

Trinity Old Scholars Association

Editor—Beryl Skinner 0118 9730589

Proof Reader—Peter Turner 01538 371331

Email: trinityn22@waitrose.com



A very successful gathering at the Annual Reunion on the 15th October. Your Committee were delighted to see friends old and new and it would appear from very favourable comments received, that having this at lunch time should continue. Next year has already been reserved, so please make a note in your 2012 diaries—Saturday 20 October 2012 noon for 12.30.

As always, we were pleased to welcome Old Scholars' guests together with husbands and wives and "new boy" Peter Viles who met an old friend (Derek Coleman) he had not seen for 60 yrs !

It was particularly good to welcome our Life President (The man who made all this possible) Don Grammer with Yvonne

Attendees for this year were:

Rogers Reg	34	Rutter Alan	46
Grammer Don	37	Seager Peter	46
Ivatt (Cole) Beryl & Geoff	38	Stoddart Doreen	46
Grammer (Horn) Yvonne	39	Churchman (Ebbs) Valerie	47
Augood Roy	41	Osborn Mick	47
Good Bob with Ann	41	Rogers Alan	47
Judkins Reg with Joyce	41	Sinfield Peter	47
Pritchard Ron with Marian	41	Smith (Willson) Janet	47
Bates Ron with Patricia	42	Thompson (Caven) Ann	47
Brooks Les	42	McGinn (Stretton) Margaret & John	48
Chennells (Barling) Doris	42	Brailey Fred and Maureen	50
Coleman Derek with Ann	42	Johnson Alan	50
Jones Derek with Pat	42	Rout John with Meryll	50
Skinner (Hayter) Beryl	42	Davies (Parker-Smith) Mary	51
Viles Peter with Patricia	42	Ghafur Kim with Sandy	51
De Rossi (Willson) Rosemary	43	Hale Colin	51
Gaggs Oliver with Rita	43	Tomkins (Cotsford) Pam with Bob	51
Good Jack	43	Neville (Crook) Judith	52
Hext Victor	43	Bowes Robert	54
Sprague (Ellicott) Rosemary	43	Huber (Hurst) Georgina	54
Augood (Latter) Audrey	44	Turner (Creasy) Janet	54
Churchman Tony	44	Turner Peter	54
Moor Colin	45	Johnson (Rust) Pauline	55
Beckingham (Connock) Pat	46	Goodwin (Coulson) Jackie & Phil	57
Bishop Ron & Sheila	46	Oag Wendy (Clarke)	57
Dinnis Sheila (Ashton) with James	46	Flanagan Ann	58
Glyn John with Ann	46		

And the Fun Continues —Christmas Lunch at the Bush Hill Park Golf Club on Monday 12th December—£23 per head. 12.30 for 1 pm—Cheques Payable to Reg Rogers by 5th December

13 Enders Close

The Ridgeway

Enfield, EN2 8FJ

TELEPHONE 0208 366 9427

News from abroad

Reg Bisgrove writes from California:

Dear Beryl,

Thank you for the Newsletter. I hope you are well and weathering the world wide slump/disaster with economies. So many people I know are unemployed or working in a lesser position than their qualifications warrant.

You may have heard that Eddie Murphy is to be the MC of the Academy Awards (Oscars), most people in Hollywood think it is a poor decision since his last few pictures have been critical and financial duds. Since I work for ABC (who Televises the program) I am hoping the Producers have an ace up their sleeve. Thank you for your efforts with TOSA.

Interested to learn:

110 million women are missing worldwide!

Most Monasteries throughout the world have long waiting lists for entry, this includes millionaires and high level personages, I suppose many are seeking a ticket to the next dimension or are just fed up. Friends are always suggesting I retire, however, I have always considered not working as: Death with benefits.

My punctuation is still poor, I forget but was it Miss Tipping who taught English?

Best Regards,

Reg

John Hulcoop writes from Vancouver

Dear Beryl,

I'd like to acknowledge receipt of the latest TOSA newsletter and to second Reg Bisgrove's thanks to you for all the great work you do, the time and energy you expend on behalf of Trinity Old Scholars—"old" being the operative word here since I made it to 81 this year. Bisgrove's email caught my eye for a couple of reasons. I sat next to a lad called Ken Bygrove in my second or third year at Trinity. Though Reg's name is differently spelt it reminded me of Ken and I wondered if anyone who reads the newsletter remembers Ken Bygrove and might have news of him.

Second, in apologizing for his punctuation, Reg refers to Miss Tipping who taught him English. She taught me, too, and changed my life by deciding my future--unconsciously, of course. Because of her I decided to read English at University; because of her I became a Professor of English (now Professor Emeritus). Writing is something I have to do everyday; it not only keeps me busy but also keeps the clockwork brain tick-tocking. It still strikes the hour punctually! Apart from all the academic stuff, I've published a couple of volumes of poetry. And now I'm struggling to finish an autobiography. It doesn't contain much material about Trinity per se; but I do have a section on teachers who made a positive impact on my life. Rather interestingly, most of them in elementary and grammar school turn out to have been women (Mr Dean who taught me French, and of course Doccer, are the two exceptions).

I thought a few folk who took classes from Tipping and Mary Munday might be amused to hear how those dynamic women, both brilliant educators, are remembered by one old Trinity scholar. The extract begins mid-paragraph and ends the same way. Apologies for that.

Cheers from Vancouver, Canada,

John

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From: **A LIFE ASKEW, John F. Hulcoop (1941-8)**

Mary Munday (she gave me her copy of Dowden's *Shakespeare* when I left school and I continued to see her as a friend) was first and foremost a ferocious French teacher, but she also taught English to lesser, lower school mortals: students in the D stream like me, because I was so often sick and away from school. When she walked down the Upper Corridor she left behind her a delicious waft of exotic perfume, which lingered like a jet plane's illuminated contrail. If she approached from behind I knew at once it was she: the susurrant of her silk stockings rubbing together plus the rustle of her silk petticoats and dresses (which make me think now of Herrick's Julia and the "liquefaction of her clothes") announced her identity. Her standards were extremely high and her demands relentless. She had a fierce temper and would kick a gas-mask case obstructing the aisle clear across the room if she came across one. A small woman with perfectly proportioned features, "tiger" bright eyes and white hair that seemed not to age her but make her more beautiful and wise, she inspired me, breathed life into me, as did all my best teachers. She made me long to possess her knowledge and the self-assurance that came, I assumed, with being knowledgeable. I adored her, would do anything to please her--like memorizing long lists of irregular French verbs. (I was promoted into the B stream at the end of my third year, due largely to my improved health and teachers like Munday, Martin and Macrae.)

In the Sixth Form, preparing for my Intermediate Examinations (the necessary step towards entering university), I encountered Miss Tipping whose first name I can never remember but whose mastery of her subject and ability to teach it changed the course of my life. She was almost a caricature of the unmarried British schoolmarm, wearing spectacles, her hair up, and the shadow of a moustache on her upper-lip; but in class, like Mary Munday, she electrified me. She knew how to galvanize and exhilarate her students by asking the right questions and by asking them in such a way as to make us feel our answers were not merely answers but discoveries we had made on our own. Like a drug, her classes made me crave more; she knew very well how to feed and satisfy my addiction.

John Guthrie from Turkey writes:

Expatriate – I note from editorial script and contributors that most Trinity expatriates have gravitated to 'home from home'.

What vision does the word 'home' evoke? And what comforts sought? As an expatriate, I see two categories; the first comprise those who move to a country where their language and much of their native culture prevail, typically somewhere like home but warmer; the other category is the likes of me, moving to somewhere alien, to a land of different language and culture, where few speak English and certainly don't know the rules of cricket; where you have to be extremely sensitive to local customs, and to watch your 'p's and q's' to avoid social hoo-ha and offence by what to us is normal discourse and conduct.

I dwell in a land with a minority of highly educated and 'western' orientated men and women, and a majority of whom live their lives according to the custom of past centuries; where the law of the land requiring the education of girls is disregarded; where women in the rural areas are treated as 'beasts of burden', and where family honour is transgressed at the peril of life; religion dominates the mind; a government Department of Religious Affairs imposes each week the subject of instruction; and where the religious month of fasting is observed by ninety percentage as a matter of piety, fear, conscience or social convention.

Corruption, though not wide spread, is the province of the powerful. A per pro Disraeli : 'Corruption starts at Calais'; those were the days!

However, the sun shines from March to October and the disadvantages of an alien way of life are a minor factor. Not speaking or reading the language after nine years, I miss a lot of enjoyable communication, and miss a lot of argument, political and religious. This is where I can buy clothes ,washing, not understanding the label, and treat my clothes to a 'kindly' wash of bleach, both 'his' and 'hers'; and 'hers' wasn't best pleased!!

All things being equal, I have an enjoyable and contented existence; very well received by local family and local friends.

Continuing News From Abroad

Hello Betty

Had a look at the Geelong Naturalist Website – interesting stuff. I see that the book section are dealing with Gilbert White later in the month. He lived in Selborne which is near to me, and he was probably the greatest in his field. We have climbed the hill behind his house many times, and I do mean climbed – probably could not do it now in one ! Can I include some of your letters In the newsletter ?

Beryl

Dear Beryl

Sorry, Just realized I have not replied to this. Yes, my neighbour at the back goes to Field Nats (she and Dave take it in turns for the car) and she has read the book about Selbourne. She is from Aberdeen but no accent!!

Sure, you may use anything that can fit into the newsletter.

Since one of the magazines I have contacted an Agnes Broadley who lives on Mauritius. I don't remember her from my young days but she and her elder brother, Owen, lived in our road. Owen was in my form at Trinity and has since died. One point I would like to say is that I believe you said you lived near Western Road Baths when young. Well I lived in Bradley Road (off Station Road) until I was 15 when we moved to Berwick Road which is where Agnes grew up. I used to play with Audrey Frost who did live in Station Road. Her father was a dentist. My father had a watchmaker and jeweller's shop in Station Road just before the Rex cinema (formerly 'The Palais de Luxe'). My grandparents lived over the shop. All pulled down now

My Mother, 2 Aunts, 2 cousins also attended Trinity. Mum when it was Higher Grade.

Our weather has been atrocious. Nothing but rain. Must NOT grumble as we had an 8 year drought. We live in Grovedale which is a suburb of Geelong, Victoria NOT sunny Queensland. We did visit the tip of Cape York some years ago when we had a caravan and also crossed the Nullabor with it to Perth for me to attend a Trefoil (Girl Guides) Gathering. I am still in Trefoil but naturally our numbers are depleting. I have done 48 years service (20 of them in uniform - Guide leader and District Commissioner). Cheerio....All the best....**Betty King (nee Rundle)**

P.S. I have climbed the Great Wall of China twice - now I can barely walk!!

News from home

Dear Beryl,

Many thanks for the September newsletter. Strange you were mentioning on page 7 some roads and St Michaels School. I had been looking at the area around St Michaels Terrace on Google that is opposite the main entrance to the LNER station. The post office had a sorting office in Terrick Road and then built on the site next to the Alexandra pub (later called the Starting Gate). My sister and I cannot recall what this empty yard used to be. Was it the old stabling for the pub or was it a builder's yard? I saw a small piece in the paper the other day about the possibility of reviving the old Ally Pally race course or having an equestrian centre there.

Anyway, further to my earlier description of life at Trinity during years one to five and how our class numbers fell from 31 to 17, I hope you will find attached how I found life in year 6.

Cecil Webb (45)

Note from Editor—I am sure you will all have realised that Cecil was my unknown contributor In the earlier newsletter !

Life and Room at the Top.

After Matric only a handful of us returned to form Lower Six Science. We shared the room with 6Commercial at the top of the tower above the male staff room. 6Arts were in the library at the top of the other tower above the Head's room. Someone there found a way of turning the library card index upside down so that when the drawer was opened all the cards fell out onto the floor. (I suppose it required an Art to do it.)

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As 6Com had all their typewriters etc in our shared room we, as in the 3rd year, became nomads again.

Miss Parsons (pure and applied maths) told us to find a room and she would walk around until she found us. If the room was too cold, we were sent out to play netball to warm us up with a promise that we would catch up with necessary work later. We all admired her, partly because of her college days when she was the first and only female taking the science degree. Ladies had never been catered for at her college and she spent some of the time sitting on stairs, or in good weather, on the outside steps. She had the makings of a good head of school.

Daddy Dinmore continued with physics but then to our horror we were volunteered for a subject Bert Eustance had discovered in the new O level exams. "Greek Literature in Translation." I failed to find it interesting and do not recall taking the exam but I have a tinge of regret when TV quizzes have questions about Greek Gods. I had returned to Trinity in order to take a Civil Service exam the following spring. No matter what exams you had passed you had to sit the competitive exam set by the Civil Service Commissioners. The written part was followed by an interview and medical. I was told to report for duty in July and thus 'switched off' for the summer term.

I had already been seconded for various errands such as banking the school dinner money and going to and from the printers in Lordship Lane. One morning Miss Parsons asked if I had my cycle at school and could I go to her home at Palmers Green as she had forgotten her tennis racket. Her mother met me on the doorstep and I peddled back with the racket balanced across my handlebars. If I am correct Miss P used the old under arm serve that went over the net with speed and accuracy.

Just before sports day Mr Mackey asked if I could go to a theatrical costumers in Soho and collect some blank cartridges for the starting gun. The school secretary (Mrs Tracey?) gave me the fare money and I set off. I went down Shaftsbury Avenue but decided to return to Leicester Square by the back streets of Soho. I had gone around the back of the Windmill Theatre (did Jack Good appear there as part of a comedy duo?) and was crossing a road when a paper seller stopped his 'news, star or standid,' and asked if I had a light. Telling him 'no', he said, 'never mind that, do you want some fun with the girls?' Surely fun with the girls meant a mixed netball game!

Before I said anything he suddenly said in a loud voice, 'I don't have anything to do with that mate.' I felt someone standing close behind me and on turning around my eyes were level with the medal ribbons on the chest of a very tall policeman. I raised my eyes and he was smiling down at me. Not a word was spoken and I continued to Leicester Square. The police were obviously keeping an eye on the paper vendor and must have known he was scouting for men who might be scouting for girls, and that officer was not going to let a youth fall into a vice den. At Wood Green I passed the Herald offices on Jolly Butchers Hill. It would have made a good headline, "Trinity pupil found with ammunition in Soho disorderly house." Back at school I handed the rounds to Mr Mackey and asked if we could have another mixed netball game with the girls. He gave me a strange look but he promised to speak to Miss Law.

Just after sports day Mr Mackey asked if I could cycle to Minchenden School and return the firearm to its owner. (Health and Safety had not been invented.) As it was a hot day and I was jacketless I pushed the gun, gangster style, into the back of my waistband and set off along Bounds Green Road and Brownlow Road with the large pistol in full view of bus and lorry drivers etc.

These days perhaps an armed response team would be chasing me. (What would happen today if an unknown youth walked into a school carrying a gun and asked where he could find a certain teacher?) I returned via Broomfield Park and looked at the boating lake that I had fallen into some years before. A few days later, holding my copy of the school magazine signed by staff members (and now lost), I rode out of the school gates for the last time as a pupil and perhaps, started a new education.

We never did get another mixed netball game arranged but during National Service I did visit the Windmill Theatre. (but kept to the main roads!) Strangely enough when working at Heathrow I did get to know a couple of ex-Windmill girls who had become air hostesses for a top rated airline.

**TRINITY OLD SCHOLARS
ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT RAMADA HOTEL HATFIELD
ON 15TH OCTOBER 2011**

Members Present

Ann Flanagan 58 Peter Turner 54 Mary Davies 51 Judith Neville 52 Beryl Skinner 42
Janet Turner 54 Peter Viles 42 Mick Osborn 47 Colin Moor 45 Derek Coleman 42
Doris Chennells 43 Beryl Ivatt 38 Margaret McGinn 48 John Glynn 46 Fred Brailey 50

Apologies for absence: John Snellgrove, Vic Manning, Reg Rogers.

The meeting started at 11.10 am

The welcome address was given by Beryl Skinner in the absence of Reg Rogers our President . Beryl was appointed Chairman of the meeting.

The Minutes of AGM 2010 were approved.

Proposed by Ann Flanagan Seconded by Peter Turner approved without dissent

1. Matters Arising

Annual dinner - For the first time our Annual dinner has changed to a lunch and today will prove whether the change has been a success. 73 members were expected to attend.

2. Treasurers Report. Members present were provided by Beryl with a copy of the "Trading Account together with the Balance Sheet". Our examiner Colin Marr (51) had looked at the accounts and pronounced them very healthy. We have 280 members which includes Joint ,Honorary, Life and Overseas. Unfortunately some members had not renewed their membership. Colin would like to resign as our Accounts examiner and we would like to thank him for all his help in this important role. We will endeavour to recruit someone to take his place.

3. Election of Committee

The previous committee were willing to stand for 2011/12

Mary Davies Margaret McGinn Judith Neville John Glyn Vic Manning Fred Brailey
Peter Turner Beryl Skinner and Derek Coleman with Mick Osborn being invited and agreeing to join. This was approved by members without dissent.

4. The Constitution.

It was proposed to amend the Constitution in the MEMBERSHIP Section and to add –
Associate/Honorary members do not have voting rights.

The reasoning behind this is that this type of membership is **not** Old Scholars and it was felt that decisions on the Association should only be taken by Old Scholars,

Proposed by Beryl Skinner Seconded by Margaret McGinn and agreed without dissent

5. Any other Business

- Members who had attended the presentation of awards to Nightingale had been very impressed with a year 6 pupil who had made great strides in her chosen sport of swimming. With this in mind it was discussed whether we could extend our awards to give one for Nightingale's " Sports Personality" of the Year . Mick Osborn agreed to examine the criteria for this award. The cost of the awards not to exceed £100 in total.
Proposed by Beryl Skinner and Seconded by Mick Osborn and agreed without dissent
- It had come to the attention of the Committee that it had been necessary for Beryl to purchase a new computer and printer, and it was felt that in view of the fact that most of the work done has been for the Association, she should be reimbursed for its cost of approximately £399. The money used should be taken from the donations made by Sir Ernie Harrison.
Propose by John Glyn Seconded by Fred Brailey and agreed without dissent.

Ann Flanagan thanked Beryl and the committee for all their hard work. Meeting finished at 12.00



Your Committee would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and h(W)althy New Year.

On that note may I remind you that it is that time of year again. If you have not set up a Standing Order (Check with your bank) please send your cheque for £5 immediately and before you forget ! Subscription runs from 1st January until 31st December.

TOSA; 110 Reading Road, Finchampstead, Berks, RG40 4RA

You can date your cheque 1st January 2012 !

The following have already paid : (as at 15th October)

Aberdour Ken	1938	Andrews Philip	1933
Baldry Lesley	1953	Barling Bridget	1946
Bishop Derek	1942	Bowes Robert	1954
Boyall Laurie	1946	Croughton Dennis	1948
Gaggs Oliver	1943	Good Jack	1943
Goodwin Jackie	1956	Hale Colin	1951
Heading Joan (Beau)	1939	Kenny Bill	1942
Lane Diana	1958	Lee Gwen	1948
Lindfield Alan	1943	Newmark Doris	1940
Oag Wendy	1957	Preece Jim	1934
Pritchard Eddie	1942	Rundle Tony	1945
Viles Peter	1942	Waugh Les	1934
Weston Keverne	1954	Wigmore Helen	1951
Wilkinson Barry	1954	Winter David	1941

If you joined for the **1st time** in September 2011 your membership runs until December 31st 2012.

No Subscription is required for Life; Honorary or those who live abroad. We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking Members who have sent a donation.

I am again making a plea to set up a standing order which you can cancel at any time. If you pay by cheque think of me who has to do a round trip of 10 miles to get to my nearest bank—there is no public transport— so I have to take the car !!! It is not too late to do it now ready for the next year and the next etc and the next !!!



Just complete the form below and take or send to your own bank. Do not send it to me.

Standing Order Instruction

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

Please Pay immediately £5.00 (Five Pounds) to

TOSA Sort Code 30-91-11 Account No. 03469989

Reference

(Example YournameYear joined Trinity eg Joe Blogs42)

and then Annually commencing 10th January 2013 until further notice

Please debit my account No.....

Sort Code.....

Name..... Signed.....

LAST BUT BY NO MEANS LEAST—Kim Ghafur (51) writes**A Lively Conversation with Jack Good at this year's reunion**

I was overjoyed not only to meet Jack Good but to have a lively chat with him too. He told me he lived in the Larches N.13 near Hedge Lane (not far from me and later in Firs Lane N.21). Jack went to Hazlewood Lane Primary School N.13. (where I did a stint as assistant caretaker during the university vacation.) Jack modestly said he was middle of the road in academic terms until inspired by Miss Munday (French) who told him he could achieve anything he put his mind to. He played Othello amongst his acting roles at Trinity (directed by Gwylm Morris) and appeared not to mind learning large chunks of Shakespeare for the part. "Once I got into the character it was easy to learn the lines".

He secured common entrance to Balliol College Oxford having also completed a compulsory Latin OL in one year. Once there he excelled as President of the Oxford University Dramatic Society.

He became producer of the famous 50s and 60s ABC TV Pop shows "Oh Boy!" "6-5 Special" etc and recounted many meetings with the likes of Adam Faith; Cliff Richard; Marty Wilde and Billy Fury. He is credited with giving these stars the extra 'umph' and sex appeal to make them hits. His face lit up when I blurted out snatches of Lord Rockinghams 11 – "Hoots man there's a moose in the hoose" and the Dallas Boys "Why's every body always picking on me?"

He mentioned among his favourite acts Joe Brown and the Bruvvers and made the point that Joe was one of the few pop stars to insist on keeping his own name.

It was hard to believe he took home a mere £18 per week as producer of these block-buster shows. He also remembered with clear relish -The Vernons Girls !

He went on to tell me how he went to the USA and appeared in the Cary Grant film "Father Goose" (look-out for repeats - he played the part of Stebbings).

I feel as if I could have talked to him for ever. It certainly was the highlight of this year's reunion for me.

Editor's Note—this arrived just as the newsletter was going to press so rather than miss it out have included even though it may get cut off if anyone sets up a standing order !

51's mini-reunion

Dear Beryl- 10 of us enjoyed a delightful get together at Van Hage's Garden Centre Ware Herts on 1st November from mid-day. We had a nice quiet area reserved in the inner tea-room where we could chat in peace. Colin Hale brought his lap top with a myriad of Trinity photos and films showing us both as Trinity pupils up to our present 'mature' selves. Colin showed us photos of teachers, pupils, team photos and groups from all years both at our time at Trinity and later at reunions. Well done Colin! It was nice to see a newcomer from 1952 Irwin Major who brought his Middlesex Athletics Relay shield. Colin Hale revealed that he had taught Maths at Sandy Ghafur's school (Arnos under its later name Bromfield)

Those in attendance were:- Colin Hale; Alan and Pauline Johnson (1950 and 1955); Janet Karunaratne (Jackson); Irwin Major; Cheryl Robertson (Ford) Roger and Mary Smedley; Kim and Sandy Ghafur. **Kim Ghafur**

STOP PRESS— 3rd November

Congratulations to Mick Osborn who has just received an award from the Football Association for 50 years of service to football. Two years ago The Referees' Association presented Mick with their Long and Meritorious Service Award for 25 Years as a referee. FANTASTIC !

Saturday April 21st— 46'ers lunchtime reunion at Ramada Hotel Hatfield—details will/have been circulated to 46'ers.

Weekend of April 20th—22nd Bournemouth Reunion at the Arlington Hotel—any year welcome.

If you don't want to stay you can just come to the Dinner on the 21st .You will need to book.

Contact Jill Deamer on 01305 832597 or Vic Manning on 01892 823945

54's—2012 gathering date still to be announced but probably sometime in May. Details will be circulated.