



OLD WINBURNIANS NEWSLETTER - SUMMER 2007

At our Christmas reunion there was a record attendance of 117 guests, our fully paid-up membership stands at about 335, so it is fair to say we must be doing something right! However, if you know of anyone whose membership has lapsed, or a former student of QEGS who has never been a member of the OWs, do encourage them to rejoin/join us at the earliest opportunity. Good fellowship enriches all our lives and there is plenty of that to be found in our Association.

This edition of the Newsletter contains a number of feature articles, each interesting in its own right. One relates to the Switzerland trip of 1947 which seems to have struck a particular chord with a number of our older members. Having been privileged to be a part of recent Poole Grammar School (Yes, I know- the old enemy!) expeditions to Rome, Paris and Amsterdam I appreciate just how significant such trips can be in the lives of the participants. Long after the mundane, routine days of school life are forgotten, such journeys bring back so many treasured memories. If any of you wish to send me your recollections of other such trips when you were at school, I would welcome your contributions.

On a more serious note, I know several present and former Committee members and others in our Association, have recently undergone operations and suffered major health problems. We all send our very best wishes to those individuals and hopes for a speedy recovery.

I have just been reading the concerns of a number of scientists about the potential dangers of allowing robots too much influence in all our lives. Potential? I thought such creatures were already well established in some of our institutions. Two that spring to immediately to mind are the House of Commons and Health and Safety. Or is your Editor being too politically incorrect and provocative?

Ladies and gentlemen - and John Dacombe, of course - I/we look forward enormously to welcoming you to our next gathering on Saturday, July 7. I wonder if we can make it an even larger gathering?

To each one of you, at home and abroad, the Committee sends its very best wishes for an excellent and healthy and fulfilling year.

Compliments, Alan Bennett

FORTHCOMING REUNIONS

Saturday, 1 December 2007

Saturday, 5th July 2008

Saturday, 13th December 2008

THE REUNION ON SATURDAY, 2 DECEMBER, 2006

The following is a list of those members (their spouses and friends, where known) who attended. Where possible, I have included the maiden names of our lady members.



Ken Nicklen and Terry Randall

Chadd), Pam Charman, Paul Charman, Rod Cheese, John Clode, Brian Cooper, M.A. Copelin, Robert Copelin, Janet Coy (nee Dowd), John Dacombe, John Dare, Janet Davidson (nee Horsey), Zen Dotimas, Jack Douch, Peter Douch, Bob Downer, Joyce Downton, Faith Elford (nee Hawes), Peter Eyres, David

Alwyn Annels, Gareth Annels, Ann Antell, Morgan Antell, Emma Ayling, Michael Bartlett, Alan Bennett, Nick Bishop, Tony Bletsoe, Alice Booth, Reg Booth, Cynthia Breach, Rex Breach, Erica Burry, Paul Burry, Eunice Carnall (nee



David Finnemore and Derek Stevens

Finnemore, Elaine Flippant, John Flippant, Doug Foyle, Olive Foyle, Mervyn Frampton, Sue Frampton, Edgar Francis, Ine Francis, David Fripp, John Froud, Margaret Froud, Brian Glover, John Guy, Frank Hackforth,



Rod Hurt and Don Phillips

Brian Hall, Jill Hall, Lawson Hall, Noreen Hall, Audrey Hallett, Keith Harvey, Bill Haskell, Sue Hatherley (nee Bush), Dot Hawker, Len Hawker, Kay Herridge, Maurice Herridge, Geoff Hill, John Hilton-King, John Horsey, Patrick Keeping, Sue Lawrence, Alan Maitland, June Maitland, Patricia Marshall (nee Unsworth), Jenny Moss (nee Day), Vic Moss, Fay Nicklen, Kay Nicklen, Charles Palmer, Wilfred Palmer, Peter Parry, Beau Parke, Brian Pearce, Len Pearce, Roy Perry, Don Phillips, Graham Powell, Christine Price (nee Richmond), Terry Randall, Betty Read (nee White), Richard Read, Gordon Richards, Nesta Richards, David Roberts, Ray Scott, John Selby, Elsie Shears, Frank Shears, Ken Smart, Margaret Stokes (nee Burden), Geoff Stokes, Rodney Smith, Anne Sweeney, Cynthia Tanner (nee Streets), Neill Tanner, Ken Taylor, Patricia Townsend, Monica Vatcher (nee Brown), Peter Weaver, Geoff Welch, Stan White, Roger Whittaker, Ed Wood, Jose Wood, Beryl Wythers (nee Moreton).

APOLOGIES

Richard Ferguson, Dick Jeffrey, Tony Leigh, David Park, Brian Richmond.



Our illustrious Chairman
Carolyn Kamcke

IMPORTANT NOTICE

OLD WINBURNIANS

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT COBHAM'S SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB AT NOON ON SATURDAY THE 7TH OF JULY 2007.

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of Adoption Meeting held on 1st of February 2007.
3. Matters Arising.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Secretary's Report.
6. Adoption of Annual Accounts.
7. Election of Officers and Committee for 2007 / 8.
8. Re-election of Auditor. [Keith Newman].
9. Date , Time and Location of Next AGM.
10. Any Other Business.

"The attention of members is drawn to the Notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Winburnians which is the first to be held under the recently approved 'Rules and Regulations'. As you will note, it is to take place at Cobhams Sports & Social Club on the same day as the Summer Reunion and will be at 12 noon sharp. As the Buffet Lunch is timed for 12.30, the meeting is not expected to be lengthy. Reports will be brief and, in an effort to expedite matters , the committee have expressed their willingness to stand 'en bloc' for re-election.

The current committee is :- ,

Carolyn Kamcke	<i>Chairman.</i>
Don Phillips	<i>Vice Chairman.</i>
Betty Read	<i>Treasurer.</i>
Len Pearce	<i>Secretary.</i>
Alan Bennett	<i>Newsletter.</i>
David Finnemore	<i>Membership Sec.</i>
Derek Stevens	<i>Memorabilia.</i>
Tony Bletsoe	<i>Member.</i>
Rodney Hurt	<i>Member.</i>
Patrick Keeping	<i>Member.</i>
Alan Maitland	<i>Member.</i>
Ken Nicklen	<i>Member.</i>

As the Summer Reunion is less formal than the Winter Lunch, it is anticipated that, after a brief welcome from The Chair, there will be a Toast to the 'Good Lady Meg', followed by the School Song. The proceeds of the Summer & Winter Raffles will be divided between two charities, The Bournemouth Talking Newspaper and "Julia's House", the Dorset childrens' hospice.

DISTANT TIMES RECALLED

We have obtained a copy of the Winburnian magazine running from 1907 to 1927. This is the volume which was thought to be missing but which has been in the safekeeping of **Chris Hampton**, a former Master who lives in Ferndown. To read through these pages is to make acquaintance with a world we thought forgotten. What is so surprising is to realise just how small the school was in 1907. There were only about 30 boys. The start of the volume corresponds nicely with the departure of **Eustace Fynes-Clinton** after 27 years and the arrival of **Dr Allan** as Headmaster. It also marks the beginning of an upward swing in the numbers because, by the time it ends, there are more than 200 pupils. So many of the names will be familiar to the reader. In 1907, Commemoration Day was entertained by scenes from "The Rehearsal" and "Twelfth Night". Among the cast were **O.B.J. Philpott, L. Budden, A.S. Hibberd**. The Chair was taken by **Sir John Hanham**. The prizes were presented by **Mrs Bankes**. The vote of thanks was seconded by **Mr. W.J. Fletcher**, grandson of the formidable former Headmaster, himself an OW and well-known for having designed the present Church House. The secretary of the Old Winburnians was **Capt. R.B. Knight**, who had the job of making a presentation to **Mr and Mrs Fynes-Clinton**. She received a purse, and her husband a cigarette case. *"Some amusement was caused later by the latter, with his usual modesty, imagining that the case itself constituted the entire testimonial, intended to express our estimate of the value of his life's work; on better advice, both purse and case were opened, and were found to contain substantial cheques."*

What also fascinates is the way you can trace a boy's progress, first through school, and then through the years after he leaves. Many kept in touch, and the addresses from which they write is a gazetteer of the British Empire. It's amazing the number who tried their luck abroad, and how easy it was for them to go to the ends of the earth.

Bearing in mind that it was really only in 1896 that Commemoration was instituted, by 1907 it was a regular ceremony, followed closely by the Old Boys' Dinner. Reading this taught me that the toast to "Our Royal Foundress" is drunk in silence. I'm not sure why, can anyone enlighten me? Anyway, perhaps we ought to amend our use of this custom to conform. The Chair was taken at this reunion by **F.R. Rushton**. He was followed by **W. Jackson**, one of the oldest OWs at that time, therefore dating from around 1860. At that time the Association numbered 100 members. The Old Boys cricket match was played on a Tuesday, and School won by 141 runs to 132. Scorers for the school were **Mr Chessall**, a Master, with 76, and another Master, **Mr Pitkin** with 80 runs. For the old boys the brothers **Montgomery** were, as usual, conspicuous with "**Minnie**" taking the lions's share, 55. It goes on to mention that they had a smoking concert, arranged by **F. Blount**, who left before the memory of the existing register. This gentleman was Headmaster of the Choristers at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, no less, "**Bunny**" was present in his most obliging mood, it says. **Blount** was the family name of the **Lords Mountjoy**, longtime occupiers of the Canford Estate, and one wonders whether **Bunny Blount** may have been a descendant of theirs who remained in the area.

GRAHAM POWELL (1938 - 47)

LAST DAY OF TERM

(From: 47 Rue des Ecoles, 78125 La Boissiere-Ecole, France.

Dear Alan,

I have just received the latest Newsletter, which reminded me that recently I found the attached when turning out a cupboard. I've re-typed it, as the original was written in barely legible pencil.

It's just a thumbnail sketch of a brief moment in time 46 years ago when we had most of our lives ahead of us. Nothing exciting happens, but the people named - now for the most part parents and grandparents with a great deal of life behind them - may recognise themselves. Room 4 was on the first floor of the "new" building, long since demolished. You are welcome to publish it if you think it may be of interest. *Thank you, Janet. I am sure it will be of interest.*)

We are sitting in Room 4 on 6th April, 1960, at 10 minutes to 10 a.m. Our desks have all been tidied and the rubbish bin passed round. The board is clean for once, and it is likely to remain so till the beginning of the Summer Term. Everybody is messing about.

Near the door. **Hibberd, Stevens, Slater** and **Stephenson** are having a game of cards. In the same row, near the back of the room, **Bowden, Royce, Martin, Knights, Williamson** and **Rich** are having a quiz from Rich's Quiz Book.

At the back of the room in the next row **Kathleen Hudson** is playing cards with **Woodsford, Douch** and **Froud**, although playing-cards are strictly forbidden at school. At the front of that row, **Heather Barlow** and **Carle Chaffey** are looking at a storyviewer.

Across the gangway in the next row, **Christine Cousins** is reading quietly. Behind her **Elizabeth Gent** has

just finished tidying her desk and is blowing her nose. In the next desk back, **Jennifer Greening** and **Coralie Haddock** are playing a pencil and paper game, and behind them **Pamela Johnson**, **Susan Davies**, **Jacqueline Macgregor** and **Susan Edwards** are playing cards.

Near the back of the room in my row, **June Mansbridge** and **Haidee McIntyre** are reading. In front of them **Christine Millard**, **Margaret Newell**, **Jane White**, **Elizabeth Streets** and **Rosemary Selby** are playing a queer kind of Draughtboard game. **Liz** has just turned round and is talking to me. I am sitting in front of her and in the next desk forward **Susan Wright** has just said “*Janet, are you writing a book?*”

Now, at the back of the room, **Martin** seems to be doing a balancing act on the desk. Stevens has just written untidily on the board. “*2A. Line up in School Lane before going to the Hockey match*”.

Susan Wright has got up and is joining in the Draughtboard game. Ouch! She is climbing over my chair! **Liz** says she is bored. She is messing about with a rubber band. It has started to rain, so perhaps we shan’t be able to see the Staff Hockey Match.

The babble of chatter is rising to a roar because the boys are having an argument. A moan arises from the back of the room, followed by a squeaky voice. Really, those boys.

Elizabeth Gent has started doing a crossword. **Jane** has just climbed over my chair, after repeated efforts to get behind it.

Stephenson seems to be hot. He has just taken off his jacket, pullover and tie. Some conversation.

“*If you buy something . . .*”

“*You’ve got to carry on . . .*”

“*I don’t know where . . .*”

“*Cor!*”

“*Ha, ha, ha!*”

“*Last day of term . . .*”

“*I thought it . . .*”

“*Hallo Janet . . .*”

“*I thought she was going to do that.*”

“*Ha! Ha!*”

“*I’m stuck, real stuck.*”

“*Yes?*”

“*refreshment time . . .*”

“*What ever . . .?*”

“*Whacko.*”

“*Hi, Slater . . .*”

“*Ow! Oooh! Ow!*”

“*Hmmm . . .*”

“*Whist . . .*”

“*The same to you . . .*”

“*Oh, no!*”

“*You have! He had two threes*”

“*Mrs Who?*”

“*Law.*”

“*Mrs Law?*”

“*No!*”

“*Oh dear.*”

“*Yes, Susan*”

“*Have you got . . .*”

“*Whoops . . .*”

“*Come on, change . . .*”



Some 6th form boys are looking in the window of the door. The people behind me are playing Happy Families and **Liz** and **Jane** are playing draughts. In the front desk. **Slater** is passing **Stephenson's** pullover round and **Stephenson** has unbuttoned the neck of his shirt and rolled up his sleeves.

The time is now just gone twenty-five past ten, so I think I'll stop doing this and have a read of my book in a minute. **Stevens** has taken off his pullover now. **Rosemary** is wailing. "I haven't even got half a family yet!" Now **Hibberd** has taken off his pullover. **Kathleen Hudson** has just gone out. Well, cheerio! I hope it stops raining.

JANET DOOLAGE (nee PURSEY) (1958 - 65)

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, WIMBORNE DORSET.



SCHOOL VISIT TO SWITZERLAND, APRIL 1947.

On Tuesday 1st. April 1947 a group of 4 Masters, **Mr. Huntingdon** (who organised the trip), **Mr. (Motty) Mottram**, **Mr. (Fishy) Maiden**, and **Mr. Clarke** (accompanied by Mrs. Clarke) and 60 boys set off on the first Post-War School trip, to Switzerland. Royal Blue Coaches left Wimborne at 7a.m., picking up boys at various locations en route to Victoria Coach Station. On arrival, we transferred to the Victoria Railway Station for the Boat Train to Dover, where we embarked on S.S. Prince Charles for the crossing to



The Editor hopes readers enjoy some more postcard views of Wimborne from his collection. This card postmarked Cranborne 1905, is the reverse of the old school scene above

Ostend in Belgium.

From here we travelled via Brugges and Ghent to Brussels' Gare du Nord, then transferred to Gare du Sud for the long journey south which took us across Belgium, Luxemburg and France to Basle in Switzerland. The main memories of the journey to Basle are sitting on hard slatted wooden seats and seeing extensive war damage along the way. In neutral Switzerland, where there was no sweet rationing, there was a concerted dash to a stall selling chocolate!

In Basle we changed to an electric train, much faster than the steam train across France, and travelled to Schwyz, passing through a five mile long tunnel en route. From Schwyz we were taken by Automobil A.G.Schwyz coach to our destination, which was the "Jugendferenheim und J.H. Rotschus, Gersau, Vierwaldstattersee (Youth Hostel). The journey took more than 30 hours overall. A quiet supper and off to bed. We slept on straw palliasses and the toilets consisted of a hole in the ground with a foot pad on either side. The Youth Hostel is right on the shore of Lake Lucerne, and still exists today.

During our stay, our activities were as follows:

Thursday 3rd. April. We walked to the village of Vitznau, west of the Youth Hostel, along the shore of the Lake. Most of us did some more shopping, almost certainly including more chocolate!

Friday 4th. April. In the morning we walked to the village of Gersau, east of the Youth Hostel. In the afternoon we walked part way up the mountain directly behind the Youth Hostel, getting up to quite a height, or so it seemed at the time.

Saturday 5th April. We travelled by lake steamer from Vitznau to Lucerne. Part of the time was spent shopping. Purchases included cameras, watches, crayons, propelling pencils and, of course, more chocolate We saw the Chapel Bridge (Kappellebrucke) with its mediaeval paintings and also visited the Lion Monument. Return to Vitznau was again by Lake Steamer.

Sunday 6th April. We walked to Vitznau to catch the RigiBahn rack railway up the Rigi Kuim mountain. This took us above the snowline and of course there were snowball fights as well as admiring the fine views.

Monday 7th. April. We travelled by Lake Steamer, departing from Gersau, to the northeastern part of the Lake. There were stops at Treib, Brunnen, Seelisberg, and the William Tell Chapel at Altdorf , with paintings of William Tell on the walls. From here, steamer back to Gersau.

Tuesday 9th. April. We started homewards, the reverse of the outward journey, coach to Schwyz, electric train to Basle, steam train across France and Belgium, steamer to Dover, arriving 4.30p.m., into London 7.50 p.m. Departed by coach 8.05pm, and arrived home around 1.50a.m. after a holiday which I am sure has stayed in the memory of those who took part as a highlight of their school years.

The above was compiled from information kindly provided by **Ray Wheeler, Brian Davis, Mike Clift, and Tony Porter**. A much more detailed account is being prepared for the Old Winburnian's Archives. I shall be attending the Reunion in July 2007 and plan to hand this over to O.W's. Archivist, **Derek Stevens** that time. If anyone who was on the trip would like a copy of the full report, or would like to add information or their own memories, I would be delighted to hear from them. There are a number of photographs, postcards and even a brochure of the RigiBahn, copies of which will be included with the final report.

STAN RICHMOND (1943-1948), 3/150 Fenchurch St., Goolwa, South Australia 5214.

MEMORIES OF THE VERWOOD BUS

It was called the Verwood Bus but it actually began its journey from Handley, collected pupils in Cranborne, Verwood and Three Legged Cross and delivered them to school at the ridiculously early time of 8.15am. Nobody ever knew why.

There were two old dilapidated, clapped-out red and blue coaches that conveyed us to school. Frank, the elder of the two drivers, wore a cap and drove at an infuriatingly slow pace. We often thought rigor mortis would set in around Ferndown and we would have to walk the rest of the way. Walt, the other driver, drove at a speed that today would make Schumacher seem pedestrian. He would be crouched over the steering-wheel looking for misbehaving pupils in his rear-view mirror regardless of the danger this posed to the few well-behaved passengers behind him.

Frank's bus had wooden slatted seats which were more comfortable if we sat cross-legged facing backwards. This also made it easier to socialise with friends. Walt's bus was more ancient and had upholstery full of splits and explosions of foam. There were also fewer seats on Walt's bus so, invariably, three had to sit on a seat designed to accommodate only two.

Old Frank never seemed to mind bad behaviour. He always seemed to be oblivious to everything around him.



Walt, however, would explode with rage and mete out his favourite punishment. You would be dropped off several stops before or after your normal one and you were made to walk the extra distance home.

Certain behaviour on the bus was unacceptable. Reading in particular was frowned upon as being anti-social. I recall picking a fight with a very studious boy who persisted in reading on the bus after being warned! Doing one's homework was also taboo but the copying of someone else's homework was actively encouraged!

Wearing school caps was not permitted until the Wimborne boundary was reached when all heads would be ceremoniously covered to comply with School Rules.

Waving and making obscene gestures and remarks to pedestrians en route was the norm, especially to school girls, who regularly were waiting for their own transport to school.

Farting seemed to be obligatory and, on occasions, competitive. It was also seasonal because limited ventilation in the winter made it a less popular activity. In the summer plenty of fresh air was available to assist in restoring normal breathing patterns. Rolled up school caps provided the ideal breathing protection in these circumstances.

I was Bus Prefect in my last year which was the first year that the girls were admitted to the school. I think we had two or three on the bus. Norah and Anita boarded before Verwood and stoically sat together. They survived in spite of intimidation from those around.

Not only did we get to school before anyone else but the Verwood bus didn't leave until 4.45pm. We had to spend three quarters of an hour in the Prep room doing our homework in complete silence. The kids on the Verwood bus had a lot to put up with. For the five or seven years we were pupils at the school nobody ever saw us arrive or leave the premises at the end of the day. We were though a happy bunch and, in the years I travelled on it, miraculously we never had an accident or even a flat tyre.

MERVYN FRAMPTON (1947-54)

LOOKING BACK

Being some reflections on the years 1936-43 at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wimborne.

It was a long day - out of the house at 7.30am Monday to Saturday and not home again until 5.45pm, except on Tuesday or Thursday when we could have half a day, also Saturday when we arrived home around 2.30pm. I guess we got used to it and I was lucky living near Daggons Road station. I reckon we must have walked at least 700 miles between school and Wimborne station over the years. However, it is an ill wind that blows nobody any good so, on many occasions, instead of hanging around on half-days waiting for a train we went to Newman's boat-hire near the bridge and learned to row on the Stour to Julian's bridge and back. There seemed to be more water and less weed then.

What did Forms A and B mean? Looking back, maybe it meant the clever kids were 'As' and the rest in 'Bs' or perhaps it was down to ages. As the years passed and I met the ups and downs of life I came to the conclusion that, no matter how hard I worked, I would never be in the same league as those few bright boys

who were due to have their names on the HSC board in Big School for they took things so easily in their stride. Of course, it was a question of Intelligence Quotient and I did not have a high one, nor did I have an analytical mind. A bit of plodder, I fear, but surprisingly when plodders get really interested in a subject sometimes miracles do happen.

The French lessons from **'Tich' Drury** have stood me in good stead. All that conjunction of verbs done orally by the class whilst 'Tich' collected his thoughts for the coming lesson were worthwhile and enabled me to communicate to some extent thereafter. **Mr Huntingdon, 'Hunty'**, was lost to the call-up but some of it remained. I guess in those days, as we looked up at the vapour trails of air battles above, our choice of subjects was guided by the staff available to teach them and **'Tipper' Airey** would sometimes join in.

A few other things come to mind.

eg. Can you ever win races if your legs are short?

Can you ever do large numbers of press-ups if you have short arms and small muscles?

Can you ever take part in out of school activities if you miss your train home miles away?

Why was I chosen for a prefect's job?

What was on the other side of the high brick wall beyond the large lime tree beyond the rifle range?

These days would Health and Safety allow young boys to swim in the cold River Allen, but it was all we had most of us being country boys?

One remembers **'Maggie' Holmes** urging us to dissect frogs and rabbits in the old Biology lab. Then there was **Mr Jolly** who taught us clueless boys how to appreciate opera and classical music, a change from our previous teacher who wanted non-singers on the back bench! There was the daily chore at lunch-time moving and setting tables and chairs in Big School, ordered by prefects operating a press-gang system for workers. Seniors could sometimes go to the war-time cafe opposite the Priest's House. Was it called the British Restaurant?



Looking back, I guess it was a lucky break not to lose my life during the war. I was lucky to be taught new subjects at a higher level and gain some qualifications for my future life. I was lucky to make friends and study with some great and clever people. Some of these people are still in touch. There was discipline and a good spirit. However, I do wish somebody had taught me how to mend taps and do a bit of DIY. They say that all you need can be found in books or the Internet now but what about the tricks of the trade? It would have been handy later on with a wife and family. Perhaps the . . .

There is, of course, so much more I could say but space does not permit any more of my ramblings!

DON HIBBERD (1936-43)

CORRESPONDENCE AND NEWS OF OWS

(I am indebted to my friend **Len Pearce** for the following news of **Richard Lock**, **Tony Carter** and **Harry Wells**).

RICHARD LOCK (Left in 1943)

Back in March, in the Letters section of the Wimborne Community Magazine, there was a letter signed Richard Lock, from Blairgowrie in Scotland. The writer mentioned several things of a local nature, including residing at Sturminster Marshall and marrying a young lady from Wimborne. Len Pearce read this letter and remembered a Dick Lock from Sturminster who had married a Jean Willis from the Leigh Park area in Wimborne and that they had moved to Scotland several years ago.

A quick look at the "the phonebook.bt.com" web site, produced an address and telephone number, so Len rang him. During the next half hour he discovered that sadly, Dick has been a widower for the last few years. Their chat ranged over WGS and former staff and pupils, together with Dick's life, including his friendship with Frank Shears and their football activity whilst the remainder of their form 'square bashed' with the School Cadet Corps.

Dick served for 30 years in the RAF during which time he and his family travelled all over the world. On his retirement, he returned to Sturminster Marshall and then worked in Poole for the RNLI. When he retired from there, Jean and Dick decided to move to Scotland where their children and grand-children lived.

Dick was surprised that his letter had been published but pleased that someone from WGS had contacted him and agreed that because of the distance, he would not be able to attend any reunions.

TONY CATER (1935 - 41)

After leaving WGS, where he was a boarder, Tony joined the Army and served in Somaliland, Ethiopia and Kenya and, following his Medical Discharge from the Army, he worked for the government in Tanganyika. Tony left that post to become a hotelier and, in that capacity he later moved from Africa to Australia but did not settle there and returned to run a successful establishment in Rhodesia.

On retirement, he re-located to Durban but, sadly before long, his wife died and he also had to vacate their flat. Tony returned to the UK where his sister lived in Shoreham-by-Sea. Unfortunately he had a fall which resulted in a broken hip and he now lives in sheltered accommodation in the town. He would like to attend a reunion but he could only do so if he was driven in a car by his sister and the distance would mean an overnight stay.



Tony would have liked to have become an actor but the Headmaster, J.C. Airey knew about this and discouraged from thinking about it. However, his aspirations were recognised by one of the masters, Mr L.H. Mottram, who welcomed him into his family for meals from time to time and also arranged for him to enter competitions at the Bournemouth Festival where he enjoyed some success. However, his subsequent life prevented him from following his dream.

Tony's elder brother Ken was a strong supporter of the Old Winburnians and attended our reunions until he died a few years ago.

HARRY WELLS (1935 - 40)

A chance meeting in Wimborne Minster on May Day gave two Old Winburnians the opportunity to chat about pupils and staff of the late 1930s.

Harry Wells from Florida, was in town for a brief visit, when one of the helpers in the Church happened to mention to Len Pearce, who is a Minster Guide, that the couple to whom she was talking came from America and that the gentleman had lived in Wimborne. Len established that the man had lived in the Corn Market, that his name was Wells, then realised he was talking with Harry, whom he had known since pre-WGS days.

After war time service in the Army, Harry had made a career in the Hong Kong Police Force. Whilst there, he and his wife, Barbara, met up with **Joe Mottram**, the younger son of "Motty" who was in the Army and, at that time O.C. the Army mules! They were surprised to know that Joe transferred to the Australian Army and that he had retired to Tasmania.

Harry had attended the 1997 Reunion which he thought was a very worthwhile celebration of the foundation of the School, 500 years ago. He recalled several of the events in his school life and the friends he had made, including **Maurice Herridge**, **'Jacko' Butler** and **Ken Cater**.

Harry, now in his eighties, and Barbara, retired to Florida but they occasionally cross "The Pond" to see his brother who lives in Colehill and his sister who lives in London.



MICHAEL BULL (1944 - 46)

Michael wrote some kind words regarding the last edition of The Newsletter and also offered some useful advice regarding the new postage charges and its impact on our costs. We may well take up your suggestion, Michael. He also forwarded a press cutting on his old friend John Wiseman who sadly died later last year. Michael wrote affectionately: 'I remember John when he travelled in the bus from Ringwood to Wimborne. The group included **Ken Bartlett**, **Bill Ayers** and myself. Happy days!'

W.F.E. GIBBS (1940 - 47)

(Bill, as everyone knows W.F.E., wrote the following to Carolyn Kamcke)

I had hoped to get to the December Reunion but, having recently moved house and down-sized, we have too much on the go to enable us to get away. I have noted next July's date, and we hope to make it then and to combine it with a visit to a NT property we have wanted to see for some time. (It is Tynesfield in the Bristol area and was the home in the 19th century of an unrelated William Gibbs who made his fortune from the importation of guano!)

As for me, despite the demands of the new home, I have been able to pursue my usual activities - a couple of holidays abroad and my regular commitments in invigilation for the University of London and several chartered bodies (Taxation, Management Accountants, Corporate Treasurers) which at least helps to keep me off the streets.

DICK JEFFERY (1936 - 42)

Dick wrote his usual interesting letter in which he said he had duly acquired a copy of 'Soldiers, Civilians and Stockmen', recommended in the last Newsletter. 'My wife and I, being the vintage of teenagers in the war years, relived those times while viewing it. In spite of the circumstances, they were fulfilling years for us. Something which may be missing for some teenagers today.'

Dick was also pleased to report that, following an item in the last edition, Roy Perry duly made contact with him - their first conversation for a mere 64 years!

He also referred to one of the best-loved of all our old teachers, notwithstanding his sometimes fierce demeanour when we were tiny, short-trousered innocents, namely **Albert Maiden**. Dick wrote: 'I wonder how many can remember him as the Scout Master in the school's Scout troop? I can still vividly recall a weekend camp in Merley House grounds when about ten of us loaded up a sort of barrow boy's truck with all the tents and equipment and pushed it from the school to the site via that long hill up to where Merley railway gates were - and beyond.'

Dick regrets that he cannot get down to reunions but he did enjoy a mini-reunion with **Judy Hutchins (nee Slater)** and their respective spouses in Anglesey in December. He asks if there are any other OWs in the locality. If so, please write to Dick at Eryiwen, Lon Tudur, Llangefni, Anglesey, LL77 7HP.

TONY LEIGH (1949 - 54)

Tony sent his Christmas greetings from Texas (1418 Tilman Drive, Richmond, Texas) to everyone who remembered him. Of course, Tony, I remember you very well. I do hope, as you say, that you will make it to one of our reunions before you 'kick the bucket'!

STAN RICHMOND (1943 - 48)

I have been pleased to feature Stan's contribution earlier in the newsletter. Stan is hoping to grace us with his presence in July when he will be assured of a most warm welcome. Stan reiterates the importance of the Newsletter for those most scattered about the globe. 'It was solely through its existence that **Ray Wheeler, Mike Riggs** and myself were able to make contact'. It is very rewarding when we receive such kind comments, Stan.

JAN RICKETTS (nee PERRY) (1959 - 64)

I hope Jan's communication problems are resolved. I note that she did hope to attend in July with her friend **Mary Pope (nee Bishop)** but I fear, to judge by my list earlier, that she didn't make it. Better luck next time, Jan!

DAVID SINGLETON (1951-57)

David certainly had a busy 2006 with his responsibilities in the American Chemical Society, his wine-tasting expeditions and family matters. I understand David suffered a health scare but hope this is now satisfactorily resolved. All the best from all your old friends, David. Do look us up when next you are over.

RICHARD WHITE (1943 - 48)

Richard wrote an interesting letter from Weymouth where he has recently retired as church organist in the Salisbury diocese after 60 years - 'my last 14 years as Director of Music at All Saints, Wyke Regis.' Don't you think you are a bit young to retire, Richard?!

He also wrote nostalgically of the days he and **Stan Richmond** were at Colehill school together and those days in the early 1940s when 'we used to miss lessons in order to tie up bundles of newspapers and collect bags of acorns for the pigs - all in aid of the war effort.' (*I wonder if John Dacombe used to 'dig for Victory' in Churchill's era? I do seem to recall he was present at Bradman's last Test. He did once claim, I understand, that he could turn the ball even more sharply than Eric Hollies in the halycon days of his youth*). Richard also remembered 'cycling from Colehill to King Street when he would get an occasional lift from '**Tich**' **Dury** in his car or '**Motty**' in his sidecar!'

OBITUARIES

JOHN GOULD (late 1930s)

John left England in the early 1950s to begin a new life in Australia. He achieved considerable distinction in his career becoming the Chief Accountant of the Bank of Australia. This was after beginning as a humble bank clerk at Blandford and Fordingbridge. John passed away in December '06. We send our sympathy to John's family.

WALTER ANTHONY GRINEAU (1933 - 39)

We learned of the death of Walter (better known as 'Tony') from his family a couple of months ago. Tony attended QEGS until he was fifteen. I have no particulars of his civilian career but he did serve with distinction in the Royal Marines in WW2. Tony spent the last couple of years of his life in a local retirement home and died peacefully in January. His family gave Tony a moving 'send off and the local branch of the Marines provided a guard of honour, two standard bearers and the coffin was draped with the Union Jack and his medals. A bugler from the Marines camp at Poole played the Last Post.' We send our condolences to Tony's family.



JOHN WISEMAN (1942-47)



John as we like to remember him

I received several press cuttings relating to John who died in October last year. It is evident from the length of the obituaries that John achieved much in his life and earned the love and respect of a vast number of friends and acquaintances.

John was born in Ringwood and began his career with Unilever. After a spell in the paint industry he became Senior Area Manager with the brewers Whitbread & Co. Throughout his life he loved and played competitive sport with great passion and no little skill. He was a fine rugby player and cricketer in his youth but later achieved even more success in bowls. He was selected for England on no fewer than 38 occasions and played innumerable times at county level. By common consent John was an old-fashioned sportsman and deeply regretted the decline in standards of sporting etiquette and behaviour.

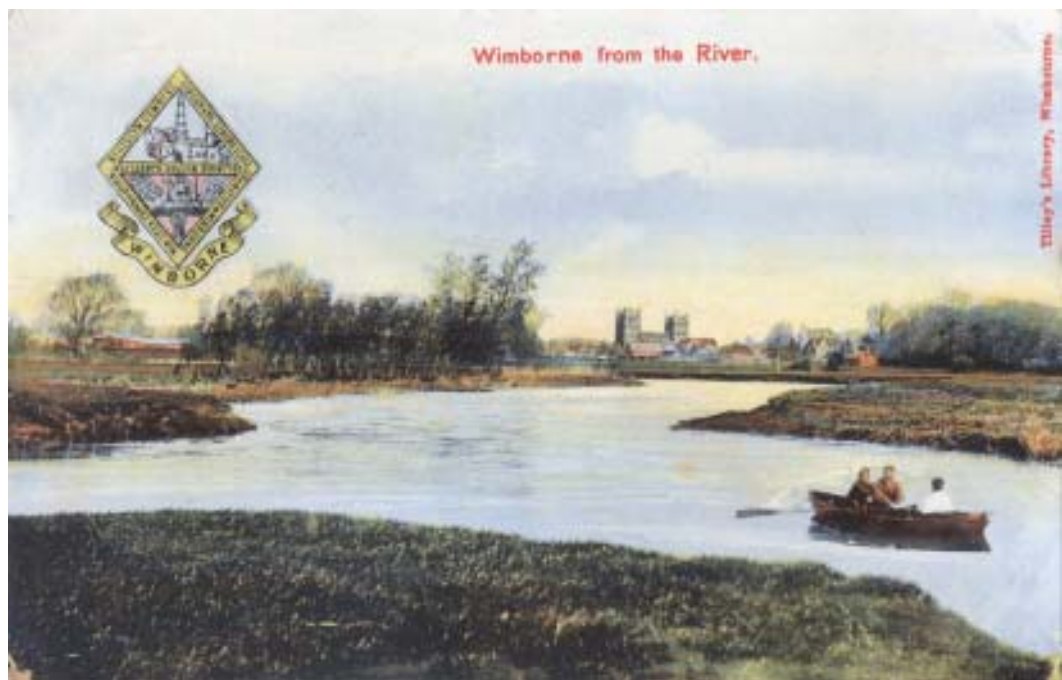
At QEGS and with Ringwood Musical and Dramatic Society he showed great prowess as a singer and actor. He was married to Pauline and had two sons, Mark and Paul, and ten grandchildren. John died after fighting a valiant and brave battle against cancer in a hospice in Somerset aged 74. We send our sympathy to his family. John was a remarkable man and will clearly be sorely missed by very many people.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The MC at this year's reunion will be Patrick Keeping, Esq. (*Compassionately released by the Governor, H.M. prison, Dartmoor, for the occasion*).

The Committee is presently considering the most appropriate way in which the 500th anniversary of the death of Lady Margaret Beaufort should be commemorated in 2009.

Please note the bar will be briefly closed at noon on Saturday, July 7, for the duration of the AGM.



ESSENTIAL ADDRESSES

Treasurer	BETTY READ - 15 Allenvie Road, Wimborne BH21 1AT
Chairman/Sec	CAROLYN KAMCKE - 4 Pine Close, Ameysford Road, Ferndown BH22 9QX
Membership	DAVID FINNEMORE - 4 Purbeck Gardens, Poole BH14 0QS
Vice-Chairman	DON PHILLIPS - 7 Heather Drive, Ferndown BH22 9SD
Memorabilia	DEREK STEVENS - 'Gurnards', Mornington Drive, Winchester, Hants S022 5LR
The Newsletter	ALAN R BENNETT - 11 Hawk Close, Pilford Heath, Colehill, Wimborne BH21 2NW