T.O.G.S. NEWS.

The Newsletter of Torquay Old Grammarians Society
Torquay Boys Grammar School, Shiphay Manor Drive, Torquay. TQ2 7EL
Tel: 01803 615501. Fax: 01803 614613
Volume 26 Spring 2008

Wilfred.H.Hore (1926-'34) We regret to announce the death of our **Patron** who passed away on February 5th at his home in Surrey in his 93rd year. Our thoughts and condolences go to his wife Pat.

From the President, David J Simmons - some personal memories:
I first met Wilfred back in 1965. After graduating, I went to teach at Battersea Grammar School, which was on the west side of Tooting Bec Common. The School's playing fields were on the opposite side of the Common, adjacent to Bec Grammar School, of which Wilfred was Head at the time. I met him occasionally when the schools engaged in sports fixtures. I moved to Watford and the years past and whilst I was greatly involved with TOGS, I rarely was able to attend meetings. I learnt of Wilfred's appointment of Patron on the passing of Mr Harmer, and only at Reunions did I meet him.
However, shortly after I retired and moved back to Torquay I was invited by Roy Pike to join the TBGS Trust and met Wilfred once again. After that, we met several times each year when he made to journey from Selsden to Torquay to attend meetings. I used to give him a lift to both Trust and TOGS committee meetings. I remember one evening I was sitting in a TOGS meeting when I suddenly remembered I had forgotten to pick up Wilfred. I rang him and hastened to pick him up. He gave me a right old flea in my ear and I felt like a naughty schoolboy being chastised by his headmaster - we both returned to type. And I was never allowed to forget my sin of omission.
During Trust meetings Wilfred said very little. However, as soon as we reached Any Other Business, Wilfred would sit up and produce a sheaf of newspaper cuttings and would set about asking Roy Pike about the latest potential threat to the School's status as a grammar school. He was fiercely proud of Torquay Boys Grammar School and totally against comprehensives in any shape or form. He continued to attend Trust meetings well past his 90th birthday and I can recall only one occasion when he missed a TOGS Reunion and that was when we had the temerity to move it from its usual home on the first Friday in July. For several years, Wilfred was the oldest member to attend to TOGS Reunion, beating John Holmes by about a month. However, as Wilfred went into the Sixth Form and John left at the end of the Fifth Form, he was always the last man standing at the end of the Roll Call, something Wilfred always wanted to achieve
His passing is a great loss to the School, the Trust and to TOGS.

Wilfred H Hore T.D., D.L., M.A. (Cantab), B.Sc. (Lond & Exon), F.R.G.S.
Patron, T.O.G.S. 1995- 2008 Date of birth: 14 July 1915 , passed away February 5th 2008

Education
Torquay Grammar School **(1926-1934)**
Captain Red House 1931-34
Captain 1st XI Football 1932-3, 1933-4
Captain 1st XI Cricket 1933, 1934
School Captain 1932-3, 1933-4
Devon County Scholarship 1934
University College of S.W., Exeter 1934-37
B.Sc. Special (Lond. Ext. & Exon.)
Open Exhibition in Geography. Selwyn College, Cambridge 1937
B.A. (Cantab) 1939
Post Graduate Certificate in Education Cambridge 1940
M.A. (Cantab) 1946
War Service
Served in Royal Engineers (Survey Section) in N.W. Europe & Far East 1940-46. Major.
Teaching Experience
Assistant Master, Plympton Grammar School 1946-47
Senior Geography Master, Portsmouth Grammar school 1947-56
Headmaster Bec (Grammar) School, Tooting 1956-66
Headmaster, Royal Grammar School, Guildford 1967-75
Governor Royal Grammar School, Guildford 1977-94
Governor Wilsons Grammar School 1978-84

Other Military Service
Founder Member & Commanding Officer 135 Survey Engineer Regiment R.E.T.A. 1951-56 Lieutenant Colonel.
Honorary Colonel 135 Field Survey Squadron RE (V) 1978-84
Honorary Colonel 5th Cadet Bn. Surrey Army Cadet Force 1963-84
Honorary Colonel R.G.S. Combined Cadet Force 1987-97
Territorial Decoration (T.D.) 1953
Deputy Lieutenant County of Surrey 1962 (D.L.)
Member of Court of Surrey University
Torquay Old Grammarians
President 1994-95
Patron 1995—2008
Cricket
Member of M.C.C. and Surrey County Cricket Club
Honorary Life Member of Torquay Cricket Club—joined in 1926, having been a member for half the life of the Club, which celebrates its 150th Anniversary this year.
(Wilfred liked his name to be written *W.H.Hore* or *Wilfred H. Hore* for obvious reasons. He told the tale of being in new digs in his younger days and the landlady was obviously deliberating over his name. When serving the sweet course at dinner she said "Now then Mr Strawberry - how do you like your whores?" ……Ed.)

Denys Brunsden O.B.E. wrote: What a wonderful man. He knew my father well and was always interested in my career. I add my condolences .
Michael Ray wrote from Vancouver Island :- Very sorry to hear Wilfred has died. He had been very kind to us over the years. He helped with a reunion of the Torquay Preparatory School pupils and with a concert my daughter-in-law gave.
Keith Childs wrote from Guildford:- I was saddened to learn of the death of our Patron, Wilfred. I never knew him in Torquay but I met him in Guildford. Wilfred was the headmaster of Guildford Royal Grammar School and I first met him 10 years ago when I was the Mayor of Guildford. After that I met him on many occasions and always found him to be courteous and considerate, a true Gentleman of the "old school" in in more ways than one. I mourn his passing. TOGS has lost a very good friend.
Colin Turner wrote:- Very sad. It was Wilfred who proposed that I should be asked to join the TOGS committee. He and I had a mutual friend in Glasgow. The former Head of P.E. at Glasgow Academy (before my time as Rector but well known to me) was a member of M.C.C. and often enjoyed cricket with Wilfred at Lords.

A date for your diary
2008 Reunion Dinner - Friday 4th July.

The Annual Dinner will be held at the English Riviera Conference Centre. We held the dinner at this venue in 2005 and 2007 and we were looked after very well. There is a large car park , free on the night, and as the Centre is owned by the Torbay Borough Council the drinks and wines are cheaper than the surrounding hotels. Ticket application form for the Dinner enclosed. Ticket Price £25, University Students and those on a gap year £15.

Bequest
We were recently informed that our late Patron, Wilfred Hore, has bequeathed the sum of £1000 to T.O.G.S. to be used as the committee sees fit. Several years ago he donated a similar sum to the School Trust. These most generous gestures are a mark of Wilfred's affection for the School & Society.

Wills
Kitson Hutchings, a Torbay based firm of solicitors, has offered to donate to the School Trust 25% of its fees for drawing up the Will of any parent or Old Boy. Further, if you are over 60 and take advantage this in conjunction with the Cancer Research free will service, the cost will be £25, all of which will be passed to the Trust. Please see the enclosed leaflet for more details.

News of Old Boys.

Lee Farmer (1983 -88) In the last newsletter Lee's imminent attempt to scale Mount Everest was reported. His progress can be followed online at www.leefarmer.co.uk. At the time of going to press, Lee was in the foothills of the Himalia acclimatising and preparing for the task ahead. Best Wishes Lee.

James Fryer(1994-2001) and William Westaway (1994 -2001) (courtesy of the Herald Express).

The life and times of a Torbay T-shirt printer was aired on Channel 4 as a three minute mini-documentary.

"The Life of Fryer" has so far involved 18 months of work, following university graduate James Fryer from Preston, Paignton. Filmmaker and friend William Westaway has followed James as he launched his business T-Me and the entire film was shot in Torbay and the surrounding area. Channel 4 have bought the rights to the film for the next 3 years, however William is hoping it can still be distributed and entered into film festivals.

Roger Deakins (1960-67) (Herald Express)

Roger was celebrating picking up his second Bafta award for Best Cinemaphotography for "No Country for Old Men". He was nominated for an Oscar also but this was not forthcoming. He won his first Bafta award in 2002 for the film "The Man who Wasn't There"

In an article in the Sunday Observer 17th Feb 2008, Roger, according to the *Los Angeles Times* is a "native of a small fishing town in England, called Torquay". The 58 year old is also one of the world's most respected cinemaphotographers who has spent the last two decades working in America. He has been Oscar nominated five times.

Orlando Rogers (1996-03) (Herald Express)

Orlando and Ben Gaffney, Lympstone based Royal Marines , finished in third place in the pairs section and fifth place overall in the 2,931 mile 2007 Atlantic Rowing Race from La Gomera to Antigua. It took them 54 days, 8 hours and 39 minutes.

News of the School.

Visit By the Earl of Wessex. The Earl of Wessex visited the School on 3rd March for the celebration of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and also officially opened the Cavanna Centenary Hall. The £750,000 theatre which also doubles up as the school hall, was built to commemorate the schools 100th birthday in 2004. It was built with the help of donations from parents, old boys and several major benefactors.

TBGS under 16's Soccer team have won their way through to the finals of the ESFA Royal Air Force under -16 School's Cup. On April 28th the team will play Birkinhead's Rock Ferry High School at Manchester City's Eastlands.

Memories.

Keith Metcalfe (1954-59) adds to the letter by Michael Cattell regarding Bob Roper in the last Newsletter.

He writes that Mr Roper was a great character and we boys thought he had eyes in the back of his head. When his back was turned to the class, working on a drawing board or blackboard, knowing he was not watching, a boy would do something to another boy. For instance, would lean over and thump him or carry out some other misdemeanour. Mr Roper would then turn round and put that boy in detention or give him lines. He always managed to get the right boy and we could never understand how he knew. The day we left he let us into a secret. To his left hand side was a glazed bookcase. The back of the bookcase was dark and the effect of this together with the glass turned turned it into a mirror. He could see everything that was going on behind his back just by looking to one side into this bookcase.When he pointed it out we looked and could see ourselves reflected in the glass. We realised then not only could he

see everything that was going on in the classroom behind him but that he was very clever on two counts. First of all he never gave a clue as to how he knew what was going on and secondly made sure he only told us when we left the school so that we could not warn subsequent generations. What a character.

Obituaries.

Allan D. Pope 1955 - 1961. Born 1941 passed away 2007.

Geoffrey Burnett (1954 - 1961) writes:-It is a privilege to be asked to write about my good friend Allan Pope who sadly died following sudden heart failure last December.

Allan's funeral service in Berkhamsted was attended by many hundreds who came to pay tribute to a 'larger than life' character.

The Revd. Geoffrey Hooper MBE (1951-55) was a lifelong friend of Allan who spoke at the funeral and who has kindly permitted me to quote from his eulogy.

Unlike Geoffrey's, my association with Allan was not continuous throughout our sixty-five or so years. Fortunately we were together intermittently and at significant periods in our lives. Allan joined the school when he was nearly thirteen and we remained in the same groups throughout until he left at sixteen. At school, as in most other aspects of his life, his great sense of fun with a hint of respectful mocking, was a joy to share.

Geoffrey recalls the 'thirteen-year old ginger haired up-start from the 5th. Ellacombe Sea Scouts- playing the piano at our rehearsals in his short trousers (rapidly eclipsing all we senior scouts as the Gang Show producer's protegee)'!
Allan was one of the 'Edginswell Lane Set', regularly visiting my family at the shambolic, but happy 'smallholding' in Kingskerswell. We enjoyed riding our scooters, particularly out to the moors and westward along the coast, in spite of the derision of my 'motor-bike mad' brother John!
St. Luke's Church and the Youth Club played a large part in our early lives. We were disciples of the Revd. Harry Ryder-Jones whose influence resulted in a number of young men considering the priesthood, including Allan. He would occasionally desert to St. John's where he enjoyed a more 'smells and bells' liturgy and subsequently became a Catholic.
Wherever we went, we would usually end up in the 'Oyster Shell' for coffee and hot doughnuts until later in our teens when we would gather at The Castle, Castle Circus, after Evensong.
We were to meet again when Allan was twenty-eight, he came with Dominique, his future wife, to stay with Jan and I in St. Bee's, Cumbria. We were surprised but very pleased that they decided to marry and I believe theirs was a happy marriage for many years. Allan had two daughters and two granddaughters. Allan had a highly successful banking career with international responsibilities and was based in the City of London.
It was not until we were nearly fifty that we met again - this time a chance meeting in King's Langley. Allan and Dominique had decided to separate and were moving house when I arrived. I was introduced to Nick, Allan's new partner, but then we lost contact for a number of years.
Another chance event, my eldest son, Julian had moved to live three doors away from The Rising Sun in Berkhamstead. He and his wife, Suzie told us how pleased they were to have met the landlords, Nick and Allan who ran a very welcoming and traditional pub alongside the canal. For some months neither Julian nor Allan were aware of our friendship. Subsequently we met at the pub on each visit south ,from our home in Wigan , and were able to reminisce and get to know Nick better. Julian tells me what an excellent family pub they ran, marking all annual festivals with very popular events.
Unfortunately I was in the West African village of Affame when Julian gave me the news of Allan's death and so he attended the funeral. It was evident that Allan was universally loved and I feel greatly favoured to
have experienced the life of love and fun which he lived.
Geoffrey most aptly concluded, ' The greatest tribute we can pay Allan is to take a leaf out of his book; live life to the full, not just for ourselves, but with and for those around us whom we, too, are called to love.'

Robin D. Gwyn (1953 -'60) passed away recently. He formerly worked for the B.B.C. but had been retired for some time.

Committee of the Old Grammarians Society.

President: David Simmons
Hon Sec: J.V. Pearce
Treasurer. P.Whatton

Committee: D Cavaliere, J F Alford, B Holmes, C Madge, C Turner, P.G. Willis, S. Margetts.
Vice- Presidents: (who also serve as Committee members) R E Pike, D. Reid, Don. Roberts, D. Brunsden, Simon Whittaker, Len Lewis. Graham Bradshaw.

Subscriptions - New rates will apply from Oct. 1st 2008.
Members are reminded that all annual subscriptions not paid by bankers order fell due on 1st October. Further, student memberships taken out 3 years ago have now expired and 10-year subscriptions taken out in 1997 also are now due.

From the Society's point of view the easiest method for renewal is by bankers order, since this avoids the cost of sending out reminders. For members it represents the cheaper option - £5 per annum compared with £6 if paid by cash/cheque. The 10-year membership is now £30.
Renewal cheques should be made payable to T.O.G.S. and marked for the attention of the Treasurer.
Ties
The TOGS tie is now available from the Treasurer at £9 (inc. p&p) and is proving to be very popular with members.

Contact Details

Editor of Newsletter: Graham K Bradshaw. The Leas, Nut Bush Lane, Torquay. TQ2 6LE Tel: 01803 614204
E-mail address : gkbradshaw@lineone.net
President of the Society: David Simmons. E-mail address : davidjsimmons@blueyonder.co.uk
Hon. Sec of the Society: John V Pearce. E-mail address : manatontor@blueyonder.co.uk
Treasurer of the Society: Peter Whatton E-mail address : whattonp@talktalk.net