

# Trinity Old Scholars Association

www.tosa.homestead.com email: trinity22@waitrose.com

Website and Newsletter Editor : Beryl Skinner (Hayter) 42

Proof Reader : Peter Turner (54)



Newsletter June 2009 No 15

Dear Readers,

The more I produce this newsletter, the more it becomes apparent that here, in the reproduction of many of the pages of School Magazines, is an important insight and history of an educational system that is no longer with us. As I look back over the past 70 + years, I do wonder how our forebears managed to get it so right, and why it appears to be going so wrong today. Many of us will have come from what was known then as "working-class" families. I certainly did. My dad was a time-served bricklayer, and by that I mean, he came home with bleeding hands, where he had been working in cold, damp conditions day in and day out, until he got a job with better prospects (pensionable !) with Wood Green Borough Council. I am never quite sure if I got a grant to go to Trinity (fee-payable as it was when I passed the eleven-plus), and our aspirations then, were to get an education good enough to enable us to earn a living when we left. It was an added bonus if we won and were offered a place at University, which still had to be paid for, and our encouragement came from dedicated teachers and parents, not "Big Brother" governments that set targets to be gained at all costs. It is unfortunate that at the end of the day, it is the pupils who are missing out. Teachers are strangled with red tape and are unable to perform the teaching they were trained to do, and very often do not get the support that they need from parents whose children are "out of control" for whatever reason. Our school managed to produce lawyers, doctors, dentists, architects, entrepreneurs, bank managers, clerks, engineers, accountants, hairdressers, scientists, teachers and headmasters, laboratory assistants, film stars, thespians, civil servants, journalists, policemen, plus me and a lot more ! I hope you find the extracts from the School magazine of 1959 interesting, particularly the address by Councillor Cathles. Lessons could still be learned. I hope Tony Judkin will excuse what follows on page 2.

*Imagine my surprise when I read the following in a local newspaper.*

An amazing 20 local residents from Portsmouth and the surrounding area, were among 31 dedicated blood donors to be honoured by the National Blood Service (NBS) at a recent Donor Awards Ceremony. The evening ceremony, held at Tithe Farm, Ditcham, near Petersfield on Tuesday 10 February, honoured long-serving blood donors from across the region who have donated blood on at least 75 occasions. Two of the lifesavers, including **Mr Fred Brailey from Odiham**, were commended for reaching the milestone of 100 blood donations.

**Mr Brailey** received a crystal decanter at the event in recognition of his outstanding 100 blood donations, while those reaching 75 donations received a crystal plate.

The awards dinner is a way of recognising the commitment that long serving blood donors give to saving the lives of others. Each blood donation can potentially save the lives of up to three people, so every donor at the ceremony could lay claim to saving more than 225 lives. added together, the donors honoured at the awards have given nearly 2,500 pints of blood.

Guest speaker Mrs Jackie Folkes from Totton, who received blood products (90 units of red cells and 80 packs of platelets) and a stem cell transplant as part of her treatment for Acute Myeloid Leukaemia, provided the ceremony with a touching speech about how blood donors saved her life and has allowed her to see her two young boys grow up. Jackie then congratulated and presented the awards to honoured donors. Jackie is a volunteer for Southampton Hospital Charity and the awards dinner was also attended by the director of the charity, Vervan Grant. Both have worked on the Red and White Appeal.

Rebecca Khan, Senior Media and PR Officer for the NBS, said that only three per cent of donors reach their 75th donation, while less than one per cent make it to 100 donations.

"We are proud to reward these incredible people, these silent heroes, who have rolled up their sleeves so many times over the years to help save lives. "Only four per cent of the eligible population donate blood so the majority of people are indebted to these individuals who selflessly give their time for the benefit of others. "You never know when you or someone you know will need blood, especially at this time of year, so we really hope more people follow their example and do their bit to help keep blood stocks healthy."

**Fred,(1950) of course, is our own Committee member and we would like to add our congratulations for his award.** I dare say that probably many of us have received blood and our thanks go to anyone who is or has been a donor.

## 60 years on School Magazine Summer Term 1949

With the retirement of Dr Emrys E. Jones from the Headmastership at the end of this term, a remarkable period of growth in the history of the School comes to an end. Difficult though it must be for the present generation of scholars, accustomed as they are to stability and tradition, to realise it, yet it is the fact that almost everything which makes the School what it is today took its rise since the Head Master assumed office twenty-six years and two terms ago.

Born at White Hall, a large hill-farm some miles from Merthyr in Glamorgan, the son of the Rev. Iorwerth Jones, a distinguished Leader of the Baptist Church in Wales, prominent in education, and for a time a Glamorgan County Councillor, Dr Jones became a pupil-teacher at twelve years of age. His pupil teachership ended abruptly, but enabled him to enter the Tondy Pupil Teachers' Centre, the Principal of which was Dr P. B. Ballard, the distinguished Educationist, to whom he owes his early encouragement and the inestimable privilege of fifty years' friendship. He continued his education at University College, Cardiff, where he gained the degrees of B.A. and M.A., with Honours in English, of the University of Wales. From Cardiff he went to Germany, where at one time all serious students of English Language and Literature were compelled to go in the absence of advanced studies in British Universities, and took the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the University of Erlangen, Nuremberg. But he did not forget his first University, and was co-founder and for many years secretary of the London Branch of the Cardiff Old Students' Association. His first teaching appointment after his University course was as Form Master at the Stockport Technical College. After a year there and another year as Master of Method at Dumfries Academy (Sir James Barrie's Old School), he came to London in 1910 as

Lecturer in English at the Islington Day Training College, a post which he always speaks of as providing him with some of the happiest years of his life. From there he went as Form Master to Brockley County School and as Senior English Master to the George Green School, Poplar. On January 1, 1923, he became Head Master of the Central County School, Wood Green, and Principal of the Pupil Teachers' Centre in succession to the late Mr C. W. Crook, M.P., B.A., B.Sc. He threw himself at once into his work with characteristic energy and devotion, and from that date his history is inextricably bound up with the history of the School.

We may be allowed here to recall the situation in 1923. The two Higher Grade Schools, Boys' and Girls', had achieved an enviable reputation in North London under the long leadership of Mr Crook and Miss E. J. Meredith. At the end of the first World War educational changes began, and: the Higher Grade Schools became Central Schools, and then Central County Schools. On the retirement of Miss Meredith in September, 1924, the two Schools were united, becoming for many years the largest secondary School in Middlesex. Within a short time the name was changed to Bounds Green County School, and later to Trinity County School, the name by which we were known till the 1944 Education Act gave us our present title of Trinity Grammar School.

What was the task which faced Dr Jones more than a quarter of a century ago? It was to create a Grammar School out of six hundred and fifty scholars with a Staff inexperienced in that specialised work, and, let it be admitted now, a little apprehensive of its task. The School was housed in a building solid enough but not regarded even then as adequate, being ill-adapted and ill-equipped for its purpose. There was no Sports Field. The task was tackled with courage and skill and within a few years the School was regarded with respect throughout the County of Middlesex.

So few scholars at first took the University of London General School Examination that the names of those who matriculated were painted on an Honours Board set up in the hall. The trickle soon increased, however, and the Honours Board was inadequate long before the present regular number of four Fifth Forms was presented for the examination. At one time an Old Scholar who went on to University or College was a rarity. During the last year or two we have printed in our Prize Distribution programme a list of fifty old scholars attending University or College. With no sports field, games were a difficulty. We had four temporary fields before we gained our present ground in 1932. But much was achieved by energy and enthusiasm, and before many years had passed we could meet other Schools on an equality in athletics, games, and swimming.

Almost all our Sports cups and trophies date from the early years of Dr Jones's Headship. The remarkable story of the Pavilion was recalled only a year ago in the pages of the Magazine,-a story remarkable for the forethought, persistence, and devotion to the interests of the School which it revealed. Alterations and additions to the school building were made. The Science laboratories, the North-East wing, the Art Room, the Dining Room are all the results of this period of expansion. The establishment of the annual School functions-Prize Distribution, Sports Day, Swimming Gala, and in a different category the Christmas parties-was an early task, and these functions have taken place, apart from the War years, without break since their start. To them might be added the School Magazine,

which has been published for twenty-six years termly without a break even during the War. The only function not revived since the War is the annual summer holiday Camp, though there were some agricultural camps during the War. In all these, and in many other activities, the Head Master has been originator, inspirer, director, and a resolute counsellor in times of difficulty. Such, in brief outline, is the record of his achievement. What of the man himself? Here no clear distinction is possible between the man and his work. The School has been the life of Dr Jones for over a quarter of a century, and he has allowed nothing to come between him and his service to the School. That, indeed, is his most marked characteristic: his unswerving devotion to duty, and he has interpreted the word "duty" in no limited fashion. Whatever served the interests of his School was his concern, whether it was constant attention to the wearisome details of daily routine, assiduous attendance at Committee meetings, or sympathetic attention to the human problems which arise so frequently in any School.

Next to devotion to duty must be placed the quality of courage. In his belief in the School, threatened as it has been many times by retrenchers, reformers, and planners, the Head Master has remained unshaken. How he has dealt with these attacks is a story known only to himself, but the result is apparent to us all. In the more immediate concerns of our common life he has remained a steadying influence, a centre of sanity, when sometimes the difficulties have seemed insuperable. This quality of his was shown most obviously during the War years, when the problems of evacuation and later of our resumed life in Wood Green were urgent and sometimes critical. It is a quality whose existence might be unsuspected by those who do not know him well, but it is a quality very greatly appreciated by those who have worked with him for any length of time.

One other characteristic must be recorded here. It is his wide and tolerant humanity. This side of his nature Dr Jones has concealed with marked success from those who know only his piercing glance, his impatience with shams, his hatred of shoddy work, but it has not been hidden from the many who have sought his help in difficulty or distress. The number of people who have come to him for advice must be legion. He could, if he would, tell true stories which would make the most hardened novel-reader raise his eyebrows in surprise. But it is not only in the crises and tragedies of life that the Head Master's character has been shown. In all the actions of his daily life there has been apparent to those who have eyes

to see his refusal to harm, his constant desire to help, his unflagging kindness, and all without expectation of thanks or reward.

We have spoken of the Head Master's devotion to the School, but we must not omit mention of his wider interests. In spite of the crowded days which his office entails, he has kept alive an extraordinary number of intellectual activities. His interest in law must have been noticed by many people, but few of us know that he is a life-member of Grays Inn. A keen interest in politics has always been his. Though not a member of any party, he has always, by temperament as well as by conviction, sided with the under-dog. To these may be added an interest in economics and in psychology and psychical research-an interest not confined to a little dilettante reading. He was, for example, for some years Chairman of the Occult Committee of the Magic Circle in succession to the late Colonel R. H. Elliott, M.D., D.Sc., and the late Dr Edwin Smith, the London Coroner well-known before the War. He was also Chairman of the London Branch of the Guild of Graduates of the University of Wales for a long period, including the critical war years.

The crowning glory of age, said Cicero, is influence, and this reward Dr Jones is reaping in full-measure. Secretary of the Association of Heads of Middlesex Grammar Schools for twenty-five years, member of the Middlesex Education Committee, and recently the Middlesex representative member on the Wood Green Divisional Executive and on the Friern Barnet Education Committee, his position on the County of Middlesex and in the Borough of Wood Green is unique. Fortunately for the cause of education, his retirement does not mean his withdrawal from wider activities. He leaves us at the height of his powers, vigorous in body, alert in mind, receptive to fresh ideas. It is, indeed, difficult to realise that he has passed the normal retiring age, and that he has twice accepted invitations of the Education Committee to extend his service. He may be sure that he will not be allowed to enjoy his leisure, however richly earned, without frequent calls upon him for advice and help.

How shall we salute the Head Master as he lays down his life's work? No words of ours can adequately express our sense of regret at his going, and we shall not attempt, even partially, to find words for our emotion. He knows that he takes with him our respect and affection, felt most by those who know him most. But there are words, not of our choosing, which express what he has been doing in a long, active, and honoured life. They come from the Book of Job, a masterpiece of literature he has never grown tired of praising. Nothing can be truer than this: "Thou hast instructed many, and thou hast strengthened the weak hands. Thy words have upheld him that was falling, and thou hast confirmed the feeble knees."

## MEMORIES PAST

## School Magazines

70 years 1939

60 years 1949

50 years 1959

**School Assembly– April 1939**

On April 4 the School gathered for the final assembly of the Spring Term. *Dr Jones said that we had come at last to the end of another term disturbed by political events so grave that the Easter Tour had been cancelled.* (See below) He congratulated **Dorothy Newling\*** on being one of the first to win the Middlesex County Council grant (of a maximum of £50) to learn a foreign language in a foreign country. He pointed out several interesting facts about the form positions. In the first year all the top places were taken by girls, but in the third year "the boys ultimately take the leading place." Old scholars, who are always invited to join us in this final assembly, were welcomed and a long list of names of those present was read out. These names are recorded in the visits of old scholars given in "Concerning Old Boys and Girls." No House points were available owing to "an unfortunate accident," which we forbear to mention, and there would therefore be no half-holiday. Our good wishes were given to Mr Mullick, the Indian student who had been attached to the School for the term for training in teaching. The Head Master hoped he would take back with him many happy recollections.

We said farewell also to Dr Hanson, whose presence among us we had always enjoyed. He was leaving us to spend the summer lecturing in America and was then going as a student to Balliol College, Oxford. He was called up to the platform to receive a reading lamp as a token of the Staff's appreciation of his services, and was instructed by Dr Jones not to return to this country without visiting the School. He thanked us all, saying that he had been happy with us, and, as for the future, he thought he would be all right if he took the advice of the Fifth Form boys when he got to Hollywood! The assembly ended as usual with the hymn, "Lord, Dismiss us with Thy Blessing."

**Editor's note..**

\*This is Dorothy Gulliver who joined Trinity in 1933, now living in East Sussex and a member of TOSA.

**THE GATEWAY AT HATFIELD PEVEREL**

Memories of war-time evacuation were recalled at Hatfield Peverel on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> 1949. It was to this Essex village that the School journeyed on September 3, 1939, and remained there till January 1943. Those three and a half years brought many problems both to the people of Hatfield Peverel and to the visitors, but the problems were solved or forgotten, and what remains now is a very

pleasant memory of co-operation and friendliness. A Gateway to the village recreation ground has been presented by the School, and was formally handed over to the Hatfield Peverel Parish Council by the Head Master.

A crowd of Hatfield Peverel folk was waiting by the Church Hall when a coach from Wood Green drew up precisely at 2 p.m. From Wood Green had come the Head Master of Trinity Grammar School, Dr Emrys E. Jones, and Mrs. Jones, the Chairman of the Governors, County Councillor W. H. Evans, J.P., the former Chairman, County Alderman F. Corbett, J.P., Councillor Mrs J.J. Bolster, J.P., Councillor J.F. Bamburger, Councillor W. A. Vant, J.P.-it is interesting to note that four of these Councillors are former Mayors of Wood Green-and the Borough Education Officer, Mr E. E. Goodchild, B.Sc. The Staff was represented by Miss M. P. Jobson, Miss M. Jones, Miss W. Stewart, M.A., Mr E. J. Brandon, B.A., Mr S. S. Dinmore, B.Sc., and Mrs Dinmore, and Mr B. D. R. Kurt, B.A. Special mention should be made of Miss Y. Sproxton, B.A., and Miss S.A. Towler, B.A., members of the Staff during the evacuation, who have since retired, but took advantage of this day to renew their acquaintance with the village. Present, too, were a number of scholars and many Old Scholars who, as boys and girls, lived in Hatfield Peverel during the war and who wished to renew their friendship with their former hosts and hostesses. After an informal exchange of greetings, Colonel Parsons, on behalf of the Hatfield Peverel Parish Council, opened the proceedings. In recalling the war-time evacuation, of which he gave some details, he spoke of the high morale, good discipline, and friendly spirit of the Trinity Grammar School boys and girls. What might have been a very difficult time for both sides became a striking example of mutual help and co-operation.

The Head Master expressed his appreciation of the many kindnesses shown to members of his School by the people of Hatfield Peverel. They were grateful for what had been done for them, and wished to express their gratitude in some tangible form. After much consideration, this gateway had seemed to them all the best symbol of their thanks, and it gave him great pleasure that afternoon to present them with its key. When the people of Hatfield Peverel passed through that gateway to enjoy the pleasures of their recreation ground, he hoped they would recall that war-time period of helpfulness and kindness-a kindness which might be regarded as the gateway to some of the deepest and finest pleasures of life. County Councillor W. H. Evans, J.P., speaking in his capacity as Chairman" of the Wood Green Education

Committee, said how greatly the people of Wood Green had appreciated what was done for their children by the people of Hatfield Peverel. Though his duties at that time had not been connected with education, he had not failed to learn of this gratitude.

County Alderman F. Corbett, J.P., who spoke next, knew of the evacuation at first hand. As Chairman of the Education Committee during the war period, he had often visited Hatfield Peverel. He, too, expressed the thanks of Wood Green, and, in a note of seriousness, declared that the best prayer they could offer was that this spirit of co-operation might be extended to other walks of life. A speech was demanded from Mr L. A. Swinden, B.Sc., to whose untiring efforts and inexhaustible patience when in charge of the School at Hatfield Peverel much of the success of the evacuation was due. Mr Swinden, who is on the friendliest terms with everybody at Hatfield Peverel, spoke seriously for a moment or two in the same vein, and then restored the light-hearted mood by referring to his motor-bicycle, still working perfectly, thought not so liable now to startle quiet Essex byways.

Then Mr Claydon, Chairman of the Parish Council, formally accepted the gateway on behalf of Hatfield Peverel. He, too, recalled the war years, with their difficulties and problems now so largely forgotten, but with their spirit of friendship so happily remembered now. The gateway would be a permanent Memorial to that spirit. The stay of the Wood Green children in their village would be long remembered. He was happy to accept the gateway on behalf of the people of Hatfield Peverel. It would be the pleasure and the duty of the Parish Council to maintain the gate and to see that it was used in the proper way.

Then a move was made to the gate itself. There a final speech was made. It was by Mrs Wilkinson, the only woman member of the Parish Council, who spoke for the housewives of Hatfield Peverel. The evacuation had not been an easy time for them, but its difficulties had been overcome and she was happy that the work of the housewives of her village was so greatly appreciated.

With that final remark, Mrs Wilkinson unlocked the gate, the crowd passed through, and in a few minutes the singing of the National Anthem brought the ceremony to an end. Held in brilliant sunshine, the proceedings were marked by the greatest good humour and cordiality. One note remains. Nothing was said about the design of the gateway. It should be recorded that it is a replica of the entrance gate to the School playground in Wood Green.

### Editors Note

**60 years on, on September 3rd 1999**, another coach from Wood Green with old Scholars and their friends and families arrived in Hatfield Peverel on a trip organised by former evacuee Ken Coleman (sadly no longer with us), to present a plaque to be mounted on the gateway in remembrance of the School's close association with the village.

The plaque reads :

*Trinity County School, Wood Green, London  
was evacuated to Hatfield Peverel for most of  
the 1939-45 War*

*We received a warm welcome and generous hospitality  
This gate was presented as a visible token of our thanks.*

**Almost 70 years on, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2009**, 12 members of the Old Scholars Association attended a buffet lunch at the Wheatsheaf in Hatfield Peverel, followed by another trip down Memory Lane, and to renew our longstanding friendship with the village (See Reunion News and website for pictures)

### From the July 1959 Magazine

The 30th Annual Prize Distribution was held in the School Hall on Friday, 14th November, 1958.

The programme was:

Introductory Speech by the Chairman, Councillor A. C. Partridge, J.P., Deputy Mayor of Wood Green.

The Headmaster's Report.

The Junior Choir-Two-part Song, "I waited for the Lord" (*Mendelssohn*).

Presentation of Prizes, followed by an Address, by Councillor G. Cathles, Member of the Wood Green Divisional Executive.

The Junior Choir. In honoured memory of Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). Unison Song, "Let us now praise famous men"; Two-part Song, "It was a lover and his lass."

Vote of Thanks to Councillor Cathles, proposed by Councillor H. H. Godwin-Monck, Member of the Middlesex County Council.

The Girls' Captain.

The Boys' Captain.

Jerusalem (*Hubert Parry*).

National Anthem.

### Headmaster's Report

After welcoming the parents and principal guests, Mr. Dalrymple said that it had been a year of steady progress in which the examination successes were promising. He was happy to mention, in particular, the Major County Awards won by Maureen Harrison for music and K. Ghafur for law.

He went on to show in detail that, while the school placed considerable emphasis on such basic subjects as English and Mathematics, the curriculum showed a desire to strike a reasonable balance between the Arts and Sciences and appropriate practical studies, at the same time believing in unity of approach without losing breadth of outlook.

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The Headmaster hastened to point out that the passing of the G.C.E. was not the sole end of attendance at a grammar school. He agreed that there had to be a great absorption of knowledge, but what really mattered was the opportunity of learning under the influence of highly trained minds how to distinguish between the true and the false, the good and the bad-in fact the real duty to God and man.

Mr. Dalrymple went on to say:-

It is in the Sixth Form then that the true glory of the grammar school is seen. Take it away, and the development of the pupils is crystallised at too early a stage for the proper growth of mind and spirit. Not only this, but the tone of the Main School, i.e., the first Five Years, becomes shallower and more trivial, while if it were removed the Sixth Form becomes as arid and barren as the flower is when uprooted from the soil which has nourished it.

The qualities acquired by the true Sixth Former are recognised not only in the moral and cultural sense, but also in the cold and realistic eyes of Commerce and Industry.

Sir Winston Churchill has stressed that our small island must become the highest trained nation in the world. I agree, and it is not an exaggeration to say that a child without a VIth form training and qualification will be seriously handicapped in the years ahead.

Our conception of our duty is to do the utmost for all of our children but we desire also to ensure a standard of education for the benefit of the children and the district comparable with that provided at other grammar schools in other districts.

After this the Headmaster pointed out that many of the most able children in the borough had gone to schools in other districts. This was a sad state of affairs when an excellent Staff offered such splendid opportunities, and so the experience of many best qualified to know pointed towards the desirability of a new grammar school. He said: This new grammar school would help to attract back to the Borough the children who have left it, and by working in conjunction with our Secondary

Modern colleagues in schools which we hope would have greatly improved in equipment and in intake, we could achieve the condition and type of education most suitable for every child.

Mr. Dalrymple was pleased to end his report by referring with pride to an eventful year of sport in which there were many fine performances and he thanked all members of staff and prefects for their valuable work during the year

### COUNCILLOR G. CATHLES' ADDRESS

Mr. Cathles was delighted to be asked to address Trinity and said that he would be different and speak about the real and living problem of education in Wood Green to-day. He particularly wanted to mention those people who were too ready to attack well tried institutions like the British Grammar School. They demanded equality, but could we honestly say that all people were equal? In the sight of God-Yes; in law-No, and in ability, certainly not. Mr. Cathles went on to suggest that not equality of people but equality of opportunity was the key, for pupils were surely able to make the best of what they were capable, such an obvious truth meant certain types of schools for certain types of children-as indeed existed in Wood Green. He pointed out that even though a new Grammar School was soon to be built, the Wood Green College conception was being supported against the expert advice of many experienced people. He outlined the dangers of this comprehensive scheme of High Schools, in which all pupils were supposed to be equal, and the College, which, it was assumed, would be on a par with the great Public Schools. Because of these subtle but real dangers Mr. Cathles maintained firmly that grammar schools like Trinity should not be scrapped for some other untried or doubtful replacements.

In conclusion Mr. Cathles showed that grammar school pupils had produced Zeta, and many of them had become and were still the country's leaders. He urged that such incalculable results must be preserved by the grammar school education and asked parents, teachers and pupils to refuse to accept a 2nd best and to insist upon a sensible reliance upon tried and trusted institutions.

### REUNION NEWS

April 22nd saw the 3rd annual gathering of what originally was the Colchester Group. Because of our link to Hatfield Peverel this has now become the Hatfield Peverel Group and is open to any Old Scholar who would like to join us in the future!

The Wheatsheaf at HP has become our favourite watering hole in the village, who look after us very well and make us most welcome.

Those attending this year were

Roy Augood ; Audrey Augood (Latter)  
 Doris Chennells (Barling) Barbara Goddard (Pegrum)  
 Mavis Sparkes (Pegrum) Reg Rogers  
 Charles Stancer Beryl Ivatt (Cole) with husband Geoff  
 Audrey Hardwick (Frost) Beryl Skinner (Hayter)  
 Derek Ridout and Vic Ware

and a very special mention of Grace Brown (Wardell) who caught the train and travelled from Wood Green, via Liverpool Street to HP to join us ! That's dedication !!

**REUNION NEWS continued**

The 10<sup>th</sup> “Class of ‘46” reunion was held at the Ramada Hatfield Hotel on 26th April where the meal and service were of the usual high standard. Colin Moor marked the occasion by providing a “Memories of 1946” cake which was well received and devoured. We numbered 21 this year and we were pleased to welcome Bryan Turner and his wife Hazel for their first visit. He recently made contact through Friends Re-united which goes to prove that there are still fellow classmates out there and we hope to trace more than our existing 70. The reunion finally broke up at 4.30 pm and the feed back has been that our friendly meetings should continue, so Margaret Driscoll (Bridgman) and I hope to arrange an April 2010 date next year. **John Glyn**

**Attendees were:**

Sylvia Turnham(Boyes);Victor Whymark,  
John Jackson ;John Candis;Colin Moor ;  
Stan Leveridge ;Frank Barford ;Margaret Barford  
(Harris) ;Hazel Turner ;Bryan Turner; Shirley Barber  
(Caiger) ;Margaret Driscoll(Bridgman);  
Peggy Pickering(Denton);John Glyn;Margaret Blunt  
(Harris) ;Ken Coates ;Sheila Dinnis(Ashton);  
Pat Beckingham(Connock);Bridget Barling;  
Peter Seager and Alan Rutter

**Mr. Plod, Mr. Groucher and Larry the Lamb hit Bournemouth!!**

(What a headline for the local rag!)

**No - Toytown hadn't come to Bournemouth, but TOSA had! - with its 15<sup>th</sup> Reunion. Yes - 15! How the years fly by.**

It was nice to welcome back Pat Driver and Dorothy Gulliver (the latter was escorted by her daughter, Alison, who I believe enjoyed the weekend). Although numbers were down to 18, this was probably one of the best reunions we have had at Bournemouth.

I was sorry to advise that Nobby Clark had died on 1st April. Nobby and his wife were regular supporters of our reunion and you will doubtless recall his very moving account in 2006 of his 'heroes return to Italy', visiting some Italian battlefields, including Casino. During his service in Italy, he was at one point the only serving officer responsible for over 600 men. He was also interested in jazz and was in a group with Reg Rogers and Les Waugh. We shall all miss him.

We were a little concerned because the hotel is under new ownership. However, so far all the public areas have been completely refurbished (very tastefully), and the now spacious lounge contains an enormous, highly polished table!

This table seated all 18 of us, and was beautifully laid out. The table seemed to act as a catalyst for good conversations between everyone seated there, and which lasted for 3 hours!

Les Grafton set the ball rolling with very distant memories of old radio programmes (hence Mr. Plod, etc.), and contributions were forthcoming back and forth across the table, like a ping-pong ball! Dorothy Gulliver gave us a really good rendition of the introduction to 'In Town Tonight' Our usual anecdotes went by the board, and our proposed quiz has been deferred for 12 months, because we shall be back in Bournemouth on **16, 17, 18 April 2010** - so put this in your diaries!

Attendees were Jill Deamer, David Deamer, Pat Driver (Tilling), Kathleen Saunders (Brandle), Reg Rogers, Ann Flanagan, Dorothy Gulliver (Newling) and Alison, Mrs Beryl Ivatt (Cole) with husband Geoff; Mr & Mrs. Les Grafton., Mr. & Mrs. Phil Glyn, Mr. & Mrs. Les Waugh, and Mr.& Mrs. Vic Manning.

**Vic Manning**

**Editors Note** Thanks must go to Jill Deamer (Honorary member of the Association) who continues to organise this event, with Vic acting as “mine host” for the evening.

**The 54's gathering**

I was delighted to again be invited to what turned out to be the most successful class reunion this year so far, in the terms of numbers. Ye Olde Cherry Tree at Southgate was buzzing with Old Scholars from year 1954 renewing friendships both from their year, and others. Peter Turner was the organiser for this year's event and congratulations must go to him on its success.

Other guests included Karen Hogan, (with daughter Lucy), whose husband Ken was “founder” of the 54 group. Sadly, Ken is no longer with us, but I know he would have been looking down on us and enjoying every moment.

**Beryl Skinner**

Attendees were 1954 :

Tony Betts, Sue Binning (Rimmer), Robert Bowes, Roger Butt, Ray Conner, Hazel Cotsford (Andrews), Barbara Dunbar (Coe) Peter Haines, Tony Heaton, Georgina Hurst (Huber), Pat Maguire (Cohen), Jean Meeuwissen (Frances), John Mercer, Sandra Negus (Bacon), Dorothy Peters, Malcolm Sell, John Solder, Elaine Stubbings (Conner), Donald Turner, Peter Turner, Evelyn Wayler (Patten), Keverne Weston, Barry Wilkinson, Pat Wilson (Snelling) and Brian Woodhall. Keverne and Jean have attended all seven reunions, a remarkable standard of support and brilliant loyalty to the group and this kept it going during the lean years of 2004 -6. There has also been solid support from Barry, Tony Heaton, Dorothy, Robert, Peter Haines, Elaine and Ray for most years. Very welcome from Spain was Barbara Coe (nee Dunbar), over here specially for the occasion, as was Tony Betts from Istanbul, each one making it a reason to remember the occasion.

Attendees (Other years)

Margaret Gray (now Bennett) 1939, Beryl Hayter (now Skinner) 1942, Colin Marr 1951, Judith Crook (now Neville) 1952, Alan Holman 1952, Bruce Rimmer 1952, Tarik Ghafur 1953, Alan Gardner 1953, Martin Gray 1955, Pauline Loader (now Gray) 1956, Jackie Coulson (now Goodwin) 1956, Colin Barratt 1959

**Peter Turner**

### Memories are made of this

#### Some further notes on the Bourne Hall

Jeffrey Burke (1941) writes .....

In 1946 The Bourne Hall was used as a rehearsal room by the George Evans band and on a warm day when doors and windows were open we could hear them in our classroom. I'm fairly sure that we even heard them singing while we were sitting our Matric exams.

George & his brother Les were leading dance band musicians. They both attended Glendale and lived in the same street as me whilst at school. George wrote the signature tune of the Geraldo band 'Hello again, we're on the radio again' He later suffered ill health but continued to front a band in Newcastle for many years. His brother Les, after injury which affected his *embouchure*\*, gave saxophone lessons at his home in Colney Hatch Lane.

Another resident in my street was Norrie Paramor, also a Glendalian, who became a leading record producer. At one time, no distinction was made between the 'A' & 'B' sides of popular recordings. The composition of the 'B' side received the same royalties as the composer of the 'A' side hits. Many of the 'B' sides of the fifties hits were trivial & rarely played compositions by, guess who, Norrie Paramor. When the Bourne Hall was used as a Jazz club in the early fifties, a regular customer was Joan Collins. I remember her as an attractive 17 or 18 year old who was presumably still at drama school.

\*Embouchure – The manner in which the lips and tongue are applied to wind instruments

#### And that reminds me...

Did anyone see Allan Jones (Donkey Serenade fame) in the early 50's at the Finsbury Park Empire?

I was stationed at the Admiralty (WRNS) at the time, and our Watch decided that we really should make the effort to go and see him when we came off duty. We sat through his performance entranced, and when the show was over, we made our way (all 10 of us) round to stage door, only to find another 40 or so fans outside.

So we joined the crowd. Every now and again the doorman would pop his head outside, and let a couple of people in. Suddenly, he stood on tip-toe, beckoning us down to the front ( we were all in uniform), where we were ushered in, and down the steps to Allan's dressing room. He shook hands with us all, introduced us to his pianist, and generally made us feel at home.

We came out of there, vowing never to wash our hands again, and completely overcome by his charm .

**Beryl Skinner**

#### Sir Ernest Harrison.

A memorial service was held on 8th May at St Paul's Church, Wilton Place. SW1.

The following Old Scholars from 1937 attended :

**Don Grammer; John Guthrie; John Snellgrove; and Ron Ratcliffe. Others were Yvonne Grammer (39) Reg Rogers (34) Beryl Ivett (39)**

**We have also said goodbye to the following friends Nobby Clarke (34)** who was a regular visitor to Bournemouth reunion

**Mrs. Jean F. Story (Kennedy 31)** who also regularly attended the Bournemouth Reunions.

**John Kemp (40)** headmaster of Hackney Downs School 1974-89 , . He died on April 17, 2009, aged 80

#### On a happier note we welcome the following new members.

<b>Evelyn Patten (Weyler)</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Pat Snelling (Wilson)</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Pat Godwin (Ashton)</b>	<b>1942</b>
<b>Ken Coates</b>	<b>1946</b>
<b>Peter Haines</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Roger Butt</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Brian Woodhall</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Martin Gray</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Pauline Gray (Loader)</b>	<b>1956</b>
<b>Margaret Bennett (Gray)</b>	<b>1939</b>
<b>John Solder</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Malcom Sell</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Georgina Huber (Hurst)</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Robert Bowes</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>John Mercer</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Carole Taylor</b>	<b>1958</b>
<b>Tony Betts</b>	<b>1954</b>
<b>Barbara Coe (Dunbar)</b>	<b>1954</b>

#### NIGHTINGALE JUNIOR SCHOOL

#### AWARDS CEREMONY

I am still awaiting details of the date of this, but we will be making a presentation to two children as per last year. The school closes on Monday 20th July and that may well be the date. If you would like to attend, please email or phone me 0118 9730589, and I will confirm when it is set in stone ! Beryl

#### IMPORTANT

The booking form for the School reunion in October is attached. Don't forget that we must have at least 60 diners confirmed by the 31st July otherwise there will be **NO REUNION**. We will not bank your cheques until 1st September and we will return your cheque if the reunion is cancelled. You will note that forms are to be returned to me due to Reg Rogers being on holiday when we have to confirm numbers. Reg will continue to organise the seating plan.. If you have any queries, you will be able to contact him after the 8th AUGUST on 0208 3669427