrick New Road towards town and sea, scout's pace running and walking, and glancing over our shoulders as we went. Because my grandma and an aunt lived in Virginia Street I was able to lead us along a slight detour and over the railway footbridge which enabled us to definitely determine whether we were being followed or not. Onwards, ever on and faster to the salt scented prom and over the marine lake, heading for a bunch of marquees which looked interesting. In we went, unfazed by the heat inside and the large signs saying BELRA, to find a photographic exhibition of the most horrible examples of Leprosy victims we could ever have imagined ranged on the tent walls and on display boards. There was no escape from the assault on our sensitivities nor, for a while, from the attentions of the fund-raising ladies and so, after politely listening for what seemed like an age about the good work of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association we fled towards Lord Street and the Ainsdale bus stop. So ended our first skive to use the football stand route.

The next time it was used was altogether more wholesome, this time an afternoon of smoking at the ABC while watching West Side Story.

I've no idea why these absences were neither noticed nor acted upon (exams maybe?) and have often wondered if anyone else discovered and used this ridiculous route to freedom."

Yours sincerely

John

John H Roberts

Rogers 1955-1960

... Breaching Haig Ave

Hi Jonathon,

As our playing fields stretched to underneath the terrace of Southport football ground, students dug through (over a period of many lunch times) up into the ground. Although I wasn't present at the time of breakthrough, I was told that one of the team made it through and stuck his head into the hole (bit like a meerkat!) but was seen by a groundsman and everyone scarpered. Cannot verify this but I remember the incident well.

Dave Newton
Rogers 1967 - 1970

...Harry Hawk

Jonathan

Read with interest the piece by John Roberts re coping with the Cop; Red Rose page 40. I remember Mr Honey well, or to give him his full title John Raymond's de Simons Honey. He taught history and pronounced Trafalgar Tra fall gare. Bit exotic in them days. I also remember the school caretaker either named or nicknamed Harry Hawk to be serenaded by

'Harry Hawk, Harry Hawk riding through the bogs;

Harry Hawk, Harry Hawk wearing wooden clogs;

He rides by night shovelling the s****

Feared by the poor, loved by the bad;

Harry Hawk, Harry Hawk' sung to the tune of Robin Hood

God we were witty then!! I also remember the 1st day of term ritual of bullying the 'Newts' 1st formers.

Keith Johns
Rogers 1955 to 1962

...High School Jinks

I was still in Barnardo's care but living in a bedsit-cum hostel and organised trips for the Rambling Club, including two very welcome jaunts with the girls' high school. The second of these walks took us through three public houses in the rolling hills

and sheer scarps of the Peak District. On returning to school, I was ordered to the Headmaster's office. Mr Dixon had received a complaint from the high school headmistress, Miss Evans, that the ramble, which was unaccompanied by any of the schools' staff was a "glorified pub crawl." Miss Evans went further, summoning each girl who had attended to her office for a dressing down.

Though Geoffrey Dixon seemed somewhat amused, I was instructed to write a letter of apology to the high school headmistress. I did. It was the letter of a young man of 17, who was beginning to enjoy wielding his pen as sword and shield in his dealings with the adult world. Typically, these early efforts, written from my bedsit hovel, were precocious and tongue in cheek to the point of seeming a little pompous:

"DEAR MISS EVANS

"I AM, AS CHAIRMAN OF KGV RAMBLING CLUB, SORRY TO HAVE CAUSED YOU ANY CONCERN OVER THE TRIP TO LOSSOP ON WHITSUNDAY. IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT THIS OCCURRENCE WILL NOT IMPAIR ANY SUCH FUTURE EVENTS SINCE IT IS I, THE ORGANISER, WHO MUST BEAR ANY BLAME. IF THERE WERE ANY DECEPTIONS OR MISTAKES, IT IS I WHO COMMITTED THEM... I HAVE HEARD IT WAS DISMISSED AS A 'GLORIFIED PUB CRAWL' BUT THE RAMBLING CLUB OF KGV HAS BEEN THERE MANY A TIME! ...

"MR DIXON WILL TESTIFY THAT MY CHARACTER DEVIATES FROM THE NORM...TO SAY THAT ANY GIRL OR GIRLS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL MUST BEAR THE RESPONSIBILITY WOULD BE AN INJUSTICE, SINCE IT IS I, THE PREFECTS' LUCIFER, WHO HAS LED THEM ASTRAY..."

Phil Frampton, 28th May, 1971

This from my childhood memoir "The Golly in the Cupboard."

Hope this is of use to you.

BTW I have this year been awarded an Honorary Doctorate by London Met Uni. if that is of interest.

Best

Phil Frampton

...for Whom the Bell Tolls

Jonathan,

Not a major crime but I think I can claim to be the first pupil to be admonished by Geoffrey Dixon.

On my and his first day at the school I was caught by the Boss playing football, with

a spherical ball, on the First Fifteen pitch. I was given a very serious admonishment and told never to repeat such a dastardly deed.

Dennis Hunt 2b 1949

...”Good? eee Son!”

Hi Jonathan!

I told my parents that, ‘Everyone was going’, as I made plans with my friend Dave for an afternoon off school.

The next morning I walked the long, upstairs corridor and there at the end was a severe looking, black-gowned Head teacher facing me.

'Where were you yesterday afternoon Bennett?'

'I went to watch England playing Ireland at Goodison Park sir'.

'Go and collect your belongings from your room, (the ice box), and go home.'

It was a miserable journey home. The red card treatment was to last for three days.

Years later I was to become a teacher myself! Forty years altogether, twenty-eight of them as a head teacher! I have been retired over seventeen years now, living in Cornwall.

Very best wishes,

Ron Bennett (Grears 1050-56)

...Kidnap Cock Up

I was part of an attempted kidnapping of David Arnold, which went badly wrong. (I seem to remember Brian Viner also being involved but could be wrong on that?) We had a brilliant idea for the Sixth Form charity thing to kidnap him and demand a ransom from the teachers to return him. In hindsight, it probably would have been better to have let poor Mr Arnold in on the plan.....

Noel Shearer

... Yogi Bear

In February 1974 The Yogi Bear show was taking place at the Southport Theatre on the promenade.

It was Saturday night 16th February 1974, three upper-sixth form KGV pupils Spud, Monksy and Fordy decided it would be a good prank to pick up the wooden 8ft Yogi bear from the theatre foyer and kidnap him. He was heavy and took two lads to carry him, Spud kept watch.

They walked along the promenade cutting through town to Sussex Road, where Yogi resided staring out of Monksy's bedroom window for all passer's-by to see.

Then– front page article (pdf attached) in The Southport Visiter Tuesday 19th February 1974. It was the last paragraph “Now it's not just the Jellystone Park ranger who is after Yogi – Southport police would like to find him too” that instilled fear and dread into the culprits.

It started as a prank - now the police were involved and front page news, “Bare-faced thief”.

Monksy dashed back to his house in Sussex Road and took Yogi off display.

They laid low and waited for the 'heat' to die down. When they recovered their nerve they decided to send a ransom letter to The Visiter. Old copies of a newspaper were cut up and individual letters were glued onto a piece of paper. This would prevent the police from employing a handwriting expert – serious stuff!!

The ransom note said “We have Yogi Bear, if you do not donate £10 (seemed a lot of money at the time) to charity we will cut his ear off” – a car was despatched to deliver the note; the driver was Mac his accomplice was Proey. The car pulled up outside The Visiter offices in Tulketh Street, Proey jumped out and pushed the ransom note through the letterbox, the car sped off, job done (It was 1974 - no cctv). We obviously don't know the outcome of the note but suffice it to say, his ears remained intact.

The culprits then decided it would be a *good idea* to involve everybody in this illegal act and brought Yogi Bear into school.

An intrepid photographer took four pictures (attached) whilst standing on the roof of the then Sixth Form Common Room (the old cricket pavilion). The cameraman was also an upper sixth KGV pupil, his name was Tez. Yogi's final days are very vague, he was last seen leaning against a darts board (The Rat's Arse), in The Common Room.

Nicknames have been used throughout this story to protect identities, because after

this confession the 'cold case team' might become involved.

Ed – nice one Terry (aka Tez)



WEST LANCASHIRE VISITER

No. 16,427

Tuesday, February 19, 1974

Price 3p

Thief takes Yogi



The cast of the Yogi Bear Show, which left Southport for new picnic grounds on Sunday, travelled without the star of the show because he was stolen on Saturday night.

For a bare-faced thief walked off with Yogi, the Hanna-Barbera cartoon character who attracted hundreds of people to the record-breaking show at the Southport Theatre. An 8ft. tall wooden cut-out of the bear was missing from the theatre's foyer when prop men called to collect him on Sunday.

The theatre's assistant manager, Mr. Stephen Farrell, has no idea who might be responsible for taking Yogi, who had stood in the foyer since the opening night of the show. "All we know is that he was there when the booking office staff left on Saturday night at 8.30 p.m.," he said.

Now it's not just the Jellystone Park ranger who is after Yogi — Southport police would like to find him, too.

Dear Jonathan

I remember the "White Lines" story (RR 2016) well, although I was only in my second year at the school. What the newspaper report fails to record, in mentioning the corridor double white lines and the chewing gum in the classroom door locks was the amazing "Cows Crossing" sign in the front corridor, at the point where the doors from the headmaster's study and the secretariat faced the double doors which opened the hall.

Word soon got around as to who the perpetrators were. I won't name names as some will have gone on to be pillars of British industry and commerce but suffice it to say

that it was not those who one would have expected to carry out such a lark.

regards

DAVID CHARTERS

Ed – go on David, spill the beans!

...High School Pillaging

Dear Jon,

I am just reading your letter on my day off. I am 71 but still working! The thing that popped into my head was this. I lived at Hillside and one summer's evening towards the end of term; I climbed out of my bedroom window and down the drainpipe and met 3-4 others and crept across to the girls Grammar school at Hillside on the other side of the railway. Then we climbed up their building and pinched the flag on their flagpole. The head mistress was furious the next day but they had no idea who had done it and there was no come back and it was forgotten. The boss mentioned it in assembly with appropriate threats.

The thing is, I cannot remember which year it was, 1962 or 1963 probably, and at this moment I cannot remember who my fellow conspirators were. I do remember vividly my parents wondering what the noise was as I scraped down the drainpipe and later my father looking at the scrape marks on the side of the house. If memories surface I will let you all know.

Best wishes Charles Rees, Masons 1956 - 1963.

2017 SOCIAL EVENTS

THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DINNER

SATURDAY 29Th APRIL 2017

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

AGM

Commencing 7.15pm

Annual Dinner

Commencing 8pm

Please note that in 2017 the dinner is NOT on Maundy Thursday. After many requests to try a different date and following the vote at the 2016 AGM, this change is being trialled for 2017. We hope that this will enable more members to be able to attend and as this is a Bank Holiday weekend, to leisurely enjoy the visit to Southport for those who travel.

4 Courses – Vegetarian option on prior request

Dinner tickets are £33 and are available from Jonathan Elliott or Stan Rimmer. Transfers, cash or cheques, payable to 'Old Georgians Association', in advance please

Contributions to the raffle prizes are welcomed.

Cancellations made after **Friday 21st April** may not be refundable. Bookings must be confirmed by **Tuesday 25th April** to Jon Elliott. Any not confirmed will be released. We will accept requests after that date, but places cannot be guaranteed. Please note Jon Elliott is on holiday from April 12th to April 23rd, so please send emails or texts if possible (jonelliott61@hotmail.com or 07969889843). If urgent, please contact Stan Rimmer (01704 576713).

THE OLD GEORGIANS'
ANNUAL GOLF CHALLENGE

Friday 28th April 2017

-Venue to be confirmed-

The 4th *Annual Golf Challenge* will be held on the afternoon of Friday 28th April, pending available tee times with the hosting club. Due to this being a Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday is not an option with any of the local clubs.

The competition is open to all OGA members, ladies included. 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 21st**. 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 14th. 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.

THE OLD GEORGIANS' ANNUAL QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 6th October 2017 (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, 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 over 6 WILL be split into at least two teams and will have to sit separate from each other, or accept a handicap. 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 4th October 2017.

The answer to the Generation Game question is... Roy Castle on 29/11/1975.

CLASS OF '74 REUNION

Terry Fleetwood is arranging a re-union of the 'A' level leaving class of 1974 for those who would originally have been in the entry year at the age of 11 in 1967.

As we go to print, Terry already has over 30 former year mates signed up for the event which is taking place over at least two days at the end of April 2017.

The group are taking part in the OGA Annual Golf Tournament, which is expected to be on Friday 28th. They are then invading Premier Bowl at Ocean Plaza on the Saturday for a ten pin bowling tournament. After suitable rest and soberisation (*is that a word?*), their celebrations will then continue through the evening at the Annual Dinner at the Ramada Hotel.

Terry has secured a favourable room rate at the Ramada, which has the convenience of a short stagger from the dinner to a very comfortable bed on the Saturday night / Sunday morning!

Anyone not already involved and wishing to join the group should contact Terry as soon as possible: terry_fleetwood@hotmail.com

FOR SALE

We have limited supplies of the following. If you have interest in any item, please first check with Stan Rimmer as to whether we have any left for sale or distribution: 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 £7
Also available from Broadhurst's Booksellers, Market St, Southport.

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

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

KGV SCHOOL PROSPECTUS 1930. (A5 Facsimile) £5

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

CONTACTS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Martin Fearn, 4 Palm Grove, Southport PR8 6AD.
01704-543169 martin.fearn@lineone.net

RED ROSE MAGAZINE & OGA EVENTS

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

OGA MEMBERSHIP

Neil Spencer, 13 Cemetery Road, Southport PR8 6RH.
peely13@sky.com

OLD GEORGIANS TIES

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

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

The following pages have been added to the electronic copy of the 2017 Red Rose and provided as an insert to the hard copy

The President's Letter

Dear Old Georgians,

Happy New Year!

I wonder if I am the first 'Acting' Principal to gain the title of president and thus the privilege of updating you on current life at KGV.

The prefix is wonderfully appropriate as I began my professional life working as an actor, mainly in theatre and voice over work but also in radio, film and television and so the acting part comes naturally.

I have been at the College since June 2015 stepping up to Principal in June 2016 and so I have been at the helm as we made the decision to merge with Southport College and form a single College for Southport offering a range of educational pathways from entry level to University education. This will be a fully inclusive offer allowing equality of access to young people from Southport and the surrounding area.

It's a brave move and one that will secure the future of the College on its current site preserving the tradition of academic study at KGV. Importantly the College will retain its name and key purpose; to deliver A Levels and promote progression to Higher Education.

The merger plans have not been allowed to impact on our students. It is critical that we maintain stability, continuity and high quality and so it has been very much business as usual at KGV. Well business as usual with icing and a cherry on the top!

The A level and Advanced Diploma results were outstanding in August 2016 and place us as the highest achieving College in Merseyside and amongst the top performing colleges in the country. We are all incredibly proud of our students and I cannot credit the staff highly enough for the work that they do to secure the progress of our young people. Once again we had a significant number gaining places at top universities and currently 12 students are at Oxbridge. The KGV tradition of excellence continues and I fully understand why you are all proud alumni.

I am just pretending to be principal and I am incredibly proud!!

Anne-Marie Francis

OBITUARIES

Peter Comfort (Staff, 1967 – 2004)

After the Red Rose went to press, we received the sad news of the passing of Peter Comfort between Christmas and New Year. He had been ill for some time and passed peacefully under excellent care at a hospice. Our sympathies and best wishes go to his family and friends. Peter was not only a teacher and department head at KGV, he was also the College Representative on the OG Committee for several years. The Red Rose would like to thank former College Principals, Hilary Anslow and David Arnold, who have responded to the Editors last minute request with these reflections as we package the Red Rose.

“After I heard that Peter was in Queenscourt Hospice, I telephoned and arranged the most convenient time to visit. As you will understand, I didn't quite know what to expect. I should have known. Always the gentleman, Peter was up, well dressed, looking very smart, pleased to see me, chatty and sociable. It must have been a significant effort for him, but he never let it show.

We reminisced together about special days, months and years at King George V. We spoke about colleagues, about funny incidents. We spoke about the different roles he had taken on over the years and his outstanding contribution to the development and careers of thousands of young people.

He was an excellent and dedicated geography teacher having both scientific and humanist perspectives and co-author of the book: ‘Process and Landform, Conceptual Frameworks in Geography’.

He was a highly valued member of the Senior Management Team helping to develop and steer the college from 750 students with a small and specialised curriculum, to 1700 with a wide choice of courses and levels responding to the varying ambitions and talents of students throughout the borough.

He was pivotal to the award of Outstanding for Governance and Management awarded by Ofsted.

At my request, he worked alongside Ray Clark gaining his trust to let go of the reigns of examinations and share the burden of what had been a once a year a few hundred exam entries, to thousands of modules twice a year with several different exam boards. Always precise and meticulous, Peter's management meant the system ran like clockwork.

So, all of these things he accomplished, but what will I remember most about this talented man?

Peter Comfort was one of the most reliable, dependable, considerate, dedicated, hardworking people I have ever worked with. It was a privilege to work alongside him.

He was a committed Christian whose values showed themselves every hour of every working day in everything he did and this will be my strongest memory of him. He was an example to us all.”

Hilary Anslow

Please pass on my very best wishes to those at Peter's funeral. He led what was a quite outstanding Geography department (Messrs Comfort, Clowes and Freem, and then Janet Lawley added in for good measure) and was also one of that excellent group of young heads of department who had been appointed by Geoffrey Dixon and whom I was remarkably fortunate to inherit just over forty years ago in 1976. I will write further for next year's publication.

David Arnold

John Weber (Woodhams, 1946-52)

As this sheet is being finalised we have heard of the passing of John Weber. Further information will be provided in the next edition of the Red Rose.