

## HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

(Formerly Hitchin Grammar School Old Boys' Association)

### ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2008

#### General

Thank you to all those who sent seasonal greetings.

I hope you have thought about or made arrangements for this year's reunion on April 12th

And will be trying to get as many of your contemporaries to join us as possible. This is especially so those

David Webb, We shall use the main School Hall as the venue for the meal again with a few improvements

Could I remind Ordinary members that their subscriptions for 2008 are now due – please complete the form

Thanks to Matthew Jones our new website manager the Association website is now up to date, at least t

Maurice Philpott (1937) Notes the loss of Esmond Ball (37) and I include an obituary from the British Me

Esmond William Ball(1937)

A former consultant haematologist at Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham; died from congestive heart failure

#### Committee News

The 2009 centenary of the Association is now very much on our minds and every attempt will be made t

We are still trying to locate the Association Presidents for 1973 and 1974 Can you help?

The sequence for the 1970s looks like this:-

1970	Oranfield
1971	T. Whitmore
1972	Rainbow

1973
1974
1975 Cook
1976 B. Bowker
1977 Richards
1978 G. Stedman
1979 F. K. Corder

### New Members

We welcome: Tony Hull 1953 - 1960

'After many years working in advertising and marketing in England, Australia and Canada, I finally sold my ad agency in Toronto where I am now busily retired. I'm enjoying my volunteer work with street youth, still playing lots of sports, and travelling often these days for pleasure – especially to Sidney where our daughter lives, and British Columbia mountains where our son resides. I am still in close contact the Association's President Mike Norris, who recently pointed out the error of my ways in not joining the Association of a great school which I owe a great deal to and have very happy memories of – so thank you Mike ....I have finally joined!'

### News from Members

Richard Sharland (1954) was sad to read or the loss of one of his contemporaries - Howell Peregrine and remembers taking a photograph of his old Bentley when parked in the North Court one Sports Day – (worth putting the photo in the OBs archives if you can manage that ed)

I was pleased to get an email from Steve Ide from Dubai with news of himself and his sons James and Mike, both Old Boys as well. James I remember as a very likeable A level student who, some years later followed his dad into the Biology department at HBS. Of course Steve was good fun as well, both as a student and later as a colleague.

James and Mike are consultants in the business, Arabian Assessment (AA). James graduated from Exeter started work as an accountant at EMI. He found life in London very expensive so Steve asked him to come out to Dubai some 4 years ago now and he loves it. He is the go anywhere no complaints consultant in charge of the Nokia account so he goes to Egypt/Pakistan/Tehran etc and enjoys it. Mike was the first consultant to join AA, mainly as a backroom IT bod and is now the Psychometric expert.

From the family beginning there are now 10 consultants, 4 Bi-lingual Arabic/English, working with all the big guns here both multinational and government. They good honest assistance in recruitment selection, decision support and career development advice. Its powerful stuff,

simple to administer and yet very accurate and it works.

This is what it says about him on the Arabian Assessment website:

Stephen Ide, Partner and Senior HR adviser.

A UK citizen, Stephen is a qualified scientist, teacher, HR professional and businessman.

Stephen spent the majority of his career with The Dow Chemical Company, moving through the organisation from Research Scientist to Business Development Manager and then to Human Resource Development.

As an experienced HR Manager and Consultant, Stephen has had 4 years experience in Europe and the USA followed by over 7 years in the Middle East.

His Middle east experience has focused on many industries with particular focus on Banking, Investment enterprises and manufacturing.

Nationalisation has been a core activity of his in the Middle East both as a line manager with the Bahrain Institute of Banking, Y.B.A. Kanoo and Dubai Aluminium and as a consultant.

His skill sets focus on Organisational and Human Resource development achieved through alignment of competency requirements to significant change management programmes.

Fully qualified by the British Psychological Society, Stephen brings over 12 years experience in objective assessment to companies in the Middle East

## **School News**

The School is fully subscribed with a role of over 1000 pupils and it is also fully staffed despite the difficulty of finding appropriate teachers who can afford to live in Hitchin with its expensive housing. A production of The Wizard of OZ was performed by members of the School on Feb 8/9/10 and new lighting has been installed in the hall to support this production.

Some interesting facts:

Biggest Sixth form ever – 200 pupils, school roll now stands at 1002, Numbers doubled since 1962, Sports facilities expanded by grant of £1 million. Tennis courts completed – more to follow, The school has entered an 'Olympic Bid' to provide training facilities for table tennis and badminton.

## **Contact Address for HBSOBA**

Communications for the Association may be sent to me at Beck Springs, Beckett End, Foulden. Thetford. Norfolk. IP26 5AF. Phone: 01366 328153 or e-mail [davidstancombe@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davidstancombe@tiscali.co.uk) or via our website [www.oldboysonline.com](http://www.oldboysonline.com).

Stop Press 2009 Reunion is on 18th July 2009.

Tickets £35 Black Tie. We are looking for table leaders (responsible for a table of 10). Please contact Hon Sec if you can take on this role.

### **Old Boys Day April 12 2008**

The Library will be open so you can look at the Archives and Photo Albums

Please bring any photos you think may be of interest. There will be facilities to scan these and display later. You can listen to, and purchase - only £5, the CD of the October reunion concert or listen to F.A.Huckle and play and sing some of the old Scout Songs or just have a chat.

There will be an opportunity to have a guided tour of the school during the afternoon and before the dinner. The tours will start from the Library, or you can just wander by yourself. (Changing facilities will be available so that you can be comfortable during the afternoon and change into a suit for the evening)

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 Dinner Tickets**

- 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 @ £22.50 each for members/Old Boys.

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Cheques should be made payable to HBSOBA and sent to the Hon Sec at Beck Springs,  
Beckett End, Foulden. Thetford. Norfolk. IP26 5AF

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 recorded on a computer system or it's being published in a membership list or otherwise at the Committee's discretion. Please return to the Hon Sec.

Signed ..... Date .....

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**AGENDA for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

to be held on

Saturday 12 April 2008 at 6.00pm in the School Library

- Apologies for absence.
  
- Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting
  
- Matters arising.
  
- Hon. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of accounts.
  
- Hon. Secretary's Report
  
- Election of Officers and Committee Members:

**President for 2008 – R.T. Whitmore**

**President Elect: - R.T. Whitmore**

Vice-Presidents: D.C.Baines, T.P.Brooker, W.S.Bowker, J.C. Burges, D.Carnill, A.P.Cherry, B.I.Cook, E M Cooke, R.F.K.Corder, J.C.Coxall, C.C.Day, P.J.Day, J.Gatward, S.C.Harding, J.R. Mayhead, M. Norris, B.D.Robinson, G.H.Russell, G.L.Shaw, D.E. Simmonds, O.J.Stedman, M.J.Steeley, N.A.Thomson, and R.T Whitmore.

- Hon. Treasurer: M. E. Hart
- Hon. Secretary: D.E.Stancombe – Retiring 2009
- Committee Members:

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

Retiring in 2009 – Stuart Halsey, Chris Roberts

Retiring in 2010 - M.J. Cranfield, D.G. Niven,

Co-opted during 2007 –A. Russell, M. Jones

Election of members for this year A Russell, M. Jones

Nominations from the floor

- Re-appointment of Honorary Accountants – Messrs Watts, Knowles
  
- Head teacher's Review.
  
- Any other business
- Close of Meeting