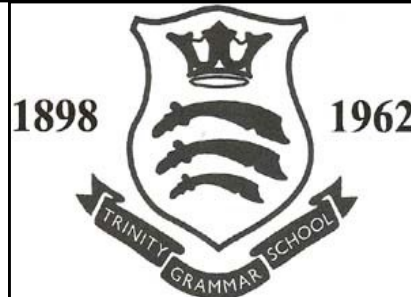


## Trinity Old Scholars Association

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I am starting off this newsletter (5th January 2014) with apologies to you all for the lack of news last year but also to extend my thanks to you for the support I have received over the past few months. TOSA's are fantastic, there is no other way to describe them (and that means YOU).

We probably had one of our most successful reunions in October ..not to be counted by the numbers who attended, but by the ambiance of the whole event. In particular I must mention the entertainment we enjoyed given by Kim and Tarik Ghafur (51 and 53 respectively) and also the gifts that I received, and the wishes we received celebrating my wedding to Barry after 27 years together (yes he has finally made an honest woman of me!). OH! By the way, I am not changing my name.

Thank you also to the many who sent Christmas cards, we have decided to support a Charity instead of cards so here is our good wishes for 2014, may you all have a good year and enjoy good health.

Finally, just started my final course of treatment which has no really bad side effects ! My hair is growing and I feel as though I have got my life back.

Make a note in your diaries now..

**The Annual reunion will take place on Saturday 18th October at the Ramada hotel in Hatfield as 12.30 pm as usual. AGM AT 11 am**

**The Annual 54's reunion takes place on Saturday 10th May at 12 noon at Ye Olde Cherry Tree in Southgate. No booking just turn up and order your food !**

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**Reunion news 2013 (See page 5 for details of this years event)**

### **Kim Ghafur reports**

23 Trinitarians (including their wives and husbands) attended the 51'ers lunchtime reunion at the riverside Fish & Eels Hoddesdon Herts on Monday 24 June 2013 at 11.00 am. Guests of honour were Rita Dill (Robinson) and husband Joe (ex US Navy) from Florida USA . Kim gave a short resume of Rita's interesting life since leaving Trinity and presented Rita with a Trinity tie.

On a bitter sweet note Kim announced the sad death in 2013 year of Maureen Kunz (Norris) who had lived in Switzerland. Her husband Alwin had kindly donated a generous sum to toast Maureen's memory.

Roger Smedley passed round nostalgic sweets of the 50s era as an inducement for Trinitarians to relive their pop-record memories. Colin Hale again produced his magic lap-top with hosts of Trinity (then and now) photos of 51ers and related information . A good time was had by all.

The following attended :

John Andrews; Terry Burn; Les & Jan Cook (from Kent); Rita & Joe Dill (Florida USA); Valerie(Pitchman) & Dennis Fletcher(1949); Colin Hale; Ron and Val Hunt; Irwin Major (1952) Colin Marr; Leonard Norman and Mrs Norman (Glendale); Roger & Mary Smedley; Lee & Shirley Suffield (from Worcester); Pam & Bob Tompkins; Kim & Sandy Ghafur

The group were pleased to hear that our intrepid TOSA supremo Beryl Skinner is recovering well from her illness and sent her good wishes to everyone. Apologies were received from Emel Rochat (French teacher); Jim Steel; Cheryl Robertson (Ford); Janet Jackson; Peter Hamblin and Alwin Kunz.

**Peter Turner (1954) writes:**

JIM WALLACE, a favourite Trinity teacher **WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?**

The answer is in three parts, all very interesting to those who remember him from 1950 to 1955. On the voyage home to New Zealand he met his future wife Roma Pascoe; he became a favourite teacher & deputy head at a prestigious public school, & was soon a famous rugby player & influential coach by changing the style of the national game.

Peter Brown, a Trinity pupil from year 1951, and a former deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand, alerted me to the fame of Jim Wallace in his native country. I contacted the school and was sent a generous amount of material about Jim by Richard Bourne of Wanganui Collegiate School Museum, for which much thanks are due.

This box of delights included Jim's personal biography written in a very personal style for his grandchildren, so he starts most sentences "Grandpa." Here are some extracts from – "A Prejudice or Two: Grandpa's Musings on His 20th Century", published in 2004 by the Wallace family soon after Jim died. The style is very conversational & not meant to be strictly grammatical, so I hope many former pupils will enjoy it. *There are just a few editor's (Peter Turner) notes.* .....

**WHAT HAPPENED NEXT**

Teaching Practice at Trinity & Job Offer by Mr Swinden. It was a good year for many reasons. One was that, for my teaching practice in Terms I and III, I was allocated to what I soon considered a splendid school, Trinity Grammar School in North Middlesex, Forms I to VI. The staff was welcoming, friendly, conscientious, able, qualified. Head of History Department, Herbert L. Peacock, was charming and into writing history textbooks, Miss McRae, the classic, traditional schoolmistress. In her final year before retirement she animated Grandpa to marvel at her sheer historical knowledge and professional expertise. An overconfident new graduate (*Editor - Jim was 23*) had not quite expected this. Grandpa learnt a lot from the two. At Trinity we taught in a Victorian storeyed, brick edifice, many fewer and smaller windows, and no aesthetic outlook other than dark clouds. At the end of a happy year the Headmaster, a rather lugubrious Mr L.A. Swinden, offered me Miss McRae's job. Now this was tricky. He knew that I was intending to return to the South Pacific. If Grandpa were to accept, would Grandpa give the school a number of years? I eventually donated four years and one term and Mr Swinden did not grizzle when the final donation was my resignation.

History with Mr Peacock & Ride in his Sports Car. On 26 June, Herbert Peacock & I from Trinity Grammar School attended a conference at Bedford College, London, there was a very good afternoon tea & a beautiful ride on a beautiful day in Herbert's open racing car. Herbert wrote textbooks as I've said. A knock might clonk on my classroom door. Enter a boy from Herbert with a note - Did Napoleon actually seize the crown from the Pope's hands & place it himself on his head? Grandpa continued to teach at Trinity Grammar School in Middlesex, to play pom ruggie & cricket & regularly visit the continent.

**French Trip at Easter with Mr McErlean & Miss Kay -**

Every year I taught at Trinity Grammar School, Middlesex, a good proportion of the 4th Form students in French spent three weeks at Easter at Roanne in the Upper Loire in the Beaujolais, west of Lyon. In the summer their French school billets came to London for their turn – to improve their English the hard or easy way.

There needed to be activities organised. Ah, an afternoon's tennis at the Trinity courts for one thing. It doesn't really work, All the English pupils, because of their games periods etc, could at least make a fist of it; alas, only a few, a small proportion of the Gallics. For the first Easter holidays at Trinity Grammar Grandpa was invited to accompany Mr McErlean & Miss Edna Kay, two teachers of French, with thirty Fourth Formers to Roanne in the Beaujolais on the Loire as it emerges from the lower hills of the Massif Central, eighty kilometres west of Lyon. One day on a une bicyclette`a louer Grandpa laboured quite a distance up the narrow Loire gorge on a two-wheeled track worn in the earth. It was warm.

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Under my shorts I wore my togs in a bit of hope of finding a decent pool. Ah, I spotted a challenge. There I would swim across the river & back.

Swimming easily, comfortably, Grandpa reached the narrow section where the current was strongest. My best Australian crawl went into urgent action. I had swum the mighty Loire. Back at the hotel his wet seat aroused the concern of Mme Troisgros. Where had I been swimming? Monsieur! Did I not realise that many people had been drowned at that rocky point?! Three at the end of the summer! It was more than *tres dangereux*. C'est le sable, Monsieur. (*Editor – sable is quicksands*). McErlean, Kay & Wallace were frequently invited to visit our pupils' billets. One host was a little worried at first because his young 4th Form Englishman, Bennett, seemed a bit unsettled.

**Athletics – Dick Mackey's Fine Record** - At Trinity Grammar School Grandpa began to appreciate, much reinforced in later years, the significance and value of coaching in sport. I have mentioned the PE master, the late Dick Mackey, paratrooper survivor of Arnhem. He discharged a biting blend of enthusiasm for athletics in particular and of skill knowledge. Mackey's athletics individuals and relay teams dominated North Middlesex Grammar sports and achieved success at the highest English school level. Joining the school as an athlete who had at least put his running-shoe steps on some famous European tracks behind, rather well behind, Olympic stars, I felt I knew a bit about it all. I discovered I didn't. Mackey bravely, as I later realised, allowed me to coach the Under 14, 4 x 110 yds. relay group for a start. After I'd made my first blue in transfer of technical knowledge he began to get me right, to coach me (nicely) how to coach, to learn that considerable, or raw, or only moderate talent could be vastly enhanced.

**Rugby - You do meet a problem or two**, Grandpa's first teaching position was at Trinity Grammar School, in Middlesex, England – or have I said that already? The academic staff contained many rugby cognoscenti but the School winter game was soccer, compulsory of course: a compulsion never challenged in those faraway, heathen days. The PE master, however, Welsh patriot and Arnhem paratroop survivor (*Editor - Dick Mackey*), felt that rugby should also be experienced in a full life, with compulsion applied, no one demurred. This was 1950. My 4th Form team is contesting its first inter-school match, against a rugby-playing school.

I prepare them mentally! Now you will receive some violent and painful bumps, more than you are used to. Don't feel sorry for yourself; get up and get on with it. Early on our speedy wing-three-quarter, Griffiths, is bowled over. When you've indulged in rugby coaching for a while you can pick the nature of an injury a mile away. But Griffiths gets up and gets on with it. I walk on to the field to the referee: Griffiths has a broken collar bone. (*Editor - this was Roy Griffiths, 1951 pupil, who attended our 1954/2012 reunion*).

### **His Soccer Moment, Staff v Pupils Match, & Scores with a Mis-Kick) -**

But I've hardly played any official games of soccer. The Staff at Trinity Grammar versus the useful School XI is my greatest memory. PE master waited till the optimum rainy week, a ground monumentally heavy from January downpour and many relative disadvantages to the School XI. The Staff XI comprised canny and experienced middle aged performers. All Poms are attuned to soccer; Grandpa, probably the youngest and quite the fittest at the time, involved in quite high level rugger (*Editor – Saracens of Southgate*), pranced on the left wing. My instructions were simple. We shall take it up the right and centre the ball to the goal mouth. You, Jim, will be there to boot it in. (Only delivered in more sophisticated soccer parlance.) Early on, before quagmire took over, Bowen or Williams or Mackey, or someone from the right put in a beautiful centering kick. Grandpa in perfect position. Of course, Grandpa let fly with a smashing right foot. The School goalkeeper skilfully anticipated the direction of the intended slam. Alas for him. My hopeless mis-kick dribbled into the net in the other corner. We were ahead 1-0.

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**The Eleven Plus Study.** The eleven-plus was more than just an agony for middle class parents, who, if junior failed, felt the pressure to provide minor public school fees so that he or she could sooner or later have a crack at Ordinary School Certificates (or even beyond). In about my third year at Trinity, Headmaster Swinden offered Grandpa the opportunity to study and analyse the eleven-plus examination results of the pupils currently at the school. I had thought they were confidential and they possibly were. Grandpa was nevertheless struck by at least two points. The first was that the order of the entry list for Form I (the eleven – plus marks) bore uncertain relation to the apparent orders of the same pupils by Form V and School Certificate Ordinary Level. Those near the top after five years at Trinity Grammar appeared to Grandpa to be the most conscientious, the most purposeful, the most thorough students, and the most attentive.

**The Ally Pally Broadcasts – The World’s First Classroom Broadcasts.** Mr Swinden allocated Grandpa another interesting assignment. In May 1952, the BBC presented for four weeks, the World’s first television broadcasts to schools. There were five or six schools in the experiment; one Grammar School (Trinity), the remainder Middlesex Secondary Modern Schools, all of us in the vicinity of the existing television HQ at Ally Pally, Alexandra Palace. Grandpa’s History class was 2.10pm on 9 May, second on 16 May, 23 May, final episode 30 May.

**The School Inspection & a Last Minute Substitute** after a lapse of ten years Her Majesty’s Inspectors arrived at Trinity Grammar for an intensive week’s work. They were impressive, academic people. Prior to their invasion Headmaster Swinden advised the staff that there could not possibly be any kind of leave or absence during that dedicated week. A hard yakka week. On Tuesday Grandpa is called by the Middlesex RFU. Could I play the next day, rival injured? Chief Inspector is a rugger man to his toenails: of course I had to go. Trinity staff bemused but not begrudging. In that week, too, Grandpa was due an interview with Mr John Bruce Lockhart for the Wanganui job. Back into action my scholarly History inspectorial expert advised me never to be hesitant to offer a strong Antipodean perspective.

**Pupils tease him in Class about a Cricket Score** – I entered a buoyant class one morning. Far, far away in Auckland the NZ cricket team was overnight dismissed for the total, the total, of 26 by England. Every conceivable reference to “26” had been exhausted at my Kiwi expense till finally I called enough, and we had to get on with our work. It involved a session with slides on a period of European history. In the darkened room Grandpa flipped over the slides at regular intervals. Then, as from a ghost, came an anonymous voice in the blackness - Please Sir, what is that symbol in the bottom corner? We all peered. In very small letters it was (slide number) “26”.

**Saying Goodbye to My Trinity Friends.** I had better get back to Trinity – or leave it for Wanganui Collegiate School 12,000 miles away in my native New Zealand. “It was sad to depart Trinity Grammar. They, the pupils and the staff were good friends”.

**(Acknowledgements are due to Richard Bourne of Wanganui Collegiate School Museum for facilitating these memories).**

**FINAL NOTES** – *Many old scholars have good memories of Jim Wallace. He became a legend at his school, rising to Deputy Head, a Rugby player and revolutionary coach of advanced skills and tactics, and he remains famous in Rugby and New Zealand circles. He and Roma married in 1957 and had four daughters.*

JIM WALLACE, a favourite Trinity teacher *The Editor comments:*

*Many thanks are due to the endeavours of Peter Turner who I know spent many hours researching this story, and what a story it turned out to be. Peter tells me that there is a book available but the cost is variable according to the numbers ordered. Peter hopes to have information when Richard Bourne has sent more details. If you are interested you can let Peter know by phoning 01538 371 or email: [peter.len.turner@gmail.com](mailto:peter.len.turner@gmail.com).*

*We would like more input from those who went to Trinity during the 50's and 60's... what stories you may have to tell and below is one which is hot of the press from new member Ray Liffen.*

**Ray writes:**

I attended Trinity from 1955 to 1960, leaving after 'O' levels in the summer when my family moved to the other side of London. After 'A' levels at Selhurst Grammar School I joined the BBC and worked at Television Centre for over 30 years before leaving to run my own video and audio business.

However, I did collect (and retain) memorabilia from my days at Trinity and some items may be of interest.

On Sunday April 8th 1956 a group from the Maths Society appeared on BBC Children's Television. The Maths Society was organised by first-year teacher June Naish and a puppet play, 'From Trinity To Infinity' had been devised to 'liven up' maths teaching. This little play was been selected to appear on 'All Your Own', which was introduced by Huw Weldon. I was part of the group that travelled by Underground to Lime Grove Studios. As an understudy, I had perhaps more chance to observe things, and I was able to pick up a script for the day.

Along with that script I have a cutting from the local Wood Green newspaper, headlined 'Spaceship Puppets On Television'. Names mentioned in the article are Patricia Wynne aged 15 1/2, Janet Kiedyk aged 14, Marion Howlett aged 14, Laurence Brown aged 14, Colin Westney aged 14, Nigel Blyth aged 12 and Hazel Martinelli aged 14.

The 'Trinity connection' at Lime Grove Studios was resumed in February 1957 when Jack Good brought 'Six-Five Special' on the air but the Maths Society was there first!

## 1951's—2014 reunion

Trinity 1951ers Reunion Fish & Eels Dobbs Weir Hoddesdon Herts EN11 OAY  
**Thursday 12 June 12.00** Outside river view venue (new awning installed for cover if it rains) . Buy your own drinks and food . All years welcome.

Please phone Kim on 01992-462471 to let him know if you are coming to reserve outside seat /table numbers

**MINUTES OF TOSA AGM MEETING  
HELD AT RAMADA COMET HOTEL HATFIELD  
ON 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

**Present**

Ann Flanagan 58  
Mary Davies 51  
Beryl Skinner 42  
Fred Brailey 50  
Doreen Stoddart 46  
Barbara Goddard 44  
Alan Rutter 46  
Richard McDermott 53

Peter Turner 54  
Judith Neville 52  
Janet Turner 54  
Peter Seager 46  
Ron Bishop 45  
Jackie Rooke 44  
Anne Flanagan 58  
Jackie Goodwin 56

Apologies for absence have been received from John Snellgrove, Reg Rogers and Margaret McGinn.

The meeting started at 11.15am

1. Welcome address by Beryl Skinner in the absence of Reg Rogers the President.
2. Beryl Skinner was appointed Chairman of the meeting with help from Jackie Goodwin.
3. Minutes of AGM 2012 were approved. Proposed by Fred Brailey and Seconded by Jackie Rooke.
4. Beryl reported on the finances which were healthy and acceptance of the report was proposed by Jackie Goodwin and seconded by John Glyn.
5. Nightingale School name has now been changed to the Trinity Academy and it was agreed that we will be continuing to give the Sports Trophy and the certificates for the top boy and girl. Jackie Goodwin has been appointed a Vice-chairman of Trinity Academy.
6. The committee agreed to stay on another year with the exception of Derek Coleman who has to retire through ill health. We wish him well and thank him for his work on the committee.
7. Ann Flanagan has agreed to be on the committee replacing Derek. Proposed by Jackie Goodwin and seconded by Fred Brailey.

**A.O.B.**

1. Fred suggested a visitors book at the Annual reunion.
2. John Glynn has suggested his group which meets in April joins with the Whole School meeting in October. (see page 8)
3. Fred Brailey and everybody suggested Beryl needed some help especially with the Hatfield lunch. Jackie Goodwin has volunteered.

Beryl thanked everybody for their cards and good wishes and the meeting thanked Beryl for her splendid work now and in the past

Meeting finished at 11.50 a.m.

**Judith Neville**

**MORE CLASS GATHERINGS !** The 1946 group will have their usual meeting at the Ramada Hotel on **Saturday 26th April 2014** from 11.30am onwards. Details have been circulated to previous attendees. If you have not received these please contact either Alan Rutter on 01748 832583 or Peter Seager on 01582 764987

**Remember there is restricted parking at the hotel. If you are coming by car you must enter your car registration into the machine at the hotel reception. (This applies to all Visitors to the Hotel—make a note for the October School gathering)**

### MORE GOING'S ON IN 2013



#### Hollywood Star oversees Trinity Gamblers

A small gathering of Trinity card players with gambling and curry in mind turned the session into a weekend event by arriving the day before and leaving the day after. Notwithstanding the disappointing absence of John Jones and Alan Gardner there were enough players for a lively session. Alan Gardner's adjudication role was filled at the last minute by John Wayne whose presence assured both that house rules prevailed and that there was no gun-play when the chips were down. A substantial curry supper added spice to the proceedings after which play resumed, ending with Roger Palmano the overall winner. John Wayne generously agreed to pose with the players :

Left to right : "Ringo" Rawlings; "Deputy" Dickson, "El Paso" Palmano and "Quick Draw" (Kim) Ghafur. The Photographer and Host was "Tex" (Tarik) Ghafur (1953)

Editor's note : My ! Don't we TOSA'S have fun ..... more news like it please and apologies to Tarik for this late being so late.

### What is in a name 1921 to 1924 ?

Bridget Barling (1946) writes:

The following story about the naming of the school and the length of time spent choosing it deserves some space. The Weekly Herald reports on quite a long discussion taking place as regards the best name for the school under its new status as a secondary school in 1921 and several names were put forward, including: Central County - Bounds Green County -Fisher County (in recognition of the Education Act) - High School and Trinity County. Eventually after much debate the latter name was decided upon. The newly acquired name, however, lasted for two months only. The Local Higher Education Committee (established in 1921) had christened the school "Trinity County School", but the Middlesex Education Committee whose direct responsibility the school now was had not approved the name, saying "it was not a happy choice" and asking for another suggestion.

Shortly after the name "Trinity" was announced, a deputation from the Trinity Wesleyan Church (where, in fact, the temporary Higher-grade Boys school had started) objected to the name on the grounds of "priority of title" and of the possibility of the clashing of the names of the school and the church hall. The Chairman of the Education Committee, Principal Thomas (principal of the Home & Colonial Training College) said that he had a vague suspicion that the similarity of names had given rise to a feeling that there was some kind of religious bias.

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The head master of the school, Mr. Crook, said it was essential that the name should be settled at once as he was experiencing difficulties in deciding what to write at the top of references, testimonials Etc. He had, in fact, together with the head mistress, Miss Meredith, ordered a large supply of hats and caps with the badge "Trinity County "School" on them. After more debate and disagreement it was ultimately agreed to call the school **The Wood Green Central County School**, though some could not support the name as they said 'Central' had educational implications in many people's minds. It was decided to emphasize to the public that the 'Central' in the name was used in a geographical sense and not in an educational sense.

Nevertheless, whatever the name, the School was now a secondary school with secondary status and syllabus, recognised as such for the purposes of grant. Bursaries under the regulations for the training of teachers were also tenable at the school as it was still to be recognised as a pupil-teacher centre.

Unfortunately, this was by no means the end of the story as regards the name. The other secondary school in the area was called 'Wood Green County School, and it would appear that confusion had arisen not only "because of the names of the schools, but because the two head masters had similar names (Mr. Crook and Mr. Cook) and as a consequence Mr. Crook was receiving Mr. Cook's letters and vice versa. The school was renamed '**Bounds Green County**'. This name lasted approximately for one year - more confusion. At the other end of the Bounds Green Road was a junior school of the same name. Once again the Local Higher Education Committee got down to the name problem, a competition in the local press was suggested with a prize of two guineas for the best name.

In March, 1923 the matter came up again: Mr. Cook, headmaster of the Wood Green County School, asked that the name of his school be changed to '**Glendale County**'. The suggestion met with immediate approval.

Then name suggestions for the Bounds Green County School started. Duckett Manor and Sir Hugh Middleton were proposals, being of local historic significance. One member suggested that since they had an Alderman in the chair and with a view to avoiding more confusion might they not ask for the portion of the road where the School stands to be renamed Northway and call the school 'Northway County'. Names were being thrown in from all sides; 'Durrant County' (Colonel Burrant had been president of the School Board) 'Hill County' 'Palmerston'. **A lady member said of all the names she had heard put forward none appealed to her so much as "Trinity County School". Finally, it was agreed to ask the Middlesex Education Committee if it would not be possible to call the school 'Trinity County School'**. Three years had passed and it was now 1924. The Wesleyan Church deputation did not reappear and the name was accepted. The hats and caps were presumably taken out of storage !

**Editor's note.** *This article is an abridged version of the 29 page (plus some further pages of photos and Reference acknowledgements) of the thesis submitted by Bridget in year 3 of her studies to become a teacher, and I am indebted to Bridget for allowing me access to the full version.*

*This does mean of course that 2014 is the 90th Anniversary of the School becoming Trinity County School and your committee are overwhelmingly pleased to invite you to join us at the 2014 celebration lunch on the Saturday 18th October at the Ramada Hotel at Hatfield 12 noon for 12.30. A booking form is attached. **Please do return by the end of July** . We need at least 60 bums on seats to have the Comet Suite to ourselves. Your cheques can be post-dated to 1st September and we will phone or email to confirm receipt. If you have trouble getting there, do remember that we will be delighted to welcome members of your family at no extra charge to join us, particularly if they are acting as your chauffeur .*



