



## OLD WINBURNIANS NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN 2013

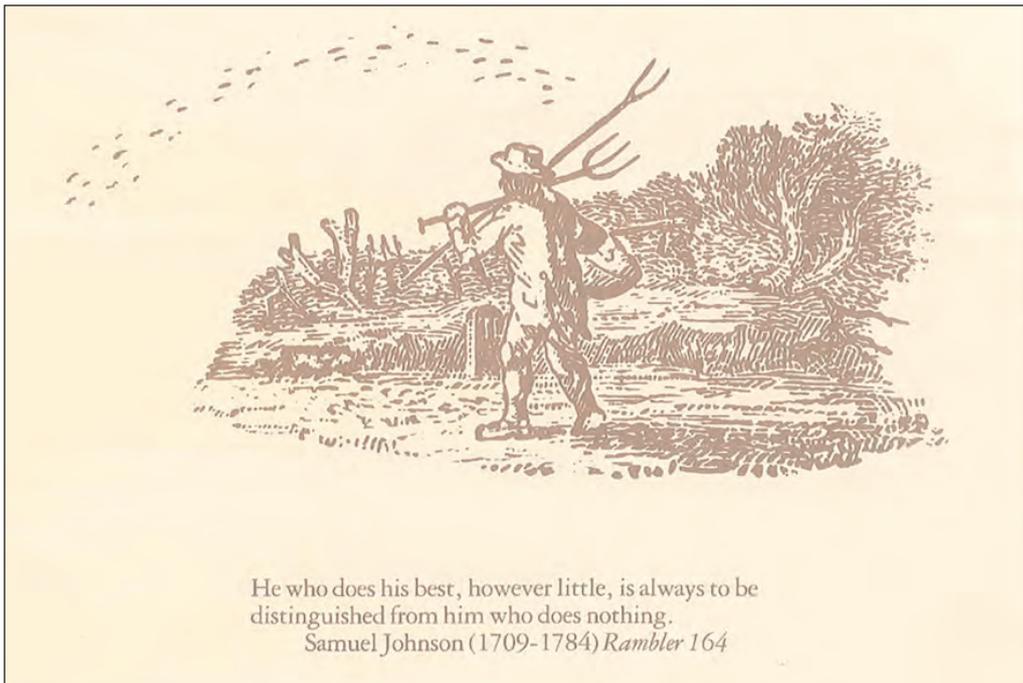
Dear fellow OWs,

I shall keep it very brief. I hope and believe this edition of the Newsletter will inform and entertain. I am especially delighted by the contribution from Kenneth Bartlett (1944-52) who responded to my invitation to submit his choice of Desert Island Discs with a superb piece. As one of the most respected and affectionately regarded Head Boys in the history of WGS (I am sure this must be true!) Kenneth's accompanying text is absolutely fascinating. I thank also every other contributor - keep the pieces coming in, please!

On behalf of the Committee I wish all our members a happy and healthy year ahead. Do try to come along on Saturday, 7 December, when you can be assured of a very warm welcome. If you cannot be with us in person, please raise a glass at 2pm and join us in our toast to Absent Friends .

Very best wishes

Alan R Bennett



### FORTHCOMING REUNIONS

Saturday, 7 December 2013

Saturday, 5 July, 2014

## SUMMER REUNION 2013

It is possible there are inaccuracies in the list of those shown attending. The flooding across many counties made it impossible for a number of members to reach Wimborne. I apologise for any errors.

**David Beck, Alan Bennett, Les Bishop and guest Paul Cumberland, Nick Bishop, Tony Bletsoe, Wendy Bundy nee Baker, and guest Brian Bundy, Eunice Carnall nee Chadd, Robin Christopher and guest Hazel Christopher, A. Cooper nee Hallett, Robert Copelin, Desmond Cox, Sandra Cox, Peter Cox, John Dare, Janet Doolaage nee Pursey, Joyce Downton, Norah Dyson nee Henfield, Faith Elford nee Hawes and guest John Elford, Olive Foyle, Mervyn Frampton, Edgar Francis, John Froud, Brian Glover, Janet Gordon nee Daniels, Tony Gould, Gail Greenfield, Dr John Guy, Lawson Hall, Alan Hall, Bill Haskell, Len Hawker and guest Dot Hawker, Maurice Herridge and guest Kate Herridge, John Hill, Geoff Hill, Rod Hurt, Carolyn Kamcke nee Walkling, Patrick Keeping, Michael Kerley, Susan Lawrence, Alan Maitland and guest June Maitland, Ron Mansfield, Maria Martin nee Limm, Lorna Miles nee Woodall, and guest Patricia Fripp, Kenneth Moody, Victor Moss, Jennifer Moss nee Day, Diana Moss nee Anderson and guest James Moss, Sue O'Connor nee Froud and guest John Coombes, David Park, David Parker, Len Pearce and guest Diana Pearce, Graham Powell, and guest Hazel Powell, Christine Price nee Richmond, Terry Randall, Betty Read nee White, Gordon Richards, Ann Richmond nee Mitchell, David Roberts, David Roberts, David Royce, Ray Scott and guest Anne Sweeney, Roy Sheppard and guest Betty Sheppard, John Singleton, Rodney Smith, Elaine Smith, Derek Stevens, Jill Strong nee Cowdry, Cynthia Tanner nee Streets, Ken Taylor and guest Jill Taylor, Monica Vacher nee Brown, Peter Watts, Geoffrey White, Stanley White, Prof Bob White, Helen White nee Filcher, Bill White and guest Marian White, Roger Whittaker and guest Maggie Sadler, Monty Wilcox, Eddie Wood and guest Jose Wood, Beryl Wythers nee Moreton.**

## APOLOGIES RECEIVED FROM

**Lorna Dyter, Peter Douch, Trevor Brooke-Dew, Christopher Peters, Marion Wimsett, Paul Burry, Roy Dacombe, John Harper, Denis Hames, Richard Read, Rose Breach, Caroline Jennings, Don Phillips, Dennis Dolman O.B.E.**

## ESSENTIAL ADDRESSES

Chairman	Tony Gould	1 Manor Cottages, Tolpuddle DT2 7ES
Vice Chairman	Patrick Keeping	17 Wellers Close, Totton
Secretary	Ken Moody	Flat 8, Wickham Court, 9 Eastwood Avenue, Ferndown BH22 9LQ
Treasurer/Membership	Alan Maitland	Coles Farm, Milborne St Andrews, Blandford DT11 0JL
Newsletter	Alan R. Bennett	11 Hawk Close, Pilford Heath, Colehill, Wimborne BH21 2NW
Web Site	David Finnemore	4 Purbeck Gardens, Poole BH14 0QS
Memorabilia Secretary	Derek Stevens	2 Remedy Gate, Woodlands, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 8NG
Publicity Secretary	Betty Read	15 Allenvie Road, Wimborne BH21 1AT

## REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) OF THE OLD WINBURNIANS ASSOCIATION (OWA) - HELD AT MERLEY, DORSET on 9th of SEPTEMBER 2013

During the year 2012/13 the OWA has continued to provide opportunities for our members to meet one another in a relatively relaxed atmosphere. The 2012 AGM was held in Merley on 10th of September 2012. Elections took place although I am bound to report that contest for office was not hotly contested at any level! Those elected and re-elected were:- Len Pearce, Rodney Hurt, Tony Bletsoe, Don Philips, Ken Moody, Pat Keeping, Alan Bennett, Ken Taylor, Tony Gould, Bill Haskell, Betty Read, Alan Maitland and Carolyn Kamcke.

During the year five committee meetings were held, two newsletters produced, a seat presented to Wimborne Minster, two successful reunion lunches organised, one in July and one in December: and of course the commemorative booklet was published.

We are so grateful to two of our members Graham Powell who researched and assembled the material and Alan Bennett who undertook a very fine job as editor and who is vitally our link with the publisher. A History of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Wimborne is sub-titled "The story of 500 years of Education in a Dorset School". A copy was sent to each of our members and the booklet is on sale in Wimborne and to date

several re-prints have been made. The booklet is very nicely presented and is complete with photographs: we are most grateful to Alan and to Graham for all the work they each undertook.

A former pupil and member of the committee Doug Williams (1942-48) kindly offered us a bench which we arranged to be installed in The Minster churchyard overlooking the site of the school. Our thanks to Betty Read and Bill Haskell for making the arrangements with the Minster authorities and for organising the commemorative plaque and of course our thanks to Doug for the gift.

Our work in keeping the OWA functioning would not take place without the dedicated work of a number of people. These include David Finnemore for his considerable skills as honorary web-master who makes sure that people from all over the world can find us with a couple of clicks. Gordon Richards continues to liaise with Cobham Sports Club and ensures that our social functions go smoothly. Alan Bennett for his outstanding work with the newsletter and our hardworking but largely un-sung heroes the Treasurer and Secretary, Alan Maitland and Ken Moody respectively who produce the agendas, minutes and accounts. Derek Stevens for so ably displaying historical material at our lunches. Len Pearce adapted work he has done on old school pupils who were killed on active service in WW 11 and in so doing has provided a memorial to them on the web-site. In fact I am most grateful to all members of the committee for their advice and assistance at meetings which are always well attended.

In summary the past year has been one of achievement. I think congratulations are due to the OWA for a productive and memorable year.

**Tony Gould - Chair of the OWA.**  
(1951 - 55)

**Old Winburnians Association**  
**Statement of Accounts From 01/06/12 to 31/05/13**

<b><u>Income</u></b>	<b><u>2012/13</u></b>	<b><u>2011/12</u></b>	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>2012/13</u></b>	<b><u>2011/12</u></b>
Reunions	£3,742.00	£2,271.55	Reunions	£3,700.00	£4,018.50
Subscriptions	£1,235.00	£1,060.00	Newsletter Costs	£1,176.02	£1,245.00
Raffle Receipts	£412.20	£494.00	Raffle Prizes & Charity	£74.17	£643.25
Donations	£4.50	£73.50	Committee Meeting Costs	£115.00	£180.08
School History Receipts	£467.78	£0.00	School History Booklet Expenses	£1,192.11	£100.00
Gross Interest on Reserve a/c	£0.40	£0.42	Memorabilia Costs	£48.00	£40.78
Sale of School Ties	£28.00		Web Site Costs	£35.86	£35.86
<b><u>Total Income</u></b>	<b><u>£5,889.88</u></b>	<b><u>£3,899.47</u></b>	<b><u>Total Expenditure</u></b>	<b><u>£6,341.16</u></b>	<b><u>£6,263.47</u></b>
			<b><u>Excess of Expenditure over Income</u></b>	<b><u>-£451.28</u></b>	<b><u>-£2,364.00</u></b>

**Balance Sheet at 31 May 2013**

<b><u>Assets at 31 May 2012</u></b>		<b><u>Assets at 31 May 2013</u></b>	
NatWest Current A/c	£397.39	NatWest Current A/c	£1,052.37
LESS unrepresented		LESS unrepresented	
Cheques	£150.80	Cheques	£162.69
	£246.59		£889.68
NatWest Reserve A/c	£1,094.37	NatWest Reserve A/c	£0.00 (Account closed 18/12/12)
Less Excess of Expenditure over			
Income 2012/13	-£451.28		
	<b><u>£889.68</u></b>		<b><u>£889.68</u></b>

**N.B.**

I have audited the summary of accounts set out above. In my opinion these are consistent with the full accounts of the Old Winburnians Association for the year 1/6/2012 to 31/5/2013

K.C.N.

## AN ADDITION TO THE O.W. WEB SITE

In the early Spring I met up with Graham Powell and in the course of our conversation he recalled research I had undertaken a few years ago, into the names of Old Winburnians on the WW2 War Memorial, which used to be on the South wall of the Big School. We agreed that it had, since then, 'lain fallow' with the keeper of the OW archives - Derek Stevens. Graham took the view that the details I had earlier recorded should be made available to a wider public, by publishing them on the Old Winburnians' Web Site.

I put the idea to David Finnemore - the OW Web Master - who was quite enthusiastic about it and so I passed all the above information to The Chairman of the O.W.

The matter was discussed at the following committee meeting and consent was given for David and I to proceed with the work of transferring the information on the fifty former students who were listed. This undertaking culminated with the Chairman announcing at the Summer Reunion that there had been a recent addition to the Old Winburnians Web Site.

**The O.W. Website can be found by searching <http://www.oldwinburnians.org.uk/>**

Clicking on the bottom of the list to the left of the Home Page "**WW2 Memorial**" will take you to a series of pages which can be accessed from the WW2 Memorial which I am sure you will recognise, as it used to be on the wall in Big School. By clicking the individual names, the details of each casualty will appear. David & I have added photographs & additional script to my original work and we are continuing to update the Web Site as information comes to light. We would welcome any further material from the world wide community of Old Winburnians.

**Len Pearce  
(1936 - 41)**

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## THE 2013 AGM

At the AGM the Chairman and the Treasurer presented their reports. Also two small adjustments were made to the Rules and Regulations. The maximum number of Full Committee Members was raised from 8 to 10 in order to accommodate a co-opted member who is a very regular attendee at our committee meetings. The other amendment was to give co-opted members full voting rights at the meetings they attend.

As there were no new candidates at the meeting, all the outgoing committee officers and members were voted back in - unopposed.

The 2014 AGM will be held at Cobhams, Merley on Monday, September 8th at 11am.

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## **QE SCHOOL, PAMPHILL, CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2013**

**Thursday 12th December** at QE School - Admission by ticket - Booking required.

**Monday 16th December** in the Minster - Admission Free - Retiring collection in aid of Charity.

For further details eg. times, prices and booking arrangements nearer the time:-  
Visit the QE website:- [QE.dorset.sch.uk](http://QE.dorset.sch.uk) or by email: [jday@ge.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:jday@ge.dorset.sch.uk)  
or by phone: 01202 885233 and ask for Jan Day (headmaster's PA).

**Ken Moody - Secretary  
(1947 - 53)**

## THE CLASS OF '42 - THE 71st ANNIVERSARY GATHERING

I cannot remember what the weather was like on September 17th, 1942, when the new boys were milling around outside Big School waiting for their first assembly, but the weather on September 17th, 2013, was very fair. A small group of us have gathered on that day each year remembering *'the good old days'* for some time.

In the year 2002 - our 60th anniversary - thirteen of us from the old 2A of 1942 got together. The whereabouts of others was known but indisposition and distance prevented their attendance.

In the past years we have gathered at The Olive Branch, (formerly The Dormers), because of the large free car park. It was so this year when five of us again came together to reminisce. Tony Bletsoe, Roy Sheppard, Derek Stevens, Stan White, Douglas Williams. This year we were thinking about National Service - Tony being a certified pharmacist was fortunate to find himself on 'troopers' sailing the world - visiting places only briefly mentioned in Motty's Geography lessons. He was on the Empire Windrush when she sank and regaled us with his account of being 'in the boats' in the Med. Roy Shep. was a Radar Mech at various R.A.F. stations. Derek Stevens was a Transport Officer at the Hook. Williams was in the War Office, Signal Officer. Often a D.R. would come in with dispatches - having passed through Derek's hands - and say to me - "There's this weird Lieutenant at the Hook who told me to say this to you!! Stan White excited the most interest - he was a Flight Engineer at Sunderlands - it was most interesting to hear of his experiences. I told them the most memorable sight that I can recall of Sunderlands was when in 1963, at the first South Pacific games, I was in the Governor of Fiji's box when six Sunderlands of RNZAF (Royal New Zealand Air Force who had a base in Fiji) flew past in formation marking the opening of the Games.

We drifted on chatting and recalling past memories - mine being - Fishy Maiden walking across Big School when the results of his H.S.C. were known, smiling broadly he said- "Well, Williams it was a damned hard struggle but we made it."

Derek Stevens, M.Sc. probably heard him and is fond of quoting to me - "Those who can do, those who can't teach." Whilst Derek rose to a very important position in British Railways - I remained a class room teacher!!

**Doug Williams**  
(1942 - 48)

P.S. I sometimes say to Derek - "See this hand? That's shaken the hand of Gen. de Gaulle "Big Fish small puddle" in S. Pacific.

*(A lovely piece of nostalgia by Doug, Seventy-one years is not a bad record! A.B.)*



*An absolutely fascinating postcard I acquired recently dated 19.8.1910. See John Dacombe with his bicycle!*  
A.R.B.

## GREETINGS FROM DOWNUNDER (AGAIN)

We still remember our visit to your last Summer Reunion where you made myself and my husband feel so welcome (despite the weather which felt more like winter).

At this stage we don't have a plan for a another trip but, if there is one ever in the pipeline, we shall try and make sure it coincides with another Reunion as it was so enjoyable catching up with friends from long ago. In the meantime we shall rely on your very reliable and informative Magazine, thank you.

One other matter that came out from that Reunion was a photograph of a School trip to Switzerland about 1959. One of my classmates that I met up with (Barbara Morris) sent me a photo of the trip we had been on, although she was not sure of a lot of the names. I contacted one or two of the other members that I had met (Cynthia Streets) and she provided me with a copy of a postcard which we had all signed. I contacted two more members, Diana Anderson and Robin Christopher. Robin kindly contacted Frances Burden and between them all we managed to put names to all the faces - it was certainly a "round robin" of co-operation.

Consequently I have pleasure in attaching the photo (with names) and the card with the signatures - hopefully you will be able to make use of it.

Alan was pleased to see that several members had viewed the Reunion video - if we make it next time I promise there will spare batteries for the camera!!

As an aside I had reason to mention Fishy Maiden the other day - there was an online quiz which was rather difficult but I managed to find the answer - the announcer asked had I "googled" the answer - naturally I had - my English teacher always said that if I didn't understand or know something make a note of it and always go and look it up - that has stuck with me for all of my life - and Google is definitely my friend!!!

Kind regards to you all and please keep up the good work,  
Marion (1955 - 60) (nee Hardy) & Alan Wimsett

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*(Some years ago Albert Maiden's daughter, Janie, gave me a copy of 'Thumbs Up', a collection of writings by the great man, with permission 'to use as you think fit'. Herewith a poem by and photos of a greatly respected and much loved man.) A.B.*

### Unfair



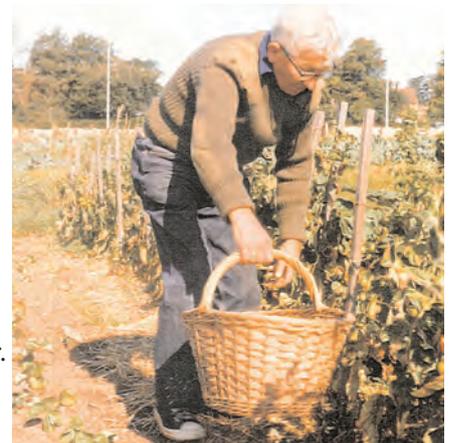
*Birmingham University  
(1926)*

'Tis a riddle, passing strange -  
She, with wild eyes and sweeping hair -  
That her free-given heart should range,  
And yet she is so very fair.

Those selfsame looks and smiles, and vows  
To me who dog-like worshipped there  
On another she endows:  
And yet she is so very fair.

Not again upon this earth  
Myself I'll give - my heart to tear,  
Little though it may be worth:  
And yet she is so very fair.

Never will I go back to her,  
Anytime, or anywhere;  
Not a footstep will I stir.  
And yet, and yet, she is so very fair.



*The allotment by the Stour*

**Albert Rowland Maiden (1907 - 1999)**



Queen Elizabeth Grammar School Switzerland Trip c 1959

Rear row I to r:

1. Judy Cakebread 2 Peter Moss 3 Lavina Keats 4 Dianne Smithers 5 Elizabeth Streets  
6 Janet Pursey 7 Christine Richmond 8 Kathleen Shearing

Standing right:

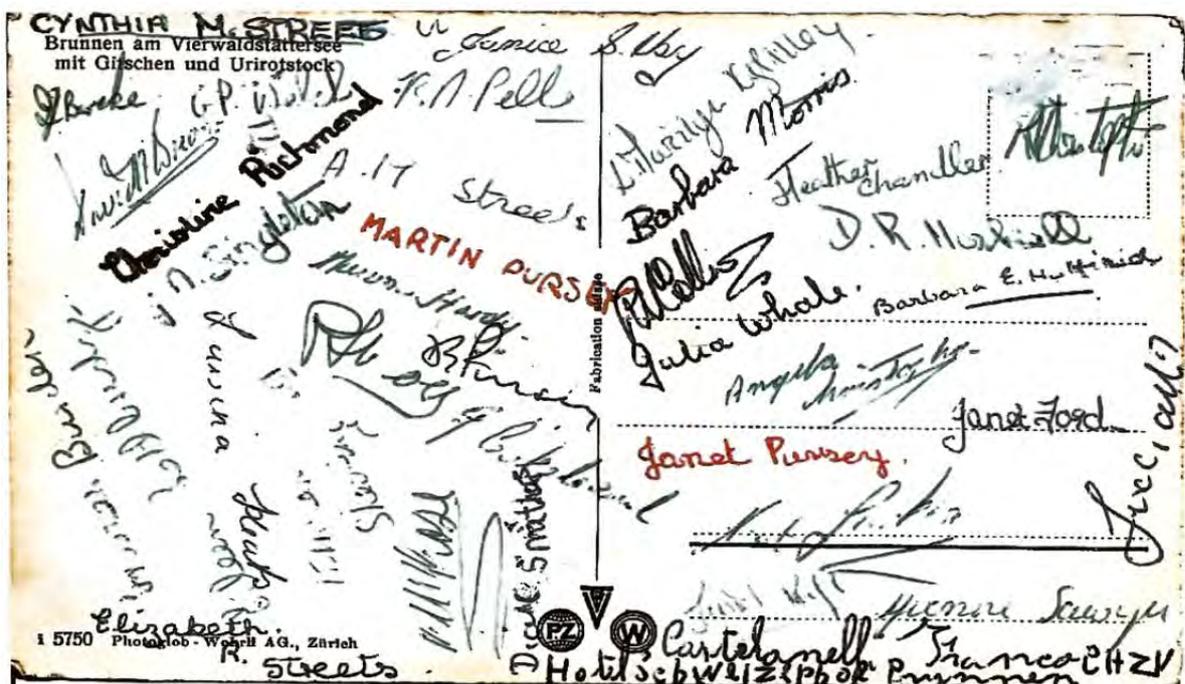
- 1 Mrs A. M. Streets 2 Barbara Morris 3 Martin Pursey 4 Angela Christopher 5 Marion Hardy

Middle row I to r:

- 1 Julia Whale 2 Eileen Lethbridge\* 3 Frances Burden 4 Cynthia Streets 5 Janet Ford 6 Heather Chandler  
7 Janet Kift 8 Barbara Hatfield 9 Marion Keightley 10 Yvonne Sawyer 11 Janice Selby

Front row I to r:

- I David Brearley 2 Raymond Collins 3 Robin Christopher 4 John Singleton 5 D. R. Haskell  
6 Norman Larkin 7 Keith Rose 8 R.A. Pells 9 Geoff Welch 10 David Brake



## ANTHONY ETTRICKE

(Extract from *The Little Book of Dorset* by David Hilliam)

In Wimborne Minster is the coffin of the famous and eccentric Anthony Ettrick an eminent seventeenth-century lawyer. He was a local boy made good, for he attended Wimborne Grammar School and went to Trinity College Oxford. He became Recorder and Magistrate of Poole and in this position he was responsible for committing the Duke of Monmouth for trial when the Duke was captured locally after the battle of Sedgemore.

The story of the tomb is that he was so offended by the inhabitants of Wimborne that he swore he would not be buried within the Minster not without it, and neither below nor above the ground.

Sometime later when his temper had cooled down, he became sorry for this outburst, for he wanted to be buried among his ancestors. So, with all his lawyer's cunning, he gained permission for his coffin to be placed in a recess in the Monster's wall.

It is there still - a large black coffin, raised in its specially made recess, and 'neither within the church nor without it - neither below the ground or above it.'

Oddly he firmly believed he would die in 1693, so he had this date inscribed on his coffin. However, he lived on for another ten years, dying in 1703. The changed date is easily seen, rather clumsily done, on the side of the coffin.

Stan White (1942-46)



### **Sometimes You've Got to Love Drunk People . . .**

*From the CSPA Journal (Civil Service Pensioners Alliance)*

A man and his wife are awakened at 3 o'clock in the morning by a loud pounding on the door. The man gets up and goes to the door where a drunken stranger, standing in the pouring rain, is asking for a push.

'Not a chance,' says the husband, 'it's 3 o'clock in the morning!' He slams the door and returns to bed. 'Who was that?' asked his wife. 'Just some drunk guy asking for a push,' he answers. 'Did you help him?' she asks. 'No, I did not; it's 3 o'clock in the morning and it is pouring out there!'

'Well you have a short memory,' says his wife. 'Can't you remember about three months ago when we broke down, and those two guys helped us? I think you should help him, and you should be ashamed of yourself!'

The man does as he is told, gets dressed, and goes out into the pounding rain. 'Yes' comes the answer.

'Do you still need a push?', the husband asks. 'Yes, please!' comes the reply from the dark. 'Where are you?' asks the husband. 'Over here on the swing!' replies the drunk.

*Extract from The Dorset Year Book 2010*



Mrs Marion Wimsett (nee Hardy) of Australia sent in this picture taken at the Toc H rooms in Wimborne circa 1950s.

She has managed to find the names of some of the people, one of whom is her father Ivor Hardy, and wonders if readers might be able to identify others, many of them were prominent and well known in the Wimborne area.

The man next to the ladies at the back is Frank Kerridge; a jeweller, next to him is George Scholefield, Reg Foster, Uncle Ed who had a cycle shop, then Marion's father Ivor.

Other names mentioned are Alan Hardy, Mr Burrows; a butcher, Doug Foyle, Ron Small, Mr Mottram and Bill Tapper.

Contact Marion at [2wimpy@gmail.com](mailto:2wimpy@gmail.com) or Echoes.

## Sunday Dispatch

OCTOBER 3, 1954

### Police Law

**WIMBORNE COULD  
DO WITH SUCH MEN  
TODAY! A.B.**

**I**F you can tear yourself away for a few minutes from all those exciting stories about NATO, SEATO, UN, and the Nine-Power Conference, spare a few thoughts for the Six Solid Men of Wimborne, in Dorset.

They are Albert Maiden, a schoolmaster; Sidney Dennett, an upholsterer; Kennard Joyner, a pharmacist; Francis Moore and Lionel Neate, both grocers; and Wilfred Elcock, a farmer.

They are all members of the Wimborne Minster Urban Council.

And what have they done to deserve honourable mention in a newspaper that circulates in a much wider area than Wimborne?

#### For Freedom

They have stood up for a principle of British freedom and ordered the removal of some "No Waiting" signs which the local police had put up in the streets on their own authority.

Councillor Maiden said it was the council's duty to make the laws about where traffic could or could

not wait. The duty of the police was to enforce the laws. And he added:

"In erecting their own signs they are encroaching on British freedom. Police law, whether in this country or in Russia, is bad law."

Well spoken, Sir! In these days of rules and regulations it is the duty of the people's elected representatives everywhere to see that their power and authority is not quietly taken away by policemen, Civil Servants, trade union officials, or anyone else.

*I believe it was Rod Hurt who passed this cutting across to me . A.B.*



A quick note to thank you for the latest Newsletter, full of fine fare as usual !

I am enclosing a picture of 5 Arts, taken in July 1958 outside room 10 of the huts, which might be of interest for the next Newsletter. Anyway, the lineup is, L to R, back to front:

Back Row : Alwyn Annells, Morgan Antell, Max Ricketts, David Brear, Dave Clement, John Clode, Alan Crumpler, David Snelgrove (who took the picture with a 10 second timer)

Next Row:- Robert Broadway, Jeremy Procter, Richard Swinnerton, Andrew Jones, Brian Brewer, Norman Cailles.

Next:- Anita James, June Haskell, Elizabeth White, Frances Tong, Kathleen Hudson, Gwen Burbidge, Judith Cakebread, Barbara Boys.

Front row:- Ann Wall, Marion Stevens, Susan Bush, D E Pursey, Angela Mortimer, Sally Harris, Norah Henfield.

It is interesting to notice than large numbers of people who attend the reunions are from this period. Perhaps this is due to some of the initiators of the Newsletter being also from this epoch, as it were.

Alan Crumpler (1953 - 58)

*(Many thanks, Alan, for sending another splendid photograph. A.B.)*



(From Editor's collection)

## CORRESPONDENCE

Firstly, of the autographs on page 5 of the Spring Newsletter, 2013. The H G Pugh was one of three brothers who attended the school, all of whom were extremely clever academically. H G and his elder brother I believe both received exhibitions to one of the Oxbridge universities. The two elder boys were probably about three years ahead of us, I believe the younger brother was a year or so behind us. They probably came from Sturminster Marshall, where I believe their parents ran a shop, possibly the Post Office.

The K J Bartlett was undoubtedly the famous Kenny Bartlett, who was House Captain of Derby House and also a fine Head Boy. He was a superb sportsman and a really nice bloke. (See **Desert Island Discs**).

Of caretakers, I well remember Mr Burke, who was the father of a pupil of our time, Rex Burke, who became managing director of Hamworthy Engineering, until his retirement some years ago.

(Rex died some years ago. He is buried in the far corner of Wimborne Cemetery **A.B.**)

**Frank Hackforth**  
(1949 - 56)

### **ANY NEWS OF ANTHONY SMITH**

I just wanted to check with you to see if you have any record of a contemporary of mine, Anthony Smith. We were at school together before coming to QEGS.

This was In 1952 and I think he stayed on for the Sixth Form. After that I don't know. He was pretty bright and was a considerable success playing Toad of Toad Hall in a school production in '55 or '56.

**Paul Burry**  
(1952 - 57)

*(As the Chief Weasel in the same production I remember him well. A splendid young fellow! A.B.)*

### **FROM RODNEY WISEMAN (1947 - 53)**

Since the arrival of the latest Newsletter I have managed to capture a few thoughts before they evaporated (which they do with ever-increasing rapidity as time goes by). You mentioned the games we used to play at WGS. I was a keen participant in many activities. Sportswise, I was probably most successful in the running scene, as you say. There were also the playground games which I enjoyed: dibs/fivestones (I still have mine), alleys/marbles, something to do with cigarette cards, and probably some others as well. Poker?

I imagine there were other OWs who joined the Merchant Navy but I am aware of only one. That is Underwood - can't remember his first name. Tony perhaps. He was a contemporary at WGS. I met him when I was travelling to Singapore in 1958 on the old P & O vessel "Carthage" as a passenger to join a Shell ship. He was fourth officer on the "Carthage" if I remember correctly.

Some time ago you waxed eloquent about the birds departing for warmer climes. For the past two winters I have had Armas humming-birds overwinter close to my home (and feeder). This is becoming more common, presumably due to climate change. This spring, however, the humming-birds disappeared for a couple of weeks, only to be replaced by the more common Rufus variety. Territorial dispute, perhaps?

Keep up the good work. All best wishes, **Rod W.**

## A VISIT TO ST. DAVID'S - AND INTERESTING DISCOVERIES

The cathedral is very old and has much history. While examining the shrine to St. David, I saw a large tomb just by the shrine and, as it was not far from, and just to the side of the centre of the altar I thought it could be someone important. It turned out to be Edmund Tudor 1st Earl of Richmond, husband of Lady Beaufort. I bought a postcard of the tomb and am enclosing a copy (photography forbidden). This was obviously taken a while ago, as the shrine to St. David should be on the left of the tomb.

The information note on top of the tomb gave the information as follows. Edmund Tudor 1st Earl of Richmond 1430 to 1456. The tomb was originally at Greyfriars in Carmarthen but was moved to St. David's Cathedral at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries. He was the father of Henry VII, which may have contributed to the preservation of the Cathedral.



*Tomb of Edmund Tudor - St. David's Cathedral*

### **PEMBROKE CASTLE**

Inside the tower there was a tableau of the baby Henry VII with his 13 year old mother Lady Margaret, and two servants. I found a postcard of the tableau and have copied it. This like the other postcard was not quite the same as seen. There is now a plaque above the fire commemorating the birth of Henry on 28th January 1457.

The history of the area, the Tudors and Edmund with Lady Margaret was very complicated. Henry V (Part 2 O level Shakespeare) died and his widow married Owen Tudor. There was some doubt over the parentage of her two boys and later Catherine retired to Bermondsey Abbey. The two sons Edmund and Jasper were brought up by Abbess of Barking, Katherine de la Pole. She had connections and brought the boys to the notice of their half brother Henry VI. He took them under his wing declaring them legitimate and making Edmund the Earl of Richmond and Jasper the Earl of Pembroke. Lady Margaret was under the protection of Jasper for some time but there were many plots against the baby and eventually he was sent off to France.



*Tableau of Lady Margaret Beaufort (left) with baby Henry*

Meanwhile Lady Margaret had had connections to the de la Pole family. First through marriage to John de la Pole while still a baby - marriage annulled - and then when her father John Beaufort, the Duke of Somerset, died she was made a ward of William de la Pole. She also was connected to Henry VI as a second cousin. Henry VI organised a wardship with Edmund. They married. Looking up the story there were too many twists and names - there were those in favour with one side then another in the Wars of the Roses. At this point I gave up!

From the story Lady Margaret came out as lucky to be alive. She made some interesting liaisons and was a very determined lady very conscious of her status and happy to put herself forward in the royalty stakes. Henry VII did not stand a chance if she was determined to build a school in Wimborne.

**Pat Trayler. QEGS as Patricia Brown (1962 - 1969)**

*P.S. I have been looking at Canford Magna history and there was Lady M again. She wants to be found!*

## CORRESPONDENCE (Continued)

**TERRY RANDALL.** Lived in Wimborne. We both graduated from St. Luke's College, Exeter. Terry moved from King Alfred's College, Winchester to Exeter to do the PE Diploma course. He was responsible for the running of an outdoor pursuits centre in Hampshire, in the Lymington area. He was very generous to both my brother, Derek and myself in providing us with overnight accommodation in his home at Minstead when we came down for the QEGS 500 year celebrations.

**JOHN SMITH.** Lived in Broadstone. Father was a Headmaster at a local school. JC's portrayal of Malvolio in Motty's production of "Twelfth Night" I can still recall vividly. He applied himself to things with great care and attention to detail to the finer things in life. This was exemplified in his approach to the game of cricket. I am no cricketer but "JC"'s straight bat was never bettered. He was an avid reader; books were read by the shelf-full and it was never doubted when it was learned he became Lecturer in English at Bath University.

**G.W. Van LOTTUM.** "Gerry" lived in Ferndown. He was a good athlete and excelled at 800m or 880 yards, as it was in days of yore. he went to one of the Northern universities and graduated with a Science degree. He was involved with some building firm and lived in Hampshire, Herts. It was some while ago when I was standing in my front garden of the house in which I was living in St. Albans. Suddenly there was a screeching of brakes and then a car, reversing frantically to where I was standing. Who should step out but on GWVL. We both made all sorts of vague arrangements about future meetings from which nothing materialised. I was then in the process of moving house, during which I lost his telephone number. Mea culpa, alas.

**M.W.B. SAUNDERS.** I cannot remember his first name, yet I can recall his black hair and very placid demeanour. I think he played in the Soccer XI but I recall nothing of his post-school activities.

**H.G. PUGH.** I believe he was the younger of two brothers. The family was Welsh, the parents ran the Post Office at Corfe Mullen or somewhere out there. If H.G. is the younger, I think it was he, who wrote some clever but sardonic verses for the "Winburnian" and at the end wrote "ANON - "for safety's sake".

Just writing this brought back lots of memories so many thanks for the promoting. I always feel very guilty when I receive my copy of "The Old Winburnians" and realise I have made little or no contribution to events or activities. It's a pretty limp excuse to say I have too many commitments and not enough time to travel.

I have just realised, at nearly 81 years I should be taking things more steadily. We, Pauline and I, both gave odd years to the teaching profession and now we seem to be organising, everlastingly, "Street Fayres", Art and Craft Fairs, Concerts and all the other the other things that are vital to make the village life sane and worthwhile.

**Ken Bartlett (1944 - 52)**



*(From Editor's collection)*

## SOME THOUGHTS AND CHOICES OF DISCS I WOULD TAKE WERE I MAROONED ON A DESERT ISLAND



### 1. Elgar - Violin Concerto and Cello Concerto

My father played the piano and his interest in music was very extensive, he often accompanied other musician friends who played violin or wind instruments. My three brothers and I were often summoned by father to sing carols or songs from the show. The youngest brother was a percussionist and he and Dad often practised or performed together. With another brother we became choristers in the Parish Church choir. Then came W.G.S. cycling the nine miles to Wimborne from Ringwood took time and having to cycle home at the end of the school day meant little or rushed time for homework. Choir practices and Sunday Services had to go by the board.

What has all this to do with Elgar; I hear voices asking? On the surface, not a lot but I am sure anyone marooned on a desert island would long for his or her homeland. To me, Elgar's music is evocative of rural England especially.

2. In the same vein, I would take **Vaughan Williams - The Lark Ascending** a piece of music, which although short in length of time was mesmerisingly haunting and lurks in the mind for ages after the music has come to an end.

3. My third choice would put me in acute danger of violent "Homesickness".

It too would be evocative of rural England and especially of the New Forest of my boyhood. This is a piece of music by **Friedrick Delius - "On hearing the first cuckoo of Spring"** Delius was totally blind by the end of his life. It is often claimed the loss of one sense causes a strengthening of another; certainly Delius was able to create unique musical sounds in his music which escaped the attention of others.

4. I am very spoilt for choice for this one. As a chorister at Ringwood Parish Church it was my first experience of the classical organ. In those days the Choirmaster was a Dr. Meacham, a doctor of medicine and not music. In that church in those days the organist sat in front of the choir but with his back facing them. As a chorister it was fascinating to see the feet and hands moving at sometimes a breakneck speed to create those powerful, majestic and awe-inspiring sounds, which used to make my hair (I had plenty of it then) stand on end. After the days of being a chorister I arrived at W.G.S., where, to my delight, the school had a small one/two manual organ situated on the gallery above Big School. A sixth form boy, Henning by name, played the organ at morning assemblies and other occasions. I was lured away from those wild ambitions to learn to play an organ by two bags of wind, the one sensible sphere-like shape and the other a pointed end shape which played a very significant role in my life from here onwards. National Service for two years in Suez with the Parachute Regiment before a further three years at St. Luke's College, Exeter. Eventually, after Exeter, I had to start earning my living. The mis-shapen football lured me yet again, this time to London. It was at this stage I found myself influenced by colleagues and friends. Being located in North London, South Hertfordshire and eventually Norfolk I realise now I had a wonderful opportunity to broaden my horizons. Fairly frequent visits to London to theatre, but especially to concerts at the Albert Hall and the Festival Hall enabled me to witness virtuoso performances by many well known organists. There was one occasion when Fernando Germani, an Italian of some fame, was performing at the Festival Hall, and John Birch, notable organist of Chichester Cathedral was turning the score pages. This particular piece of work was notoriously difficult to play and powerfully loud. There was a long pause as Germani studied the music when suddenly, without any indication to his assistant, he plunged into manuals and pedal board "organo pleno". This took Birch by complete surprise and he visibly leapt sideways, much to the amusement of the audience. If I am to be restricted to just one piece of organ music then it would have to be **Cesar Frank's "Piece Heroique"**.

5. Beside the choice of one keyboard instrument I would choose another. My father played pianoforte from an early age and throughout his life until he died at the age of 67. He collected many vinyl records of French piano music especially Debussy piano music especially Debussy but also Ravel and Saint-Saens. My wife Pauline, is a well-qualified pianist who too is fond of Debussy's piano music. I think she would be happy to know my choice would be **"The Girl with the Flaxen Hair"**.

6. Now we come to my sixth choice, a bombshell if I am allowed. Maybe, it would be a case of going from the sublime to the ridiculous. I have to confess, over the years I have collected many recordings of comedy, humour and comedians. To be without anything humorous amongst the other collection of discs would be a recipe for insanity or disaster or both. During the late 50s and then the 60s, BBC Radio was often host to comedians from the USA, such as Tom Lehrer, Bob Newhart *et al.* I was a buddy of Geoff Hall at school, alas no longer with us, and I remember he would often quote words from songs from a chap called Alan Smethurst, who was known as “The Singing Postman”. He really was a postman; he played guitar and wrote his own songs. Geoff’s family hailed from Norfolk and Geoff himself was proud to be a Norfolk boy and revelled in the Norfolk dialect. Now that I live in Norfolk and have done for the past 23 years I understood what it was that made Geoff appreciate the subtlety of the dialect, seemingly naive but gently sardonically sophisticated. To be able to hear Alan Smethurst pleading with me for a fag “**Hev yew gotta loight ‘bor?**” when I’m in the depths of depression on a “Desert Island” it would cure me in no time.

### Choice Number 7

It was a good decade or so, when Pauline and I were on our way back from Exeter when we called at a recommended coffee shop in Sherborne. After coffee, we were doing the usual perambulations around the shops. I cannot recall the name of the Music shop but the first thing I noticed was this cassette - the name Hardy was the magnetic attraction. What was even more attractive was the whole production and performance was done by the “Yetties”. It so happened, too, I had just booked this group to come up here to perform in the ritual Concert in the Village Church on the “Street Fayre” Day eve and then again on the actual day on a long harvest wagon. It was a fabulous and memorable occasion. All three of the Yetties entered into the spirit of the day. On the night of the Church Concert, I had laid on a meal in the village pub. During the course of the meal, which was a very jovial event, Pete Shutler started to choke on a mouthful of steak and kidney. There was quite a panic for some minutes, until the landlord’s wife, who, thankfully was a nurse, raced to the scene and gave a thundering thump to Pete’s massive back and all was well again. For a minute or so I had visions of utter disaster. I don’t have cold sweats normally but I did on that occasion.

I digress. I found these two CDs had been the outcome of a meticulously selected music, word and memorabilia collection, which was praiseworthy indeed and could well pass into the annals of Dorset history if it has not done so already. A tremendous amount of research must have been done for this project, even Hardy’s violin and his father’s were loaned from Dorchester Museum together with a selection of instruments used in Hardy’s time and before. Nigh on two hours of humour, folk music, and not a little sentiment would be more than welcome.

Having played through the two Hardy discs, my mind became Dorset orientated. The readings from “Under the Greenwood Tree”, and elsewhere made me realise I had not included any records of the “Spoken Word”. I must admit I have few, if any, worthwhile recordings per se. I have always been fascinated by the spoken word and I am indebted to “Fish” Maiden and Leonard Mottram for making me very aware of the power, the richness and the variability of the spoken word. It is always interesting when you dabble or have dabbled with other languages you very often find English is more versatile in clarification of complex ideas or explanations. I would relish a record of well known quotations from Shakespeare, drama and sonnets.

One of the many, many memories of QEGS Wimborne is that occasion of Speech Day in the Tivoli Cinema when as part of the programme, “Motty” cajoled a group of us to “walk the boards” while he declaimed Shakespeare’s “The Seven Ages of Man”. Each one of us strutted and fretted our thirty seconds to ape our role across the stage appropriate for character we represented. The school was co-ed at the time. I cannot recall how on earth the problem of a nurse with a mewling and puking babe in arms was portrayed. Maybe someone could shed some light.

It seems appropriate to bring this to an end with a relevant word or two from this self-same quotation which neatly depicts my own predicament and that of some of my contemporaries.

“Last scene of all,  
That ends this strange eventful history,  
Is second childishness, and mere oblivion,  
Sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans everything”.

## A BOOK FOR THE ISLAND

Both my parents were born and bred in Dorset, mother in Dorchester, father in Bridport, which raises the question “*What the hell do you want to go and live in Norfolk for?*” Well, that’s another story!

My mother’s claim to fame is, aged 9, she and another older sister were sent by their mother “to take a book to that nice Mr Hardy, who lives at Max Gate and ask him to write his signature in the book they had brought him” The book was “The Return of the Native” and the man was **Thomas Hardy**. At the risk of being biased, my choice of a book for the Desert Isle would be any Hardy novel. I have most of his novels on my shelves but no doubt I would be allowed only one and that would be “**The Mayor of Casterbridge**”. The house where I was born was called “Wessex”. The offspring of the family rose to four and so it moved into the new house that was built next door and that was called “Casterbridge”, which was Hardy’s name for Dorchester. It was this novel that a certain A.R. Maiden used to show us how to handle, in analysis, any Hardy novel or poem for that matter. Casterbridge, however, to me was not his best novel. His best and last was “Jude the Obscure”, which fell foul of public condemnation, allegedly.

**Ken Bartlett (1944 - 52)**

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## Indocti Discant

She may not be so widely known as Winchester or Stowe,  
But we who know her best must own, however far our feet may roam,  
We owe to her and her alone, the good we have and known.

Indocti Discant is her motto, Indocti Discant is her rule,  
Indocti Discant now and always, is the ideal of the Grammar School.

She takes us in our tender years, she takes us in our youth.  
She shares our many hopes and fears, our joys, our happiness and tears,  
And steadfastly she perseveres to make us love the truth.

Indocti Discant is her motto, Indocti Discant is her rule,  
Indocti Discant now and always, is the ideal of the Grammar School.

For classroom or for playing time she ever is the same,  
For hockey, bluebird scout and guide, for all who in her life abide,  
That they may strive whate’er betide, to learn to play the game.

Indocti Discant is her motto, Indocti Discant is her rule  
Indocti Discant now and always is the ideal of the Grammar School.

Indocti Discant

**Ray Scott (1936-42)**  
**Anne Sweeney**

*(At our last reunion Ray Scott’s dear friend, Anne Sweeney, gave me a copy of her School song which she learnt at her Grammar School in Pakistan. As she said to me ‘It’s not only Wimborne Grammar that had its own song’! Many happy memories for Anne remembering her days in school. A.B.)*

## **OBITUARIES**

### **Frank Shears (1926-2013) (WGS 1937 - 44)**

Frank Shears was born on 19th. February 1926 where he lived at Cartref on Chalbury Hill. His father had a small-holding where during the war he grew early potatoes, cauliflower etc. and from where he distributed animal feeds to farms in the local area; he also had a coal business.

Frank attended St. James School at Gaunts Common, Wimborne Primary School in Redcotts Lane and his secondary education was at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School in Wimborne. After leaving School he became a member of the former pupils' association, the Old Winburnians. The Shears family were strong supporters of Holtwood Methodist church and Frank was a life long member there where a Service of Thanksgiving for his life was held in the presence of a full church and hall on Friday, August 16".

After war service from 1944-48 and when his father died, Frank got compassionate leave to carry on the family business which had at that time started distributing potatoes and vegetables to shops in the Bournemouth area. His late brother Norman joined the company and together they added the imported fruit side to the business and renamed the company Shears Brothers Limited, when they became Wholesale Fruit, Vegetable and Potato Merchants initially in Winton, Bournemouth, later moving to the Sax market building opposite Rodways Garage in Leigh Road. There the business grew and built a reputation for good produce and service throughout Dorset. Due to plans to construct a road from the junction through their property to link up with Poole Road, they bought land at Stone Lane Industrial Estate and erected a purpose built building with cold rooms and a loading bay. Frank's son Peter remembers the following being some of their customers: Ray Moore (himself an Old Winburnian who was at QEGS 4 years earlier than Frank) and Maurice Moody who had greenhouses in Colehill where they grew tomatoes and cucumbers, Len Hiscock who grew vegetables, the Purchase family for potatoes and Bundy's the vehicle builders in Poole Road.

But this was just a part of Frank's life. He met his future wife Elsie in Reg Dean's fruit shop in Wimborne and, after a period of courtship, they were married in Wimborne Methodist Church on 23rd. September 1950. Three sons were the product of their union, 2 of which Peter and Ian are still working in the family business which is now called Shears Brothers Transport Ltd. and which operates from the Industrial Site at Hum Airport.

Despite the demands on his time that his working life took, Frank still found time to support the Christian work at Holtwood where he was an encouragement to all. He held several positions; Sunday School teacher and then becoming Superintendent of the Sunday School; youth club leader at Holtwood and then at Wimborne Methodist church where he was also on the management committee. When it was decided that the Wimborne Methodist church building needed replacing Frank became involved in raising the finance; one such fund raising event being to walk around the Wimborne Methodist circuit visiting all fifteen churches, in all a distance of 26 miles. He was a Methodist circuit steward on more than one occasion, at one time serving with Ray Moore when they had to attend trustees meetings for churches between Blandford in the west and Ringwood in the east, and ensure that the stipends of the 3 ordained ministers were paid correctly and on time. Frank was also a member of Wimborne Rotary Club.

Ray Moore remembers Frank's kindness in lending him a vehicle to take tomatoes to London when his usual transport was unavailable. Why should Ray particularly remember this occasion? In his own words, "Perhaps having to drive an unfamiliar lorry, to a place never visited before, twice across Tower Bridge before a kindly Police Constable gave me the correct directions. And then of course arriving to 'Off Load' 200 boxes of tomatoes all before 5.00 am!!!" Frank's son Peter says, "Dad was well known and respected in Wimborne and will be missed by many people who knew him." Frank and his wife Elsie were loyal and regular attenders at our annual reunions until his illness prevented them being present this summer. We 'Old Winburnians' send our love and sympathy to Elsie, her sons Peter, David, and Ian and the rest of the family.

**Brian Glover (1949 - 54)**

**Len Pearce** also supplied an obituary for Frank. Len concluded with this account of the funeral service.

All three of Frank & Elsie's sons individually paid moving tributes to him and Rod Frampton, who provided a eulogy, concluded with - "Frank has run his race on earth and surely. "All the Saints who have gone before him must have welcomed him across the finishing line with - "Well done you Good & Faithful Servant!"

**Len Pearce (1936 - 42)**

## DONALD HIBBERD (1925 - 2013) - (WGS 1936 - 43)

Don, who died earlier this year on 6th of April, was born in Alderholt a few days before Christmas in 1925 and, after several years at the village school, attended WGS from the Autumn of 1936 until the Summer of 1943.

Thus he became a "train boy" - travelling to Wimborne six days a week - often at inconvenient times. In the summer he sometimes went rowing at Canford Bridge to kill the time when waiting for the train home. Not all the trains stopped at Alderholt but went through to Fordingbridge.. However, Don did not relish carrying his school bag for the walk to home, so he threw it from the train and recovered it after reaching the village.

From September 1943 Don was an Engineering student at North Staffs Technical College until 1945 when he left to serve in R.E.M.E for the next three years. He worked for a time as an "unqualified teacher" at Fordingbridge, before going to Bognor Regis College for two years and then to St. Marks Primary School at Highcliffe for a further four years, before returning to Fordingbridge until he retired in 1986.

Donald married Joyce in 1957 - they had two daughters and have two grandsons. He had a wide variety of interests including the Alderholt Pantomimes, several Brass Bands in which he helped to train the younger musicians. Don was in the choir of the local Church when he was young and later he was the Treasurer in Churches which he and Joyce attended, beside being a steward at the local Museum.

Quite early on, Don discovered he had the gift of Water Divining or Dowsing, for which he used two metal rods. He was a member of the New Forest Dowzers , in which he helped new members and organised field trips. As well as discovering water, he was also able to identify the foundations of earlier buildings. A year or two ago he was invited by Sir Wm. Hanham to investigate at Deans Court in Wimborne, during which he accurately plotted the outlines of several buildings. Don was later told they appeared on an archive drawing of the 1600s but, at that time, they were only roughly sketched in..

On another visit the age of two trees near the large mediaeval fish pond was discussed and Don volunteered to use his dowsing talent in an attempt to find out when they were planted. The two trees were a 110ft Mexican swamp cypress and a 90ft tulip tree.

Don explained to Sir William that trees had an `Aura` which he could detect and assured him that from this, he could pick up their history.. By elimination, he eventually said that the trees were probably planted on the site between 1600 and 1625. It was only then that Sir. William revealed that he knew the date. He said that they were brought across the Atlantic in 1606 / 7. by one of his ancestors, Thomas Hanham, when they were saplings. Their roots were planted in wet earth, wrapped in wet cloths and in barrels, to ensure that they survived the crossing

When he retired, Don developed an interest in tracing his family history and, as a result, he made contact with distant relatives in various parts of the world whom he and Joyce visited. They have also been able to show these folks the location of their "roots" when they made return visits to the UK.

Donald Hibberd was a quiet lad during his time at WGS but over his life he developed many talents, which he put to good use for the benefit of all sorts of people, in a variety of different ways.

G.L.P  
Len Pearce (1936-41)

### "DORSET JOURNEY"

I have decided to dispose of the remaining copies of my book to benefit two of the charities I support - the **Weldmar Trust** in Dorchester, of which Julian Fellowes is the Vice-President, which cares for the terminally ill - and the **John Thornton Young Achievers**, created in honour of John who lost his life in Afghanistan, and assists young people in Dorset in many different ways. Having received a dozen or more kind reviews and covered my costs by selling many copies of the book, I feel it is an appropriate response four years from on from publication. I will be distributing directly through the two named charities and I will also bring a few boxes along to the reunion on 7 December. A token contribution into the collecting box and you are welcome to pick up a copy (or more) which, if you wish, I shall be pleased to inscribe for yourself or friends (an extra Christmas gift and a much appreciated donation to two splendid causes).

*Thank you in anticipation*  
*Alan Bennett*