

The Hardyans' Club

TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH YOUR FRIENDS

Hardye's School, Dorchester, Dorset

Newsletter Winter 2012 : Issue 116

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Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Editor

DORCHESTER-BORN LORD BISHOP TO BE OLD HARDYEANS GUEST SPEAKER



The president writes : As signalled in the last Newsletter, I am delighted that my near contemporary Rt. Rev. Michael Perham MA, Hon DPhil, Lord Bishop of Gloucester, has been able to accept my invitation to our Annual Reunion Dinner on Saturday 17 March. Born in Dorchester, Michael was at Hardye's School from 1959 to 1964- a year below me and our esteemed Newsletter Editor Peter Foster.

Enthroned as the 40th Bishop of Gloucester in Gloucester Cathedral in May 2004, Bishop Michael became a member of the House of Lords in 2009, one of only 26 Church of England Archbishops and senior Bishops in the Upper House. He went to Keble College, Oxford in 1971 to study theology, as he did at Cuddesdon College, now Ripon College Cuddesdon - where he today serves as Chairman of the Board of Governors.

Having been Chaplain to the Bishop of Winchester, Michael Perham returned to Dorset as Rector of the Oakdale Team Ministry in Poole in 1984, moving on in 1992 to become a Residentiary Canon and Precentor at Norwich Cathedral. He became the Provost of Derby in 1998, before being appointed Dean of Derby Cathedral in 2000. In January 2004, he was named by The Queen as the new Bishop of Gloucester. The Lord Bishop is married to Alison, a palliative care specialist. They have four daughters - Rachel, Anna, Sarah and Mary. He says : "I shall be delighted to return to Dorchester and to the Old Hardyans. I have happy memories of my schooldays and some friendships that date back to those days fifty years ago. I'll enjoy recounting a tale or two after dinner on 17th March."

The President Writes:-

"A SPLENDID MEAL IN SPLENDID SURROUNDINGS"

"A splendid meal in the splendid surroundings of the Palace of Westminster," said Old Hardyans President Michel Hooper-Immins of the annual London Dinner, addressing 53 Old Hardyans and their wives in the palatial Dining Room of the House of Commons.

"We thank Roger Gale, MP for Thanet North, for inviting us to this magnificent place," continued the President. "He was at Hardye's School from 1955 and 1962, having been born in Poole, becoming a pirate Disc Jockey on Radio Caroline before being elected to Parliament 28 years ago."

Observing that Roger Gale had posted many pictures on his website, the President noted that none included the club's distinctive blue and gold tie. He went on to present Roger Gale with an Old Hardyans tie, as thanks for his hospitality. There was a special welcome for Michael Foley, newly appointed Headmaster of the Thomas Hardye School to his first Old Hardyans event. "He has made a splendid start and I am confident Michael will lead the Thomas Hardye School to ever greater successes," said Michel Hooper-Immins. "I have reassured him that the Old Hardyans have again pledged their support to the school. I am delighted to hear Michael intends to create an archive of the new and the old schools. My old friend Peter Foster has already promised not only his help, but his considerable personal archive, to start this excellent project."

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"I can now say I made my maiden speech in the House of Commons," joked Michael Foley," who went on to stress the importance of leadership and the high expectations of students in these modern times.

Michel Hooper-Immins welcomed Tony and Julia Moore, recently retired from Thomas Hardye School and newly elected Honorary Members of the Hardyens Club. "We thank them for their good and long service to the school and for their consistent support of the Old Hardyens."

The President then welcomed Jean Lang, Chairman of Thomas Hardye School Governors, to the London Dinner. "I did say about five annual general meetings ago that I hoped more Old Hardyens would become Governors," Michel Hooper-Immins told diners. "Since then the governing body has acquired my illustrious predecessor Professor Hugh Griffiths and Tony Foot, but I should still like to see a few more Old Hardyens as School Governors. Certainly some will have the interest, the commitment and the experience to fit that vital role in developing our school."

"We meet in the House of Commons, the mother of Parliaments," continued Michel Hooper-Immins. "Tradition is important here and so it is to the Old Hardyens. The London Dinner is one of our most enduring traditions, so I'm delighted it continues. Our Secretary Tony Day has organised much of tonight's landmark dinner. Thank you Tony for your good work for the Old Hardyens. I am also grateful to Treasurer Alan Brown, who successfully collected all the money- not an easy job!"

Old Hardyens Chairman Colin Lucas was unable to attend - "I bring apologies and good wishes from Colin, often rightly described as the engine room of the Old Hardyens," concluded the President. "I can tell you his recent operation was completely successful and Colin is recovering, but misses this London Dinner for the first time in decades. Can I ask you to stand and raise your glasses to Colin Lucas and his continued recovery." The company then stood to toast Colin Lucas.

Old Hardyens attended from London, Kent, Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire, Cornwall, Hampshire, Somerset, Devon and Dorset, as well as two visiting members from Recife in Brazil and Connecticut USA.

The excellent 2011 London Dinner at the House of Commons, began with lightly curried cauliflower veloute, with cauliflower pakora. The main course was grilled breast of Gressingham duck with creamed thyme potato, served with wood-smoked parsnips and pear sauce. Apple Tart Tatin, with honey and walnut ice cream was a superb dessert.

Michael Foley and Roger Gale MP stand in front of the Old Hardyens in the Norman splendour of Westminster Hall. Photograph by Michel Hooper-Immins.



Michel Hooper-Immins [left] speaks and Michael Foley [right] listens. Joan Hooper-Immins is in the centre. Photograph by Peter Foster.

ARISE SIR ROGER GALE MP; OLD HARDYEANS CONGRATULATE NEW KNIGHT

The Old Hardyens have congratulated Sir Roger Gale MP on being knighted in the New Years honours list. Roger Gale was educated at Hardye's School from 1955 and 1962, having been born in Poole. He became a pirate disc jockey on Radio Caroline, before being elected to Parliament as the MP for Thanet North 28 years ago. In November, he hosted the Old Hardyens' annual London Dinner at the House of Commons.

Writing to the new knight, President Michel Hooper-Immins said: "On behalf of Old Hardyens everywhere, I congratulate you on being knighted in the New Year's Honours List. Richly deserved for 28 years service to the House of Commons, I know you have achieved a great deal for the people of East Kent over almost three decades. However, your education in Dorchester, at Hardye's School - three years ahead of me - will have been a fine foundation to life and we all have benefited from the superb teaching at Hardye's. I believe you may be the first Old Hardyen to be knighted.

Thank you again for making Old Hardyens and their wives so welcome on our recent visit to the House of Commons. Everyone in the party enjoyed the splendid dinner in splendid surroundings, then the visit to the crypt later. On our third visit to the House of Commons, your hospitality and kindness were much appreciated. I hope we will see you wearing the Old Hardyens tie, with which you were presented, on future occasions!"

Sir Roger Gale MP told the *Dorset Echo*: "Hardye's School did a great job for me. I had a lot of fun with the Combined Cadet Force, the drama groups and sports facilities. It was a great school - tremendous. I owe Hardye's and my father. He was a great man. Born and bred in Dorset, he was from Bridport. I owe him and the school everything."

Sir Roger also credits his house master Joe Roberts and English teacher Hugh Bax for encouraging him to follow his ambitions. At age 14, Sir Roger made his own theatre in a building at the school. He used old railway sleepers to build the base of the stage and floor boards from the renovation of a church. Sir Roger also played the part of Joan in a school production of *St. Joan*. He sent the programme to actress Sybil Thorndike who also played the role, and was delighted when she sent back her autograph addressed "to another *St. Joan*."

He went on to the Guildhall School of Music & Drama in London, before a career in radio and television. He then entered politics, winning the seat of Thanet North in 1983. "I have a huge affection for Dorchester, it was very kind to me. Many hours were spent in the Napper's Mite cafe."



Replying to Michel Hooper-Immins' letter of congratulation, Sir Roger said: "Thank you for your very kind comments which are very greatly appreciated. Suzy and I are acutely aware of the fact that this honour belongs to the huge number of people who have supported us over the years and we are fortunate to have been given such tremendous encouragement. We shall both soldier on in the knowledge that there is a great task to be addressed. We shall, though, do so with the renewed vigour generated by the very humbling good wishes from so many friends and colleagues."

Sir Roger Gale MP [left] and Michel Hooper-Immins at the Old Hardyans' London Dinner in the House of Commons Dining Room.

The Editor Writes: What an unexpected experience to assemble for the Hardyans' London Dinner in a place of such history. Westminster Hall, the oldest part of the Palace of Westminster made a magnificent prelude to what was a memorable evening. Our President writes in more detail elsewhere in this issue. As we awaited Roger, now Sir Roger Gale, MP, to join us and show us other impressive locations within the Palace of Westminster, my thoughts again turned to the great sense of history that Westminster Hall evokes - coronation banquets of centuries past, addresses by the Sovereign to Parliament and more recently the address from President Obama on his State Visit. As I looked up at the great roof that Richard II put over Westminster Hall and followed the slanting beams of light that gathered on the floor below, I was reminded of the last occasion Heather and I were there, for the Lying In State of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother. It is fitting at this time to remember the Lying In State of King George VI, 60 years ago, and a memorable description of it, for radio listeners, by Richard Dimpleby. I noticed a plaque, in the floor of the Hall, reminding visitors that this was the location of the Lying In State of Sir Winston Churchill in 1965.

On other matters, the turnout by the School for Armistice Day was the most moving I have ever experienced, a credit to all concerned. Michael Foley and I have been discussing an idea of restarting the 'House' system that we as Hardyans and Grammarians experienced in our years at the School. I am looking forward to contributing to and helping with the Sixth Form School Archives project to which our President refers in his report.

We were delighted to welcome Hardyean the Rt Rev Stephen Venner, Bishop to the Armed Forces and former Bishop of Dover, to St Peter's Church, Dorchester, where he preached and celebrated Eucharist on New Year's Day. Several fellow Hardyans were in the congregation. The service was recorded and broadcast later on Ridgeway Radio at Dorset County Hospital.

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS NOW AT THE KING'S ARMS IN DORCHESTER

For some decades, Old Hardyans have met for lunch on the last Thursday of the month. From January 2012, the venue moves to the King's Arms Hotel, at the top of High East Street, Dorchester.

"We were spoilt at the Conservative Club," writes Michel Hooper-Immins, "a peaceful place where we always received a warm welcome, a fine lunch and a superb pint of Ringwood Best Bitter. Having met at the Dorchester Conservative Club for eleven years, we moved temporarily to the Sun Inn at Lower Burton in October 2011. *The Editor writes that it is fitting that the subsequent decision was made to relocate the monthly luncheons to the King's Arms, the venue for the Old Grammarians' annual dinners over 100 years ago.*

On Thursday 26 January, the Old Hardyans met for the first time at the King's Arms Hotel and will foregather every last Thursday of the month. The date of the 2012 Christmas Lunch will be advised in due course. We invite all Old Grammarians and Old Hardyans, whether resident in Dorset or passing through, to join us at the monthly lunch at 12.30pm for 1pm. Enquiries to Chairman Colin Lucas at 01305 265446.

TODAY'S STUDENTS HONOUR THOSE WHO FELL IN BATTLE

At 11am on Remembrance Day, Friday 11 November 2011, over 2,300 students and 200 staff stood in silent tribute in front of The Thomas Hardye School memorial gates in Queens Avenue, Dorchester, to honour those Old Grammarians and Old Hardyeans who gave their lives in armed conflict. The tradition began in 1957 at Hardye's School and has continued at the modern Thomas Hardye School

The names of old boys who fell in successive wars were read by four students from the school - Ola Jankowska, Michael Porter, Christie Broom and Tim Lawson. Then for the first time, Headmaster Michael Foley led the minute's silence and the brief Act of Remembrance, culminating in the last post sounded by Combined Cadet Corps bugler Joe Brindley. Many Old Hardyeans were present and Michel Hooper-Immins, President of the Old Hardyeans, laid a wreath at the memorial gates, as did Jean Lang, Chairman of Governors.

"It was 51 years ago - in 1960 - that I attended my first Act of Remembrance outside those handsome iron gates," reminisces Old Hardyeans' President Michel Hooper-Immins. "I recall it snowed that day in November 1960 and we all got very cold! Whereas we were around 750 pupils in my time, there are now over 2,500 students and staff - who file quietly out of school just before 11am to take their places to silently honour those Old Grammarians and Old Hardyeans who died in world wars and subsequent conflicts. It is a supremely dignified tribute by today's young people."

It was a most memorable day for new Headmaster Michael Foley, who started in September. "This has been a unique occasion for me, the whole school turning out to stand outside the memorial gates," he said. "I'm so impressed with how attentive and respectful everybody was. It has really been a very special day for me."

Thomas Hardye School is thought to be the only school in the South and South West to maintain this respectful tradition, where the entire school stands silently in front of memorial gates. It began when the stone pillars and iron gates were consecrated in 1957 at Hardye's School in Culliford Road. The Memorial Gates and pillars were rescued from the old school in 1995, before they were demolished and re-erected outside the new Thomas Hardye School at the end of Queens Avenue, complete with the twin stone wyverns - the School's historic symbol - carved by the late Ken Batty, art master for many years. *"This memorial to those whose names are inscribed on the Rolls of Honour was erected by the old boys, parents and Governors. Dedicated 18 July 1957."*



Bugler Joe Brindley sounds the last post.

Left to right are: Flora Phillips, Jack Eveleigh, Connor Dooley, Michael Foley [the new Headmaster,] Christie Broom, Michael Porter, Ola Jankowska, Joe Brindley.



Michael Porter reading the names of Old Grammarians who fell in the Great War.

On the left are Flora Phillips and Jack Eveleigh; Connor Dooley stands behind.



The Combined Cadet Corps on parade in front of the Memorial Gates.

Photographs by Marilyn Peddle, Thomas Hardy School.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

MONTHLY LUNCHEONS.

Now at the King's Arms Hotel, every last Thursday of the month 23 February, 29 March, 26 April and so on. Enquiries to Chairman Colin Lucas at 01305 265446

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING/ANNUAL DINNER Saturday 17th March 2012. See Booking form at end of this issue. The AGM will commence at 7pm following the HCCA meeting at 6.30pm and dinner will be at 8pm.

Hardyeans' Club Information

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Also have a look at the school website: <http://www.thomas-hardye.dorset.sch.uk/>

Changes of Address

David DREW David.drew@aol.co.uk

I have had to change my e-mail address to the one above as someone hacked into my old address book and started sending silly messages.

Please use this new e-mail in future.

Kind regards

David Drew (Hardyes 58-65) Pomander House, Townsend, Harwell, Oxfordshire, OX11 0DX 01235 835213

Colin S FRY (1950-57)

Please note that my e-mail address has changed to csfry@gmx.co.uk

You Write Membership Secretary **Bob Rench** forwarded some of the following

Graham ALLEN

Further to the item from John Newman in Issue 115, I remember the full verse as:

Caesar aderat forte,
Passus sum sed Antony
Brutus adit grui decus [*greedy cuss*]
Vere sic in omnibus.

"Steamboat" did translate it for us, but I only remember the last line as "Truly thus in all things".

Incidentally, "Steamboat" Steemson, "Ticker" Cole et al can be seen and heard in a movie clip on my website at .

<http://oldhardyeans.webs.com/>

- and follow the link "An excerpt from the film 'Children's Charter made in 1945'".

Kind Regards,

Graham Allen (1953-60).

Ray FOOKS

Bob Rench received a letter from Ray Fooks (1943-50). He writes:-

I receive the Hardyens' Club Newsletter by post and would like to thank everyone involved in its creation and distribution. I am delighted to confirm that I am receiving copies regularly. In the distant past I remember sending some money to cover postage. I am sure that my earlier contribution is now exhausted. I enclose a cheque to cover current and future expenses, in the hope that a small administrative task may be avoided in the future.

With regard to Oxford Lunches/Dinners at Exeter College. I now live in Oxford and would be pleased to join Old Hardyens there if the project gets off the ground.

Ray Fooks (1943-50).

Matias LANDSHOFF

Thank you for the NL & taking my mind back so far (1941-45).

In fact only 3 familiar names figure in all 6 pages & these are Mr Cole, Steemson & Whitaker of the OTC (sorry no pictures to help out, but very sharp images in one's mind, unfortunately not retrievable for transmission)

Whitaker was not only head of the OTC of course, but a bright English & Literature master, which tidbit might or might not help the fellow club member.

And congratulations for the usual good layout.

Matias Landshoff (Brazil)

AWG (Mike) KNOTT, Little Orchard, Main Road, Cropthorne, Pershore, Worcs, WR10 3NE Tel:01386 860153

Via a couple of mentions in the Newsletter, I rang Henry Tilling and we enjoyed a nice chat. I last saw him in about July 1939.

I came from Sydling and was the first of 4 brothers to go to DGS in 1933, and I left in 1939, went into the RAF where I flew a variety of aircraft, and I suppose I was smiled upon by 'Lady Luck'.

I came home, married, then we had a daughter, Vicki, - now I have been widowed for the last 7 years, I can say that meeting Doris after a crash in a 'Stirling' was the best thing I ever did.

Bob Rench has asked me to pop a few memories down, I trust most of them are on the lighter side - as our family was always known as a happy lot of 'tormentors', and I doubt if I'll change now.

I was in the 1st XV, and in the last two seasons before the war, I think we never lost a match, and we played HMS Osprey, Bryanston and Crewkerne - the last two were beaten by 'cricket scores'.

There were two masters, RR Thomas and BA Roberts - Benny, both Welshmen, and very keen and very good players. This was the time when cars were getting amongst the folk who never needed them to get in from country to town. Well Benny Roberts got himself an Austin 7 Saloon (bottom half green - top half black) - his driving was not as good as his rigger (or his latin & PT) - sat in the front of this vehicle he was like a little 'Welsh Black' bull.

Boys off the Yeovil Line train came from the GW station - down Great Western Rd - up Prince of Wales Road to school. Sometimes Ben would pick up anyone from the team and give them a lift to school, and discuss tactics - being driven was not a soothing experience.

Benny picked a couple of us up one morning and lurched his way up Prince of Wales Rd. Ahead, two men hove into view - sturdy Dorset backsides bent over, obviously pushing a handcart - as we trundled up behind them the 'expert' driver said "I'll make these men jump and surprise them" - he really did - he pulled out round them and shot into the left - they were very surprised indeed - they were pushing a 30ft ladder - after the shemozzle died down - the dust settled, profuse apologies - "Paper Money" changed hands, the matter settled.

Another memorable incident with him and his car - we went to play at Weymouth and I think we paid 2/- (shillings) each, this covered transport and tea in Tetts' restaurant - when the tea was over Benny had three favoured players packed into this little car - to drive them back to Dorchester. It was winter - it was dark and probably damp. Benny turned off the front somewhere opposite the Clock - the street was steep and ahead in the gloom a couple of small dim lights were stationary. "Ho Ho, this will surprise those cyclists stood talking in the road" - he went between them - bump!

It was actually a Western National 'bus parked - we were all OK, brakes and a low velocity kept the damage down.

Driving with Benny was not without its moments.

Every day had its moments of fun. John Russell from Portland -the form's wide boy, kept looking into his desk in a somewhat furtive manner. Suddenly 'Timmy' Palmer (Maths, Swimming) asked what he was up to. "Nothing Sir", but to no avail, upon the lid of his desk being opened, a frog was revealed. John said he was taking it down to the 'Dorchester Baths' to teach it to swim, as we had a swimming period later on.

The chaps from the Wareham area came in on the 'Moreton Flyer'. One day it was extremely late - upon arriving at school the tale was put forward - the fire in the engine went out, the train stopped and the driver had no matches to relight it. Headmaster 'Monty' Hill checked on this stupid story - guess what ? - it was true !

My recollections no doubt point to my enjoying my days at DGS. I did enjoy them, so many smashing fellow pupils, and staff second to none. 'Tim' Palmer, 'Dunc' Lidbury, 'Ticker' Cole, Harold Mann to name just a few. The only rogue was that scoundrel Newte who came to teach just before the war, he seemed to hate all boys.

A 'Daddy' Whitaker true tale - At a reunion in his very latter years, he asked one chap "was it you or your brother who was killed in the war?" He was a lovely little man, suffered a lot in WWI - trench feet and gassing.

Sitting here I have thought about my time in this world, and realise how lucky I have been, for scores of reasons. Damn good boyhood in a prime county, I learnt to fly, was fortunate to travel, saw Europe burning night after night, Took mules from Baghdad to Sharjah; a load of Arabs from Jask to Port Sudan to get to Mecca - this a request by the local 'political major'.

I've run down to South Street on a Wednesday half-day and seen Lawrence of Arabia - he used to go to a solicitor once a month to 'get his money' so we were told - not long after this he was killed.

Walked across to the control tower at Cairo West with Jan Smuts and his crew. Also at Cairo West I saw the New Zealander Ward, a man with VC and Bar, on his way home.

It suddenly came to me that none of these things would have happened if I had not passed the scholarship to go to the Grammar School in 1933.

I would never have met my late wife, nor the few wartime comrades I have left.

What puts all this in a nutshell, for hundreds of my generation, happened some years ago. I was talking to Mr Miller, head of Prince Henry's Grammar in Evesham, my daughter Vicki's school, about my own schooldays - he put his hand up and said "Mr Knott - were you at Hill's school ? You are a very lucky man"

Little else can or needs to be said.

Mick

Martin SPURR (1966 - 1974)

Many thanks for the newsletter 115. It is really great to see that the old school is still thriving & to catch up with associates from times gone by. This issue has brought back many (fond) memories, triggered by Kev Woodward, Andy MacTavish - who "recruited" me into the army CCF section, & the regretful reference to Jill Lewendon - Peter was in charge at South Walks as we were at Heathcote House under the watchful eye of Geoff Ryalls.

I left Hardyes in 1974 having messed up my A's. I found employment in Wakefield, West Yorkshire - where my parents had settled - & studied Metallurgy followed by Industrial Management. I moved into Quality Management & am currently employed by a manufacturer of copper conductors. Married to Dorothy we have two sons Matthew 18 & Luke 17. Having spent many years playing open age sport I moved into coaching & have coached juniors at football & cricket for some 10 years now - perhaps a legacy of my CCF coaching courses under MacT?

I look forward to the next issue, & hope some day to return to see the area where I spent much of my youth.

Kind regards

Martin Spurr (1966 - 1974)

* * * * *

OBITUARIES *Sadly we have been notified in the last few months that some Old Hardyeans have passed away, see also Membership News from Bob Rench, below.*

David Downton (daviddownton@talktalk.net) wrote in December 2011 to advise of the death of Ken Sturme:-

Kenelm Sturme 1939 - 2011 (Hardye 1949 -1957)

Ken Sturme died in July of this year after a long illness which incapacitated a very active man. He bore this with bravery and stoicism.

It is sad to reflect that two other close friends, Geoff Hutchings and Derek Love, have also passed away this year.

After sixth form Ken went in 1957 to work at Joseph Lucas and from there he subsequently read Metallurgy at Birmingham University. He then returned to his previous job at Lucas but transferred to engineering where he played a major role in the construction of the new Olton works in Birmingham. Ken spent a good part of his career here as Planning and Facilities Manager which entailed design, planning and problem solving in the UK and worldwide.

He left Lucas in 1980 to set up his own construction company which he ran successfully until illness struck in 2002.

Ken was very much a Family man and married Pam, a teacher from Birmingham, in 1966 .They had two sons, Richard and Jonathon.

[PTO]

He became heavily involved with the Scouts movement in Birmingham and is credited with saving his local Scout troop which continues to thrive today. Indeed he built their new Scouts H.Q. and was subsequently given one of the highest awards from the Chief Scout, for his services to Scouting.

Ken and his family paid many visits to his native Dorset and his friends will miss him greatly.

* * * * *

Membership News Welcome to new Associate Members !

All leavers are automatically given Associate Membership of the Hardyens' Club for 1 year. 2011 leavers were given a form to return to the School if they wished a reminder to re-enrol after the first year. 15 of this year's Associate members (those who left the School this last summer) have expressed an interest in being reminded when their membership is due for renewal. We would be very pleased to welcome them and others of their peers as Full members) and hope they will have a long association with the Club, whose aim is ' To stay in touch with your friends'

Bob RENCH writes about the 'Lost Legion'

After a lot of chasing I now have 13 members (out of 148) who receive their newsletters by snail mail who have not replied to the plea in the May newsletter, to the flyer sent out with the September letter or who I have not managed to contact on the telephone.

Thank you to those 15 members who have now decided to receive their newsletters by email. Thank you also to those relatives or members that have informed me of those 6 members who have sadly passed away.

The list is as follows:-

NAME	Years at School	Last known address	NAME	Years at School	Last known address
Hugh Cutler	?	Dorchester	H.J. Trotman	1983-88	Dorchester
Rhys W. Davies	1993-99	Brentford	A. Gosling	1959-66	Staines
Keith Hanney	?	New Zealand	Neil Hanney	?	Buxton, Derbyshire
J.T. Iles	1993-00	Weymouth	S.R. Marshall	?	Weymouth
M.Murray	1985-	Dorchester	J.C.Penny	1934-38	Huntingdon, Cambs.
J.D.M. Redmill	1978-85	Evershot	W.J.Symons	1947-55	Dorchester
I.E.P Woollard	1961-	Tamwoth, Staffs			

There are 2 members whose post has been returned and have therefore been added to the Lost Legion, they are:- R.A Wyatt (1953-60) from Puddletown and Derek Burdle (1952-57) from Netley Marsh near Southampton.

If anyone can help with any of the above please let me know. It is important that we keep our records up to date so that we do not lose more members, so PLEASE keep in touch when you move or change your email address.

The Hardyens' handsome blue, gold and red tie is available from our Treasurer Alan Brown, who will be pleased to sell you one. The cost is only £10. Send your cheque, payable to *The Hardyens Club*, to Alan Brown at 40 Valette Road, Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 3JD. Telephone 01202 535034 or email: alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com

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READERS' FORUM

Richard COUSINS

Your editor has received via Club Secretary Tony Day a request for information from Richard Cousins about events during his time at the school, specifically 1960-64. If any members wish to get in touch with Richard please contact the Editor

Wilfred L MITCHELL

Also, via Secretary Tony Day we hear that the Thomas Hardy School has received a photograph of the assembled Grammar school taken in March 1938 from Brian Mitchell. Shown on the very right hand end of the photograph was his father, the school Caretaker - Mr W L Mitchell. This photograph is now displayed at the School. Brian Mitchell also brought in a photocopy of his father's letter to his parents dated March 14th 1943. W L Mitchell joined the Royal Tank Regiment and sadly was killed in December 1944 and buried in Athens. Brian brought also a touching extract from the Mail respecting his mother's ashes being placed some sixty years later in his father's grave. The School will be making use of the material about Wilfred in History lessons. Wilfred's letter to his parents the year before he was killed mentioned Ron Essex, who was killed in 1943 - a Dorchester Grammar School teacher who lost his life in the battle of Alamein. Ron Essex's name is on the In Memoriam Board at the School and Wilfred Mitchell's name is to be added.

Colin SMITH (1958-66) extends the following invitation to ex-Hardyens

Mike Horsington, Graham Lush, and I regularly go for motor bike rides around the county. I live in Weymouth, Mike on his farm at Weston Zoyland and Graham comes down from Southampton. if anyone would like to join us on a run to Swanage, Lyme Regis, Poole Quay etc, please contact as below colinsmith46@btinternet.com Tel: 01305 768071

MARK THIS DATE IN YOUR NEW DIARY

SATURDAY 17 MARCH 2012

THE HARDYEANS ANNUAL DINNER

AT THE SIXTH FORM CENTRE,

THOMAS HARDYE SCHOOL, COBURG ROAD, DORCHESTER. DT1 2HT

at 7.30pm for 8pm.

Guest speaker: Rt. Rev. Michael Perham MA

Lord Bishop of Gloucester

Hardye's School 1959 to 1964

Wives and partners welcome

Menu

Cream of Asparagus Soup

Braised beef in red wine sauce

**served with green beans, garden peas, cauliflower cheese and
creamed mashed potato**

[or Vegetable Lasagne - must be ordered on booking]

Peach and Sherry trifle

Tea or coffee and mints

COST £17.50

Lounge suits or smart casual.

Bring your own wine or any other beverage - glasses will be provided.

Please bring a raffle prize to help our funds.

Book by sending your cheque [payable to *The Hardyans Club*] to Treasurer Alan Brown at 40 Valette Road, Moordown, Bournemouth BH9 3JD. Telephone 01202 535034 or email: alan@ajbrown1946.plus.com if an e-mail address is sent with cheque payment, Alan will be able to acknowledge receipt.

Payment is also possible online or by Bank Transfer to our Account, Lloyds TSB Dorchester, Sort Code 30-92-69, Account No. 00403528. Account Name: The Hardyans Club. If possible, quote your surname as a reference, and if people do choose to pay by this method it is important that they e-mail to tell Alan, as otherwise he may be unable to trace the payment.

The Old Hardyans tie, costing £10, is an essential, smart and iconic addition to the wardrobe of all Old Hardyans, based on the traditional blue, gold and red stripes of the old school - with the addition of the centenary crest. Alan is selling these, you will need one for the Annual Dinner.

Add £10 to your dinner payment to receive an Old Hardyans tie.

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ANNUAL DINNER 2012 BOOKING FORM

Name.....

Dinner £17.50...No's required..... Table of 4/6 required ?.....Years at School.....

Vegetarian Option required ?.....

E-mail address for confirmation.....

The Headteacher's Page

I have received a very warm welcome from Old Hardyans and enjoyed meeting many of you at the dinner held at the House of Commons in October. Thank you.

I should begin by congratulating Roger Gale MP on his knighthood. The school is very proud of the achievements of all past students and his inclusion in the honours list is a well-deserved reward for Roger's public service. We are always keen to hear from former students and I would encourage you to let us know of your experiences. One way of raising aspirations of the current cohort is to let them know what other students have gone on to accomplish.

The school continues to thrive. We became an Academy in August and congratulations are due to the governors and the management team for negotiating us through a complicated process without a headteacher in post. It means that we are independent of Local Authority control, although this is probably more a reflection of the changing relationship between secondary schools and local authorities over several years, rather than a radical change in responsibilities.

The latest school census (January 2012) shows that we have 2,316 students on roll including 896 in the sixth form. The school's reputation, and continued expansion around Dorchester, means that the school is likely to be heavily over-subscribed for the foreseeable future. Examination results were excellent this summer although slightly down on the previous year. 73% of students achieved 5 good passes including English and maths and at A Level over one-third of the pass grades were at A or A*.

We had a record number of students gain entry to Oxbridge and an impressive list of prestigious universities. We are delighted that this year's cohort look set to repeat that success. Already nine students have received offers to Oxbridge including five places for mathematics and science, and two for music.

My best wishes to all Old Hardyans and your families for the New Year and I look forward to seeing many of you at our dinner in March.

Mike Foley