

HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

(Formerly Hitchin Grammar School Old Boys' Association)

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER February 2006

General:

I would like to say a big thank you to Stuart Halsey who is responsible for the new format of the Newsletter.

I hope you have thought about or made arrangements for this year's reunion on April 22nd. Details and

Lost Trails – Vick Harris(1936) has given me an address in France for his nephew David Howard (1957)

A letter from Trevor Bartlett ' I was saddened to read in your last Quarterly Bulletin of the recent death of

Those were good years for me and I remember them with great affection – the colleagues in the staff room

I have just heard from Mary Ireland that Neville (1950) had a stroke in early April last year and despite a

Keith Mosely died on January 2nd at the age of 75. He was diagnosed with cancer in October 2005. Kei

Michael Whitmore (1961) One of the great supporters of the Association died last month. This is a tragic

Michael was born in Luton and taken home to Stopsley where the family lived at the time. In 1946 the fa

He and I were close friends going back to the time that we started out at the Grammar School and as so

He did well academically at school and he was a prefect but Mick was notable as a great sportsman able

Others with Mick's sporting talent might have concentrated on their own sporting development but it is a

Mick knew that Blueharts would thrive through continuity and he helped to provide a bridge between the

Mick's first jobs were with Esso Petroleum, 3m and a division of ICI before joining Xerox where he spent

In the late-60's trips to North London became a frequent occurrence and an interest in the Antipodes be

In 1991 Xerox set up the Concessionaire programme whereby entrepreneurs were recruited to set up th

Mick's success at this time was reflected in him winning Honours Club four times in seven years resultin

Mick, as with his hockey and cricket, was a great team man. He ensured that, in return for hard work, his

A common theme emerges. He was very professional in all that he did, he was pragmatic, he was appro

Mick's success enabled him to retire in his mid fifties but it wasn't long before he received a phone call fr

We remember his inspiration in inventing the Woodsooner's with attendant social priorities: the dinners,

Probably less well known is the extent to which Mick was involved with Geoff Grant and others in the de

As Chairman for the past few years of The Hitchin Town Cricket Ground Limited, he dedicated himself to

Now a word about Mick's absolute top priority; Carmel, David and Samantha: Carmel and Mick are a high

Mick was immensely proud of David and Samantha: he loved them and loved being their Dad. David and

Mick has been a mate and a cobbler, team player, leader, manager, companion and a true friend of Aust

Frank Capra wrote, "Each man's life touches so many other lives, and when he isn't around he leaves a

I'd like to share this piece because I can feel that it expresses what Mick would want:

You can shed tears that he is gone
or you can smile because he has lived.

You can close your eyes and pray that he'll come back
or you can open your eyes and see all he has left.

Your heart can be empty because you can't see him
or you can be full of the love you shared.

You can turn your back on tomorrow and live yesterday
or you can be happy for tomorrow because of yesterday.

You can remember him and only that he's gone
or you can cherish his memory and let it live on.

You can cry and close your mind, be empty and turn your back
or you can do what Mick would want: smile, open your eyes LOVE and go on.

When I think of Mick, I think of happiness, courtesy, humour, leadership, endeavour, achievement, loyal

Michael Norris (1962)

Another great ~~John Bridges (1956)~~ died a year ago. Michael Moss spoke at John's funeral service and

JOHN was known as John and also JB, Shrimp, Cock and Cocker. He was Husband, Father, Grandfather

Carol, Robert and Helen have been overwhelmed with all the letters of condolence and flowers sent to T

JB was a fun loving sociable person fortunately for us Carol matched him on that score. Partying at their

Once, just once, JB invited John Will (John Wilson) and myself to his London University Chaps Club dinner

JB loved school where he was always an item. Always positive and deserved, except perhaps for two ve

Upon meeting one another you gave the call sign and their nicknames and they did likewise. When all o

Academically JB was in the top third of the class in all subjects. After getting his degree in Metallurgy at

Sports wise JB was top hole. He played first team cricket, hockey and rugby, captaining the side at rugb

In his last year at school in 1958, he was a prefect and Head of his House Mattocke. Rugby was JB's fa

Upon leaving University with a degree in Metallurgy JB decided to work for a division of P &O, inspecting

JB used the skills acquired in running a business to great effect in his involvement at Blueharts and his c

John was a keen supporter of the School's Old Boys Association and a member throughout his life after

JB had a wonderful sense of humour – not a hearty guffaw type but more JBish – you know where he w

FINALLY – A short verse

What is dying?

*“Imagine with me, that you are standing on the shore
A ship sails, and spreads her white sails for the ocean
I watch until she fades from my sight*

*A gentle voice beside me says,
She is gone.
Gone?
Gone Where?
Gone from our sight that is all.*

*She is just the same as she ever was
Just as large and able to bear her load*

The diminished size and loss of sight is in one not in her

*Just at that very moment the gentle voice says, She is gone.
There are others watching her coming and other voices take up a glad shout,
Here she comes!*

T hat, Is dying.”

Michael Moss (1954)

Other Old Boy **Kim Travis (1980)**: 'On leaving school I went to Cambridge to do science and ended up v

Everyone except our parents now calls Kit (younger brother) Chris. He did Engineering at Cambridge an

I'd never seen the school website - lots of good stuff. The school looks surprisingly unchanged.

School News

The School is fully subscribed with a role of over 1000 pupils and that it is also fully staffed despite the d

"Book of Remembrance" remembered

Members may recall that some years ago the Association commissioned a "Book of Remembrance" to r

The sales cleared the costs and the School Library was the beneficiary of the surplus. Unfortunately abo

The book is a handsome little volume, A5 in a blue cover with yellow lettering that would grace any book

The recent discovery means that we have a limited number of copies available to members at £4 each if

Since the book was written, quite an amount of additional information has become available including th

Contact Address for HBSOBA

Communications [for the Association](mailto:info@hbsoba.com) may be sent to me at Beck Springs, Beckett End, Foulton. Therefore

Old Boys Day April 22 2006

2.30 - 5.00pm

Five-a-side Football on the Astroturf - NO STUDS AT ALL. If you have a team or would like to play conta

6.00pm

AGM in the School Library see separate sheet for AGENDA

6.45pm

The Bar will open in the School Library immediately after the AGM.

7.30/45pm

Annual Dinner in the Dining Hall

Subscriptions and DinnerTickets

- I enclose £40.00 being the full payment for a 20 year Term Membership Subscription
- I enclose £10.00 being part payment for a 20 year Term Membership Subscription
- I enclose £5.00 being the 2005 Subscription for an Ordinary Member
- I enclose £..... For..... concert CDs @ £5 • I enclose £..... For..... Annual Dinner Tickets @ £20

Cheques should be made payable to HBSOBA and sent to the Hon Sec at Beck Springs, Beckett End, F

Name.....

Address

.....Post Code:

e-mail address

In accordance with the Terms of the Data Protection Act, I have no objection to the above information being

Signed Date

HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION
(Formerly Hitchin Grammar School Old Boys' Association)

AGENDA for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
to be held on
Saturday 22nd April 2006 at 6.00pm in the School Library

1. Apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

3. Matters arising.

4. Hon. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of accounts.

6. Hon. Secretary's Report

7. Election of Officers and Committee Members:

President for 2006 – A.D.W.Garvie

President Elect: - M. A. Norris

Vice-Presidents: D.C.Baines, T.P.Brooker, W.S.Bowker, J.C. Burges, D.Carnill, A.P.Cherry, B.I.Cook, E

- Hon. Treasurer: M. E. Hart

- Hon. Secretary: D.E.Stancombe

- Committee Members:

Retiring in 2006 - M.J.Cranfield, D. G. Niven, Neil Chambers

Retiring in 2007 – Robert Pettigrew, Andy Russell, David Hall

Retiring in 2008 – R.J. MacArthur, M.Russell,

Co-opted during 2005 – Stuart Halsey

Election of members for this year – Stuart Halsey -

Nominations from the floor

8. Re-appointment of Honorary Accountants – Messrs Watts, Knowles

9. Head teacher's Review.

10. Any other business

11. Close of Meeting