

HITCHIN BOYS' SCHOOL OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

(Formerly Hitchin Grammar School Old Boys' Association)

ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER February 2001

General

It is sad to report that Ivor Bayley (1928), our previous Presidents is seriously ill at home. I have sent a c

The notice and the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting and the Dinner to be held on the 7th April 20  
He would be delighted to meet Old Boys that were contemporary with him, and of course any staff as we  
Due to the expected increase in numbers attending the dinner we have changed our caterers. Mrs Park  
If anyone has accommodation available for the Saturday evening please let me know and I will put you i

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

When I left school in 1949 I never dreamt that one-day I would be asked to be the President of the Old B

School was very different in those days, much more disciplined, the `atomic deterrent' was the cane whi

I enrolled at the School in 1942 with some 60 odd other intrepid and frightened rabbits – all boys were ra

To celebrate those days of long ago, can I appeal to all those who were at school in my year, and those

#### Committee News:

The minutes of committee meetings are available of our website. The main points from the last meeting

The committee expressed their concern that Pat Thornhill has been injured (broken leg) as a result of a

Congratulations to Nigel Webb (1985) and Kate - Jonathan James Webb, born just before 4pm today (8)

#### News of Old Boys

Gavin Bowyer (1946) It is always sad to read of the death of figures from one's youth. I remember both B

This note also gives me a chance to pass on some news of myself and another old boy - Mike Northwood  
mentioning me from my school days, including the programme for Speech Day, 11 November 1960. In it

Mike Brown (1956) Is looking forward to the April reunion and is hoping that Mick Bray (1956) will be abl

John Cotton (1956 -63) writes 'I enjoy being kept up to date although I admit to being a pretty poor corre

David Cox (1970) I left after the 5th form in 70 to join the RAF, and am now in my last year of service livi

Chris Dowlen (1970) writes 'I went to Loughborough University to do Automotive Engineering and gained  
on the Energy Conservation Vehicle for a few years. After that I spent a three year period with a comput  
seems to be ages ago!

Since then I've been teaching Engineering Design and running South Bank's Engineering Product Desig

Product Design but also Industrial design and our Special Effects course. Let me know if anyone is interested. I've also had a couple of spells back in industry: one in 1990 where I worked for Motor Panels in Coventry doing some industrial design work. I've also had a period teaching at Monash University in Australia in 1996. Another of my interests is with the development of Romania, and I have been a director of a company called RAN that for the first three years of its life, and have done a number of other projects in conjunction with it. 'Olly's (Chris's younger brother) is living in Welwyn Garden and is teaching art history at St Christopher's School in Letchworth.

Martin Hare (1985) Is Currently Quality Manager at the Spectrum Flair Group Northampton.

Bill Hedley (1949) is currently Quality Manager at the Spectrum Flair Group Northampton and sends his

Peter Hollingsworth (1961) has at last got round to writing to the editor.

As one of those who went through school close to royalty ( Actually Pete Bonfield wasn't a bad hooker in his day. Obviously, the years I spent with Blueharts kept me in contact with the school but, apart from attending the school balls on a regular basis, I have been very remiss in attending the Old Boys' Dinner. I know a number of my contemporaries attend and I shall make all efforts to attend this year.

Without boring anyone ( too late ! ) I have been in Computers since I left in 1961 and am currently International Projects Manager for an American company who sell Swipe card Terminals and Communications Networking equipment. Lately I have been involved in a small circle of ex Blueharts, with Tony Hull (1962) Has now retired with his millions in Canada, where he has lived for many years Eric Nutter (1959), who has just celebrated his 60th birthday and having worn out most of his body parts is only playing squash 4 times a week now.

Mick Whitmore (1962 ), is another one who has taken early retirement (must be because he is married to a teacher !!!) and taken lucrative contracts, helping him to see the whole of the Olympics, live in Sydney ( No I am not jealous....)

Mike Norris (1962), has also retired from the Air force after a very distinguished career and is now in the Balkans working for the UN, sorting out democracy for the locals down there. If anyone had seen him taking apart a poor defenceless left half in his hockey days, you would wonder at what he could do for democracy!

Kit Birdsey ( 1962) Left school and worked with Mike in Beddall Bradfords in Hermitage road. He stayed the course whilst Mike went on to 'higher things' and has been living 'up North' in Darlington for many years. So long in fact that he even talks like them.. ugh!

David Walmsley (left early, went to Eton) is the chief Legal Eagle at Hawkins Russell Jones in the town. An interesting fact that David and I are the middle ones of three generations who have attended the school and both fathers are still living. Peter is also in regular contact with Doug Hankin (1958), Peter M

James Ide (1993) I got my degree from Exeter University in Biological sciences 2.2. Then I have ended

Simon Lupton writes: 'I really enjoyed the last edition of the newsletter, although I was sad to read about Mr Reed - I remember him with fondness, and of course was in the same year as his son Wil I just wanted to mention a couple of things. As you can see from my e-mail address I'm now working at t BBC 2 later in the year. Amazingly one of the crew, Steve Roberts who was the Assistant Director, was old boys and teachers.

David Marshall (1958) gives a family update. 'I know it's a bit late, but Mike (Salter) died in October 1990 I've more to add about the website, but will do it via its "Bulletin Board" facility. (Haven't seen this yet) Ar

Simon Payne (1998) I'm currently studying out here in the states at the Colorado School of Mines, Golde

Mark Tear writes from 'Sunny Canada' helping to recruit some new members. 'Anton Austin I believe is t

Bob Watkin (1969) I am looking shamefully at the July 2000 newsletter - and then the November 2000 n My wife of 27 years - Marie - has also been switching from one nursing job to another to add to the confu Congratulations on the revitalisation of the association - and a silent prayer that Mr. Thomas will forgive

Andrew Wearmouth (1968) Many thanks for the newsletters. I always read them from cover to cover. I n With regard to the photo album being organised by Pat Thornhill, I am wondering whether Peter Cranfie Geoff Quentin 1956-63 married Caroline in 1969. We now have three grown up children Peter (30), Ros

Geoff has done various jobs all connected with computers. He has spent the last 20 years with a focus on Testing, which is one of the BSC most successful SIG's. While Chairman of the SIG the EuroSTAR conf  
Is there such a thing as class lists for various years? I quite forget who was in my class let alone the other  
How about a then and now set of photos on the web or perhaps just a short biography?

Jim Watt (1969) Jim has rejoined from down-under. . We've only been here a year but it is already nice to

## New Members

We welcome the following new members:

Richard Atkinson (1984) Although in my time at HBS, I took no Exams, it was my pleasure to be taught

Stephen Ide (1969) Following 4 great years back at School as a teacher at the School, where I made great

Tom McGrenery (1999) Tom is now in his 2nd year of a Chinese degree at SOAS (University of London)

Andrew Nicholas (1989)

I'm now a solicitor in private practice specialising in marine insurance work. Due to injury forced to give up

Adrian Sillence (1975)

After leaving the school in '75 I joined the Civil Service, where after a few unsettled years I finally (and so  
In 1991 I got married, and just 8 months ago my wife Maureen and I became the proud parents of a little

Clive Tomkins (1961) Joins up with 'I have lived in Canada for the past 31 years. I own a successful me

Mark Turner (1982) Mark qualified as a "Chartered Management Accountant" - ACMA. He is currently O  
I am widowed (1997) but have a partner. I still partake in various sports including Cricket, Clay shooting

Paul Vickers (1985) Confesses ' I haven't been back to Hitchin since 1991 when Gina (Mrs Vickers) and  
The newsletter was interesting. I remember Nigel Webb. He too was in the year above me, but I knew hi  
I never really fulfilled my potential at school. The kind view was that I was held back by insecurity, self-d  
I thus lost my university places at York, Leeds, and Sheffield to study philosophy. Perhaps that was a lu

Jeremy Stancombe (1983) Went to Trent Polytechnic on a Business Studies degree course, during whic

Patrick Stancombe (1987) After his first degree at Lancaster he went to do research at the John Innes I

Chris Stancombe (1988) A Building Management degree from Coventry led to Site Management work fo

Alex Stancombe (1988) Studied a Business Studies degree course at Newcastle and has sampled a wid

Michael Yates (1956)

David, I don't suppose you remember me back in the days of Bearton Green , its long ago.

I was so suprised to see a name I recognised, I left at the end of the forth for as we moved to St Albans I

e-mail addresses

Tony Hull (1962) SHull1326@aol.com Eric Nutter (1959) enutter@uk.smurfit.com  
Michael Whitmore (1962) mick@m-j-w.com Tony Norgan (1963) Tony@norgans.co.uk  
Michael Norris (19) MikeN@oscebih.org Kit Birdsey (1962) KBirdsey@wren.co.uk  
David Walmsley hitchin@hrjlaw.co.uk Alan Hazlewood (1956)a.hazlewood@virgin.net  
Chris Dowlen (1970) chris.dowlen@sbu.ac.uk Simon Payne (1998) spayne@Mines.EDU  
Rodney Marshall (1960) rodney@rodneymarshall.com Tristan Self (1988) tristan.self@ntlworld.com  
Vince Holmes (1985) vince\_holmes@hotmail.com Adrian Sillence (1975) adrian@asillence.fsnet.co.uk  
Stephen Ide (1969) stephenide@hotmail.com Nick Buckland (1994) nbuckland@greenpropertyplc.com  
Tom McGrenery (1999) t\_mcgrenery@stupid.com Michael Yates (1956) cooperstudio@aol.com  
Clive Tomkins(1961) mtomkins@total.net Andrew Webb (1987) louise@webb91.fsnet.co.uk  
Jeremy Stancombe (1983) Jem@stancowper.freeserve.co.uk Mark Turner (1982) mrt.13@virgin.net  
Patrick Stancombe (1987) patrick.stancombe@camr.org.uk Alex Stancombe (1988) stancombea@fsnet  
Dick Corder (1944) Rfkcorder@aol.com Esmond Ball (1936) esmond@williamball.fsnet.co.uk  
Alan Tippett (1962) arrow.ceilings@btclick.com Dave Cox (1970) dave@cox79.fsnet.co.uk  
Alfred J Barker (1944) ajbarker@lineone.net Luke Sobek (1997) lukesobek@hotmail.com  
Bob Watkin (1969) hardware@slic.com Dave Sanderson (1973) ds\_sanderson@hotmail.com  
Martin Pullinger (1996) martinpullinger@yahoo.co.uk John Mayhead (1949)  
Jim Watt (1969) jrwatt@paradise.net.nz Paul Vickers (1985) p.vickers@livjm.ac.uk  
Jamie Cawthorn(1991) jamie.cawthorn@hben.co.uk Andrew Nicholas (1989) Andrew.Nicholas@clyde.c  
Richard Atkinson (1984) angusdog@nascr.net Mark Russell (1985) Mark\_Russell@Thomson.co.uk

The School

The wet weather has made things difficult, as there is not enough hard surface when the fields have to be

Sport: The weather disrupted the Rugby season. The 1st XV reached 2nd round and the under 15s the 3

Parents' Society: Are busy raising funds for a new minibus. They organised the Annual Quiz evening las

Contact Address for HBSOBA

Communications for the Association may be sent to me at 25 Chiltern Road Hitchin Herts SG4 9PJ or ph  
Or via our website [www.oldboysonline.com](http://www.oldboysonline.com). David Stancombe Hon. Secretary.