

HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

(Formerly Hitchin Grammar School Old Boys' Association)

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2002

General:

Old Boys' Day is not far away. April 13th so if you are getting a group together, especially Old Boys who are not members of the Association, then please make approaches and persuade them to come. Details of the day and a form to return are included with this issue. Barry Robinson, Emlyn Cooke and John Gardiner (Speaker) will all be there. Eric Nutter (1959) is looking for 'Golden Boys' who entered the school in 1952 so please get in touch if this applies to you. (See November Newsletter for the role call).

The School Hall Appeal

Donations continue to arrive so we have paid in a marvellous £13,000 into the School Charitable Trust, which is worth £16,640 with the tax rebate. Keith Wadsworth has been most appreciative of the Association's generosity in enabling the refurbishment of the main hall. The AGM will be held in here this year so come and have a look for yourself, unless you were at the October Reunion Concert. Thanks to Nick Hatton for making the recording and to Vince Holmes (1985) for producing the CDs. The latter are available from me for £5 (cheques payable to HBSOBA). The December reunion for younger members was not well attended but lessons have been learned and we hope to achieve a better turnout next year. Jonathan Hobbs (1985) manned the bar with his Kiwi wife and Bryan Wakeley (1950) and myself spent the evening reminiscing over a few pints of ale.

It is sad to report the deaths of George Ashton (1945), Ray Denne (1946), Ray Weight (1968 –1981) who took over from Diz Thomas as Head of English, Colin Hawkins (1954) and Bill Thompson (1969 –2001) who was a peripatetic brass teacher at the school for many years. Tributes have been made to all of these but I include a few words from those who knew each of them well. John Gardiner has made a shortened version of his tribute at Ray's funeral for this

Newsletter.

A memorial service to John Toll was held at Middle Temple Hall in London on January 13th 2002. A number of Old Boys around John's year expressed their admiration for John and hoped to attend the concert. A following contact from John Gwinnell was typical of many, which I forward to John's brother Richard (1961): Richard may, or may not remember me but if the opportunity arises I would like to say how saddened we were. Real musicians are too scarce to lose at such an age and John was a real musician even when 12 which was when I first met him. He was then a horn player and, as I think we have mentioned, was auditioned successfully to produce a true note from a watering can for a Hoffnung Concert. We were captivated, as were others, at the prospect of this plump little boy starring in such a role and were so disappointed, (as were others !), that, if memory serves me correctly, at the last minute it was realised that at the day of the concert he would still be just too young to perform. We have grateful memories of both Richard and John.

Ray Denne (1929 – 2001) On the 12th November 2001 there was a large congregation at St. Mary's Church in Hitchin for the funeral of Ray Denne (1945). The gathering of family, friends, work colleagues and sportsmen, included many Old Boys in their number.

Remembered mainly as a brilliant hockey player, Ray had the ability to excel in any sport involving a bat and ball. At school his talent showed itself in hockey, soccer and cricket, but he was equally as good on the tennis court, badminton court, golf course, and more recently, the bowling green. Whenever Ray was involved in the play, he set a game alight and added to which, he was always both sporting and courteous whether in victory or (more rarely), in defeat.

But it was hockey that was Ray's first love. Not a founder-member of Blueharts but there in the early days, he was one of the select band of Blueharts who regularly formed almost half the Hertfordshire County side. He also represented the East of England and reached a peak of success when he attended trials for the Melbourne Olympics in 1956,

Ray's working career was divided into four parts. The first decade being with Russell's (Leather) in Hitchin, he then moved to Carnill's in Welwyn Garden City for 14 years where he then ran his own Retail Business for another 14 years. Finally, he joined Brookers in Hitchin for another 14 years, only retiring in 2000. Customers, Suppliers and Colleagues held Ray in the highest esteem alike for his hard working, caring attitude and undoubted integrity.

Above all, Ray was a family man. He married Shirley, a Hitchin girl, in 1958 and they had two daughters, Elizabeth and Sally. With three grandchildren, Ray's family was his pride and joy and he was a much-loved husband, father and grandfather.

Ray made many friends at School, friendships, which throughout his life were added to and re-enforced through Blueharts and his work. There are many Old Boys who deem it a privilege to have counted Ray as a friend. In their sadness at his passing, they will want to express their deepest sympathy to Shirley and her family at their loss
Paul Brooker (1952)

Colin Hawkins (1954) after leaving school Colin went to work at Bliss Brothers (the bakers), and at the Pathology Lab at the Old Lister Hospital in Hitchin. He then decided that he wanted to become a chartered surveyor and applied to John Shilcock's, where he spent the rest of his working life, alongside Michael Hill (1953). Colin was a bit of an entrepreneur and Simon Gainsford remembers a venture they had of importing reindeer skins and sold them at a considerable profit. Colin, despite suffering badly from asthma, was fine athlete with some notable performance at distance running. In 1995 he completed the Snowdia Marathon in 3 hour 46 minutes at the age of 58. Colin was a AAA coach and organised local running events. He was a black belt at Judo and ran the Hitchin Judo Club for 25 years. He was also a keen cyclist with the Icknield Cycling Club and on the more leisurely side, he was a founder member of Riveraine Bowling Club. Colin's greatest sporting love, however, was 'Wu Shu Kung Fu'. In the 1950s he was introduced to a Chinese Grand Master who took him on as a student. Colin eventually became a Master of Kung Fu embracing the physical side of the art as well as the mystic and powers that lie behind this science.

Colin met his wife Sue when she came to work at Shilcock's. They married in 1972 and have a daughter, Clare, and a grandson, Jamie. (Adapted from an appreciation given by Robin Smith)

Bill Thompson (1935 – 2001) will be remembered fondly by all those who learned to play a brass instrument with him. Bill visited the school as a peripatetic brass tutor from 1969 to 2001. Bill was a professional trumpet player, performing with well-known jazz musicians, national symphony orchestras and occasionally in the pits at London West End musicals. Apart from being a superb trumpet player he was an inspiring teacher with a tremendous sense of fun. It was probably this characteristic that endeared him so much to his pupils. He leaves a legacy of music and musicians throughout North Herts and the city of Cambridge, where most of his teaching was done. During the latter years he suffered from Motor Neurone Disease, to which he eventually succumbed in November of last year. Many musical tributes have been made to Bill, including those at our Reunion Concert last October. This was one of the last events that

Bill attended and it was rewarding for him to be able to hear Chris Matthews (Trombone), Simon Birkett (Euphonium), David Sait and Adrian Sillence (Trumpet), Ben Douglas (Tuba). Richard Whitmore made a tribute to Bill during his introductions to the concert. This and the musical items can all be heard on the CD of the concert. The musical legacy that Bill leaves in terms of the Big Band, which he founded, the many arrangements he has made for the band and the talent of musicians that continue to perform. His wife Janet and their two children survive Bill and we express our deepest sympathy to them.

David Stancombe (1957)

Ray Weight (1918 – 2001) Raymond Victor Dawe Weight. Born July 20th 1918. Died 28th November 2001. The funeral service was held at All Saints Church, Stondon, Beds on Friday 7th December 2001 at 1.30p.m. Ray's ashes will be placed with his parent's remains, in Shalbourne Church, Wilts.

Educated Newbury Grammar School; Capt / Oxford & Bucks Light Infantry Army Service 15th November 1939 –1945. He gained his English Degree at Oxford University in 1948 and taught in Derbyshire and Norfolk and Herts. He was appointed to the staff at Hitchin Boys' Grammar School in 1968 and became Head of English until he retired in 1981. This is an extract from my speech: " Most of us here today know or have been influenced by Ray from the moment he arrived in Hitchin. I was privileged to be in Ray's department and he taught me so much about teaching, the art of story-telling, the love of language, the importance of caring and valuing pupils as well as imparting a mass of colourful jokes of quite Rabelasian content. Ray was a bundle of contradictions - one moment quoting from his amazing memory an entire poem by Blake - the next desperately keen to become a member of the infamous Toasted Tea Cake Club -one moment moving you to tears with his deeply felt faith - the next extolling the virtues of oysters or the all-day breakfast in The Little Chef - one moment spending long candlelit hours perfecting with the concentration of an insect collector the metre of a verse -the next dropping his cup or losing his hat only to find it later, quite inexplicably, at the top of a tree. John Hyams, a friend from University days captures more succinctly than anyone else, the qualities of Ray ,scholar and friend. `You will want to remember Ray, as I do, as a person of great sensitivity and kindness endowed with a keen sense of humour and an acute awareness of the ridiculous. He and I laughed heartily and often at the world's foibles (without ignoring our own!) and I shall always associate him with loud guffaws at some particularly ridiculous situation (his own or other peoples) or some ingenious quip. He was, of course, a fastidious connoisseur of elegant English, which he appreciated as only an accomplished user of the language can. His own use of it was elegant and meticulously precise. He was a most conscientious father always concerned about Andrew and John's welfare. I suspect they will miss him profoundly. ` Ray was a splendid colleague at Hitchin- allays thoroughly professional in his approach to teaching and incredibly knowledgeable about so man things. Despite a heavy and committed teaching schedule - he also gave wonderful lectures on art and artists locally and for many years to the Cambridge University Adult Education and the WEA. His knowledge of art was profound. His monograph on Stanley Spencer is still available at Cookham and at the age of 75 he wrote the

definitive art book on the artist Carel Weight (no relation) entitled "The Haunted Imagination". During its preparation and publication by David and Charles the two became great friends. The book is already a valuable collector's piece. Carel wrote to Ray "Dear Ray I have just read the manuscript of your book and I want to tell you that I think it is the first piece of art criticism that I have read since Lord Clark, which is a work of art in itself.I think your book is the most original book about a painter I have ever come across. It is an investigation derived entirely by looking at the pictures with infinite care and sympathy and reading my intentions, which I could hardly have believed possible. It is closer to poetry than the ordinary art history." The National Press were equally lavish in their praise and Ray deservedly won the Yorkshire Post's Award for `Best Art Book of the Year 1993-4.` There is so much more one could say about Ray - his romantic streak, his deep love of cricket, his photography, his television appearances for School's science programmes, his direction of plays, his reverence for Dickens and Hardy, his knowledge of the Great Masters, his love of the gothic novel , his interest in films and sport but above all his deep faith. He will be sadly lost as teacher, poet and critic. The following staff visited Ray during the dark days at the end and great thanks are due to them Keith Lewin, Bob Macleish and David Brown. It would seem appropriate to close with the opening words of Ray's poem "Place of Residence" (Shalbourne Church).

It is all to the good
that we rest finally in the place
that saw most of our failings,
most of ourselves:
we may still count
on a few sympathetic reports
whose favourable bias has no significance now.
If I may speak
for those who rest here,
and for myself who should,
if things work to appearances,
be found here too,
the occasional placing of flowers is an act of grace
which I'd tie nobody to,
nor invite anyone of weeping tendencies,
only those who could laugh
at amusements done or said
as well as at failings
which so shrunken a place accentuates.....
John Gardiner (1964-89)

Words from the President

The new Millennium has seen a much-needed resurgence in the life of the Association largely prompted and encouraged by the Hon Secretary, David Stancombe. We have also benefited from the new technology and the setting up of our own website thanks to the Hon Treasurer and the use of email facilities to distribute Newsletters. Another encouraging aspect has been the fresh input of several younger committee members that will hopefully set the Association on course with a sound basis for the future. The 'older' committee members realise that the Association has only been ticking over in recent years, mainly because the Association has been unable to keep in contact with school leavers in recent decades. We have to thank David Baines for keeping things alive and sincerely hope that he feels all his effort was worthwhile. Now, thanks largely to our website and the Hon Sec., the membership has reached over 600 and we are hoping to see at least 120 at the forthcoming Annual Dinner. The Association raised over £16,000 in a wonderful effort to refurbish the School Hall – a feat that was celebrated with a most enjoyable concert performed by talented musicians, both Old Boys and present pupils.

I am personally especially pleased to welcome the increased involvement of much-respected past members of the School Staff and hope that this trend will continue. I trust that the Association will continue to flourish in the hands of the wider age range of Old Boys now actively involved with running things.

G H (Hugh) Russell (1941)

Membership: Numbers continue to grow slowly to over 600. Please encourage any Old Boys that you know who are not members to join. We need 1000+ to make ourselves strong and viable for the rest of this century.

Subs: Could I remind Associate members who left in 1996 and 1997 that they should now send in their subscription. Ordinary £4 per annum or Term £30 for 20 years (can be paid in three annual payments of £10)

Committee News:

David Garvie and David Simmonds have resigned from the committee but have agreed to maintain contact with the particular areas in which they have been involved. Matthew Paradis has agreed to join the committee as its youngest member. We now have two members who left School in 1990s on the committee. We have looked at the Aims of the Association and the Rules. The suggested amendments are included with the notice of the AGM and will be put to that meeting for approval. We are looking into the career suggestion from Neil Chambers and hope to set up a link with the school careers co-ordinator. Appeal to any members who would be able to offer advice to get in contact. We are hoping to organise this on an email basis.

News of Old Boys:

Michael Brown (1956) Michael reports in from Sussex to say that he is well ensconced in the village of Cuckfield and spending much of his time with the local dramatic society. They have clearly made their mark in the south of the country winning the National Operatic & Drama Association's prize for best production in SE England. His grandson is playing rugby for Coalville under 10's and is hoping to see John Rainbow (1956) on the touch line one day! Michael intends to come to the April reunion and hopes to bring Geoff Powell () – the same era as Denys Carnill – with him. (What about it Denys are you coming this year?) Michael also asks if anyone has contact with John Gulvin. They spent the whole of their National Service together in the RAF at the Joint Services Language School and subsequently in Hong Kong. Both qualifying in Mandarin Chinese which unfortunately does not help him in the local Chinese restaurants. He is hoping to see Michael Bray and as many of our year at the dinner as possible.

Derek McGilvray (1961) Here at last is my email address! Thank you for forwarding the Association Newsletter to me by "snail mail" all these years. I have read every one and enjoyed the news of my contemporaries and all the school activities. I have so much to tell you about my life – family and career here in the USA. I am now "semi-retired" after more than twenty-six years as a research scientist (molecular biologist, microbial physiologist, biochemist etc.) at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis, responsible for microbial fermentation strains development. After "decompressing" from the pressures of corporate life for almost two years, I found myself suffering from science withdrawal, and now teach senior and graduate level courses in biotechnology at Indiana University in Bloomington, just a half hour drive from my home. I also started my own consulting business, and spend time in Italy working with a large pharmaceutical company. Needless to say, I don't feel retired, rather "really tired" most of the time. My wife Elaine is from southern Indiana, and she teaches first grade at a local elementary school, but plans to retire within the next two years. Then the two of us can finally do some travelling together. I have two daughters, both now graduated from university – the elder is now married and works as a marketing specialist for BAA Inc. (coincidentally, British Airport Authority in the UK), which operates Indianapolis International Airport, and the younger works at an

advertising agency in Chicago. I have so many wonderful memories of the years I spent at Hitchin Grammar School, and would love to hear from some of the many friends I made while there. I have made a New Year resolution to stay in touch with HGSOBA in the future, and plan to work hard on keeping it!

Neil Chambers (1996) Neil has been an Associate Member since leaving school and now joins as a full member. He has recently returned from Belgium where he was working as a Trainee Patent Attorney. He makes some useful observations. 'A while ago I had an idea that the Association might consider setting up a kind of unofficial careers service. When I was a school I found it very difficult to choose a career and to find out about the available options. Information was very limited and I thought how much better it would be to talk to someone with relevant experience. Perhaps some Old Boys, in different fields, could offer their services to talk to boys at school (perhaps via e-mail) about the career they are considering? I feel if this link up was run through the Old Boys Association then school leavers would see a more practical side of the Association and therefore perhaps make it more relevant to younger members' < I will be putting this to the Committee at their next meeting – Hon Sec>

John Dawson (1946) John writes ' I was shocked and saddened to learn of the death of Ray Denne. We were friends as boys and later when I moved back to Hitchin we renewed our friendship via Blueharts – our wives helping with the after-match teas together. I would like to take this opportunity to update my records. I retired as regional general manager East Anglia (Shell UK) in 1990. I spent two years on secondment to Kettering Business Venture Trust and helped form K.E.E.P. (Kettering Employers Education Partnership). I then retired again to the golf course and bowls green but still work part-time, on a voluntary basis, at Edith Cavell Hospital in Peterborough. I am a past President of Oundle Probus Club, which I enjoyed very much. Both my son Bill and son-in-law went to the school. Bill is Finance Manager for Abbey National. Doug Walker, son of another Old Boys, Ken Walker, is Director of a large chemical company. <Sounds like a few members that should sign up for the Association John, also some contacts in relation to the comments made by a recent Old Boy – Neil Chambers (1996) – I will leave that with you. Hon Sec>

I, like my old friend Dick Hawkins, managed to survive throat cancer a few years back. Unlike Dick I did not have to have a voice box – he still plays a far better game of golf than I do. I regret that I have to end on a sad note. Last April my dear wife, Joyce, was killed in a car crash on her way home after visiting her father. I hope to be at the reunion dinner this year.

Harvey McKay (1936) Margaret writes to say that she and Harvey have sold their guesthouse and 'retired' to a large bungalow in the village. Four years ago Harvey suffered a severe stroke

and now has declining dementia, apart from other disabilities. Margaret interestingly compares the care system in Scotland very favourably to our experience down south. Harvey still enjoys having the Newsletters read to him and learning about the current goings on at his old school and sends his best wishes to all who may remember him.

New Members: We welcome the following new members:

David Lee (1952) ' I'm now retired after spending most of my working life in one sales capacity or another. My final full time post was that of Regional Sales Manager for the North of England , Ireland and the Isle of Man.

I am now a keen but not very good golfer previously, in my youth, having been a fairly good active sportsman. It is therefore fairly annoying not to be a success at golf.' I know the feeling ed.

Amar Dhaliwal (formerly Baines) 'I left HBS in the 4th Form to move to Canada. I went to St. Andrews primary school and knew Chris & Alex Stancombe, they went to school with me there and then to HBS.

I completed my education from an American University and have been working for a number of years as a Senior Software engineer in the U.S. I have been married for over 5 yrs and my wife is a physician. Some good

friends I lost touch with are: Chris & Alex Stancombe, David Ireland, Mark Wiseman, David Leonards

Andrew Highton. I am actually working on a project for the Royal Mail, and will be travelling to England in late Feb, early March. I may spend up to a month in England and will visit HBS and try to meet some old friends. The project for Royal Mail involves handling mail with robots (for which I specialise in writing software for). I have fond memories of HBS; the cross-country runs in winter, Mr Mittal's chemistry class, Mr Cooke's Math class, Miss Rendall's English class and the great tennis games with Dave Ireland, Mark Wiseman and David Leonards. If anybody remembers me, please send me an email, as I would like to meet old friends. Its Great to See the school on the web

Craig Dellar (1986) is living in Letchworth, and working for NHDC, as a heating engineer (low quotes for old boys!).

Mathew Paradis (1994) After leaving HBS, I moved to Barnsley where I studied for an HND and a BA in Music Technology. After graduating in 1998, I moved to York to study on an MSc program in Music and Electronics. I finished that course in 2000 and am now working for the

University of York Music Technology Group as a systems administrator/programmer for their music research computer systems. I am also, when I can find the time, trying to complete a part time PhD in Human Computer Interaction, with the electronics department at York. (Did you know that Marie Paradis was the first woman to climb Mont Blanc on 14th July 1809? – Hon Sec)

Bob Goodwin (1955) We live in West Seattle, in Washington State. My wife Renee is a pre-school teacher and children's writer. Daughter Alysa and step-son David are 41 and 40 respectively. Since 1975, I've been the coastal resources specialist with Washington Sea Grant Program at the University of Washington, and in 1998 was appointed Affiliate Associate Professor of Marine Affairs in the UW School of Marine Affairs. I took a degree in architecture (University of Washington, 1969) followed by a masters degree in urban geography (UW, 1971) and completed advanced graduate coursework in urban, regional and economic geography.

Currently I'm

doing applied research and outreach on mitigating earthquake and tsunami hazards affecting the ports and harbors of the Pacific Northwest. For pleasure I fly light aircraft (Cessna 152s and 172s) though not since

September 11th., enjoy photography, and love to hike and photograph the canyons of the desert southwest as well as the more accessible Cascade and Olympic ranges. By the way, Guy Randle was NOT in Canada when he climbed Mount McKinley (– Norm Ross put me right on this and I apologised to the memory of Gabby Parker in an earlier Newsletter.) As "Gabby" Parker - that gentle bear of a teacher - must have instructed many of you, Mount McKinley is in Alaska!

Peter Wilson (1984) is married to Debs and living in Elstree. He has been involved in 3 seasons of national single seater motor racing, professional chauffeuring and also ran my own window cleaning business for 7

years. Now director of a property maintenance/refurb. company based in Luton and working in London.

John Baker (1954) Career in Accountancy until 1966, followed by various positions in I T. This included I T Manager for Central Tyres Ltd. (part of the Pirelli Tyres Group). Had a not too serious heart attack in late 1999.

Current hobbies include bowls, gardening, current affairs and walking.

Alan Whitmore (1980) Alan promised to sign up as in the last newsletter. True to his word he has now done so. We had a visit to the 'Windmill' in Charlton and caught up on the decade since we had last met. I have to go back to school and visit Alan in his research lab at Moorfield's Eye Hospital and looking forward to it.

The School

Alan Nicholas has retired after 33+ years teaching Economics at the school. There is a continuing staffing problem, which are getting worse. A replacement for Alan is flying in from Australia this week-end and another Australian returning late for this term. This together with several long-term illnesses put considerable strain on the staff and timetabling. On the sporting side the Old Boys beat the school by 2 points after a thrilling game. Apparently this is most unusual for the OBs to beat the school on these occasions.

Richard Whitmore's one-man-show at School on 8th December raised £600 for the School funds.

Old Boy Rugby shirts a note from Keir Dow

Keir is a member of the P.E. department and provides a service to the leaving rugby players by selling Old Boy Rugby shirts. These are available and any one who would like one or would like more information can get in touch with Keir either via e-mail (keirdow@hotmail.com) or in writing to him at school. Details will be going on the website.

Contact Address for HBSOBA

Communications for the Association may be sent to me at 25 Chiltern Road Hitchin Herts SG4 9PJ or phone 01462-457-510 or e-mail Sheila_David@dstancombe.freereserve.co.uk

Or via our website www.oldboysonline.com.

HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

(Formerly Hitchin Grammar School Old Boys' Association)

AGENDA for the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on
Saturday 13th April 2002
At 6.00pm in the School Library

Apologies for absence.

Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting

Matters arising.

Hon. Treasurer's Report.

Hon. Secretary's Report

Election of Officers and Committee Members:

President for 2002 – B D Robinson

President Elect: - E M Cooke

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

Hon. Treasurer: N.J.Webb.

Hon. Secretary: D.E.Stancombe

Committee Members:

Retiring this year - - M.J.Cranfield, S.C Harding

Retiring in 2003 - J.C.Coxall,

Retiring in 2004 - R.J. MacArthur, M.Russell.

Retiring in 2005 – Justin Snoxall, Matthew Paradis

Re-election of Life Trustees – D.G.Stedman and P.J.Thomas

Re-appointment of Honorary Accountants – Messrs Watts, Knowles

Proposed changes to the Association Rules. (See over)

Headteacher's Review.

Any other business

Any further nominations to be submitted to the Hon Sec before or at the meeting, together with the names of a proposer and seconder.

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

(Current Version)

The Association shall be called 'The Hitchin Boys' School Old Boys' Association.'

All former members of the School, under both present and previous names shall be eligible for membership, whilst members of staff shall be eligible for Honorary Membership, all subject to the approval of the committee.

The object of the Association shall be to bring together Old Boys of the school to form a bond of union between past and present members of the School and the Association.

The Officers of the Association shall be a President, President-Elect, Vice-Presidents, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary, all of whom shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

The Committee shall consist of nine members with the power to co-opt. Each member shall be elected to serve a term of three years and one third of the Committee shall retire at each Annual General Meeting. Upon completion of three years' service a Committee member shall not be eligible for re-nomination for election to the Committee until twelve months shall have elapsed. Officers, other than Vice-presidents, shall be Ex-Officio Members of the Committee, together with the Headmaster. Five members shall form a quorum on Committee Meetings.

There shall be the following classes of membership of the Association, subscription of which shall be determined by the Annual General Meeting:-

Ordinary Members who shall pay an annual subscription.

Life Members, who paid a Life membership subscription prior to 25th March 1990.

Term Members, who shall pay a subscription, which shall cover a period of twenty years, and be renewable every twenty years thereafter at half the current term subscription.

Honorary Members, who shall be defined in Rule 2, or at the discretion of the Annual General Meeting.

Associate Members, who shall be School Leavers who make application the Association in the year of their leaving. Such membership shall be free of subscription for a period of five calendar years including the year of joining.

Members shall be entitled to receive a copy of all notices and of all issues of 'Association News'. Benefits of membership shall be withheld from members whose subscriptions are four months overdue.

The Annual General Meeting, of which fourteen days notice shall be given, shall be held in March or April, before Good Friday, when Annual Reports and Accounts shall be presented, and the Officers and Committee members elected. Copies of the accounts shall be available for members.

All Old Boys may attend General Meetings but only members may vote.

Special General Meetings shall be called at the written request of eight members specifying what resolution they intend to move, to the Honorary Secretary. The business of the Meeting shall be outlined to such resolutions. The Honorary Secretary shall give notice of the business to all members at least fourteen days before the Special General Meeting.

Any member desirous of proposing any alteration of or addition to the Rules of the Association shall give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary at least two months before the Annual General Meeting. The Honorary Secretary shall give the proposal to all members at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.

Fifteen members shall form a quorum at General Meetings.

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Term Members, who shall pay a subscription, which shall cover a period of twenty years, and be renewable every twenty years.

Honorary Members

Associate Members, who shall be School Leavers who are not liable to pay a subscription for a period of five calendar years after leaving the School

Members shall be entitled to receive a copy of all notices and of all issues of 'Association Newsletter'.

Membership shall be terminated when a subscriptions is twelve months overdue.

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AIMS OF THE ASSOCIATION

(Suggested new statement)

To provide and maintain the School's tradition forming a link between past and present members of the School.

To support the School by providing advice on careers and other relevant matters.

To provide a forum through which Old Boys can keep in touch by information on the Association website and via Newsletters.

To arrange reunions and any other activities that members wish to support.

To keep members informed of what is currently happening at the School.

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

Old Boys Day Activities, Annual General Meeting and Dinner – 13th April 2002

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 contact: -Robert MacArthur Tel 01462 433291 or e-mail biffymac@aol.com or just turn