

Trinity Old Scholars Association

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School Reunion 2009

Yet another great gathering with members travelling from all over the country to be there and a fantastic turnout by those who joined during the 50's era. This was made possible by the hard work of Tarik Ghafur (53) who nagged and cajoled many to attend. Probably the nicest reunion of the evening was that of Alan Johnson (50) who met up with his BEST MAN John Rout (50).

We were also pleased to welcome guests from Noel Park Secondary Modern who came with their Trinity husbands :Derek Coleman 42 with wife Ann formerly Checkley; Les Hollis (47) with wife June formerly Carter; and Anne Chandler. They were joined on their table by Margaret McGinn (Stretton 48) who had lived next door and had attended Noel Park Infants and Junior School before joining Trinity.

Judith Neville (Crook) met up with Janet Dutton (Creasy) who were in a School Tennis Team (Editors note—I have always maintained that we have much more in common than we think.)

The following were due to attend:

Ireland Dinah (Kain)	27	Gillard Josephine (Payne)	47
Rogers Reg	34	Hollis Les	47
Deamer David	37	Sinfield Peter	47
Snellgrove John	37	Smith Janet (Wilson)	47
Ivatt Beryl (Cole)	38	McGinn Margaret (Stretton)	48
Stancer Charles	40	Barnett Audrey (Busby)	49
Augood Roy	41	Johnson Alan	50
Barling Jo	41	Rout John	50
Good Bob	41	Davies Mary (Parker-Smith)	51
Gray Frank	41	Dickson John	52
Judkins Tony	41	Gillett David	52
Prichard Ron	41	Neville Judith (Crook)	52
Bates Ron	42	Rimmer Bruce	52
Brooks Les	42	Adams Brian	53
Chennells Doris (Barling)	42	Dickson Valerie (Kearey)	53
Coleman Derek	42	Foster Gary	53
Jones Derek	42	Gardner Alan	53
Kenny Bill	42	Ghafur Tarik	53
Skinner Beryl (Hayter)	42	Hedde Bob	53
Wells Stuart	42	Jones John	53
Chaston Tony	43	Rawlings Philip	53
De Rossi Rosemary (Willson)	43	Thompson Janice (Churchman)	53
Augood Audrey (Latter)	44	Andrews Hazel (Cotsford)	54
Barling Bridget	46	Bhagat Bill	54
Beckingham Pat	46	Bowes Robert	54
Bishop Ron	46	Dutton Janet (Creasy)	54
Glyn John	46	Tompkins Pamela(Cotsford)	54
Moor Colin	46	Turner Peter	54
Rutter Alan	46	Gillett Penny (Johnson)	55
Seager Peter	46	Johnson Pauline (Rust)	55
Stoddart Dorothy (Dunstan)	46		

Unfortunately Dinah Ireland (27), Jo Barling (41) and Bridget Barling (46) were all taken ill on the day, and were unable to come. We hope they are well and truly recovered now and will look forward to seeing them next year. Audrey Barnett's (49) husband was immobilised and we wish them both well.



REUNION DIARY 2010

48's Saturday March 13th " 12 pm onwards Ye Old Cherry Tree, The Green, Southgate,, N14 6EN
 Informal Lunch - your choice from their menu.. Car parking at rear. 800 yds from Southgate Tube Station Bus Routes 121, 298, 299 & W6 all pass the door. If you are thinking of attending please contact **Roger Pye 01908 542440**

Bournemouth Reunion—Anyone ! Saturday 17th April at the Woodcroft Hotel. Telephone Jill Deamer on 01305 832597 for details and booking form

46's Saturday April 24th at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel at Hatfield. Lunchtime gathering as usual. Contact **Margaret Driscoll for further details and booking form on 01327 350283**

Anyone can Come ! Hatfield Peverel, Wednesday 21st April. (Booking form with March newsletter)

54's on Saturday, 15th May at Ye Olde Cherry Tree Southgate—11 am until 4.30 pm. There is accommodation if you require. Contact **Peter Turner on 01433 631623 (Other years welcome)**

51's and other years welcome - Lunch time Thursday 3rd June 2010 at 12.00 at The Fish And Eels PH Hoddesdon, same Venue as last time but just turn up and order your own food. Kim is hoping to secure the Riverside area as before.

School 17th Reunion at Ramada, Hatfield, Saturday October 16th.

2012—50 years since Trinity closed . REUNION AT THE SCHOOL SEE PAGE 10



IT'S THAT DREADED TIME AGAIN.

Subscriptions (£5.00) for 2010 are due 1st of January.

If you have set up a Standing Order, please check your bank statement during January to see that your order has been processed. Most should have been processed by the 15th. A reminder that Joint Members only pay one subscription. Life Members do not pay. Old Scholars living overseas also do not pay. And the following have already paid for 2010:

Brian Adams	Patricia Beckingham
John Bowles	Ray Brewer
Ben Chant	Gillian Codling
Derek Coleman	Janet Dutton
Jean France	Alan Gardner
Tarik Ghafur	Jack Good
Dinah Ireland	Derek Jones
Alan Kemp	Gwendolyn Lee
Brian Owen	Joyce Pine
Ron Pritchard	David A K, Ring
Jackie Rooke	Kathleen Saunders
Pat Snelling	Peter Townsend
Keverne Weston	Barry Wilkinson
Sheila Williams	Margaret Wilson
John Youell	

Cheques payable to TOSA to
TOSA

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or you can still set up a standing Order (you can cancel any time) see form at end of this Newsletter. You will save postage and me or any future treasurer, depositing over 150 cheques, writing up credit forms,(in duplicate) going to the bank four or five times to deposit them.. I cannot tell you how many phone calls and reminder letters that I had to do this year. It was over 100 !

It also guarantees delivery of the Newsletters because you will not drop off the mailing list.. Standing Orders are not like Direct Debits. **YOU** have total control over them and can cancel at any time—we have no access to your bank account.

If you are pre-paid as listed above, you can still set up a Standing Order BUT you will need to change the commencement date Do check with me first, as some have paid THREE OR FOUR years in advance and I can confirm when your subscription ends. Phone me on 0118 9730589. Best time is before 9.30 am or between 5 and 7 pm or email trinityn22@waitrose.com

**MINUTES OF TOSA AGM MEETING
HELD AT RAMADA COMET HOTEL HATFIELD
ON 17TH OCTOBER 2009 at 4.30 pm**

Present

Beryl Ivatt	Mary Davies	Peter Turner	Peter Seager
Judith Neville	Doreen Stoddart	Beryl Skinner	Alan Rutter
Colin Moore	Brian Adams	David Deamer	John Rout
Reg Rogers	Josephine Gillard	Chas Stancer	Margaret McGinn
Derek Coleman	Janet Dutton	Ron Bishop	John Glyn

Apologies received from Audrey and Roy Augood; Ron Bates; Doris Chennells ; John Snellgrove and Fred Brailey

1. The President Reg Rogers welcomed everybody and thanked Beryl Skinner for all her work for the Association.
2. Beryl was appointed Chairman of the meeting.
3. Minutes of AGM 2008 were approved.
Proposed by Colin Moore seconded by Margaret McGinn.
4. Reg spoke about visits to the school. Beryl had been able to arrange a visit for a member from Canada, but no party visits have been organised. This is difficult because we do not want to encroach on School time or weekends when they organise other events to raise money for the School., They are always very helpful when there is a request made. ***** See Any Other Business.
5. Attending members were provided with a copy of the accounts* and Beryl reported that they were healthy. Voice recognise software has been purchased to help with producing the newsletter, in particular items from old school magazines.
Colin Marr had examined the accounts and he reported they were in good order.
Proposed acceptance by Ron Bishop Seconded Colin Moore
6. The previous committee were willing to stand again for 2009/10 i.e.
Mary Davies; Margaret McGinn; Judith Neville; John Glyn; Vic Manning;
Fred Brailey; Peter Turner; Beryl Skinner
This was accepted without dissent.
7. A proposal was received from John Glyn, that in recognition of her work for the Association, Beryl be made a Life Member
This was seconded by Peter Turner and agreed without dissent

Any other Business

In 2012 it will be 50 years since Trinity closed and it is proposed to have a Special Re-union and hold it at the school. Nightingale Primary School are favourable to the suggestion and will be contacted to discuss details.

The meeting closed at 5.25

I would like to thank Judith Neville for taking the Minutes, as she has done for the past 4 years.

* If you would like a copy of the accounts, please let me have an SAE. Beryl

EXTRACTS FROM SCHOOL MAGAZINES

The Magazine of
Trinity Grammar School, Wood Green, N.22.

AUTUMN TERM, 1949**THE HEAD MASTER**

On September 1, Mr L. A. Swinden, B.Sc., took up his appointment as Head Master. This Magazine should begin with a portrait of him and with an Editorial welcoming him to the School and giving some account of his experience and personality. It is at Mr Swinden's own wish that such an Editorial is not printed here. Yet we must not be forbidden to say that we welcome him to his new post—a welcome doubly warm since, before he went as Head Master to Bounds Green School, he was for seventeen years a member of our Staff—, and to assure him that in his work for the School he has the loyal co-operation of us all.

We may be allowed to speak of the policy which Mr Swinden has publicly declared at the Prize Distribution. "I have great faith," he said, "that on its traditions, and on its performance, this School can build still more." "Here, surely," commented one of the Wood Green newspapers, "is the essence of sound educational policy." We can be sure that under the new Head Master's careful guidance whatever has been proved to be of value in the past in work, in games, and in social activities will be preserved and cherished. The reputation which this School acquired during the quarter of a century's reign of Mr Swinden's distinguished predecessor will be jealously defended. And that, in a world where so many standards are falling, is no light task.

But let us not think that Mr Swinden will be content with safeguarding the past. His choice of the word "build" is significant.

There is to be progress. No school worthy of the name can be content with living in the past. We move into a new age, an age making new demands upon us and at the same time providing us with new opportunities. We are determined to keep what was good in the past—and that is a great deal. We are equally determined that the future shall not find us lacking in vigilance, in adaptability, in willingness to make change where change is good. Mr Swinden is looking forward.

**FORM POSITIONS
IN THE SUMMER TERM**

Ia : Michael John Poole, Jean Madeline Austyn, Shaun Thomas Caisley.

Ib : John Frederick Charles Althorp, Jean Sylvia Leftwich, David George Collyer.

Ic : Hilary Elizabeth Paul, Mary Rose Bond, Brian William Hooper.

Id : Derek Leonard Carrington, Peter John Swingler, Sheila Ann Lane.

Iia : Reginald James Bigglestone, Laurence Lafosse, Margaret Alison Brown.

Iib : Janet Merrishaw Willson, Patricia Terry, Brian Dodsworth.

Iic : Leslie John Raymond Hollis, Peter Ernest Davies, Derek Albert Bowden.

Iid : Peter John Sinfield, Elsie Jane Toll, Arthur Sidney Parsons.

III Arts : Sylvia Margaret Smith, Charles Anthony Russell.

III Science : Margaret Daphne Page, Brian Edward Paxton, John Marcus Charig.

IIIa : Barbara Brown, Sylvia Boyes, Denis Stevens.

IIIb : Jacqueline May Croxon, Lois Mary Battlebury, Ronald Edward Lawrence.

IV Arts : Sylvia Anne Atkinson, Eileen Ruth Culliford, Roger George King Thurgood.

IV Science : Alan George Sears, Laurence Richard Boyall, Robert George Scherer.

IVa : Barbara Conyers Lincoln, Daphne Doris Moss, John Philip Wilsher.

IVb : Betty Norma Brown, Jean Olive Coleman, David Smith.

SCHOOL NOTES AND NEWS

Following Mr Taunt's retirement, Mr J. Ellison, M.Sc., has been appointed Senior Master.

Mrs Birtwhistle, daughter of the late Mr C. W. Crook, B. A., B.Sc., Head Master of the Higher Grade Boys' School, has sent us some notes of the School in its early days, and also a prism which will be put to good use in the Physics Laboratory. The School sends its thanks and best wishes.

We thank Mrs Edmonds for a gift of books from the late Mr W. B. Edmonds' library.

We congratulate Mrs Dr Peven (known to us as Miss K. Newman) on the birth of a son, Roger James, on October 2.

We send good wishes for recovery to Mrs M. Penny (formerly known to us as Miss M. Downey), who is in the Highlands Hospital, Winchmore Hill.

Miss J. Ross, at one time in charge of the physical training of the girls, is now Secretary of the Ling Association of Physical Education.

A photograph appeared on the front page of The Times Educational Supplement of October 14 of Mr D. W. Shave, M.Sc., and some of his students at The Camden Training College, where he is now a Lecturer. He was formerly Senior Geography Master at this School.

A jocular note in The Wood Green Herald of October 21 translates the Wood Green Borough motto "Nostrum viret vobur" as "We are not dead, but sleeping." Mr Eustance, on whose suggestion the motto was adopted, is, we understand, suitably shocked.

Randomly selected—1953 Spring Term A DRAMATIC PUNCHBOWL

Into a punchbowl goes, we are told, all sorts' of ingredients. So, into the plays which Mr Morris has been producing for some time new at the end of the Spring Term, went on March 20 and 21 a very wide and mixed collection of plays and players. Like the drink which came out of the punchbowl; the result was cheering and stimulating.

The "first potion," as the programme, continuing the metaphor, called it, consisted of five short plays linked together by the device of a producer and a "Lady Genii" whose magic powers called into existence the plays we saw. There was a Mime and Ballad Chorus, - Get up and Bar the Door," by the First Form, a scene from "David Copperfield" by the Second Form, two short plays by Thomas Cain, The Smugglers "for boys and "Who Are Great?" for girls, in which the casts were drawn mainly from the Third and Fourth Forms, and a farcical scene from Alice in Wonderland." All this looks on paper an unwieldy clutter of odds and ends, but skilful handling and organisation brought no sense of confusion, and the first part of our entertainment moved swiftly.

So, too, did the second part, a delightful Welsh wayside comedy, "Birds of a Feather," by J. O. Francis, in which four members of the Staff, Mr Mackey, Mr Kurt, Mr Peacock, and Mr Morris himself, appeared. The play could not have been better cast if it had been written for them.. The audience enjoyed it hugely.

Lastly came a serious play, "Unto the End," by Wilfrid Grantham, the theme of which is suggested by its setting: A small disreputable tavern outside Jerusalem on the road to Golgotha during the evening of the Crucifixion. We confine ourselves to one comment on its presentation. The players, drawn from the Fifth and Sixth Forms, were notably better in speech than the younger players we had heard earlier in the evening.

It is not for us in these pages to express thanks, but this brief note would be incomplete without a word of appreciation of Mr Morris. whose inspiration, persistence, and sheer hard work alone made the production possible. Mr Strange's lighting was, as usual, first-rate.

THE CASTS

Where two names are given, the first played on Friday, the second on Saturday.

1. Prologue. The Producer : George Mulley. The Stage Manager : John Hagarty. Lady Genii : Mlle Simone Imbert.

(a.) " **Get Up and Bar the Door.**" Goodman : John Wright and Leslie Jepps (mime), Raymond Sieman (speaker). Goodwife Christine Hall and Patricia Thraves (mime), Maureen Costello (speaker). First Robber : Peter Kenway (mime), Victor Nash and Robert Adams (speakers). Second Robber : Christopher Tew (mime), Leslie Jepps and John Wright (speakers).

Chorus :

Marianne Clare, Kathleen England, Janet Hill, Patricia Thraves, Margaret Fox, Kathleen Warren, Hazel Harris, Judith Crook, Moira Levens, Christine Hall, Maureen Harrison, Jill Mitchener, Maureen Costello, Gillian Mangold, Rita Franklin. Josephine Beales.

(b.) " **David Copperfield.**" David : David Battlebury and Alan Andrews. Miss Betsy Trolicood: Rosemary Langdon and Betty Brannan. Janet : Toni Botten and Jill Collyer. Mr Dick : Malcolm Matthews. Mr Murdstone : Anthony Gale and Colin Hale, Miss Murdstone : Jill Sims and Anita Phillips.

Understudies : Rita Franklin, Josephine Beales.

(c.) " **The 'Smugglers.' Trelawney** : Richard Worden and Eric Fry. Tregarth: Dennis Hawkes and Brian Carrington. Penridon : Alan Russell and Ray Bennet`. Redcliffe : Robert Pe'tifer and Anthony Haskins. Dick: David Hudson. Morgan: Peter Carrington and Alan Kemp. Preventive Men: Michael Cross, Brian Braddick, and those not playing named parts.

(d.) " **Who Are Great?** " Joan Tarbett: Patricia Cole and Pamela Bartlett. Mrs Tarbett : Ivy Jenner and Hilary Beck. Witch of Endor: Doreen Cooper and Hazel Hill. Cleopatra: Valerie Clifton and Patricia Weyler. Florence Nightingale : Barbara Clarke and Shirley Hitchcock. Queen Elizabeth : Pamela Cannon. Boadicea: Barbara Williams and Sheila. Martin. Portia: Jennifer Beales and Patricia Pickard.

(e.) " **Alice in Wonderland.**" Mock Turtle: Geoffrey Pratt. Alice : Margaret Mills. Gryphon: Brian Sparks. Piano accompaniment : Doris Redding and Jean Fairbrother.

2. " Birds of a Feather." Twm Tinker : Mr Mackey. Dicky Bach Dwl: Mr Morris. Jenkins the Keeper: Mr Peacock. The Bishop of Mid-Wales: Mr Kurt.

(3.) " Unto the End." The Traveller : John Merritt.

The Old Woman : Janet Willson. Mirza : Thalia Mansell. Naomi : Diana Phillips. Tobit : John Greenhalgh. Ezra: Peter Swingler. Miriam: Margaret Brown. Longinus : John Taylor. Barabbas: Alan Greene. Abner : John Althorp.

Costumes by Universities Mission to Central Africa and C.I. Samuels. Settings constructed by Mr Chick and Mr Lamacraft, designed and painted by Mr Penney. Business Manager : Mr Williams. Make-up : Mr R. Weaver, assisted by Mr D. Stephens and Jack Good. Stage Manager : Richard Stroud, assisted by Leslie Mead, Michael Osborn, Richard Redom, Alex. Cochrane, Ronald Kenway, Arthur Parsons, Brian Strong, and Kenneth Wright. Lighting: Mr E. Strange. Sound effects: Dennis Croughton and Dennis Hawkes.

Lack of space in the September Newsletter prevented me from including the following tributes to friends who are no longer with us.

LAURENCE 'NOBBY' CLARK by his wife Joyce

Born 6th July 1922 Died 1 May 2009

Although born in England on 6th July 1922, he spent his first five years in the Sudan, close to Khartoum. He told tales of his life there with his 'boy' Magami, who kept an eye on him. On one occasion, when Nobby was about to step on a scorpion, Magami pushed him aside and trod on it himself. He then took out a knife and cut out a piece of his own foot to prevent the poison spreading!

Returning to England at the age of 6, he was a boarder in Folkestone, looked after by his grandmother during holidays. When his parents returned from abroad, he went to school at St. Michael's, Wood Green and then to Trinity County School. With his parents moving to Finchley he left Trinity and went to Christ's College in Finchley.

On leaving school, he joined H.J. Heinz and remained there until he was 18 when he volunteered for the army.

He was in the Royal West Kents for training and successfully applied for a commission. Posted to the newly formed Reconnaissance Corps and sent to North Africa, he celebrated his 21st birthday in Tunis.

Then on to Italy, landing at Salerno and taking part in the whole Italian campaign, including Monte Casseno. He was lucky to come through, although not without damage. He was standing by a wall when it was hit by a shell, that blasted a large hole in the wall and killing two chaps who were with him. He had serious damage to his ears and was in hospital for a long time. On recovery, it seemed to have affected his hearing and in fact all the nerves had been destroyed in one ear. Latterly, deafness occurred in the other one. He came home in August 1945 and was married in September, returning after leave to Italy. He was demobbed in August 1946.

He started business life in a local garage in Enfield, but then moved on to Bond Street, London, selling Ferraris, Aston Martins, Bentleys etc., which he loved. He then moved into finance and retired age 61.

He had an active life - tennis, squash, hobbies and DIY. After moving to Farnham Common, he was instrumental in starting a cricket club, and with the purchase of some ground (and hard work!) a Sports Club was born 50 years ago. Many sports and Keep Fit activities prevailed, and Nobby rose from committee member to President, from which post he retired 10 years ago. He was very proud of this Club.

We are sorry to learn of the passing of Miss Ann Chopin, a former teacher at Trinity Grammar School. Her niece Dr. Karin Chopin writes:

I write to inform you of the death of my aunt, Ann Chopin, on the 23rd June aged 99 & 1/2 years. Auntie's end was swift and kind: she had a heart attack in her

sleep and died peacefully a few hours later in our local community hospital in Dartmouth with myself at her bedside. She had enjoyed an outing to the beach with a friend only two days before she died.

Auntie remained in extraordinarily robust good health right up until her death, let down only by her poor eyesight and arthritic knees. I visited her the evening before she died and she interrogated me about her tax return which she was still able to mastermind! She retained her acute mind, her sense of humour & her insistence upon the highest standards until the very end. Her final resting place is to be alongside her mother at Watts Cemetery in Compton near Guildford in Surrey. Having had the privilege of reading through her correspondence, I know there are many men and women out there who are indebted to her for her inspired teaching.

Thank you for keeping her in touch with Trinity Old Scholars Association.

Kim Ghafur (1951) remembers:

I was very sorry to hear the sad news of our former school teacher Ann Chopin's death. Ann was an excellent teacher and that is why I wished to keep in touch with her many years later. She was always firm but fair. She used to come in the class room with the exam results under her arm and say "Ye that have tears prepare to shed them now". The class was poor at précis (essential then for English language O level) and so my barrister father made me go to the library after school and summarise or précis the Times leader columns. Eventually this helped me so much so that Ann asked me to stand up and tell the class how I was able to do it when they were unable to. I was too embarrassed to say what I had done and so I made up another reason. Years later when I reunited with Ann I wrote and told her.**

Ann corrected me at school in at least two respects that I recall the word 'perhaps' had somehow become 'prehaps' and a childhood account of devouring 'Victorian' plums was rightly corrected to Victoria plums! I will always also remember that she and Sylvia Hall gave me and other pupils free private tuition just before our A level English exams .

My favourite books with Ann and the class were Prester John by John Buchan ;The Essays of Elia Charles Lamb; and the poems of Robert Browning. I still have my A Level Browning Exercise book and my school report ; both with Ann's comments .

I enjoyed her teaching very much and used my knowledge of précis in my subsequent legal career to summarise cases. Ann would no doubt have been pleased to see my return last year to the bar as a barrister of Lincoln's Inn (after 27 years as a solicitor) and am now once again the proud owner of my wig and gown . I give talks to WI groups and similar bodies and always carry my précis book with me. and recount the above story in my talks.**

Kim uncovers **Bernard Kurt** after much research and eventual correspondence with his widow.

**Trinity Grammar School 1949-56
Teacher of French and Spanish**

Bernard Kurt was born in Birmingham on 15 April 1915. He graduated from Birmingham University and after qualifying was an exchange assistant in Salgau before moving to Leipzig to become a lecturer in English at a commercial college. After two years there, war broke out and returning to England, he served in the army for seven years rising to a Captain in the Royal Artillery and included action in Egypt, Lebanon and Rhodes. His first job on demob was at Lord Wilson's School, Thame, Oxford. from where he moved to Trinity teaching French and Spanish. He was form master for one of the top stream (1951 intake) classes of 3b-5b 1953-56.. He assisted in Housemaster duties in St David's House. He took part in school dramas including "The Last War" (1952) and "The Winslow Boy". On leaving Trinity he taught at various schools and finally Drayton Manor Grammar School, Hanwell where he met his wife Betty. They moved to Hastings and he retired in 1975 where he continued to enjoy his interest in languages and tennis. **He died on 21 August 2002.** He is remembered by many former pupils as a very gifted teacher..

In July 1948 Johnson left for the RAF's largest equipment park in Germany, near Hamburg. For the next 18 months much of his attention was directed towards supporting the Berlin Airlift, particularly the maintenance of an adequate supply of spares and support for the wide range of air transport aircraft involved. On his retirement from the RAF Johnson joined British Aerospace and was appointed the company's director of supply and engineering in Saudi Arabia. In 1982 he retired and returned to England. Renowned as a hard worker, Johnson expected the same of his staff. He was quick to identify those he could trust and who had potential; a fixed gaze from his piercing blue eyes was sufficient to stir those who favoured the more casual approach. But although a hard taskmaster, he was a man of great personal integrity and loyalty. He was appointed OBE in 1963 and CB in 1973.

"Johnnie" Johnson died on May 10. He married Evelyn "Blossom" Hunt in New Delhi in 1943. She survives him with their two sons.

Précis from the obituary published June 17 2009 Daily Telegraph.

Editor's comment. I have included this, even though Johnnie Johnson was unknown to the Association, he was an Old Scholar who achieved great success in his life. He would have left school at a time when it was the norm to leave at 14 (1931).

Air Vice-Marshal 'Johnnie' Johnson,(28) died aged 91, started his career as a 14-year-old runner for a City firm of stockbrokers and rose to become the RAF's Director-General of Supply at a time of considerable change in the service's force structure and its support.

From 1965, Johnson held a range of senior appointments in supply policy and management. For two years, at MoD Harrogate, he was responsible for the provision of aircraft spares; and after attending the Imperial Defence College he was appointed chief supply officer at Headquarters Fighter Command. The son of a major in the Indian Army, Frank Sidney Roland Johnson, always called "Johnnie", was born at Simla on August 4 1917. **He was educated at Trinity County School, Wood Green, but left when he was 14 to work in the City of London.**

In July 1935 he joined the RAF, training as a wireless mechanic before leaving for the North West Frontier to join No 1 (India) Wing at Kohat. In addition to his routine maintenance tasks, he volunteered for air gunner duties, a part-time role which attracted an extra sixpence a day. He flew operations in Wapiti biplanes against the dissident tribesmen of the region.

Attracted by the offer of immediate promotion to sergeant, Johnson volunteered to transfer to the Indian Army Corps of Clerks in September 1939 to specialise in store keeping. Before returning to the RAF in April 1943, he had been promoted to warrant officer. He was commissioned in the equipment branch, and for the rest of the war served on the staff of the Director-General of Equipment, based at Harrogate.

We have just heard of the passing of **Roy Brownjohn (47)** who died on 7th October 2008. I have managed to contact his son Gary, who writes:

'My Dad was diagnosed with Cancer in September 08, he had been complaining of feeling unwell the week before the diagnosis but we just assumed it was an age related thing. But it got to a point where he had to be admitted to hospital. My Dad passed on the 7th Oct 08 at home where he wanted to be, just 4 weeks after being admitted to hospital. If you had spoken to or seen him the week before being admitted, you wouldn't know he was ill, how cruel life can be at times. I know he loved going to the reunion. So thank you for all the work you do. It made him very happy.'

Our belated sympathy is with Gary, his brother Ian and Roy's eight grandchildren, one of which arrived 2 months ago, so he never got to meet her.

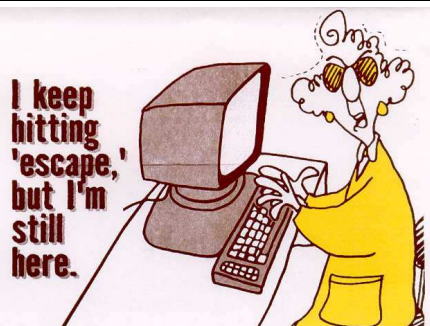
And finally

We are extremely sorry to advise the sudden passing on the 28th September of **Dorothy Peters (1954)** after a short illness. She was a popular member of the Association, regularly attending class and school reunions over the years.

She will be greatly missed by all her friends at Trinity. Her funeral was attended by friends from Trinity including Peter Turner (54) who travelled from Yorkshire to be there.

That says it all about the affection we had for her.

So I am told—ROYAL MAIL equipment cannot differentiate between 2nd class mail and 1st class if the envelope is hand-written so it is always treated as First Class... save yourself a bob or two !



Memories are made of this

From the article in a previous newsletter regarding The Bourne Hall by Jeff Burke, came the following letter from an old Glendalian who had been given that by a TOSA friend (yes we really did /do have friends who went to Glendale !) I am delighted to publish it here, which continues the theme that we really do have more in common than we are think.

Dear Beryl,

Thank you very much for putting me in touch with Jeff Burke. We have had a couple of most interesting conversations, and he suggested that I should write to you with my comments on his piece on P8 of your Trinity newsletter.

I went to several of the big band rehearsals at Bourne Hall, to see and hear how brother George's completely new band was shaping up. The band was an innovative concept inasmuch as it consisted of 5 alto saxes (2 doubling soprano) 4 tenors (one doubling bass sax) and a baritone sax. Plus 5 trumpets, a 4 piece rhythm section, girl vocalist. 10 saxes, 5 trumpets, 4 rhythm, playing dance-music and a large percentage of big-band swing. Every arrangement of every number had been written by George.

I had a really good laughwith Jeff...when I pointed out that I had never heard the band singing and Jeff said it was a printer's error, and should have been SWINGING!! That's more like it!

George led his band from April '46 through to the end of August, which included a 2 month stretch at Hammersmith Palais. He then had to go into Clare Hall Sanatorium. with T.B. in one lung. He asked me to give-up my private sax teaching, and lead the band, out on the road, which I did from Sept.'46 to Feb '47 .. our worst winter for 30 years.

I went back to teaching sax and clarinet. George's treatment was successful, and a bit later on he formed a different band of 4 trumpets, 4 trombones, 6 saxes, and rhythm., He toured for a couple of months, then secured a residency-at the Oxford Galleries Ballroom, Newcastle, 1949 to 1958, when he retired..

I served as a dance-musician in the R.A.F. attached to Central Band, from 1940 to 1944. At that time I was invalided out (weight 8 stone 91bs) with a chest problem, and advised to stop playing. Nothing to do with embouchure, Jeff., It was supposed to be emphysema which, thank goodness, it wasn't. But it led me to start teaching sax and clt privately. Which was 1944 to 1980. Somewhere along the line, and of course, a long time after we left Hewitt Avenue, Wood Green in 1934 and to my surprise Jeff told me that he took sax lessons from me for about 18 months indeed in Colney Hatch Lane. I have kept all my old address books of pupils, and yes, there he is at 123 Hewitt Avenue.

I was a very busy sax teacher, and literally hundreds of pupils passed through my hands in those 36 years. Many of them became excellent and well-known pro. players.

George was at Glendale 1927 to 1931. I was there 1931 to 1935. My wife was at Glendale 1932 to 1937. We married in 1941 68 years in September next. Can't be bad.

George started playing when he was 14/15, and doing local gigs when he was late 15/16. Our Headmaster, Mr. Cocks, contacted our parents to say that George must either give up this "banding" as he called it, and concentrate on his studies for Matric, or leave. So he left! George at 18/19 was playing with Syd Lipton's band at Grosvenor House, and broadcasting regularly from there. We heard that Mr. Cocks at an annual prize-giving later, announced "We must remember our distinguished ex-pupil, George Evans, who can be heard on the radio every week". What a cheek, after virtually expelling him! Neither did I finish my 5 year stint at Glendale. I left under similar circs. in 1935. I knew I wanted to be a musician, following in George's footsteps.

When we lived in Hewitt Avenue, at No.134 (1923 to 1935) Norrie Paramor; lived in the bottom block, about 180 something. He was 16, George 15, and Norrie formed a little band called the Yale 5. Rehearsed in Norrie's front room, and I (11 years) and other kids including Norrie's young brother Alan, listened outside on the pavement!

Jeff told me that one of his classmates was a Ron Pritchard and Ron told him that his elder brother Frank was a good trumpet player. Once again what a surprise. When I was 18 or thereabouts, someone said why didn't I go along to Trinity School one evening where musicians (not the public) got together for a 'jam session' ad lib jazz, so I did it, and there I met Frank Pritchard for the first time. He was about my age. Also a drummer called Roy Sheppard who was a pupil about 1932, I guess. Apparently Frank, Ron and Eddie Pritchard all went to Trinity.

AND, here's another coincidence, I met up with Frank again because he became one of the 5 trumpets in brother George's big band, yes... at Bourne Hall. My sincere apologies for writing all this guff,...it just went on and on. Anyway, please take note of any relevant or interesting bits and if you want to use them, please do so. Otherwise, take this lot to bed with you... it will help you nod off ! My very best wishes Les Evans

THIS SPACE and more COULD have been YOURS

I AM DESPERATE TO GET SOME ADDITIONAL INPUT FOR future NEWSLETTERS

I can only publish what I am given or use information from School Magazines. In previous newsletters these have been in line with the year in which we were at the time for each decade e.g. 30's, 40's and 50's. I NEED some articles for future newsletters from any era PARTICULARLY FROM THE 50'S. We all have memories (good or bad) of Trinity, and there must be some funny stories to tell. **The September newsletter** was given over to the events of 1939 because it was considered to be an important part of the School history (60 years on). We are missing 50's information and from tales told, I believe after the retirement of Mr Swinden things got very interesting—who can give me the full story of the events surrounding the gathering at Spouters Corner opposite the Gaumont which made the national newspapers ! We are now coming around to the 0's (1940) 1's (1951) 2's (1952) etc. so what do I use ???.

Contributions ideally, should be by an email WORD attachment. Using font Times New Roman size 11. or typed. If you have to hand-write, these are ok but take longer to transpose.

More Memories are made of this
An Ode to the The 621 (and 521) Trolleybus

In the 1950s I went to school on a 621 trolley bus
 As magnificent as an ancient blunderbuss!
 The route from Tally Ho Corner to Finsbury Park
 "Two inside the rest on top" the conductor would bark
 As we got on at New Southgate
 For Trinity Grammar; "Don't be late"
 Down to the gas works and North Circular Road
 Then up to Bounds Green tube with the schoolboy load
 Past St Gabriels and Bowes Park; a frantic fight
 When Trinity's playground came into sight
 And going home what a thrill!
 When the 621 came up Jolly Butcher's Hill
 It meant home and tea - we were away
 Then back at the bus-stop the following day.
 The conductor gave us tickets from a machine that dinged
 With a bell-like sound that ringed
 Those tickets too were marked in old money
 I expect to-day's kids would think it funny
 But if your ticket added up to 21
 Luck was on your side my son!

When the trolley-sticks came off their wires
 A barge-pole hook as tall as spires
 Came out from underneath the bus
 It really was a lot of fuss
 It made the starlings jump out of bed
 With the loud electric fizz from overhead
 We laughed to watch the conductor half bent
 Then ding-ding-ding and off we went.
 In those days we stood up for ladies and the old
 To offer our seat was polite we were told.
 We often jumped off before our stop
 To be at the school gates in one big hop.
 Coming home we kept our pals on board
 From alighting when they wished; the bell-cord
 Was pulled and off they went
 'Twas many minutes walking back they spent
 On the way to school on the 621 trolley bus
 When no-one saw - us
Kim Ghafur (51)

REUNION 2012. HAVE HEARD FROM NIGHTINGALE AND HEADMISTRESS IS FULL OF ENTHUSIASM FOR US TO DO IT WITH THE SCHOOL PARTICIPATING. LOTS TO GET SORTED OUT. I WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH ALL CLASS CO-ORDINATORS TO GET ON BOARD

Standing Order Instruction

To Manager.....(Bank) Branch.....

Please set up a Standing Order to:

TOSA Sort Code 30-91-11 Account No. 03469989 Reference
 Example YournameYear joined
 Trinity
 eg BDSKINNER42

Amount £5.00 (Five Pounds) Annually on 5th January commencing 2010 until further notice

Please debit my account No.....Sort Code.....