



Magister

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Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

**How to Launch
a Successful Newspaper**
– Pages 12, 13 and 14

**A History of the
Old Blackburnians
Association**
– Pages 7 & 18

ANNUAL DINNERS
Pictures and Reports
– Pages 5, 9, 11 & 20



Big School and Radcliffe Wing showing temporary buttresses – Picture courtesy of Graham Slack

SINKING FEELING

THE outside of Big School has been enhanced by several stone buttresses following the discovery that the building was sinking.

Water had severally penetrated the foundations of Big School for some years and architectural devices known as Telltales, used to measure movement, detected that the sides of the building were splaying out.

The headmaster said he felt like Samson when taking morning prayers.

The stone buttresses, smaller but similar to the one pictured at the corner of the building, avoided having to use unsightly tie rods. The work, which was begun just before last Christmas, took six months and cost £25,000, which is being met from school running costs.

AGMs: Report and Balance Sheets – Pages 8, 16 and 17

Obituaries

(1917 - 1990)

OLD Blackburnians everywhere will have been saddened to hear of the death in April of Harry Ingham, a stalwart schoolmaster, keen sportsman and much esteemed friend whose dry humour and polite manner endeared him alike to his colleagues in the staffroom and generations of schoolboys at Queen Elizabeth's.

I first recall Harry as Cricket Captain of Raleigh House, tall and resplendent in white (he would have left his boater in the pavilion) issuing appropriate advice to team members who would not keep a straight bat. Funny that I cannot remember him in or about school in spite of the fact that he was three years my senior. I do know that he came to Queen Elizabeth, in 1929 and that he became in succession House Captain of Raleigh, Cricket Captain of School and in 1937 Vice-Captain of School (Deputy Head Boy we should call him today) before gaining successful admission to Wadham College, Oxon, to read French and Spanish in October of that year. Harry just managed to complete his final degree examinations the day before enlisting for military service with the Oxford and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry in 1940. He wasn't able, because of his wartime commitment, to have his bachelor's degree conferred until 1942. He was transferred, making the best of his linguistic talent, to the newly formed Intelligence Corps a short while later and served in India and Burma until 1946, a long period of service about which Harry had many entertaining experiences to recount. Demobilized in that year, he proceeded to the degree of Master of Arts and accepted a modern languages post at Taunton School, Southampton, where he taught until 1948. Though the climate of the South of England suited Harry well, he always longed to return to the North and on a chance visit to Queen Elizabeth's, he was informed by Headmaster N. S. T. Benson that a vacancy in the Modern Languages Department had recently occurred. Thus from 1948 - 1977, the year in which he retired on medical grounds after a second spell in hospital, Harry Ingham gave long and unstinted

HARRY INGHAM M.A.

service to Queen Elizabeth's, the school he loved so much.

Harry Ingham was tall in spirit as well as in physical frame. He always spoke with sincerity and never caused affront. Even when annoyed, he calmed the situation with a joke. Successive generations of pupils remember his wry humour and, whether apocryphal or not, the stories about him are legion. Everyone knows his slow and deliberate first words of introduction to a new class: "There are two streets named after me in Blackburn - Ingham Street and Nottingham Street." Mystified young boys soon learned to appreciate his kind irreverence. Meeting a third former coming down Dukes Brow after lunch, Harry reputedly asked, "Where are you hurrying off to then?"

"Formby, Sir, with the juniors team". Nudging Ellis Metcalfe who was accompanying him and who will certainly vouch for the incident, Harry replied, "Say hello to George for me." A puzzled and bemused schoolboy went on his way. Bill Stansfield used to listen to the French Service on his way to school from Chorley. He would pick up Harry in Cherry Tree and with mock ignorance Harry would inquire in slow measured tones, "Is that French on the radio, Bill?" Brian Woodhead used to tell of Harry's chuckles and the occasion, when, after a fortnight's illness, Harry resumed the same story from the very point at which he had left off.

Harry Ingham was an exemplary teacher, he deliberately slow manner and loud reiteration of subject matter belied his own erudition, for he insisted pupils should learn, however long it took. And he was always fair to all, particularly in examination sessions. During 'O' level dictation tests in French located in the four main rooms of the Radcliffe Wing, candidates in the other rooms could hear Harry's measured enunciations as well as those from their own examiners. Everybody got a bonus! It was his professional correctness allied with a sense of fun which O.B.'s will remember with great affection. His

memory was amazing: he possessed total recall of school events during the 20's and 30's, a faculty which naturally aided his excellent talent for after-dinner speaking.

Aside from his teaching, Harry Ingham fulfilled his school motto in many other directions. His outstanding contributions were as Representative of the Incorporated Association of Assistant Masters (as it was then), a position he held for thirty years, performing important but unsung work on behalf of all members of staff. He was treasurer of the school's Dramatic Society for many years, a task which demanded much effort and tact behind the scenes throughout the school year. His hobbies were cricket and photography. He was mad about the former throughout his life. If he hadn't a bat in hand, he would use an umbrella in the staff room to drive a tennis ball straight to the hands of Fred Raby. I remember Mike Stevenson calling for a run in a staff match. Harry was run out but bore no grudge for a wrong decision. He used to tell of the incident among his countless cricketing anecdotes. The same enthusiasm motivated his interest in photography. It is amazing that the amount of apparatus Harry used didn't cause the car to stall on one of his photographic expeditions.

Harry Ingham's service to the school will be remembered with gratitude. A mixture of decency and sincerity, joyousness and fun, he was one of the old school who could offer criticism without causing offence because there was no rancour in him. Even in Carcassonne he is remembered as the polite and correct Englishman. Those who make the annual migration of the South of France will know what I mean. The school has lost a valued friend and to Florence his widow, Margaret his elder daughter and John and Elizabeth and their families, we in the Old Blackburnians' Association offer our deepest sympathies.

W. H. PROCTOR



Harry Ingham

JAMES McHUGH

(1919 - 23)

A graduate of Manchester University, BA (Com), James was a Cobden prizeman being the only student to obtain five firsts. During the war he served as a Flying Officer with the A.T.C. From 1950, until retirement in 1970, he was Head of College of Commerce and Vice-Principal of York Central College of Further Education.

In 1966 he was awarded the M.B.E. for his services to Education. He led a D.E.S. delegation to the U.S.S.R. and in 1970 was a member of a mission to Peru on technical education for the Foreign Office (O.D.A.)

Between 1972 and 1983 he was a member of Hong Kong University and Polytechnic grants committee and for nine years chairman of the York Housing Association for provision of student accommodation. A founder member of York Probud Club, he leaves a widow and two daughters.

RAYMOND WHITTAKER

(1943 - 48)

In a letter from his close friend and fellow Blackburnian Gerald Brooks (1942-49) we were informed of the sudden death, in February, at the age of 57 of Raymond Whittaker who had lived in Burton-on-Trent for the past 32 years. He worked for a while at English Electric in Preston before moving to Burton. He took early retirement some 21/2 years ago having reached a senior managerial position at British Coal's Research and Development establishment at Bretby in connection with mining engineering development.

Both he and Gerald maintained their connections with Blackburn. They both attended the 400th anniversary celebrations and have visited all the Midland clubs when the Rovers have played also making frequent visits to Ewood Park. In Gerald's own words - Ray was a fine gentleman who's company will be sadly missed.

DANIEL BRIGGS

Former Q.E.G.S. old boy Daniel Briggs, who worked as chief buyer for Moffatts Ltd for many years before joining Texaco in London, has died at his home in Guildford.

Mr Briggs, who was in his seventies, is survived by his wife and three sons.



Ken Forbes

W. K. FORBES

WILLIAM KENNETH FORBES (1916-1925) died on 4th May 1990 in the Blackburn Royal Infirmary aged 82. He was connected with both the Old Blackburnians AFC and the Association from the time he left school.

He started membership of the football club which he reformed in 1925 and was Chairman from 1929-48 when he was elected an honorary life member. He was also President from 1963 until he died and a Trustee. Ken will also be remembered for organising the Easter Tours undertaken by the football club and the annual Boxing Day match. Ken was also responsible for initiating the Old Blackburnians Golf competition which was first played in 1931.

Ken was instigator of the formation of the Lancashire Amateur

Football League Northern Section when the Old Blackburnians AFC became members in 1929/30 and he was the first vice-chairman of the section. He served as a League committee member for 21 years and was President in 1965 and was later made a life Vice President. Ken was also a member of Blackburn Subscription Bowling Green and was made an honorary life member in 1988.

Most of his working life was spent in the textile and allied industries until his retirement in 1980.

He leaves a married daughter Julia.

JOHN WHALLEY TICKLE

(aged 90)

of 44 Furze Hill Court, Furze Hill, Hove, Sussex, died in October 1990.

NOT SO MUCH A SCHOOL - MORE A FAMILY

A RECENT article in 'Magister' has prompted Keith Knott (1943-50) to dig into his memory of the three years he spent in Hartley House:-

"To contemporary sixth formers with sports centres, theatres, music rooms and palatial science laboratories which are now taken for granted, Hartley House would be a very poor thing.

To the Art Sixth in the immediate post war years at QEGS, however, it was probably the best thing that had happened to us.

It gave us space, light and the feeling of being just a little special - we even sat on chairs at tables. Our teachers (with one notable exception) seemed almost human in the large family house which was much more spacious and comfortable than the homes most of us came from!

From Hartley House, Leo Collier and Ronald Cruse invited us to their homes for readings and discussion and I shall never forget the additional educational benefit of those social evenings.

1949 was a magnificently hot summer and the lawn at Hartley House gave us the excuse to "study" outside. Molly and Ronald Cruse lived for a short time in the staff flat there and at least two of us fell in love with Molly! We also learned to baby-sit.

All in all a wonderful educational experience, thanks to H. H. with a little help from our teachers".

(Keith is Principal at the Richard Huish College, Taunton, Somerset).

VET WINS PRIZE AT CAMBRIDGE

STEPHEN BAINES - 1977-83 graduated B.A. Christ's College, Cambridge with an upper second in 1987, and in June of last year gained his B.Vet.M.S. at Christ's, and also his M.R.C.V.S. He was awarded, in June 1990 examinations, the only credit for the whole year for animal surgery, gaining the Sismey Prize for the best overall marks in Medicine and Surgery, top of his year within the Cambridge University Veterinary Medical School, and was also given a prize by Christ's. Stephen is currently working, from August 1990 to August 1991 on the staff of the Veterinary School at the University of North Carolina.

Martin's teaching soccer in US

MARTIN BAINES - 1980-87 has just gained a B.Sc., 2/1 in Psychology at the University of Nottingham and is currently, for the second season running, acting as a Councillor with 'Camp America' in New York State teaching soccer to young American boys. He has a post through the Mountbatten Trust for 1990/91 in America.

OUR HIGH
FLYERS
TAKE OFF
WITH THEIR
PILOT'S
WINGS

ANNA Eagles pictured right is a first officer, flying 757 aircraft for British Airways.

Anna, who was at school from 1983 - 85 studied geography, economics and English before going to Hull University to read Geography.

When she's asked condescendingly at parties by macho males: "What do you do?" - she enjoys seeing their jaws drop



when her reply is "I fly planes - what do you do?"

Anna has agreed to write about her flying experiences for the next Magister.

Right:

TONI GILLESPIE, Deputy Head Girl in 1987/88, on the day she passed out from 124 Initial Officer Training Course at RAF College, Cranwell, having won the Squadron Commander's Cup as the best cadet on the course, second only to the Sash of Honour for the best WRAF Officer.

Pilot Officer Gillespie is now undertaking an Air Traffic Controller's course at RAF Shawbury.



Brian Kembball-Cook writes ...

FORMER Headmaster, Mr. Brian H. Kembball-Cook and his wife Marion have sent best wishes to all old boys and to say their new address is: 12, Francis Close, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9EJ (Tel 0462 438862). They would love to hear from anyone who knew them.

ANDREW SCORES WITH DEGREE AND A TOP JOB

RUGBY player Andrew Stenton has graduated with an honours degree in food science and technology from London's South Bank Polytechnic

Andrew, 23, is now working as a production manager for United Biscuits in Rotherham, and lives in Sheffield. His parents, Mr and Mrs John Stenton, live in Todmorden Road, Burnley.

A former pupil of St. Stephen's Primary School and Queen Elizabeth's, Andrew, who has always enjoyed sciences, decided to take the four-year food science course because of the good career opportunities at the end of it.

While in Burnley, Andrew was a member of the 16th Burnley Scout Group, and received the Chief Scout Award. He played rugby for his school, Calder Vale, and Blackburn Colts, and is now a member of the Sheffield Tigers rugby team.

RACING AHEAD

D. STUART BANKS (1973-82) who took First Class Honours B.Sc., at the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Leeds in 1985 has recently joined Cosworth Engineering Ltd. in Northampton as a design/development engineer in their racing department. His work involves the design of their new Formula One Grand Prix engine.



Mark Scott & Justine Monk



Stuart Shorthouse & May Richardson

**STUART & MAY SHORTHOUSE**

Stuart Shorthouse (1966-73) married May Richardson at St. Leonards Church, Balderstone on October 28th, 1989. They are pictured left.

Stuart is the senior partner of Forbes and Partners, Solicitors, based in Blackburn. Miss Richardson, who was given away by her father John, who is also an Old Boy, is a nursery nurse. Stuart's parents, Craig and Margaret, live in South Africa. John Richardson and his wife Cherry live in Osbaldeston. A reception was held at the Gibbon Bridge, Chipping, and the couple spent their honeymoon in Jordan.

MARK & JUSTINE STOTT

A honeymoon in the Dominican Republic followed the wedding of trainee chartered accountant Mark Stott and bank clerk Miss Justine Monk at St. Peter's Church, Stonyhurst.

The couple, pictured far left, held a reception at the Shireburn Arms Hotel, Stonyhurst.

A. & T. DANIELS

A. K. Daniels 1973-79 married Miss Theresa Louisa Cockshaw of Ulverston, Cumbria on October 14th, 1989.

S. & R. DANIELS

S. P. Daniels (DR) 1975-82 married Dr. Rachel Jane Firth at Hexham Abbey on June 16th, 1990.

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DINNER OPEN TO GUESTS

AS ALL members will be aware it was decided that the 1990 Annual Dinner should be held in the Assembly Hall thereby giving facilities for a significant increase in numbers. This was decided following assurance from the school's new caterers that they could accommodate 300 plus in the Assembly Hall and could provide an excellent hot meal. On the strength of this it was agreed that each member could invite one guest.

Your dinner committee proceeded on this basis and the response was excellent until applications for tickets from 279 people including 45 guests and 67 young members (ie those having left school in the previous five years). The response from the young members was particularly pleasing.

To maintain tradition and nostalgia it was agreed that the bar would be in Big School. All in all it was felt the changed arrangements and the increased numbers augured well for a very enjoyable evening.

Disaster

Unfortunately and some might say disastrously your committee was advised, very late in the day, that the caterers did not feel they could provide an adequate service if the meal was to be in the Assembly Hall due to the difficulties in transporting food from the kitchens and keeping it hot. However they assured us that they would adequately seat up to 250 in Big School and would provide plenty of serving staff.

At such a late stage we had little option but to accept the situation and to make the best of it. Due to the numbers who had requested tickets, we had, regrettably to seat almost 50 people in the Garstang Room. It was decided that it would be more suitable for the young members to be together and therefore they were seated in the Garstang Room.

I know this did not meet with the approval of some of them and that the service in the Garstang Room left something to be desired. I can only apologise but quick decisions had to be made at very short notice and

Upset as plans change late in day

unfortunately someone was going to be disappointed.

The event is now past and gone and it would serve no useful purpose to pursue arguments further or to hold an in depth post mortem. Suffice it to say that it caused Andrew Norman and myself a lot of problems and worry.

I thanked Andrew on the night but I think it is right and proper that our appreciation should be recorded in this magazine. As will be appreciated it was his first year as organiser of the Dinner and he was truly thrown in at the deep end. I know he spent an awful lot of his personal time in organising the event. I sincerely hope he will not be put off for the future.

I know the response to the way the Dinner turned out was mixed with some enjoying it tremendously to others thinking it was a disaster. Rest assured all those involved will be doing their best to make sure this year's Dinner will be enjoyed by all.

Where it will be and what form it will take; whether guests can be accommodated, remain to be seen. Details will appear in the Newsletter in Autumn.

Finally my thanks to all who supported the Dinner and to our guests. In particular our guest speakers Conrad Rainbow and Arthur Sandford who had to "perform" in difficult circumstances.

DAVID FORBES



Queen Elizabeth's has two men at the top in the biggest soccer battle since the game was founded. The Football League and the FA are locked in a battle over amalgamating. Old Blackburnian Bill Fox is President of the League and wants to merge. Arthur Sandford is his Chief Executive. Arthur was also our chief guest at the 1990 dinner. A profile of the two men and inside story on the merger will appear in the next edition.

Picture: Courtesy of The Daily Express



Pictured at the dinner are, from the left, toastmaster and School Sergeant, W. S. Bamber; OBA committeeman and long-serving dinner organiser John Read and OBA secretary David Forbes - More Pictures on Page 9.

North-East Branch Newcastle Dinner 23rd February 1990

THE North-Easter branch annual dinner was once again held at the Royal Station Hotel, Newcastle-upon-Tyne and was its usual success.

Thirty Nine guests attended, many of them now familiar faces, however there were several new faces too, who of course were particularly welcome.

It was the last year that Julia Newton was to organize the evening, and she was presented with a plaque to mark her contribution to ensuring the continued survival of the North-East branch. It was decided that next years dinner was to take place in Durham under the watchful eye of Robert Rainford, and it is hoped that it will be successful as the Newcastle dinners have been, with as much support from local people and travellers from Blackburn.

The 1990 dinner was an extremely enjoyable evening, with many people having their annual reunion, it has now become an established event, and let's hope it continues to thrive.

Guests: Mr & Mrs K. V. Newton, Miss L. Warburton, Miss S. D. Newton, Miss A. Neylon, Mr G. Jardine, Miss J. L. Newton, Mr P. Cowburn, Mr S. Patefield, Miss C. Lewis, Mr & Mrs F. Raby, Mr & Mrs P. F. Johnston, Mr & Mrs K. Wightman, Mr & Mrs S. Monk, Mr & Mrs D. Woods, Dr & Mrs P. Mitchell, Mr & Mrs C. Bretherton, Miss S. Kundu & Guests, Mr R. Turner, Mr A. Turner, Mr R. Rainford, Miss J. Belshaw, Miss K. Braithwaite, Mr & Mrs. D. I. Forbes and Mr. & Mrs. F. Gillibrand.

BRANCH NEWS

Cheshire and South Lancashire Branch 11th May 1990

THE dinner was held in the Marlborough Suite of the Bowdon Hotel and was attended by 18 people. Unfortunately Harold Ramsbottom was unable to be present owing to ill health and the arrangements were made at short notice by Dennis Martin. After the meal the Headmaster gave a short resume entitled "A day in the life of a Headmaster" in which he was able to bring the company up to date with the current affairs at Q.E.G.S.

Those attending were: Mr & Mrs N. Barton, Mr & Mrs T. S. Hindle, Mr & Mrs P. F. Johnston, Mr & Mrs E. J. Kay, Mr & Mrs H. S. Liversedge, Mr & Mrs D. M. Martin, Mr & Mrs F. Raby, Mr & Mrs J. R. Redman, Mr & Mrs M Small.

Cambridge Branch Annual Dinner 25th November 1989

THIS year's Dinner was held in the shadow of Milton's Mulberry Bush at Christ's College. We dined in the Old Combination Room and were honoured with the company of the Master, Sir Hans Kemberg, who read the Grace. After an excellent meal Susan gave a vote of thanks and introduced the Headmaster, who gave his usual brief (!) resume of the year

at Queen Elizabeth's. This was followed by an impromptu and moving speech by Myra Hardcastle, who talked of her appreciation of the Old Blackburnians.

The evening was well attended although many undergraduates stayed away due to the increasing costs associated with hosting a Dinner in a Cambridge College.

Those present were:- Sir Hans Kemberg, Mr & Mrs P. F. Johnston,

Mr & Mrs J. S. Singleton, Mr & Mrs D. I. Forbes, Mr & Mrs F. Gillibrand, Mr & Mrs F. Raby, Mrs Hardcastle, Mr. C.M.R. Johnson, Mr David Battersby & Alison Battersby, Michael Eddleston & Amanda Cunliffe, Mr S. R. Beardman & Miss D. J. Verrall, Mr Ian Sherlock, Miss Elizabeth Whalley, Alexandra Dugdale, Vanessa Feeley, Russell Taylor, Jeremy Smith, Isobel Bush, Lee Medlock, Jon Thornber, David Chatterjee, Sarah Gold.

Next year's Dinner will be held in Downing College; please contact Dominic McCormick.

The Secretaries: Rebecca Dearden, Susan Davies.



Dr. Christopher Adamson-Lund presents the Head Master with the 1990 Year Book, a gift to the School Librarian from the Hong Kong Branch of the Association.

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Tel: 0254 887291

LONDON: I. E. Tomlinson,
Flat 2,
10 Byne Road,
SYDENHAM,
Kent.
SE26 5JE
Tel: 081-778-3453

**CHESHIRE AND
SOUTH LANCASHIRE:**
Dr. D. M. Martin,
27 Broad Hey,
STOCKPORT,
Cheshire.
Tel: 061-430 4969

CAMBRIDGE: D. McCormick,
Downing College,
CAMBRIDGE.

OXFORD: A. J. Forbes,
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NR. DONCASTER
DN6 8LJ
Tel: 0302 722973

Rebecca J. M. Whalley (1985-87) was elected first Lady President of Liverpool University Medical Students Society. (Society is over 120 years old).

G. W. Gillibrand - Stephenson (1967-77) graduated from the Polytechnic of North London with a BSc(Hons) class 2, Division 2 in Polymer Science and Technology.

BANK CHIEF TO RETIRE

Mr. John Waddington has retired from the Yorkshire Bank after 45 years. He began his career at the Blackburn branch and worked at several other branches before moving to Leicester.

He returned to the Nelson branch in 1968, and was later manager in Oldham.

A LONG LINK OF SERVICE TO THE SCHOOL

WHILE Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School can trace its history back over four hundred years, the Old Blackburnians' Association can at least boast a heritage spanning the whole of this century . . .

It was at a meeting held at the School on August 2, 1905, that Mr. Henry Lewis proposed the formation of an Old Boys' Society.

A committee was formed, and there followed numerous meetings, held not at School, but at the Old Bull Hotel; the Association enjoyed a healthy bank balance, and efforts were being made to contact every traceable old boy of the school. However, activity subsided towards the end of 1908; it would not again be resumed until 1914, when Old Boys met to make arrangements for drill practice, which, it was hoped, would render them fit for war service. The Association again lapsed temporarily from 1915 until the end of the war.

Although some meetings took place just after the end of the war, by the end of 1919, Association activity had ceased yet again, and was not revived until May 1925, when the Association's first Annual General Meeting took place with eighty-three Old Boys in attendance. It was at this point that the Old Blackburnians Association was properly established, and a society was founded which would flourish over the next sixty-five years.

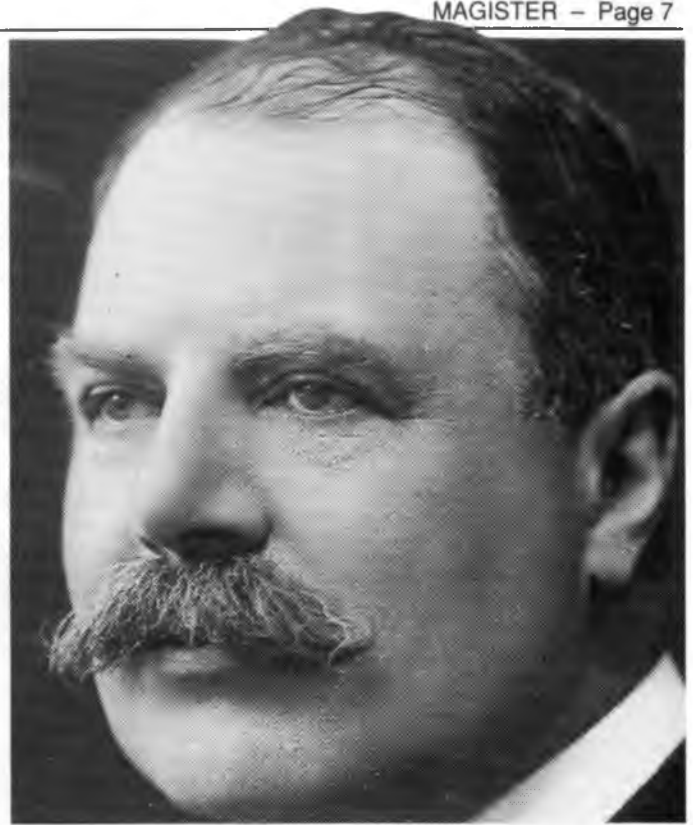
It was in the immediate post-war decade that the Association undertook a task which proved to be its first, and one of its most enduring achievements: the building of a memorial to those Old Boys who had fallen in the Great War. Early suggestions as to the form of this memorial included proposals for "the



Mr. Arthur Holden

erection of a pavilion on the recently acquired playing fields", and the building of a flag tower on Top Quad. Eventually, however, after much deliberation and fund-raising efforts a proposal was fixed upon whereby Big School would be panelled and a memorial inscription set up.

The memorial was unveiled by Lord Derby on November 29, 1930; and for the sixty years since that date, Big School has stood as a tribute to the vision and endeavour of these early O.B.A. Committee members and to the close bonds between the Association and the School. In 1948, tablets showing the names of old boys who fell in the Second World War were added to the memorial. Looking back at the activities of the O.B.A. during the early 1930s, we have the Association to thank also for the



Lord Derby, above, unveiled the war memorial on November 29th, 1930



Andrew James Forbes (1979-89) is reading History at Balliol, Oxford. He wrote a history of Hartley House specially for Magister's last issue and now we are pleased to print his OBA history. Andrew is the son of OBA secretary David Forbes.



Mr. J. W. Marsden

portrait of J. W. Marsden which hangs in the School as a tribute to his work as Chairman of Governors during the inter-war years.

By early 1934, O.B.A. membership stood at the impressive figure of 441, including 73 life members. By this time, in addition to an annual dinner, a dance, and the A.G.M. (usually followed by a 'smoking concert'), annual cricket matches, as well as tennis and golf competitions, were being organised. In addition, a successful dramatic society was in existence. All this activity took place under the chairmanship of Henry Whittaker, who held office from October 1934 until November 1950 - when he was appointed Chairman of Governors of the School - and who successfully carried on the good work done by his predecessors in the chair

of the O.B.A. Committee - J. K. Hoyle, A. Holden, J. W. Marsden and W. Hare.

At this point, world war once again touches the history of the Association. No dinner was held in 1939; and members of the Association on active service were relieved from payment of their subscriptions. On a practical level, the Association tried its best to assist those Old Boys of the school who were involved in the war. One particular example of such assistance appears in the pages of the Committee's Minute Book, which records that, following a request from relatives, a parcel of books was despatched to one Pilot Officer Rainford, who at that time (November 1941) was being held as a prisoner of war by the Italians. Naturally, the social activities of the Association were suspended for the duration, with no dinners or dances being held, and business being conducted by an Emergency Committee of just four people.

In the years between the two World Wars, the establishment and growth of the O.B.A. was accompanied by that of the Old Blackburnians A.F.C. the Football Club, founded in 1919, has naturally always enjoyed a close relationship with the Association. There are numerous records of the Association giving financial assistance to the Football club; for example, in 1937, a subscription fund was opened in order to purchase land which might offer the club adequate playing facilities. These plans did not come to fruition until after World War Two - the War Memorial Ground (as it came to be known) was purchased by the Association and leased to the Football Club at a nominal rent of £5-0-0 per annum. Many years of close co-operation and mutual assistance

OBA's 61st Annual Meeting

THE 61st Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at School on Wednesday the 22nd November 1989. Mr. David Forbes took the Chair and twenty-two members attended with five apologies. The Minutes of the 1988 Annual General Meeting were read and approved and the Chairman presented his report. He began by thanking the Headmaster

and the School for the facilities made available to the Association for its meetings and other activities and also the assistance given to the Association by the School's clerical staff and in particular Mrs. Judy Scott. He mentioned that the increased costs and expenses of running the Association and, in particular, of Magister and postage would mean

that an increase in subscriptions would very soon have to be considered by the Association.

He also thanked the other officers and committee members for their efforts on behalf of the Association and, in particular, Fred Gillibrand, John Read and John Duckworth for their work as Treasurer, Dinner Organiser and Editor of Magister respectively.

Fred Gillibrand presented the accounts for the year ended 31st July 1989 and they were adopted.

John Read reminded the meeting of the forthcoming Dinner and the reasons why it was to be held on a Friday which although regrettable was unavoidable due to problems with the caterers. Much to the meetings regret John announced that due to other personal commitments he would have to give up the Dinner organisation. The meeting reluctantly accepted this decision and the Chairman thanked John for his considerable efforts in organising the Dinner for the last ten years having taken over the job from the late Harry King but having maintained Harry's standard of a high quality and efficiently run annual event.

The Chairman then mentioned Magister and apologised on behalf of the Editor and the sub-committee for the late publication. This was due to several unforeseen problems which had arisen which in turn had, unfortunately added to the expense. Nevertheless he felt sure that members would agree that another excellent edition had been published and he thanked John Duckworth, the sub-committee and the printer, Garry Readett for their hard work.

Eric Kay gave details of the various branch activities and the Chairman reported that he had managed to attend all of these functions with the exception of the North East Dinner, an omission which he hoped to remedy the following year. The Headmaster had also attended all the functions and various other members of the Association and staff had attended various functions. He thanked them all for their support.

The meeting then moved on to the election of officers and committee. Sir Kenneth Durham was re-elected as President, David Forbes as Chairman, John Duckworth as Vice-Chairman, David Forbes as Secretary, Fred Gillibrand as Treasurer and Messrs. W. Hare and R. B. Holden as Auditors. Those elected to the Committee were Barry Brown, Harold Burrows, Eric Fairhurst, Ken Forbes, Tom Hindle, Eric Kay, Carl Marsden, Keith Newton, Peter Pearson, Bill Procter, John Read, Eric Sagar, Roger Smethurst, Roger Smith, Ray Smith, Bill Walsh, Jim Warner and Keith Wightman. The Headmaster and Philip Sumner were members of the committee ex-officio and Ron Barham, Frank Barnes, Andrew Norman, Stephen Singleton and Philip Thompson were Co-opted onto the committee.

Following the Chairman's comments regarding subscriptions there then followed some lengthy discussion on this topic but it was eventually resolved that the subscriptions should remain the same, £30.00 for life membership and £2.00 annual membership.

The meeting closed at 10.05 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION – BALANCE SHEET 31st JULY, 1989

	1989 £	1988 £
NET ASSETS		
Lammack Ground at cost less sales	1,207.77	1,208
INVESTMENTS AT COST		
£1,250 4% Consols (Market Value £542)	1,160.60	1,161
£650 8.25% Barclays Bank plc Unsecured Loan 1986/93 (Market Value £575)	582.59	582
£2,421.58 8.25% Treasury Stock 1987/90 (Market Value £2,355)	2,230.62	2,230
£2,879.07 6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/97 (Market Value £2,397)	2,230.62	2,231
	6,204.43	6,204
LOAN TO QEGS	9,000.00	7,000
Debtors		
Ground rent	5.00	—
Cash		
Trustee Savings Bank	359.03	346
Lloyds Bank plc	2,568.59	1,014
National & Provincial Building Society	363.28	9,124
National Savings Bank	10,000.00	—
	13,290.90	10,484
	29,708.10	24,896
CREDITORS		
Inland Revenue	3.34	6
	£29,704.76	£24,890
REPRESENTED BY:		
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND	1,207.77	1,208
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND		
Balance at 1st August 1988	27,062.57	21,342
Plus New Members	5,670.00	5,730
	32,732.57	27,072
Less: Deletions	69.45	9
	32,663.12	27,063
ACCUMULATED FUND		
Balance at 1st August 1988	(3,380.77)	1,621
Deficit for the year	(785.36)	(2)
	(4,166.13)	1,619
Donations to School for new building	—	(5,000)
	(4,166.18)	(3,381)
	£29,704.76	£24,890

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION – INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st JULY 1989

INCOME		
Subscriptions	823.36	839
Released from Life Membership Fund	69.45	9
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS		
4% Consols	50.00	50
8.25% Barclays Bank – Loan	53.62	54
6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98	194.32	194
8.25% Treasury Stock 1987/90	199.78	200
	497.72	498
Bank Interest	13.34	18
Building Society Interest	318.30	400
Gross Investment Income	829.36	916
Less: Corporation Tax	207.34	241
	622.02	675
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND RENT	5.00	5
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS ON ANNUAL DINNER	(66.42)	97
	1,453.41	1,625
EXPENDITURE		
General Expenses	756.37	201
Postages	119.69	102
Magister	1,087.15	1,003
Corporation Tax (overprovision in previous year)	(6.54)	(13)
Subscription to ISIS Association	150.00	150
Deficit on Easter Disco	110.00	7
Branch Expenses	22.10	177
	2,238.77	1,627
DEFICIT TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUND	£(785.36)	£(2)



Some of the diners who were in the Garstang Room

ANNUAL DINNER DECEMBER 1990



The O.B.A. President, Sir Kenneth Durham, left, with chief guest Arthur Sandford, Bill Fox and the Headmaster, pictured with a bevy of recent O.B.A. members.



Q.E.G.S. master and recently elected vice chairman Barry Brown with his daughter Rachel and Albert Eastham

Twenty three at Bowden dinner

A MEETING of the Cheshire and South Lancashire Branch was held in the Marlborough Suite of the Bowden Hotel, Cheshire, on Friday, May 10th, 1991.

Those present from Blackburn were: Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. F. Gillibrand, Mr. and Mrs. F. Raby.

Local members present were: Mr. and Mrs. B. Batey, Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Liversedge, Mr. and Mrs. J. Redman, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Newton, Mr. and Mrs. N. Barton, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Walton, Mr. M. Small, Mr. C. S. Maudsley, Mr.

D. J. Ibbotson.

Apologies were received from: Dr. N. P. Mallick, Dr. S. Hindle, Dr. J. F. Dark, Mr. K. V. Newton, Mr. A. Churchill, Mr. D. I. Forbes, Mr. J. F. Sandles, Mr. G. Townsend.

All present enjoyed a nice meal and convivial conversation. The Headmaster informed everyone of the progress of the School. Denis Martin was thanked for his organisational achievement and then informed us all that the corresponding date – Friday, May 8th, 1992, had been provisionally booked.

Our thanks to a great team!

THE Editor and the committee of Magister wish to apologise for the late production of the magazine.

The AGM decided that as a combination of events had pushed the publication date back, it would be advantageous to experiment with a Spring edition which would mean more reports being contemporaneous.

Unfortunately, John Duckworth, our Editor, changed jobs and, while it means he has returned from London to Manchester and consequent earlier access, it has meant that his new position (which started in London) has taken a great deal of his time.

Our hard-working team now includes David Holmes, of Cartmel Road, St. Annes, and we hope to enlist more help in the future. The production of Magister is a time-consuming job done by dedicated people. Many contribute to the magazine's production and to all those who help – including each contributor, we thank you all and look forward to your continued support.

Would all who send in newspaper cuttings please include the date and name of the paper.

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SHAKEN BUT NOT STIRRED DOWN IN JUNGLE

THE VICTORIA FALLS,
ZIMBABWE, DARKEST AFRICA

ON MY arrival in Cape Town I was offered the chance of a marvellous safari to the Zambezi River, but this required cash, and as a result I got a job as a cocktail barman for three weeks, at a great restaurant in Cape Town.

This was a marvellous experience, and I got to meet an enormous number of people from all over the world, so collecting a real variety of opinions and ideas. My bar overlooked the beach and palm trees so all in all I was very happy!

I was also able to see a great deal of Cape Town - there is lots more going on than in Bloemfontein. Cape Town is a city of many moods, being very cultured with opera, theatre and art of a very high standard, yet within ten kilometres you can be in a beautiful and unspoilt fishing village. The city itself is fascinating and has developed in rather constrained surroundings, trapped between the sea and three mountains:- Devil's Peak, Table Mountain and Lion's Head.

Having climbed up Lion's Head on one rather misty day I walked on down into the city. Within one kilometre I experienced how fast Cape Town can change and the different atmospheres it offers. I walked down through the Malay quarter, along the narrow streets of this predominantly Muslim area at about 5 p.m., to the sound of singing of prayers from the mosque. I could have been anywhere in the Middle East. Across one main road and I was on a typical English street complete with a very English camping shop!! Down another alleyway and I was in Greenmarket Square with very Germanic and Austrian Shops and hotels around me. It reminded me very much of Colmar in Alsace. One street more and I was in amongst the Cape Town "yuppies", in a shopping arcade not unlike those found in sophisticated areas of New York or Paris.

To experience all of this within one kilometre was quite mind-blowing, but a short walk like this can really sum Cape Town up.

Within a few miles of the city one can find marvellous beaches which draw surfers from as far afield as California. The coastline is very exciting and dramatic.

I loved the mountains, especially Table Mountain which offers incredible views over the city, harbour and local beaches. On the day I climbed up I was lucky enough to get the one sunny day in a week of rain - we decided not to use the Cable Car!

While I was in the Cape I stayed with friends in a small fishing village about Hout Bay, about 16km from the city. Getting to my beachfront bar was not really a problem as hitch-hiking is

ROLANDSINKER (1982-89) is taking a year out between Queen Elizabeth's and Durham University.

Supported by contributions from the School Governors and The Elizabethan Association, he has spent four months working in the Diocese of Bloemfontein, with which the Diocese of Blackburn has very strong links, under the patronage of the Bishop and the Dean, and is now travelling throughout Africa.

He writes amusingly of his recent adventures.



still very easy and safe - as you can imagine, I met some pretty amazing people as I commuted to and from work!

Just inland are the marvellous South African winelands which produce some very fine and cheap wines - it was my job to try them out, so I know!

Anyway, after four fabulous weeks there, during which I rather wished I could have worked there rather than in Bloemfontein, I came to the conclusion that the English speaking people of South Africa are far more liberal, open-minded and optimistic than the die-hard Afrikaners of the free State. Most South Africans are very much "pro Maggie" and seem quite worried at what is happening "overseas", as they call home.

Cape Town is very cosmopolitan, with travellers from all over the world ending up there - mostly in my bar.

I met up with some other English guys as we were all on our "Gap Years", and one of them decided to join the safari, which starts from the Victoria Falls.

Rather than fly from Cape Town to the Victoria Falls we decided to hitch-hike the 2651km across South Africa and Zimbabwe and leave a week early.

We left on a Monday morning and got various lifts to Bulawayo in Zimbabwe, including two army lorries, a pickup truck, and on one rather pleasant occasion, a Mercedes 300E!

It was great fun and we were able

to stay with friends of mine in Johannesburg and Bulawayo; we also spent one evening in a Post Office camp: basically, a shed!

Our lifts were very good on the whole, except for breaking down at 8 p.m. in the middle of the Zimbabwean bush, in the dark, on a dirt road about 120km from Bulawayo. The car took four hours to fix, and on arrival in Bulawayo at 1.30 a.m. Rob and I had to climb the security fence and tame the guard dogs to get to our beds!

We made the 2200km journey in three days and went the rest of the way on an overnight steam train - it took twelve hours to go 450km - oh yes, for all you train spotters out there, it was a Beyer Ganat steam locomotive!

We arrived at the falls on Friday and had three days there when we saw them both from the Zambia and Zimbabwean side.

The falls really are impressive, being 1700m long and 108m high: 120 million gallons per minute of Zambezi water flow over into a deep chasm. Livingstone had a good point:-

"Scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight."

There is a considerable amount of black market dealing in currency as locals offer "best rate in town" exchanges in an attempt to gain foreign cash. However, there are police agents around and it is best to try and avoid a spell in a Zimbabwean prison!

What are much more fun are the curio sellers, both on the streets and in stalls. If you think the Moroccans and Arabs are good, you should see these guys - you are just so popular: "My friend, my friend, come, let's talk business for the hippo, finest hand carved ebony."

I have to admit that I was caught, and I returned across the border with some lovely wooden carvings, but without three t-shirts, a pair of running shorts and my boxer shorts. To get around we hired bicycles for £1.25. One day on mine made me feel like Mr. Beed out of E. M. Forster's "A Room with a View".

My safari starts tomorrow as I drive towards Kariba by Land Rover, across Northern Zimbabwe and through one of Southern Africa's last truly wild game reserves, Chizarira and Matusadone. From Kariba I travel 250km down the Zambezi, as far as Kanyemba on the Mozambique border. This will take me to May 23rd, and then I have a week more in Zimbabwe before flying to Milawi for June. Twelve days in a canoe should kill me!

Sadly my job on the game reserve in Botswana fell through, but I have been offered another job as a driver helper and barman at a game lodge on the side of Kniger, reckoned to be one of the best run game reserves in Africa.

After that I hope to return to Cape Town and also go to Namibia for a while, now that it is safely independent.

I have to say that I have been very impressed with Zimbabwe, both its people and the way in which it is being run. I found Lesotho quite depressing, it was so run-down and on the way out. It has made me fairly critical of people demanding an entirely black-run South Africa.

However, Zimbabwe has given me new hope; there are still problems in the fields of government corruption and some services but on the whole things seem very well run. It is also safe, unlike Mozambique, where tourists "disappear" on a regular basis.

Anyway, I hope all goes well as exams start at home. I will write again after my safari.

Harry's memory lives on in prize

MRS. Florence Ingham and John, Margaret and Elizabeth have very kindly donated the sum of £500 to be used to provide the Harry Ingham modern Languages Memorial Prizes, in perpetuity, to be awarded on Speech Day for a pupil adjudged to be most proficient, in the first instance in Spanish performance in public examination work, but additionally for French.

This prize, first to be awarded in December 1990, commemorates the service of the late Harry Ingham who was a pupil at Queen Elizabeth's from 1929 to

1937 before graduating in Modern Languages at Wadham College, Oxford. After war service in the Intelligence Corps and two years at Taunton's School, Southampton, he returned to his old school, which he served for twenty-nine years both with distinction and perseverance, despite increasing ill health towards the end. He retired from the Common Room in August 1977 and died peacefully at home in April 1990.

NEW BISHOP IS GUEST SPEAKER AT '89 DINNER



The Bishop of Blackburn, the Rt. Rev. Alan Chesters

THE 1989 Annual Dinner was held on 15th December in Big School. For the first time since 1961 the Dinner was held on a Friday. This change from the normal Saturday was caused by difficulties in locating a caterer willing to accept the task on the particular Saturday. The anxiety expressed about the effect the change would have on the number of applications proved unwarranted and a slightly larger number of people applied for tickets compared with 1988. In the event 145 people sat down to the meal. Of these 21 were young members of the Association, 114 were members of the Association, 3 were non-member governors of the school, 4 were guests of the Association, 1 was a special guest of the Association and 2 were helpers. There were 16 ladies present. The prevalent flu virus seemed to have little effect as there were only three unexpected absentees (not included in the figures).

The chief guest was the Right Reverend A. D. Chesters, the new Lord Bishop of Blackburn. Other guests of the Association in attendance were the Deputy Mayor of Blackburn Councillor Gordon P. Toole, current head boy Marcus J. Hill, current head girl Wendy A. Roberts and special guest Derick Lund. Unfortunately the President of the Association, Sir Kenneth Durham was not well enough to be present.

No complaints have been received concerning the meal. Once again the pheasant main course and the home made celery soup were very well received. The service seemed to be quite smart and efficient and the

Day switched over problems with catering

By JOHN S. READ

helpings provided were generous.

The meal was started one hour later than normal but, despite the lateness of the hour, the after dinner speeches held the company's attention remarkably well. The toast to the school was proposed by Brian A. Hardcastle, former member of staff and now Deputy Headmaster at Forest School in London. His anecdotes about the mud bath at Lammack were expected and well received.

Despite having one day less to prepare for the event, Mr. Stanley Bamber and his staff worked wonders in preparing both Big School and the ante-room for the dinner. The bar arrangements seem to have settled into a very convenient pattern.

The accounts show a very small surplus of £3.45 on a turnover of £2013.

Last but not least I must once again put on record the thanks of the Association to the Head Master and Governors of the school for their generous help in supporting the dinner. The event would be quite different in character, if it were to be held away from Big School.



Chairman of the Governors, Mr. John S. Singleton, who was presented, by the Headmaster, with a piece of the new swimming pool wall which was then under construction in the top quad.

DINNER JOTTINGS



The Headmaster

DESPITE fears to the contrary because of 'flu in a particularly virulent form, our numbers were only two or three less than a normal Saturday night, and, as ever, the level of cuisine was equally high. Over two and a half tables were filled with young people under 25, many from my headmastership, and it was a delight to see an ever increasing number of young ladies whose company undoubtedly enlivens the evening. Nor were the quantities of amber nectar restricted in any way!

The Head Master apologised for his soliciting letters, claiming he could hardly look an Old Blackburn in the face without 'Whacking the bushes' (a vile Americanism for relieving us of whatever little cash her Majesty's Inspector of Taxes leaves us), but he spoke movingly and sensibly about the increased facilities, particularly applauding the Governors' decision to provide both a sports hall and a swimming pool, so enabling a whole year group of pupils to be undertaking sport under a solid roof rather than the lowering skies of Lammack.

From the Top Table

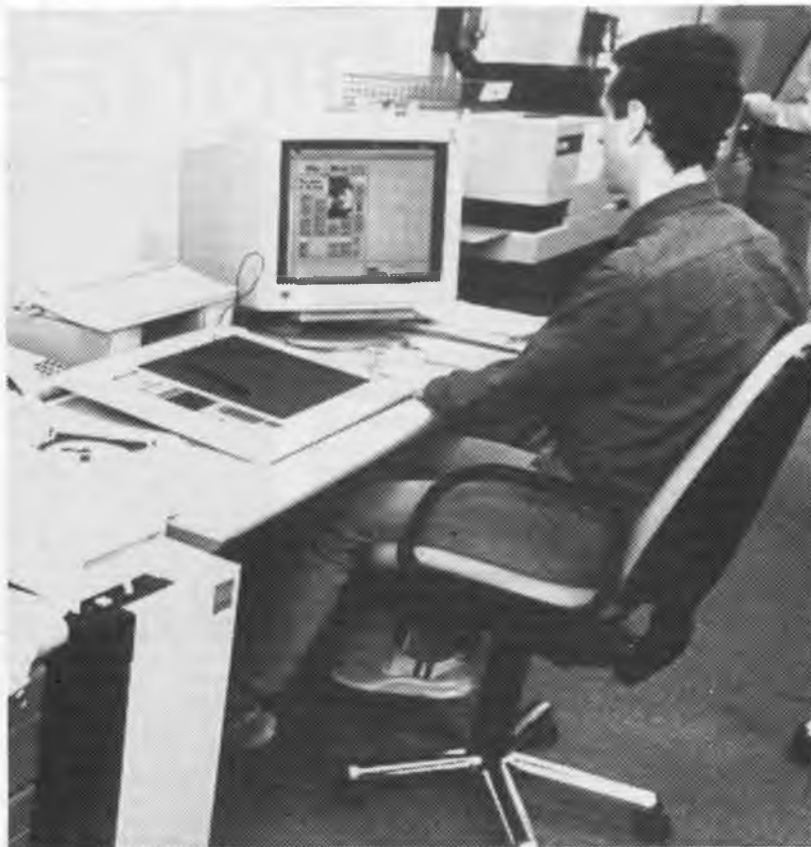
Carried away with Christmas munificence, he then presented Hyman Abel with his original application papers to the school, dated 1934, to Mr Abel's delight, who responded by presenting the Head Master with a set of worry beads, hot from Jerusalem. The Head Master then made a move as if to present a row of silver cups for sports behind his head, and ultimately presented a monumental piece of swimming pool masonry to the Chairman of Governors, who subsequently left it on the table!

With witty comments about Brian Hardcastle's speech, the Head Master then - more circumspectly - welcomed the new Bishop of Blackburn, the Rt. Revd. Alan Chesters, who, in turn, claimed to be nothing more than the lowest of the low, which is a fee-paying parent of a boy in the first year. The Bishop seemed singularly unimpressed when the Head Master described him as his heavenly boss,

with Mr. John Singleton as his earthly boss, but our distinguished episcopal visitor enjoyed the joke that both of them were constantly chiding him for not being in the right place at the right time.

After talking about the sports hall, swimming pool and our new buildings, he then moved on to talk about the very well qualified new members of staff, commencing with warm congratulations to Mr. John Knowles, Vice Master of the School, who that day had been promoted to be Head Master of King Edward's VI Five Ways School, Birmingham, and finishing with Mr. Ian Gordon, now in his second full year as Master i/c Junior School and a very worthy successor to Mr. Derek Holt. The Head Master also referred to just how difficult it is becoming to obtain staff, and a commercial clearly was thrown out to those members of the Governing Body

Continued on page 20



Electronic make up on the computer



The open-plan editorial room

HOW TO LAUNCH A SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

LAUNCHING a national newspaper isn't quite the daunting proposition it once was. Just find a number of friendly merchant bankers willing to put up the cash; set up a management team; choose a first-class editor; install the latest technology; contract out the printing and BINGO! you're in business. Or are you?

If launching a national newspaper were that easy why haven't more entrepreneurs thrown their hats in the ring?

Perhaps I should re-phrase the opening and say that launching a SUCCESSFUL national newspaper is one of the most daunting challenges.

I know, I've been through it, from launch to near disaster, to slow climb from the coffin, to publishing success, to commercial success, to number one in the Sunday middle market.

It is now the best part of nine years since The Mail on Sunday first saw the light of day. Associated Newspapers put their minds to the task when the Chairman, Viscount Rothermere, made it plain that he wanted a Sunday paper to complement the Daily Mail after the closure of the London Evening News.

I had worked on the Evening News as Deputy Managing Editor and helping to wind it up wasn't an enjoyable task. Much more exciting was being involved in the launch of The Mail on Sunday 12 months later.

Sadly, the first issues fell far short of what was required. There was no punch in the paper: the design was dull and unimaginative; the printing was poor and the paper failed completely to identify and target the market at which it was aiming.

Within 12 weeks the first Editor, Bernard Shrimmsley, had gone. A swathe was cut through the rest of the staff as those not up to the job were weeded out and after Sir David English, Editor of the Daily Mail and his team had made the initial changes, the present Editor, Stewart Steven, took over in October 1982 and the long haul began.

The paper was re-launched that October month, and with it came YOU magazine, a full colour supplement which rapidly carved an identity for itself and became number one choice for the advertising industry.

When the paper was at its lowest ebb, in July 1982, the sale was below 700,000. Following the re-launch it went close to 1,200,000. By 1986 the figure was up to 1,650,000. By 1988, 1,800,000 and today 1,900,000 and still rising.

But I am racing ahead of myself. How have we managed in eight



GEORGE WOODHOUSE has been Executive Editor of The Mail on Sunday for the past four years and prior to that was Managing Editor. He began his career in journalism at The Blackburn Times in 1952 and has also worked for the Lancashire Evening Post, Preston, The Lancashire Evening Telegraph, the Newcastle Evening Chronicle (where he was Deputy Editor) and the London Evening News. In addition he helped to launch the Evening Mail for Slough and Hounslow, a paper which regrettably died in the early Eighties.

short years to so dominate the middle market that the Sunday Express, once the monolith of Fleet Street, now trails by some 200,000?

We have done it by identifying the readers we believed wanted a bright interesting newspaper, not afraid to tackle major issues, not interested in trivia, prepared to give writers their head and run articles of 2,000 words or more - something unheard of in tabloid journalism - and prepared to investigate and campaign on behalf of the public for the things we believe important in today's society.

Electronic

We have hired the very best columnists in people such as John Junor, Julie Burchill and Patrick Collins and we have built up a team in all departments, editorial, advertising and circulation capable of facing the challenges of all the new entrants.

When Today was launched in the mid-Eighties it published seven days a week. Within two years the Sunday

edition had been dropped. Not long afterwards came News on Sunday, a left wing publication which disappeared almost as soon as it had been launched.

Just over 12 months ago came The Correspondent - later relaunched as a tabloid but still finding the going tremendously difficult - and then came The Independent on Sunday, launched on the back of the daily Independent - an outstanding success - but finding the competition on Sunday a good deal more robust.

Perhaps one of the more interesting aspects of national newspapers today is the way they have modernised. In something less than 10 years they have gone from the Caxton era of metal type and union domination to the electronic Eighties where the computer now reigns and individual contracts are the norm.

At its launch, The Mail on Sunday installed a computer system supplied by ATEX, of Boston, in the United States, which was operated by compositors keying in the words created by the journalists. The paper was 64 pages and there were just two editions. In order to send pages to Manchester it was necessary to create pattern plates of the edition pages on a Saturday night, take them by helicopter to Luton Airport and then fly them in a light aircraft to Ringway.

It was impossible to get a late

Continued on next page



The atrium of the Mail building in the heart of London in downtown Kensington



The Composing Room

The Mail on Sunday established on all-time circulation record in January with average sales of 2,053,000 plus. The six month average to April this year as 1,903,000 - ANOTHER RECORD.

Roy Marlor

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HOW TO LAUNCH A SUCCESSFUL NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

Continued from previous page

It was impossible to get a late breaking story into the Manchester editions and I vividly remember the Bradford fire which killed more than 50 people and our inability to cover the event properly for readers in Yorkshire.

Not so today. In the mid-Eighties Associated Newspapers invested in electronic facsimile transmission which meant that all pages could be transmitted to Manchester in a matter of minutes making The Mail on Sunday immediately competitive with all its rivals.

In 1988 the company, along with the other Fleet Street houses, began the task of introducing single keystroking. In other words, negotiations were opened with the print unions to dispense with many of the comps. At the same time a new computer system manufactured by SI of Sacramento, California, was installed to produce The Mail on Sunday, the Daily Mail and the Evening Standard. That system is the biggest single installation anywhere in the world and drives more than 600 visual display terminals for all three papers.

By this time The Mail on Sunday was producing some eight editions and, as the opportunities were grasped, so we set out to give a better paper to people living in every area. At the present time there are 12 editions broken down as follows - Ulster and Eire; Scotland; the West Country; South Wales; West Midlands; East Midlands; Tyne Tees; Yorkshire; the North West; the South Coast; East Anglia and London and the Home Counties.

Colour

What else has changed in the past three years?

Well, pictures once produced by dry etching, etc., are now all handled electronically. Indeed, The Mail on Sunday journalists took on board the production of all artwork and pictures electronically using Apple Macintosh computers in 1989. The same year the company was relocated with Editorial, Advertising, Circulation, Management, etc., going west to Kensington and the printing end moving into purpose-built premises at Surrey Quays. Eighty-page papers arrived and colour.

Investment in those moves has been well over £250 million with the very latest presses using water-based ink which does not come off on your hands. (Regrettably this facility is not yet available for papers printed in Manchester and distributed in the North).

At Surrey Quays, the reels arrive on specially-constructed lorries. Unloading and storage is totally



ANOTHER QEGS old boy who is a senior member of staff on The Mail on Sunday is **ROGER BRYAN**, above, Assistant Editor (Production) who was at school in the early sixties.

automated with a computer knowing where every single reel is stored. When reels are required for the presses, the computer issues signals and the reels are transferred by automated guided vehicles (robots) to the Press Hall where they are loaded onto the reel stands. That is the first time anyone actually touches a reel following its arrival.

In the despatch area, all copies are automatically stacked, counted and wrapped before being delivered straight into the back of the vehicle taking the paper off to the relevant area.

All publishers are now looking further ahead in electronic terms. The Mail on Sunday is now printing 96-page papers, 50 of which are produced electronically. In other words, no-one sees any words or pictures until a complete page containing editorial, adverts and pictures comes out of the image setting machine.

Colour will become easier to handle and newspapers will compete more intensively to give the best possible deal to advertisers. The time will also come, possibly within two years, when all pages will be produced and held on the computers before being sent direct to plate at the printing sites with only proofs being produced at head office.

It's a far cry from the day I first joined the Blackburn Times as a raw 16-year-old straight from QEGS and was asked to sweep the office because the cleaner was ill. Times do change and for the better.

The Mail on Sunday now has four printing sites - a new one has been opened at Stoke-on-Trent

A brickie in the Bush . . .

ALISON LYTHGOE tells about her experiences with Operation Raleigh in Zimbabwe

I FIRST heard about Operation Raleigh while in my final year at university. The aims of the organisation are to combine the thrill of adventure with serious scientific research and community-aided projects.

It was these aspects that appealed to me, as well as the opportunity to visit another country. I therefore applied and after a rigorous selection weekend, I found myself with the offer of a place on the expedition to Zimbabwe in October 1989. This was subject to my raising £2,200 which I managed through sponsorship and doing a bike ride.

Operation Raleigh had eleven projects being carried out in Zimbabwe, and each venturer participated in three of these. We were in the country for ten weeks, so we spent three weeks at each project site. There were one hundred and twenty venturers from the UK along with twenty local Zimbabwe venturers, so each project would have an average of fourteen venturers.

We spent the first few days acclimatising in Harare, at the Police Training Barracks. Here we were given lectures on how to use radios, first aid and camp craft. We then set out for our first project sites. Mine was situated in the East of the country near a town called Rusape. Here we were building a medical centre so this involved me mixing cement, shovelling materials and being a brickie!

When we arrived at this site the foundations had been dug, but were on six different levels, so we spent our three weeks levelling the site by building walls and then backfilling the uneven areas. This project was hard work but satisfying in that we could see what we had achieved at the end of each day.

The second project I was on was in an area called Chilamra. This is one of the seventeen National Parks in Zimbabwe and is located in the west. Our project was to carry out a game count, primarily for black rhino. Our base camp was situated in the bush, and we were split into groups of four and sent out on foot for up to five days to count any game we saw. This was done by using the 'transect method', that is by walking on imaginary lines, by using a bearing, and recording the game we spotted. We were always accompanied by an armed game scout, which was of use on several occasions when we came across elephants and rhino!

Apart from animals, our other problem was water. The park was very dry and we each had to carry five litres of water. This was used for

cooking as well as drinking, and so every day we would have to find water to refill our supplies. This was often done by digging in dry river beds to reach the water table, or drinking from very dirty pools.

On average we would walk fifteen kilometres per day, depending on the terrain. Sometimes the bush was very thick, or the land was hilly, or it was extremely hot - all of which would impede our progress. It was therefore quite hard going at times, but would be made extremely worthwhile when elephant or rhino were spotted. We also came across zebra, buffalo, various types of buck, bushpigs, warhogs, to name a few. There are also lion, leopard and cheetah in the park, none of which we saw - although they probably saw us.

The main object behind this project was to maintain how many black rhino are left in the park. In this area it is rhino that are at risk from poachers as opposed to elephant. The wardens therefore need to know the numbers of rhino left so they can keep a close management on them.

Of all the projects I was involved in, this was the most exciting and challenging. We saw elephant within two hundred metres, and on the three treks that I did, I saw six rhino in all. One of which was a little too close for comfort, and if it had not been for our game scout cocking his rifle it would have definitely charged!

My final project was split into two parts. The first was constructing a wildlife platform on the shores of Lake Kariba. We had to walk 5 kilometres to reach the site from our camp. This was through the bush, so it kept us all fit, especially if wheeling a wheelbarrow as well!

The second part of this project was canoeing on Lake Kariba. This was hard work - especially when having to avoid hippos and crocodiles. We saw a huge amount of wildlife whilst canoeing and there were a wide variety of birds which we studied.

Lake Kariba, although a man-made lake, is extremely beautiful and unspoilt. This was therefore a good project to end my expedition on as it epitomised the beauty of the country, as did Victoria Falls which I managed to visit before flying home.

We all came back with fantastic memories, new friends and a different outlook on life. Hopefully we will be able to apply some of the things we learnt on the expedition now that we are back.

I would like to take this chance to thank those people and companies who sponsored me and allowed me to take part in this once in a lifetime experience.



MEDICAL student **RACHEL DUNCAN** was set the challenge and thrill of a lifetime when she was accepted as a crew member of the Sail Training Association ship, the Sir Winston Churchill, on the Bordeaux to Zeebrugge stage of the Cutty Sark Tall Ships race last August.

Rachel, 20, of Elswick Gardens, Mellor, who is at Southampton University flew from Heathrow to meet the older 54 crew members - 16 permanent hands and 39 young volunteers for the last leg of the race.

More than 1,700 young people from 13 countries took part in the five-week race from Weymouth via Coruna.

Half the £655 cost of the trip was met by Blackburn Volvo dealers Walker Farrimond and the rest by other local sponsors.

There were 77 ships in the race and Rachel's vessel was third in its class. Rachel is pictured above at the front of a line hauling in on a sheet.

Photograph courtesy of the Lancashire Evening Telegraph



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Tel: Accrington (0254) 872111

CLITHEROE, 1st Floor Carter House, 28 Castle Street
Tel: Clitheroe (0200) 27228

PRESTON, 5/6 St. Wildrid's Street
Tel: Preston (0772) 51658

ONLY 12 AT AGM

LAST year's Annual General Meeting was held in the Radcliffe Room School on Wednesday, 21st November. Unfortunately due to illness I could not be present and was grateful to my vice-chairman John Duckworth who stood in for me during the earlier part of the meeting until he was himself elected Chairman.

There was a disappointing turn out with only 12 members present and after the minutes of the previous meeting had been read my report was presented. I reminded those present of the Association's activities during the previous 12 months and once again thanked the School for its hospitality both for the use of its premises and the assistance of its clerical staff, in particular, Mrs. Judy Scott.

I mentioned the different arrangements for the then forthcoming Dinner, more of which appears in this issue.

The question of subscriptions had been discussed in some detail by Committee and eventually it was resolved that they should be increased to £5 for annual membership and £50 for life membership.

I also thanked my fellow officers and committee members for their help particularly during my two years as Chairman. I have enjoyed serving the Association in this capacity and am grateful to the Association for giving me the honour of this office.

Unfortunately Fred Gillibrand, our Treasurer could not be present at the meeting but his report on the accounts were presented and adopted. A copy of the accounts appears on the page opposite.

John Read reminded the meeting of the details of the 1989 Annual Dinner and a vote of thanks was recorded for John's splendid efforts in organising the Dinner for the previous 10 years.

John Duckworth told the meeting that unfortunately Magister was behind schedule mainly to his work commitments but said that it was felt that publication early in the New Year might be more appropriate so that the recent AGM and Annual Dinner could be reported.

Phil Sumner presented a brief report on the activities of the Football Club which continued to flourish and had recently held its inaugural Presidents Dinner. I was pleased and proud to be appointed President of the Football Club early last year, following the death of my uncle Kenneth Forbes and to be able to maintain the connection my family has had with the Club since its foundation shortly after the First World War. Phil Sumner commented that new members from recent school leavers were a little thin on the ground and hoped



David Forbes . . .
secretary and retiring chairman

that the School would encourage them to visit the Club which, for an amateur club, had excellent facilities.

The following were elected as officers and committee:

President: Sir Kenneth Durham

Chairman: John Duckworth

Vice Chairman: Barry Brown

Secretary: David Forbes

Treasurer: Fred Gillibrand

Auditors:

William Hare and Ralph Holden

Committee:

R. Barham, F. Barnes,

H. Burrows, E. Fairhurst,

T. Hindle, D. Holmes, E. J. Kay,

E. C. Marsden, K. V. Newton,

A. Proctor, P. T. Pearson,

J. S. Read, T. E. Sagar,

R. Smethurst, R. Smith,

R. B. Smith, P. Thompson,

W. E. T. Walsh, J. Warner,

K. Wightman

Ex Officio:

P. F. Johnston - Headmaster

P. W. Sumner - Football Club.

The following dates were agreed
for 1991:

Committee Meeting:

10 September

A.G.M.: 13 November

Annual Dinner: 21 December.

D. I. FORBES

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OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION – BALANCE SHEET 31st JULY, 1990

	£	1990	£	1989	£
NET ASSETS					
Lammack Ground at cost less sales			1,208		1,208
INVESTMENTS AT COST					
£1,250 4% Consols (Market Value £461)	1,161			1,161	
£650 8.25% Barclays Bank plc Unsecured Loan 1986/93 (Market Value £561)	582			583	
£2,421.58 8.25% Treasury Stock 1987/90 (Redeemed 15.6.90)	—			2,230	
£2,879.07 6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98 (Market Value £2,210)	2,231			2,231	
£2,750 8.25% Treasury Stock 1993 (Market Value £2,505)	2,492			—	
£2,750 9% Treasury Stock 1992/96 (Market Value £2,447)	2,474			—	
		8,940		6,205	
LOAN TO QECS		9,000.00		9,000	
Debtors					
O.B.F.C.	—			5	
Dividend	73		73	—	5
Cash					
Trustee Savings Bank	377			359	
Lloyds Bank plc	3,854			2,568	
National & Provincial Building Society	385			363	
National Savings Bank	10,952			10,000	
		15,568		13,290	
		34,789		29,708	
CREDITORS					
Inland Revenue		250		3	
		£34,539		£29,705	
REPRESENTED BY:					
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND		1,208		1,208	
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND					
Balance at 1st August 1989	32,663			27,062	
Plus New Members	5,850			5,670	
	38,513			32,732	
Less: Deletions	122			69	
		38,391		32,663	
ACCUMULATED FUND					
Balance at 1st August 1989	(4,166)			(3,381)	
Deficit for the year	(1,085)			(785)	
	(5,251)			(4,166)	
Surplus on redemption of investment	191			—	
		(5,060)		(4,166)	
		£34,539		£24,890	

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION – INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st JULY 1990

INCOME					
Subscriptions		815		823	
Released from Life Membership Fund		122		69	
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS					
4% Consols	50		50		
8.25% Barclays Bank – Loan	54		54		
6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98	194		194		
8.25% Treasury Stock 1987/90	200		200		
9% Treasury Stock 1992/96	24		—		
8.25% Treasury Stock 1993	6		—		
	528		498		
Bank Interest	18		13		
Building Society Interest	28		318		
National Savings Bank Investment Account Interest	952		—		
Gross Investment Income	1,526		829		
Less: Corporation Tax	382		207		
		1,144		622	
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND RENT		5		5	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) ON ANNUAL DINNER		4		(66)	
		2,090		1,453	
EXPENDITURE					
General Expenses	136		756		
Postages	241		120		
Magister	2,392		1,087		
Corporation Tax (overprovision in previous year)	(3)		(7)		
Subscription to ISIS Association	150		150		
Deficit on Easter Disco	—		110		
Branch Expenses	260		22		
		3,175		2,238	
DEFICIT TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUND		(1,085)		(785)	

HONORARY AUDITORS' REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st JULY, 1990

We have examined the accounts set out on pages 2 to 3, which are in accordance with the information supplied to us, and give a true and correct record of the transactions for the year ended 31st July, 1990 and of the state of affairs at that date

W HARE

R. B. HOLDEN Chartered Accountants, Blackburn.

12th October, 1990

Blitzkrieg over Big School

IN THE 50th anniversary year of the Battle of Britain, Roland Hodson (1936-40) writes to tell us of his memories of that time at school.

It happened one morning in September 1940, I remember, at the time of the Battle of Britain. Just like 1990, it had been a good summer. Now it was coming to an end and some of us, after getting our School Certificates, were waiting to be 16 so that we could leave. It was fine, as usual, and we were all in the upper quad doing this and that, though not with any great conviction. Quite happy, I suppose, most of us were, except that most had to have a period with Mr. Wilderspin after break, an experience only slightly more enjoyable than having blazing matchsticks pushed under the toenails. I too was waiting to be 16, though what happened next reduced the odds of me ever reaching it quite significantly.

Suddenly, we heard the crump of bombs, somewhere in the distance, and after it the sound of machine-gun fire. Someone was getting it, we said, though to be honest there wasn't much talk. Most of us stood transfixed, rather like Billy Gladstone on the Boulevard, except that we weren't hailing taxis. Now we could hear the sound of an aeroplane and before anyone could say their prayers a Heinkel of the German Bomber Command appeared just above West Park Road, near the spot, I think, where Tommy Turnbull used to take off his hat to give the old head an airing after the stiff climb.

The plane was so close that I could see the pilot's face and I've got to admit, though I haven't mentioned this to anyone before, that he looked quite a decent chap, you know, the sort who are kind to small children and dumb animals. I think we looked at each other in the eye for a moment and I'll swear that a hint of a smile appeared on his face. Notwithstanding all that he wheeled the plane over to starboard, as though he had suddenly remembered something he should have done that morning before he came out. In a moment he was gone, over Corporation Park and beyond.

GOING GREEN . . .

THE 59th Golf Competition was held on June 7th, 1990 at Blackburn Golf Club.

A modest entry of 21 competitors (a 50 per cent increase on the previous two years)! played in the blustery conditions, which made scoring difficult.

The Judge Walmsley (best net) was won by Ian Waddington 91-20-71 with Alan Pemberton, second (89-17-72). The Sir Gilbert Gerrard Cup (best gross) was won with a score of 80 by Roy Barker after a card play-off with Tom Martin.

The 1991 competition will be held at Wilpshire Golf Club hopefully in June so come on all you golfers.

If golfers require any details, please ring or write to; Andrew Norman, Fairfield, Southport Road, Chorley. Tel: 02572 68633.



Bio-engineering and Genetic Sandwiches

DR. Robert J. Slater (1963 - 71) dropped a line to the Headmaster offering to give a general interest talk on aspects of genetic engineering and its applications. It would also provide an opportunity for pupils to hear about life in Polytechnics which could be useful to those who know little about sandwich courses and the relative merits of different types of biology degree nationwide.

Dr. Slater has been a lecturer at Hatfield Polytechnic since 1980, arriving there via the universities of Leeds, Nottingham and Cardiff. He says he is still waiting for a QEGS pupil to enrol on the Applied Biology degree course there! His research and teaching is in the field of molecular genetics and he recently gave a lecture entitled 'Genetic Engineering and Agriculture' to Hertfordshire biology teachers and sixth form pupils.

Homing in on the start of the House system

WE are indebted to Albert Hirst (1916 - 20) who now lives in High Street, Helmsley for a letter detailing his reminiscences of school.

He recalls that for many years before 1919 the Head master was G. A. Stocks M.A. "one of nature's gentleman" and that in 1916 the number of boys in school would not be more than a few hundred.

September 1919 saw Arthur Holden become the new head Master, many new staff appointed and the 'School House System' introduced. During the first week of September 1919, Albert was present in the Ratcliffe Room and witnessed the division of the school with the six houses we know to this day. Apart from the Head Master and the six house masters very few other people were there and Albert is now sadly aware of being possibly the only survivor to witness that day's historic event.

Francis Austin Hyde became the first House Master of Raleigh. Albert was put into Raleigh and chosen as its first football captain. Fred Blackburn from Mellor was appointed House Captain and later became M.P. for a Manchester Constituency. Mr Hyde left after a while to become Head Master of Woodhouse Grove Prep

School, North Yorkshire. Harold Betty became Head Boy of the school.

The 1st XI football team of 1919 was as follows:- H. Berry (6'3"), L. J. Pickering, A. Hirst, C. S. Pickering, Jack MacKereth (Captain), F. Perkins, J. A. Longworth, T. W. Whewell, Dave Carruthers, Alf Scales, John Longworth (none of your silly formations in those days!)

Tough

In November of that year the school team played the "Old Boys" at Lammack. The school team included the Head Master at left half and a few members of staff. Albert and Pickering were retained as full backs with Barry in goal. The Old Boys captained by Sandy Turnbull won by a narrow margin.

The Harrison playing fields were ready for use in September 1919. There were three football pitches but no dressing rooms. The boys stripped in school and ran over Revidge to

Lammack - afterwards the reverse! (They bred them tough in those days!)

If playing other schools, the team was known to strip in the Hare and Hounds!

Apart from having mentioned Arthur Holden and Mr Hyde, other staff who came to mind were Mr. P. C. Northam, Mr. E. T. (Teddy) Towle, Mr Turnbull, Mr Le Manquet, Mr Montagnon, Mr Cheeseman, Mr Eliot, Mr Lloyd, Mr Atkinson (sport) and Mr Stephenson (Gymnastics).

In 1947, Albert's son Alan Hirst (1947 - 57) joined Hornclyffe and inevitably became a member of Raleigh. Alan became Surgeon Commander R.N. and served for a time in Hong Kong leaving there four and a half years ago and is now at the Royal Naval Hospital in Portsmouth.

Drake, Frobisher, Grenville Howard, Hawkins and Raleigh have all come a long way since September 1919.

Albert sends his best wishes to school after 70 years

OBA History (cont.)

Continued from Page 7

followed; whilst the Association continued to provide financial support, especially when questions of expanding the club premises arose, the Football Club, for its part, was able to offer facilities for social functions and meetings, regularly ran the bar at the annual O.B.A. Dinner, and generally did a great deal to further the wider aims of the Association.

The Association's history has always been one of expansion. By 1933 there were O.B.A. branches in both Oxford and Cambridge, which held annual dinners. In February 1955, it was suggested that arrangements be made to hold a dinner in London, which in fact took place towards the end of the following month. In March 1956, the formation of a Ladies' Committee was approved. By this time, Association business was being conducted by a committee comprising a total of twenty-six people. As the Association entered the 1960's, annual events had come to include a car treasure hunt, a church service, a school leavers' supper, and a Triangular Tennis Tournament, in which staff, pupils, and Old Boys competed.

One of the most important aspects of the O.B.A. has always been the sustained attempts which it has made to keep each and every Old Blackburnian in touch with the news and activities of both the School and the Association. To this end, the Association desired right from the outset to possess an effective means by which to communicate with its members on a regular basis. It was in November 1938 that it was first suggested that the O.B.A. might produce its own magazine, rather than simply forwarding copies of 'The Blackburnian', which contained a section contributed by old boys. However, it was not until the early 1960s that the idea of an O.B.A. newsletter was successfully floated.

As it turned out, this was to form the transitional stage between the Old Boys' section in the Blackburnian, and the Association's own magazine, Magister, which we see today, and which was officially substituted for the Blackburnian after Christmas 1963.

In 1965, membership reached the 1000 mark, and regular report was being made of successful branch meetings in London, Cambridge, Leeds, Manchester and York. In 1966, Norman Forbes, who had taken over as Chairman of the Association from Henry Whittaker, tendered his resignation after fifteen years long and fruitful service. Mr. Forbes' retirement from office was followed a year later by that of Mr. Harold Burrows, who had served as Honorary Secretary for a remarkable thirty-two years, and who was succeeded in his duties by the ex-chairman's nephew, David, the current Chairman of the Association.

Popularity

Thus, by the mid-1960s, the Old Blackburnians Association had become established in the form which we know today. Things had moved on somewhat from the early days of irregular meetings and limited membership; in fact, by the time of the 1968 A.G.M., the popularity of the Association was such that it was actually thought necessary that the membership be "pruned down to a minimum of 1200" . . . Today, the Association goes from strength to strength in all its various activities; perhaps this is a consequence of the heritage upon which it builds - a heritage not only of strong traditions and enduring aims, but also of flexibility and willingness to adapt and change with the times. It is this distinctive sense of continuity with the past which will enable the Old Blackburnians Association to meet the demands of the coming years with yet further success.

LANCASHIRE EVENING

Telegraph

readers get a great view of the Blackburn area...

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LANCASHIRE EVENING

Telegraph

A MUST YOU CAN TRUST

Ex-head boy is pipped to World Croquet Championship

FORMER head boy Mark Saurin was last years runner-up World Croquet champion – five years after being introduced to the sport by his French teacher Andrew Bennet.

Mark lost to his Britain and Ireland team-mate Robert Fulford, formerly of Colchester G.S. and now at Durham University.

Fulford, who was British mens champion, beat Mark 2-0 at the Hurlingham Club in the Autumn. Mark, himself a former men's champion while still at school in 1988, last year toured Australia and New Zealand, helping to beat the Aussies 18-3 and New Zealand 12-9.

The Financial Times praised Andrew Bennet for his skills in coaching QEGS pupils in the fine points of the game and producing "startling results on a rough lawn at the school".

Chris Clarke and Mark's younger brothers have benefited from Mr. Bennet's advice – Chris going on to win the President's Cup and soaring into the Top Ten British men's rankings.

Doctor Ann is Research Fellow

Dr. ANN M. CHIPPENDALE (1977 - 79) was elected to the Astor Research Fellowship in Chemistry at New College, Oxford, from October 1989. There she carried out research into various aspects of solid-state inorganic chemistry in the Departments of Inorganic Chemistry and Chemical Crystallography. She was working in this field at the University of Madrid until last November.

Ann has been a member of New College almost continuously since October 1979; as a Scholar, graduating with First Class Honours in 1983, and as a Post-graduate, attaining her D. Phil. in 1987. As a Post-doctoral Research Assistant she was also a Junior Research Fellow at Linacre College, Oxford, and returned to New College last year. Ann has obtained considerable experience abroad including work at the Institute Lane - Langevin, Grenoble, France, and at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, New York.

Ann has always been interested in archaeology since schooldays and was at one time President of the Oxford University Archaeological Society. She is particularly interested in medieval cathedrals and churches and has visited many in this country and in Europe.

She looks back with pleasure to her days at QEGS as one of the first girls in the mixed sixth form and, under the guidance of Messrs Bancroft, Kay and Metcalfe, as the lone girl in the science group with a dozen boys, who behaved as perfect gentlemen (!)



Mark Saurin during the World Final.

Picture: Courtesy of The Daily Telegraph

DINNER JOTTINGS

Continued from page 9

present about the importance of rewarding long serving members of staff in terms of remuneration and job satisfaction.

The Head Master then spoke about some of the individuals who had brought honour to the school. Mark Saurin, last year's Head Boy, about to represent Great Britain in New Zealand at a triangular croquet match; Ann Marie Doe who had spent a year, before going to Oxford, teaching in Indonesia; Lee Medlock who played for Cambridge against Oxford in the U. 21 rugby match; Bill Fox now Chairman of the Football League; Arthur Sandford, Chief Executive-elect of the Football Association; Nigel Coupe, Young Rider of the Year; Matthew O'Donoghue, now studying at Lawrenceville School, New Jersey; Roland Sinker, now acting as P.A. to the Bishop of Bloemfontein. He finished by saying what marvellous opportunities there are for those prepared to go out and plunge into the deep end - and remarkable help is given by colleagues and parents to help all our pupils (irrespective of sex, creed or religious background to do

OLD BLACKBURNIAN'S ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER 1989

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT

Income		1988
	£	£
122 tickets @ £15		
18 tickets @ £12	2046.00	1844.00
Expenditure		
Ticket printing by the School Printing Soc.	12.30	13.25
Menu printing by the School Printing Soc.	31.50	30.00
Gratuities Caretakers	20.00	20.00
F. Howard	10.00	10.00
Flowers (Margaret Colbert Flowers Ltd.)	22.45	26.00
Sound Services (Smithson and Webster)	45.00	45.00
146 meals at £13 each (The Moorcock Inn)	1898.00	1667.50
Film (cost, processing, printing)	0.00	11.49
Post and telephone	3.00	6.45
	<hr/> 2042.25	<hr/> 1829.69
Excess of income over expenditure	3.75	14.31
	<hr/> 2046.00	<hr/> 1844.00

just that.

After various miscellaneous jokes in the Head Master's usual jocular style, he reluctantly handed his pulpit to the Bishop who quickly demonstrated what an admirable

choice of speaker the Old Blackburnians' Dinner Committee had envisaged, and in a witty and stimulating speech enlivened the audience with its own impression of Queen Elizabeth's as a new parent.

OBITUARIES

Harold Ramsbottom (1937-41)

HAROLD Ramsbottom died suddenly in hospital on June 9th 1990 aged 64.

After leaving school, he joined the staff of Lloyds Bank in Preston and then spent four years in the R.A.F. as a radar fitter. On being demobilised, he returned to the bank and served in several branches in the Blackburn area during which time he played cricket with Cherry Tree C.C. and the Banks cricket team in the Midweek League. He was appointed Manager of the Manchester University Branch of Lloyds in 1962 where he remained until his retirement in 1986. He was a past president of the Manchester South branch of the Rotary Club and treasurer of the Bramhall and District 41 Club. A keen member of the Old Blackburnians Association, he successfully controlled the fortunes of the Cheshire and South Lancashire Branch of the Association acting as secretary for the past 15 years.

Harold will be missed for his cheerful friendliness and warm personality and will be remembered as a gentleman of the highest integrity.

We extend to his widow Jean, and his sons Howard and Graeme our deepest sympathy.

James McHugh

JAMES McHugh of Ridgeway, Acomb, York died on 13th November 1989. He leaves a wife Edith.

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Degrees and things

SUSAN M. AINSWORTH (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Psychology, University of Hull. Proceeding to Post-graduate Diploma in Radio and Television Journalism at Lancashire Polytechnic.

C. G. B. ASHMORE (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Business Studies, University of Sheffield.

M. F. BAINES (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Psychology, University of Nottingham.

S. BAINES, B.A. (1977-83) Awarded B.Vet.M.S., and M.R.C.V.S., Christ's College, Cambridge, and Simey Prize in Medicine and Surgery. Appointed to post at the Veterinary School, University of North Carolina.

DAVID A. BARNES (1979-86) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Electronic Engineering, University of Sheffield. Appointed I.C. Design Engineer, Texas Instruments, Bedford.

RUTH A. BARKER (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Zoology, Liverpool University.

RACHEL C. BARRETT (1985-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Home Economics, Bath College.

C. E. BARROW (1985-87) Graduated B.Soc.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Political Science, University of Birmingham. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, Birmingham.

D. BARROW (1985-87) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Mechanical Engineering, University of Bath.

JANINE L. BELSHAW (1985-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Chemistry, St. John's College, Durham. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Grant Thornton, Oxford.

J. KIRSTY BRIMELOW (1985-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Birmingham. Awarded Scholarship to Gray's Inn, London to qualify as a Barrister.

N. S. BRINDLE (1973-83) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Leeds Medical School.

VANITA BROOKES, F.D.S., R.C.S. (Ed) (nee Hajela 1978-80) Qualified Fellow in Dental Surgery of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.

A. J. BROWN (1974-79) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Applied Physics, Lancaster University.

WENDY L. BULLOCK (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Mathematics & Statistics, University of Leeds.

SARAH A. BURFORD (1984-84)

Qualified M.B., B.S., St. Thomas's Hospital Medical School, London.

A. P. BURY (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 3, Hons. English and Theatre Studies, University of Warwick.

ISOBEL BUSH (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Hons. Mathematics, Churchill College, Cambridge. Appointed Consulting Actuary, Bacon and Woodrow, London.

D. CAPLIN (1978-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Birmingham. Proceeding to College of Law, Chester.

JENNIFER A. CAPSTICK (1985-87) Gained H.N.D., Maths/Stats & Computing, Sheffield Polytechnic. Appointed Information Analyst, United Engineering Steels, Sheffield.

J. D. CHADWICK, B.A. (1973-83) Awarded B.A., Grad. Dip. Arch. (Distinct) Huddersfield Polytechnic.

RAY BILLINGTON (1941-45) recently donated to the School Library a copy of his new book "East of Existentialism" which aims to sum up insights from existentialism in the West and Hinduism, Buddhism and Taoism in the East to explore new preceptives on these eternal questions. Ray assumes no previous knowledge of philosophy and provides lively practical case studies throughout to show the student how apparently abstruse themes relate to real-life situations.

SUSAN E. CHADWICK (1982-84) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Biology and Psychology, University of Keele. Proceeding to study Law at Lancashire Polytechnic.

J. COLLIGHAN (1978-87) Graduated B.Comm., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Accountancy, University of Birmingham. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Latham Crossley and Davis, Chorley.

ROSANNE J. COLLINSON (1985-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Lancaster. Proceeding to College of Law, Chester.

J. R. COWBURN (1975-82) Awarded M.Sc., Distribution Technology and Management, Cranfield Institute of Technology.

P. J. COWBURN (1977-84) Qualified M.B., B.S., Newcastle University Medical School.

MARY DAVID (1983-85) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., Edinburgh University Medical School. Appointed House Officer, Falkirk Royal Infirmary.

SUSAN A. DAVIES (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Social & Political Sciences, Christ's College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Honorary Fellowship, Levy Economics Institute, New York.

JOANNE DAVIES (1985-87) Graduated B.D., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Divinity, Saint David's University

College, Lampeter. Proceeding to voluntary work in Israel.

NAOMI DAVIS (1985-87) Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. English & Theological & Religious Studies, Whitelands College. Proceeding to study for P.G.C.E. at Ripon & York St. John College.

D. DEY (1978-85) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Biochemistry, St. Peter's College, Oxford. Proceeding to Research in Molecular Biology at Manchester University Medical School.

P. DEWHURST (1979-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Business Studies, University of Stirling. Proceeding to Recruitment Consultant in London.

ALEX DUGDALE (1982-84) Qualified Vet.M.B., New Hall, Cambridge.

A. F. DURKIN (1978-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons.

BOOK NEWS

D. STUART BANKS (1973-82) and his father have recently presented to the school library a copy of their book "An Introduction to Industrial Hydraulic Systems", published by Prentice Hall, which explains in straightforward terms the basic principles of hydraulic systems, their construction, operation and component make-up. This valuable book includes a selection of useful data and a glossary of technical terms, and was first published in 1988.

Biochemistry, University of Liverpool. Proceeding to read Veterinary Science at University of Liverpool.

S. P. DUXBURY (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Classics/Philosophy, University of Keele.

M. G. ECCLES (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. English, University of York. Proceeding to Master's Degree in Contemporary Literature at University of York.

T. S. ECCLES, B.Sc. (1977-84) Awarded M.Sc., in Building Economics, University College, London. Appointed Lecturer at Kingston Polytechnic, London.

VICTORIA ECROYD (1983-85) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Manufacturing Systems Management. Appointed Graduate Trainee with Barclay's Bank PLC., London.

JULIE E. ETHERINGTON (1985-87) Passed Part I Professional Examination Institute of Chartered Accountants, Manchester Polytechnic.

DEBORAH E. EVANS (1988-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Environmental Science, University College of Wales. Proceeding to Postgraduate Diploma in Environment Impact Assessment.

M. P. EDDLESTON (1977-86) Graduated B.A., Class 1 Hons., Natural Sciences, Fitzwilliam College,

Cambridge. Proceeding to Clinical Medicine at Christ Church, Oxford.

M. S. EVANS (1979-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Retail Marketing, Manchester Polytechnic.

R. H. FARRAR (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. History, University of Birmingham. Partaking in Operation Raleigh, Expedition to Alaska, May 1991.

S. G. FRESHFIELD (1983-87) Graduated B.Comm., Class 2, Div. 1, Accountancy, University of Birmingham. Proceeding to study Law at Birmingham Polytechnic.

A. D. FORREST (1979-86) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Electronic & Communication Engineering, University of Bath. Appointed Trainee Chartered Accountant with J. B. Lever & Co., Burnley.

D. G. GEORGE (1976-83) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. English Literature and French, Liverpool University.

L. GLUYAS (1980-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, University of Leicester. Proceeding to Needham and James (Solicitors) Birmingham.

C. F. M. GOLDSMITH (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. International History and Politics, University of Leeds.

K. J. GREENWOOD (1979-86) Graduated B. Engl. Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. University of York. Appointed Graduate Engineer, Plessey Telecommunications Ltd., Liverpool.

P. N. GREENWOOD (1977-87) Graduated B.A., class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Sport and Recreation, Staffordshire Polytechnic.

S. W. HACKING, M.A. (1978-84) Awarded M.Sc., with distinction in Hydrology, Imperial College, London.

R. J. HARGREAVES (1986-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Physics, University of Liverpool. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Waterworth, Rudd and Hare, Blackburn.

P. I. HARGREAVES Qualified M.B., B.S., Royal Free Hospital, Hamstead, London. Appointed House Officer.

KATHRYN HARRISON (1985-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Bristol. Proceeding to College of Law, Chester.

SARAH L. HARRISON (1983-85) Qualified B.Ch.D., Dentistry, Leeds University.

JULIE L. HIGGINS (1985-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Food Science, University of Reading. Appointed Food Technologist with Manor Bakeries, a division of Rank Hovis McDougall.

R. J. HIGHAM (1977-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Geography, University of Aberdeen. Proceeding to Royal Marines Bursary for a short career commission.

N. P. HITCHAM (1980-87) graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. Music, Merton College, Oxford. Proceeding to read for M.Mus., King's College, London 1991.

A. HOLT (1980-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Newcastle. Proceeding to Law College, followed by an appointment with Slater Heelis, Manchester.

P. A. HOARTY (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. History,

University College of North Wales, Bangor.

E. JANE HOLDEN (1982-84) Qualified B.Ch.D., University of Leeds. Joining Dental Practice in Appleby-in-Westmorland.

I. J. HOUGHTON (1981-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemical Science, University of Leeds.

I. N. HUGHES (1977-87) Graduated B.A., Class 3, Hons. Jurisprudence, Oriel College, Oxford. Proceeding to Organ Scholar at St. Paul's Cathedral being taught by John Scott.

C. R. HUNT MB., B.S., (1976-82) Appointed Senior House Officer in Pathology at Manchester Royal Infirmary.

C. HURST (1979-86) Graduated B.Sc.M.Eng., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Electrical & Electronic Engineering, University of Manchester. Appointed Graduate Trainee at G.E.C. Alsthom, Trafford Park.

SARAH L. JACKSON (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Zoology, Liverpool University.

R. JEPSON-RANDALL (1979-86) Graduated M.Eng., Distinction, Electrical Engineering, University of Southampton. Appointed Project Manager with Proctor and Gamble Ltd.

S. D. JOHNSON (1977-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Medieval/Modern History, University of Liverpool. Proceeding to M.A. in Political Thought at University of Kent.

PATRICIA S. K. JONES (1983-85) Qualified B.D.S., Birmingham University Dental School. Proceeding to dental practice in Ipswich.

C. D. KNAGG (1977-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, Bristol Polytechnic. Proceeding to Law Society Finals at York, then articles with Hill, Dickinson, Davis and Campbell.

JANE H. KENNEDY, B.Med.Sci., (1978-80) Gained F.C. Anaes. At present Registrar in Anaesthetics, Sheffield.

N. H. A. LASZLO (1984-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Business Studies, Hatfield Polytechnic. Proceeding to Marketing Management Training with I.C.L.

M. G. LITTLER (1973-80) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. law, Manchester Polytechnic. Appointed Barrister at Law, Manchester.

P. N. LLOYD (1978-84) Graduated M.A., English and French, Dundee University.

M. D. MAHONEY (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Ancient History, Newcastle Upon Tyne University. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. at the Institute of Education, University of London.

CLARE E. H. MATHER (1985-87) Gained B. Tec., HND., Applied Biology, Leicester Polytechnic. Appointed Microbiologist for the Public Health Laboratories in Leicester.

S. F. MILNER (1982-89) Awarded Open Exhibition as a result of first year examinations, Jesus College, Oxford.

SUSAN J. McMGREGOR (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Politics and Law, South West Polytechnic, Plymouth.

L. G. MEDLOCK (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons.

On the board at 27

ANDREW BLACKBURN (1974-81), group accountant with Metro-Rod PLC, has been appointed to its board of directors.

Formerly employed by international accountants Coopers & Lybrand, Andrew has been with Metro-Rod for three years.

Metro-rod's managing director Mr John Harris says: "This company has experienced rapid growth over the last few years and we now have service centres throughout the length and breadth of the UK. Andrew has played a major role in Metro-Rod's development and the fact that he is only 27 years of age, makes his appointment to the board all the more impressive."



Geography, Robinson College, Cambridge. Proceeding to the College of Law, Chester.

J. MEREDITH (1979-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Politics, Portsmouth Polytechnic.

PAMELA MORGAN (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Accounting and Finance, Bristol Polytechnic. Proceeding to Chartered Accountancy.

R. J. MORAN (1980-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. French & Management, University of Leeds.

HELEN R. MORTON (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Geography, St. Mary's College, Durham. Proceeding to read for P.G.C.E. at St. Chad's College, Durham.

JULIA L. NEWTON (1983-85) Qualified M.B., B.S., University of Newcastle Medical School. Appointed House Physician at The Freeman Hospital, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

P. M. NUTTALL (1977-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Ophthalmic Optics. Proceeding to Philip Pratt Ltd., Accrington for pre-registration position.

KATARINE E. OLANDER (1979-81) 1987 Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Medical Biochemistry, Manchester University Medical School. Qualified M.B., Ch.B., 1990. Appointed House Officer at Wythenshawe Hospital.

A. ORMSBY (1978-84) Awarded M.A., University of Western Ontario.

M. D. PALEY (1978-85) Graduated B.D.S., Dentistry, Dundee University. Appointed House Officer, Dundee Royal Infirmary.

J. E. PEACOCK (1976-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Management Systems, University of Hull.

G. J. PILLING (1980-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Materials Technology, Brunel, University of West London.

J. H. PORTER (1978-85) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. King's College, London. Proceeding to Clinical Studies at King's College Hospital.

D. J. PREST (1975-85) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Economics and Politics, University of Bath. Reporting for B.B.C. Radio 4.

JANE E. RAMSEY (1983-85) Graduated M. A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. English Literature, Aberdeen University.

SARAH A. REDMAN (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Chemistry with German, Kingston Polytechnic. Proceeding to read for P.G.C.E. St. Hugh's Hall, Cambridge.

JOANNA S. RIDGE (1983-85) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. European Studies in Finance and Accounting, Leeds Polytechnic.

D. ROBINSON (1979-86) Graduated B.Sc., (Tech), Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Applied Psychology, University College, Cardiff.

PAULETTE ROBINSON (1985-87) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, North Staffordshire Polytechnic.

R. A. ROSTRON (1979-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Business Information Technology, Lancashire Polytechnic.

WENDY M. ROSTRON (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, University of East Anglia. Appointed Researcher with C.E. P.N. in Paris.

ALEXANDRA SAINT (1981-83) Awarded M.B.A., Durham University, Business School. Appointed Assistant Administrator Century Theatre, Keswick.

ELIZABETH M. SANDERSON (1984-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. French, Spanish & Theology, University of Durham.

SOPHIE K. SCOTT (1983-85) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Psychology, Polytechnic of Central London. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., in Cognitive Science at University College, London.

I. M. A. SMITH (1980-85) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Agriculture, Nottingham University.

D. A. SMYTH (1979-86) Graduated B.Eng. Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Electrical and Electronic Engineering, University of Bradford.

R. SPENCER (1976-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Town and Regional Planning, University of Dundee. Appointed Planning Assistant with Taunton Borough Council, Taunton.

A. STENTON (1980-86) Graduated

B.Sc., Hons. Food Science and Technology, South Bank Polytechnic, London. Appointed Production Manager with United Biscuits, Rotherham.

CLAIRE E. N. SUMNER (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Geography, Sheffield University. Proceeding to read Land Economy at Wolfson College, Cambridge.

I. A. TAYLOR (1979-86) Graduated B.Eng., Class 1, Hons. Electronic & Electrical Engineering, University of Salford. Appointed Electronic & Electrical Engineer with Brush Transformers, Loughborough, Leicester.

SUSAN A. TAYLOR (1984-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. PPE., Merton College, Oxford.

R. B. TAYLOR (1979-85) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Modern and Medieval Languages, Trinity College, Cambridge. Appointed Trainee in marketing with Elica Gibbs.

P. TRAFFORD (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Engineering, Loughborough University. Appointed to Engineering Division with Marine and Piling Engineering, Adlington.

B. JANE WADSWORTH (1985-87) Gained Diploma Occupational Therapy. Appointed Rotational Occupational Therapist with Blackpool Health Authority.

A. E. WALLBANK (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, Nottingham University. Proceeding to Law Society Finals at Manchester Polytechnic.

Commencing articles in 1991 with Turner Kenneth Brown, London.

A. S. WALMSLEY (1977-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Mathematics and Statistics, University of Leeds. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Coopers and Lybrand Deloitte, Manchester.

I. D. WALSH (1979-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Biological Sciences, Portsmouth Polytechnic.

MICHELLE A. WATERWORTH (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 3, Hons. Theology, St. Hugh's College Oxford. Proceeding to Media Journalism after some time out.

R. P. WHARTON (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Land Administration, Polytechnic of East London.

J. A. WHITTAKER (1964-71) Awarded M.Sc., in Project Management, Henley Management College, Brunel University, West London.

ELIZABETH H. WILSON (1983-85) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, Leeds Polytechnic. Called to Bar 1989 and practicing in Temple Gardens.

C. D. WOOD (1976-85) Graduated B.Eng., Aeronautical Engineering, Kingston Polytechnic.

S. WOODHEAD (1977-83) Graduated B.A., Dip. Arch., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Architecture, University of Sheffield.

S. N. YOGASUNDARAM (1973-84) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Leicester. Appointed Junior House Officer at George Elliot Hospital, Nuneaton.

WE WERE saddened to hear of the death of our President, Ken Forbes, earlier this year, and I am sure past and present members of the Old Blacks would wish to pay tribute to Ken for his long association and work for the Club. Ken's connection with the Old Blacks goes back to its very beginning and much of the progress since then has been due to Ken who served the club in many capacities.

A full list of his main achievements does appear in the 1985 Magister report when Ken's association then had reached a full 60 years.

Although not being able to visit the club in the latter years due to ill health, Ken was always keen to hear of events and happenings involving the Old Blacks and its members and his thoughts were obviously always with us. Many thanks Ken.

The 1989/90 season saw the return of the 1st XI to the Premier Division of the L.A.L. As expected, it was a year of consolidation in the higher grade with some solid if not spectacular performances throughout the season. A final return of a point a game gave them a mid-table position and this was a satisfying position, everything taken into consideration. Steve Gray, as manager, must take a certain amount of credit for the way in which he regained confidence and success for the team over his two seasons in charge. He has now stepped down and I am pleased to welcome Fred Forrest to the club, who has been appointed 1st XI manager. We wish him well in all aspects of the job and hope success follows on.

It would be pleasing to report better news for the 2nd XI's recent fortunes in the league but once again they disappointed us and ended the season one place above the relegation spot. Three more victories were gained than the previous campaign but nevertheless it is not a position we would like our 2nd XI to be in. Craig Hindle, as captain, was not helped by having an unsettled side and players obviously out of form and hopefully matters can only improve this season. There does appear to be a slightly stronger squad of players for the first two teams this year and this can only be a good thing with the added bonus of stronger teams at the lower levels. However, at this stage, it would be unwise to predict anything and April, 1991 will tell its own story.

The 3rd XI with Frank Riley as captain; came closest to being championship material and just missed out to Burnley Belvedere by one point. Good performances throughout the season saw them always in contention and it was only two or three hiccups along the way that meant that the title eluded them. A highly satisfying season however for all concerned and full credit to Frank and all players concerned.

The fourths continue to surprise us and battled away all season picking up points from unexpected games,

'BLACKS' CONSOLIDATE

eventually finishing as highest placed 4th XI in Division North 3A. This left them just five places below the thirds. For this, they were awarded the Frank Aubert trophy at the league Dinner, in May, and Alan Upton was pleased to accept this on behalf of all the players and these were considerable over the season!

The Annual Sevens competition was held in August and a reduced entry of eight teams nevertheless enjoyed a full afternoon's football. After four matches, the Blacks team managed to win through to the final but tired legs just got the better of them and Old Rivingtonians were victorious by a single goal, after extra time. The usual trophies were presented to the two teams and referees after the game.

Our Annual Dinner on June 1 proved to be its customary success with ex-Burnley player, Paul Fletcher, as guest speaker doing an excellent job. He later presented the individual team awards which this year went to Neil Clayton, Steve Schofield, Frank Riley and Alan Upton with leading scorer award going to Andy Bullock. Clubman of the Year was Martin Haworth, Club Treasurer.

I am also delighted to report to you that Dave Forbes, past player and secretary of the Old Blacks for many years, accepted carrying on the family tradition. We welcome this and his further involvement with the running of the club.

As always in conclusion, I extend a warm welcome to Old Boys from School who may be interested in playing for one of the four teams - we would like the average age to drop a little!

Please ring Roger Masters (Team Sec. 240805) for further details.

PHIL SUMNER

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES SEASON 1899/90

PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Burnley Belvedere	26	18	4	4	63	21	40
Old Gregorians	26	20	0	6	65	31	40
Bury Amateurs	26	15	4	7	58	37	34
Burnley G.S.O.B.	26	15	3	8	45	32	33
Rochdale St. Clements	26	12	6	8	42	34	30
Old Rivingtonians	26	10	6	10	35	33	26
Old Blackburnians	26	9	8	9	38	41	26
Old Mostonians	26	9	6	11	49	49	24
Fulwood Amateurs	26	8	6	12	45	46	22
Broughton Amateurs	26	6	9	11	42	45	21
Southport Amateurs	26	9	0	17	37	62	18
Ashtonians	26	4	4	18	33	90	12
Lymm	26	3	5	18	32	66	11

PREMIER RESERVES	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Burnley Belvedere	26	16	5	5	64	40	37
Old Gregorians	26	15	4	7	66	42	34
Rochdale St. Clements	26	14	3	9	60	45	31
Old Boltonians	26	13	5	8	56	41	31
Old Rivingtonians	26	13	4	9	51	42	30
Southport Amateurs	26	12	5	9	43	44	29
Burnley G.S.O.B.	26	12	3	11	59	55	27
Old Mostonians	26	11	5	10	54	50	27
Broughton Amateurs	26	9	9	8	55	52	27
Bury Amateurs	26	8	7	11	54	65	23
Lymm	26	8	6	12	36	43	22
Old Blackburnians	26	7	6	13	48	64	20
Preston G.S.A.	26	3	7	16	30	59	13
Rossendale Amateurs	26	5	3	18	33	67	13

NORTH - 3A	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Burnley Belvedere 'A'	26	16	5	5	85	35	37
Old Blackburnians 'A'	26	15	6	5	74	44	36
Old Rivingtonians 'A'	26	13	7	6	85	56	33
Old Boltonians 'A'	26	10	9	7	58	45	29
Rossendale Ams. 'A'	26	10	9	7	50	46	29
Broughton Ams. 'A'	26	11	5	10	61	51	27
Old Blackburnians 'B'	26	9	8	9	43	64	26
Burnley G.S.O.B. 'A'	26	11	3	12	62	69	25
Broughton Ams. 'B'	26	10	2	14	58	55	22
Southport Ams. 'A'	26	9	4	13	41	63	22
Old Rivingtonians 'B'	26	8	5	13	61	77	21
Fulwood Ams. 'A'	26	8	4	14	38	51	20
Little Lever S.C. 'A'	26	9	2	15	54	77	20
Burnley Belvedere 'B'	26	7	3	16	45	82	17



The redoubtable fourths



SWIMMING POOL IS OPENED AT SCHOOL

QEGS WIN TOURNEY AT OPEN DAY

THE School's £750,000 Swimming Pool was opened by The Home Secretary, David Waddington on October 13th, 1990.

After dignitaries were welcomed by the Chairman of Governors Mr. John S. Singleton and the Pool was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Blackburn the Rt. Rev. Alan Chesters, an hexagonal swimming match took place between the school and Barnard Castle, Bolton, Giggleswick King's School, Chester and Manchester Grammar School.

They competed for the Bridges Baton, which was presented to the school by Mr. Harold Bridges, OBE, before the match and won by QEGS in a tight competition.

Money for the pool was raised by subscription from former pupils, parents and friends of the school and the Headmaster Mr. Philip F. Johnston reminds all paid up Old Blackburnians they may take advantage of the pool facilities on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings between 6 pm and 9 pm and on Saturdays between 9 am and noon for £75 a year – which includes immediate members of their families. For non-members, the fee is £100 p.a.

The superb six-lane 25 metre pool as a £12,000 Omega timing device and is situated in the top quad where the old huts used to be. The wall with Alexandra Meadows was knocked down to make way for the pool.

The top quad will be completely unrecognisable to those who have not visited the school in the past 10 years. The pool faces the new wing opened by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh in autumn 1987.

The new block, named the Queen's Wing, comprises 13 specialist classrooms; bell tower entrance, offices, language laboratory, massive library and sixth form centre.

Mr. Singleton said the school had produced one Olympic swimmer in Neil Hodgson and with the new pool, hoped to turn out more in the future.

Mr. Waddington who unveiled a plaque by the poolside, said the school had a proud record and paid tribute to the many improvements in West Park Road.

Lord Derby, who laid the foundation stone on May 19th, 1989, presented a silver cup to school to mark the historic opening.

Mr. Bridges, when presenting the baton admitted he was unable to swim. Sadly, he recalled his brother had drowned, aged four years old, in a pool near their home and he encouraged all young people to learn to swim at the earliest opportunity.

The pool, like the Queens Wing, was built by Walter Carefoot and Sons. The Bridges Baton was crafted to resemble a field marshal's baton by OBA vice chairman Barry Brown.



Lining up outside the new swimming pool before the official opening are from the left: the then chairman of the O.B.A., Mr. David Forbes, who is the present secretary; Lord Derby; Mr. Bridges; the Headmaster and the then Home Secretary, Mr. Waddington, who is now Lord Waddington, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House of Lords.



A crowd of young pupils taking part in the tourney



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Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

OUR MAN IN THE GULF WAR



See Pages 6 & 7

OLD BOY ON TOP
OF THE
WORLD

See
Page 18



PROVOST
RETIRES AS
GOVERNOR
Turn to Page 14

FORMER QEGS
CLASSMATES
TIE THE KNOT
Picture on Page 8

MAKE A DINNER DATE WITH A SCHOOL FRIEND

THEY say that 1992 is a 'Year of Change' – so why not have more young people at the Old Blacks' Dinner on December 19? It was suggested I write this piece exhorting more of the 'younger end' to attend.

If you have never been – it's an experience, something different, but above all it's an excellent way to keep in touch with your old school friends. So this year, why not arrange with a group of friends to go – who knows who else you will see there.

This year's chief guest is the Right Hon, the Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, and Dr Julia Newton (1983-85) will propose a toast to the School. Julia is the daughter of OBA committee member Keith Newton (1946-52).

There's a great deal of

tradition behind this event – it is worth going just to see what it's like. Apart from the three-course dinner, speeches etc, there's a bar, the latter, no doubt, above all will beckon my generation to go!

It is a great pity that very many of the recent Old Blackburnians are not present at the major event of the year.

However, last year saw quite an improvement in numbers in this sector, and hopefully this trend will continue again this year. Let us hope this year we shall see you in December; I certainly have enjoyed my first two Old Blacks' dinners since leaving School and am looking forward to this year's.

Rachel M Brown (1988-90)

OBs on the
Beeb SEE PAGES
10 AND 11



FLYING DOCTOR
LANDS IN OZ

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BEN DUCKWORTH

ONE of the country's leading technocrats, a former House Captain of Raleigh, has died aged 65.

Ben Duckworth (1936-41), who retired early as HM Deputy Inspector of Mines and Quarries, had been ill for many months before his death in April last year just after the previous Magister went to press.

He had had a meteoric rise in the mines inspectorate and was destined for the very top before being struck down by Alzheimer's disease.

He was the second son of England soccer international Fred Duckworth, who played full-back for Blackburn Rovers. After a short spell in the town hall awaiting apprenticeship to the Borough Engineer after leaving school, Ben applied to join the Fleet Air Arm. A hearing impediment prevented him being accepted and he went down the pit at Bank Hall Colliery in Burnley in 1942.

He quickly made the most of his time underground, becoming a deputy in 1946. He was awarded an NCB scholarship to Wigan Mining College in 1948 and promoted assistant manager at Clifton and Copy Collieries, under-manager at Reedley and finally, acting manager of several collieries in the Burnley area.

Distinguished

His potential was quickly spotted and he joined the inspectorate in South Wales at the incredibly early age of 28.

He and his wife Ruth and their daughter Janet soon made friends in the Valleys and he joined and later captained the local cricket team, Mumbles, in Swansea. He had had a distinguished 13-year cricketing career in the Lancashire League, keeping wicket and showing a wicked bat for East Lancs from 1946 — then Lowerhouse.

He lived just up the road from the Burnley ground and captained the side from 1951 to 1954. He was always keen — sometimes too keen — while keeping close to the stumps one Saturday against an Indian pro, who shall remain nameless, his gloves strayed in front of the stumps. The batsman raised his bat as the bowler ran in and before the delivery was made, cracked down on Ben's hands.

Without losing his composure or sight of the ball, he told Ben, with a glint in his eye: "Sorry, old boy, that is not allowed!"

Every one of Ben's fingers had been broken at least once — his thumbs, too — in the cause of cricketing.

While in Wales, in a new house in Killay, Swansea, Ben and Ruth made a beautiful garden from virgin hillside. They needed just one thing to make it work and Ben knew



Ben Duckworth (1936-41)

what! The horses down the pit made plenty of it . . . and he asked the local pit manager to send round a truck load. They dumped it at the bottom of his 1-in-3 drive. It took him ten days to shift it and the neighbours wouldn't talk to him for a month!

He was promoted district inspector in West Wales in 1958.

The following year, he was transferred to Nottingham and took a constant memory of Wales in the name of their second daughter, Helen Shaun.

He carried out special duties for four years researching ways to cut down the terrible lung diseases from dust in the mines, and in 1964 he was promoted senior district inspector in charge of the East Midlands. He became captain of Woodthorpe cricket team.

Appointed

He took over the North-East Scotland district in 1964 and merged it with Glasgow district in 1967. He loved his time in Dunfermline where he continued to play regular cricket, captaining Fife CC, and learned the art of fly fishing for trout and salmon. He transferred to South Durham in 1970.

He was a home-brew enthusiast and found some of the secrets from the heavy brews in the north-east, while living at Chester-le-Street. In 1974 he could no longer resist the civil servants' call to London and he was appointed to principal rank. The following year he was made HM Deputy Chief Inspector of Mines and Quarries and found himself in the hot spot as the miners, under Arthur Scargill, went on strike.

He was called twice, sometimes three times a day, to No.10 Downing Street to report directly to Edward Heath on the situation down the mines. Finally, he had to tell the Prime Minister: Tomorrow, the pumps will be

Continued on Page 4

Rachel to Flying Doctor...



A MEDICAL elective is a compulsory part of all medical school training – but what does it involve? At Southampton Medical School it is a three-month period at the end of our third year, spent gaining medical experience in any part of the world we choose. Most of us chose far-flung places such as Tonga, India, Canada and Kenya; I chose the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia.

My destination was Broken Hill, New South Wales, a tiny mining town in the outback, the nearest city being Adelaide eight hours away. Before I set off, I spent many hours watching the television programme "The Flying Doctors" as it is filmed in Broken Hill so I thought I would have a good idea of where I was going. However, nothing could prepare me for the shock I received when I arrived!

IT'S WIZARD IN OZ

AFTER 22 hours in the air, eight hours on a coach and many stopovers, I arrived at Broken Hill 39 hours after leaving Southampton and absolutely shattered. What a culture shock.

This small mining town of 20,000 people in the middle of absolutely nowhere was to be my home for the next few weeks! There was not a brick in site, all the homes being constructed of corrugated iron with dirt pavements running in front of them.

The High Street would have made an excellent set for a Western and the hospital a perfect set for the television soap "The Young Doctors"! The hospital itself was far larger than I had expected with 300 beds, so I calculated that a large percentage of the population of Broken Hill must be in hospital at any one time, as it was always full!

Confidence

The Royal Flying Doctor Service work in conjunction with the Broken Hill Base Hospital, the base at Broken Hill being the largest in Australia, serving all outback New South Wales and much of South Australia. Consequently it was very busy and there was never a dull moment. I treated a wide variety of patients, some of whom had been flown several hundreds of kms to the base, presenting with snake bite injuries to strokes and often major trauma. During the weeks I spent in Broken Hill my confidence grew as I experienced a wider range of medical complaints than ever before and I discovered myself with more responsibility as time passed.

My stay at Broken Hill was certainly not all work though and everyone was extremely welcoming and eager to show me the surrounding outback; including most important of all; the hut where the Castle-maine XXXX adverts are filmed! I feel that I experienced true life in the outback in Broken Hill, working and living with local people—tourists never dare venture that far away from a city!

After a very hectic few weeks, I set off on my travels



Breaking new ground: At Broken Hill hospital

around Australia in possession of the all-important reference for my tutor back in Southampton, so she would know that I had actually been to Broken Hill and had done some work! My first stop was Adelaide, a beautiful city but sadly spoilt by the wind and rain; so I decided to head north to Ayers Rock for some sun. I was certainly not disappointed, Ayers Rock and the Olgas are a fantastic sight and were worth the 24-hour coach journey it took to get there. Like most other travellers I too climbed Ayers Rock, the climb being made even more difficult by the high winds and on many occasions I found myself down on all fours.

In Alice Springs I found myself sharing a room with various species of insects, flies and beetles, so the prospect of a good night's sleep in Sydney was very welcoming.

The Opera House, Harbour

Bridge and the Blue Mountains were among the many places I visited from Sydney; one of the highlights of my stay there was attending an opera at the Opera House.

Tropical

From Sydney a lazy week was spent on the beach at Surfers Paradise before I set off for Cairns which was far from relaxing. After snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef, horse riding through tea plantations and trekking through tropical rainforests I was ready for another week on the beach, however that was not to be and I was off to Darwin.

In Darwin the heat was intense—45°! and humidity high, so it was rather like taking a permanent sauna. Again in Darwin I shared a room with more lizards than I care to remember and throughout the hostel were huge notices displaying "In

the event of a cyclone, take your mattress into the corridor..."

I had chosen to embark on a four day camping safari in Kakadu National Park, the home of Crocodile Dundee. The intense heat made it an extremely strenuous four days but thoroughly enjoyable; even though we were camping in the heart of crocodile and red back spider country!

I bid farewell to Australia at Darwin and headed to Singapore for four days of frantic shopping and eating. It was back to London weighed down with two extra bags I had had to buy to carry all the extras I had accumulated during my three months away.

It had been an adventure of a lifetime, both in my work at Broken Hill and my travels around Australia, and I look forward to the day when I shall revisit Australia.

WILLIAM FOX

WILLIAM FOX, Chairman of Blackburn Rovers and President of the Football League, died at the age of 63 on December 9, 1991, in hospital after collapsing at his home in Billinge End Road, Blackburn.

William's death prompted accolades from all sections of the football world which bear witness to his sterling efforts and great achievements at both Ewood Park and as president of the country's leading sports body.

Tributes to Bill Fox recognise his integrity, his devotion to football and above all, his loyalty to the players and supporters of Blackburn Rovers FC.

Said Robert Coar, vice-chairman of Rovers: "Over the past decade, he has lived for football, not only with Rovers but, in the last couple of years, as President of the Football League. He was as conscientious a man as you could find anywhere and he will be sadly missed."

These thoughts were echoed by Kenny Dalglish, recently appointed manager: "As far as I am concerned, it seems he dedicated his life not only to this club but to the benefit of football as a whole."

Simon Garner, Rovers' longest-serving player, knew where Bill's priorities lay: "His presence around the club will be sadly missed. He helped to ensure there was always a good spirit and atmosphere within the club, even in the difficult times. The chairman made it a priority to look after the players. There has never been any 'us and them' attitude in this club. Everyone has always worked together for the good of the club."

Professional colleagues in the higher echelons of football were equally aware of Bill's major contribution to the game. Graham Kelly, chief executive of the Football Association said: "Mr Fox was a very honest man and a great fighter for the football cause."

Elected

Bill was elected to the Board of Blackburn Rovers in June 1976. He was made vice-chairman just three years later and became chairman in April 1982. He successfully steered Rovers through the financial crisis of the early eighties which threatened their existence and saw the club haul themselves from Third Division obscurity to the brink of the First Division.

He was elected president of the Football League in August 1989 and was in charge during one of the stormiest eras in the history of the game.

Perhaps the final tribute, from Gordon Taylor, chief executive of the Professional Footballers Association and a former Rovers player, is the one which best describes how people saw William Fox: "Without any shadow of a doubt, he was a football man. He had two loves in his life — his family and his football."



REV G.A. PARKER

THE Rev G.A. Parker read Theology at St Peter's College, Oxford, just before the War and was Curate at St Bartholomew's Church, Great Harwood, from 1941-45, Sacristan and Succentor at Blackburn Cathedral from 1945-48, followed by being appointed Precentor from 1952-56. He was also on the staff of QEGS for three years.

The Very Rev the Provost of Blackburn, a School Governor, spoke recently of Mr Parker's "valued service" at St Paul's, Blackburn, valuing him highly as "a good friend, a most faithful priest and an excellent teacher."

C. A. SMITH

MR C A Smith, a former head of Classics, died last November at the age of 90. He left QEGS in 1956 to take up a similar post at Bede School, Sunderland. A colleague from Bede (Mr J P Wylie) reports that Mr Smith made a great impact throughout his years at that school and always spoke highly of the staff and pupils at QEGS. He leaves a widow Olga who is 91.

Continued from Page 2

unable to cope; half the pits will be irrevocably flooded and will have to close. Edward Heath, now Sir Edward, had no choice — he called a general election — and lost.

The rest, as they say, is history. One of the men Ben most admired for his wit and his depth of knowledge and understanding was Tony Benn — Ben's boss as Energy Minister in the Callaghan government. Both were straight talkers and shared many meetings over the odd glass or two — beer and sandwiches in the Harold Wilson tradition.

Ben retired early, aged 61. He and Ruth left St. Albans in 1986 to return to their friends and family in their beloved north-west. Ben died on April 4, 1991.



Mr William Fox (1949-56)



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GEORGE SEDDON (1920-1930) was a journalist with *The Observer* for 33 years. He was a contemporary at school with Carl Marsden, former Chairman of School Governors and an OBA committee member for many years.

Carl writes: Seddon seemed to enjoy life at school. He was one of a group of, almost intellectuals, who also included Leo Collier, who became a well-loved and respected French teacher at QEGS and Judge Southworth.

Below we reprint a cutting by the well-respected woman's writer and authoress Katharine Whitehorn, penned in *The Observer* last November.

Guru of the women's pages

George Seddon, the father of *Living*, is remembered by Katharine Whitehorn.

TWENTY years ago, a photograph was to be taken of *The Observer's* women's page team. All turned smilingly to camera except the editor, George Seddon, who refused and faced the other way, so they photographed the back of his head.

It was a gesture typical of one of the most original people *The Observer* has ever employed, who died last week at the age of 80. If he had been a writer or a photographer, his name would be known nationwide; but he was essentially a behind-the-scenes man, the cause of excellence in other people.

For 30 years readers (and not just of *The Observer*) have been enjoying the phenomenon of women's pages that aren't women's pages — literate, questing, wide-ranging, with names like 'Look', 'Stop', and 'Living' — without realising that it was George Seddon who invented them.

When George joined the paper in 1958, women's pages on serious papers consisted of an esoteric fashion report, a recipe and, just possibly, a cosy interview. The single shining exception was the *Guardian*, from which George came.

David Astor set him to work to create something different, and gradually his ideas evolved: such pages should take care of everything in life — anyone's life — that wasn't work. So he had Eirllys Roberts on consumer affairs, Anne Scott James and me on fashion, Cynthia Kee, Dilys Rowe on grave subjects like childcare. He fathered a quickie picture cookery feature for beginners called 'Cookstrip' by Len Deighton — and axed it when Deighton wanted to turn it into a 50-part Cordon Bleu course instead.

George had few illusions about women's pages: he knew they only commanded the space they did because of the advertising — 'I am the office prostitute' — but didn't see that as any reason why they should not be just as well-written, just as honest as any other pages. They were certainly, in his view, as valuable and he fought like a tiger to stop the leader pages snatching away anything they thought important.



Nurturer of talent: George Seddon./Photograph by Jane Bown.

I was not the only writer he invented. Towards the end of the Sixties, he rescued Shirley Conran from the colour magazine and between them they made, in 'Hers', a glittering cascade of jokes, information, observations and comment touching everything with sparkle like a Disney frost fairy.

When Shirley heard George was dying (of about a dozen things, from cancer to angina to laryngitis — not Aids) she wrote to remind us of some of the good times they had together. They had a competition to see who could give each other the most boring book — George won with *Things To Do With String*. She remembers, too, how when he was renting her basement flat the central heating went haywire and poured heat into it. For weeks he would appear at the door wearing nothing but scarlet underpants like a devil at the hot mouth of hell.

George was a northerner, born and brought up in Lancashire, but he didn't sentimentalise it. He'd hated every minute of his infant school, fared not much better at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn, and sat mutinously on Sundays at the feet of his

father, a Congregationalist Minister. An Exhibition took him to a journalism course at King's College, London (mainly because he wanted to go to the theatre), but he got a job on the *Northern Daily Telegraph* and left before his exams, joining the *Manchester Guardian* in 1934. When the war broke out, he registered as a conscientious objector and went to work with the Quakers, caring for evacuated children. George cooked for them, and scandalised authority by insisting on sprinkling rationed sugar on top of his pies to tempt the traumatised children.

It was at that time that he met and married his wife Pat, and they had a son and a daughter, Michael and Ann. After the war he found himself back at the *Guardian*, but longed for the country; so for several years they tried to farm in Westmorland. But George had always had a bad back. He went to a slipped disc man who slit him up the back like a kipper, found no slipped disc and lost interest. From then on he was nearly always in pain. He had to give up farming and go back to the *Guardian* — and hence to *The Observer*, claiming to be the only sub-editor in Fleet Street

who knew how to put the womb back into a cow.

It was in the Sixties that George really blossomed. From being a wintry northern type in an ill-fitting grey suit and heavy-rimmed spectacles, he came out in pale suits, in cherry-coloured open-necked shirts. He let his hair grow and as it turned white looked ever more of a guru. He and his wife were separated, his children had grown and he felt free to be as camp as he chose.

He didn't stay only with the women's pages. One day, on the steps of the Acropolis, in the sun, he conceived of a master plan for all our arts, books and culture coverage, to include all anyone would need to know about what was happening. It was to be called 'Briefing'. He was never allowed to do it in quite the grand manner he wanted, but the fact that there isn't a magazine or paper in the country that doesn't now have pages of quick, snappy information is due to George Seddon.

He will not be remembered for his effect on journalism. Journalism isn't like that, journalism forgets. But the people who knew him will remember, more than anything, his kindness, his sensitivity. At a dinner where the editor and a contributor were planning a big feature, only George noticed how distressed the contributor's wife was to see their summer holiday being negotiated away: 'no wonder all these women say you're so understanding,' commented the editor's wife.

During his last years he wrote books about plants and gardening — one was *Your Indoor Garden*. His flat was full of specimens, and in deference to the young man with whom he lived, he kept his own excessive mess to one room — and removed all trace of his presence when the man's parents visited, wandering the streets until they'd gone for fear of upsetting them.

He was as genuinely interested in hearing about, say, the dramas of the daughter of the barmaid at the Mermaid Theatre as those of anybody famous or successful or grand. He always swore he wasn't interested in people — but he found something interesting about just about all of them. Perhaps that was what made him such a good journalist — and so beloved of us all.



Brian's retirement ends in

SCUD ALLEY!

AS YOU read this you are no doubt aware that a year ago operation 'Desert Storm,' was under way and the good guys were assembling a combined military force the like of which had never been seen.

High-Tech weaponry was to be tested, much if not most of it never before used in anger. Saddam Hussein was telling the world that we were in for the 'Mother of all Wars'. The media was having a birthday and about to embark on a 24-hour, day by day, minute-by-minute coverage to bring entertainment — kill by kill — to the hearthrug of every home.

I was in Riyadh, the capital city of Saudi Arabia, working with the Royal Saudi Air Force and nearing the end of what had been a very interesting 15-year period of my life.

I had just enjoyed two weeks leave in the UK and had flown back to Saudi Arabia on Jan 10, just in time for the action, though I didn't know it at the time. Preparations for the war had been progressing throughout the latter part of 1990. My work was on the Air Base which had been strongly fortified. Outside my office were two heavy-machine-gun posts manned 24-hours-a-day by members of the Saudi National Guard. Four hundred yards away was a Patriot missile site and 200 yards away was a full size MASH unit of the USAF (sadly without the good-looking nurse).

The RSAF personnel were on a 12-hours-on, 12-hours-off shift system but fortunately my staff and I were spared the night stint. The Americans of course were there in force and guarding all their own areas. Their huge air-transport planes were flying in thousands of tons of material day and night.

Their personnel included a high percentage of women



Two Russian-made Iraqi tanks stopped in their tracks in the desert! ABOVE: a giant Hercules transport plane arrives on the dusty desert strip.

Brian Grimshaw (1942-47) retired to Inskip after a grand finale to his 15 years in Saudi Arabia, as logistics supply officer for the Royal Saudi Air Force via British Aerospace. He spent a decade in the textile industry, after leaving school, followed by 18 years in the RAF. He was packed, ready to leave Riyadh when he found himself in Scud Alley in the middle of the Iraqi war. He writes of his last working days firmly in the front line.



and it was quite a sight to see them driving huge trucks or doing guard duties in full combat gear (pistols, rifles, helmets, gas masks etc). The Saudis had to accept it but underneath didn't like it as in their world, women are not seen in public other than covered from head to toe in their black habyas.

We had been kitted out with the latest gas masks and carried them everywhere and briefed on what to do and not to do if bacteriological or chemical weapons were used.

Personnel who worked outside on the airfield were also issued with NBC suits. Plans had been made and studied for a mass exodus by road from Riyadh to head west if the Iraqis ever came. We did not have to but we sometimes wondered whether we few (about 300) would have made it in competition for space on the only highway out of Riyadh when 'x' percent of the million locals would have been hell-bent on getting out.

On the domestic front, (we lived on a compound of 80

houses) air-raid wardens were appointed, practise drills carried out and two houses set up as emergency first-aid posts. Each house had to set up a room as the 'shelter' and each night when I went to bed, I had my gas mask on the floor by the bed, a telephone extension on the bedside table, a large torch and clothing on a chair.

We were given frequent briefings on the overall war situation and at one of them, we were informed by a senior officer from the Joint Military Intelligence Centre that though Saddam Hussein had scores of ballistic missiles (SCUDs), Riyadh was way outside their operational range and we were quite safe. Ten days later, just after 10pm, the air-raid sirens sounded, my telephone rang and the warden just said 'SCUD attack — take action'. On went the track suit and gas mask and I sat and listened to the sirens and waited. So much for intelligence!

About three minutes later, the air reverberated, bang, bang, bang, bang. The



Patriots were going up. A few seconds later, there was a tremendous thundering rumble as the Patriots had done their job and the SCUD went off in the air.

Unfortunately, the Patriots didn't always hit the SCUD but their proximity fuses would detonate them near enough to the SCUD to fracture the body and then it would tumble to earth. Over the next few weeks, until the launch sites had been destroyed, Riyadh suffered more than 30 SCUDS. We ignored the official figures, we had heard every one.

Fear is a strange companion. You sit alone in a room, hear the Patriot missiles fire then count the seconds not knowing whether you will disappear in a flash or end up mangled or wounded in a pile of rubble.

The building shakes, windows rattle, the roar of the explosion fades away and you know you are again safe – until next time. There was only one serious direct hit on a block of flats which killed or wounded nearly 60 people. Within a week, the site was cleared and it was as if there hadn't been a building there at all.

Finally it was over, fear was gone, great joy in being alive and I would soon be going home to our red-rose county. Though I am ex-military, this time I was just a civilian caught up in a war whether I liked it or not. The machine gun posts were dismantled, the MASH unit thankfully never had a patient and the gun-toting girls went home.

Some memorable events included meeting refugee Kuwaiti families who had escaped with only a few hours to spare. A 15 minute chat



TOP: Wham, bang as Patriot missiles intercept an Iraqi Scud over Riyadh.

ABOVE: Homes wiped out near my office when a Scud got through.

RIGHT: At \$1m a missile, my local launcher fired off four Patriots in a split second.

with an enthusiastic, ready-to-go British soldier who had a couple of days furlough from the front line.

Listening to the best Big-Band sound I've ever heard in Saudi Arabia – courtesy of a band within a regimental band – and the fact that after each night of SCUD attacks, I could pick up my telephone in my 'shelter' and in seconds say to my wife in the UK: "It's me – I'm OK."



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Mystery trip ends at Blackburn in the USA!

HAROLD STANCLIFFE (1936-1941) returned to Blackburn recently after an absence of over 40 years. Blackburn, Oklahoma, USA, that is, 30 miles from Tulsa on the Arkansas river.

Harold was visiting his son Russell who works in Tulsa. A mystery trip led Harold to a small town complete with Boot Hill style cemetery - Blackburn, USA. "There are just a couple of shops, a few houses and a single church there," Harold told us. The church also serves as a makeshift surgery, dispensing 'flu shots to local townfolk.

Harold left Blackburn in 1948. He became an army major before joining Shell and working in several countries for the company.

His sister still lives in the town, though he now lives in Lymington on the south coast with his wife, Margaret.

"It would be interesting to see not just if there are towns called Blackburn, but also if there are towns which, if translated into English, would mean Blackburn," added Harold. "For instance, a French town called Ruisseau noir would be more or less Blackburn."

LAST May, the 4th to be precise, saw Richard Grimshaw (1976-84) and Kate Ashworth (1982-84) really putting the OB's together when they were married at Carey Baptist Church in Preston. They now dwell at No2, Hillary Close, Longhoughton, Alnwick, Northumberland, NE66 3JW. He flies Sea Kings in the S and R role and Kate is keeping patients' diets 'a la carte' at Ashington Hospital. Best wishes for their FIRST anniversary.

John's under the doctor's orders...!

SENIOR engineering advisor with British Telecom, John F. Buckley (1960-67), married Dr Ruth Trebble in St. Margaret's Church, Ipswich, in January last year.

After a reception at the Marlborough Hotel in Ipswich, the couple honeymooned in Devon and now live at 8 Dale Hall Lane, Ipswich, IP1 3RX.

John is involved in switching and network systems as part of what he describes as a "new forward-looking systems research division of British Telecom."

John's wife, Ruth, grew up in Southport and graduated in medicine at Bristol University. After various medical posts in Barnstaple, Yeovil and Swindon, she became a partner in general practice in Bedford.

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Goodbye civilisation

ADVENTURE is one thing, but when your occupation takes you to foreign climes (not Majorca or the West Indies) which are so remote that there isn't any electricity, no telephones, nearest vegetable market 3½ hours away and it is 14 hard, driving hours from the capital city to your place of work; where the climate is really wet (Lancs could only offer a shower to the monsoon rain) and the insect and bug world present a constant battle; then YOU ARE SPECIAL.

All this and more is 'home' to a Lancashire family who went out to Bhutan just over one year ago.

Stephen Tranter (Raleigh, 1970-76) is an SRN. He and his wife Melanie work for the Leprosy Mission. The population are poor farming people; many suffer from TB, Typhoid, Malaria and Dysentery. The local language has provided a problem for Melanie and Stephen. When in the capital city they learned the language spoken there. Now, only 50 miles away, the language is different so they have had to start again. When the source of this report first arrived, the closing words were to the effect that things should be improving as more staff were expected AND better weather was due. We hope it all happened.



The Tranters, pictured as they left for a new life in Bhutan
Picture courtesy Lancashire Evening Telegraph

Holmes from home

OBM Committee member and Magister Journalist, David Holmes (1974-81) pictured right, has won a place on a unique exchange programme organised by Rotary International.

Known as 'Group Study Exchange', the programme offers young professionals with no Rotary connections the opportunity to experience the day-to-day life of another country for up to six weeks.

The exchange is between Rotary districts around the world, so David will spend six weeks in the north east of Mexico around Monterrey, from the end of March to early May.

The exchange is on a team basis—a Rotarian group leader and four other members. A Mexican team was visiting the north-west in May.

During the trip, the team will stay with Mexican families; visit offices,



factories and farms, and give in Spanish, a short presentation on the north-west to local Rotary clubs.

David, who works in the commercial department of Blackpool and the Fylde College, Bispham, will recount his adventures south of the border in the next issue of Magister. If anyone would like to find out more about the programme before then, please feel free to get in touch on 0253 724980.

180 at annual dinner

THE annual dinner was held on Saturday, December 21, 1991 in Big School.

There were 180 diners, of which approximately 10 were guests and 28 Old Blackburnians who had left in the previous five.

This year's dinner ran much more smoothly than 1990, having adopted the old format for place settings. Unfortunately, 12 people were seated in the ante-room, being the last 12 applicants for places.

The meal, consisting of game soup, stuffed beef olives, chocolate truffle and cheese and biscuits, was enjoyed by most and served in an efficient manner.

The tickets were priced at £15 for members with a £3 discount offered to those who had left within the past five years.

A loss of approximately £100 was made on the dinner,



George Woodhouse

which was anticipated as the ticket prices had been held at the previous year's prices.

The speakers were: for the school, George Woodhouse, executive editor of the Mail On Sunday, and on behalf of the guests: Judge Bert Andrew, an extremely witty orator.

Overall, a success I feel, but no doubt there will be a debate on the location and format for future years.

ANDREW NORMAN

Ready to 8-15 from

TOO LATE! You have missed THE 8.15 FROM MANCHESTER . . . it first arrived on BBC1 one Saturday morning in April, 1990, and it finally steamed proudly off the screen in September, 1991.

Somewhere between the two dates it managed to broadcast over 40 two-and-a-half-hour programmes which combined the usual pop groups and cartoons with some unique features like the splash a minute game show, The Wetter the Better, the moral dilemma soap opera, In Their Shoes, and the young rappers forum, Rapattack.

Perhaps one of the most strange features of the show was its QEGS connection — the programme was presented by Charlotte Hindle, who attended the sixth form 80-82, the studio was directed by Alan Yardley (1961-68) and one of the shows location directors was Andy King (1968-75).

Charlotte, who co-presented the series with Scotsman Ross King, well remembers first arriving at Queen Elizabeth's from Billinge: "We were considered very much the common riff-raff from the comprehensive by some of the boys and during my first term we had quite a battle to prove ourselves as intelligent and capable as they . . . if not more so."

Auditioned

It was while she was at QEGS that Charlotte had her first taste of public performance, and the problems of getting a part: "When the school mounted a production of Macbeth in '81 I auditioned for the part of Lady Macbeth but failed the sight reading audition and was cast as a 'gentlewoman'."

In her usual battle for fair play, Charlotte kicked up a fuss over the unfairness of the audition but in the end played the role she had been cast in. However, when it came time to look beyond the sixth form she found herself "wondering around not knowing what to do" until Eric Whittle suggested she try drama and helped her find the right course, Drama and Theatre studies at the University of Birmingham.

After graduation, she attended an open audition for



Andy King (pictured above) would like to contact contemporaries from school James Stewart Dick and/or Roger Duckworth (both 1968-1975), home phone: 0663 743199.

a new ITV Saturday morning programme, Get Fresh. Although she had decided she would like to be a programme researcher, she tried for presenter "out of nosiness" and was amazed to be picked out by Janet Street Porter from 200 hopefuls. She went on to front three series with co-presenter, Gaz Top and Gilbert, the snotty alien, before moving over to the BBC to research and present the children's access slot, Over 2U, on a programme called UP2U.

It was on UP2U that she first met Andy King. Like Charlotte, he had first acquired a taste for performance in the school drama society: "The school play required that girls be brought in from Westholme for the female roles . . . this made the stage a much more interesting proposition than the playing field or music room."

However, Andy wisely concluded that acting wasn't the place for him and after working in the costume and scenery departments of the BBC during the 80s became a

Picture courtesy of the Daily Telegraph

Krishnan's a bachelor of hearts

TV presenter Krishnan Guru-Murthy (1981-89) has been rated one of Britain's most eligible bachelors according to Company magazine.

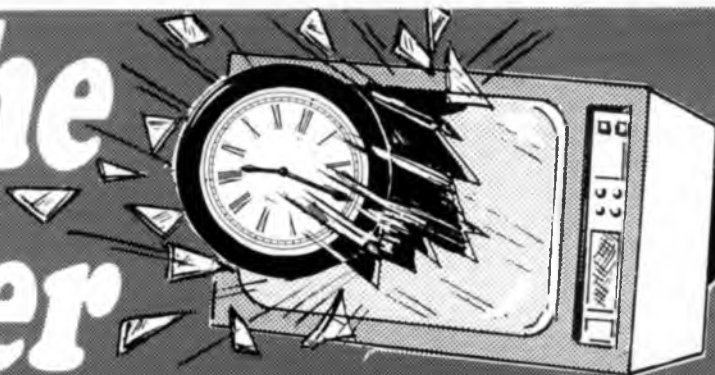
The magazine said hundreds of men had been researched to produce a list which was eventually whittled down to 50 finalists. Krishnan was chosen as one of the country's most sought after single men because he is "film-star sexy and tipped as the hottest up-and-coming presenter on TV".

Although still in his third year at Oxford, Krishnan

is already an experienced TV host. He has appeared in Reportage, Songs of Praise, and the BBC's discussion programme Open to Question. He currently presents the children's news programme Newsround and will be joining the team full-time after his finals.

"I spent my days in Blackburn thinking I was going to be a doctor," said Krishnan. "TV was always one of those things other people did, I was very lucky."

Board for the Manchester



K-QEGs TRIO KEEP BC SHOW ON RAILS

her/director on UP2U

the two years of "the Charlotte and Andy" over 15 films together in as diverse as the Hebrides, a microlite ft high above the hire Peak District and eld in Suffolk at four in orning. Of all their s together the one they ook back upon with was interviewing New the Block at Wembley mmer.

y were six hours late interview," remembers "so by the time they Charlotte was in no or their childish rude- and leering sexism. minutes of the inter- starting it had turned olazing row with Char- telling them in no ain terms what awful brats they were and gh I felt it was about omebody said this to - perhaps in front of 7 cameras wasn't the d place..."

Presenter

he joined the 8.15 as director, Alan had never Charlotte "although I had er mum when she was ess..."

ever, during the course series, Alan was to Charlotte in some of her zarre roles as "the lady lever" in Its Tough at p, feeding a furry rat oweeee down a length a pipe in Catch the Rat, r the programme's very nmission, dressed as Tracey in a take-off of erbirds.

8.15 was classic child- television," says Alan, e fun we had in making programme always shone h."

Yardley, who took stry, maths and physics el, also cut his teeth on ool play, although in e it was on the lighting age management side:

"Because in those days pro- ductions were staged at the little theatre in Troy Street it meant the week before in transit..."

Female parts in plays such as The Jew of Malta were taken by boys, but Alan clearly remembers taking his Lam- bretta down Buncer Lane to meet the outflux of girls from the high school.

After school, Alan read chem- istry at Loughborough and after contact with the uni- versity radio station decided "a life of shaking test-tubes was not for me" and after working for Radio Blackburn and Radio Manchester as a producer/presenter burst into the world of TV as a news- reader on local programmes and presenter on Saturday morning programme, Get Set for Summer. Before moving on to the 8.15 he directed Going Live, Move It and Northwest Tonight.



Charlotte Hindle, who is currently researcher/director for the BBC programme "Why Don't You?" from Manchester



Lovely Yvette Livesey (1984-86) also works in Manchester as executive director of an international music convention to be staged in September. Yvette, 23, is a former Miss England and runner-up for Model of the Year.

Picture courtesy of the Lancashire Evening Telegraph

OBA links up with school's computer

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION – BALANCE SHEET 31st JULY, 1991

	£	1991	£	1990	£
NET ASSETS					
Lammack Ground at cost less sales.....			1,208		1,208
INVESTMENTS AT COST					
£1,250 4% Consols (Market Value £491).....	1,161			1,161	
£650 8 25% Barclays Bank plc Unsecured Loan 1986/93 (Market Value £608)	582			582	
£2,879 07 6 75% Treasury Stock 1995/98 (Market Value £2,463)	2,231			2,231	
£2,750 8 25% Treasury Stock 1993 (Market Value £2,674)	2,487			2,492	
£2,750 9% Treasury Stock 1992/96 (Market Value £2,654)	2,457			2,474	
£5,000 10 25% Exchequer Stock 1995 (Market Value £5,000)	5,075			—	
£5,000 10 5% Exchequer Stock 1997 (Market Value £5,045)	5,047			—	
		19,040			8,940
		10,000			9,000
LOAN TO QEGS					
Debtors					
Advertisers.....	210				
Dividend.....	73		283	73	
Cash					
Trustee Savings Bank.....	398			377	
Lloyds Bank plc.....	5,784			3,854	
National & Provincial Building Society.....	6,410			385	
National Savings Bank.....	2,083			10,952	
		14,675			15,568
		45,206			34,789
CREDITORS					
Annual dinner.....	756			—	
Inland Revenue.....	208			25	
Magister.....	2,973			—	
		(3,937)			(250)
		£41,269			£34,539
REPRESENTED BY:					
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND			1,208		1,208
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND					
Balance at 1st August 1990.....	38,391			32,663	
Add New members.....	6,510			5,850	
		44,737			38,391
ACCUMULATED FUND					
Balance at 1st August 1990.....	(5,060)			(4,166)	
Surplus (deficit) for the year.....	384			(1,085)	
	(4,676)			(5,251)	
Surplus on redemption of investment.....	—			191	
		(4,676)			(5,060)
		£41,269			£34,539

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st JULY 1991

INCOME					
Subscriptions.....		1,029		815	
Released from Life Membership Fund.....		104		122	
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS					
10 25% Exchequer Stock 1995.....	512			—	
10 5% Exchequer Stock 1997.....	262			—	
4% Consols.....	50			50	
8 25% Barclays Bank – Loan.....	54			54	
6 75% Treasury Stock 1995/98.....	194			194	
8 25% Treasury Stock 1987/90.....	—			200	
9% Treasury Stock 1992/96.....	224			24	
8 25% Treasury Stock 1993.....	221			6	
	1,517			528	
Bank Interest.....	21			18	
Building Society Interest.....	34			28	
National Savings Bank Investment account Interest.....	1,131			952	
		2,020			1,144
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND RENT			5		5
SURPLUS ON ANNUAL DINNER			351		4
		3,509			2,090
EXPENDITURE					
General Expenses.....	138			136	
Postages.....	158			241	
Magister.....	2,678			2,391	
Corporation Tax (overprovision in previous year)	(15)			(3)	
Subscription to ISIS Association.....	150			150	
Branch Expenses.....	16			260	
		3,125			3,175
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUND			384		1,085

HONORARY AUDITORS' REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st JULY 1991

We have examined the accounts set out on pages 2 to 4, which are in accordance with the information supplied to us, and give a true and correct record of the transactions for the year ended 31st July, 1991 and of the state of affairs at that date.

W HARE
R B HOLDEN Chartered Accountants, Blackburn

8th October, 1991

THE 63rd Annual General Meeting was held at School on Wednesday November 13 1991.

John Duckworth was in the chair and nine members were present.

The Chairman outlined the activities of the Association over the previous 12 months and thanked the School for the use of its facilities and his fellow Officers and Committee for their help and support.

He said that at a recent meeting between some of the officers, the chairman of governors, the Headmaster and the Bursar, various matters had been discussed but, in particular, it had been agreed to update the records of the Association held by the School, both for the Association's benefit and for the benefit of the School. It was agreed that the relevant information would be transferred to the Bursar's computer records which would mean that the School's front office staff and in particular Judy Scott, would be relieved of some of the work they had to do on behalf of the Association. It was agreed, however, that this office would still be a clearing house for the Association.

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the valuable help given by Mrs Scott over many years and although the Association expressed its thanks to her each year, it was agreed on this occasion that this appreciation should be acknowledged in a more significant way. It was resolved that a vase or rose bowl should be presented to her with the Association's thanks.

The Chairman thanked Andrew Norman for having to cope with the extraordinary problems in relation to the previous year's dinner and dealing with these exceedingly well in his first year organising the dinner.

The Treasurer's Report and the accounts were approved and adopted. A vote of thanks was given to the treasurer for his continued efforts in sorting out the association's finances.

Andrew Norman said that diners in Big School would be limited to 165. A surplus from the previous year enabled ticket prices to be pegged despite increased catering costs to the OBA.

It was agreed to look into the question of the availability and cost of distribution of Magister other than by the efforts of the few members of the Committee who normally sorted this out. David Holmes and Brian Grimshaw were thanked for their help.

John Read reminded the meeting of the changeover of

Continued on Page 14

Herr Prof is adopted by Augsburgers



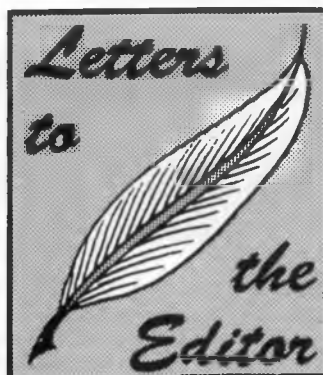
Dr Ronald Barham

ON a routine fact-finding visit with a group of 30 surveyors to the Rathaus (town hall) in Augsburg, Bavaria, Dr Ronald Barham (1957-63) was caught by surprise when, instead of the usual civic reception and address to the visitors by the town's public relations officer, the Oberbürgermeister himself, Herr Dr Peter Menacher, attended the reception and presented Ronald with a solid silver facsimile of the symbol of Augsburg (a Roman-style pine cone) in the form of a lapel badge, signifying his "adoption" as an honorary Augsburgers.

The presentation during Dr Barham's fifth group visit to Augsburg, was made in recognition of his work in bringing English and German professionals together and in recognition of his academic involvement with Fachhochschule Augsburg's Fachbereich Architektur und Bauingenieurung.

Dr Barham, an OBA committee member, has also made several visits to FH Augsburg as *Gast Professor*, giving lectures in project appraisal techniques to the final year undergraduates on its Diplom-Ingenieur course and assisting with the development to the new Dipl.Ing. course in "Bauabwicklung" introduced in 1992.

Dr Barham, a Freeman of the City of London, has recently stepped down as Worshipful Master of the Old Blackburnian Lodge, which meets in Big School. Anyone who desires further information about this Freemasons' lodge is invited to contact Dr Barham on 0254 706267.



Fighter talk

THE article in Magister 34 by Roland Hodson (1936-40) on the subject of Blitzkrieg has generated another memory of the incident by Geoff Haworth (1938-44) who now resides at 11, Rosslare, Norwich NR4 6AW. He remembers the aircraft referred to by Roland – and it's recognition. He also remembers going into the air-raid shelters in Corporation Park. His form heard many thuds and bangs and Mr Partington, their form master, doing his best to allay their fears. However Geoff reports that much, if not all, the noises were caused by other unknown students (suggested 4D) banging on corrugated iron sheets. He also states that the incident is recorded on Page 115 of A History of the School by George Eastwood.

Dinner date

JIM Sandles (1958-68) writes from Macclesfield in Cheshire (Tel: 0625 614816) to say he'd be happy to hear if anyone remembers him at school. He looks forward to receiving Magister and is booking his seat at the annual dinner in Big School – see report Page 9.

Ici en France

NORMAN Eatough (1943-50) has written from France saying he would be pleased to hear from old friends and offering a warm welcome to anyone visiting the area.

Norman was (and still is) a linguist (BA in French and German, Leeds 1953) but somehow became involved in Teesside industry.

He escaped in 1964 and ended up in Geneva where, in between cricket, squash, tennis, croquet, mountaineering and ski-ing, he applied his spare energies working for CERN. He now resides at La Forge, Fenieres, F-01710 THOIRY, France.

WANT SOME ADVICE?

MIKE Crossley (1956-62) has been appointed corporate marketing and communications adviser at ELTEC, East Lancashire Training and Enterprise Council, one of the new regional bodies set up by government to organise and promote training. Mike will advise on all aspects of promotion and marketing.

He was previously assistant managing director at the Lancashire Evening Telegraph, Blackburn, and has spent 23 years in the newspaper industry around the country.



Rachel cooks up a winner!



Rachel Brown (1988-90), daughter of prominent Old Blackburnian Barry Brown, the Chairman-elect of the Old Blackburnians' Association, has been awarded the National Association of British & Irish Millers Prize in Food Science at the University of Reading (Department of Food Science & Technology) as the top student in Food Science practical work in her course. Rachel, pictured left, is due to receive her Duke of Edinburgh's Gold award from a prominent Royal at St James' Palace, London, in July.

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MARTIN ROBERT MASON

MARTIN Robert Mason (1956-61), of St Silas' Road, Blackburn, died tragically from severe injuries in Barrow-in-Furness hospital early last year, ten days after a road accident in fog and ice while delivering fruit and vegetables to Cumbria. He leaves a wife, Sheila, and teenage son and daughter. Martin, aged 46, was the son of former Blackburn councillor George Mason, a fruit and vegetable wholesaler, who was a former QEGS governor. Martin was a Freemason and a member of the Old Blackburnian Lodge.

The 63rd annual meeting

continued from Page 12

the computer records to the Bursar's system and although there had been some initial teething problems, the changeover was well in hand.

In the absence of Phil Sumner, the secretary reported that arrangements with the School had been renewed for the use of the School gymnasium for training and it was hoped to make arrangements for use of the new Sports Hall next year.

All the officers and committee were elected en bloc as follows: — President — Sir Kenneth Durham; Chairman — John Duckworth; Vice-chairman — Barry Brown; Secretary — David Forbes; Treasurer — Fred Gillibrand; Auditors — William Hare and Ralph Holden. Committee: Ron Barham, Frank Barnes, Harold Burrows, Eric Fairhurst, Tom Hindle, David Holmes, Eric Kay, Carl Marsden, Keith Newton, Andrew Norman, Peter Pearson, Bill Proctor, John Read, Eric Sagar, Roger Smethurst, Roger Smith, Ray Smith, Philip Thompson, Bill Walsh, Jim Warner, Keith Wightman.

Ex-officio — Philip Johnston (Headmaster) and Phil Sumner (Football Club).

On recommendation of the



Chairman: John Duckworth

treasurer, it was resolved the subscription should remain the same, namely £50 for life membership and £5 for annual membership.

The following dates were agreed for committee meetings: — Committee February 4 and September 8; Annual General Meeting — November 11; Annual Dinner — December 19.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Provost retires from governors

DEFENESTRATION! This word inevitably but unusually came to mind at the famous governors' meeting when the Governing Body of the school was discussing the material to be used in what we now know as the Queen's Wing.

Naturally, as the sum of £3m+ was envisaged, the Governors were keen to get the right material which would blend in with the 1883 buildings on West Park Road, and most observers are delighted with the harmonization of the new wing, as the Blackburn Civic Society major award to the school for this building certainly demonstrates. It was typical of our much revered and loved Provost that, at this stage, both the then Vice-Chairman of the Governors and the Provost, the Very Reverend Lawrence Jackson, sounded a note of warning about the durability and weathering qualities of artificial stone, and, on a warm July evening, it was the Provost who suggested that we might open a window in the Radcliffe Room and toss a piece of artificial stone through the window to see what would happen. As Head Master I thought of that occasion when the King of Bohemia in the 1600s was thrown out of the window by revolting subjects — defenestration — and wondered if the Governing Body might do the same to their Head Master during the building programmes that had been part and parcel of my 'reign' at Queen Elizabeth's.

On very many occasions, the Provost, himself prominent in both local and national life at every level, has given most generously of his time to Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, of which he is Governor by virtue of being Vicar of Blackburn. It was he who said to Her Majesty The Queen on the occasion of the Royal Visit to open the same Queen's Wing that he had been a Governor here since 1967, and was only momentarily stunned by the Queen's remark that, though she knew he was getting on in years, she had not quite appreciated he was so old! Speaking as Head Master, I shall miss his benign



Provost Lawrence Jackson

presence very much, as we seek to bid him farewell as a Governor of Queen Elizabeth's.

It will be for others to comment upon his unique service to the Diocese of Blackburn, to the Cathedral Church of St Mary the Virgin, and of his services to the General Synod, but I for one would like to pay tribute to his constant support and endeavours as a long-standing Governor of the school. It is he who often opens the Governing Body meetings with prayer, it is he who regularly lends his support, together with that of his charming wife, Faith, to all sorts of school occasions, and it is he who has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to one who has been grateful for his friendship down the years.

Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School has been long indebted to local men who have sought to give freely of their time and energies to the school which they have governed, and I shall miss him terribly.

P.F. JOHNSTON

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QEGS CHOICE FOR TRAVEL

On your bike—for Op Raleigh

LAST November, the Sixth-Form students had a memorable visit by Colonel John Blashford Snell, Director of Operation Raleigh, the worldwide adventure scheme.

Proof of his powers of expression and enthusiasm was to see over half the audience of 180 collecting

brochures and information on how to apply for a slot on a project.

The 'how' leads to an exhausting selection procedure testing candidates' mental and physical stamina and if you beat that one there is the final one — how to raise your share of the cost.

Prospectus enthrals at NE dinner

THE North East branch of the OBA held its annual dinner on the evening of Friday, February 21 in the quite picturesque Pennington room of Grey College, Durham.

The chief guest was QEGS vice master Dr J.R. Jennings, who was standing in for the Headmaster.

The college more than lived up to its reputation for excellent catering, with a superb five-course meal, and the occasion was evidently enjoyed by all present. Dr Jennings gave an entertaining and informative review of the present state of QEGS, forging ahead at this crucial time in the development of British education under the National Curriculum, and everyone was quite spellbound by the spanking-new, glossy school prospectus the vice-master took with him to the gathering.

May I express my thanks to all those who managed to attend the dinner and may I take this opportunity to extend an invitation, a year in advance, to anyone wanting to attend the 1993 get-together on February 19, somewhere in the Durham and Newcastle area. It would be a great help if anyone who would like further information about the meal, when the specific details are decided upon, could get in touch with me at the above address at any time: any expressions of interest or contact addresses would be most welcome and would, I'm sure, contribute to the ultimate success of the event.

Those in attendance were: David Walton, Simon Horsfield, Sarah Dent, Andy Barrett, Suyata Kundu, Anthony Lees, Kerynne Braithwaite & guest, Andrew Travis, Mr & Mrs K Wightman, Mr & Mrs F Raby, Dr J.R. Jennings, Mr Eric Kay, Mrs Cynthia Johnston, Miss Virginia Johnston.

David Walton

BRANCH NEWS



THE headmaster, Philip Johnston, and son Andrew met up at the Oxford dinner where Andrew is reading history at St Peter's College. The dinner, at Balliol College last November, was organised by Andrew Forbes, the son of OBA secretary David.

Andrew, reading history at Balliol, has written articles on Hartley House and the OBA for the latest two Magisters.

The dinner, attended by more than 30 former pupils and students, was a great success. The Blackburn contingent included: Mr and Mrs Johnston, OBA chairman Mr and Mrs Duckworth, vice-chairman Mr and Mrs Brown, secretary Mr and Mrs Forbes, Mr Kay, and Mr and Mrs Raby. It was also a delight to see Mr Jeff Vent who had retired from King Henry VIII Coventry School.

THE London branch dinner in March was a double header — with headmaster Mr Philip Johnston and Mrs Johnston being joined by former headmaster Brian H. Kemball-Cooke and his wife at the John Adams Hall in the University of London.

Brian spoke about the changes which occurred during his tenancy evoking many memories of the character he knew. Mr Johnston replied for the school and brought everyone up to date.

Denis Vipond retired as branch treasurer. He was thanked for his past service by the secretary Ian Tomlinson, who also wished the new incumbent, Dave Walker, a happy tenure.

There are about 30 members in regular contact although many more are known to live and work around London. They are invited to get in touch with Ian at Flat 2, 10 Byre Road, Sydenham, SE26 5JE.

They are meeting next at the Red Lion, Kingly Street, at 6.30pm on Thursday, May 7 (nearest tube Oxford Circus) for an informal evening — an ideal opportunity for new members to pop in and chat.

Our thanks..

The editor and committee of Magister would like to thank all contributors and the Headmaster and Mrs Judy Scott for their valuable help in compiling this edition.

Curate appointed

MICHAEL John Hampson (1974-84) was ordained Deacon last June at Blackburn Cathedral by the Right Reverend Alan D Chesters. Michael has been appointed Curate at All Saints with Saint John the Baptist Church, Burnley.

Branch Secretaries (1991-92)

BLACKBURN: D. Forbes,
Dean Cottage,
Dean Lane,
Great Harwood,
BLACKBURN
BB6 7UN
Tel: 0254 887291

**CHESHIRE AND
SOUTH LANCASHIRE:**
Dr. D. M. Martin,
27 Broad Hey,
STOCKPORT,
Cheshire.
Tel: 061-430 4969

**DURHAM AND
N E BRANCH:** R Rainford &
Miss K. Braithwaite,
St. John's College,
DURHAM.

LONDON: I. E. Tomlinson,
Flat 2,
10 Byre Road,
SYDENHAM,
Kent.
SE26 5JE
Tel: 081-778-3453

CAMBRIDGE: D. McCormick,
Downing College,
CAMBRIDGE.

OXFORD: A J. Forbes,
Balliol College,
OXFORD.

YORKSHIRE: C. M. Sloan,
42 Howden Ave.,
Skellow,
NR. DONCASTER.
DN6 8LJ
Tel: 0302 722973

Roy Marlbor

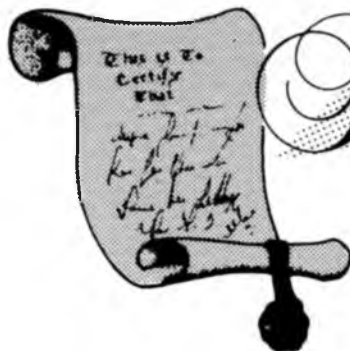
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Degrees and things

J.D.C. AINSWORTH (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Physics, University of Manchester.

J. C. ALGAR (1986-88) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Law, Anglia Polytechnic. Proceeding to Law Society Finals at Guildford College of Law.

P. ALMOND (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Physics, University of Leeds.

S. J. BARNES (1977-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Business Studies, Newcastle Business School. Proceeding to Post Graduate Diploma in Advanced Manufacturing Technology.

FLT. LT. PHILIP J. BELL (1969-77); Flying instructor with the Queen's University, Belfast, Air Squadron.

AMANDA BENTHAM (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. French and Management Science, University of Keele. Appointed Trainee Accountant with K.P.M.G.

CAROL BETTANEY (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geography, University of Leeds. Proceeding to appointment with The National Rivers Authority, Northern Region.

CAPT. ANDREW A. R. BIRTKETT, B.Sc., R.E. (1980-82); Flying helicopters with the Northern Ireland Regiment Army Air Corps at RAF Aldergrove.

MARIAN R. BLUNDELL (1984-86) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Aberdeen. Appointed Medical House Officer, at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness.

A. J. BOARDMAN (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Geography, University of Durham. Proceeding to read for P.G.C.S. at University of Durham.

C. L. BRAYNE (1985-88) Graduated to B.A., Class 1, Hons. English, Balliol College, Oxford.

T.M. BROWN (1977-87) Graduated B.Eng. Class 1, Hons. Mechanical Engineering, Lanchester Polytechnic, Coventry. Appointed Design Analysis Engineer with Mirrlees Blackstone, Stockport.

J. H. BUGLASS (1976-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. French and Philosophy, University of Strathclyde.

P. A. BULLOCK (1978-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Ancient and Near Eastern History, University College, London.

C. J. BURY (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Economics & Politics, University of Leeds.

R. D. BUSH (1985-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Physics, Jesus College, Oxford. Proceeding to Ph.D., at Cranfield, in Laser Imaging & Combustion Diagnostics.

C. R. BUTLER Graduated B.Mus., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Music, Royal Holloway & Bedford New College, London University. Proceeding to read for P.G.C.E. in Music at Reading University.

O. CANNING (1978-88) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. Economics, Kings College, Cambridge.

J.G. CASS (1984-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Business Studies. Awarded Diploma in Marketing.

B. H. CASTLING (1980-86) Qualified B.D.S. Newcastle Upon Tyne Dental School. Appointed House Officer at Newcastle Upon Tyne Dental Hospital.

M. J. CAVANNAGH (1980-87) Graduated B.L.E., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Land Economy, University of Aberdeen.

F. M. CHITTY (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geological Sciences, University of Leeds. Sponsored by the R.A.F. for training as a pilot.

C. P. CLEAVER (1977-84) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Leeds.

A. CREE (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. History, University of Lancaster. Proceeding to read for P.G.C.E. at St Martins, Lancaster.

HELEN I. DAWSON (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Mathematics, Collingwood College, University of Durham. Appointed Systems Analyst/Computer Programmer at British Aerospace, Warton, Preston.

REBECCA DEARDEN Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. History/Law, Christ's College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Guildford Law School.

J. DEARING (1977-86) Qualified B.D.S. with Distinction University of Edinburgh Dental School. Appointed House Officer at Edinburgh Dental Hospital.

HELEN M. DEMPSEY (1985-87) Graduate B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Education, University of Durham. Appointed Infant Teacher at Greenlands County Primary School, Preston.

A. J. DEWHURST (1979-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Business Information Technology, Lancashire Polytechnic.

M. J. DRAYCOTT (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geography, Wolverhampton Polytechnic.

NICOLA J. DITCHFIELD (1984-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Mathematics/German, University of Birmingham. Proceeding to Trainee Management Accountant with 3M United Kingdom Plc.

S. M. DUERDEN (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Finance & Accounting, University of Leeds.

ANJALI M. DURGE (1984-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Japanese Studies, University of Sheffield. Proceeding to articles with Clifford Chance.

R. T. ECCLES (1981-86) Awarded Distinction in National Diploma in Agriculture at Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture. Awarded Preston Farmers Cup as top academic student.

DEBORAH E. EVANS, B.Sc., (1985-87) Gained Diploma in Environmental Impact Assessment, U.C.W., Aberystwyth.

A. Z. FISHER (1980-88) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Civil & Environmental Engineering, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

D. A. GILL (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Planning Studies, Oxford Polytechnic. Proceeding to Royal Town Planning Institute Diploma at Oxford Polytechnic.



OUR congratulations go to **Ruth Ann Baker (1986-88)** who last October was awarded the Johnson and Partners Award as the best student in her group when she completed the National Certificate in Management of Horses at the Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture, Myerscough Hall, Billsborrow.

NATALIE G. GREEN (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Business Studies, Lancashire Polytechnic. Appointed Tax Assistant with Freeman Rich Chartered Accountants, Preston.

D. J. GREGSON (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Hons. Management, Hartwick College, Oneonta, New York, U.S.A. Appointed assistant Soccer coach at Scranton University, Pennsylvania. Proceeding to a Masters degree in Education/French.

A. J. GOULD (1978-88) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. Computer Science, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge.

STEPHANIE A. L. HARDCASTLE (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. French & German, University of Hull.

RUTH E. HART (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Biochemistry, Merton College, Oxford. Proceeding to Ph.D. at Wolfson College, Oxford.

S. P. HARTLEY (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Law, Queen's College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Law School at York.

J. W. HAWORTH (1979-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Social Science, Bristol Polytechnic.

K. P. HITCHEN (1984-88) Awarded H.N.D., Engineering, Bolton Institute of Higher Education. Proceeding to Industrial Training for 4-year B.Eng Degree at Coventry Polytechnic.

C. A. HOLLAND (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 3, Hons. European Business Studies, Humberstone Polytechnic. Gained Diploma from Sup De Co, Bordeaux.

J. P. HOLLAND (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Clothing Engineering, UMIST. Joining the Lancashire Constabulary in August.

M. J. HOLMES (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Agriculture, University of Newcastle.

SALLY A. HULL (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 3, Hons. Mathematics & Statistics, Brunel University.

P. C. HUNT (1979-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Economic & Social Studies, University of Manchester.

JOANNE H. IDDON (1986-88) Graduated B.Eng., Class 1, Hons. Civil Engineering, University of Manchester. Proceeding to M.Sc., at Manchester University.

C. W. IPOFEN (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geology, Leeds University.

R.A. ISHERWOOD (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Chemistry, University of Nottingham.

JENNY IVISON (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Modern Languages, French and German, University of Manchester. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. at Manchester University.

C.J. JEPSON-RANDALL (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Mathematics, University of Warwick. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Cooper & Lybrand Deloitte, Manchester.

P. G. JOHNSON (1981-88) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Law, University of Sheffield.

A. LEES (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Biochemistry, University of Liverpool. Appointed Editorial Assistant on local newspaper in Wiltshire.

D. N. LEITCH (1976-85) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Manchester Medical School. Appointed House Officer at Hope Hospital, and then Wigan Infirmary.

CHRISTINE LEWIS (1984-86) Qualified B.D.S., University of Newcastle Upon Tyne Dental School. Proceeding to Dentistry in Cumbria.

C. LUSK (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Development Studies, University of East Anglia.

N. M. LYON (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Pharmacology, University of Leeds.

M.S.A. MALIK (1978-85) Qualified M.B., B.Chir., Jesus College, Cambridge.

S. J. W. MARR (1978-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Law, Exeter College, Oxford. Appointed Trainee Business Consultant with Arthur Andersen & Co., Manchester.

A. W. MARTIN (1979-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Urban Land Economics, Sheffield City Polytechnic. Proceeding to Chartered Surveyor with Bernard Thorpe, Manchester.

D. M. McCORMICK (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Physics, Downing College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Management Studies at Downing College.

S. D. McDADE (1985-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Mathematics with Statistics, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

A. P. McDONNELL (1980-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Geography, University of Edinburgh. Proceeding to M.Sc., in Geographical Information Systems at University of Edinburgh.

G. J. MERCER (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Information Technology & Human Factors, Loughborough University of Technology.

SIMON H. MEAD, currently at Downing College, Cambridge, elected to the Senior Whitby Scholarship in Medical Sciences as a result of gaining First Class Honours in Part II of the Natural Sciences Tripos at Cambridge.

JILLIAN L. METCALFE (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geography, University of Warwick. Proceeding to teaching appointment with infants at Cambridge.



RICHARD Eccles has recently completed at distinction level the National Diploma in Agriculture course at the Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture.

Richard (1986-88) pictured above was the top academic student on the three-year, full-time course.

Richard has returned to work on the family farm at Claughton-on-Brock, near Garstang.

Stephen is made accounts partner

STEPHEN Hunter (1970-77) has been appointed a partner at the Preston office of Chartered Accountants KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock.

Following his BA at The Queen's College, Cambridge, he joined the company at Preston in 1980 and specialised in taxation with periods of service at Manchester and London.



RUTH V. MILLER (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Chemistry, University of Manchester. Proceeding to Postgraduate Studies in Chemistry at Manchester University.

A. MILNES (1980-86) Qualified B.D.S. University of Newcastle Upon Tyne Dental School.

SUZANNE MOORE (1984-86) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Leicester Medical School. Appointed House Officer at Leicester Royal Infirmary.

N. R. MURRAY (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Accounting and Finance, Manchester Polytechnic. Appointed Marketing Assistant with Maine Consulting Services.

S. NATH (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Medical Science, University of Edinburgh. Continuing for M.B., Ch.B.

J. M. ORMSBY (1977-85) Qualified B.M., Southampton Medical School. Appointed House Surgeon at Dorchester General Hospital.

J. C. PARKINSON (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Economics, University of Leicester.

J. S. PARMAR (1974-81) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Leeds.

GAIL PERRY (1981-83) Appointed to Senior Administrative post as Alumni Funding Officer for the Cambridge Foundation.

C. N. PROCTER (1983-87) Graduated B.Eng., Class 1, Hons. Electronic Engineering, University of Southampton.

R. J. RAINFORD (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Music, St John's College, University of Durham.

CAROLYN J. REID (1986-88) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Law, Bristol Polytechnic. Proceeding to College of Law in Chester.

L. J. G. REID (1977-84) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. University of Leicester.

J. P. RHODES (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Food Science, University of Leeds.

A. C. RIDEHALGH (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geography/Geology, University of Manchester.

A. J. RIGBY (1985-87) Graduated M.Eng., Class 1, Hons. Engineering, Manufacture & Management, UMIST. Proceeding to Ph.D., at Imperial College, London.

HANNAH M. ROBERTS (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Sociology & Education, University of York.

A. J. ROBERTSON (1980-86) Qualified B.Ch.D., University of Leeds Dental School.

T. G. M. SCOTT (1976-85) Graduated M.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Classical Archaeology & Mathematics, University of Edinburgh. Studying for M.A., in Video at Middlesex Polytechnic.



"It's never too early to put their name down for QEGS!!" The Head Master is proudly holding Thomas Christopher William the son of Mr and Mrs Brookes (nee Vanita Hajela) grandson of Dr V P Hajela, former School Governor, at his baptism.

RACHEL S. SHAW (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Art History and Social & Economic History, Manchester Polytechnic. Appointment with Charles Edwards & Co, Blackburn.

R. J. SHAW (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Information Technology, University of Salford. Appointed Systems Manager with 'Ten Green Bottles'.

ANWAR SIDDIQUI (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Combined Studies, Lancashire Polytechnic.

J. D. F. SMITH (1976-85) Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Law, Christ's College, Cambridge. 1989. Passed Law Society Finals. Articled to Booth & Co. Leeds.

JONATHAN STEWART Awarded Open Scholarship, University College, Oxford, following distinction in his first year.

P.A. SOUTHWORTH (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Geography, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

J. THORNBUR (1979-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Hons. Mathematics, Trinity Hall, Cambridge. Proceeding to Diploma in Computer Science at Cambridge.

O. M. TURNER (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Physics, University of St Andrews. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Touche Ross Ltd., Leeds.

R. H. TURNER (1977-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Economics & Business Management, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

N. H. VYSE (1979-86) Graduated M.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geography, University of Aberdeen.

ANN M. VANNER (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Architecture, University of Liverpool.

T. J. WALTON (1975-85) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Business Administration & French, University of Aston.

A. WARBRICK (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Physics & Electronic Engineering, University of Manchester.

J. G. WEBB (1977-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Ancient History, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

S. WEST (1983-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Economics, University of Durham. Proceeding to Training Contract with Touche Ross, Manchester.

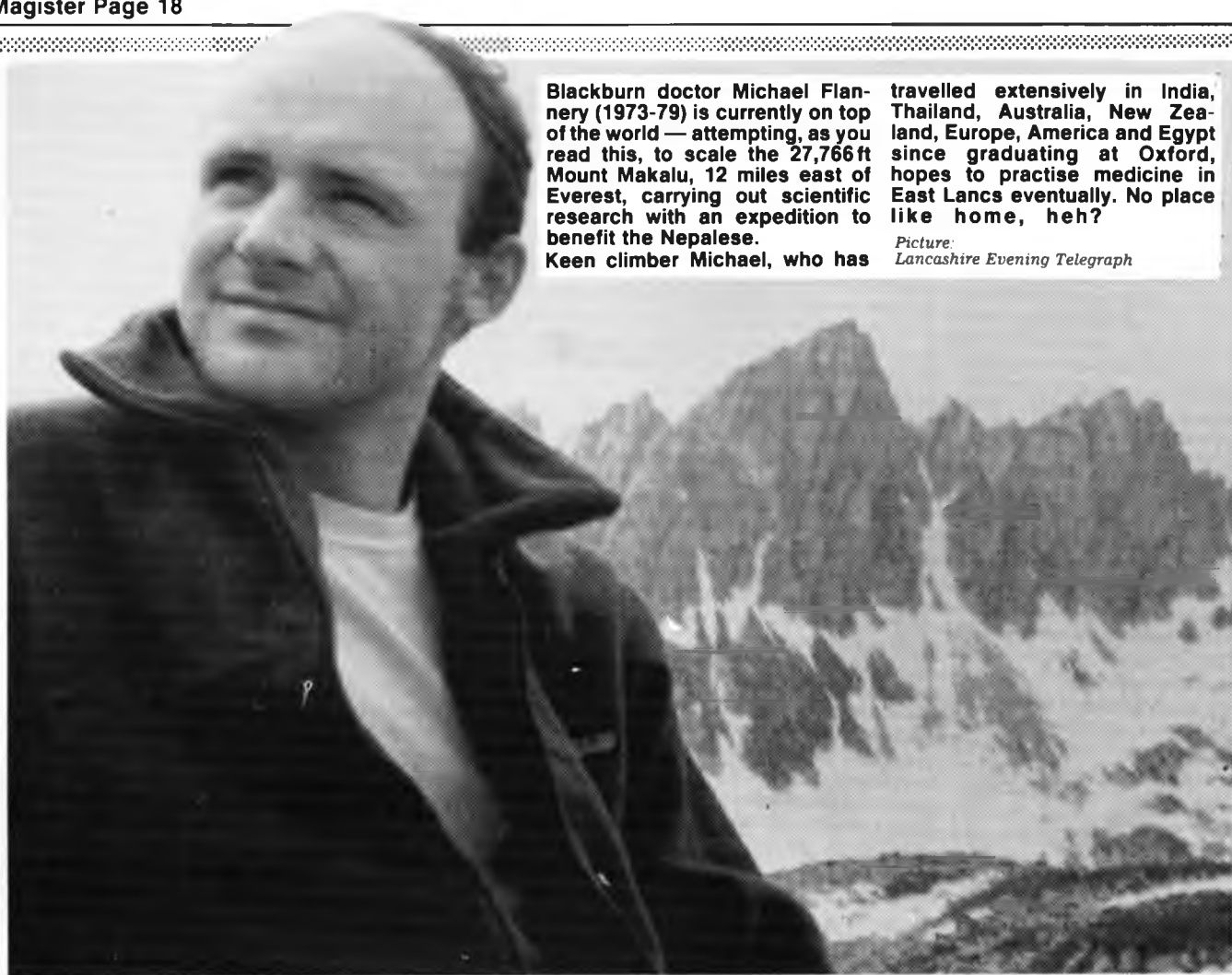
S. WESTHEAD (1979-86) Qualified B.Vet.Sc., Royal Veterinary College, London. Appointed to a Veterinary Practice in Stourport, Worcestershire.

J. S. WHITELEY (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 2, Hons. Geography, University of Leeds. Proceeding to Retail Management, Dixons Stores Group.

A. WHITTER (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Mathematics, University of Leeds.

D. W. WOOF (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Hons. Computer Studies, University of Leeds. Appointed Computer Programmer for Sema Group Plc., Scientific Division.

SUSAN J. WRIGLEY (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div 1, Hons. Optometry, University of Bradford. Proceeding to pre-registration year at Coventry & Warwickshire Hospital.



Blackburn doctor Michael Flannery (1973-79) is currently on top of the world — attempting, as you read this, to scale the 27,766 ft Mount Makalu, 12 miles east of Everest, carrying out scientific research with an expedition to benefit the Nepalese.

Keen climber Michael, who has

travelled extensively in India, Thailand, Australia, New Zealand, Europe, America and Egypt since graduating at Oxford, hopes to practise medicine in East Lancs eventually. No place like home, heh?

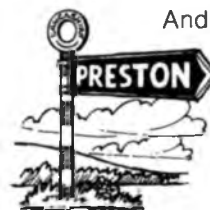
Picture:
Lancashire Evening Telegraph

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OLD BLACKS THIRDS ARE PIPPED FOR TITLE

OLD BLACKBURNIANS A.F.C. REPORT 1990-91

THE new campaign for 1990/91 started with a certain amount of optimism with the hope that some silverware might be on the table at the end of May.

Pre-season training had gone well with several new players having joined the club under the eye of new 1st XI manager, Fred Forrest.

Early results for the 1st XI did go some way in supporting that optimism but by the end of October, a number of inconsistent performances had developed and victories were becoming hard to come by. A mid-table position was achieved by them but by January it did seem unlikely that the team were going to scale new heights. A final position of 9th in the league was nevertheless disappointing for all concerned.

The L.A.L. Cup competition however did bring success in the early rounds and the semi-final stage was reached by April. Strong opposition in Rochdale St Clements unfortunately did little to boost confidence here, Rochdale having more or less sewn up this competition in previous years. A 4-1 defeat followed showing the level of performance the Blacks must strive for in the future if honours are to be gained.

Friendly

The 2nd XI having previously finished third bottom of the Premier Reserves had much to prove when the season began with a number of players needing to show a more determined approach under Craig Hindle as captain. Early performances again showed promise with points being gained on a more regular basis. A comfortable mid-table position however seemed to lull the team into a sense of security and content to leave the fight for the title to other teams.

A final position of 6th, only seven points behind champion Old Rivs, was satisfactory if not remarkable. The Seconds also had a good Cup run also reaching the semi-finals before very suprisingly going down to Leigh Athletic from a lower division.

The Thirds with Frank Riley once again at the helm, made their customary good start prior to Christmas and were in pole position just before then. A crucial defeat by Burnley GSOB seemed to be a turning point with Burnley going on from strength to strength in the second half of the season with the Blacks struggling to keep in touch. The consistency of the Burnley team eventually proved to be too



The 1st XI in their new Walkersteel strip

Firsts fade after early hopes

much and once again the Thirds had to be content with runners-up spot four points adrift.

Disappointingly, the Fourth XI found victories and points very hard to come by all season and eventually finished next to last, 10 points from safety. In general, a case of a season-to-forget but it must be remembered that the Fourths were in a league mainly comprised of 'A' teams. It was never going to be easy with the usual problems of maintaining a steady team from one week to the next. They should find life a little easier in the 'B' Division with confidence being restored.

Two other competitions to mention. The Veterans' Cup towards the end of the season seemed the most likely bet for success with the Blacks squad reaching the final after a number of excellent performances. Little Lever provided the final opposition at Lammack in early May and from 2-0 up early in the second half a number of defensive errors allowed Little Lever to take the game into extra time and they eventually ran out 6-5 winners. Quite a remarkable match but devastating from the Blacks' point of view.

The Annual Sevens Competition held in August '91 was eventually won by Tarlton FC with the Old Blacks team finishing runners-up for the second year in succession.

On the social scene, we held our inaugural President Dinner in November '90 with Mike Summerbee as chief

guest. An enjoyable evening and it is hoped that this will become an annual event. In June '91 our Club Dinner was well attended with past players boosting the attendance. Elton Welsby from Granada TV was our guest speaker contributing to another successful evening.

Individual team awards went to Bert Shaw, Andy Fitch, Andy Bullock and Phil Cooper with leading scorer award going to Andy Bullock. The Ken Forbes trophy for most improved player was also won by Phil Cooper. Clubman of the Year was deservedly won by Alan Upton who has worked hard for the club over the years in many capacities.

Security

Finally, can I extend a warm invitation to past members and old boys and girls out there to come down and view our facilities at any time and hopefully become social or playing members. Apart from our four teams in the L.A.L. we have a well appointed clubhouse with darts, snooker and cable TV provided. Blackburn Bridge Club meet here four nights for any budding bridge players.

Of course, our bar provides drinks in a friendly atmosphere at well below pub prices and the clubhouse holding 150 can be hired for a variety of functions. Please do come down, introduce yourself and friends and take advantage of what we can offer. The club is there for you after all!

Phil Sumner

FINAL LEAGUE TABLES SEASON 1990-91

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Burnley Belvedere...	26	19	1	6	79	28	39
Rochdale St Clems	26	19	1	6	75	30	39
Southport Amats...	26	16	7	3	64	28	39
Old Gregorians...	26	15	5	7	63	48	33
Middleton...	26	12	4	10	57	48	28
Bury Amateurs...	26	11	4	11	50	64	26
Burnley GSOB...	26	10	5	11	42	36	25
Fulwood Amateurs	26	10	4	12	57	66	24
Old Blacks	26	10	4	12	34	46	24
Old Mostonians...	26	9	5	12	44	43	23
Broughton Amats...	26	7	5	14	31	60	19
Old Rivingtonians...	26	5	8	13	45	61	18
Torleton Corinthians	26	6	6	14	37	68	18
Rossendale Amats...	26	3	3	20	34	86	9



PREMIER RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Old Rivingtonians...	26	18	1	7	71	50	37
Bury Amateurs...	26	14	7	5	50	25	35
Rochdale St Clems	26	15	3	8	53	34	33
Leigh Athletic...	26	12	8	6	48	36	32
Burnley Belvedere...	26	15	2	9	59	48	32
Old Blacks	26	12	6	8	54	47	30
Broughton Amats...	26	11	5	10	59	41	27
Old Boltonians...	26	11	3	12	42	45	25
Old Gregorians...	26	10	3	13	50	51	23
Oldham Hulmeians	26	9	4	13	44	65	22
Southport Amats...	26	5	9	12	41	45	19
Old Mostonians...	26	6	7	13	40	61	19
Burnley GSOB...	26	5	6	15	46	70	16
Lymm.....	26	4	6	16	34	64	14



NORTH - 3A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Burnley GSOB A...	26	18	3	5	72	31	39
Old Blacks A ...	26	15	5	6	63	38	35
Rossendale Ams A...	26	14	7	5	61	38	35
Broughton Ams A...	26	14	7	5	66	43	35
Fulwood Ams A...	26	13	4	10	52	42	28
O. Smithillians A...	26	11	6	9	56	53	28
Burnley Belv A...	26	12	4	10	65	62	28
O. Rivingtonians B	26	11	5	10	61	50	27
O. Rivingtonians A	26	11	5	10	67	57	27
Southport Ams A...	26	8	7	11	41	53	23
O. Boltonians A...	26	7	8	11	50	59	22
Broughton Ams B...	26	8	5	13	46	67	21
Old Blacks B ...	26	2	7	17	37	85	11
Newman College A	26	1	3	22	35	94	5



GARY TAKES TOON TOWN BY STORM



THERE'S nothing Mickey Mouse about the business success which Gary Storm has achieved since his days at School. For Gary now heads the West Midlands based Storm Group – one of Britain's most successful public companies specialising in animation.

When he took over as chief executive, the company employed eight people with just one office in Stourbridge and a £500,000 overdraft. Today, it employs more than 60 with offices in London, Sussex, New York and Hong Kong and doesn't owe a penny. Gary's success with Storm has been recognised with the title of Midlands Young Businessman of the Year.

Gary now lives in Edgbaston with his Sri Lankan wife, Samantha. A keen Rovers fan, his home is called Ewood Lodge.

Gary was at School from 1968-75, when he was known as Gary Smith. He read economics at Lancaster University, qualified as a chartered accountant and then headed for London.

Involved

In 1987, when he was working as an investment manager, Gary was very much involved in the rescue of the former Kenyons Bakery in Blackburn from the hands of the receivers. Two years later, he became chief executive of the investment group Neville and got to work on financing strategy for Storm – then called Shoe People Ltd. He struck up a friendship with chairman Jim Driscoll and seven months later was invited to join the company full-time. Since then Storm has gone from strength to strength.



The firm owns world-wide rights to more than 100 hours of TV cartoons including Paddington, Nellie the Elephant, the Wombles and The Perishers. It has also formed Storm Education to help children with GCSE and National Curriculum coursework. Storm now ranks as the largest animation company in the country with interests across the world.



George keeps link in Mayoral chain...

GEORGE Bramley Haworth (1928-37), who is currently Mayor of Blackburn, is linking a family tradition. His wife Nen was Mayor in 1977 when she, George and their son Nigel were all at the annual dinner – Nigel (1957-66) proposed a toast to the School. Nigel's wife Sonia is due to be deputy Mayor in Hyndburn next year if re-elected in May – then Mayor the following year. Sonia was Mayoress to mum-in-law Nen. George became a councillor in 1967. He was leader of the Conservatives from 1973 to 1991. Nigel was leader of the Hyndburn Tories from 1981 to 1987.

TIME MARCHES ON!



FORMER School Domestic Bursar for 35 years, Derrick Lund should have an unusual present ready for Old Boys this Christmas – sorry girls this is before your time!

Derrick (pictured left), at the request of former headmasters Brian H Kemball-Cooke and Douglas J Coulson, took 8mm film of the boys and masters processing from the School to the Cathedral for the annual service. How many of you can remember those massive crocodiles in the Sixties and Seventies?

Derrick is planning to edit them on to video tape along with notable events of and at the School – like the helicopter landing and the Public Schools cricket final at Lord's. It should make a fine pressie for old boys – get your order in now by contacting Derrick at the School.

BIG PARTY FOR OBA STALWART



JAIME ABEL, a very regular attendee at the annual dinners in Big School and a loyal supporter of the London Branch for many years, never failing to attend meetings, celebrated his 70th birthday with a party for 400 at Golders Green synagogue, including several Old Blackburnians, at the end of last year.

A round 60 for hardy golfers

THE Old Blackburnians annual golf competition celebrated its diamond jubilee in showery conditions at Wilshire Golf Club on Thursday August 21 last year with 23 entrants – two up on the previous year, which was itself more than the year before.

The winner of the Judge Walmsley Cup for a record eighth time was Eric Holden with a very good score of 73-10-63. Runner-up was John Ditchfield 84-16-68.

Winner of Sir Gilbert Gerrard Cup for the best score of 74 was another regular, Tom Martin.

A special thanks goes to Steve Tart for his assistance. We are hoping to break the 30 barrier for the number of competitors at Blackburn Golf Club in June.

A.N.
If golfers require any details please ring or write to: Andrew Norman, Fairfield, Southport Road, Chorley. Tel: 02572 68633.



Magister

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Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

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**CLAIRE TENDS TO
INJURIES IN THE
MURDER CAPITAL
OF WORLD**
PAGE 9

SCHOOL GOES FOR GROWTH

THE Head Master is absolutely delighted at the acquisition of nos. 5 & 7 West Park Road and no. 7 The Mount, three Victorian houses able to be approached from the back of the Holden Laboratories. This exciting new development will bring relief to a hard-pressed classroom accommodation problem experienced over a number of years by the school, and in particular provide new and exciting facilities for English, Art, Information Technology and, most importantly, a Sixth Form Common Room for the school.

Old Blackburnians of former years will remember a Prefects' Room, and an even older generation will remember that the Radcliffe Wing was created nearly ninety years ago to provide that extra specialist accommodation for the young men and young ladies of the Sixths. Now, at last, the school moves into an era where such provision will again be possible. Additional benefits will include car parking facilities, a Sixth Form Careers' Room, Private Study area, and a small reference library. A Working Party of the Common Room, under the able direction of

Head's delight at purchase of adjacent house

Mr. J. N. Prest, is currently studying the feasibility of the site.

The school's architects, Messrs. Bray Singleton of Lytham St. Annes, have been actively involved with the feasibility study and the acquisition of planning permission, and now the proposed future development of this exciting site.

● Picture — Page 18



Magister Editor David Holmes (left) and OBA treasurer Fred Gillibrand get together for a drink at the annual dinner.



EX-QEGGIES COVER GLOBE

Reports inside from Hong Kong (P5), Romania (P7), USA (P3, 8, 9 & 10), Spain (P8), New Zealand (P10), Mexico (P3)

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Obituaries

CARL MARSDEN

THE Old Blackburnians' Association has lost a most faithful member by the sudden death on February 14th of Edward Charles Marsden, at the age of 80. Carl, as all his friends knew him, was at school from 1921 to 1931, after which he went to Trinity College, Cambridge (where, incidentally, his rooms were on the same staircase as those of Enoch Powell!)

He served on the committee of the Association for nearly sixty years and for a number of years as its chairman, and his incisive mind contributed greatly to its discussions. He was an entertaining after-dinner speaker and a stimulating companion. He and his brother, the late Dr. R. J. B. Marsden (also an Old Boy), were the sons of the late John Westall Marsden, for many years Chairman of the Governors of the School, an office which Carl was proud to occupy for a decade and during which the School went from strength to strength.



CARL MARSDEN

Consultant

Carl was admitted as a solicitor in 1937 and was a senior partner in his family firm of Marsden and Marsden for nearly 50 years until 1988. In that year he became a consultant and was supposed to go into semi-retirement, but it was typical of him that he was working full time and pretty hard until the day before he died.

In committee he was always ready to advise on matters arising and because of his dual role as O.B. and governor his advice was especially helpful.

Over the years he had collected a host of friends, many of whom will recall him at O.B. dinners as he smoked a

beloved, not to say notorious, enormous cherry-wood pipe.

He will be sadly missed. He was a confirmed bachelor and is survived by his niece, Rosalind, the daughter of his late brother.

BILL WALSH
February 1993

Len Askew (1929-39)

LEN ASKEW died on Good Friday at the age of 71 following a severe stroke. Len played cricket and football for the School before leaving to qualify as a dental surgeon at Manchester University in 1945. He served in the Royal Navy until 1949 and then entered practice in Blackburn, which enabled him to play for the Old Blacks' Football Club and also to become Captain of Wiltshire Golf Club in 1961. He was secretary of the Blackburn local dental committee and a council member of the North West Branch of the British Dental Association. In later years he became Church Warden of St. James' Church. His son, Gordon, was also at QEGS. He leaves a widow, Margaret.

Alan Totty (1933-40)

ALAN TOTTY, MBE, BA, died in July, 1992, in his 70th year. He won his MBE for his administrative work in the Civil Service. He was a member of the Foreign Office before transferring to the Agricultural Research Council in Edinburgh. His elder brother, Norman G. Totty, was also at QEGS before becoming a teacher.

He was killed in the RAF during the Second World War and is remembered on the Roll of Honour in Big School. His nephew, Richard N. Totty, was also at QEGS before qualifying in Law at Edinburgh University. He is presently Resources Manager for the Forensic Science Laboratories of the Civil Service.

TEQUILA SUNRISE

WHEN I took on this job as Editor, it was on the understanding that copy would be provided from letters, Press cuttings and "official" sources, i.e.: The Headmaster's correspondence with Old Boys and Girls! No-one said that I would actually have to write something myself. But last year I was fortunate to be selected for a Rotary sponsored tour in Mexico which generated plenty of ideas for a "short" piece in Magister. And, indeed, this example of literary excellence may prompt other readers to forward accounts of derring do in far flung places to me for inclusion in the next issue. There are some splendid stories in this issue (present company excepted) which I am sure are just the tip of the iceberg. And don't worry if you are without walking distance of School—it would still be great to hear from you. Anyway, back to Mexico.

Mexico is alive; it is a vibrant, exciting, hot place which fully deserves its reputation as a sort of El Dorado of life away from

David Holmes (1974-81) has taken over from John Duckworth as Editor of Magister.

After leaving school, David read Russian and Soviet Studies at the University of Surrey and has since pursued a career in sales and marketing. He travelled to Mexico in 1992 as a guest of Rotary International.



the competitive pressures of its northern neighbour. Mexicans live life to the full and worry as little as possible—and least of all about time. "Manana" is about as precise as chronology becomes in that vast country.

I was one of five team members with a Rotarian leader. We stayed mainly in

the homes of our Rotarian hosts and visited nearly every facet of life—hospitals, offices, factories, beaches, lakes, mountains, newspapers, government offices and farms—to acquire an in-depth knowledge of contemporary Mexico.

Beneath the Third World image there is terrific

energy and a real desire to improve the material infrastructure of the country. Of course, there exists huge problems of poverty and hunger in many places, but the US and European educated managerial classes are rapidly implementing world-class manufacturing standards to replace worn-out indigenous industries.

We were in the North East of the country around Monterrey, San Luis Potosi and Tampico; Blackburn is in a Rotary "district" comprising Lancashire and Cumbria. Our Mexican host district was the size of England!

The "Group Study Exchange" programme is open to young professionals from 25-35 years of age with no Rotary connections. A typical tour lasts around five weeks and the destination changes each year.

If you would like the opportunity to get "under the skin" of a foreign country—and you can get the time off work—it is well worth applying for a place. The programme also involves a series of public presentations in both the host country and the UK—excellent training for anyone with an aversion to large audiences! Contact me on 0253 724980 if you would like more information.



US student docs face \$100,000 debts

CLAIRE Jackson came to Q.E.G.S. from Westholme and left in 1989 to read medicine at the University of Liverpool. She describes her experiences during her medical elective in Washington D.C. which was partly financed by the School Governors.

Having never visited the United States before, I made my seven-hour flight to Washington D.C. full of

CLAIRE LEARNS COST OF STUDY

anticipation, but with a great deal of apprehension included. I was after all arriving in a completely strange city whose reputation of crime and violence preceded it, (and this to some degree was true as I later discovered for myself) with absolutely no idea how I was going to get from Dulles

International Airport to the hospital. When I actually arrived at the information desk I was told that I had to get from one end of Washington to the other and then I knew it was not going to be easy.

After a half an hour epic of directions and two bus and two subway rides later I

eventually arrived at the hospital feeling very tired and relieved. It turned out that Washington had a very clean and efficient subway which was very easy to use.

Having found the Medstar Trauma Unit within the hospital, I was shown to my somewhat spartan room which would become my haven for the next four weeks

continued on Page 8

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Obituary

GLYN HARRIS

(1934-40)

AFTER a long and courageous battle with cancer, Mr Glyn Harris, aged 69, died peacefully at his home in Kendal on September 1. Glyn was a former senior adviser/inspector to Cumbria Education Authority, a well-known personality in Kendal and the county, and, since his retirement, a tireless worker for charity.

He move to Kendal in 1940 when his father became head postmaster of Kendal Post Office, and ran a marionette group called Glyn Puppets.

In 1942 he joined the RAF and the war took him to India where he became interested in education. On his return he entered Goldsmith's College, London University, where he gained a first class teaching certificate and a distinction in speech and drama.

Glyn's wife, Joyce, was also a student at Goldsmith's. After qualifying they married and spent many happy years teaching in London and raising their two sons, Christopher and Michael.

In 1955 Glyn became an Associate of the Drama Board and was awarded a starred certificate. It was while he was a deputy head that his long association with the BBC began, and from 1961 to 1971 he wrote and broadcast his own programme for schools called Music, Movement and Mime.

In 1961, he became headmaster of a large London primary school and moved back to Kendal in 1969 when he became adviser to primary and secondary schools in Westmorland.

In 1974 he was invited by the British Council to do a combined lecture and inspection tour of schools in the Middle East, which he followed up in 1978 with a tour of India.

Cumbria was formed in 1975 and Glyn became senior adviser inspector for Cumbria Education Authority. In 1981 he retired and was able to enjoy fell walking, books, music, lecturing and above all, holidays in his camper van.

In 1985 the struggle against cancer began with many spells in both Westmorland County Hospital, Kendal, and Christies in Manchester. It was through his experience that he became a member of the team running Hospital Radio which led to him and his wife working for Talking Newspapers for the Blind, editing and reading the weekly

WILLIAM EDDLESTON

(1928-34)

WILLIAM Eddleston won a Scholarship to Q.E.G.S. and then joined the Burnley Building Society. He returned to the Society after six years service in the RAF during the war and retired in 1979 as Regional Area Manager for the south east. He died in June, 1992.

tapes. Glyn's BBC experience helped him with this work.

When CancerCare established a Kendal drop-in both Glyn and Joyce became founder members of what they discovered was a wonderfully supportive group. Over the next few years Glyn and Joyce became involved in the development of CancerCare in Kendal. Both of them were on the editorial committee of Rapport, the CancerCare magazine, and Glyn was also a member of the Slynedaes Appeal Committee.

In 1989 cancer returned and Glyn began his last and final battle. With the help of his consultant, Glyn and Joyce flew to Cape Town to attend the wedding of their son, Christopher, and spent a memorable month in South Africa.

Early this year it was clear that Glyn's battle was coming to an end. He continued to live life to the full and found fresh sources of pleasure and interest. Many other lives were enriched by Glyn's brave acceptance, his warmth and humour and unfailing cheerfulness.

The moving and inspiring funeral at the packed Lancaster Crematorium was conducted according to Glyn's wishes, by his friends, Canon John Hodgkinson and the Rev. Tim Radcliffe, CancerCare chaplain.

J.H.

I TRAINED and qualified as an engineer officer in the Merchant Navy. As the demise of the British M.N. became apparent in the early 70's, I moved to Aberdeen and became one of the first fully qualified officers to work on vessels associated with the development of North Sea oil.

That move was 18 years ago, since then, I have not only been involved in many different aspects of the oil rig support industry in the North Sea but have also been able to work abroad on jobs as diverse as towing icebergs in the seas north of Newfoundland and overseeing new building of a ship in Singapore.

During my time in Singapore I was able to go to Hong Kong to visit some friends at lunar New Year. During that visit, in 1983, I met a Vietnamese family. I was fortunate to meet one of the very few refugees who could speak French. I make no claims to being able to speak French, but I can understand a little and, on the occasion of meeting this family, was able to recall enough for us to be able to establish who we were and to swap addresses before I had to rush off to Kai Tak to catch my flight to Singapore.

Difficulties

My new friend had been brought up in New Caledonia so could communicate in French as well as she could in Vietnamese. Many people are under the impression that most people from Indo-China can speak French; they forget that, apart from the Indo-Chinese dislike of the French, it is nearly 40 years since the French left that part of the world.

It is extraordinary that of the 20,000 or so refugees in H.K. at that time I should have met one of the very few who had any means of communicating with an almost mono-lingual Caucasian.

We kept in touch and the following year I spent several weeks on holiday in H.K. During that holiday my friends invited me to visit them in the camp. I won't describe the difficulties of getting into a refugee camp or of how I solved the problem, suffice it to say that, with the help of some very kind people I found a way of getting into the camp to accept the invitation to dine with my friends in their

I hid in camp hut to teach refugees to speak English



DAVID Smith, who attended QEGS from 1957 until 1962, writes about his life at sea in the oil industry and teaching Vietnamese refugees how to speak and understand English.

part of the large hut in which they lived.

In the course of getting into the camp I had been introduced to the headmistress of a school in the camp. The school gave an education to nearly every child in the camp between nursery age and 18 years old. It is an interesting aside to consider that the charitable educational facilities in that camp were superior to those on offer in most towns in this country. There were child care/schooling facilities for children from the age of a few months up to 6th form level.

I very soon became a full time volunteer teacher in the school and, with the exception of 1989, I spent several weeks each year, at least once a year, teaching in the school and the camp until they closed in August 1991.

In the early days, after school closed, I would have to hide in the huts in the camp, out of sight of the camp management if I was to teach the children after school or to have dinner with them. Once the camp management went home one could leave the camp freely as there were many Caucasians in the camp teaching evening classes — anyway, all white men look the same, don't they? No camp guard knew when I had arrived or

when I should depart as long as I had a pass to return as I left the camp.

As the years passed I became more and more part of the furniture of the camp until a time came when it was no longer necessary to hide. I was part of the school; it was accepted that I was just a different sort of evening class teacher.

The camp population, during the 80's, was fairly static as people were not being re-settled so each year I visited the camp I was seeing the same faces, renewing old acquaintances.

While I was back in the UK I wrote to some of the students I had been teaching but, at that stage, their knowledge of English was limited to greetings on Christmas, New Year and birthday cards.

I have had the pleasure of seeing their talents grow to the point where I now get a constant stream of letters in English from many of my former students. My youngest correspondent is nine and my oldest is over 21. I have friends studying in America, Canada, Australia, Sweden, Denmark and even the UK.

Stretched

It is on behalf of those friends studying in this country that I am writing this letter. These children need the help of educated people to help them with their school work. They need advice and tuition. Nearly all of them are highly intelligent and highly motivated but our schools do not provide the E.S.L. support that they need. They need help with their homework and help to buy the books that every child needs.

These children arrive in this country without any books at all. Our schools often only hand out course books during a lesson. The children go home with only the notes in their exercise books to help them with their homework. In some cases they are even trying to

make sense of questions which they have copied down incorrectly and which even deny interpretation by an English person.

As refugees they arrive in this country with nothing and, naturally, are housed in the poorest parts of our cities. They often attend schools which are sorely stretched to cope with a large student population which doesn't possess English as its first language.

It is these children who need help.

Highflyers

I would not write this or spend most of my free time helping these children if that help was going to waste. As I said, most of these children are highly intelligent. The Vietnamese children are establishing themselves as high flyers in this country wherever they get the sort of support that recognises their talents.

At the same time as working with the school in H.K. I have met many families in this country as some of my students have re-settled here. The camp is now closed, the school has closed; the people from the camp have moved to another camp, have found their own accommodation in Kowloon or have been re-settled.

My teaching time is now devoted to children living in the U.K.

Most of these children live in London or the Midlands. The greatest opportunity to help exists in Birmingham, mainly because most of the children are living close together in Handsworth and travelling around Birmingham is easy.

If anyone reading this is living in the Birmingham area and has enough free time to devote to helping these children I would appreciate it if they would contact me.

**Woodside of Towle,
Auchterless,
Near Turriff,
Aberdeenshire,
AB53 8HE.**

Dear Editor,

Mr. Ingham classified my French as "pathetic" and my English was not much better. I loved numbers, but books were a bore and something to be suffered. All this changed in Form 4B which was situated in the then recently opened Harley Wing, where I was confronted by a very different teacher, Ron Eyre.

Shakespeare came to life, Macbeth was fun, a visit to the Library Theatre in Manchester—I never looked back.

Perhaps it is a sign that I am

RONALD EYRE

getting old, but now the Obituary page of The Times is compulsive reading. On the 17th November, 1992, I saw under "Memorial Services," Mr. Ronald Eyre. Was it the same man? Off I went to Who's Who, 1992. In this I found Eyre, Ronald—Free-lance Theatre and TV Director, Writer; Born 13th April, 1929... English Master, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Blackburn—1952-1954... Producer, BBC Television... Theatre Director, Royal

Shakespeare Company... Opera Producer... Translator... Playwright... Writer and Presenter... Author. It was the Ronald Eyre I remembered.

So back to The Times, and in that short Memorial Service item I read "A celebration for the life of Mr. Ronald Eyre was held yesterday at St. James's, Piccadilly... Thomas Stedhall read a letter sent to him on his first birthday by Ronald Eyre. Among the readers were Alan Bates, Richard Good, Klaus Rifbjerg, John Cleese and Alan Bennett, while Ann Murray,

Peter Savidge and Patricia Routledge sang. It concludes "A Buddhist contribution was made by the Venerable Silananda and Monks from the Buddhapadipa Temple.

How many others who were in the school in 1952-54 were inspired by this remarkable man? How many, like me, look back with hindsight and realise that Ronald Eyre, the Yorkshireman, was going to give so much, to so many, pleasure by interpretation of his native tongue.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN R. CLAYTON
(1951-1958)

RONALD EYRE, who has died aged 62, was an accomplished stage, television and opera director, though he was probably best known for his investigation of religious themes.

The theological certainties he found in others intrigued, but never convinced Eyre. In his television series *The Long Search*, screened in 1977, he travelled the world in search of faith, only to conclude that God (if He existed) was unlikely to favour one form of religion rather than another.

Eyre's down-to-earth style was well suited to the exploration of these recondite matters. While so many documentary-makers seem chiefly eager to exhibit their punditry, he appeared as a genuine seeker after knowledge.

After *The Long Search* Eyre was dubbed "The Whicker of the God Slot". Another television series, *Seven Ages* (1987), an enquiry into the stages of existence enumerated by Jacques in *As You Like It*, led a critic to christen him "Ron Hot-Eyre".

Yet if Eyre irritated those who desired no truck with the mystery of things, he revealed an unfashionable — though much admired — willingness to see the best in humanity.

His work in the theatre indicated a similar reluctance to conform to pre-ordained patterns. Although he was involved with the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre, he never settled with any organisation for long, nor did he believe that permanent companies were likely to produce better work than *ad hoc* assemblies.

Naturally versatile, he liked to switch between television and theatre. And whether tackling plays ancient or modern he brought to the task in hand an integrity tailored to the particular piece, never to his own glorification.

Eyre's *annus mirabilis* was 1972. At the Haymarket he directed Alec Guinness as John Mortimer's blind father in *A Voyage Round My Father*; at the Royal Court his version of Charles Wood's *Veterans* starred John Gielgud and John Mills as two film actors on location (the play was said to be based on the filming of Tony Richardson's *Charge of the Light Brigade*); and at the New Theatre, Donald Sinden scored a brilliant success as an urban fop pursuing a country heiress in Eyre's revival of Dion Boucicault's *London Assurance*.

It could be difficult persuading Eyre to undertake the direction of a play, but once he had committed himself his absorption was total. *London Assurance* owed much to his ability to hammer a text into presentable shape.

Alan Bennett, with typical modesty, has described how Eyre managed to distil a spare and functional farce from the original version of *Habeas Corpus*. The performance of the play at the Lyric in



Eyre: versatile

1973, featuring Alec Guinness in the role of a doctor with sex on the brain and an urgent desire to locate it elsewhere, elicited hysterical laughter from the audience.

In opera, Eyre's production of Berlioz's *Beatrice and Benedict* for the Buxton Festival in 1980 was considered by some observers to be the best thing he ever did.

But his most prestigious effort as an opera director was his autumnal interpretation of Verdi's *Falstaff* at Covent Garden in 1982, under the baton of Carlo Maria Giulini.

Two years later Eyre brought off the first British professional staging of Cavalli's *Jason* at the Buxton Festival. *The Daily Telegraph's* Michael Kennedy considered Eyre's translation and production to be "an irreverent and witty excursion into baroque opera which reduces to a minimum the longueurs of the genre."

Eyre went on to direct Benjamin Britten's *Curlow River* for the Nexus Opera and the BBC in 1986, and *Peter Grimes* for Opera North in 1989. But he never received the second call to Covent Garden for which he longed.

The son of a miner, Ronald Eyre was born at Mapplewell, Yorks, on April 13 1929 and educated at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Wakefield, and University College, Oxford, where he became the secretary of OUDS.

On coming down Eyre taught English for two years at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn, where Russel Harty was one of his pupils. "Harty was a pushy schoolboy," he recalled. "I was a pushy graduate."

In 1954 Eyre became senior English master at Bromsgrove before moving two years later to the schools' drama department at the BBC. Soon he was writing and directing plays for television. In 1963 he turned to the theatre, directing *Titus Andronicus* and other plays at the Birmingham Rep, and showing himself adept at producing the inti-

small screen on stage.

His theatrical reputation went from strength to strength. He proved as capable in modern plays, such as the Scottish Marxist John McGrath's *Events While Guarding the Bofors Gun* (1966), as in classics like Shaw's *Widowers' Houses* (1965).

His production of Mrs Warren's *Profession* for the National Theatre in 1971 steered cunningly clear of melodrama, his *Much Ado About Nothing* for the Royal Shakespeare Company in 1971 featured white parasols and sun-dappled lawns that seemed to evoke the world of Turgenev.

In Edna O'Brien's *A Pagan Place*, which followed *Veterans* at the Royal Court in 1972, Eyre drew from a 16-year-old school girl called Veronica Quilligan, who had never acted before, a performance of exquisite subtlety and emotional truth. By contrast his own play, *Something's Burning* (1974), earned no critical laurels.

Later in 1974, however, Eyre uncovered another masterpiece for the Royal Shakespeare Company with Frank Wedekind's *The Marquis of Keith*, the tale of a cynical racketeer who exploits the German passion for *kultur* by projecting a "Multi-Dome Art Palace", for which various dupes are only too eager to put their hands into their pockets. Ian McKellen brilliantly seized the opportunity to display his camp humour in the title role.

In 1979 Eyre directed *Othello* at Stratford, with Donald Sinden as the Moor and Bob Peck as Iago. This production was only a qualified achievement, but Eyre succeeded in a different vein when he brought out the kindness and charm of Harold Brighouse's *Hobson's Choice* at the Haymarket (1983), in which Penelope Keith appeared to splendid effect.

Eyre's northern sense of humour was also in evidence in his production of J B Priestley's *When We Are Married* at the Whitehall Theatre (1986).

More notably, however, at the Chichester Theatre in 1983 he rescued the reputation of *A Patriot for Me*, John Osborne's tragi-comedy of homosexuality which had been banned after its first performance in 1965. Alan Bates took the leading role.

In 1988 Eyre directed various Chekhov pieces under the title of *The Sneezes* at the Aldwych, and that same year he again joined forces with Alec Guinness, who played the tired cynical pessimist Botvinnik in Lee Blessing's *A Walk in the Woods* at the Comedy Theatre.

Last year Eyre was once more seen on television, quizzing representatives of "the major league" of world religions — a Jew, a Muslim, a Buddhist, a Christian and a Hindu — about matters of spiritual import. To the end, certainty remained elusive.

TOM WINS JUDGE'S CUP

THE 61st Old Blacks Golf competition was held in showery conditions at Blackburn Golf Club on Wednesday, 2nd September, 1992.

Although the dark nights were closing in, the number of competitors increased again to 24.

The prize presentation which was held in the evening was made by the captain of Wilpshire Golf Club, Harry

ANNUAL GOLF COMPETITION

Aspden.

The winner of the Judge Walmsley Cup (Best Net) was Tom Martin (76-6-70), a regular prizewinner, followed closely by Anthony Cox (96-25-71).

The winner of the Sir Gilbert Gerrard Cup (Best

Gross), was Andrew Norman with a score of 80.

Thanks go to Arnold Sharples for his assistance on the day.

The 1993 competition will be held at Wilpshire Golf Club, and it is hoped that an earlier time in the summer can be arranged.

If anyone wants to know about the golf competition please contact Andrew Norman on 0257 268633.



ARNOLD SHARPLES (1943-50) has been elected President of Blackburn Golf Club. A keen swimmer at School, Arnold is a former director of Blackburn Rovers F.C. He has been a member of Blackburn Golf Club for over 25 years and was Captain in 1976.

TIM'S OFF TO ROMANIA...

TIMOTHY HOWARTH (1983-90) is going to Romania with a mission—to help improve some of the infamous orphanages. He is taking time out as part of a four-year degree course at Sheffield's Hallam University to work at



TIMOTHY HOWARTH

co-ordinator in charge of restoration projects for the charity To Romania With Aid. "I'll take it as it comes," said Timothy. "Volunteers will come out on a two-weekly basis. I'll be getting them to do the jobs that are needed, be it decorating, plumbing or rewiring.

Timothy is being sponsored by his School of Construction and the university's international office, but more sponsorship is needed. Any Old Blacks who wish to help can contact John Rydal at the School of Construction on 0742 533210.

THE boys as seen by "Booth" in this story are stalwarts of St Thomas's (Blackburn Combination, Division 3), probably one of the oldest clubs in the town.

St. Thomas's still like to recall that one of their old boys, ex-Rover Fred Duckworth, played in England Victory International teams just after World War 1.

Present stars of this club with a flair for running successful medal competitions include T Jose, left back; Ray Blackshaw, Ken Durham and Norman Haworth, half-backs; Chris Calverley and J Abbott, wingers; and "Rick" Gollop, prized utility man.



ALWAYS on the hunt for the offbeat, your editorial team unearthed this snippet from the Northern Daily Telegraph sports edition of November 1949.

Included in the cartoon are prominent Old Blackburnian and stalwart of the annual dinners, Norman Haworth (right) and of course, our president Sir Kenneth Durham (centre).

Fred Duckworth was grandfather of former Magister editor for 25 years, John Duckworth (1959-65).

Ivor appointed top opera director

IVOR BOLTON (1960-67) has been appointed musical director of Glyndebourne Touring Opera and was back in the North-West to conduct the 1992 season at Manchester Opera House. He first saw opera on a trip from Q.E.G.S. to watch Glyndebourne do Rakes Progress at the Opera House. He went on to win a music scholarship to Cambridge and then joined Glyndebourne as chorus master followed by work with leading national orchestras and Opera North. He is also currently musical director of the English National Opera and founder of



IVOR BOLTON

the St. James's Baroque Players and has several more projects in the pipeline. He will be at the Edinburgh Festival and has been invited to conduct in Italy. He is married to Tess, a lecturer, and has a baby son, Samuel.

ORGAN SCHOLAR ON A HIGH NOTE

DUNCAN ASPDEN (1982-92) has gained an Organ Scholarship at Jesus College, Cambridge, from October, 1993. He will be in charge of the mixed choir and accompanying the boys' choir in the first two years. He is currently Organ Scholar at Canterbury Cathedral.

DANNY ROBINSON (1979-86) read Applied Psychology at Cardiff University including a year's placement at a Drug Rehabilitation Clinic. He then converted that degree into a Law Degree at Sussex University which enabled him to enter Lincoln's Inn where he is now studying for his Bar School Finals.

Chris leads campaign to cut out hoax calls

CHRIS NORSE (1962-68), Acting Commander of Blackburn Fire Station, was in the forefront of a joint campaign with British Telecom to cut down the number of hoax calls in 1992. Blackburn fire crews attended 700 hoax 999 calls in the town alone with each call resulting in a fire engine being mobilised. Five hundred posters, paid for by British Telecom, were sent to schools, community centres

and public buildings throughout the town. The campaign encouraged the public to help the fire brigade track down the hoaxers. BT is able to help through the rapid increase in the number of digital telephone exchanges which allows nearly all 999 calls to be traced. Hoaxers face a six-month prison sentence or a fine of £2,000.



Frank is given a cooling down by fellow fundraiser Bernard Burke.

Picture courtesy of Lancs Evening Telegraph

Frank raises £22,000 in his tribute to son

FRANK TAYLOR (1944-51) undertook a marathon 1,200-mile pilgrimage to Spain and raised £22,000 for Cancer Research. Frank, who now lives in Hampshire, walked all the way to Santiago de Compostella in 81 days. He was inspired to take up the ambitious and exhausting Spanish pilgrimage in memory of his son, Guy, who died of cancer of the spine six years ago at the age of 29. The tragedy spurred Frank to tackle the gruelling journey from England, through France, over the Pyrenees and onto the medieval pilgrimage site on the west coast of Spain. Frank, an experienced long-

distance walker, survived torrential rain, snowstorms and huge hailstones, and found himself sleeping in cold, damp, empty hotels. He coped with swollen feet and lost a stone in weight. But the retired television engineering manager, who tackled the trek alone, without any form of back-up, kept going because he felt Guy was with him every step of the way. "I received a lot of help and support from Blackburn people and I want to thank everybody who helped me to raise the money for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund," said Frank.

Obituary

STEPHEN HOLDING

(1945-53)

GROUP Captain Steve Holding died on 23rd November, 1992. He was 58. After leaving School he read Agriculture at Leeds University, and there joined the University Air Squadron where a life-long love of flying began. Joining the RAF in October, 1958, his first operational posting was with No. 205 Squadron based at RAF Changi, Singapore, flying the maritime Shackleton. After a period with No. 20 Squadron at RAF Ballykelly in Northern Ireland he joined the RAF's Central Flying School which was then at Little Rissington in Gloucestershire. As a trained instructor his first posting was to Leeds University Air Squadron. He returned to the CFS in 1970 as a staff instructor with the rank of Squadron Leader and ran the Skylarks Aerobatic Team in his spare time.

His first ground tour was as a Squadron Commander at the RAF College Cranwell where he was responsible for Officer Training under the graduate entry scheme. He then returned to the University Air Squadron world as CO of the University of Wales Air Squadron at St. Atham, near Cardiff. On completion of the National Defence College course at Latimer, Steve was posted as OC Operations at RAF Gibraltar. This was followed by two further tours at CFS; as Wing Commander Ops and as Chief Flying Instructor. This last position was held approximately 50 years earlier by a former

QEGS headmaster—Mr. (later Rev.) N. S. T. Benson, M.A. A.F.C.

After staff appointments at the MoD and promotion to Group Captain, Steve became Station Commander at RAF Newton, near Nottingham, where he began his involvement with the Air Training Corps.

He completed his career at HQ University Air Squadrons before retiring in 1988. He then became regional commandant of the North and East region of the Air Training Corps. This full-time appointment involved a great deal of travelling—the region extends from Berwick-on-Tweed to Grantham. He was very well known to both adults and cadets and his great enthusiasm for all facets of cadet activities will be greatly missed.

In 1957 Steve married June Barlow, from Blackburn. They have two sons and lived near Bedall, North Yorks., for several years. In 1986 Steve began air racing using an ex-RAF piston Provost aircraft and later a Beech Bonanza.

In one Schneider Trophy race Steve crossed the line first only to be disqualified for exceeding his stated speed!

The funeral service was held on January 4th, 1993, at St. Lambert's Church, Burnaston, followed by a cremation at Harrogate. There was a large attendance by Steve's many friends and acquaintances.

Medics' \$100,000 debts

Continued from Page 3

from the fraught atmosphere of the Unit. By this time it was late evening, so I settled myself in ready for the next day which began early (6.30 a.m.), as every day did. It appears the earlier the better is general policy in America, although I can't say that this agreed with my jet lag for the first few days. However, I eventually got into the swing of things.

Stab wounds

On the first day I was introduced to the four other doctors who made up "Team A" to which I had been assigned. They all turned out to be employed by the U.S. Army following their medical training, funded by a Forces scholarship, and without such financial help I learned that many American medical students can have debts of \$100,000 by the time they qualify. I know that would not go down too well with my bank manager! The emergency staff of the Unit also comprised two other teams

(a Navy and civilian team), and together the three teams were responsible for treating the critically ill patients who arrived either by ambulance or helicopter. Unfortunately, I was unable to go out in the helicopter myself for insurance reasons.

Each team worked an "on call" shift of 24 hours (8 a.m. to 8 a.m.) every three days during which time all sorts of injuries arrived to be treated. These ranged from minor car accident patients to victims of multiple gunshot or stab wounds, the majority of which were drug related. Before I went to Washington, I had some idea that drugs would be big business, but I had no perception of the huge scale of crime created by them—particularly "crack" and cocaine. Although unfortunate for the patients, it was very interesting for me to see these types of injuries which I seldom or never see in Liverpool. I was astonished at the range of firearms used and the injuries they created,

Continued on following page

Gathering of the clan in Scotland

IN Scotland, on Saturday, 24 October, 1992, the first dinner of the revived Scottish Branch of the Old Blackburnians' Association was held.

Fifteen guests, former pupils and Association members enjoyed the superb food and atmosphere of Edinburgh's Carlton Highland Hotel. Many had travelled considerable distances, which was greatly appreciated.

Dr. Jennings made an enjoyable speech to bring us up to date with School news.

Mr. Kay managed to obtain the original menu, details of attendance and remaining funds of the last Scottish Dinner in Glasgow in 1964, which added a nostalgic touch. It is hoped that the dinner will become an annual occasion, and the new Branch an active part of the Association.

Guests: Mr. and Mrs. A. Singleton, Dr. Jennings, Mr.

BRANCH NEWS

and Mrs. E. Kay, Miss E. Oddy and guest, Miss C. J. Kay, Mr. G. Nixon, Mr. K. Warner and guest, Miss A. Wilks and guest, Mr. K. Wightman, Miss C. Sullivan.

CAMBRIDGE

In Cambridge on November 7, 1992, a delicious meal (which included roast beef and Yorkshire pudding to remind us all of home) was enjoyed by all, in the charming candlelit Maitland Room of Downing College.

It offered an excellent opportunity to catch up on the gossip of old friends from school!

The headmaster spoke, sharing with us details of the

latest developments at Queen Elizabeth's and a copy of an Old Blackburnian magazine of 60 years ago!

A splendid time was enjoyed by all.

The people present were: Mr. & Mrs. Johnston, Mr. & Mrs. Wood (Mr. Wood is a governor of the School), Myself (2nd year - Downing), Tom Brunt (2nd year - Queens'), Sarah Burke (1st year - Christ's), Matthew Robinson (1st year - Christ's), Abigail Woods (3rd year - John's), George Frankland (1st year - Caius), Dinan Gunawardena (1st year - Pembroke), Howard Yates (3rd year - Downing), Richard Waddington (Hughes Hall),

Branch Secretaries 1993-94

If you would like to attend a Dinner or simply to keep in touch with Old Black's in your area, please do feel free to get in touch with the regional secretaries or with Eric Kay at School.

BLACKBURN: Dr. Ronald Barham, c/o Q.E.G.S., West Park Road, Blackburn. Tel: 0200 41686 (Home).

LONDON: I. E. Tomlinson, Esq., 84 Longfield Street, Wandsworth, London, SW18 5RE. Tel: 081-874 4982.

CAMBRIDGE: M. Wood, Esq.,

Downing College, Cambridge. **OXFORD:** Miss Alison Watisworth, Keeble College, Oxford.

CHESHIRE/LANCASHIRE: Dr. D. M. Martin, 27 Broad Hey, Stockport, Cheshire. Tel: 061-430 4969.

SCOTLAND: Miss Angela Wilks, 1 Roseburn Avenue, Edinburgh, EH12 5PD. Tel: 031-313 3383.

DURHAM & N.E. BRANCH: D. Walton, Esq., Collingwood College, South Road, Durham, DL1 3RT.

Fiona Thistlethwaite (2nd year - John's), Dr. Alison Battersby (a Dr. from Addenbrooks), Sarah Gold (4th year - New Hall).

November 13 has been pencilled in for a buffet evening.

OXFORD

In Oxford 24 guests attended the Dinner held at Lincoln College on 30 October, 1992, organised by Michael Pickup. The School was represented by Robin Taylor, Head of English. Magister has received reports that the meal and ambience were excellent.

NORTH EAST

The North East Branch met on 19 February 1993; the Headmaster represented the School.

LONDON

The London Branch were scheduled to meet in March as Magister went to press... with a pub evening at the Red Lion, Kingly Street, on 5 May.

CHESHIRE

And finally, the Cheshire Branch met on 8 May, 1992, in the Marlborough Suite of the Bowden Hotel in Bowden. The 1993 Dinner is planned for 7 May at the Cresta Court, Hotel, Altrincham.

CLAIRE IN WORLD'S MURDER CAPITAL

Continued from page 8

some of them quite macabre. It however, gave me some insight into their treatment.

The further opportunities created by such injuries included numerous visits to the operating theatres in the early hours of the morning for emergency surgery. Often mid-operation, our pagers would signal the arrival of several other patients in the Unit which required our Team Leader, Dr. Johnson, to attend to them. This meant that I had to frequently take a more active role, helping the junior doctors in the team with the operations. I also accompanied patients to the CT scanner to assess the extent of their injuries and possible requirements for surgery, thus allowing me to look at many scan results and to try to interpret the results. All in all, I had many opportunities to learn practical skills such as intravenous line insertion, technique for placement of urinary catheters, insertion of chest tubes, diagnostic,

She tends macabre injuries

peritoneal lavage and the procedures in follow up patient care. However, all this still afforded me time to talk at length to the patients I had been assigned. They talked quite openly about their family problems and their injuries, often knowing their assailant.

Facilities

The quality of medical care that I experienced in the States was somewhat similar to that in the U.K. but money is much more forthcoming and therefore the facilities and range of equipment that American hospitals have to offer are far more extensive. We always hear about British hospital constantly accounting for and "pulling back" on their expenses, but not so across the Atlantic. This is hardly surprising when you consider the huge bills many people have to pay for their hospital stay. The location of the Unit meant that most of its

patients were too poor to afford this and, although receiving government aid, were ushered out of the hospital as early as could be deemed ethically possible. Certainly, the level of care available is fantastic for those who have the money to afford it, but this only made me realise how lucky we are to have the National Health Service - equal care for everybody.

On the other hand, the career prospects and monetary rewards for doctors in America are vast, but so are they for many professions, including lawyers. Suing is big business and the whole medical game runs on "covering" yourself and doing everything by the book which I found a real discouragement for possibly working over there in the future.

However, all the medical staff that I met were welcoming and friendly and eager to show me the lighter and

colourful social side of Washington, which came as a relief in between the days on call. One of the nurses I met took me to Baltimore.

My other visits included the numerous Smithsonian Museums founded by a generous Englishman of the same name, a man who apparently never visited the States during his life. My personal favourite was the Natural History Museum and the Air and Space Museum.

The whole month was an exciting and informative time for me. As well as being an important educational trip, which I feel has benefited my medical training a great deal, it was a chance to see and experience in a whole variety of ways, a country which I had heard a lot about but never actually visited. I felt somewhat awed to be in the capital of the most powerful nation in the world and the murder capital of the world, but it was definitely a trip of a lifetime and a place I look forward to visiting again.

MIKE REAPS FRUITS OF KIWI MOVE

MICHAEL S. FISH,
125 Sewell Street,
Kaiapoi, Canterbury,
New Zealand

What a joy it was for me to return to my old school after forty-three years, and how kind it was of you to show me around yourself.

I must say that I had some difficulty in holding back a few tears as I stood in the old hall and looked at the painting of Mr. Holden our old Headmaster. To see again the hall's lovely windows, and especially that of my old House Grenville; and to remember so many old friends and faces.

You mentioned that two of my old teachers were still associated with the School. Mr. Proctor, who taught me English, and Mr. Watson, who taught me French and German. Alas in those days my academic performance was dismal and I left school to emigrate to New Zealand with a sense of failure and a poor opinion of my own academic ability; a disappointment to my teachers.

New Zealand in those days was an exciting land of

opportunity, and wages were high. I have worked with my hands most of my life. Unfortunately at the age of 52 I suffered a broken spine and have been unable to work since.

Because I desired to know and teach more about the things of God, I decided to take an extra-mural degree in Theology. **Returning to academic study after 37 years I discovered to my joy that I had received a better education than I was aware of.** Desiring to study both Greek and Hebrew and being required to

raise the level of my education generally, I found that I had a very substantial knowledge of language that had been dormant in me for a long time. I was able to gain an Associate of Arts Degree in Theology.

Looking back on my life and on my school days, I would of course encourage the present students to make the most of their opportunities, but I would also encourage those that are falling by the wayside to be aware that they are being prepared for life, and are probably absorbing a knowledge and learnings that may not bear fruit until later in life.

Andrew chose the 'soft' option

ANDREW D. BELL (1973-80) writes to us from America:

I went to St. Andrew's University in 1980, and, after dabbling in Arabic and Russian, ending up with an M.A. (Hons.) degree (2.i) in German and Linguistics. In the following year I spent some time teaching English as a foreign language, before embarking on an M.Phil. in Computer Speech and

Language Processing at Cambridge University, where I was a member of Pembroke College.

After gaining my M.Phil. I was offered a research fellowship at the IBM UK Scientific Centre in Winchester. I spent two years there researching into intonation for speech synthesis. I presented my work as a paper to the European Conference on Speech Technology at Edinburgh in 1987.

Towards the end of 1988 I took up an offer of a permanent post at Hursley, the graphical interface to the IBM OS/2 operating system. Happily, I have not completely abandoned my language skills; I have twice had the opportunity to represent Hurley at CeBIT, the Hanover information-technology fair, the largest of its kind in Europe, where I used my knowledge of German to good effect.

I have now been displaced to the north-west coast of the USA. I applied for, and was offered, a position with Microsoft Systems UK, based in Eastleigh, Hampshire. It is a fledgling offshoot of Microsoft Corporation here in Redmond, Washington. I came here in March to assist in the final phase of development of Microsoft's new NT operating system, and shall remain here until sometime around March of next year, when I intend to return to live in Southampton.



Chinese in link with the School

THE School featured in the itinerary of a delegation from Yichang City in central China, who were in Blackburn to mark the development of a Netlon plant in their city. Netlon, the Blackburn-based plastic net and mesh manufacturers have recently signed several contracts for China-based production of their products and anticipate more in the near future.

RICHARD BROWN (1976-83) has recently completed at Credit level the Higher National Diploma in Recreational Land Management at the Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture. This is a three-year full-time course.

Richard has been awarded the "Lancashire County Council Award" for the top student, and the "Duchy of Lancaster Scholarship & Thesis Prize."

MAMMY MALIK (1980-90) is currently working on an experimental dissertation, which he intends to publish, at the Dunn School of Pathology, during his Final Honour School year at Lincoln College, Oxford. He achieved first position throughout the whole University in the First BM examination in Medicine and won both a Double Distinction from Oxford University and a double Scholarship from Lincoln College.

MICHAEL P. HAYTON (1979-89), graduated BA in Jurisprudence in 1992, has been awarded a Lincoln's Inn Scholarship on commencement of his course at the Inns of Court School of Law.

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Left to Right: James Coleman, Head Boy; Keith Gledhill, High Sheriff; The Very Reverend David Frayn, the new Provost of Blackburn; Councillor Mrs. Entwistle, Mayor of Blackburn; Nicol Latham, Head Girl; Nigel Evans, MP for Ribble Valley; John Singleton, Chairman of Governors; The Lord Carlisle, QC; Dr. Julia Newton; Barry Brown, Chairman of the Old Blackburnians' Association and Philip Johnston, Headmaster at the Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnians' Association held in Big School on Saturday, 19 December. 1992.

DINNER '92

DECEMBER 19, the Saturday before Christmas, 1992; Big School, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn - the Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnian's Association. Black tie, chandeliers, oak panelling, fine speeches, "In Memoriam" and the momentous close of the School song once again created a special atmosphere which is unique to the Old Blacks' Annual Dinners. The Annual Dinner is

undoubtedly the focal point of the Old Blackburnians' calendar. Guests travel from far and wide to attend - entire Christmas itineraries have been structured around this one evening; late night taxis are arranged months previously.

After the experiments of earlier years, the 1992 Dinner reverted to its classic format - Big School only, Old Blacks

only. And perhaps it is better that way. It certainly appeared to be in 1992. Not least because of the particularly entertaining speakers who added even more sparkle and life to the evening.

Guests were totally unprepared for the witty, humorous and rather candid toast to the School proposed by Dr. Julia Newton. An excellent speech which has certainly set the standard for the decade.

Lord Carlisle of Bucklow, Chief Guest, was similarly entertaining, but lacked the feminine charm of Dr. Newton! The School was indeed honoured this year by a notable and impressive guest list: Keith Gledhill, High Sheriff of Lancashire; Nigel Evans, MP for Ribble Valley; the Mayor of Blackburn, Councillor Mrs. Entwistle; The Very Reverend David Frayn, the new Provost of Blackburn; the present Head Boy and Girl; John Singleton,



The massed ranks of the Old Blackburnians Association committee

Continued overleaf



Lee Medlock, Tanya Magell, Seamus Andrew and friends.



D Carr, Jason Winstanley, Keith Sharpie and Fred Winstanley.



Annabel Dearing, Mark Wood, Jennifer Prince.

Continued from previous page

Chairman of Governors, and, of course, the Headmaster.

Barry Brown, the recently elected Chairman of the Old Blacks, paid tribute to David Forbes who retired this year after 25 years as Secretary of the Association. David received a silver platter from the Association at the Dinner, as a gesture of thanks for his commitment and superb contribution over the years.

The Association would also like to

thank The School, Mr. Fred Dewhurst and Mr. Graham Slack for their support and invaluable contributions on the night - Mr. Dewhurst for his skill at the piano, Mr. Slack for his photo-journalist talents, and Mr. Lund for managing the Toasts.

If you are a regular guest at this major event, please do encourage any Old Blacks you are in contact with to come along if they wish, and for those who have not been able to make it yet, or possible for several years - simply rearrange Christmas!

Make sure you're in the picture!

TO MAKE sure you spend the evening of Saturday before Christmas in Big School, forward a request for Annual Dinner '93 tickets NOW to Andrew Norman, Old

Blackburnians, c/o The School. For details on Branch activities, contact your regional secretary, or Eric Kay at the School. To pay subscriptions,

forward cheques made payable to the Old Blackburnians' Association, to the School, F.A.O. Fred Gillibrand. Include your current address and years at school.



Chairman of Old Black's Barry Brown presents retiring Sec. David Forbes with a silver salver to mark his 25 years exemplary service to the Association.



Nigel Evans M.P., Barry Brown (Chairman of Old Blackburnians), Rachel Brown, Julian Brown, The Rt. Hon. Lord Carlisle QC, The Headmaster.



Peter Nataraj, Rachel Brown, R Pickup, C Lysons, Matthew Pearce and Head Boy.

TEACHERS TAKE OVER AT 64th AGM

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION — BALANCE SHEET 31st JULY, 1991

	£	1992	£	1991	£
NET ASSETS					
Lammack Ground at cost less sales.....			1,208	1,208	
INVESTMENTS AT COST					
£1,250 4% Consols (Market Value £543).....	1,161			1,161	
£850 8.25% Barclays Bank plc Unsecured Loan 1986/93 (Market Value £630).....	582			582	
£2,879.07 6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98 (Market Value £2,625).....	2,231			2,231	
£2,750 8.25% Treasury Stock 1993 (Market Value £2,729).....	2,487			2,487	
£2,750 9% Treasury Stock 1992/96 (Market Value £2,719).....	2,457			2,457	
£5,000 10.25% Exchequer Stock 1995 (Market Value £5,433).....	5,075			5,075	
£5,000 10.5% Exchequer Stock 1997 (Market Value £5,190).....	5,047			5,047	
£4,560 10.25% Conversion Stock 1999 (Market Value £4,765).....	4,864				
		23,904			19,040
LOAN TO QEGS		10,000		10,000	
Debtors					
Advertisers.....	90			210	
Dividend.....	—			73	
		90		283	
Cash					
Trustee Savings Bank.....	409			398	
Lloyds Bank plc.....	2,031			5,784	
National & Provincial Building Society.....	6,559			6,410	
National Savings Bank.....	2,316			2,083	
		11,315		14,675	
		46,517		45,206	
CREDITORS					
Annual dinner.....	—			756	
Inland Revenue.....	62			208	
Magister.....	—			2,973	
		62		3,937	
		£46,455		£41,269	
REPRESENTED BY:					
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND		1,208		1,208	
LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND					
Balance at 1st August 1991.....	44,737			38,391	
Add: New members.....	5,780			6,510	
Less: Returns and deletions.....	15			164	
		50,517		44,737	
ACCUMULATED FUND					
Balance at 1st August 1991.....	(4,676)			(5,060)	
Surplus (deficit) for the year.....	(579)			384	
		(5,255)		(4,676)	
		£46,455		£41,269	

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st JULY 1992

	£	1992	£	1991	£
INCOME					
Subscriptions.....			784	1,029	
Released from Life Membership Fund.....			15	104	
INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS					
10.25% Exchequer Stock 1995.....	513			513	
10.5% Exchequer Stock 1997.....	525			262	
4% Consols.....	50			50	
8.25% Barclays Bank — Loan.....	54			54	
6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98.....	194			194	
9% Treasury Stock 1992/96.....	247			224	
8.25% Treasury Stock 1993.....	227			221	
	1,810			1,518	
Bank Interest.....	11			21	
Building Society Interest.....	203			34	
National Savings Bank Investment Account Interest.....	232			1,131	
GROSS INVESTMENT INCOME	2,256			2,704	
Less: Corporation Tax.....	564			683	
		1,692		2,021	
WAR MEMORIAL GROUND RENT		5		5	
SURPLUS ON ANNUAL DINNER		(29)		351	
		2,467		3,510	
EXPENDITURE					
General Expenses.....	209			138	
Postages.....	419			158	
Magister.....	2,276			2,678	
Corporation Tax (overprovision in previous year).....	—			(15)	
Subscription to ISIS Association.....	—			150	
Branch Expenses.....	142			17	
		3,046		3,126	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUND		(579)		384	

HONORARY AUDITORS' REPORT YEAR ENDED 31st JULY 1992

We have examined the accounts set out on pages 2 to 4, which are in accordance with the information supplied to us, and give a true and correct record of the transactions for the year ended 31st July, 1992 and of the state of affairs at that date.

W. HARE
R. B. HOLDEN Chartered Accountants, Blackburn.

8 October, 1992

TWO schoolmasters stepped in to head your Old Blackburnians Association when it was "all change" at the 64th AGM last November.

The venue was different for a start — meeting in the Garstang Room at School instead of the Radcliffe Room.

John Duckworth was in the chair with 15 members present. He later handed over to Barry Brown, craft, technology and design supremo at QEGS. Head of physics at West Park Road, John Read, who organised the annual dinner for ten years after Harry King died, took up the reins as vice-chairman.

Dr Ronald Barham took over as secretary from David Forbes who was stepping down after 25 years in the job.

The minutes of the 1991 Annual General Meeting were read and approved.

As he prepared to stand down as chairman, John Duckworth said he could look back on his two years in office with some incredulity and some relief. He expressed his sorrow at the criticism which was levelled in 1991 and reminded the meeting that all aspects of the Association's activities seemed to be under fire. However, this did focus the Committee's attention on these matters and self-appraisal was always a good thing if something could be learnt from it.

Having done so he felt that the present Committee were doing things right, continuing the tradition of the previous 60 or more years. Proved and tested procedures and ways were often best left alone as the disastrous Dinner of 1990 had shown us. Whilst changes must and should be considered, changes should not be made for change's sake.

The Chairman said that his two years had seen several changes. Andrew Norman taking over as Dinner Organiser after John Read's ten years, David Holmes as Editor of Magister after himself, Roger Masters from Phil Sumner as Football Club Chairman and David Forbes' pending retirement as Secretary. He paid tribute to those people and in particular the Secretary who had served this office for 25 years having had a hard act to follow in Harold Burrows who had been the previous Secretary for over 30 years. David had also held the offices of Chairman and Secretary for two years. He said the Association was indebted to David for all his work and guidance over a quarter of a century. He coupled with these remarks the name of the Treasurer Fred Gillibrand who he said was also a good and faithful servant of the Association and also all other members of the Committee who had served the Association generally and he the Chairman particularly during his two years in office.

continued next page

continued from previous page

The treasurer, Mr Fred Gillibrand, presented his report and the Accounts and after answering one or two questions, the accounts were adopted with a formal note of thanks to the treasurer.

Athletics. The Chairman welcomed Roger Masters to his first meeting and congratulated him on his election as Chairman of the Football Club. Roger said the Club's four teams had all started well, particularly the 2nd XI and 3rd XI. To accommodate players such as himself, he said the Club had entered the Umbro over 40's Challenge League. The Club Captain had had a meeting with the Headmaster to improve co-operation between the Club and the School and this was already showing successful results.

Mr Eric Kay said he had been to the inaugural Scottish Branch Dinner in Edinburgh in October which had been successful and the Oxford and Cambridge Dinners had also been held recently — also successful. He was pleased to say that new organisers of these events had already been found. Nothing further had been heard from the Yorkshire branch.

The Chairman of Governors said he had visited Hong Kong recently and had had Dinner with some of the Old Boys living there — organised by Dr Chris Lund.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: President: Sir Kenneth Durham; chairman: Barry Brown — who on taking over the Chair from John Duckworth thanked John for his efforts during his two years in office, in particular having had to cope with the problems to which he had referred to in his report. Vice-chairman: John Read. Secretary: Ronald Barham. The new Chairman said he would like to re-iterate all the previous Chairman had said about David Forbes as Secretary of the Association for 25 years. He was sorry he would not be able to rely on David's help during his Chairmanship but pleased that he was still willing to serve on the Committee. Treasurer: Fred Gillibrand.

Auditors: William Hare, Ralph Holden; Committee: F Barnes, H Burrows, J Duckworth, E Fairhurst, D I Forbes, T Hindle, D Holmes, E J Kay, E C Marsden, K V Newton, A Norman, P T Pearson, W H Proctor, J E Sagar, R Smethurst, R Smith, P Thompson, W E T Walsh, J Warner, K Wightman. Ex Office: P F Johnston (Headmaster); R M Masters (Chairman — Football Club).

The following dates were agreed for 1992: — Committee: 2 February and 7 September. AGM: 9 November. Annual Dinner: 19 December.

It was resolved that a suitable presentation should be made to David Forbes to make his service to the Association as Secretary.

It was resolved that subject to the School's agreement, all future meetings should be held in the Garstang Room.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15

New team on Lombard



Nigel Worswick, left, with Ford motorsport manager Peter Ashcroft

NIGEL WORSWICK (1970-75) has teamed up with a new co-driver as he bids for honours on this year's Lombard RAC Rally.

The 35-year-old chartered engineer from Great Harwood, one of East Lancashire's leading competitors, has enlisted the help of Blackburn production planner Clive Molyneux for the tough four-day event.

Although this will be his first RAC,

Molyneux is an experienced navigator, partnering Clitheroe's Nick Hutchinson in the Vauxhall Nova Challenge this year.

Said Nigel: "We have been friends for years.

"Clive was my deputy when I was clerk of the course on the Tour of Mull, so I'm sure it will be a success."

This is Worswick's third attempt on the rally, and in 1991 finished 31st overall in his Ford Sierra Cosworth.

Following his win on the Samlesbury Charity Challenge in September, and fifth place on last month's Rally Car Stages, they have been seeded at number 44—the highest all-Lancashire crew

Helping out with the enormous cost of competing on a World Championship rally are three local companies, Advanced Steels of Preston, Sameday Courier Network, Blackburn, and Precision Parts Engineering of Roe Lee.

"With the BBC covering Sunday's Chatsworth stage live, they will get good television exposure.

"We've still some space left on the car, if any other sponsor is interested," said Nigel.

Teacher takes off for Germany

REBA HAJELA (1980-82) is now working as a Special Educational Needs teacher at the Rhein Middle School, RAF Laarbruch in Germany. She worked for Smith & Nephew Medical Ltd. for two years before returning to University for a P.G.C.E. in Primary Education. She then taught in the UK for two years before joining Service Children's Schools in Germany. Reba's sister, Vanita Brookes (nee Hajela), who was pictured at her son's Christening in the last issue of Magister (Spring, 1992), has just given birth to Sophie. Their brother, Vijay, is Senior House Officer in Cardiology at the Hallamshire Hospital, Sheffield. Reb, Vanita and Vijay are the children of Dr. V. P. Hajela, a former School Governor.

ANNA HILL (1990-92) has enrolled at St. Andrew's Tutorial College, Cambridge, to study A-level Media Studies & Psychology.



ABIGAIL WOODS (1988-90) (above) won £100 for her highly-rated performance in the Young Musician of the Guild competition held to mark Preston Guild in 1992. She was beaten in the semi-final of the piano class by a young man who reached the televised final of the BBC Young Musician of the Year.

Regimental appointment

JOHN DOWNHAM (1957-62) has been appointed Regimental Secretary of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment. Lt. Col. John Downham, MBE, takes over from Col. "Dickie" Bird who is retiring after 13 years. Based at Fulwood Barracks,

John was previously Deputy Chief of Staff, North West District, and won his MBE for his contributions to the establishment of the new 15th Infantry Brigade. He has served in Swaziland, Aden and Malta, where he met his wife



Oxbridge trio on the run...

FIONA THISTLETHWAITE, Head Girl at school, 1990-91, now reading Medicine at St. John's College, Cambridge, where she has gained her Blue for cross-country and Half Blue for athletics, pictured left during the Varsity Athletics meeting at the Iffley Road Stadium. Also in the photograph are Jane Dalton, former Deputy Head Girl, now reading Chemistry at Lincoln College, Oxford, and Andrew Johnston, at Horncliffe from 1978 to 1980. He recently graduated in History at St. Peter's College, and was running for Oxford.

OUR THANKS

WE'D like to thank everyone who has helped with this edition especially the headmaster and his staff and the Lancashire Evening Telegraph and Graham Slack for their photographs.

Don't forget we rely on articles about you and your friends at school. Please send in your reports (with dates at School) to me at the address below before Christmas 1993.

DAVID HOLMES. 52
Cartmell Road. Lytham St.
Annes. Lancashire FY8 1DF.
Tel: 0253 724980.

Chris takes tennis title at the double

DOUBLING up proved a successful move for top 1992 tennis player **CHRIS HARWOOD** () when he entered the Carl sberg Leinster Open Championships in Dublin.

For the 21-year-old tennis ace first reached the last 16 of the men's singles, then teamed up with a brand new partner to win the doubles title and the £500 prize which went with it.

Chris, who has recently graduated from Loughborough University with a B.Sc. in PE, Sports Science and Recreation Management entered the tournament with two university team members.

He put his name down for the doubles and was paired with British number 20 Darren Kirk.

On the way to the final they put out the number one seeds, the Great Britain pairing of Danny Sapsford and Richard Whicello, in straight sets. In the final, there was another straight sets victory over Scott Barron and Pat Staunton.

Fitness

The win rounded off a great season for Chris who has won virtually every possible title while at university.

Over the past three years he has led Loughborough to four UAU titles, he captured the British Universities Doubles Titles in 1991 and 1992, the mixed doubles title with fellow Lancastrian Ann Driver in 1992 and the British Students Doubles Title in 1992. He has also represented British Universities twice and captained the Combined English University team.

In spite of his success, Chris has no desire to turn professional.

He is to return to Loughborough to begin a Masters degree in Sports Science from which he intends to work with young British hopefuls on their physical fitness.

Stats the way to do it as John wins Chair

JOHN WHITEHEAD (1961-67), Reader in Applied Statistics at the University of Reading, has been appointed, at an unusually early age, to a Personal Chair in Applied Statistics.

In the Sixth Form at Queen Elizabeth's he did Double Mathematics, Physics and General Studies, gaining three Grade As, and from there completed voluntary service overseas in Uganda before taking up an Open Scholarship to read Mathematics at Worcester College, Oxford, where he took a First. He then proceeded to the University of Sheffield where he was awarded his Ph.D. in Statistics & Probability in 1972. He then lectured at Chelsea College in the University of London, proceeded to Reading as a lecturer, and then became a reader. He spent two years at the Fred Hutchinson Hospital in Seattle, Washington State, before returning to Reading.

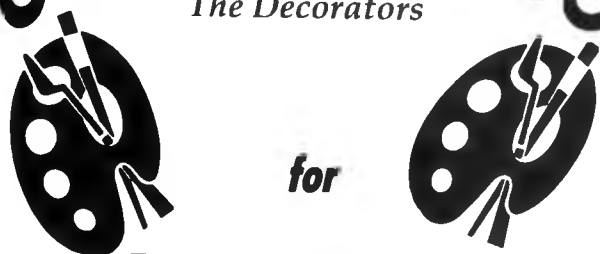
The title of Dr. Whitehead's book is "The Design & Analysis Of Sequential Clinical Trials."

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

GEOFF STONEHOUSE (1942-1949) left Shell as an early pensioner in 1975 after some years in Africa and the Caribbean, took a PGCE (post graduate certificate in education) and then spent the next 13 years teaching chemistry at Tiffin School in Kingston-upon-Thames. He left in 1989 as Head of Chemistry to indulge his interest in golf and archaeology whilst teaching A-level chemistry part time; and seeing his four children out of the next! Geoff would like to renew acquaintances with Gerald Brook, Bill Sutton and Mike Hooper; please get in touch via the Editor. As a postscript, Geoff mentioned in his letter that J.M. Maurice, who taught morse to the QEGS Air Traininf Corps during the War, died during 1992.

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ART WORLD GOES WILD FOR JEREMY

JEREMY PAUL (1965-72), has acquired an international reputation for his wildlife paintings, which he works on at his studio on the Isle of Man.

A marine biologist by training, Dr. Jeremy Paul's artistic skill flourished after his time at Q.E.G.S. when he visited the Scottish island of Scalpay as part of his worldwide travels studying shellfish.

The island sustains a human population of six, but enjoys splendid scenery which inspired Jeremy to undertake wildlife painting properly.

Studied

He now visits Scotland regularly and has recently studied wildlife in Canada.

Although he himself admits that he is not very good at "sketching", his finished works command high prices at galleries up and down the country.



JEREMY PAUL

Lodge your application...

THE Old Blackburnians Masonic Lodge meets about five times a year at the School. Any old boy or present or past members of staff are eligible to join. Anyone interested should contact David Oldfield, 46, Royshaw Avenue, Blackburn BB1 8RJ.

KEITH WALMSLEY (1940-41) has been elected President of the Rotary Club of Blackburn. He was headteacher of Pleckgate High School until his recent retirement. He succeeds George Wade (1947-52), and will be followed by the Headmaster. John Singleton (1927-34), Chairman of Governors and President of the Rotary Club of the Borough of Blackburn completes the quartet. The Rotary year runs from July to July and posts are elected annually.

Picture shows (left to right): John Singleton, George Wade, Keith Walmsley and the Headmaster, Philip Johnston.



New head is looking to cheer on Rovers

MR. P. JULIAN WILDE (1957-64), currently Headmaster of The City School, Lincoln, has been appointed Headmaster of King Edward VII School, Lytham. Educated in Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Junior School, he read Theology at The Queen's College at Oxford having gained an Open Scholarship in Classics there from Bristol Grammar School. He was

LYNN BRUNTON married **Andy Willis** (above) on 8th August, 1992.



NICHOLAS VYSE married **Fiona Hoyle** after meeting at QGS. Nicholas now works as a management trainee with Lloyds Bank; Fiona is a science teacher.

IAN HERBERT (1975-81) married **Linda Brown** on 3rd October, 1992. They both work for Forward Trust Limited in Birmingham.

ANOTHER banker, **Mark Jones** (1979-85), married **Yvonne Pain** at All Souls Church, Eastbourne.

DR. IAN JONES (1970-80) arrived at the church in a golf buggy to marry **Elizabeth Woods** before leaving for a secret honeymoon destination —which we still don't know! Best man, **Simon**, was also at QEGS (1977-83).

AND **Michael Inkley** (1973-80) is now a father, as is **Richard Flanders** (1974-81).



JULIAN WILDE

Head of Religious Education at William Hulme's Grammar School, Manchester, from 1970-80, and then spent four years as Headmaster of Wood Green School, Witney, before taking up his present post at the City School, a co-educational comprehensive school of 950 boys.

He writes to the Head Master: "I am very much looking forward to meeting colleagues in the North-West Division of The Headmasters' Conference before long, and at the same time my thoughts are moving more towards Lytham, having sold my house, probably because of my support for Blackburn Rovers, my first and only team."

HOW THEY ENDED UP!

SEASON 1991-92

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Burnley Belvedere.....	24	21	1	2	80	14	43
R'dale St Clements.....	24	18	4	2	57	21	40
Old Gregorians.....	24	12	5	7	41	30	29
Burnley GSOB.....	24	9	9	6	49	47	27
Walshaw SC.....	24	9	7	8	39	35	25
Old Blacks.....	24	9	6	9	40	38	24
Hesketh Casuals.....	24	8	7	9	46	42	23
Old Rivingtonians.....	24	8	5	11	37	46	21
Old Mostonians.....	24	8	5	11	33	50	21
Southport Amts.....	24	7	4	13	33	47	18
Fulwood Amateurs.....	24	6	4	14	34	58	16
Broughton Amts.....	24	6	2	16	27	57	14
Bury Amateurs.....	24	3	5	16	29	60	11



PREMIER RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Old Gregorians.....	26	17	5	4	77	34	39
Old Rivingtonians.....	26	18	3	5	74	46	39
R'dale St Clements.....	26	17	4	5	79	28	38
Burnley Belvedere.....	26	14	4	8	69	48	30
Rossendale Amts.....	26	11	7	8	64	43	29
Old Blacks.....	26	10	9	7	47	44	29
Old Mostonians.....	26	10	7	9	52	49	27
Leigh Athletic.....	26	7	9	10	53	52	23
Bury Amateurs.....	26	10	3	13	47	52	23
Southport Amts.....	26	8	4	14	45	74	20
Fulwood Amateurs.....	26	5	9	12	35	59	19
Old Boltonians.....	26	6	5	15	41	68	17
Broughton Amts.....	26	7	3	16	30	62	17
Oldham Hulmeians.....	26	4	4	18	43	97	12



NORTH-3A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Old Blacks A.....	26	20	3	3	106	43	43
Old Smithillians A.....	26	17	5	4	84	32	39
Fulwood Amts A.....	26	16	2	8	76	59	34
Burnley Belv A.....	26	13	7	6	69	46	33
Rossendale Amts A.....	26	13	6	7	69	50	32
O. Rivingtonians A.....	26	12	5	9	65	50	29
Old Boltonians A.....	26	8	8	10	45	47	24
Little Lever SC A.....	26	9	6	11	72	86	24
O. Rivingtonians B.....	26	7	7	12	60	80	21
Burnley GSOB A.....	26	9	3	14	47	70	21
Broughton Amts A.....	26	5	11	10	53	81	21
Southport Amts A.....	26	8	3	15	57	69	19
Burnley GSOB B.....	26	5	5	16	65	88	15
Broughton Amts B.....	26	2	5	19	33	100	9



NORTH-3B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Hesketh Casuals A.....	26	18	5	3	79	34	41
Old Sladians A.....	26	16	6	4	59	28	38
Fulwood Amts B.....	26	16	5	5	82	34	37
Burnley Belv B.....	26	13	5	8	66	43	31
Preston GSA A.....	26	13	3	10	68	57	29
Burnley Belv C.....	26	12	3	11	56	62	27
Old Boltonians B.....	26	10	5	11	48	48	25
O. Rivingtonians C.....	26	10	4	12	69	79	24
Old Blacks B.....	26	8	6	11	42	55	24
Rossendale Amts B.....	26	10	3	13	54	61	23
Little Lever SC B.....	26	7	5	14	60	76	19
Newman College A.....	26	6	6	14	57	95	18
Tarleton Corinth A.....	26	5	4	17	52	72	14
Burnley GSOB C.....	26	5	4	17	33	81	14



Pictured above are numbers 5 and 7 West Park Road acquired by the School for extra classrooms and a Sixth-form commonroom.

● Full story — Page 1

Photograph courtesy of Mr Graham Slack.



PHOTO: Pye of Clitheroe

ANDREW ORMEROD and Susan Beaumont left QEGS in 1982 and got married in 1992. Susan is a buyer with Marks & Spencer, Philip is a civil engineer.

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Old Black's 3rds win championship

OLD Blackburnians "A" went one better than the previous season when they emphatically won the 3A North championship of the Lancashire Amateur League. The team, built on a blend of youth and experience, finished with 43 points, four points clear of the runners-up. In the course of the season they scored 106 goals and conceded only 43.

Frank Riley skipped the side with great determination and all the players involved are to be congratulated on an outstanding effort.

The first XI had a mixed season, showing inconsistency resulting in their finishing only seventh in the Premier Division. The second XI finished sixth in the Premier Reserve division falling away in the latter part of the season after a bright start. Both the senior sides went out of their respective cup competitions in the early rounds.

Ovation

The third and fourth teams took part in the North Section Cup, but hopes of a league and cup double were dashed when the thirds lost at the quarter-final stage. The fourth team failed to qualify from their group.

There was the usual participation in the L.A.L. Veterans Cup, with the Old Blacks losing in the quarter-final to the eventual winners, Rossendale Amateurs.

On the social side the President's Dinner, in March, again proved a great success with all those present enjoying an excellent evening entertained by football league referee, John Lloyd. We are once again greatly indebted to our Presi-

Here's mud in your eye!

REMEMBER the wind howling across from Pendle? Remember the rain horizontal and soaking that flimsy football shirt in a matter of minutes?

Remember that icy compress and cloying mud as you slid in for the first tackle? Fancy a trip down memory lane? No-not another match on Lammack! Play again in the comfort of the Old Black-



ROGER MASTERS



ALAN UPTON

Cup double is dashed in quarter finals

dent, David Forbes, for his support on the night and his continued interest in the club throughout the year.

The end of season Players Dinner was very well attended with a number of former players making a welcome return to the club. Thanks should go to Alan Upton for his efforts to contact former players and encourage them back into the fold. During the course of the evening Philip Sumner was presented with a video camera for his outstanding service to the club following his eight years as chairman. All those assembled gave him a truly memorable ovation.

Finally, can I appeal to any Old Blackburnian's who have a desire to play football to get in touch with us. It is very sad that so few former pupils seem to find their way down to Lammack these days. I would also extend an invitation to any old boys in the area to visit the club, which is open six nights a week, to perhaps renew old acquaintances.

burnians. Talk your way through that famous hat-trick with a pint and a plate of supper. Come to the FOOTBALL REUNION at the Old Blackburnians Club on Lammack Road on Friday, April 23rd, 1993. Contact Dave Edmundson at School (59911, Ext. 168) if you're interested —or delayed publication of Magister causes you to miss the event.

GOAL TO ARMS

ALAN UPTON (1959-65), Club Captain of the Old Blacks AFC invites any Old Black who would like to play to contact the Club on 0254 52153. His son, Paul, is already a player, but his daughter, Helen, has given it a miss! Alan was promoted to Vice-President, Finance with Medex Medical Inc. in December, 1991, a subsidiary of a US-based company which manufactures pressure monitoring devices used in hospitals throughout the world.

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Degrees and things

AWARDS GAINED DURING THE PAST YEAR

S. ALKER (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Food Resource Management, Seale Hayne Faculty, University of Plymouth. Appointed Food Technologist with Northern Foods, Nottingham.

P. ALMOND (1988-91) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Physics, University of Leeds. Proceeding to Post Graduate Course on Digital Techniques for Information Technology at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh.

KATHERINE ANDERTON (1986-88) Qualified as Registered General Nurse + Diploma in Nursing Studies at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

S. J. ASTLEY (1982-89) Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Accountancy, Lancashire Polytechnic.

B. BANIK (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Chemistry, University of Leeds.

J. E. BANKS (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Construction Management, U.M.I.S.T.

P. R. BARHAM (1981-88) Graduated B.A. Class 1, Hons.

Computer Science, Churchill College, Cambridge. Awarded the "Olivetti Prize" for best overall results. Proceeding to read for Ph.D. at Churchill College.

A. G. BARHAM (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Pharmacy, University of Manchester. Commencing Pre-Reg with Boots The Chemist.

A. C. BARRETT (1982-89). Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Electronics, St. Chad's College, University of Durham. Appointed Trainee Programmer with K3 Group Ltd., Software Company, Worcester.

JOANNE C. BENNETT (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Mathematics & Statistics, University of Edinburgh. Proceeding to read for M.Sc., in Operational Research at University of Lancaster.

N. T. BEST (1981-88) Graduated B.Eng. Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Engineering Metallurgy, University of Salford.

ALISON J. BARTLE, B.Sc. (1983-84) Qualified M.B., B.S., Charing Cross & Westminster Medical School. Awarded distinctions in Medicine, Therapeutics, and Obstetrics & Gynaecology. Appointed House Officer, Westminster Hospital, London.

A. BOOTH (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. English, Oriel College, Oxford. Appointed Trainee in Commercial Sales & Marketing with British Steel, Newport, South Wales.

CAROL A. BRADLEY (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Qualified Teacher Status in Physical Education, University of Warwick.

D. M. BROCKLEBANK (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Housing and Development, Bristol Polytechnic. Proceeding to M.Sc., in Land Management at Reading University.

C. M. BROWN (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. International History & Politics, University of Leeds. Proceeding to read for M.A., in Modern International Studies at Leeds.

N. BROWN, M.B., Ch.B. (1982-84) Qualified M.R.C.P. (U.K.) Appointed House Officer at Glenfield Hospital, Leicester.

LYNN M. BRUNTON (1983-86) Qualified M.B., B.S., University College & Middlesex School of Medicine. Awarded Temple Frere Prize for Obs. & Gyn.

C. BURROWS (1985-87) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Aberdeen. Proceeding to City Hospital, Aberdeen.

J. S. BULLOCK (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Economic/Business Studies, University of Sheffield.

J. M. BULMAN (1977-83) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Edinburgh Medical School. Proceeding to University of Glasgow to read Veterinary Medicine.

BELINDA J. CASS (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Hons., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. English Studies, University of Nottingham. Appointed Trainee Management, Lloyds Bank, Midlands/North Wales Region.

DELPHINE J. C. CHADWICK (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Architecture, University of Dundee. Received the Gordon Matthewson Award for best degree student.

D. S. CHATTERJEE (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Mathematics, Trinity College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Part III Mathematical Tripos at Cambridge.

R. J. COLLIGHAN (1979-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div.



Green light for Debbie

DEBORAH EVANS (1985-87), daughter of Mrs. Ann Evans, teacher in the Junior Department and energetic Chairman of The Elizabethan Association, has recently landed a top post with Lloyd's Register Industrial Division, working in the green fleshpots of Croydon!

Deborah, who came to the Sixth Form from Westholme School for Girls, gained four A-levels, before proceeding to read Environmental Science at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. She then proceeded to complete a Post-graduate Diploma in Environmental Impact Assessment at the same university and has recently been elected a Graduate Member of the Institute of Environmental Scientists.

1, Hons. Biochemistry & Biological Chemistry, University of Nottingham.

R. C. CRABTREE (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Geography, University of Liverpool. Appointed Management Trainee (Food Services) with Christian Salvesen in Edinburgh.

N. J. F. DAWSON (1979-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Marine Technology, Plymouth Polytechnic. Proceeding to Master's Degree in Maritime Archaeology at Linacre College, Oxford.

D. W. DEWHURST (1981-88) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 1, Civil Engineering, University of Salford. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., in Fire Resistant Structures & Composite Materials at Salford.

N. E. J. DEWHURST (1978-84) Graduated B.A., Hons. Mathematics, Merton College, Oxford. Proceeding to Ph.D., at Essex University.

C. J. G. DONE (1977-86) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Physiological Sciences, Queen's College, Oxford.

M. J. DOXEY (1984-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1,



MATTHEW ALMOND (1971-78) gained his doctorate in inorganic chemistry from Magdalen College, Oxford, in 1984 and then returned to Oxford to continue post-doctoral work following a spell of research at the University of Munster.

Matthew is pictured with his wife and his parents. He was appointed Lecturer in Chemistry at the University Reading in 1986 and is now a

member of the Council of the Royal Society of Chemistry. He has published two books, "Spectroscopy of Matrix-Isolated Species" (1989), and "Short-Lived Molecules" (1990). He is married to Dr. Rachel Orrin, a research chemist at Smith-Kline-Beecham pharmaceuticals. His father, Raymond Almond (1937-44), is now retired. He was previously export manager for a textile shuttle firm and lives in Blackburn.

Hons. History, Westfield College, University of London. Proceeding to read for M.A., in History at University of York.

G. M. DUCKETT (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Human Geography, University of Nottingham.

N. J. EATHER (1984-89) Gained H.N.D., Agriculture, Lancashire College of Agriculture. Proceeding to Management of Dairy Farm in New Zealand.

G. EATOUGH (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. English & Drama, University of Bristol.

A. M. ECCLESTON (1981-88) Graduated M.Eng., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Electronic Systems Engineering, University of York.

M. R. ESPLEY (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. German/French, University of Leeds. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Porter, Matthews & Marsden, Blackburn.

P. R. EDDLESTON (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Politics, University of Hull. Proceeding to Sales & Marketing with Procter and Gamble, January 1993.

M. A. L. EVANS (1980-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Economics/Statistics, University of York. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Touche Ross, Manchester, September 1993.

KATHERINE FLETCHER (1985-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. (Distinction in German Aural/Oral) Modern Languages, Hertford College, Oxford.

A. J. FORBES (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Modern History, Balliol College, Oxford.

R. J. FOSTER (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. History & Art History, University of Newcastle. Proceeding to Media/Illustrator, and Freelance cartoonist/artist.

S. J. FOWLER (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Medical Sciences, University of St. Andrew's. Proceeding to Clinical Studies at University of Manchester Medical School.

JOANNE T. GRAY (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Pure & Applied Biology, Somerville College, Oxford.

E. A. GRETTON (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. History, University of Bristol. Proceeding to Guildford College of Law.

S. K. GURUMURTHY (1978-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. PPE, Hertford College, Oxford. Appointed presenter of the BBC

children's programme "Newsround".

N. R. HARLING (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Ancient History, St. David's College, University of Wales.

I. S. HALL (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, University of Leeds.

R. C. HARDING (1982-89) Graduated B.D., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Theology, Heythrop College, University of London. Career in Music Industry.

R. J. HARTLEY (1977-87) Qualified B.D.S., Newcastle-upon-Tyne Dental School.

C. G. HARWOOD (1979-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Physical Education, Sports Science and Recreation Management, University of Loughborough. Proceeding to read for Master's degree in Sports Science at Loughborough.

JANE HARGREAVES (1987-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Biochemistry, University of Essex.

M. P. HAYTON (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, St. Anne's College, Oxford.

S. N. HILL (1984-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemical Sciences, University of Leeds.

D. A. HINDLE (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Geography/Geology, University of Manchester. Proceeding to read for M.Sc., at Royal Holloway & Bedford New College, University of London.

R. K. HINDLE (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Hons. Modern Languages, Aston University.

Sub. Lieut. S. D. HOLDEN (1973-80) Graduated B.Eng., Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon.



NICHOLAS EATHER (1985-89) has completed the HND in Agriculture at the Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture, winning the "Myerscough Cup"—a joint award for his contribution to the student community at the Myerscough Centre of the College.

S. J. W. HOLGATE (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, University of Manchester. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., at Manchester.

J. G. HODGKINSON (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Politics, University of York. Proceeding to read for M.A. in Political Philosophy at York.

R. M. HOYTE (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Physical Education, University of Warwick.



RUNA ALI (1984-86) is now working as House Officer at University College Hospital, London, after qualifying in Medicine in June, 1992. **Brother Faisal** (1976-84) is now a trainee BBC Radio Producer with Radio 4 in London.

A. B. HOYTE (1976-84) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Industrial Design, Leeds Polytechnic. Awarded M.A. (R.S.C.) History of Design at The Royal College of Art. Appointed Personal Assistant to Sir Norman Foster, Architects.

A. HUSSAIN (1985-87) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Leeds Medical School.

D. A. IRVINE (1980-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, University of Nottingham. Appointed Trainee Accountant with K.P.M.G. Peat Marwick.

CLAIRE M. ISHERWOOD (1987-89) Graduated B.Sc., Medical Sciences, University of St. Andrew's. Proceeding to Clinical Studies at University of Manchester Medical School.

C. D. JACQUES (1978-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Government & Politics, City of Birmingham Polytechnic. Proceeding to M.Sc., in Security Management at University of Leicester.

A. M. B. JOHNSTON (1978-81) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. History, St. Peter's College, Oxford. Proceeding to Guildford College of Law.

F. H. JOWETT (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Physics with Astrophysics, University of Manchester. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., in Astrophysics at the Nuffield Radio Astronomical Laboratories, Jodrell Bank, Cheshire.

K. KARIM (1986-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Chemistry, University of Reading.

A. J. H. KENNEDY (1981-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Ancient History & Archaeology, University of Nottingham.

D. KENNEDY (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Ordinary, Mathematics & Computing, University of York.

J. C. J. KENNEDY (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. Engineering Science, Brasenose College, Oxford. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Ernst & Young, London.

P. D. N. KENNEDY (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Modern Languages, Oriel College, Oxford. Proceeding to Trainee Management Consultant, Andersen Consulting, London.

MARIA S. KUTAR (1987-89) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, North London Polytechnic. Proceeding to Law Society Finals at Manchester Polytechnic.

A. J. LEE (1978-84) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons.

Construction Management, University of Salford.

M. E. LEE Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Aeronautical Engineering, Queen Mary College, University of London. Working with Prince's Trust Community Venture. Appointed Graduate Trainee with Rolls Royce Military Engines.

TAMARA H. C. LASZLO (1985-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Russian & Soviet Studies, University of Surrey. Proceeding to read for M.A., in Scandinavian Studies at University College, London.

D. M. LAWSON (1982-89) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, North London Polytechnic. Proceeding to College of Law in Chester.

S. J. LOMAX (1987-89) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Electronic Computer Systems, University of Salford.

C. I. LORD (1979-89) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Mechanical Engineering, University of Leeds. Appointed Production Engineer with Automotive Products Plc., Leamington Spa.

R. LUTHRA (1976-87) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Liverpool Medical School.

N. A. McCORDALL (1981-88)

Degrees and things

Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Food Marketing Sciences, Sheffield City Polytechnic. Appointment with Damhead Holdings Ltd.

KATHERINE E. MORAN (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. French/German, University of Birmingham.

J. F. MORLESE (1985-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Medical Sciences, St. George's College, University of London.

J. D. NEWMAN (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Archaeology/Geography, University of Nottingham. Proceeding to read for M.A. in Archaeology.

P. W. NEWMAN (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., Ordinary, Urban Land Economics, Sheffield Polytechnic.

SHARON D. NEWTON (1985-87) Graduated B.Med.Sci., Class 1, Hons. University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Proceeding to M.B., B.S., at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

N. D. NUTTALL (1980-87) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Edinburgh Medical School. Appointed

House Officer Falkirk & District Royal Infirmary.

D. S. OAKLEY (1977-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Accountancy and Mathematics, University of Dundee.

M. R. OLDROYD (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Computing Systems, Nottingham Polytechnic.

R. K. PALEY (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Zoology, University of Dundee.

EMMA K. PARKES, B.A. (1983-85) Graduated B.Arch., at University of Newcastle.

COLETTE RIDEHALGH (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Physiotherapy, Polytechnic of East London.

L. F. RIMMER (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Political Studies, University of Leeds. Proceeding to Royal Air Force.

D. A. ROZEE (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Chemistry & Pharmacology, University of Sheffield.

P. SAHU (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Biochemistry, University of Edinburgh.

I. A. SARWAR (1987-89) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Electrical & Electronic Engineering, University of Leicester.

JOANNE E. SHERRY (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. German with International Studies, University of Warwick.

P. A. SMITH (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Economics and Accounting.

G. R. STANFIELD (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Combined Science (Geology), University of Leicester.

JUDITH A. STEWART (1985-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Double Hons. Modern Languages, University of Manchester. Proceeding to L.C.C.I. Post-graduate Diploma in European Business Administration at Manchester College of Arts and Technology.

R. G. SUTCLIFFE (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Landscape Architecture & Plant Science, University of Sheffield. Proceeding to read for M.A., in Landscape Architecture at Sheffield.

A. E. STARKIE (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Philosophy and Theology, Regent's Park

College, Oxford. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. at Westminster College, Oxford.

P. N. STOTT (1978-86) Qualified B.D.S., Newcastle-upon-Tyne Dental School.

G. TAYLOR (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Mathematics & Statistics, University of Reading.

G. J. THISTLETHWAITE (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. Mathematics, St. John's College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Diploma in Computing at St. John's College.

N. WILKS, B.A. (1980-86) Awarded M.A. in Human Resources Management, Newcastle-upon-Tyne University.

I. WADDICOR (1981-88) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Electronic Engineering, University of York.

R. T. WADDINGTON (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Economic Geography, University of McGill, Montreal, Canada. Proceeding to read for M.Phil., in Land Economy at Hughes Hall, Cambridge.

J. P. WALSH (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Philosophy, University of Liverpool.

MARTINA M. WARING (1985-87) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Psychology, University of Warwick.

S. A. WATSON (1984-88) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Hull.

REBECCA J. M. WHALLEY (1985-87) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Liverpool Medical School. Appointed House Surgeon, Whiston Hospital, Merseyside.

LUCY H. WHARTON (1984-86) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Clinical Science, St. Mary's Hospital Medical School.

N. M. WHARTON (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Hons. Medical Sciences, University of St. Andrew's.

SHIRLEY A. WIGNALL (1986-88) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, Birmingham Polytechnic. Proceeding to Law Society finals at Manchester Polytechnic.

J. A. S. WILLIAMS (1981-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Chemistry, University of Leeds.

S. D. WILSON (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia.

G. J. WOOD (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Hotel and Catering Management, Manchester Polytechnic.

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MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN PAYS BIG DIVIDENDS

WITH the help of Lloyds Bank, Blackburn, the Old Blackburnians contacted "former" members during 1992 whose annual subscriptions had lapsed over the years to offer them the opportunity to amend standing orders, and in some cases to dust off old cheque books, so that they could retain membership of this honourable and exclusive group!

Some former members were grateful for the opportunity — Roger Pearson from Bolton, who is still with National Westminster Bank after 29 years; John Pilling, who's

mentioned elsewhere in this issue; and Neil Ramsbottom, who is still confused with Norman Ramsbottom; whereas a Mr. Frank Dawson demonstrated a literary talent and creative flair which has caused the Headmaster to review the teaching of English language this year! But he paid up eventually. If you have allowed your subscription to lapse, please forward a cheque (or make alternative arrangements) to Fred Gillibrand c/o The School. Annual Subs are £5.00, life membership £50.00, payable to the Old Blackburnian Association.

Memories are made of this

FORMER QEGS domestic bursar, Mr Derrick Lund (1956-86) has transferred a series of 8mm film of school life from 1978 to 1986 on to video.

Derrick, toastmaster at OBA dinners for the past 33 years, has been Assistant County Director for St John Ambulance in East Lancashire since 1977 and has organised and instructed more than 2,000 teachers in first aid techniques at 140 schools during the past four years.

The video, called QEGS Memories, shows at slow speed, snippets of our recent history and is available for purchase.

The first part shows boys walking to the Cathedral wearing blue caps from 1978 up to 1986, plus one final year 1992. Other items shown are the presentation at the cricket match at the Oval of the Lord Taverers Cup, a Navy helicopter in the park, the School cat in 'Match of

the Day', shots of retired masters — with messages from a few of them, 1992 Exam Results day — in Assembly Hall and School Office when staff are chatting about results and setting up of last School photograph in the park — with the 'Security Guard' — Caesar.

If you wish to purchase one of these videos please cut out or copy the form below and return to Mr D G Lund, 56 Brantfell Road, Blackburn, Lancs. BB1 8DL, enclosing cheque for £15 plus postage and packing of £1.10 (£16.20) or overseas £15 plus £1.55 (£16.55) — airmail extra — made out to 'Mr D G Lund'.

The videos will be available from September 1993, and all I ask after many years work and time, is please do not copy the video. The School will benefit from the profit of each video sold.

If you have any anecdotes from your school days and up-to-date news, I will be delighted to hear from you.

DL

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Magister

Spring
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No. 36

Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

JUST CHAMPION!



**Old Blacks'
cup success**
*Frank Riley shows off
the championship trophy*
Full story — Page 19



Magister

Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

Autumn 1994

No. 37

£2.00

HEAD TAKES OFF!

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Annual Dinner

**Four pages of
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**Polo man leaves
School a mint
See page 36**



The Headmaster, Mr Philip F. Johnston, pictured above, is to leave Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School on his appointment as Headmaster of St. Christopher's School in Bahrain. Mr Johnston will be taking up his new position at the start of the academic year on the 1st September 1994. It is with regret that the Governors of Queen Elizabeth's accept Mr Johnston's resignation after seventeen years as Headmaster of the School and wish him every success in his new appointment.

Mr. Eric J Whittle has been appointed as

Philip plots flightpath to new job in Bahrain

acting Headmaster with effect from the 1st September 1994, and he will be supported by Dr. John R. Jennings as Vice-Master.

- Mr Johnston took over from Mr Douglas Coulson 17 years ago as Headmaster of QEGS; he recollects his association with the OBA on page 24

- *Philip is pictured above in the RAF's latest trainer. Full story - Page 25.*

EXTRA CASH FOR OBA? AGM REPORT - PAGE 13

STEVE'S ON TOP



At the end of August 1992, my wife and I completed our vocational training for General Practice - two years of fairly arduous hospital posts sandwiched between two six-month periods of rather more relaxed but nonetheless challenging work as trainee general practitioners.

As is the trend these days, we felt that having finished our training, the time was right to take some time out from medicine, particularly as the next career move would involve finding a permanent position as a fully-fledged GP. We toyed with the idea of working abroad, but finally decided to take an extended holiday which satisfied both our sense of adventure and our love of hills.....a journey to Everest. It was on 15th November 1992 that we set off for the mountainous kingdom of Nepal.

Our first days in Nepal were spent amidst the hustle and bustle of Kathmandu, a city where religion hits you square in the face, whether it be the majestic Bhuddist stupas, with their watching eyes or the shy Hindu shrines, which seem to litter each street corner. The city vibrates with life; the roads are a terrifying chaos of scurrying traffic and the streets seethe with market-traders, scampering children and all manner of vehicles, from belligerent lorries to nimble bicycles which weave between the mass of bodies. Through all this frenzy, cattle slowly plod oblivious to the activity around them.

Our pre-trek briefing gave us some idea of what was in store.....Our journey would start at Katari, in the Terai area of Southern Nepal, and they would follow an ancient trading route connecting Nepal with Tibet. This would take us via the valleys of the Sun Khosi and Dudh Khosi rivers to Namche Bazaar and then further, to the Khumbu glacier and the base of Everest itself.

The first part of the journey was to be by bus, however Nepalese buses have a lamentable

reputation and ours lasted three hours before coming to an unscheduled halt on a particularly steep section of mountain pass. Fortunately we were rescued by a passing cement truck and completed the first leg of our journey in style.

Our party numbered 40 in all: 16 holiday-makers...a diverse bunch both in age and occupation, the eldest member was 65 and on her third trekking holiday of the year! Accompanying us was a professional trek leader, five Sherpas (including the mandatory Tensing), half a dozen kitchen staff and several porters whose job it was to carry our luggage,



Here we're dwarfed by Boudnath Temple, Kathmandu.

Steve Daniels, 1976-1983, and his wife took time out from their vocational training for General Practice to trek through the Himalayas last summer. They tell here of their meeting with the world's highest mountain.

COUPLE TAKE STROLL THROUGH HIMALAYAS!

tents, fuel and equipment - all loaded on to their backs in wicker "rucksacks".

It was on Friday November 20th that we finally set off on foot, initially following a river bed in temperatures in the 30s Fahrenheit. We were constantly amazed by the sheer strength and fitness of the Nepalese. The kitchen boys who seemingly only minutes before had been preparing our breakfast, would rapidly overtake the party, carrying the "kitchen" on their backs in order to have a cooked lunch ready for our arrival, and the Sherpas, tiny men by Western standards would think

nothing of carrying stranded holidaymakers over some of the more difficult river crossings.

We soon reached the valley of the sun Khosi at Harkepur, before climbing again through the villages of Laklake and Okaldunga. At every stop we would be surrounded by children many of whom had never seen Westerners before, and who would take the opportunity to polish-up their "stock" English phrases, such as "Where is your home?", "Where are you going to?", and "What is the time?". We would of course answer them politely and add the local greeting..."Namaste"...which led

OF THE WORLD



Namche Bazaar

to a game of football in Laklake at 6000ft. The pitch was a recently harvested terraced field and on several occasions the ball was sent tumbling down the hillside followed closely by its owner, a Nepalese boy of seven or eight who would retrieve it from the terraces below.

One frustrating aspect of the journey was the fact that no sooner had we reached the height of seven or 8000 feet, than we would find ourselves descending steeply into another river valley. Our patience was rewarded on the sixth day though, when on reaching a pass at 9000ft we came across the most stunning mountain panorama. Everest, Makalu, Gauri Shanker and Am Dablam, names we had previously only read about were suddenly there before us... we stood in awe.

Our next landmark was the Dubh Khosi which we crossed near Jubing via a flimsy suspension bridge...what used to be called on QEGS expeditions a "character-building" experience. From there we headed for Namche...the Sherpa "capital" and a place etched in the memory of anyone who has visited the Solu Khumbu. We reached it in mist with light snow falling...a town of solid stone buildings, many of them guest houses, set in a natural bowl at over 11,000 feet. Our tents were already pitched in the grounds of the "Sherpa Lodge", though some members of the party succumbed to the temptation of a night indoors. Food on the trek was remarkable... a surprisingly good variety of fresh local produce. Our evening meal in Namche was something new... yak meat - a tasty if tough version of beef. It was also around Namche that we

first began to feel the effects of the altitude. The pace of the group slowed markedly and rests were taken with increasing frequency as we struggled to catch our breath. The weather also began to change, with temperature dropping to minus 20 at the highest camps.

From Namche we climbed through Tengboche, site of a famous monastery recently restored following a fire. This was allegedly caused by a monk's unattended electric heater! - we could certainly appreciate the need for extra warmth. Further on we passed through Pangboche, whose monastery until recently housed the famous Yeti remains, before camping at Dingboche on our way to Lobuche - our highest camp at 16,000ft.

A night under canvas at 16,000 feet is an "interesting" experience. On top of the Marks & Spencers thermals which had not left our bodies since leaving Namche five days earlier, we donned layer upon layer... T-shirts, sweat shirts, woollens and fleece, before completing the outfit with a padded "duvet" jacket. We would then fill our water-bottles with hot water from the kitchen tent before submerging ourselves into 4-season sleeping bags. Not a square inch of flesh was left exposed, but we were still cold, and would awake to find ourselves covered in a light frost.

It was from Lobuche that we set off for our close encounter with Everest. We traversed the Western edge of the Khumbu glacier to reach Gorak Shep, an isolated collection of tiny tea-houses set amidst a desolate landscape at the foot of the

Continued on the following page...



Steve at 18,000ft with Everest as a backdrop.


RETIRED

ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE

DURING the course of a rather unremarkable academic performance I realised that languages were my forte and reasoned that in order to fulfil an ambition of travelling and of using other languages, it would be sensible to find an organisation willing to pay me to do so.

I therefore decided to apply for a place in H.M. Foreign Service, after later amalgamations to become H.M. Diplomatic Service, and spent the first few months in a Foreign Office garret in Downing Street, overlooking Number 10. National Service intervened and I spent my allotted time in Cyprus, in the R.A.F. Middle East Air Force Command, during the troubled period of the late 1950's.

My first official posting was to New York, to work for almost three years at the U.K. Mission to the United Nations, followed by a couple of years in Baghdad, then again to London for a spell. By the end of this time I had acquired one son, one daughter and one divorce. In 1969 I was sent to interview would-be immigrants to Britain. Immigration work is a thankless task and the 1971 undeclared war with India was almost a relief North of Pakistan, as Lahore was becoming decidedly uncomfortable. Our

house received only one shell hit, which was not serious. Eventually, we shut up shop and decided to move out. I led the last road convoy of British residents to Islamabad, where we joined the general evacuation to the U.K. by R.A.F. Hercules troop carrier. Shortly thereafter my wife and I returned to Pakistan for cross-posting to Islamabad. Cutting short what I thought was a well-earned end of posting leave, the Office sent us to Nigeria to the dubious task of co-ordinating development aid to the Western and Kwara States. This was the only country in which I did not learn at least enough of the local language to get around and to communicate with staff. Yoruba was beyond me!

Next stop was Thailand, in a position as British Vice- Consul at the Embassy in Bangkok, until gaining promotion to Consul. A fascinating place to be and my family - now increased by another son plus one born in Bangkok - were very happy there. I seemed to spend a good deal of time in police cells and prisons, doing whatever could be done for Britain's foolish enough to think they could get away with smuggling drugs. However, on the plus side there was the satisfaction of organising and running an extensive airlift of dependant families from Vietnam to Hong Kong.

For a complete change, after four years in South East Asia, we returned to Europe where I

became the senior officer in the purely consular field in the North of France, which of course includes the Channel ports of Calais, Boulogne and Dunkirk. A fascinating area and one in which my whole family, now complete with the addition of a daughter, developed an interest in the First World War. The Somme, for example, is still a very moving place to visit with its plenitude of military of military cemeteries. So many tons of shells rained down on the Western Front that, even today, each ploughing unearths metal fragments, unexploded shells and grenades - known locally as the "iron harvest". During this period we were fortunate enough to have a ceremony to mark the 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

During a 37-year career in the Diplomatic Service I have always found consular functions the most satisfactory and interesting. I suppose it is a question of human contact and of meeting life in most of its forms. The political or commercial branches of the Service have never really appealed. So I was very happy to be sent to Johannesburg at what had transpired to be a very exciting time. After five years, as H.M. Consul with an area of jurisdiction three times the size of the United Kingdom - the consular "parish" covers the Transvaal, Orange Free State, Natal and the Cape Province North of the Orange River - I decided to call it a day and to opt for a place in the sun. Taking early retirement at the end of 1992 we bought a property North of Johannesburg. My wife wanted to indulge her hobby, being extremely gifted in all kinds of handicraft. We formed a company to manufacture embroidered operations whilst my 22-year-old son David is our design artist and machine printer. I deal with the business side. If all goes reasonably well politically here, and we know that's a big "if", life in the sunny Transvaal will be fine.

I should be happy to hear from any friends from my time at QEGS, and it almost goes without saying that any O.B. visiting the Johannesburg area will find a cold Castle in the "fridge!"

**Tom Southworth(1948-54)
387 Pine Avenue
Ferndale
Randburg 2194
Republic of South Africa**

...continued from the previous page

world's highest mountain. As we sat drinking the sweet tea provided by one of these establishments, we watched with amazement as the proprietor nursed her small baby... at 17,000 ft!

For our view of Everest we had to climb Kalar Pattar - an insignificant pimple on a ridge leading up to Pumori. Though unimpressive as a peak, at over 18,000 ft. its meagre summit took on new proportions. We gasped and groaned our way to the rocky peak where the views of the Everest massif provided rich reward... the graceful sweep of the Nuotse ridge, the shattered Khumbu ice-fall, and below us where the glacier swept round to the South we could just make out the basecamp tents of the British Territorial Army Expedition. Despite the general grandeur of this spectacular mountain terrain, one summit seemed somehow aloof... a sinister brooding giant of black rock whose pinnacle was the source of a shimmering ice-plume...this was Everest and its summit was a vertical three kilometres above us. Exhausted, we stood transfixed... our gaze finally distracted only by the merry band of sherpas who, as if to mock us had carried our lunch to the summit without breaking sweat.

Following this ascent the first medical problems arose. Several members of the group developed the headache and nausea associated with altitude, and one of our number was helped off the mountain to spend the night at Dughala 3000 ft. down the valley. Our morale rose the next morning though, as we sped downhill though Pheriche and back to Namche where the luxury of a hot shower made us feel (and smell) human again.

The final leg of the trek took us to Lukla, where an airstrip allows a quick return to Katmandu. Unfortunately the reputation of Nepalese aeroplanes is not dissimilar to that of the nation's buses, and our intended conveyance landed with a disconcerting "crunch" which we were to learn came from the nose-wheel, damaged on landing. This meant an extra night in the hills awaiting the arrival of an engineer plus spare parts... still, the local guest houses had well-stocked bars! An anxious wait was ended after much tapping and Nepali muttering when our tiny plane tumbled down the stony runway and rose above the hills. To our right the sun was setting on the distant summit of Everest... the roof of the world.

Editor's View

WELCOME to Magister '94, the 37th issue since the OBA began a regular newsletter. To acknowledge over 30 years of continued publication we have gone through back issues from each decade and reproduced some typical items - see John Duckworth's article on Page 33. John was Editor of Magister for some 25 years, and OBA Chairman in 1991 and 1992. He is certainly well

placed to observe changes in the Journal over the years.

Please read the AGM report on Page 13 about future OBA activities and some ideas about how the Association may better serve members on one hand and improve its financial position on the other.

Your comments on the ideas put forward on Page 12 would be most welcome - please contact either Chairman Barry Brown or Magister.

To keep costs down, we have combined the Autumn newsletter and Magister this year. We apologise for any inconvenience this delay may have caused, but we hope you will enjoy this 'bumper' issue. Magister '95 will appear in the Autumn next year.

Although Magister is financed mainly by the Association, the contribution and support of advertisers is crucial to us. Please do take the time to look at their ads and use their services as much as possible - they all represent excellent quality and value for money.

And finally, do forward details of career, weddings, change of address and articles on anything you wish to write about to Magister, along with photographs if possible.

Thank you

David Holmes
Magister Editor
6a Sedgeley Mews
Freckleton PR4 1PT

**Have
you
anything
to say?**

- Married ?
- Children ?
- Career ?
- University ?
- New move ?
- Degree ?
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- Successes ?

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There are specific vacancies at present in both editorial and commercial departments.

Editorial jobs are the link between original contributions in idea, letter or newspaper article format and the published item.

Commercial positions would help to increase revenues to Magister and the Old Blacks through advertising, sponsorship, joint promotions, event tie-ins etc etc.

There are also some really fun jobs around the country helping to organise branch activities - please contact either Steve Monk or Barry Brown at School.

As a famous sportswear ad invokes - **'JUST DO IT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!'** For further information, please contact David Holmes on 0772 631129, or write to 6a Sedgeley Mews, Freckleton, Preston, PR4 1PT.

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**Write to
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Another paradise



On the beach at Anse Major, Mahé, Seychelles, ideal for snorkelling and diving.

For a third year Elective Study, myself and two colleagues went to the Victoria Hospital, Mahe, in the Republic of Seychelles, which lies in the Indian Ocean, 1,000 miles East of Mombassa, in Kenya. The Republic consists of 115 islands and has a population of 70,000, with 60,000 of these being on Mahe, which sensibly houses the capital Victoria. Many islands are uninhabited but there are reasonable air and sea links between them.

The three of us stayed with a family, only two minutes away from the hospital. We were charged 60 SR (Seychellois Rupee), which worked out to be £8 per night, for this self catering accommodation. The majority of the guest houses and hotels charged between £80-£100 per

night and so we were very lucky in that respect.

There is one major hospital in the Republic and that is in Victoria. This has 251 beds and at the moment is being expanded with three new buildings which will house the medical library and the Out Patients clinics. Apart from the main hospital, there is also a Psychiatric hospital, an Old People's Home and several other health clinics, such as the Old River Clinic, on the island. In addition, every two weeks a specialist flies out to other islands eg: Praslin and La Digue, to attend clinics in their speciality.

A patient can be admitted to the hospital either Accident and Emergency, GP referrals or through clinics on Mahe or on other islands. If the patient can't be treated in the hospital then

they are transferred to Reunion, South Africa, Kenya or Singapore. This is a very expensive form of treatment and although the Seychelles prides itself by offering free health care to everybody, like every Health Service in the world, resources aren't infinite and so only the actually ill patients or patients who can provide their own funding will be flown to these other centres.

Two significant problems which faced the health care workers were the lack of equipment to perform important and sometimes essential investigations and the lack of technicians to interpret information from the machines they had. For example, there were no cardiothoracic nor neurosurgical departments and no CT Scanner and so when a

patient told the doctor that he had banged his head, it was very difficult, with no CT Scanner available, to diagnose whether the patient had an extradural, subdural or subarachnoid haemorrhage or had developed a cerebral abscess as a result of the previous bump to the head that they had received, a week earlier. The Victoria Hospital acquired a machine that could perform Echocardiography 12 months ago. However, the only trained person to interpret the results finished his rotation in the Seychelles six months ago and has subsequently returned to Germany. Therefore, this expensive machine just lies idly at one end of the Medical ward because nobody can read the results. At the moment, there is an avid campaign to purchase a CT Scanner, but unless a significant number of staff are also trained to use the machine, it will just be another piece of useless equipment at one end of the corridor.

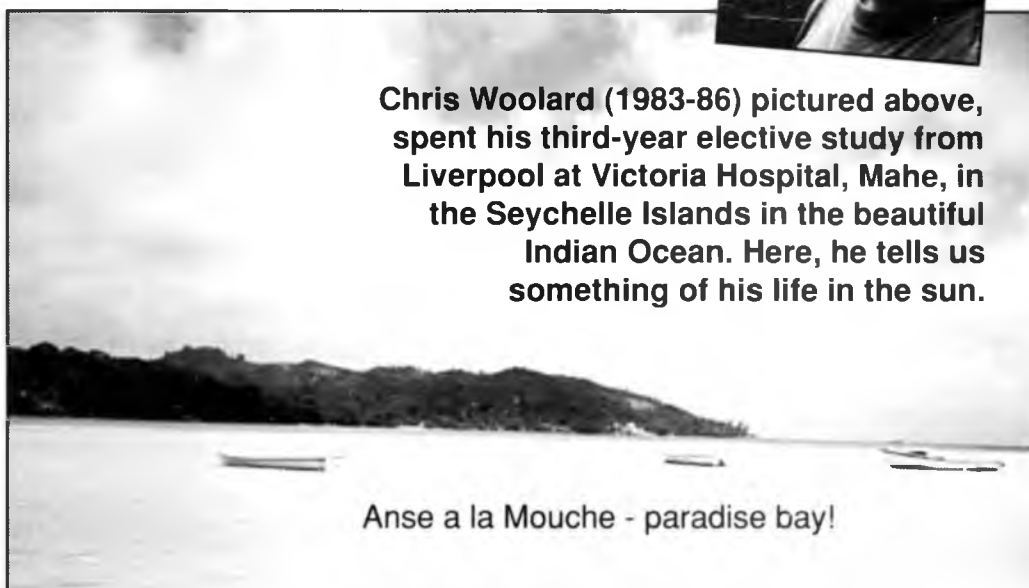
While I was at Hospital I spent most of my time on the Medical wards but also spent a few days at a number of other specialities offered at the hospital e.g. Paediatrics, Ophthalmology and Dermatology.

The medical wards were divided into two: the male ward downstairs; the female ward upstairs. A typical day began at 8:00 am in the office of Dr Rajapakse, the Director General of the hospital. Here, many of the hospital consultants and other doctors discussed interesting and important cases to enable them to decide their patient's next line treatment. At 8:20 am the Medical and Surgical teams left the room to visit the High

day in



Chris Woolard (1983-86) pictured above, spent his third-year elective study from Liverpool at Victoria Hospital, Mahe, in the Seychelle Islands in the beautiful Indian Ocean. Here, he tells us something of his life in the sun.



Anse a la Mouche - paradise bay!

Dependency Unit where up to 4 patients could be managed. At 8:30 am ward rounds began on the Male Medical Ward (MMW) and the female Medical Ward (FMW). The surgeons would have their own ward rounds to do. There would be a Registrar, another doctor, a nurse and the occasional medical student present. One of the doctors would give a brief summary of the patient's history and examination and then quickly reassess them again, paying particular attention to the patient's temperature, blood pressure, pulse rate, present treatment, present well being and anything else the nurse had to add. The doctors would then decide how they were going to manage the patient i. e. whether to refer the patient to another speciality e.g. surgery, alter, continue or stop the present treatment, ask the physiotherapist or social worker to assess the patient or simply discharge them. In this case, the patient would just pick up their belongings and be out of the hospital within 5 minutes. It would take about two hours to see all the 25 patients on the MMW and about the same for the other doctors upstairs on the FMW.

Certain practical procedures would now be performed on the wards e.g. lumbar punctures, lung aspirates and liver biopsies, and then we would all go for tea and biscuits in the doctor's room.

The consultants each had an Out Patient's clinic in the afternoon, while the more junior doctors would just deal with any new admissions from A and E or from GP referrals. Each doctor would be on call 2 days every week and carry a bleeper around with them.

Common conditions that I came across included alcohol related diseases and road traffic accidents, poor treatment compliance and gut infestations. About 80% of the male adults admitted to the MMW were alcoholics. They presented in a variety of ways e.g. haematemesis, dyspnoea and unconsciousness.

Liver cirrhosis causes portal hypertension and the development of Oesophageal varices. Tearing of these leads to haematemesis.

Alcoholics have a vitamin deficient diet which causes Obstructive Cardiomyopathy. This produces heart failure and the ensuing pulmonary congestion results in dyspnoea. Chronic renal failure also develops. This, however, doesn't respond to the usual diuretics but does to the drug Dopamine.

The unconsciousness is due to the effects of hypoglycaemic attacks in Insulin Dependant Diabetic Mellitus patients, who have failed to comply with their insulin treatment either because they forgot to take it or were too bling drunk.

Road traffic accidents were one of the most common causes of death. It really isn't surprising when you realise that there are no drink driving laws, no seat belts worn, very little road lighting and that the number of competent drivers, albeit drunk or sober, is very small.

Treatment compliance is certainly an area that needs some attention. The average Seychellois knew next to nothing about their health and therefore, few acknowledged the

importance and necessity of compliance. Conditions such as epilepsy, IDDM, alcohol withdrawal and asthma were not controlled at all well. It wasn't unusual to see the same patients being admitted for the same reason week in, week out. For example, an alcoholic would be admitted and started on Heminevrin for 1 week. He would then be discharged and 3 days later be admitted for being blind drunk and started on Heminevrin again. I do feel that the issue of treatment compliance can't be enforced enough.

Earlier I said that 80% of male adults admitted to the MMW were alcoholics, well upstairs on the FMW 80% of the admissions were psychiatric cases. Health workers were not sure whether the husbands caused their wives to become psychiatric cases or the wives drove their husbands to alcohol.

Housing the patients was a particular stumbling block in the discharging of patients from the MMW. 20-30% of the 50 year olds were said to be, "Too much of a burden," to live at home with the family. As a consequence, these 'Treated' and 'Healthy' individuals remained on the MMW until a place could be found in the the only Old People's

Home on the island, which was called Piers. More often than not, the doctors and nurses persuaded the family to take back their relative as only a new patient was accepted into Piers when one died!

One third of the population suffered from a gut infestation. It was diagnosed as Hookworm and treated with a 2 week course of powerful antibiotics, until proven otherwise. Ultrasound showed that some of these patients had an amoebic abscess in their liver of up to 10cm in diameter. It wasn't rare to find respiratory problems, too.

The Paediatric Department had a capacity of 25 children and was divided into Medical and Surgical beds. The ward rounds began at 8.00 am and lasted 2 hours. All the children were really cute and cuddly. They were alert, quiet and well behaved. However, one needed protective clothing and the co-operation of their mother when examining them. It was the middle of winter when we were there and so not surprisingly the common illnesses were asthma, tonsillitis and pneumonia. There were 3 isolation rooms on the ward and my heart went out to

Continued on the following page...

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Another Day in Paradise

Continued from previous page

each of the children in them. In the first room the child was six years old and was diagnosed as having hereditary hypogammaglobinaemia. He had had his life plagued with infection after infection. He had developed quite severe bronchiectasis and had bilateral perforated eardrums. The second child was 2 years old and had been diagnosed as having acute lymphoblastic leukaemia with a very poor prognosis. The third child had scabies and the precautions to prevent its spread around the ward were quite minimal.

The Paediatricians were involved whenever there was a Caesarean section. Here they would quickly assess the baby's weight, temperature, cardiovascular and Respiratory Systems and look for any gross congenital abnormalities. The Paediatricians would then make regular checks on the new-borns and their mothers until they were both discharged.

I was very impressed with the Ophthalmology Department, which had an excellent reputation and very up to-date equipment. However, I was equally distressed to learn that visors were not offered to employees who were at risk of damaging their vision. It sounds ludicrous to spend hundreds of thousands of SR on this department and at the same time not provide visors, which would only cost a few SR, to those who need them.

Below the age of 30 years, eye and lacrimal gland infections and pterygia were quite common, while patients over 50 years old often had glaucoma or cataracts. A pterygium is the name given to the lesion that develops when the conjunctiva overlying the iris, thickens. It is thought to be caused by excessive UV lights and a dusty atmosphere i.e. conditions that occur on these islands. It is a benign process but the patient usually has it removed for cosmetic purposes.

At one of the Dermatology clinics I attended, a mother brought in her 20-year-old daughter who had had a Ring



worm infection around her groin for a number of weeks and her mother had been treating her at home by applying vinegar to the area. This should actually have sorted things out but the mother had been just a little too over enthusiastic and had used just a little too much of the home medicine. As a result, she had given her daughter nasty burns all over her groin, which she now presented us with!

There was without doubt a language barrier existing in the hospitals and clinics. With 3 official languages in the Republic, English, French and Creole (pidgin French), there was always going to be a problem. This was accentuated by the fact that the Government had a policy of readily accepting foreign doctors, whatever their creed or colour. For example, one of the 2 orthopaedic surgeons was Russian and his command of the English language was very restricted. Therefore, it wasn't unusual for one of our English medical students to have to act as the translator between the Russian surgeon and the Creole speaking theatre sister, throughout the entire operation!

Ninety per cent of the people are Roman Catholics; Therefore, they did not believe any form of contraception. Most of the pregnancies were welcomed and rejoiced but some of them weren't. As a consequence, mothers that wanted an abortion had to induce it themselves because it was illegal to have it done in the hospital or anywhere else. The pregnant mothers frequently used a knitting needle or a bicycle spoke and in doing so often died as a result of a severe infection or haemorrhage.

School 'relegated' in exam league

THE Independent School's League Table published by the Daily Telegraph last year showed QEGS had fallen out of the top ten in the 'second division' to a miserable halfway in the third.

The paper measures the percentage of A levels subjects gained at A or B grade and the criterion is that at least 45 pupils must have entered the examination.

Why did QEGS fall more than a hundred places from 83rd in 1992 to 184th in 1993? Parents of potential pupils in the North West must be asking questions like this when deciding on the School for their children. One pointer to the best school would surely be the tables. These tables have had their critics, yes, but aren't all public schools competing on a level playingfield?

QEGS were beaten by comparable schools like Bury Grammar, Arnold in Blackpool, Hulme, Giggleswick, Bolton Grammar, Merchant Taylors, Crosby, and Stockport Grammar in the North West, and the non-fee paying Clitheroe Grammar. QEGS beat Stoneyhurst, Kirkham, Westholme and Sedburgh. The underlying and important point is that QEGS fell 100 places over the year to 184th overall out of 275 recorded.

The Headmaster replied: I must confess to being dismayed by the latest batch of League Tables concerning academic-results for all schools in the U.K., and I have grave reservations about this type of exercise. The raw facts without any knowledge of the school concerned can give a very distorted picture of any school, and I feel particularly sorry for

By John Duckworth

Special schools where children with emotional/academic/behavioural problems have been listed as if they were normal schools, which is hardly fair to them. In our own case, it is very difficult to compare youngsters from an Asian heritage background, who are all required to take A-level General Studies, with those whose background may be somewhat different, and any figures which either include or exclude General Studies may be difficult to obtain. Conversely a girls' boarding school in Lancashire is quoted as having the best results in the North of England, but it

only entered one third of the pupils we entered for GCSE, so statistically their results will be different, and additional problems include the fact that pupils entered under age penalised our overall figures. As I recently said to the Governors, we are in

danger of becoming hog-tied by educational Strategy of Government making design to improve standards in State schools, not designed to influence Independent schools. 10 out of 23 prestigious Peel Foundation Scholarships were awarded as a result of our A-level passes, and 14 pupils successfully entered for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. At GCSE level there were 1572 entries, of which 89% were A/B/C, and 37% were at A-grade. At A-level there were 638 entries, of which 87% was the pass rate, and 46% scored A or B grades, and of our 160 entries to university, only a handful were not successful. Perhaps more telling is the fact that some youngsters who clearly come into Queen Elizabeth's with fairly ordinary academic potential, do really well here. Many fee-paying

pupils in our former Direct Grant days have gone from strength to strength to strength with quite ordinary GCE results: their school records testify to their modest academic success, their highly successful subsequent careers point to all we did for them.

I can think, for example, of a recent Old Blackburnian from a family of nine children, without car or telephone, and whose parents have never known employment whilst he has been alive. He transferred here from a local Comprehensive school, did reasonably well at A-level, became a full school prefect, and gained an English-Speaking Union Scholarship to North America, where this £1,200 scholarship was subsequently topped up by the HMC Bulkeley Scholarship to the tune of £2,500 to enable the young man concerned to travel widely in North America. He is now reading Law at London Guildhall

University.

I said on Radio Lancashire that all chef proprietors running their own haute cuisine establishments have a day off or an off day, and I don't believe that the raw statistics of these League Tables have anything to do with the quality of education we provide at Queen Elizabeth's. Comfortably perched on the high stool of theory, the classroom pundits, led by the Secretary of State, survey the future of the world in the areas of truancy, learning and future employment from a very different perspective to a Headmaster sitting in the hot seat at Queen Elizabeth's. (There are even technical problems associated with the production of these League Tables, including a 28% pass rate at our local Comprehensive schools without a Sixth Form top, or an absentee rate at Stonyhurst, a boarding school, which was false and led to a protest from the Headmaster.)

Some youngsters who come to QEGS with fairly ordinary academic potential do really well here

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Keep in touch through Magister

This new column will carry addresses of Old Blacks received by Magister from correspondence etc. during the year. Please let the editor know if for any reason you would prefer to remain ex-directory!

Philip Deegan, 45 Preston Street, Fleetwood.

C. G. Ashmore, 2 Quarry Road, Brinscall, Nr. Chorley, Lancs. PR6 8RB.

Antony Fitton, F.R.C.S., 35 Gun Place, 86 Wapping Lane, London, E1 9PX.

Jeremy Ward, F.R.C.S., 16 Addingham Road, Liverpool, L18 2EW.

Canon L. A. Cragg, 18 Brantfell Road, Blackburn, BB1 8DN.

Victoria Yates, 37/6 Dean Path, Edinburgh, EH4 3AY.

Peter Scrambler, 29 Southfield Park, North Harrow, Middlesex.

Alan Shepherd, 28 Baylis Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3PJ.

Retired staff met up again at two events organised by former bursar Derick Lund during 1993 at the Moorcock in Waddington. For information on future events please contact Derick through School or on Blackburn 264335.

Owen Turner, Flat 3, 20 Kelson Road, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS2 9PR.

Eric West, 21 Lake Point, Marine Drive, Lytham St. Annes, FY8 1BT (0253) 733778.

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Sir,

I enclose a cutting from the Guardian of 23rd April 1993. Ted Moulding was a pupil of QEGS from 1935 to late 1939 or early 1940. He obviously made a deep and lasting impression on at least one member of his tank crew. He had a younger brother, Harry, also an Old Blackburnian.

Yours faithfully,
Gerald Lewney.
(1933-1943)

ST. GEORGE'S DAY is the day of the year I fear. Today is certain to be more traumatic for me than the 48 St. George's Days since the one in 1945. That was when Lieutenant Edward Moulding's bloodied body collapsed over me inside the tank we shared; even though the end of the war was only days away some German anti-tank gunner defending Bremen proved yet again that the armour of a Sherman was no match for a well-aimed 88mm shell. But what makes St. George's Day 1993 different is more than the memories burned deep into a teenager of 1945 vintage. Awful doubts and hopes over the Balkans war push deep into the consciousness.

To fight or not to fight? Well, the last people who deserve our full attention are those who talk knowingly well removed from the real thing – the gaping wound, the screams of young men trapped inside blazing vehicles, the nights lying awake years later.

John Major, just turned 50, Malcolm Rifkind, 47 in two months' time, even Douglas Hurd, born 1930 and too late to soldier, mouth the sort of platitudes Lieutenant Moulding, who lies in Plot 6, Row G, Grave 12 at Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau, Germany, would laugh at. He was happy 48 years ago today when we clanked out in search of the enemy – secure in the knowledge that the war was almost, almost won. Two hours later it was over for him and troopers Heath, Gordon, Jones 49 and Jones 99 (men with the same surname were distinguished by their Army numbers) were recovering from what the regimental medical officer described as "minor wounds" as he pulled bits of metal from my left leg with a pair of issue forceps.

A curious ambivalence hangs over the future of today's teenage troopers. The collapse of communism leaves Nato – remember how that well-funded organisation was a bulwark against evil empires? – twiddling

its thumbs. Its political masters can be observed from time to time in TV studios sitting on fences, the accepted roosting places for prevaricators. They haven't been there. Maggie O'Kane, who has, reminded radio listeners on Tuesday of the horrors which are visited daily on the former Yugoslavia. From way back I claim kinship with the view that what you see is what you get – rather what they get in places like Srebrenica. It is time to call in evidence the ghosts and memories of other days when, for all their naivety, young men confronting evil came to understand the job that had to be done.

Some died in the process. Others carry scars that will only heal completely when they are reunited with comrades long gone. Maybe Messrs. Major, Rifkind et al will choose St. George's Day as a time for making decisions, abandoning their fox holes of prevarication and proclaiming "We favour intervention even though it risks British lives". If Lieutenant Moulding could speak from his lonely grave he would agree.

Vivid memories of teaching at QEGS

Dear Headmaster,

Many thanks for your kindness in responding so quickly to my request for the words of the School song, the Cantilena, and those of the adopted earlier song 'Forty Years On'. It's almost '40 years on' from the start of my teaching job (my first) at QEGS but I retain vivid memories of those days – with Dr. Tyler, 'Spike' Kennedy, Harry King, George Eastwood, Geoff Mercer and Geoff Tate et al. In fact I look back with great affection on the School and Blackburn itself.

Your faithfully
Michael Bradford.

Career Magister

Miss Kerynne L. Braithwaite, of Cromer Place, Blackburn, graduated from University of Durham with BSc (Hons) in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry in 1991. She gained the only distinction given on an MSc in Medical Biotechnology which included six months of Cancer Research in 1992 at the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. She is currently carrying out research at Newcastle towards a PhD on the molecular architecture of plant cell walls.

Keith Shiller has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering, and would like to thank all the staff at QEGS for their contribution to the achievement.

"At these times one naturally looks back to those who educated me, and QEGS certainly helped me along that long road," writes Keith.

CG Ashmore (79-87) has received an MSc (Econ) with distinction from the University of Wales where he was also awarded the Gerrard and National Scholarship.

Literate scientist...

Alan Shepherd (74-81) is to pursue a more academic route following extensive industrial field research experience acquired with ICI Agrochemicals in Bracknell. Although a scientist at heart, he has developed a keen interest in walking and English literature as a recent letter to former master, governor and Old Black Bill Proctor testifies. Friends can contact Alan at 28, Baylis Road, Slough, Berkshire, SL1 3PJ.

David Hindle of 121 Warrenside Close, Blackburn, who left QEGS in 1989 to read Geology & Biochemistry at the University of Manchester has now completed his M.Sc. thesis in Geology at Royal Holloway & Bedford New College, London. He now goes on to a four-year course at the University of Neuchatel, Switzerland, to write a thesis on evolution of the Swiss Molasse basin, Oligocene to Miocene and its relationship to the tectonic evolution of the Jura arc.

It's the challenge of Jon's lifetime

DAREDEVIL canoeist Jon Royle undertook the biggest challenge of his life when he applied his white water racing skills to the raging white water rivers of the Himalayas in early Autumn 1993. Along with his brother Nigel, now living in Glasgow, and three friends, Rishton based Jon spent three weeks in Nepal travelling four different rivers in one piece. Jon has travelled the world since taking up the amateur sport ten years ago and confirmed his class by finishing 25th in the last World Cup in France. Jon, who works as a community nurse for people with learning difficulties, said: "In the past ten years I have been to the Alps, France, Italy, Austria and Switzerland but the Himalaya is the biggest mountain range in the world



Jon Royle

and the rivers are steeper, higher and more difficult. We will be out in some really remote areas so everything will have to be carried in our boats and we will be travelling as light as possible. In some areas there aren't even any roads so we will have to carry everything to the river."

Degrees for MA...and pa!



Peter Searle

Preparatory school Headmaster **Peter J Searle (66-73)** and his wife Margaret have each received MA degrees from York this year. Peter, Head of Heathfield prep., attached to Rishworth School, Ripponden, West Yorkshire, studied Applied Education. He joined Heathfield in 1978 after leaving Gloucester College of Education. He gained a BA through the OU in 1982. Three years later he married Margaret Susan Green who taught RE and English at Rishworth and their daughter Helen was born two years ago. Peter was appointed Head of the Prep Department in 1992, having been earlier appointed deputy.

Andrew M B Johnston (78-81) and **Oliver Canning (78-88)** have both gained a Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice at the College of Law in Guildford with Commendation and Distinction respectively. Andrew first read history at St. Peter's College, Oxford; Oliver read Economics at King's College, Cambridge.

Oliver Clay (83-93) spent the summer term working with a circus in North America before proceeding to read Industrial Management at the University of Nottingham. The Royal Bengal Tiger is the one below!

Nigel Hitchman (1980-87) of 1 Billinge Side, Blackburn has successfully graduated from King's College London with a degree in Music Theory and Analysis, resulting in an MMus Degree.

He received a copy of his degree certificate at a Presentation Ceremony held in Westminster Central Hall, London on 20th September 1993 from **Sir James Spooner**, Chairman of the Council of King's College London.

Nigel attended Merton College, Oxford and is at present, researching for a Doctorate at King's College, London.

John Rieve Mousley (77-82) read Chemistry at the University of Edinburgh and is now working at Binder Hamlyn as a Chartered Accountant

David Inman (85 - 92) has been elected Chairman of Sheffield Hallam University Athletics and Cross-Country Club, after spending the previous year as Vice-Chairman. He is studying BSc (HONS) Mineral Estate Management, is a student member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and is also a youth club leader at St. Mark's Church, Broomhill, Sheffield.

Howard Collins, who left Queen Elizabeth's in 1941, recently returned to school, much admiring the new buildings, which he was shown by the Headmaster. Howard read PPE at University College, Oxford, before serving most of his years in the Board of Trade and its successor bodies.

Martin P.J. Casey M.A. (1976-85) is now working as Parliamentary Researcher for a book entitled "A History of Parliament", to be published by London University. He married Janice Bishop B.Mus. Music Teacher of Sudbury Suffolk 24/7/93, the Best Man was **Andrew Turner (75-85)**.

Martin D. Paley (1978-85) graduated in Dentistry from the University of Dundee in 1989, and has since worked in hospital posts in oral surgery, gaining his Fellowship in Dental Surgery in October 1992. Still working at Dundee, he hopes to pursue a career in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Chairman's Annual Report



Mr Barry Brown - Chairman

I suppose the first event of note after my election as Chairman was the Annual Dinner which was quite well attended, and at which I had the privilege to present on the Associations behalf a silver salver to David Forbes who retired after a splendid 25 years service as our Secretary. Dr. Julia Newton gave a brilliant speech when she proposed the toast to the School and The Lord Carlisle proposed an equally superb toast on behalf of the Guests. All in all I feel it was a most enjoyable evening with good food and conviviality and hopefully we ought to benefit from good numbers wishing to attend this coming event.

I was unable to be present at the London Dinner but attended a most pleasant Cheshire and S. Lancashire evening in Altrincham in May, and in October travelled to Edinburgh to a well attended dinner at The Carlton Highland Hotel. Where some 30 odd members and guests enjoyed a most pleasant evening.

I am anxious to try to achieve a better liaison between School

"I am anxious to try to achieve a better liaison between School and our satellite branches"

and our satellite branches as some members in the various areas where dinners are arranged seem to miss out on information, and any suggestions or advice on how we can fine tune this would be much appreciated.

A note of sadness was the passing of Carl Marsden a member of the committee for around sixty years. As I said at our meeting in September his influence and wise counsel will

be sadly missed. His funeral service at Leamington Road Baptist Church was well attended by members of the Governing Body, the School and the Old Blacks'.

We welcome John Barker to the Committee to fill the vacancy left by Carl's untimely passing.

You will no doubt recall my predecessor's comments at last years AGM about the acrimony that had arisen between the Governors and the Association

and so in March I was pleased to write on your behalf a letter of congratulation on the appointment of Mr. Bill Goodall as Chairman of Governors and suggest a meeting between himself and officers might be a useful exercise.

- accordingly he invited us to lunch shortly afterwards, when I feel a friendly and useful exchange of ideas took place, and all of us reiterated our desire to prevent a repetition of the previous unpleasantness.

Much discussion has taken place at various committee meeting about the possibility of providing a bursary. To summarise the situation:

You have before you a change of rules that would enable us to do this, and I trust in view of the lengthy discussions that your committee has had on this matter, their adoption will be a formality. The important point is though that before we can do this the association finances must be put on a proper financial footing and in connection with this the Secretary has called in the £10,000 loan to the School.

In conclusion may I pay tribute to my fellow officers for their support in particular to Fred Gillibrand with whom I have had a number of meetings in connection with bursaries and investment policy, and to my Vice-Chairman John Read who has meticulously taken the minutes at two meetings in the Secretary's enforced absence. May I also thank Eric Kay for arranging the various branch activities, although I am personally sorry the Oxford and Cambridge dinners are on consecutive nights. To Roger Masters for all his work at the Football Club, to David Holmes for his first splendid Magister, and to Andrew Norman for his organisation of the Annual Dinner.

Naming names is always a dicey business for invariably someone is missed out but I would like to say a special thank you to Mr. Philip Johnston the Head Master whose enthusiasm for our Association is breath taking and who contributes so much to our well-being.

Finally to my fellow Committee members and anyone I have omitted a special thank you for your help in many ways during my first year of office.

B.R.B.

8th November, 1993

How do you see the Old Blackburnians' Association fulfilling its role?

Although the objects of the Association as set out in the Rules remain unchanged, there may be scope to achieve them in a more effective manner. The current Rules read:

2. OBJECTS

The objects of the Club shall be:

- 2.1 To maintain the interest of former pupils of Q.E.G.S., Blackburn in the progress of the School and of other former pupils
- 2.2 To bring former pupils together to revive or maintain associations and friendships by means of social and athletic gatherings or otherwise
- 2.3 To promote and support the School

The question of bursaries served to highlight the point that the Association was not generating sufficient revenue from current activities to adequately support a bursary, which prompted the question of whether it would be possible for the Association to improve its financial position by a more pro-active approach to the achievement of its objectives.

For example, Association activities at present focus on the Annual Dinner, Branch Dinners and gatherings, football and golf, and Magister, but are these sufficient to sustain the OBA, and how can they be developed to provide additional funds for the Association?

Your views and comments regarding the development of the Association, its activities and how it may better serve the interests of members, with particular emphasis on the need to generate additional funds, would be most welcome; indeed they are essential!

Please write TODAY(!) to Barry Brown, OBA Chairman, c/o the School.

1993 Annual General Meeting

Old Blackburnians' Association

November 9, 1993

Garstang Room, QEGS.

Rule Change to Fund Bursary Leads to Review of OBA Objectives

The 65th AGM saw the adoption of changes to the Rules of the Association which now officially permit the OBA to establish a bursary which will allow a student, who otherwise would not have the opportunity, to acquire a first rate education at QEGS.

The rule changes focused on technicalities regarding the allocation of funds and income within the overall financial framework of the Association.

Drafted by former OBA Secretary, David Forbes, the amendments were originally initiated by discussions at previous committee meetings as to how the Association could best support the School in the long term. It was agreed during these discussions that short term loans and ad-hoc gifts, whilst of benefit to the School, were not as useful to either the School or individuals as a bursary.

It soon became apparent, however, that the present income of the OBA was insufficient to sustain a bursary commitment over any worthwhile period, leading to an ongoing review of OBA income generating activities to which all members are invited to contribute.

The future finances of the OBA will be a key item on the agenda with future committee meetings.

If you are unable to attend, please forward your views, ideas and comments regarding the future of the OBA to Barry Brown, OBA Chairman, c/o QEGS, West Park Rd, Blackburn, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

NB. Copies of the rules are available from the Secretary c/o the School.

NOTICE OF AGM

The next AGM is scheduled for Thursday November 3, 1994 at 8pm in the Garstang Room at School.

OLD BLACKBURNIANS ASSOCIATION INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 1993

	1993 £	1992 £
INCOME		
Subscriptions	892	784
Released from Life Membership Fund	-	15
Income from Investments -		
8.25% Treasury Stock 1993	227	227
8.25% Barclays Bank - Loan 1986/93	54	54
10.25% Exchequer Stock 1995	513	513
9.00% Treasury Stock 1992/96	215	247
10.50% Exchequer Stock 1997	525	525
6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98	194	194
10.25% Conversion Stock 1999	467	-
8.00% Treasury Stock 2002/06	194	-
4.00% Consols	50	50
	<u>2,439</u>	<u>1,810</u>
Bank Interest	6	1
Building Society Interest	49	203
National Savings Bank Investment - account interest	196	232
GROSS INVESTMENT INCOME	<u>2,690</u>	<u>2,256</u>
Less: Corporation Tax	672	564
	<u>2,018</u>	<u>1,692</u>
War Memorial Ground Rent	5	5
Deficit on Annual Dinner	(417)	(29)
	<u>2,498</u>	<u>2,467</u>
EXPENDITURE		
General expenses	278	209
Postages	48	419
Magister	2,953	2,276
Subscription to ISIS Association	150	-
Branch expenses	19	142
	<u>3,448</u>	<u>3,046</u>
DEFICIT TRANSFERRED TO ACCUMULATED FUND	<u>(950)</u>	<u>(579)</u>

Sub-Committee Reports

Dinner...At the time of the AGM, Dinner bookings were somewhat low, but an 'It'll be alright on the night' philosophy prevailed and in the event numbers did pick up. But early booking is recommended this year to soothe the nerves of the Dinner sub-committee. The booking form is on Page 15 of this Magister, and you can see from last years pictures that the dinner gets better each year!

Magister...Material received indicated a promising start for Magister '94, which has subsequently been delayed to incorporate the Autumn newsletter. An editorial policy in favour of younger members was confirmed.

Sports...It appears that the Club had not enjoyed a particularly good year according to David Forbes President of the Football Club. (No report had been received from the sports Committee Secretary!

Records...John Read flagged

up the need to identify suitable accommodation for OBA records in School. Present facilities whereby the room is also used by the Head of General Studies can cause occasional access problems.

Branch...The importance of branch activities to the success of the OBA was emphasised and it is hoped that each Branch Dinner will be attended by one or more Committee members in the forthcoming year

Continued next page

BALANCE SHEET

31st JULY 1993

	1993	1992
	£	£
NET ASSETS		
Lammack Ground at cost less sales	1,208	1,208
INVESTMENTS AT COST		
£2,750 8.25% Treasury Stock 1993	-	2,487
£650 8.25% Barclays Bank pic		
Unsecured Loan 1986/93	582	582
(Market Value £650)		
£5,000 10.25% Exchequer Stock 1995	5,075	5,075
(Market Value £5,425)		
£2,750 9.00% Treasury Stock 1992/96	-	2,457
£5,000 10.50% Exchequer Stock 1997	5,047	5,047
(Market Value of £5,635)		
£2,879.07 6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98	2,231	2,231
(Market Value £2,898)		
£4,560 10.25% Conversion Stock 1999	4,864	4,864
(Market Value £5,291)		
£4,857.34 8.00% Treasury Stock 2002/06	4,962	-
(Market Value £4,977)		
£5,152.09 8.00% Treasury Stock 2009	5,009	-
£1,250 4.00% Consols	1,161	1,161
(Market Value £633)	28,931	23,904
Loan to Q.E.G.S	10,000	10,000
DEBTORS		
Advertisers	300	90
O.B.A.S.C.	5	-
	305	90
CASH		
Lloyds Bank plc	12,498	2,031
National Savings Bank	2,511	2,316
Trustee Savings Bank	-	409
National & Provincial Building Society	-	6,559
	15,009	11,315
	55,453	46,517
CREDITORS		
Magister	1,991	-
Inland Revenue	21	62
	2,012	62
	53,441	46,455
REPRESENTED BY		
War Memorial Ground	1,208	1,208
Life Membership Fund -		
Balance at 1st August 1992	50,502	44,737
Add: New Members	7,410	5,780
	57,912	50,517
Less: Returns and deletions	30	15
	57,882	50,502
ACCUMULATED FUND		
Balance at 1st August 1992	(5,255)	(4,676)
Deficit for the year	(950)	(579)
	(6,205)	(5,255)
Surplus on redemption of investments	556	-
	(5,649)	(5,255)
	53,441	46,455

Continued from
previous page

It was also suggested that computer print-outs of both new (school-leavers) and existing members on a regional basis should be forwarded to Branch secretaries along with name & address labels to help them promote local Dinners and events.

Officers

Messrs Sir Kenneth Durham, Barry Brown, John Read, Ronald Barham and Fred Gillibrand remain President, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Ron Barham requested the support of a volunteer as professional commitments increased.

PF Johnston, Headmaster, and Roger Masters, Football Club Chairman were re-elected as Ex-Officio members.

The Committee remains more or less unchanged: J. Barker, F. Barnes, H. Burrows, J.F. Duckworth, F. Fairhurst, D.I. Forbes, T. Hindle, D. Holmes, R.J. Kay, K.V. Newton, A. Norman, P.T. Pearson, W.H. Proctor, J.E. Sagar, R. Smethurst, R. Smith, P. Thomson, WET Walsh, (who has since sadly passed away) J. Warner and K. Wightman.

Wot, no girls?

The OBA Committee is unfortunately dominated by former pupils who happen to be chaps. This is bound to be detrimental to the future of the OBA, especially as girls have made such a terrific impact on day to day life at School, and have excelled in subsequent academic and professional careers.

So if any ladies would care to help us chaps run the OBA, please do feel free to come along to the next AGM (8.00pm 3.11.94) or any subsequent committee meetings - you will be very welcome and your input would be most appreciated. (Further details from Barry Brown or Steve Monk at School)

The Committee of Magister wishes to thank all the contributors to this issue of the Journal.

THE ANNUAL DINNER OF THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

SATURDAY, 17 DECEMBER 1994
BIG SCHOOL
QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BLACKBURN

6.45 for 7.15pm, bar opens 6.30pm

1995 Dinner

If you would like to help organise the 1995 OBA Dinner, please contact Andrew Norman either at this year's Dinner or at the address below.

If you let him know of your interest before this year's Dinner, he may even buy you a pint!

Sir Marcus Fox

MBE MP
(Chief Guest)

Fred Bury

Old Blackburnian and former Deputy Headmaster
(Toast to the School)

The Annual Dinner is definitely the most important event in the OBA calendar. Held in Big School at a time of great festivity, the Dinner complements any social schedule - fine food, a well stocked bar, good company, and inspired speeches (even without PFJ!). Whether a veteran who attends every year, or a recent school-leaver, everyone is most welcome. **See you there !**

Magister

1994 Dinner Report

Applications are invited for the coveted task of reporting on this year's dinner for Magister 1995.

We need someone to match with words the superb pictures from Graham Slack!

The job is open to anyone who feels they will be sober enough to remember where they were on the night in question.

For further details, please contact David Holmes on 0772 631129

THE 1994 ANNUAL DINNER OF THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

YES, I WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THIS YEAR'S OBA DINNER!

Name Years at School

If possible, I would like to sit near
(NB Special Discount for '6 pack' recent leavers!)

I am / am not prepared to accept a seat in the Ante-Room (*please delete*)
(Numbers in Big School are limited to 165, excluding Top Table Official Guests: priority will be given to the first 165 requests received- Book Early!)

Address

Day Time Telephone Number Evening Telephone Number

Please circle if you would prefer a vegetarian meal Yes (Other please state

I enclose a cheque for £18.00 / £13.00 (for OBA's who left School after July 1989) please delete

(Special offer for groups of six who have left since July 1989 - 6 places for the price of 5)

Cheques made payable to: The Old Blackburnians Association

Please return to:

Andrew Norman (Chair, Annual Dinner Committee), Fairfield, 80 Southport Road, Chorley, PR7 1NT

PLEASE ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR YOUR TICKET!

Career Magister

Part 2

PER MARE PER TERRAM

Mark Thompson (81-90) has won his green beret after passing the tough selection course at Lymington Commando Training Centre in Devon, Cornwall. A member of Blackburn Army Cadet Force, he earned a silver Duke of Edinburgh award. Mark is now serving with 42 Royal Marine Commando based in Plymouth. Part of Britain's rapid response force, the Royal Marines achieved world wide recognition for their 'yomping' achievements in the Falklands War and are considered one of the world's most elite fighting units.



Mark Thompson

Company director **David Winterbottom (53-60)** of Osbaldeston Lane, Osbaldeston, has been appointed to the Hyndburn bench.

Philip Deegan (81-88) is currently serving on a 60 000 tonne container ship, the 'Kowloon Bay' as 3rd Engineer. He was last sighted leaving Yokohama bound for Hong Kong, Singapore and then Southampton!

Liam McGeady (79-88) is flying high with City Flyer Express as he commences his new career as an airline pilot on routes from Gatwick to Europe. After graduating from London University with a degree in aeronautical engineering, Liam qualified as a commercial pilot at the British Aerospace Flying College near Glasgow. He is also registered with British Airways who operate a queueing system for future pilots with the prestigious national carrier; his BA flight is due within 2 years!

Peter Scrambler (68-76) received the BUPA Doctor of the Year Award, presented at The Savoy in April 93 by the Duchess of Kent, for medical research at the Institute of Child Health at Great Ormond Street Hospital into chromosomes and inherited diseases. He is now Director of Clinical Medical Biology at Great Ormond Street.

Canon L A Cragg (39-46) has moved back to Blackburn following his retirement as Vicar of Lytham at St Cuthbert's Church where this Magister Editor spent the occasional sober Christmas Eve unaware of the presence of the Old Blackburnian spirit!

Victoria Yates (88-90) has been appointed Librarian/Concerts Assistant with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

Burger King!

Michael Edmondson left in 1988 to undertake a course in Modern Studies at Coventry Polytechnic, but swapped undergraduate life for a full-time marketing career with McDonald's. He is now lecturing, buying and advising on marketing with the title of Professor at McDonald's Hamburger University in Illinois, USA. We hope to feature Michael and his fastfood stateside experiences in

Send details of your career to
Magister Editor: David
Holmes, 6A Sedgeley Mews,
Freckleton, Lancs PR4 1PT.

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Dinner Date



Vivian Cornall and friend bridge the generation gap at the '94 dinner which appealed to all ages

The pictures speak for themselves... the 1993 Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnian's Association held as always in Big School provided clear evidence that QEGS is no longer a bastion of male tradition and spartan abstinence (though I believe certain Houses always did prefer the temptations of Bacchus to the more austere attractions of little

known city states; however, I digress. Back to the Dinner!)

The Dinner was well attended but without the problems of overflow experienced by some in recent years. The bar in the ante-room was in action throughout, which did possibly contribute to an appalling lack of manners during the speeches by some Old Blacks who should have known better. Let us

maintain our honour before distinguished guests this year.

Michael Hayton performed admirably at short notice to propose the health of The School following the last minute cancellation by Krishnan Gurumurthy due to the demands of the BBC. As many in the audience commented, should they need a barrister, they now know where to go!

The Headmaster spoke eloquently of the three Cs; commitment, conviction and continuation. Commitment to the School, shown especially by the attendance of a large number of younger Old Blacks, conviction that the School is thriving and that it will continue to do so. The Headmaster also mentioned the incredible donation to the School of over £.25m by Eric Corless



From left to right: S. Atkinson, O. Clay, R. Astridge, Rachel Elliott, S. Catterall, S. Riley. Front Row: S. Lingard, James Coleman



Stephanie Hardcastle and David Fawltly

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

reported elsewhere in this issue

A legal theme was restored by the presence of Dame Justice Heather Steel as Chief Guest. More accustomed to passing sentence in the High Court and attentive audiences than the tavern like atmosphere of Big School by the time she rose, our most important guest demonstrated her disquiet by speaking briefly to thank the School for its hospitality.

But on the whole it really was a splendid evening enjoyed by veterans and rookies alike, as the pictures show.

Once again we are indebted to Messrs Lund (Director of Ceremonies), Dewhurst (Director of Music) and Slack (Chief Photographer) for their skilled contributions to a fine evening, and thanks are duly recorded to Andrew Norman and the Dinner Committee for pulling the whole thing together.

If you would like to appear in this feature next year, or if you would rather simply attend incognito, it is essential that you reserve a place as soon as possible by completing the booking slip overleaf. And don't forget to mention the Dinner to any friends from School who may not be reading this! If you don't want to damage your copy of Magister, a photo copy or letter will be acceptable - just remember your School dates, name, address and cheque. Vegetarians welcome!

Now just enjoy the pictures!



Above: Brian Hardcastle and Ellis Metcalfe keep a watchful eye on the proceedings!

Yet another Dinner Success!



From left to right: Julian Monk, N. Pratt, Michael Hayton and Steve Monk.

Right: OBA Committee man, former QEGS English master Bill Proctor, second from right, pictured with, from left Roy Matthews, Edgar Bird and Albert Eastham, another former QEGS teacher.

Below: From left Ralph Pickup, David Inman and Matthew Pearce.



Below: The Provost; Derek Lund (Toastmaster); Head Boy, William Coleman; Her Honour Mrs Justice Steel, Chief Guest; The Mayor of Blackburn; Mr Barry Brown, chairman, OBA; Mr Philip Johnston, Headmaster; Sir Kenneth Durham, president, OBA; Mr Michael Hayton, who proposed a toast to The School; Miss Virginia Hayton, Head Girl.



Business Magister

New Power Boss

Cambridge graduate Bill Goodall, 61, chairman of school governors, and executive chairman of Scapa Group plc, has been appointed a non-executive director of Manweb. Said Manweb chairman Bryan Weston: "We are delighted that Bill Goodall has joined the board. He is an important figure in the North West in business and

public affairs and I am sure his wealth of experience will be of great benefit to Manweb."

He is also chairman of Warrington based Volex Group and the Hopkinsons Group plc, deputy lieutenant of Lancashire and a member of the council of UMIST. Old Blacks can rest assured that the School is in safe hands!



Bill Goodall

Maths wizard David adds to his successes

David Chatterjee who was at school from 1982-89, left to read Mathematics at Trinity College, Cambridge, with four As and two STEP papers in 1989. Having taken an Upper Second, he went on to read Part III of the Mathematical Tripos from 1992-93, gaining a Distinction, and has now been awarded a Research Scholarship for the next three years, completing a Ph.D. under Sir Michael Atiyah.

Peake Career

STAFF at Gaskell Carpets, Wheatfield Mill, Rishton, bade farewell to **Geoff Peake (43-49)** in March 1993, the company's managing director for the past three years. Geoff joined Gaskell Carpets in 1967 as works manager. He is president of Blackburn and District Cancer Research and a keen fellwalker, swimmer and gardener.

Computer Wizard

DR. GERALD Kelleher (69-76) has become the country's youngest computer science professor after 16 years in higher education. His new post at Liverpool John Moores University will enable him to continue his research into artificial intelligence, and also allow Gerry to see Rovers a little more often - (professionally or recreationally?!! Ed.) A spokesman for the university said: "This post is a very specialised one, and when we decided to fill it we wanted the best".

GOLF



- The 62nd Annual Golf Competition was played at Wilshire Golf Club on 25 August 1993.
- Of the 17 competitors we had our first lady competitor Jane Thompson who achieved a very creditable 78 gross and was given a small gift.
- The winner of the Judge Walmsley Cup was Andrew Norman 76-8-68 with Colin Marlor second 81-12-69.
- Chris Newsham won the Sir Gilbert

Gerrard Cup with an excellent 71 gross.

- As the number of competitors has remained low over the last decade, we are going to try a new format this year and try to arrange the competition on a Sunday morning at Blackburn Golf Club. We want everybody to try to make a special effort as it is Blackburn Golf Club's Centenary year in 1994.
- Just for the record the maximum number of competitors was 50 in 1964.

For further details please contact Andrew Norman, Fairfield, 80 Southport Road, Chorley, PR7 1NT

"Apostrophe or not apostrophe!"

Owen Turner (80-87), a former member of the "Apostrophe Society" of St. Andrews University, founded to "eradicate the use of the apostrophe in the name 'St. Andrews' by the ignorant", has maintained his vigilance whilst reading 'Magister.' The name St. Andrews University apparently features an "apostrophe" and is written without one because the apostrophe first entered the English Language at a much later date than the naming of the Burgh (c.12th).

Write to Business Magister

If you have any news that you think would fit into Business Magister then don't hesitate to write to David Holmes, 6a Sedgely Mews, Freckleton.

DENTIST'S CAREER TAKES OFF

Jonathan Dearing (1980-86) is currently serving as a Dental Officer at Royal Air Force Lyneham, a large transport base in Wiltshire, having qualified as a dentist, gaining his FDS RCS (Ed) in 1992. He was awarded a medal for most outstanding academic performance in Primary FDS by Royal College of Surgeons (Ed). His Elective was spent in New Zealand.

He was commissioned in the RAF, having spent a year as a House Surgeon in Edinburgh Dental Hospital from 1991 to 1992.

inencogroup

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Tel: Preston (0772) 51658

QEGS in Europe



Head of Modern Languages, Alan Jackson and The Mayor of Blackburn, Councillor Eileen Entwistle., unveiling the plaque from Hadamar.

Under the energetic leadership of the Modern Languages Department, the school held a European Evening organised by Dr. Peter Halstead and Mr. Simon Turner, with European music, European food, and distinguishing lectures by Mr. Michael Hindley, Member of the European Parliament; Mr. M.A. Higgins, Chief Executive of PCAS, Mrs. Fiona Martin, and M. C. Vignali. The school was honoured to receive from our Hadamar exchange school, Furst Johann-Ludwig Schule, a plaque, now mounted in the school officially unveiled by the Mayor of Blackburn, Councillor Mrs Eileen Entwistle. A satellite television, capable of instantaneous viewing of 64 European TV channels, will be used for recording, by Mr. Andrew Pilkington, technician in the Queen's Wing, of TV broadcasts to be selectively used as a teaching aid, keeping the Modern Languages Department in the forefront of the school.



What a dish! - Philip Johnston and Councillor Entwistle make sure the satellite receiver is in position.

Two Heads are better than one at QEGS!

Magister talks to William Coleman and Virginia Hayton, Head Boy and Head Girl 93/94

I first met William in the corridor outside the Headmaster's study. Well over 6', he possessed a natural charm and assurance which our subsequent conversation in the relaxed ambience of the Head's parlour quietly confirmed. Virginia arrived soon after our introductions, confident but slightly guarded.

I had arranged with the Headmaster to 'interview' the Head Boy and Head Girl as representatives of pupils at School today who will become, hopefully, tomorrow's Old Blacks. I was reminded of the unspoken discipline which underpins QEGS when it became apparent that William and Virginia were unaware of the purpose of the meeting when they arrived. I am grateful that they turned up as requested to talk to a rather inquisitive stranger and gave up what I soon learnt to be an all too short lunch break.

Fortunately, they were nonetheless aware of the Old Blacks, Virginia through her brother Michael Hayton and William because I sensed he is one of life's diplomats!

Virginia had come to QEGS from Westholme. She talked openly about the differences between the two schools, with particular emphasis on the greater efforts demanded of QEGS pupils, especially of those with academic ambitions in the Sixth Form. She had expected competition between the sexes at QEGS, but was pleased to find the School is not the chauvinistic male preserve it may appear. Indeed, she commented at one stage on the good atmosphere at School, despite the short lunch break and exhortations to work harder! With anticipated 'A' levels in Biology, Chemistry and Maths, Virginia sat the Oxford entrance exam to read medicine shortly before our meeting.



Head Boy William Coleman and Head Girl Virginia Hayton at school . . .

William was heading towards law via a period working in South Africa on behalf of an aid Trust. I asked him about the role of a school like QEGS in today's society. His answer was considered and supported the view that the greater good is served by able and competent individuals achieving their full potential. He endorsed European style early school starts, and I was impressed by his unprompted analysis of pros and cons.

Although William has the build of a second row man, his chosen sport is badminton. Virginia rides regularly, and still finds time for swimming, aerobics, and a part time position at the local hospital. I maintained a discreet silence regarding my own highly tuned inertia in sporting matters!

Throughout the conversation both William and Virginia knew what they thought and why. Looking back, it was their understated self confidence which created the greatest impression. I regret that I called it shyness at the time.

There are now approximately 1100 pupils in School, including Horncliffe, with around 200 in the Sixth Form. Prefects are chosen by the Headmaster following an

Open Forum style discussion on topics such as 'Rules are made to be broken' and 'Does the world need fanatics?'. Their duties range from keeping order in Big School during lunch to minding obscure journalists!

William and Virginia kindly accompanied me to lunch in Big School - teaching staff now use a top table - where I enjoyed roast lamb and the old familiar chaos. I met my hosts of that day again at the Old Blacks Dinner a few weeks later. As a postscript, I learnt that William could drink like a second row man if he chose to, and Virginia, well, I didn't recognise her out of uniform!

A Magister reporter



Virginia at the Annual Dinner . . .

Hail and Farewell

The Headmaster of QEGS, Philip Johnston announced his resignation last month on his appointment as Head of St. Christopher's School in Bahrain. Philip writes below of his involvement with, and fond memories of, the OBA.

The Headmaster pictured in his study shortly before he left to take up his new position as Headmaster as St. Christopher's School in Bahrain.



It is a tradition within The Headmasters' Conference world that, once a headmaster leaves his current appointment, he is only able to return by invitation, and so it is on a very real note of sadness that I bid farewell to the Old Blackburnians' Association and thank them for their support and encouragement during my seventeen years tenure as Headmaster of Queen Elizabeth's.

I am very much looking forward to being your guest at what I know will be a highly successful dinner on December 17, and I would like to pay public tribute to the Old Blackburnians' Association Committee and the generality of its membership for their support of their old school. It does not seem seventeen years since my late predecessor, Douglas Coulson, died tragically suddenly in office, catapulting myself from the Headmastership of Boston Grammar School six months early to my appointment here, which I took up at midnight on the 31 December 1977. In exactly the same way, and to add

some further detail to the somewhat bald statement sent to parents, my Governors have kindly allowed my departure to be six months early to enable me to take up a new and exciting challenge as Principal of St. Christopher's School, Bahrain, a school of 1500 boys and girls. St Christopher's was initially an Independent Preparatory School and will, under my Principalship, go forward to develop its own Sixth Form.

I leave Queen Elizabeth's with very mixed feelings, and my highly supportive wife will continue to teach here for some time yet. We shall leave with the happiest of memories of the support of you all whilst we have been here. My own son, of course, is a fully paid-up Old Blackburnian member (that is a dig for those out there who may still be paying 37.5p to belong to the Association!), and I have attempted to support as many of the Old Blackburnians' Association gatherings as has been humanly possible. I will certainly miss the fun and fellowship of dinners in

Edinburgh, Newcastle and Durham, in Leeds and Harrogate, and in London, and especially at a number of Oxford and Cambridge Colleges where, in a variety of academic atmospheres, I have been privileged to see our young people on the threshold of their careers.

Inevitably, when one has spent most of one's professional life in a particular institution, one leaves with a tinge of sadness. I have tried to have Old Blackburnian support at all the major functions which we have had in my time here. I can recall the cheerful faces of supportive Old Blackburnians at Speech Days and re-unions, at dinners, at conferences, and at some of our more official functions, ranging from the opening of the school sports hall by Jack Lee, through to Lord Waddington's opening of the swimming pool, and the great occasion of the visit of Her Majesty The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

I have essayed to further cement the links between the Old Blackburnians' Association and their school, and perhaps could

finish on two of the happiest connections which I have had at Queen Elizabeth's and which I shall surely sorely miss.

The first concerns my warm link with the Old Blackburnians on the staff, and I particularly would like to pay tribute to them all - Philip Broadhurst, Mike Holgate, Jack Monk, Steve Monk, John Read and Ellis Metcalfe, and especially their current Chairman, Barry Brown, whose friendship my family and I have much appreciated down the years, and whose youngsters have been pupils in my time. But above all it is the vast number of Old Blackburnians whom I have sometimes met in curious and off-beat locations, ranging from Berlin to Calgary, from managing director to business-like workman, from primary school headteacher to university professor, all of whom - though not necessarily signed-up Old Blackburnians - have quietly said to me, as indeed I would say to my own old school - "I owe everything to Queen Elizabeth's".

Even as I write this, I have had the local press asking views

about the new Labour Party Leader's comments about independent education.

May I sincerely hope and pray that Queen Elizabeth's will forever flourish.

Of course, no great school can live on its past, rejoicing in its hallowed traditions, or indeed rest on its laurels in the present. We shall support Mr Eric Whittle, who has given 35 years service, during the period of his Acting Headmastership, but we must also give our strongest support to the future of the school as the Governors ponder it. Formidable rivals exist in half-a-dozen local schools, and the new Headmaster must consider the merits of co-education, of preparatory departments starting at five, and every method at his disposal (we presume it will be a him), to continue to attract those sons and daughters of those for whom Queen Elizabeth's has continued to be of service.

Watch this space!

'Magister' would like to take this opportunity to thank the Headmaster for his consistent support of the journal, and also to acknowledge his undoubted nose for a story complemented by impressive writing skills!

We shall miss invaluable snippets signed 'PFJ'.

An item on life east of Suez would be most appreciated in due course!

If timescales permit, Magister will feature the new Head in the 1995 Issue!



Pictured with the Headmaster, centre and Squadron Leader Pennell, right is Pilot Officer David Catlow, at school from 1982-91 also stationed at Cranwell and just starting his pilot training after a lengthy season of playing cricket for the Air Force in exotic hot spots.

Head in the clouds

If this was a colour photograph, above, the face would actually be green for the Headmaster had been upside down in this Tucano (the Royal Air Force's latest training aircraft) on several occasions (note his G-suit all protective clothing, all £8,000 worth including fireproof long-johns) whilst essaying aerobatics over the North Sea, under the watchful eye of Squadron Leader

Lance Pennell, B.Sc., Deputy Chief Flying Instructor at R.A.F. College, Cranwell (Lance Pennell, at school from 1964-71 read Chemical Engineering at the University of Newcastle, before joining the Royal Air Force in 1974).

Philip Johnston took the controls while they flew over Boston Grammar School, where he was formerly headmaster, during a

sortie whilst at Cranwell as a member of the Officer and Aircrew Selection Board, interviewing the country's young men (and women) all aspiring to be pilots or navigators. He left the Service 39 years ago!

Lance shortly moves to be A.D.C. to the Air Commodore/Commandant of the Central Flying School at R.A.F. Scampton.

OXBRIDGE SCHOLAR

Mr Philip Frederick Johnston MA (Cantab) B.Litt (Oxon) was appointed Headmaster of QEGS from 87 applicants following the untimely death of Douglas Coulson and took up his position on January 1, 1978. Eight years to the day previously he had been appointed Head of Boston Grammar School, Lincolnshire aged 33 years. He had been Head of History at Barnard Castle School, Co. Durham for five years before that. He attended Manchester Grammar School, where he was a Foundation Scholar, gaining a quasi-Exhibition to Christ's College, Cambridge. He graduated in the Honours History Tripos then gained a Bachelor of Letters degree by research for the Faculty of Theology at St Peter's College, Oxford. He gained a half blue for lacrosse at Oxford and began his teaching career at Wolverhampton Grammar School.



OBs say thanks

Florence Duckworth has retired after 15 years as HM's secretary. The picture shows her receiving Life Membership of East Lancs. Cricket Club from OBA Chairman Barry Brown on behalf of both the Old Blacks and The Elizabethan Association in recognition of her invaluable contribution to Magister; over the years she has kindly typed out innumerable items and articles from the Headmaster who has been a key source of Magister material. Florence is also mother of two Old Blacks!

Obituaries

CHRIS LUND

It is with particular regret that we note the sudden death of **Dr Christopher Lund (61-68)**, son of Old Black and former School bursar Derrick Lund, on July 11 1994 aged 43 in Hong Kong. The following was said at his funeral and is typical of the many tributes paid to the family:

"Just over two years ago, my wife Jona started working for Chris in his new practice just down the road from here, in the Shui Hing Building. It was the start of a deep and committed working relationship, and for Jona, the most fulfilling two years of her working life. For Chris, the Practice was his dream. His surgery was his pride and joy. And he succeeded in providing an exceptional level of comfort, treatment and devoted care to his patients.

The seeds of this devotion and caring for others were sown many years ago in the Lancashire town of Blackburn. His mother, Phyllis, served for 24 years as a Nurse & Sister at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary and together with his father, Derrick, they have served the community of Blackburn for 37 years as volunteers in the St. John Ambulance Brigade. It was therefore only natural that Chris would follow in their steps and prior to coming to Hong Kong, he served in the St. John Ambulance as the Division Surgeon for Blackburn.

Seventeen years ago, Chris was lured to Hong Kong to work in a community clinic in Kwun Tong by a friend who had studied with him in medical school. It was by all accounts very hard work with little financial reward. But as Derrick recalls from Chris's early letters, he found the work rewarding in so many other ways. Indeed, had it not been for some fatherly advice, he may well not have entered private practice at all.

Chris prospered in private practice. Professionally he earned fellowships to the Royal

Societies of Medicine & Health, as well as the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners. But all the while he was true to his upbringing in public service. He worked for the promotion of family medicine in Hong Kong. He was a council member and an examiner in the Hong Kong College of General Practitioners. But he is perhaps best known as the 'Radio Doctor' on Ralph Pixton's Open Line, giving weekly advice on medical problems of public interest. All this he did on a voluntary basis.

His support of the promotion of medicine was not confined to Hong Kong. Indeed, one of the last things he did before his death was to confirm the recipients of this year's Phyllis Lund Award. For the past ten years, he has sponsored nurses in the Blackburn local health authority to undertake specialist training. One of this year's recipients is a nurse at the East Lancashire Hospice, who through Chris's generosity will now be studying for a Diploma in Palliative Care.

You may have noticed in the announcement in the paper that in lieu of floral tributes, donations were invited to the East Lancashire Hospice. The Lund family has been very much involved in the development of this hospice from the beginning. Indeed, I believe that Derrick can be credited that he chaired the first meeting. Chris was particularly interested in this project. Today, The East Lancashire Hospice is caring for many ill patients.

Chris was a devoted son and brother. He honoured his father and his late brother, Robert, by establishing annual prizes in their names at QEGS, where Derrick worked for 30 years and both boys studied. But it was as a doctor that Chris made his biggest contribution. He devoted his life to medicine and the care of his patients.

His patience, understanding and skill as a physician alleviated so much suffering. And with Chris,

DAVID GEOFFREY YARNOLD

DAVID Geoffrey Yarnold (1959 - 66) died on Tuesday 12 July 1994 following a massive heart attack during a cricket match for his local 'village' team. In recent years David lived in Rustington, near Littlehampton in West Sussex where he worked in local government leisure services. David leaves a widow Liz and two sons, Nick & Tim.

David worked for Lancashire County Council in Preston since leaving School until his move to Rustington.

During the 1970s David was a playing member of Old Blackburnians

A.F.C., living in Barker Lane on the Blackburn/Mellor border. 'Barney', as David was affectionately known, was a rugged defender turning out regularly for the 3rd and 4th XIs. David was also a playing member of Blackburn Golf Club for several years in the late 1980s where he was a regular competitor in the Winter League.

David had suffered a mild heart attack several years ago but his death came as a major shock to everybody.

AP

William Edmund Tilbston Walsh

William Edmund Tillotson Walsh passed away on 16 April 1994 aged 81 leaving a wife, daughter, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Donations to Cancer Research Campaign c/o Mrs D Bury, Old House, Knowles Brow, Stonyhurst, Clitheroe, BB7 9PP.

Geoff Stirrup

Geoff Stirrup (c1934 - 41) died on 6 June 1994 in hospital aged 70. Donations to the British Heart Foundation Appeal c/o Mr A D Grubb, 85 Pleackgate Road, Blackburn.

Eric Harper

Eric Harper has died in Australia. His son-in-law, Mr Hoy wrote to Old Blacks Secretary Ron Barham from Australia to say how much Eric appreciated contact with the School through the Association whilst overseas.

James Hughes

James Hughes (38-43) died on the fells he loved on July 11 1993. He served in the Royal Navy from 1943 to 1948 and took early retirement from the Post Office in 1986, having risen to the post of Senior Telecommunications Superintendent. He was a committee member of St Oswald's Scout Group.



Chris Lund

the care did not end when you left his surgery - he would telephone to check up on your progress.

As a boss, Chris was kind fair and generous. And he shared his good fortune with those who worked for him. He taught Jona so much and he made her work so fulfilling. In short, she could not have wished for a better boss.

Outside the world of medicine, Chris was a very private person. He was kind, considerate and generous to his friends. He was a good friend to my family and like an uncle to my young children. They miss him greatly but they take comfort in the knowledge that he is now helping Jesus!

Chris's death is a terrible loss. Of that there can be no doubt. We shall all miss him greatly. But let us all remember what he has done for us and let us give thanks to the Lord for his life, for the privilege of having been in his care and for the gifts of his service to the community. Thank you Lord."

Over 200 cards, letters, calls and tributes have been received by Christopher's family.

The Old Blackburnians' Association extends its most sincere sympathies to Derrick and Phyllis Lund.

Kenneth Charles Cowburn

Kenneth Charles Cowburn (31-37), 72, of Kirkstone Avenue, Blackburn passed away suddenly on November 22, 1993. He was married with two sons and two grandchildren. Donations if desired to Masonic Charities c/o Mr M Quainton, 44 Crompton Place, Blackburn.

Dr Thomas Riley

Dr Thomas Riley (42-49), 63, died at home on December 2, 1993. He leaves a wife Margaret, three children and two grandchildren. Donations if desired to the Cancer research Campaign, c/o Mrs D Bury, Old House, BB7 9PP.

Graeme Stanton

The body of **Graeme Stanton**, 54, former Lancashire Evening Telegraph reporter and sports sub-editor, was recovered from the River Tyne in January 1994 following his disappearance some six weeks previously. The body was found two miles downstream from the Tyne Bridge where a man of Graeme's description was seen to fall on December 17. Graeme was editor of the Evening Chronicle in Newcastle from 1979 until his early retirement last September. After national service, he worked for the Daily Express in Manchester and was editor of an English speaking daily newspaper in Bangkok.

John James Haworth

John James Haworth (1945-50) known as Jack, who passed away on 22 August 1993 aged 59, represented his house Raleigh at both football and cricket. He was captain of the Old Blackburnians 1st XI football team for several years. He left School in 1950 to join Lloyds Bank where he had a long and distinguished career, retiring in April 1993. After National Service in the RAF and passing the finals of his Bankers examinations John worked his way through several managerial positions including manager of the Minorities branch in East London, Assistant Regional Manager for the South East at

Tunbridge Wells, Principal of the Managerial Training College at Kingswood in Surrey, Manager of Market Place, Reading branch and Area Director, Berkshire. John was a keen supporter of charitable causes through Round Table and Rotary, having been chairman of Purley & Ceulsden Round Table and Community Services Chairman of the Rotary Club of Reading. Although he spent most of his working life in the south of England, he was always proud of Lancashire and Blackburn - the town, the Rovers, East Lancashire CC and especially QEGS.

Philip Johnston remembers a convivial dinner with him and staying at Lloyds Bank Staff College in Surrey in July 1989.

He leaves a widow, Wendy and children Elizabeth and Richard.

Andrew Haworth

Andrew Haworth M.A., (62-69) 43, who died in Oakham on January 4 1994, was remembered at a memorial service held on Wednesday February 9 at St. James Church, Blackburn. He read Modern Languages at St John's College, Oxford, followed by a distinguished career teaching Spanish and French for four years (1974 - 78) at Carmel College in Oxfordshire and then from 1978 to 1990 at Oakham School, where he was a colleague of Mr John Weeks, son-in-law of the late Headmaster, Douglas Coulson.

James Ivor Waddington

James Ivor Waddington passed away on 20 June 1992. A descendant of the Arkwright family, he helped design the CW Cygnet aircraft, the world's first non-military all-metal aeroplane.

George Dawson

I'm sorry to have to report the death of my brother **George Dawson (1931-36)** who was, I think, a life member of the Association. On leaving school he started work at Calderstones Hospital in Whalley. After 5 years in the RAF, much of the time with Fred Bury as his wing signals officer, a relationship not unlike that of prefect and new boy; he spent the rest of his working life in the NHS in the Glasgow area retiring 5 years ago as a Group Hospital Secretary. He suffered a severe

stroke whilst changing for a round of golf and died peacefully a week later. He was a keen golfer of average ability who enjoyed his game. He leaves a wife, Agatha. They had been married for 41 years.

In the last bulletin I saw that there was an invitation for anyone who would like to play football for the Old Blacks to contact the Club Secretary. I played for the club from 1939/40-1967/68 season and every team from 1st XI to 5th XI (they ran one for two seasons) and was forced into early retirement when I was transferred to Walford by the Department of Employment. I would dearly love to play for them again but doubt whether that was what they had in mind. I am comfortably situated 100 yards from the village green and cricket pitch and football club is 50 yards in the opposite direction and I can listen to the players from my back garden!

Ernest Taylor

Ernest Taylor (17-23) died in July 1993 after a long illness; he was a regular attendee at early meetings of the South Manchester Branch of the OBs established by Harold

Ramsbottom and Eric West. He retired as Chief Electrical Engineer and Controller of Simon Carves Ltd, part of the Simon Engineering Group. He leaves a wife, Elizabeth, who lives at 8 Thorngrove drive, Wilmslow, SK9 1DR, and daughter.

George Bramley Haworth

FORMER personnel manager of Blackburn Trustee Savings Bank, **George Bramley-Haworth**



(1928-37) died after a short illness in August.

George (left), who was leader of the Conservative Party on Blackburn Council from 1973 until 1991, was taken ill while on holiday

abroad a few months earlier.

He was first elected a councillor in 1967 and maintained a family tradition when he became Mayor in 1991. His wife Nen was Mayor in 1977. He leaves a son Nigel (1957-66), who was leader of Hyndburn Tories from 1981-87.

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Degrees and things

CATHERINE J. AIREY (1988-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Geography, University of Leeds. Appointed Graduate Trainee with Guardian Royal Exchange.

S. ALI (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Biochemistry, Jesus College, Oxford.

Proceeding to read for Ph.D.

P.D. ANDERTON, B.Sc., (1974-83)

Awarded Ph.D., Artificial Intelligence, University of Liverpool.

I.D. ASPINALL (1982-89)

Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Modern Languages, Jesus College, Oxford.

A.S. ATWOOD, B.Sc., (1972-79)

Awarded M.Sc., in Telecommunication Engineering Management, University of Wales.

L.A. BARNES (1983-90) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons.

Mineral Engineering, University of Leeds.

M.R. BARSBY

(1981-88)

Qualified M.B., Ch.B., University of Manchester Medical School. Appointed House Officer at Queens Park Hospital, Blackburn.

N.S. BECK (1988-90)

Gained H.N.D., Business & Finance, Crewe & Alsager College of Higher Education.

E.A. BINNS (1983-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Agricultural Biochemistry & Nutrition, University of Newcastle. Proceeding to University of Glasgow to read Veterinary Medicine.

ALISON J. BIRTLE, M.B., B.S., (1983-84) Awarded The Humphrey Arthure Prize in Obstetrics & Gynecology.

G.H. BLAKE (1979-89) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Civil & Structural Engineering, University of Teesside. Appointed Site Agent with J.N. Bentley Ltd. Skipton.

A.C. BLUNDELL (1988-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Computing & Economics, University of Newcastle Upon Tyne.

M.E. BRADLEY (1980-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Geography/Geology, University of Manchester.

KERYNNE BRAITHWAITE, B.Sc., (1986-88) Awarded M.Sc., University of Newcastle.

RACHEL M. BROWN (1988-90)

Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Food Science, University of Reading.

R.D. BROWN (1976-83) Gained H.N.D. in Recreational Land Management, Lancashire College of Agriculture and Horticulture. Awarded Lancashire County Council Award for top student & Duchy of Lancaster Scholarship & Thesis Prize.

PAMELA J. CAVANNAGH (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. History of Art, Design and Film, Sheffield Hallam University.

J.A. CHADDOCK, B.Sc., (1979-85) Awarded Ph.D., Biological Sciences, University of Warwick.

SUSAN E. CHADWICK, B.Sc., (1982-84) Qualified LL.B., College of Law, Chester. Appointed Trainee Solicitor with Philip Conn & Co, Manchester.

R. CHITTAJALLU (1983-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Pharmacology, University of Leeds.

R.F. CLARKE (1982-89)

Hons. Combined Studies in Arts, St. John's College, University of Durham.

ANN-MARIE DOE (1986-88) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. English/German, Queen's College, Oxford. Proceeding to College of Law at Chester.

B.H. DOUGLAS (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Design and Technology, Loughborough University of Technology.

RACHEL A. DUCKETT (1989-90) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Leicester. Proceeding to College of Law at Chester.

RACHEL C. DUNCAN (1986-88) Qualified B.M., University of Southampton Medical School. Appointed House Physician Royal South Hants Hospital, Southampton.

M.D. EMMETT (1983-90) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, St. Chad's College, University of Durham. Proceeding to Law Society Finals at University of York.

S. FIRBANK (1983-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry & Management Studies. Appointed Trainee Accountant with price Waterhouse.

D. R.

GILLARD (1988-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Agricultural Economics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

SUSAN H. GILLIBRAND (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. French and Spanish, University of Bristol. Appointed Graduate Trainee Manager with Natwest Bank, London.

R.N. GLYNN (1980-87) Graduated B.Sc., University of St. Andrew's.

E. SARAH GOLD (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Modern & Medieval Languages, Newn Hall, Cambridge. Appointed Trainee Accounts Director at Lowe Howard-Spink, London.

P.B. GOODFELLOW (1978-88) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., Medicine & Surgery, University of Sheffield Medical School. Appointed Junior House Surgeon, Northern General Hospital, Sheffield.

B.J. GRIME (1981-88) Graduated B.A., Geography, St. Martin's College, Lancaster.

CUTTING EDGE

Antony Fitton FRCS (79-84) has recently fulfilled the examination requirements to be granted the Diploma of Fellow of The Royal College of Surgeons of England. His letter to Magister is most complimentary towards the Headmaster and Mr Ellis Metcalfe for their part in this achievement.

He is joined in his clinical accomplishment by Jeremy Ward (76-84), senior house officer in general surgery at Warrington District General Hospital, who was elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Mathematics, University of Leeds.

M.J. COAR (1983-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Economics/Politics, University of Leeds.

A.J. COX (1983-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Mathematics, University of Sheffield. Proceeding to read for M.Sc., in Operational Research at University of Birmingham.

R.H. CRONSHAW (1974-81) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Computation, U.M.I.S.T.

b(1983-90) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Civil Engineering, University of Leeds.

ANITA DATTA (1988-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Chemistry, University of Sheffield. Proceeding to read for Ph.D. in Chemistry at University of Sheffield.

N. DEARING (1980-90) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, University of Wolverhampton.

SARAH K. DENT (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2,

R.W. GROVES (1980-87) Graduated B.A., Class 3, St. John's College, University of Durham. 1991-1992 President of Durham University Students Union. Appointed Trainee Manager with Lloyds Bank, East of England Region.

J.R. HACKING (1980-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Accounting & Management Control, Sheffield Hallam University.

J.D. HALL (1983-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2m Div. 2, Hons. Architecture, De Montfort University, Leicester.

JANE M. HAWORTH (1989-90) Gained H.N.D., Business & Finance, Derby College. Proceeding to B.A., in Marketing at Derby University.

P.F. HENRY (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, New College, Oxford. proceeding to read for D.Phil., in Chemistry at New College, Oxford.

M.J. HILL (1982-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Mathematics, University of Manchester. Proceeding to P.G.C.E., Secondary Mathematics.

CATHERINE M. HOARTY (1988-90) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, University of Wales College of Cardiff. Proceeding to College of Law at Chester.

C.P. HOLGATE (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. French/German, University of Bristol. Proceeded to C.P.E. at London College of Law.

C.A. HOLLAND (1980-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Cybernetics and Control Engineering, University of Reading. Appointed Trainee Manager with I.A.C. Plastics Ltd.

P. HOLT (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Geography, University of St. Andrews.

C.M. HUNT (1983-90) Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Politics, Philosophy & Economics, Lincoln College, Oxford. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. in Business Studies/Economics at Edge Hill College of Higher Education, Ormskirk.

JOANNE H. IDDON B. Eng. (1986-88) Awarded M.Sc. in Civil Engineering, University of Manchester.

KATE E. INGHAM (1988-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Joint Hons. Chemistry & Food Science, University of Reading. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., at University of Nottingham.

CLAIRE M. ISHERWOOD (1987-89) Graduated B.Sc., Medical Science, University of St.

Andrews. Continuing Clinical Studies at University of Manchester.

C.P. ISHERWOOD (1986-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Construction, Sheffield Hallam University.

C.W. JENKINSON (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Modern Languages, St. Peter's College, Oxford. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. at University of Exeter.

J.P. JERSTICE (1979-85) Qualified 1990 M.B., Ch.B., University of Edinburgh Medical School.

M.E. JOHNSON (1978-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Chemistry, University of Nottingham.

CHRISTINE J. KAY, B.Sc., (1982-84) Awarded Ph.D., in Tectonic Subsidence in the North Sea Bed, University of Edinburgh. Appointed Clinical Research Administrator with 'Inveresk' Edinburgh.

G.T. KAYE (1983-90) Gained H.N.D. Agriculture, Myerscough College.

CLAIRE J. KEDWARD (1988-90) Graduate B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Chemistry, Grey College, University of Durham. Proceeding to read for M.Sc., in Food Science at University of Leeds.

C.J. KELLY (1986-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Humanities, University of Humber. Proceeding to read for M.A.

C.J.H. LAWRENCE (1980-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Business Communication, University of Teesside. Proceeding to Law College.

G.J. LEA (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Psychology, University of Lancaster.

R.J. LEAVER (1987-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Environmental Geology, Royal Holloway, University of London.

R.M. LITTLER (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, Manchester Polytechnic.

T.E. LONGSTAFF, B.A., (1974-83) Awarded by Thesis M.Mus. in Composition from University of London.

S.A. LONGWORTH (1983-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Geography, University of Manchester.

NICOLA J. MARLOR (1988-90) Graduated B.A., International Office Management, Buckinghamshire College, College of Brunel University.

C.E. METCALFE, B.A., (1976-85) Awarded M.Sc., Information Technology, University of Hull. Working for Touche Ross,

Memories are made of this

FORMER QEGS domestic bursar, Mr Derrick Lund (1956-86) has transferred a series of 8mm film of school life from 1978 to 1986 to video

Derrick, toastmaster at OBA dinners for the past 33 years, has been Assistant County Director for St John Ambulance in East Lancashire since 1977 and has organised and instructed more than 2,000 teachers in first aid techniques at 140 schools during the past five years. The video, called QEGS Memories, shows at slow speed, snippets of our recent history and is available for purchase.

The first part shows boys walking to the Cathedral wearing blue caps from 1978 up to 1986, plus one final year 1992. Other items shown are the presentation at the cricket match at the Oval of the Lord Taverners Cup, a Navy helicopter in the park; the

School cat in "Match of the Day", shots of retired master - with messages from a few of them, 1992 Exam Results day - in Assembly Hall and School office when staff are chatting about results and setting up of last School photograph in the park - with the "Security Guard" - Caesar.

If you wish to purchase one of the videos please cut out or copy the form below and return to **Mr D G Lund, 56 Brantfell Road, Blackburn, Lancs. BB1 8DL**, enclosing cheque for £15 plus postage and packing of £1.10 (£16.10) or overseas £15 plus £1.55 (£16.55) - airmail extra - made out to "Mr D G Lund". **All I ask after many years work and time, is please do not copy the video. The School will benefit from the profit of each video sold.**

If you have any anecdotes from your school days and up-to-date news, I will be delighted to hear from you.

DL

QEGS VIDEO OFFER

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS
PLEASE SEND.....VIDEO TAPES OF
"QUEEN ELIZABETH GRAMMAR SCHOOL
MEMORIES" (1978-86 + 1992)

at £15 each plus p & p. I enclose a cheque for
.....plus.....p & p (made payable to Mr D G
Lund.)

Please send video to:- £.....total

FULL NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....

(ALL PROFITS WILL BE DONATED
TO THE SCHOOL)

Philip takes some stick!

Philip Johnston was a little taken aback when he stepped out of the Isle of Man Bank in Douglas, Isle of Man, to be greeted affectionately by PC23 of the Isle of Man Constabulary in his fine white pith helmet with the words: "It is Mr Johnston, isn't it?" Especially as the officer continued on receiving

confirmation: "Don't you remember caning me in 1979?" The Head Master was for once slightly embarrassed, and passers-by were most intrigued. **Frazer Hill** was in Horncliffe and left Main School after 'O' levels. He would be delighted to meet any Old Blackburnians on the island.

S.F. MILNER (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, Jesus College, Oxford. Appointed Trainee Accountant with K.P.M.G., Preston.

J.F. MORLESE, B.Sc., (1985-87) Qualified M.B., B.S., St. George's College, University of London.

A.J. MORRIS (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Science & Recreation Management, Sheffield Hallam University. Appointed Territory Manager for Crookes Healthcare, Nottingham.

S.J. MORRIS (1980-87) Qualified M.B., Ch.B., Medicine and Surgery, University of Liverpool Medical School. Appointed House Surgeon Aintree Group Hospitals, Liverpool.

LISA F. MOUSTACAS (1988-90) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Law, University of Northumbria.

C.M. MULROONEY (1983-88) Graduated B.Sc., Class 3, Hons. Construction Management, University of Salford.

JOANNA L. NELSON (1988-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Social & Political Sciences, Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

SHARON D. NEWTON, B.Med.Sc., (1985-87) Qualified M.B., B.S., University of

Newcastle Upon Tyne Medical School. Appointed House Surgeon at The Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

JULIA NEWTON, M.B., B.S., (1983-85) Elected a Member of Royal College of Physicians (U.K.)

ELIZABETH A. ODDY (1988-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1 Hons. Biochemistry, University of Dundee. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., at Molecular Immunopathology Unit, M.R.C. Centre, Cambridge.

E. CORINE ORMEROD (1988-90) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons. Archaeology/Egyptology, University of Liverpool.

R. OWEN (1988-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Natural Sciences, Girton College, Cambridge.

S.D. PARKER (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Physical Education, University of Warwick. Appointed Teacher of Physical Education, Taunton Manor High School, Old Coulsdon, Surrey.

W.J.D. PARKES (1982-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Architectural Studies, University of Newcastle.

S.D. PARKER (1982-89) Graduated B.A. (QTS), Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Physical Education, University of Warwick. Appointed P.E. Teacher at

Taunton Manor High School, Surrey.

E.I. PICKUP (1956-63) Awarded M.A. in Education, University of Lancaster.

M.B. PICKUP (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Chemistry, Lincoln College, Oxford. Proceeding to read for Ph.D., in Chemistry at University of Edinburgh.

S.H. POULTON (1985-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Biochemistry, University of Birmingham. Appointed Technologist with Pera International.

N. PRESTON (1980-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Geography, St. Peter's College, Oxford.

M. SANDERSON (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Business Studies (European) with French, Sunderland Polytechnic.

M.A. SAURIN (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 1, Hons. Chemistry with Management Studies, University of Sussex. Appointed Marketing Planner with Exxon Chemical Ltd.

M.J. SCHOFIELD (1980-90) Graduated B.A., (Econ), Economic & Social Studies, University of Manchester.

T.G.M. SCOTT (1976-85) Awarded M.A., in Video at University of Middlesex.

C.J. SHERRY (1983-90) Graduated B.Eng., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Mechanical Design, University of Nottingham.

M.P. SIDDALL (1981-89) Graduated B.Eng. Class 1, Hons. Chemical Engineering, University of Birmingham. Appointed Chemical Engineer with Conoco, Humberside.

D.P. SIMM (1983-90) Graduated B.A., Class 3 Hons. Combined Studies/German Accountancy, De Montfort University, Leicester.

J.R. SINKER (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Geography, University College, Durham. Proceeding to Guildford College of Law. Followed by Articles with Linklaters & Paines, London.

S.A. SMITH (1982-89) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Geography, Sports Science & Physical Education, Loughborough University of Technology. proceeding to read for P.G.C. in Education at Loughborough University of Technology.

I.E. SOUTHERLAND (1983-90) Graduated LL.B., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Law, Manchester Metropolitan University. Appointed Trainee Manager with McDonalds Restaurants.

J. STEWART (1981-90) Graduated B.A., Class 1, Hons.

Earth Sciences, University College, Oxford. Awarded the Burdett-Coutts Prize for Geology. Proceeding to read for D.Phil.

CARA J. SULLIVAN (1987-89) Graduated B. Com., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Business Studies, University of Edinburgh. Appointed Marketing Management Trainee, Guinness Pic.

KATHERINE J. TAYLOR (1987-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Biochemistry, University College, Oxford.

JANE E. THOMPSON (1987-89) Graduated B.Acc., Class 1, Hons. Accountancy with Economics, University of Stirling. Appointed Trainee Accountant with Stoy Hayward, Manchester.

RACHEL P. TINDALL (1987-89) Graduated B.Ed., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. English, University of the West of England, Bristol.

N.R. WAKEFORD (1983-90) Graduated B.Sc., Accounting Studies, University of Dundee. Proceeding to read for M.Sc., in Information Technology at Dundee Institute of Technology.

E.G. WALMSLEY (1979-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Catering Management, University of Huddersfield. Appointed Trainee Assistant Manager with Queen's Moat Houses.

C.L. WARD (1983-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. English Literature, University of Reading. LUCY H. WHARTON, B.Sc., (1984-86) Qualified M.B., B.S., St. Mary's Hospital Medical School. Appointed House Officer, Gloucestershire Royal Hospital.

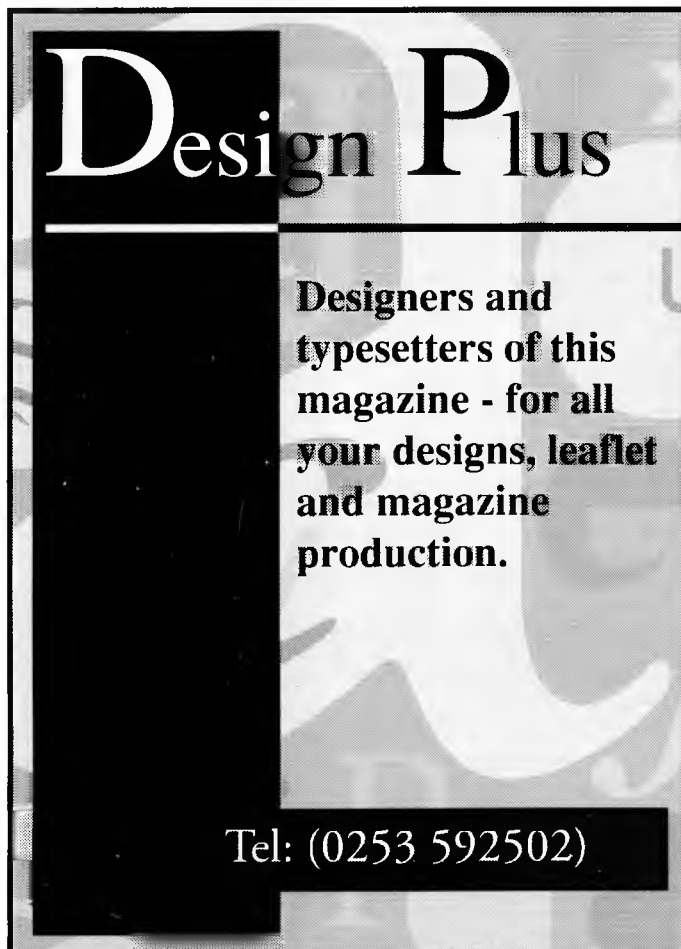
S.D. WYLIE (1983-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Social Policy and Administration, University of Hull. Appointed Case Assessor with Social Services.

ABIGAIL L. WOODS (1988-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Veterinary Medicine, St. John's College, Cambridge. Awarded the Lamor silver prize for 'intellectual achievement, moral conduct and service to the College'. Continuing with Veterinary Medical course.

H.M. YATES (1982-89) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Hons. Economics, Downing College, Cambridge.

VICTORIA K. YATES (1988-90) Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Music, St. Catherine's College, Oxford.

DINA ZAMAN (1988-90) Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div. 2, Hons. Medicinal Chemistry, University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Proceeding to read for M.Sc., in Biosensors at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



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Weddings and Births



David Gregson (80-87) has married Lori Lynn Sanford at Cathedral Farms, Oneonta in New York State after graduating from the University of Scranton in Pennsylvania with a Masters Degree in French and Education following a football scholarship at Hartwick College in New York,

where he met Lori. David's brother **Andrew (83-90)** also won a football scholarship to Hartwick, winning the college's top accolade, the John Christopher Hartwick Award for academic excellence. He is now studying for a double major degree. A far cry from Lammack!



Tim Brown (77-87) married **Jo Sherry (86-88)** on June 12th 1993.



Martin P.J. Casey (76-84), researcher for History of Parliament was married on July 24th 1993. ▶

Nicholas W. Almond (1979-86) married Julie A. Smith at Sacred Heart Church Thornton Cleveleys on June 26th 1993. Both work for the D.S.S. Julie is an administrative officer and Nicholas an applications programmer for the ITSA. ◀



Lucy Charlotte was born on April 16, 1994 to Christina (nee Maudsley) (79-81) and David Ibbotson (70-81). She joins sister Kate born two years ago. David works in management for Whitbread and Christina is currently on a career break raising the children - see Keep in Touch for contact details.

Have you recently got married or do you know someone who has?

If the answer is yes, then don't hesitate to write to David Holmes with the names, dates at school, photos and any other relevant information.



Magister Editorial c/o David Holmes, 6a Sedgely Mews
Freckleton PR4 1PT Tel: (0772) 631129



Sarah Redman married J. David Walmsley on 31st July 1993 at All Hallows Church at 3.00pm.



Back to the future...

The main news 30 years ago was to do with the School's future. Interesting now to look back but then the future for West Park Road was far from certain. Blackburn Education Committee had included QEGS in a scheme to reorganise secondary schooling in the town - in other words, comprehensive education.

The chairman of governors, Mr William Hare (1921-1930) made it clear that the School did not accept the council's proposals and headmaster Mr Brian H. Kemball-Cook spoke out against the move at the School speech night, attended by 2,000 people. He concluded by saying: "I believe another chapter, full of promise is opening in English education and that QEGS will have a part to play in it which will be worthy of its past."

Meanwhile the "complacent attitude" of old boys north of the border in the Glasgow area was a complaint of Mr Paul Price who had hoped to launch a Scottish

branch of the OBA in the city. Indeed the first edition of Magister the previous year had led its front page on just that theme. Funnily enough, 30 years on, we are still trying to get a Scottish branch off the ground. (See Page 35) Mr Price's efforts unfortunately were doomed to failure.

There was news of a certain PC James Warner (1943-48) being promoted sergeant. Jim was later to become superintendent at Blackburn and chairman of the OBA. He is still a member of the OBA committee and is now head of security at BNFL's Salwick plant.

A link with this issue is established with the news that Mr Tom Southworth (1948-54) a member of the UK Mission to the UN had been appointed to the staff of the British Embassy in BAGHDAD! (See Page 4).

Lord Justice Ormerod, president of the OBA in 1964, retired from the bench that year. He was the first Lord Justice of Appeal to

have been both a solicitor and a High Court Judge. He said at the annual dinner in December '63 that the OBA needed more than its 860 members. A school such as QEGS ought to be able to raise membership to 1,000, he told members - and a recruitment drive was immediately begun. Judge W. G. Morris of Manchester replied to Brian Birtwistle's toast to the guests. Former head boy, playwright David Ambrose, proposed a toast to the School and the head Mr B. H. Kemball-Cook, replied.

Committee member and QEGS English teacher, Albert Eastham (1946-51) conquered the "Three Thousands" - 14 Welsh peaks above 3,000ft in 14 hours 15min. A couple of weeks later, he covered 47 miles striding up and down the Lake District's seven 3,000ft mountains in 15 hours 23min.

Magister '64 reported that the School had sent 41 boys to universities and colleges of advanced technology the previous year - a record for QEGS.

Ten years later, and the doubts about the School's future were dispelled - indeed, the '74 magazine led on a £110,000 plan for restructuring and extending the junior school following the building of a new assembly hall and games block on the Dukes Brow quad.

The Headmaster Mr Douglas Coulson reported that the school had never been in a more flourishing and happy state than it was in terms of buildings, academic success, parental support and co-operation, recruitment and goodwill.

Things were looking rosy all round - down at Lammack, the football club had completed extensive alterations at the memorial ground allowing for a new bar, lounge toilets, showers and changing rooms at a cost of 17,000. On the field too the Old Blacks were doing well - lifting the Lancs Amateur League challenge cup in their last game of the season.

School governor Mr William Wooley (1912-15), chairman of

As we enter our 32nd year of Magister, we thought it would be interesting to introduce a feature looking back over the decades just as we salute the decades of school leavers at the annual dinner. So here are flashes from the past as we delve into the magazines of 1984, 1974 and 1964.



OBA Rock!

Seamus Heffernan(70-77), owner of the Shamrock Recording Studios in the Ribble Valley, is thriving in an industry with troubles at present. A hobby which turned into a way of life for Seamus and his partner Steve Dilworth back in 1989 has seen half Seamus' family home become a recording studio with eight, 16 and 24-track capabilities. Shamrock has worked with bands which have made it on the national scene such as Milltown Brothers, Molly Half Head and The Tansads. Says Sham: "We've been lucky. The trade papers are full of studios that have gone to the wall. But we don't

have their massive overheads. And we've bought most of our equipment second hand or built it ourselves." The former chairman of the Memorial Sunday League and original editor of Blackburn Rovers' fanzine '4 000 Holes', now has one goal. 'Shamrock is committed to getting the area on the map. If we can get one band to the top, it will snowball.'

Abigail Woods, pictured right, has graduated with a 2/1 at St. John's College, Cambridge, in Veterinary Medicine, and was presented with Lamor Silver Prize by the Master of St. John's College. The prize, a fluted dish, is specially made each year under the terms of a

bequest of a former member of the college, and was awarded to Abigail for 'intellectual achievement, moral conduct and service to the college'.

Abigail (88-90), see page 15, *Magister '93*, was selected by the college music society to play the Piano Concerto in D Minor K.466 by Mozart in the May Week Concert. Abigail studied with Martin Roscoe in Blackburn, and has more recently been studying with Raymond Fischer of the Royal College of Music. Besides winning numerous prizes in local competitions, she reached the Northern Finals of the BBC Young Musician of the Year competition.



Blackburn unmanufacturing Chemists, Cupal Ltd, was awarded the CBE. There were several changes among long-serving staff at school.

Stalwart of the branch dinners, Fred Raby, was moving from head of PE for 18 years to head the art department.

~The reason was that I. G. W. "Jack" Marchant was retiring after 28 years at QEGS. The former Jap PoW ~ who nearly perished on the "Burma Railway of Death", was planning to live in Southern Spain.

Mr Jack Monk (1949-55) had taken over from Fred as head of PE. One distinguished member of staff had died the previous year. George "Pecker" Eastwood had served the school for 41 years and had retired after 23 years as history master in 1969. He was of course housemaster of Drake House and had written the history of the school for the Quatercentenary in 1967.

Mr Norman Forbes (1916-22), managing director of John Forbes Outfitters, a school governor and former secretary and chairman of the OBA from 1950-65 had also died in June '73.

Mr George Armistead (1924-30) had retired as head of

Longshaw Junior school after 23 years ~ and formerly as head of St. Stephen's junior. There were also changes in staff at QEGS.

Mr Fred Bury (1931-38) had retired as second master - his link with QEGS as man and boy (including headboy) having extended over 52 years.

A likeable man, his keen intellect and dry humour were often felt on the OBA Committee. Indeed, it was his driving force with Tom Sharratt who led *Magister* to "go alone" as an organ for former pupils independent of the Blackburnian. As an efficient administrator and mathematician, it was inevitable that he would be recruited as an able and long-serving treasurer, who took over in 1961 and stepped down only when he was appointed chairman of the association.

Another OBA long-serving committee member retired from the staff 10 years ago was Bill Proctor (1932-39). Bill, like Fred had been a pupil at school and had retired from a lifetime's teaching. He is still an active member of the OBA ~ keeping the historical records and contributing cuttings regularly to *Magister* ~ (just the sort of

person we need to keep up our reports ~ the rest of you please note!). But Bill was of course the original editor of the former pupils section of "The Blackburnian" so he knows the importance of folk furnishing snippets for info! Today, he keeps his links with the School as a governor.

Eric Whittle, who joined QEGS staff in 1959, became vice master with Mr J. G. Knowles. Eric continues in good health currently as acting Headmaster and we wish him all the best for the future.

Mr Clifford Singleton (1940-46) had been appointed Chief Executive of Blackburn District Council and Mr Keith Robinson (1931-38) was new executive of Hampshire County Council. Ten years later, *Magister '84* reported that Clifford had received the OBE at Buckingham Palace. Also in that issue another eminent old boy was honoured when inventor Dr Brian Mercer (1939-44) president of the Blackburn-based Netlon Ltd was elected a fellow of the Royal Society. Chairman of Unilever, Kenneth Durham (1935-41) was created Doctor of Laws by Manchester University. He was of course later knighted and now Sir

Kenneth is the OBA president and chairman at the annual dinner.

The Old Blacks continued their ten-year catalogue of success with the thirds completing a league and cup double beating Ashton GSOB in a league play off and Bolton GSOB 2-1 in the cup-final. The fourths won their supplementary cup final beating Southport Amateurs 1-0. Unfortunately, the club's success deserted them last season when the first team was relegated after going up the previous year.

Across the park, on the school playing fields QEGS had announced plans for a £600,000 sports hall and swimming pool. The plans ran into opposition from presidents and were later amended. A magnificent sports hall and changing rooms were later opened by former Shell UK. personnel manager Jack Lee.

Judge Brian Duckworth had been guest of honour at the annual dinner and Jack Lee had proposed a toast to the School. The Headmaster replied and told an appreciative audience that 20 pupils had gained Oxbridge places and that former head boy, the Rev Canon A. P. Hall (1940-49) had been appointed Bishop of

Branch Activities

Eric Kay retires as

ERIC KAY has recently retired after a long term of office as Branch Secretary to the Association, and it is fitting that all members, both past and present, should record their appreciation and gratitude for his services in the pages of this magazine, writes Bill Proctor, Old Black, Governor and former teaching colleague of Eric.

Eric would be the first to admit that the duties of a Branch Secretary are the most gratifying, though occasionally frustrating, of all the offices of the Association. For the tasks involved, not only in maintaining contact with the regional and county associations, such as those flourishing in York, London or Knaseborough, but also guaranteeing that the secretaryships of the daughter associations in colleges and universities are continued from year to year, are quite demanding. Accordingly Eric developed a meticulous system of personal communication to preserve O.B.'s contact with the School. An accurate list of all college branches, together with their appointed officers, was yearly updated because student secretaries change from year to year. Eric strove to attend as many functions as possible in order to seek out volunteers who might take over from retiring secretaries. All this activity required unstinted sacrifice of time and effort. Ever committed to the responsibility of his office and always affable and good-humoured in his approach, Eric has frequently expressed the joy and pleasure he derived from his travels to the various functions, meetings and annual dinners throughout the country. Particularly he has received willing co-operation from young lady O.B.'s in recent years. One snag, however, Eric encountered since his retirement from School is that he has begun to lose

personal contact with the present generations of schoolboys and girls. The Branch Secretary of the Association needs access to the information on the School's computer; so it is most comforting to know that Stephen Monk, O.B, Chemistry Master and Careers Master at Q.E.G.S., has graciously volunteered to continue in the Harry King and Eric Kay tradition. As we offer Eric all our sincerest thanks for his unremitting efforts over the past fifteen years, we shall welcome the appointment of Stephen at the next committee meeting of the Association. **BP**

Canada goes Italian!



An ad hoc meeting of the Canadian branch of the OBA was captured for posterity when Richard Sumner was in Canada for the wedding of Dr Roy Ashcroft's eldest daughter Louise. Also present was Ken Brunskill(43-52) and Roger Maltby. The 'Branch Meeting' was held at Milano's Restaurant in Calgary, Alberta. Roger Pilkington and Dr Susan Dorne were also there. Toasts were drunk to the Queen and the School in the course of a most pleasant evening. The history of the Canadian Old Boys and recent developments at School provided plenty of conversation. Richard thanked the Canadian Branch for their generosity and kind hospitality. Picture shows from left: Richard Sumner, Roger Maltby, Roy Ashcroft, Susan Dorne, Ken Brunskill and Roger Pilkington.

New Membership Secretary

Steve Monk, Careers Master at School and an Old Boy himself is to take over from Eric Kay as Membership Secretary and Branch Co-ordinator. Eric has done a magnificent job over the years but has stepped down to enjoy some of his retirement in peace having demonstrated his commitment and dedication to the Old Boy's Association by attending numerous Branch Dinners over the years and providing invaluable guidance and back-up to Branch secretaries. We wish him all the best and look forward to seeing him at Dinners for many years to come.

Branching Out

The Branches of the Old Blackburnians' Association are a key link for many former pupils with School, especially for those unable to attend Dinner in Big School at Christmas. Activities range from a formal dinner to pub evenings, and indeed any other kind of event which the Branch Secretary and members in the area wish to arrange. Some branches are based on Universities, whereas others represent geographical regions

in the widest sense - even Canada has hosted a Branch dinner as reported below. Wherever you are in the UK, and increasingly overseas as well, please do feel free to go along to these events - contact the Secretaries for details or with ideas for new venues, formats etc. If you would like to help organise branch activities, speak to the present Secretary or contact Steve Monk or Barry Brown at School.

Grey College, Durham once again played host to the North East Branch of the OBA for its annual dinner on the evening of Friday, February 19th. Against a backdrop of the city's stunning Norman Cathedral - 900 years old this year - the assembled group enjoyed a most pleasant evening. The college catering staff more than lived up to their excellent reputation, laying on a sumptuous five-course meal which satisfied even the heartiest 'Horsfield' appetite. The gathering was then treated to a selection of the Headmaster's favourite anecdotes from his many experiences both within and outside the education sphere, concerning subjects as diverse as the RAF and the quality of fish caught in the Manchester Ship Canal. The evening ended with Soleda 'Sol' Sanchez de Munian presenting Mr Johnston with a fabulous painting by her own hand, depicting sections of the famous stained glass in the school, a gift as a token of her personal gratitude for the Headmaster's work.

On a more serious note, a moment's silence was observed during the course of the evening, in memory of Carl Marsden, that most distinguished Old Blackburnian.

Branch Secretaries

Association Secretary

Dr. R. Barham, Esq.
1 Windermere Drive,
Darwen, Blackburn,
BB3 3BQ
Tel. - 0254 706267

London

David Hargreaves,
94 Portland Road,
Kingston-Upon-Thames,
Surrey,
KT1 2SW
Tel. - 081 549 1953

Cambridge

Paul Naha-Biswas,
2 Pendle Fields,
Fence,
Burnley,
BB12 9HN
Tel. - 0282 618460

Oxford

Keith Stewart,
Alwynne House,
8 Watling Street Road,
Fulwood,
Preston,
PR2 4DY

Cheshire & Lancashire

Dr. D. M. Martin,
27 Broad Hey,
Stockport,
Cheshire,
SK6 4NL
Tel. - 061 430 4969

Scotland

James McDonald,
Thie Dreem,
Yerburgh Road,
Mellor,
Blackburn,
BB2 7JJ
Tel. - 0254 813359

Durham & NE Branch

Steven Riley,
2 Mowbray Street,
Durham,
DH1 4BH
Tel. - 0282 458380 (Burnley)

IMPORTANT DATES

Scotland Branch	Annual Dinner, Saturday, 22nd October, 1994 at The Carlton Highland Hotel, George IV Bridge, Edinburgh.
Oxford Branch	Annual Dinner, Friday, 18th November, 1994 at Magdalen College.
Cambridge Branch	Annual Dinner, Saturday, 19th November, 1994 at St. Catherine's College.
Durham & NE Branch	Annual Dinner, Friday, 17th February, 1995 at Durham.
Cheshire & Lancashire	Annual Dinner, Friday, 5th May, 1995 at Cresta Court, Altrincham.
London Branch	Annual Dinner. To be announced.

Other Dates:

24th November, 1994 - "The Winter Warmer Evening".
18th January, 1995 - Pub Night at The Red Lion, Kingley Street, London W1.
4th March, 1995 - Annual General Meeting Dinner.
3rd May, 1995 - Pub Night.*

* Venue yet to be decided.

For further information contact Branch Secretary or Steve Monk.
Telephone: 0254 59911 or 0254 887348

The Cheshire and South Manchester Branch



The Cheshire and South Manchester Branch held their Annual Dinnner at the Crest Hotel, Altrincham on Friday, 7 May 1993. Present were Mr & Mrs B Batsy, Dr & Mrs J S Hindle, Mr & Mrs H S Liversedge, Dr & Mrs D M Martin, Mr & Mrs W Newton, Mr & Mrs J C Pearson, Mr & Mrs J D Redman, Mr & Mrs G M Walton, and from Blackburn Old Blacks Chairman Barry Brown with his lady, Dr & Mrs R Barham (Secretary), Mr & Mrs F Gillibrand (Treasurer), Mr J S Read (Vice-Chairman), the Headmaster with his lady, Mr & Mrs Kay and Mr & Mrs F Raby. Apologies were received from Norman Barton, Netar Mallick, John Sandles and Michael Small. The event was admirably organised by Denis Martin who welcomed the guests. The Headmaster responded and gave news of the School. After these 'formalities' the night acquired its usual happy and convivial format!

Retired staff met up again at two events organised by former domestic bursar Derick Lund, above, during 1993 at the Moorcock in Waddington. For information on future events please contact Derick through School or on Blackburn 264335.

Congratulations to OBA committee stalwart, Harold Burroughs, our former treasurer for 30 years, who celebrated his 90th birthday this summer.

NORTH EAST BRANCH

The annual dinnner of the North Eastern branch was held on Friday 18 February 1994 in the University of Newcastle upon Tyne banqueting suite, organised by Ralph Pickup.

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Scottish Branch

The second Annual Dinner of the now revived Scottish Branch was held on Saturday 23 October 1993 in the Argyll Room of the Carlton Highland Hotel in Edinburgh, organised by Angela Wilks.

Twenty three members and guests travelled from as far afield as Dundee and Blackburn. The Dinner was particularly honoured by the presence of the Headmaster and Mrs Johnston and Mr & Mrs Kay. True to form, the Headmaster gave an

amusing speech, the length of which is not recorded! The 1994 Dinner is being planned as we go to press; if anyone in Scotland would like to help, please contact either Angela or Steve Monk through School - a volunteer for Branch Secretary is urgently required. Angela has done a great job to get the Scottish branch back on its feet, so let's keep up the momentum and ensure that the '94 Branch Dinner and other branch activities are as good.



Magister

Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

Polo man leaves School a mint



ERIC CORLESS (1925-30) left over £250 000 to the School in his will. In an effort to obtain more information about Eric, we have been in communication with John Hubberstey (23-31) who has lived in the Isle of Man for the past 27 years, and was a lifelong colleague of Eric since they were members of Drake House Football Eleven in the late 1920's.

John informs us that Eric arrived at Q.E.G.S. in 1925 with a Scholarship from Bangor St School in Blackburn. He was not particularly studious and was a popular member of House and School cricket and soccer teams. He left school in 1930 with a First Class Matriculation with distinction in Mathematics, and was articled to a local firm of Accountants - Milford & Co. Eric qualified as a Chartered Accountant in his early twenties and after one or two local appointments he set off to the Far East to seek his fortune, joining Jardine Mathieson - Importers and Exporters in China and Singapore.

The Second World War came

along and he was commissioned Lieutenant in the Straits Settlement Volunteer Force in 1939, and was taken prisoner by the Japanese in 1942, and released in 1945. He married Judy, a nurse of Scottish descent and a former member of Tenko in 1947. In the same year he joined Fraser & Co., Stockbrokers of Singapore as a partner. In 1955 he became Chairman of Pan Malayan Stock Exchange, retiring in 1964 and returning to England to take up residence in Canford Cliffs, Bournemouth to enjoy his hobbies which were golf, salmon fishing and snooker.

He always retained a great interest and affection for QEGS and looked forward each year to receiving his copy of Magister. He considered that he owed a great deal for his success in life to the Grammar School from such a humble beginning, and it was his dearest wish that he

would be
able
to





Magister

Journal of the Old Blackburnians' Association

AUTUMN 1996

No. 39

£2.00

World Champion

How many of you remember the introduction of croquet to the sports at QEGS? In 1984/85 at the request of Head Master Philip Johnston, Mr Andrew Bennet organised the school's first entry into the Inter-Schools Championship.

The recruits to the game were Stavros Stivaros, Roland Sinker and Chris Clarke all from the third form. As the new recruits quickly found out, Association croquet requires the same feel for the green as in golf and bowls, the tactical brain of a chess player, and the ball skills and temperament of a professional snooker player for watching the opponent make a long break. Tactics were developed on the lawn in front of the Head Master's study whilst for practice a trip to the nearest croquet lawns at Southport was necessary. Mr Bennet readily gave of his time and effort to develop the team's skills.

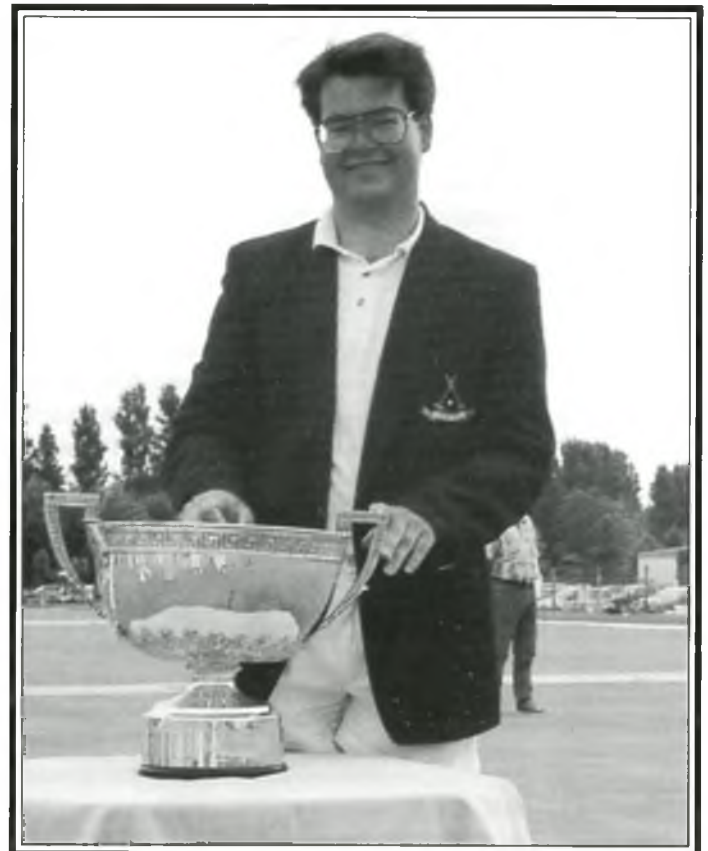
Chris Clarke soon stood out from the field as he started beating club members. During the summer, Chris cut his tournament teeth at the Southport Long Bisquer's Weekend. He won and so had his handicap reduced from 18 to 13. He then made a real impression on the croquet world by winning the Bowdon Handicap at the Northern Championships, an event with a strong entry of 38.

Following these early successes Chris continued to develop his talent. In 1986 most prestigiously he won a level tournament, the Southport Open Championships, in September, which included a win from behind over a player ranked fourth in Great Britain.

Chris hit the last lift shot after the opponent had pegged out one ball, winning with two accurate breaks from sixth and four-back. Puts silly mid-off and outside right to shame doesn't it! At this stage Chris realised he was quite good at croquet and decided to pursue the sport in depth. In 1987 he became the youngest player to have a minus handicap as a result of winning the Opens at Southport, Cheltenham and Bowdon and being runner-up at Nottingham and in the Northern Championships.

In the summer of 1988 whilst still a member of the school Chris won the Eastern Championships at Colchester, was runner-up in the doubles event of the British Open Championships at Hurlingham and reached the semifinals in the individual event of that competition.

As a result of his performance he was one of the ten players invited to compete for the coveted and largest trophy of all, the President's Cup. To everyone's amazement he won the competition. Chris attributes his win on that occasion to his skill in long putting.



CHRIS CLARKE (79-89)

*Winner of the 1995 World Championships,
pictured with his trophy, the Wimbledon Cup.*

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

In 1989 Chris first attempted competing on the world stage in the World Championships that year sponsored by Continental Airlines. This competition has grown in participation but is essentially dominated by Australia, New Zealand, the United States and now South Africa.

In the summer Chris left school to enter Essex University to read accountancy and financial management. The choice of university was decided by the fact that Colchester had excellent croquet facilities. It was at this time that he teamed up with Robert Fulford to form a very successful partnership which has lasted ever since.

The pair won the British Open Doubles Championship at Hurlingham in 1990, 1991, 1992 and 1993. They were runners up in 1989, 1994 and 1995 but again won in 1996. As Chris was also runner-up in 1988 he holds the outstanding record of competing in nine successive finals. In the midst of this run in 1991 he again won the President's Cup, this time attributing his success to tight ball control.

The reason for including this article in Magister is to report the special success that Chris Clarke has achieved in the last two years, sufficient for him to be truly regarded as a world champion. In 1995 he was invited to BBC TV's "Sports Review of the Year" as he had that year won the World Championship in France beating his friend Robert Fulford in the final. Robert had previously won this "Wimbledon Cup" in 1990, 1992 and 1994.

This year 1996 Chris has special reason to be proud of his achievement. The most prestigious competition in the croquet world is that for the MacRobertson Shield.

The competition was instituted in 1925 and takes place only every 3 or 4 years. Teams of six players from New Zealand, Australia, United States and Great Britain compete in 21 singles and doubles matches against each other.

Chris and Robert made another record by winning all 15 of their doubles matches.

Chris had been a member of the Great Britain team which won the competition in Australia in 1993 but this year he was captain of the victorious team which retained the trophy in July after the competition was held in this country over an intensive three week period.

Chris admits that croquet is no spectator sport and therefore cannot expect great exposure on TV. The games can last up to seven hours and the rules are complex. The players have to show the same skill, mental robustness and determination necessary for any top sportsman to achieve success. The pressures in the closing stages of a tense championship fixture are as demanding as in any sport.

Chris is disappointed that the croquet activity at school has petered out after Andrew Bennet left. He would very much like to see it revived. After all we do still have that small patch of grass in front on the Headmaster's study window.

EDITORIAL NOTE

This issue of the magazine has been put together under difficult circumstances. The editor appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Association on 9th November 1995 resigned on 30th November 1995.

No volunteer was found from the committee to take on the task at the committee meeting of 6th February 1996. Your chairman therefore volunteered to act as a depository for all the material that came the Association's way.

There wasn't much but, thanks to the assistance of a few individuals, particularly Garry Readett, Ellis Metcalfe, David Westworth (Editor of "The Blackburnian") and Findlay F. Colquhoun, I hope you will find the content of the assembled magazine of some interest.

I have taken the liberty of including some notes regarding staff movements and retirements as I felt these would be of particular interest to the younger members of the Association.

For as long as I can remember the Annual General Meeting of the Association has been extremely poorly attended by the rank and file membership.

So much so that anyone who does attend is invariably asked to join the committee. This is how I was elected to the committee so many years ago.

This is not as it should be for a healthy organisation. Further, the election of officers has proceeded by stealth. There has been no clamouring to take on the responsibilities.

Most members of the current committee have been chairmen for a period of two years following on from a period of two years as vice- chairmen.

Unfortunately this practice must inevitably cease this year as there is currently no vice-chairman of the Association.

As well as resigning as editor of Magister David Holmes resigned the vice-chairmanship last November.

I have no intention of putting my name forward for election as an officer of the Association at the Annual General Meeting to be held this year on Thursday 7th November 1996 at 8.00 pm in the Garstang Room at school.

It is long overdue for new blood to be injected into the Association and this is the opportunity for the membership at large to do just that. The rules of the Association simply require the "election" of members to the committee.

J. S. READ.

Members' Appointments and News

Michael Anthony Coyle (84-89) graduated from Liverpool University in 1994 with a B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2 Division 1 degree in mathematics with management and is presently employed by Kwik Save on a two year graduate training course.

Jane Helen Kennedy (78-80) now Dr Jane Bell was appointed consultant in anaesthetics at the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield on 2nd July 1996.

Danny Robinson (79-86) became a barrister at the Bell Yard Chambers in London's Chancery Lane in March 1995.

Rob Whalley (62-70) was appointed managing director of Fleetlease (UK) Ltd. in February 1995. The company is the contract hire subsidiary of Hitachi Credit.

Paul Adrian Gorton (62-70) was appointed director of engineering at MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd, Vancouver, Canada in April 1995. The firm specialises in systems engineering. Dr Gorton left for Vancouver more than nine years ago with his wife and family. He is a graduate of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology where he gained M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in automatic control science and technology.

Annual General Meeting

November 9th, 1995

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

The activities of the Association have followed their normal format during the year under review. The Annual Dinner was held in Big School last December. It was very well attended thanks in great measure to the effort of former chairman Barry Brown who both vigorously encouraged support from young people and arranged the speakers. For many the highlight of the evening was to see Fred Bury who had returned to give a both entertaining and perceptive speech in proposing the toast to the school. It gave me great pleasure, on behalf of the Association, to present Philip Johnston with a silverware gift, suitably inscribed by Barry Brown, in token of all the hard work he had done for the Association in his 17 years as Head Master of the school. Sir Marcus Fox, Chairman of the Back Bench 1922 Committee in the Houses of Parliament, was chief guest and responded eloquently with Yorkshire wit to the toast to the guests. It was particularly pleasing to see so many current members of staff present at the dinner. They must have thought that the event was a success as repeat requests for tickets have already been received. The Association is especially grateful to Andrew Norman for the time and effort he has put into once again organising a successful dinner.

All of the branches have managed to hold a dinner during the year. I have been privileged to attend all six of them. At the Oxford Dinner in November there was a good mixture of young and old Old Blackburnians. The following evening at St. Catherines's College, Cambridge there were about the same number of diners, about 25, but all of those from the Cambridge area were students. Numbers at the North-East Branch Dinner in Durham in February were well down on this figure and once again all the non-Blackburn contingent were students. The London Branch continues to be unique in holding an AGM at its Annual Dinner. This year's event was held at the beginning of March in John Adams Hall with the special help of Hyman Abel.

It was disappointing not to see any current students present but the lively twenty-something age group was a joy to behold. The Cheshire and South Lancashire Branch Dinner at Altrincham in May was partially defeated by the change to the national calendar for VE day. However those

who did attend enjoyed the customary pleasant relaxed informal evening.

Last but not least the Scottish Branch managed to hold their dinner in Dundee towards the end of October. Support from Edinburgh was limited but the 25 diners present enjoyed an excellent meal. At this point in my report it is appropriate that a special vote of thanks is recorded to Steve Monk our Branch Liaison Officer and the various branch secretaries for their hard work in furthering the objects of the Association by arranging these dinners. I have already written to Eric and Joan Whittle thanking them for giving the Association active support by attending all the branch dinners during Eric's term of office as Headmaster of the school.

I have enjoyed all of the branch dinners both for the pleasant company and the good food provided. However I question how significant a role they play in meeting the objects of the Association. On a student budget they are expensive and, apart from the Oxford Dinner they don't seem to achieve the desired mix between young and old Old Blackburnians. This mixing was a great help to me in my student days in the London Branch where the likes of Harry Brogden and Frank Stonehouse gave me much help in finding my feet as an innocent 18 year old in the great metropolis. Students these days don't seem to need that and are happy to immerse themselves in their own culture.

Turning to sporting activities of the Association, Andrew Norman is to be thanked for once again arranging the Golf Competition. This year's event was held on the 13th July at the Wilpshire Golf Club. The level of support received was not what Andrew would like but nonetheless all those who took part enjoyed themselves. The result of the competition was that Garry Readett was presented with the Sir Gilbert Gerrard Cup and Steve Tart received the Judge Walmsley Cup. Our thanks also go to Roger Masters who continues to give valued service to the football club despite continued difficulties in recruiting genuine Old Blackburnians to play.

Given that the various dinners are attended by at most 300 out of a membership of 2700, it is clear that the principal means by which the Association can achieve its object of

maintaining the interest of former pupils in the school is through the Association's magazine "Magister". Last year's bumper edition was produced shortly before the AGM in order to save money, time and effort on double postage during the year. An attempt was made this year to repeat the process but a combination of circumstances has produced a far from satisfactory outcome. The editor, David Holmes did not return from Russia until the middle of August. The committee at its meeting on 7th September approved the style of the previous edition and supported the aim of a despatch before the end of October. The time available for preparing the magazine was limited though the editor thought that it was achievable. In practice the proof reading stage, essential to remove errors and ambiguities, was omitted as a task devolved to the Magister subcommittee, with the consequent mistakes and omissions that occurred in print. The despatch date was met but only just, as the new edition was posted on 31st October. However a gremlin in the school database led to a defect in the label production so that not all members have been sent a copy of the magazine.

On a brighter note I can report that the Association was pleased to provide funds for the purchase of pictures in Eric Whittle's scheme to give current pupils greater exposure to the work of local artists. Also the new Headmaster, Dr David Hempsall, was welcomed as an ex-officio member of the Association and its committee. He has already been active in promoting the work of the Association.

I would like to draw the attention of members to a concern which has been expressed by the committee on several occasions but little progress has been made. I refer to the historical record of the School's progress. My concern relates to the division of responsibility. In my view the prime responsibility for this rests with the school, if only because some of the recent information might still be confidential. The Association should do all it can to assist the school with the task but, if the school decides to give scant regard to history, that is its prerogative. As a historian I am sure the new Headmaster will not let this happen but I would like to see some clarification of the issue.

Before drawing this report to a close I would like to thank all the officers and committee for their help over the past year. Coupled with our thanks to the treasurer, Fred Gillibrand, must be thanks to the auditors William Hare and Ralph Holden who have carried out the annual audit quietly out of sight for a good number of years.

Also let us not forget the support we receive from the school, in particular the hospitality at meetings such as this. A special mention must be made of Judy Scott who works in the school office. As with Florence Duckworth who retired last year, Judy has helped the

Association for many years in various ways from making up lists for the Annual Dinner to redirecting mail. She is retiring in February and is having to go on a course to prepare for the rest. We wish her well.

I regret that I must conclude this report on a depressing note. The essential hallmark of our Association is the spirit of friendly association and support provided between members. In most instances this is clearly evident at gatherings such as dinners but regrettably during my year of office as chairman I have several times been caught in the firing line between

disgruntled members who have difficulty in doing what is best for the Association rather than themselves. I have attempted to calm the troubled waters as best I could, but management of this kind is not my forte. In these circumstances it is as well for me to remind members that you are quite at liberty to elect a new chairman at this meeting if you consider that my performance has not been satisfactory.

J. S. READ, Chairman.

6th November, 1995.

Old Blackburnians' Association

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st July, 1995

	1995		1994	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Subscriptions	1,053		1,041	
Released from Life Membership Fund	<u>60</u>		<u>82</u>	
		1,113		1,123
Income from Investments				
8 % Barclays Bank Loan 1986/93	-		27	
10.25% Exchequer Stock 1995	513		513	
10.50% Exchequer Stock 1997	525		525	
6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98	194		194	
10.25% Conversion Stock 1999	467		467	
8% Treasury Stock 2003	1,200		-	
8% Treasury Stock 2002/06	389		389	
8% Treasury Stock 2009	412		412	
4% Consols	<u>50</u>		<u>50</u>	
	3,750		2,577	
National Savings Bank - Investment Account Interest	<u>787</u>		<u>289</u>	
Gross Investment Income	4,537		2,866	
less: Corporation Tax	<u>1,134</u>		<u>716</u>	
		3,403		2,150
War Memorial Ground Rent		<u>5</u>		<u>5</u>
		4,521		3,278
Expenditure				
General Expenses	452		333	
Postages	44		192	
Deficit on Annual Dinner	53		431	
Magister	4,537		327	
Corporation Tax (over provision in previous year)	-		(22)	
Subscription to ISIS Association	150		150	
Branch Expenses	<u>62</u>		<u>219</u>	
		5,298		1,630
(Deficit) Surplus Transferred to Accumulated Fund		<u>(777)</u>		<u>1,648</u>

Old Blackburnians' Association
Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st July, 1995

Balance Sheet

	1995		1994	
Net Assets	£	£	£	£
Lammack Ground at Cost less sales		1,208		1,208
Investments at Cost				
£5,000 10.50% Exchequer Stock 1997 (Market Value of £5,255)	5,047		5,047	
£2,879.07 6.75% Treasury Stock 1995/98 (Market Value of £2,852)	2,231		2,231	
£4,560 10.25% Conversion Stock 1999 (Market Value of £4,967)	4,864		4,864	
£4,857.34 8% Treasury Stock 2002/06 (Market Value of £4,798)	4,962		4,962	
£15,000 8% Treasury Stock 2003 (Market Value of £14,545)	14,520			
£ 5,152.09 8% Treasury Stock 2009 (Market Value of £5,064)	5,009		5,009	
£5,000 10.25% Exchequer Stock 1995			5,074	
£1,250 4% Consols (Market Value of £594)	1,161		1,161	
		37,794		28,348
Loan to Q.E.G.S.		10,000		10,000
Debtors				
Advertisers		90		
Cash				
Lloyds Bank plc	15,867		5,039	
National Savings Bank	3,587		17,800	
		19,454		22,839
		68,546		62,395
Creditors				
Inland Revenue		104		72
		68,442		62,323
Represented By				
War Memorial Ground		1,208		1,208
Life Membership Fund –				
Balance at 1st August, 1994	65,050		57,882	
Add: New Members	7,030		7,250	
	72,080		65,132	
Less: Returns and deletions	60		82	
		72,020		65,050
Accumulated Fund				
Balance at 1st August, 1994	(3,935)		(5,650)	
(Deficit) Surplus for year	(777)		1648	
(Deficit) Surplus on redemption of investment	(74)		(67)	
		(4,786)		(3,935)
		68,442		62,323

News of Old Blackburnians

Christopher Newsham (81-89)

Christopher Newsham left school at the end of the fifth year. He entered the sixth form at Clitheroe Royal Grammar School. Whilst at QEGS he played golf for the school and house. As you will see from the following article he has continued with his passion for the game.

George Embley interviewed Chris and wrote this interesting article for the Burnley Express and News. The Old Blackburnians' Association is very grateful to the Sports Editor of the Express for granting permission to reproduce the article in this publication.

"Go West young man, go West!"

When American newspaper magnate John Soule coined the phrase "Go West young man, go West!" he could well have had Simonstone golfer and Burnley FC fan Chris Newsham in mind. He jetted across the Atlantic four years ago to take up a golf scholarship in Georgia, and has absolutely no regrets about grasping the opportunity of a lifetime. The 23-year-old Chris has just graduated as a Bachelor of Science in Health and Physical Education. And although he has been back at the family home on holiday, life in the deep south has proved so agreeable that his long-term future would appear to lie in the USA.

The former Burnley and Whalley GC member told me: "I would encourage anybody to give it a try if they get the opportunity.

"Leaving family and friends at home can make life difficult for the first year or so, and not everyone stays the course.

"A lot is down to the individual personality, but it's a great lifestyle out there and my long-term future lies in America."

It all started with an advert in a golf magazine and after passing exams and impressing in interviews Chris became one of only three foreign students accepted on the course. He spent the first two years of his scholarship at the Abraham Baldwin College and the last two at Georgia College. A typical day would see Chris rise for breakfast at 7 a.m., attend four hourly lectures in the morning and then spend the afternoons on the golf course with his coach. He achieved the level of academic attainment necessary to play on the college golf team throughout his four-year course.

As well as being named Outstanding Major in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation School of Education at Georgia College, he was inducted into the Kappa Delta Pi - an international honour society in education - and returned home with the J. Mike Peeler Award for impressive leadership of the college golf team. When he returns to the States in September Chris will take a postgraduate degree and also commence a coaching appointment.

Chris lives in an apartment in Milledgeville, one mile from the college, and is based a little more than an hour's drive from Augusta National and Atlanta, venues for the US Masters and Olympic Games respectively. The prospect of playing golf in shirt-sleeve order in the middle of winter was certainly one of the attractions when Chris applied for his scholarship. But there was never liable to be a conflict of interests and he studied hard throughout the course to make his trans-Atlantic adventure worthwhile.

Chris, a two-handicap member of Wilpshire GC, says he can no longer play golf in the windy conditions which tend to

prevail here in East Lancashire. But this did not stop him from turning on the style to finish second in the Revidge Cannon on Sunday 14th July. After a disappointing 75 in the opening round, he shot a scintillating eight-birdie 66 in the afternoon to finish one shot behind the winner and one ahead of his close friend Stuart Andrew.

While in America Chris surfs the Internet to follow the fortunes of his beloved Clarets, and is looking forward to seeing his team in action before heeding the advice of John Soule.

Mary Reibey (c1787-1791)

A most interesting letter arrived at school in the spring of 1996 from George Carter (51-58), a life member of the Old Blackburnians' Association, who lives in Canberra, Australia. Mr Carter drew attention to the fact that a pupil of the school has had her portrait printed on the Australian \$20 bank note in the same way as the portrait of Michael Faraday appears on our £20 bank note.

Many of the younger Old Blackburnians will be forgiven for believing that girls were first admitted to the school in 1979. This is very wide of the mark. John Garstang in his history of the school makes it clear that the presence of a few girls at the school was a common feature of at least the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century. Nance Irvine in her biography of Mary Reibey asserts that, as a young girl named Molly Haydock, she had attended the school at the time of Rev Samuel Dean's headmastership (1787-1792). This was at the time that the school was in the churchyard of St Mary's in the centre of town. Molly was present when the foundation stone was laid for St. John's Church in Blackburn and attended services there. She was a pupil at the school until early 1791 and had lived at her grandmother's house at the top of Darwen Street, being cared for by a nurse.

Molly had been born on 12th May 1777 in Bury, so she was fourteen in June 1791 when her adventures started. Her grandmother had died and she had been placed in service, much to her dislike. She fled and adopted the disguise of a boy named James Barrow, an acquaintance she had known as a child in Bury. James was one month older than herself and had died in 1789. She maintained this deception throughout her subsequent ordeal including her time in prison. She stole a horse, saddle and bridle at Chester on 12th August 1791. The horse was a 10 year old mare grazing on a common. Molly set off for London but was caught at Stafford trying to sell the horse as a four year old and was put in prison there. She was sentenced to death but perhaps because of a petition submitted on 5th November 1791 and signed by the headmaster Rev Samuel Dean this was commuted to seven years transportation. Her deception had been revealed at the trial so on arrival in Botany Bay (Sydney) aboard the transport Royal Admiral on 7th October 1792 she was known as Mary Haydock.

In 1794 she married Thomas Reibey an ambitious young ship's officer in the service of the East India Company. The Reibey family took up land at the primitive strife-torn settlement of Hawkesbury. Mary was widowed in 1811 but went on to great success in business until her death in 1855. Despite her emancipist status she was a very respected merchant in 19th century Sydney.

Robert Gibson (57-63)

An Old Blackburnian, now a Loughborough College Lecturer, has been given the rare distinction of Honorary Citizenship of the American State of Maryland in recognition of research over two years which established over 70 sites in the UK connected with 17th century Maryland and its early settlers. Robert Gibson undertook the research as part of a wider brief investigating contemporary American Tourism Trends, which gained him a Masters Degree in Tourism Management and Planning from Nottingham Trent University.

Robert established that the State of Maryland's first Proprietor, Cecilius Calvert, 2nd Lord Baltimore was buried at St. Giles-in-the-Fields Church, London in December 1675. A special service of dedication of a marble memorial stone was held at the church on 10th May 1996 attended by the Governor of Maryland, the Hon. Parris Glendening, and the American Ambassador to the UK, the Hon. Admiral William J. Crowe Jnr. The stone had been sculptured in Maryland and transported to the UK on board the Pride of Baltimore II, a replica of one of the famous Baltimore Clipper sailing ships, which acts as a goodwill ship for the State of Maryland.

The award of the Honorary Citizenship was made to Robert on board the Pride at St. Katherine's Dock by Tower Bridge in London after the service. It was filmed by Maryland Public Television who have been following the project for Maryland's schools and colleges.

Robert started his career working for Ribble Motors but has moved around a great deal since - well you would in tourism, wouldn't you?

He has worked for a New York based travel magazine, British and Commonwealth Shipping, British Airways and Thomas Cook. Currently Lecturer in Tourism at Loughborough College, Robert is Press Officer in his spare time for the local Charnwood Tourism Association.

Matthew Cole (72-81)

Matthew has written a second historical book about Blackburn. Entitled "Blackburn's Shops at the Turn of the Century", the book provides a fascinating insight into trading as well as revealing some interesting stories from the town's past. Matthew is now lecturing at Birmingham University.

ANNUAL GOLF COMPETITION

The Old Blackburnians held their annual golf competition at Blackburn Golf Club on the 13th June 1996. An increase in the number of competitors to 29 was appreciated. The weather was excellent so that on the long summer evening the last pair were able to stay out until 10 pm.

The winner of the Judge Walmsley trophy was Peter Hobkirk with a score of 82-15-67. This was after a card play off with Derek Cox who scored 87-20-67. Third was Alan Bradshaw with a score of 79-10-69. The Gross prize namely the Sir Gilbert Gerrard cup was won by Mike Sumner who shot 77. The trophies were presented by John Read the Association Chairman. Thanks are due to all the competitors, which includes the regulars and those football club members who are getting too old to score goals, for making this one of the best events for years.

In 1997 the event will be held at Wilpshire Golf Club where your support would be welcomed. Get in touch with Andrew Norman on 01254 813397 for further information.

As a new venture the Old Blackburnians entered a team in the Lancashire Old Boys Association Golf Society competition on 7th June 1996. This was held at Rossendale Golf Club on a warm sunny day. The team consisting of Andrew Norman, Arnold Sharples, Garry Readett, Steven Readett and Mel Lee was made most welcome.

The Old Clitheronians won the competition for the first time and will hence host the event in 1997. The Old Blackburnians finished fifth out of fifteen teams with a gross score of 331 net 301. Andrew Norman is to be congratulated on getting his drive nearest to the pin in the competition.



From left to right:

JOHN READ

*(Chairman
Old Blackburnians'
Association)*

MIKE SUMNER

(Winner Gross Prize)

PETER HOBKIRK

(Winner Net Prize)

DEREK COX

(2nd Net Prize)

ALAN BRADSHAW

(3rd Net prize)

Obituaries

JOHN HARWOOD ASHWORTH (13-19) died suddenly on 27th December 1995 aged 92 at his son's home in Marlow.

He was born in Blackburn in 1903, attended the Convent of Notre Dame before joining Queen Elizabeth's. His career in banking took him all over the world, first to Tientsin in Russia, then to Hong Kong where he had to sign 500 bank notes every day.

He moved on to India where he met and married Enid. His two sons were born in Bombay. He was back in the UK in the 1940s before leaving again for Nairobi at the time of the Mau Mau troubles. From there he moved to Dar es Salaam where he worked with Julius Nyrere until all the non Dutch Europeans were kicked out.

John was an archetypical "Old Colonial", a very likeable man who socialised wherever he went. He was a good and enthusiastic dancer, keen on bowling and took part in amateur dramatics. On his final return to the UK he worked at Decca's office on the Embankment in London until he was made redundant at the age of 78 when Racal took Decca over.

He leaves his widow Enid in Croydon, an elder son Tony in Brisbane and his younger son in Marlow to whom we extend our condolences.

~~~~~

**FRANCIS WILLIAM BENTLEY** (c31-36) died 21st October 1995 aged 73 years.

~~~~~

HAROLD BURROWS (13-22) died suddenly at home on 28th March 1996 aged 91 years.

Stanley Cooke writes in appreciation:-

Trained as an accountant, Harold was ultimately to become a partner in the firm of Collingwood and Burrows, where his services were much valued by his clients.

From an early age Harold was associated with the Scout Movement. Harold joined the school troop in 1918 and in 1922 he helped to form the troop which assembled in the parish church of St. Mary. When the church became a cathedral in 1926 a new meeting place had to be found. Harold and his father were instrumental in establishing the newly named Woodlands Scout Troop in Shear Bank Road.

In January 1965 he was presented with a coloured photograph of himself to mark his 40 years' service as Group Scoutmaster of the Woodlands Scout Group. Harold served with distinction in other areas of Scouting eventually becoming County Commissioner for East Lancashire. He was awarded the Silver Wolf medal, the highest accolade in the movement and, in 1972, was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire for his services to Scouting. On retirement from active Scouting he became a much respected President of the East Lancashire Scout Association.

Harold was elected to the committee of the Old Blackburnians' Association at the AGM of 2nd October 1934 and continued to serve the Association in that capacity until his death, that is, for 61 years. In no time at all Harold was asked to take on the duties of Hon. Secretary on the resignation of Mr Harry Pickup from that office in the spring of 1935. As a result Harold was also appointed to the Dinner, Social and Athletic subcommittees at the 1935 AGM. Harold continued in office as Hon. Secretary continuously through to the AGM on 30th November 1967, that is for an amazing 42 years.

As an appreciation of his service to the Association, Harold was presented with a set of coffee tables at the Annual Dinner in Big School on 16th December 1967.

Harold was an active member of Rotary in Blackburn, serving there for over fifty years. He was a past President of the Club and became a Paul Harris Fellow for his services to Rotary.

Always a keen churchman, Harold was a regular worshipper at the cathedral. He became a Church Warden there and eventually was appointed Church Warden Emeritus.

A kindly and friendly man, Harold will be much missed in the local community, which he served so well.

~~~~~

**RICHARD MATTHEW BUTLER** (82-91) died 23rd March 1995 at the early age of 22 after many years struggling against haemophilia. Michael Coyle writes in appreciation:-

He showed much courage and determination to overcome the pain and inconveniences of his illness whilst he was at school.

He achieved success in his GCSE exams despite only 40% attendance.

After leaving school he continued to study at home and at Blackburn College. In the last few years of his life his health deteriorated rapidly and yet he remained cheerful and determined not to give up until the end. He was a shining example of courage to those who knew him. He is buried at St. Paul's Church of England church in Brinscall.

~~~~~

CHARLES W. HARVEY (19-25) died September 1995. He took his degree at Westminster College, London and went on to teach mathematics in Manchester and Bury. During the war he was "directed" to lecturing mathematics at Leicester College of Technology.

In 1950 Charles was appointed an H.M.I. and a Senior Inspector in 1961. In 1970 he returned to school to present the prizes at Speech Day at the invitation of Douglas J. Coulson, the Headmaster. He leaves a widow Marjory to whom we extend our condolences.

~~~~~

**NORMAN RILEY HAWORTH** (40-46) died on 25th April 1996. Norman was well known to many Old Blackburnians and was a member of the Old Blackburnians' Lodge for many years. At school he played a joke at the teacher's expense by swapping places with his near namesake Norman Richard Howarth (40-46) who happened to be placed in the same form. His professional life was as an accountant with Porter, Matthews and Marsden of East Park Road. He was always a keen footballer and attended the Annual Dinner whenever possible. He attended the 1995 dinner and seemed cheerful even though he knew he was seriously ill.

~~~~~

KENNETH B. HEAPS (36-43) died in hospital on 20th August 1996 after a long illness. He played football for the Old Blackburnians' team for several years around 1950. He was a leading member of East Lancashire's crown green bowling community and set up several competitions in the sport. He was a member of the Alexandra Hotel Bowling Club for more than ten years.

TOM HINDLE (26-34) died in hospital on 11th January 1996.

Eric Kay writes in appreciation:-

Tom was appointed Head Boy during his final year at school 1933-34. He went up to Kings' College, Cambridge for three years and then spent a further year at St. Catherine's College, Oxford.

In 1938 he entered H.M. Colonial Administration Service working firstly in the Foreign Office and later being appointed District Commissioner at Accra, then the capital of the Gold Coast, West Africa. He worked at the Bolta dam project for some considerable time, and was closely involved in the celebrations to mark the independence of Ghana in 1956.

Independence brought many changes to the country and Tom decided to return home with his wife and family in 1958. After a short period of rehabilitation, he decided to use his scientific training and was appointed to the staff of the expanding physics department at Q.E.G.S. in 1960 where he gave sterling service until 1969. A gentleman of somewhat retiring nature, he had a wonderful sense of humour and was well known for his African anecdotes, one of which he used to advantage with his physics students.

Apparently, during the war, on his way home from Africa, his ship, strangely enough the S.S. Accra, was torpedoed. As he quickly left his cabin, he looked around for the most valuable thing he could find and picked up a folder containing Dr Tyler's physics notes. "Never lose your physics notes, boys - they're priceless!"

Tom enjoyed his nine years teaching physics and mathematics and then decided, quite suddenly, to retire from education and become a local businessman.

He lived almost in the school grounds and always kept in touch with Q.E.G.S., occasionally visiting his ex-colleagues in the Science Department.

He was a keen member of the Old Blackburnians' Association and gave loyal service to the committee for a large number of years as well as giving great support to the Annual Dinner.

He leaves two sons, Tony and Alan, both old boys of Q.E.G.S. to whom we extend our sincere sympathy.

~~~~~

**EDGAR WILLIAM LEWIS** (30-38) died suddenly at his home on 5th May 1995 aged 73 years.

~~~~~

MAXWELL ARNOLD MERCER (c31-36) died peacefully in Kyrenia, Cyprus, on 10th October 1995 after a long illness. He was a former director of Mercer & Sons Ltd.

~~~~~

**ERNEST WILKINSON** (46-51) died suddenly of a heart attack in June 1995. Ernie, 59, was president of the East Lancashire Golf Association at the time of his death.

He had been a member of Wiltshire Golf Club for over 20 years.

He also played football having turned out for the Old Blacks for over 20 years during which time he scored more than 600 goals.

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# 1995 Annual Dinner

The 1995 Annual Dinner was held on Saturday 16th December in Big School. The new Headmaster, Dr David Hempsall, was welcomed to the event by the chairman of the Association in the absence of the president.

Dr Colin Bell proposed the toast to the school to which the Headmaster responded. District Judge James D. Heyworth, a parent of a young boy at the school, was the chief guest.

The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackburn Councillor Maureen Bateson, Ribble Valley Member of Parliament Nigel Evans, Chief Executive Officer for Blackburn Borough Council Gerald Davies, Derick Lund, Head Boy David Chesters and Head Girl Martha Waters were in attendance as guests of the Association.

There was a good turnout of members as Big School was filled and the event seemed to be enjoyed by all who participated as witnessed by the accompanying photographs.



HEADMASTER AND CURRENT STAFF



Dr. COLIN BELL (right) who proposed the toast to the School with Mr. JACK WHALLEY who was the oldest member at the dinner



GUESTS OF THE ASSOCIATION AT THE 1995 ANNUAL DINNER:

NIGEL EVANS, M.P., MARTHA WATERS (Head Girl),  
The Worshipful the Mayor of Blackburn, Councillor MAUREEN BATESON,  
District Judge JAMES D. HEYWORTH, DERICK LUND,  
DAVID CHESTERS (Head Boy),  
Chief Executive Officer for Blackburn Borough Council, GERALD DAVIES.



# RETIREMENTS . . .

## GRAHAM SLACK

Graham Slack retired in the summer of 1995 as a consequence of a recurrent back problem.

A contemporary of Philip Johnston at Manchester Grammar School he had gone on to read Classics at University College, London.

He is old enough to have then had to do National Service. His language skills were put to good use deep in the heart of Germany after basic training at Crail in the Kingdom of Fife and at a certain establishment near Cheltenham.

His teaching career began at Stand Grammar School, Whitefield where he taught Latin, Greek and Russian.

He joined the staff at QEGS in the spring of 1977 ostensibly to teach French.

However it was quickly discovered that he had talents in other areas with the result that he has spent most of his

time at school teaching Latin and English.

There have been diversions. In one year he was able to teach one student to pass an Advanced Level GCE Examination in Russian as well as taking the examination himself. Both got A grades!

At QEGS he quickly revived the flagging Railway Society and led it until its demise in 1991. The report of the annual railway "holiday" became one of the highlights of the "Blackburnian" because of the comedy. Graham had taken on the task of editing the magazine in 1984 so there was no danger of the account of the exploits being curtailed.

Similarly in his role as editor of the magazine he was able to let one of his other interests flourish namely photography. Since 1977 the Railway Society report has invariably had a suitable photograph to accompany it.

Looking through back numbers of the magazine it is easy to see how Graham rapidly became accepted as the "official" school photographer.

The sports team photos and those of the dramatic productions have Graham's credit.

His last issue as editor in 1995 had over a hundred photographs.

It would be remiss not to mention Graham's other contributions to the extra curricular life of the school namely his participation in Jack Lonstaff's musical performances and an occasional foray onto the cricket pitch as umpire.

We wish Graham well in his retirement and hope his health improves whilst he enjoys watching the cricket down at Old Trafford.

JOHN READ.

## ERIC WHITTLE

Eric Whittle retired at the end of the summer term 1996 after thirty-seven years' service to Queen Elizabeth's.

He joined the staff of Horncliffe in 1959 after having taught at Woodhouse Grove School near Bradford. In 1963, encouraged by Dr Tyler, he took a General Degree as an external candidate at London University and moved to join the English Department in the Senior School. There he helped with the Senior Scouts, badminton, drama and the school orchestra.

From the beginning of his time at QEGS Eric encouraged the development of General Studies within the school. Closely allied to this interest in teaching a more broadly based curriculum was Eric's work as Careers Master.

As well as despatching pupils from QEGS, Eric also ran the Entrance Examination for many years. Any member of staff who participated in one of these exercises will remember the very detailed sheets of instructions given to all invigilators, written in Eric's unmistakable hand.

Few will recall that Eric instituted a



radical change in the organisation of the school timetable. Previously staff had moved around the school between lessons to classes in their form bases. In the new arrangement the pupils moved to the teachers established in their own subject areas. Blame Eric for the corridor congestion between periods!

At the end of his career Eric undertook two rather remarkable roles in quick succession. From being one

of the two Vice Masters appointed by Mr Johnston he was appointed acting Head Master for the year 1994-95 after Mr Johnston's sudden departure.

During this year he was determined not merely to mark time, but to advance the school. It is for the personal touches that this time will be remembered.

Eric had always been determined to indulge his passion for art and bought over forty works of art by northern artists to adorn the corridors of the school, supplemented by others donated by willing benefactors including the Old Blackburnians' Association and its London Branch.

In addition staff were sent birthday cards, thoughts for the day appeared on notice boards and shaking of hands became more prevalent.

During 1995-96 Eric was the Co-ordinator. He was and probably will be the only person to hold that office within the school. Quite what this job entailed no one on the staff quite knew but he was certainly more visible in this role in the staff common room.

We wish Eric and his wife Joan a long and happy retirement.

# BARRY BROWN

Throughout the many years of its long and eventful history, Q.E.G.S. has seen several Old Blackburnians return to their alma mater in a teaching capacity and, in that role, make a valuable and significant contribution to the continuing development of the school. Barry Brown is one such individual and his retirement as Head of Craft, Design and Technology last Christmas marked the end of 31 years of distinguished service to Queen Elizabeth's, all devoted to the 'sharp end' of teaching.

Barry's 'love affair' with the school began in September 1950 when he entered its portals as a new and impressionable pupil. Academic progress was sound rather than exciting, but even at this early stage his talents as a craftsman were very much in evidence when his designs for a school Christmas card were adopted in three consecutive years. Twelve months at Burnley Municipal College were followed by three years at Loughborough, from where he graduated in 1960 with a first class Honours degree and a distinction in practical work.

His first teaching post was at the Padiham Secondary Technical School and it was from there that he moved to Q.E.G.S. in January 1964 as Head of Woodwork. During his tenure of office, I think it fair to say that his subject experienced several radical changes in both content and teaching techniques.

Many of these were anathema to Barry, who felt that some of the innovations required the students to display fewer technical skills and less precision in their practical work than he felt was desirable. However, he was not averse to all change and, over the years, introduced metalwork, engineering drawing, silversmithing and jewellery - the latter being particularly popular with the sixth form girls!!

The obvious skills he inculcated in his students were regularly seen in their Open Day exhibitions of high quality furniture produced in the school workshops.

A quantitative measure of the ingenuity and level of technical skills displayed by his charges was provided in 1988, when a group of them designed a device for road vehicles which won the Volvo Safety International Prize. An all expenses



paid trip to Gothenberg was the reward.

It is indeed fortunate that within the confines of the school are many permanent examples of Barry's artistic creativity and skilled craftsmanship. The limitations of space permit me to mention only a few. He designed and had executed the dining room furniture in Big School, designed and made the ceremonial furniture for the Assembly Hall, the wrought iron gates in front of school and many sporting trophies including the Cock House and Bridge's baton for interschool swimming. 'By appointment to Her Majesty' is a phrase not without relevance, as Barry was involved on two occasions when presentations were made by the school to Queen Elizabeth. He made the leather holder which carried the loyal greetings by relay to Windsor Castle at the start of the school's Quatercentenary celebrations and in 1987 designed and produced the silver rose vase presented to Her Majesty on the opening of the Queen's Wing. Barry can indeed be described as 'a master of all trades and jack at none', for his manual dexterity is not confined to the media of wood and metal. He is a talented artist, potter, pianist, organist and more recently a dry stonewaller!

The commitment and pragmatism shown in his teaching were also qualities very much in evidence in his extracurricular activities. As a member of the Elizabethan Association and staff committee, he was very much involved in seeking to improve the facilities available to both students and staff. However, it is in his continued involvement with the Old Blackburnians' Association where the obvious pride and affection that Barry has for his old school are most clearly in evidence. As a staunch member of the committee he is always available to give his support to those activities,

however mundane they may be, which are aimed at raising both the profile and level of support for the Association. This involves him in chasing up queries about the whereabouts of Old Boys and Girls, working into the early hours of the morning in order to ensure that copies of 'Magister' are packaged and despatched on time and, frequently supported by his wife, attending dinners in a variety of locations from St. Andrew's to London.

However, it was during his two years as Chairman of the Association that he made perhaps his most significant contribution. Somewhat concerned that it was in danger of becoming a club for either retired gentlefolk or embryonic geriatrics like myself, Barry, along with the Headmaster Philip Johnston, spent much time and effort recruiting 'younger Old Blackburnians', as he rightly felt that they were the lifeblood of the Association and essential to its future survival.

The increasing numbers from this particular generation attending recent Old Blackburnians' dinners are a tribute to Barry's enthusiasm and powers of persuasion, and I know he is particularly proud of the fact that two of his recruits were daughter Rachel and son Julian.

In my close friendship with him of over 30 years, I have come to know and respect an individual who is capable of expressing himself in a lucid and forthright manner, never 'sits on the fence' and delights in 'pricking the bubble' of the arrogant and pompous. On nodding terms with most of East Lancashire, he is equally at ease in the company of both Cabinet Ministers and makers and extremely generous with his time and talents in giving support to those less fortunate than himself.

In retirement he will have the opportunity to spend more time with his beloved family and become more deeply involved in the multifarious activities which interest him.

These will no doubt include greater participation in the political field, supporting the ideals and work of his local Unitarian Church and Rotary Club, tinkering with his vintage cars, frequent checking of the F.T. index, improving his back crawl and further developing his culinary skills!!

To Barry and his charming wife Maureen we wish a long, happy and healthy retirement.

ELLIS METCALFE.



## JACK MONK



Jack Monk retired in the summer of 1995 after a very long association with the school.

Jack came to the school direct from Carnegie College in September 1958 and put his soul into the development of the Physical Education department until 1980.

He became Head of Physical Education in 1974 taking over the reins from Mr Fred W. Raby.

Jack introduced rugby to the school in 1964 and this game now flourishes alongside association football.

As Mr Raby states in his Blackburnian tribute "Perhaps the greatest contribution Jack has made has been his dedication to school swimming, which has been tremendous and without parallel."

It is a pleasure to see Jack continuing to enjoy the watery medium in the school's magnificent swimming pool.

In 1980 Jack became Deputy Head of Hornccliffe and continued in this post until his retirement.

It is evident that he thoroughly enjoyed his time teaching the young charges, who brought with them so much vitality and enthusiasm.

## GEORGE WHITEHOUSE

George Whitehouse who proposed the toast to the school at the Association's Annual Dinner in 1991 retired on 31st December 1995 as Executive Editor and production supremo of the "Mail on Sunday". His colleagues produced an interesting special news sheet to mark the event. George was one time head chorister at Blackburn Cathedral under instruction from Mr T.L. Duerden. He started his newspaper career with the Blackburn Times. He is a loyal supporter of Blackburn Rovers but his sporting passion is now for golf which he has pursued with vigour since 1987. He intends to settle down with his wife Valerie at their home in Llandudno close to Maesdu golf course.

## DAVID RAMM



David Ramm retired in the summer of 1995 after 25 years of devoted service to Queen Elizabeth's as Head of History. The tall be-rucksacked figure is still seen about the place occasionally. He is usually met with the phrase "Hello David. Have you lost your mark-book?" as a reminder of the days of yore.

# SCHOOL CALENDAR

The new Headmaster has decided to change the timing of the Annual School Speech Night and Distribution of Prizes.

In 1996 this was held on Thursday 19th September in King George's Hall, Blackburn. The intention was to enable a greater proportion of recent leavers to attend and receive their prizes directly.

The new date will also remove some of the practical access problems when the event was held so close to Christmas.

John Read writes "When I was at school from 1954 to 1961 both the Annual Service in the Cathedral and Speech Night were held on the last day of the Michaelmas Term.

At the time I never gave it a thought as to why that particular day was used. It simply provided a convenient sharp end to the term.

However in my subsequent rummaging about in the history of the school I discovered that it was probably because the school founder's day is that of St. Thomas, which is December 21st. The school was founded by Thomas Stanley, the second Earl of Derby about 1509. In John Garstang's history of the school it is stated on page 61 that in 1747 it was ordered that a version of the Charter should be read annually and publicly in the school, every St. Thomas's Day. Further, Garstang informs us on page 70 that in 1841 prizes were awarded on St. Thomas's Day as a result of the then half-yearly public examination.

The Prize Day programmes for the first decade of this century show that the event continued to be held on December 21st in at least five of the first ten years. When I returned to school as a member of staff in 1970, Speech Day had moved to the middle of the summer term and was held in the then new Assembly Hall.

I cannot remember when the service in the cathedral moved to become a beginning of the year service. In connection with the latter I understand that the new Headmaster has decided that the school will not march or walk in a column from the school to the cathedral for the service. For several years now this has been a rather meaningless exercise as the school is no longer so closely associated with the people of Blackburn."

# Singleton House

The new building in West Park Road that was described in the last issue was brought into use after half term in November 1995.

This was later than intended but it has proved to be a valuable addition to the school facilities.

It is exclusively for the use of the sixth form and appropriately the fifth form parents evening was held there to give these boys and parents a taste of what was to come.

Mr David Hopkinson was asked to be master in charge of the building and subsequently he has been appointed as Head of Sixth Form.

Singleton House was formally opened on 30th September 1996 by Mrs Pauline Clare the Chief Constable of Lancashire.



# STAFF CHANGES

Mr D.M.R. Edmundson left the school at the end of March 1996 to take up the post of Secretary to Lancashire County Cricket Club. From subsequent reports he is very much enjoying his new surroundings at Old Trafford.

There were quite a large number of movements at the end of the summer term 1996.

Dr Peter J. Halstead left to become Head of Modern Languages at Lancaster Girls' Grammar School.

Mr David G. Kerr left to get married and further his career in Canada.

Mr P.C. Naudi has transferred to Astley Cooper School, Hemel Hempstead and Mrs Alison M. Schreiber has moved to Kings' School, Macclesfield.

By coincidence three changes of staff have involved the London Borough of Croydon.

Dr John R. Jennings has been appointed Headmaster of Royal Russell School there after serving six years as Vice Master at Queen Elizabeth's.

His replacement as Deputy Head with responsibility for curriculum and administration is Mr Jonathan Cave who has been Head of Science and Senior Sixth Form Tutor at Whitgift School in Croydon.

Lastly Mr Jean-Luc Cantor has moved to take up a post at Trinity School in Croydon.

Three promotions have been made within the school. Mr Stephen W. Holliday moves from Head of History to Deputy Head with responsibility for pastoral and personnel matters.

Mr Derek Parsons has taken over from Mr Barry R. Brown as Head of CDT and Mr Martin A. Glover has taken over from Mr D.M.R. Edmundson as Head of Physical Education.

## GOLF

Nicholas Dougherty, a pupil in the third form in 1995-96, represented Great Britain in an under 16 international competition in Valderrama, Spain and subsequently has won numerous championships in this country.

He is currently the England Schools Under 16 Champion, Lancashire Under 15 Champion, Lancashire Under 18 Inter-Regional Champion and Daily Express Regional Champion all at the age of 14. He has become a regular Lancashire County Player and been selected for England team training. Hardly surprising that Nick intends to take up golf as a professional career. All associated with the school wish him well in his endeavours.

## FOOTBALL

The school's football teams have had a very successful year in 1995-96. The newcomers to the school in the Under-12 team carried off the Blackburn and Darwen Schools' Cup with a 6-3 win in the final. Pride of place must go to the First XI who won the Boodle & Dunthorne Independent Schools' Football Association Cup in a closely fought final against Bury Grammar School held at Chester City Football ground on 30th April 1996.

THE VICTORIOUS Q.E.G.S. 1ST XI IN THE BOODLE AND DUNTHORNE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS F.A. CUP.



Q.E.G.S. v. Bury Grammar School. Score 1 - 0. Scorer: Michael McVerry.

Played at the Deva Stadium, Chester F.C.

Back row (left to right): I. Simpson, O. Pimblett, M. Collins, M. Peterson, S. Penswick (Captain), S. Gough, S. Hopkinson, D. Whalley, B. Fayomi.

Front row (left to right): D. Maclean, M. McVerry, J. Haworth, P. Manuel, C. Connolly.

# DEGREES and THINGS

## **SAMANTHA ALLAN (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, French and German at Queen's College Oxford.

## **S.D. ALLISON (1986-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Sports Studies, Staffordshire University.

## **J.M. ARTHUR (1985-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Biomedical Science at Sheffield University. Proceeding to Masters Degree.

## **E. ASHWORTH (1984-91)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 2, Pharmacology & Industrial Management, University of Liverpool.

## **R.J. ASTRIDGE (1986-93)**

Appointed Radio Telegraphist in the Royal Corps of Signals.

## **C. BAILEY (1985-92)**

Graduated B.Eng. Class 3 Aeronautical Engineering at Loughborough University.

## **A. BARHAM (1985-93)**

Graduated LL.B. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Law at University of Exeter. Proceeding to Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice.

## **D. BIRD (1985-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Environmental Geology at St Andrew's University.

## **N.D. BLAKEMORE (1984-91)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Politics and Russian Language at University of Strathclyde.

## **FIONA BOOTH (1991-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Chemistry with Pharmaceutical and Forensic Science at Bradford University.

## **J.P. BOOTH (1985-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Management Studies with French at University of Nottingham.

## **A.J. BRICKELL B.Sc. (1979-89)**

Awarded M.Sc. in Tourism at University of Strathclyde.

## **J.R. BROWN (1982-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Business Studies at University of Northumbria. Appointed Product Marketing Analyst at the Bradford & Bingley Building Society in Bingley.

## **J.E. BURKE (1989-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Marine Environmental Management at Southampton University.

## **D. CAIN (1985-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, French and German at University of Leeds.

## **E.J. CANNING (1981-91)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Quality Business Management at Salford University. Proceeding to M.B.A.

## **R.W. CARTER (1989-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Geophysics and Planetary Physics at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Proceeding P.G.C.E. at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

## **C.P. CASE (1982-92)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2 Div. 1, Architecture at Newcastle University. Appointed Graduate Finance Trainee with Glovers Wallcome PLC, London.

## **S.C. CATTERALL (1983-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Geography at Loughborough University.

## **O.J. CAVANAGH (1985-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Construction Management at Bolton Institute of H.E.

## **C.N. CHATTERTON B.Sc., (1990-92)**

Awarded M.Sc. in Chemistry at Liverpool University.

## **R.M. CLARK (1986-93)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, History at University of Reading. Proceeding to M.A. at University of Reading.

## **LUCY SMITH-CRALLAN (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Politics and Social Studies at Manchester Metropolitan University.

## **B.P. DAWSON (1985-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2 Div. 1, Theoretical Physics at University of St. Andrew's. Proceeding to M.Sc. Artificial Intelligence at Edinburgh University.

## **M.D. DAVAGE, (1983-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Physiology, University of Dundee.

## **D.B. DENNISON (1981-91)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Psychology at University of Birmingham. Proceeding to M.Sc. Cognitive Science at University of Birmingham.

## **ANNABEL DEARING (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 1 (with distinctions in German) Modern Languages at Christ Church, Oxford.

## **D. EDMUNDSON (1986-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Geography at Leeds University.

## **S. EMBLEY (1986-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2 Div. 1, Computer Engineering at Manchester University. Proceeding to M.Sc. in Advanced Computer Science.

## **A. FARNWORTH (1986-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. Lower, Applied and Environmental Geology at University of Birmingham.

## **D.S. FARWOOD (1985-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 1 Geology at St. Andrew's. Proceeding to Ph.D. in Mineral Exploration at the University of the Orange Free State, South Africa.

## **G.R. FLETCHER (1986-93)**

Graduated B.Eng. (Hons) Class 3 Electronic Engineering at University of East Anglia. Appointed with Tag McClaren.

## **W.H.B. GREEN (1985-91)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Design Studies at University College Salford.

## **G. GREENWOOD (1986-93)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Natural Sciences at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

## **M. GUPTA (1980-90)**

Qualified M.B., Ch.B Bristol University. Appointed House Officer to Professorial Unit of Medicine at Bristol Royal Infirmary.

## **MARY HAWORTH (1989-91)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 2, Marketing/Travel & Tourism, University of Derby. Appointed Sales/Marketing Associate, Selfridges, London.

## **CAROLINE HOLMES (1989-91)**

Graduated M.A. French Class 3 at University of Glasgow.

## **R. HORNE (1986-93)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Drama and English at Loughborough University.

## **CHARLOTTE HOWCROFT (1989-91)**

Qualified B.M. University of Southampton. Appointed House Physician at Salisbury District Hospital and House Surgeon at Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester.

## **J.D. INNES (1986-93)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 1, Joint Economics/Politics at Hatfield College, Durham. Appointed Asset Management/Accountant, Arthur Anderson, London.

## **P. JACKSON (1984 - 91)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Medicine at St. Andrew's University. Proceeding to M.B. Ch.B. at Manchester.

## **R.P. JAMDAR (1985-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Pharmacology. Proceeding to Clinical Medicine Course.

## **MARIVAM BIBI KAROLIA (1991-93)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Economics at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**D.B. LYNCH (1984-93)**

Appointed Computer Operator at Electronic Data Systems, Blackburn

**KELLY MALLINSON (1991-93)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Finance at University of Manchester. Appointed Trainee Chartered Accountant at Coopers & Lybrand, Manchester.

**K. MANLEY (1983-93)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Politics at University of Warwick.

**SARAH METCALFE (1991-93)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Sociology and Economic + Social History at University of East Anglia. Appointed Trainee Chartered Accountant at Ashworth Moulds, Burnley.

**CAROLINE MILEHAM (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, English Language and Literature at University of Lancaster.

**RUTH V. MILLER (1986-88)**

Awarded a Ph.D in chemistry at the University of Manchester. She married Dr Neil Bricklebank in Garstang Methodist Church on 2nd September 1995. Ruth is now working as a Research Scientist in Harrogate and her husband is a Chemistry lecturer at Sheffield Hallam University.

**N. R. MISTRY (1983-90)**

Graduated B.Eng. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Electrical and Electronic Engineering at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Appointed Research Associate with Centre for Rehabilitation and Engineering Studies (Crest) at Newcastle University.

**D.A.L. MOORCROFT (1987-91)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Physics at Queen's College Oxford. Appointed Management Trainee with T.E.S. Bretby Ltd.

**ALISON NOBLE (1990-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Psychology. Proceeding with medicine.

**P.J. OLDROYD (1980-90)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 1 (Hons), Electronic Imaging and Media Communications at University of Bradford.

**N.D. PALMERLEY (1982-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Pharmacology at St. Bart's & Royal London School Medicine & Dentistry. Proceeding to M.B., B.S.

**JENNIFER PRINCE (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Modern Languages at St. John's College, Oxford.

**C.L. RIDGWAY (1986-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 2, Science and the Environment, De Montfort University.

**A. RIGBY (1982-92)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 1, Pure Mathematics at St Andrew's University. Appointed Adult Trainee at Ernst & Young, London.

**S.J. RILEY (1986-93)**

Graduated B.A., Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at the University of Durham. Proceeding to read for M.Sc. in Geographical Information Systems at Leicester University.

**RACHEL ROGAN (1991-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at Leicester University.

**SOL SANCHEZ DE MUNIAIN (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. Joint Honours in Modern Languages - French, Italian and Spanish.

**FOZIA SHAH (1989-91)**

Qualified M.B. Ch.B. at Dundee University. House Officer posts in Carlisle and Newcastle.

**R.R. SHAH (1986-93)**

Graduated M.A. (Hons) Class 3, Social Anthropology.

**CAROLINE SINFIELD (1989-91)**

Qualified M.B. Ch.B. (with commendation). Appointed Junior Doctor at Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral, Merseyside.

**A.J. STIRRUP (1981-91)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 1, Urban Studies and Planning, University of Sheffield. Appointed Management Trainee (Sales) at Zen Wallcoverings, Darwen.

**T. SUTTON (1989-92)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons.) Class 2, Div. 1, Music at Clare College Cambridge.

**R.N. TANDON (1981-88)**

Graduated from the University of Reading with a B.Sc. in Biotechnology. Appointed financial consultant with GAN Financial Services in Manchester.

**SARAH THAYER (1990-92)**

Graduated M.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, General at University of Edinburgh.

**MRS SARAH TREECE (nee Burke) (1990-92)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Pharmacology at Christ's College, Cambridge. Proceeding to M.B., B.Chir., at Cambridge Clinical School.

**M.L. TYZZER-SMITH (1989-91)**

Graduated B.D.S. (Hons) Dentistry at Newcastle University. Appointed Vocational Trainee at Honley Dental Practice, Huddersfield.

**ALISON WATERWORTH (1989-91)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Physiological Sciences at Queen's College, Oxford. Proceeding to Medical Degree.

**M.A. WILLIAMS (1986-93)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Economics at Manchester University.

**ANGELA WOOD (1991-93)**

Graduated HND Business and Finance/Travel Management at the University of Durham.

**D.S. WOODHOUSE (1984-93)**

Graduated LL.B. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Law at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

**B.A. WOODS (1983-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Environmental Chemistry at University of Leeds.

**D.C. WRIGHT (1991-93)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Computer Aided Chemistry at University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

**JULIA K. PEARSON (1991-93).**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Modern European Studies at University of Lancaster (Edge Hill College).

**PLEASE ADDRESS ALL  
CORRESPONDENCE TO:**

**The Old Blackburnians' Association  
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School  
West Park Road, Blackburn  
BB2 6DF**

## Notice of Annual General Meeting

All members  
of the  
Old Blackburnians'  
Association  
are invited to the

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held on

**Thursday,  
7th November, 1996**

**at 8 p.m.**

in the

**Garstang Room  
at School**

WHEN THE REPORTS FROM THE  
OFFICERS AND SUB-COMMITTEES  
WILL BE RECEIVED AND THE  
OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE WILL  
BE ELECTED FOR THE  
FORTHCOMING YEAR

# News from the Branches

The dinners held by the branches up to the AGM in November 1995 are briefly commented on in the Chairman's report. Since that time dinners have been held at Oxford and Cambridge Universities and by the London and Cheshire/South Manchester branches.

The Cambridge Branch dinner was held at Downing College on 18th November 1995.

Unfortunately only 7 student members, including Ben Turney the organiser, were able to attend from the Cambridge area. They were vastly outnumbered by the contingent from Blackburn comprised of the new Headmaster Dr. Hemsall and his wife, Ellis and Margaret Metcalfe, Barry and Maureen Brown, Steve and Susan Monk, Eric Whittle, Graham Pearson and John Read. The food and wine were excellent and the evening was very much enjoyed by those who attended.

The Oxford Branch dinner was postponed from November but was finally held at Lady Margaret Hall on Thursday 22 February 1996. There were seventeen diners including four members of the current school staff. Ryan Pixton was the organiser and he is to be thanked for a very enjoyable occasion.

The London Branch dinner and AGM was held on 16th March 1996 at John Adams Hall near to Euston Station. It was regrettable that on this occasion no student members were able to attend what was a very enjoyable informal formal occasion. It was particularly nice to see Mr and Mrs Abel again.

Denis Martin had better luck this year with the date of the Cheshire/South Manchester Branch dinner with the consequence that it was better attended than last year. As usual the dinner was held in the Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham in early May. A private room was provided together with an excellent meal at a very reasonable price. The new Headmaster Dr. Hemsall and his wife felt quite at home as they are very familiar with the Altrincham area.

Unfortunately the North East Branch dinner, due to be held in Newcastle on 20th April 1996, had to be cancelled at the last moment through lack of support.

As will be evident from the reports the support for Branch activities is not satisfactory. The number of people attending any of the dinners has not exceeded twenty and that has always included a substantial proportion who have travelled from Blackburn. It really

isn't fair to the Branch secretaries who put a lot of effort into organising the events and then meet with a paltry response.

The Branch Liaison Officer, Mr Steve Monk has addressed the problem and made some suggestions as to how the position might be improved.

He is anxious to hear the views of the membership in the field to find out what is wrong. A special meeting of the Committee was held in May to discuss the situation.

It was agreed that a dichotomy exists in the UK between the Branches (London and Cheshire/South Manchester) which have a stable secretary and support exclusively from post university members and the remaining Branches in the universities which have a transient secretary and support almost entirely from the student population. Attempts are being made, using the database of members held at school, to try and forge a link between the two apparent groups of members. After all this is one of the aims of the Association.

In the meantime Steve Monk has worked hard to try and provide as much advance information about forthcoming Branch events as possible in this issue of Magister.

## SCOTTISH BRANCH

Secretary is Natalie J. Abbott, Whitehalgh House, Midfield, Langho, Blackburn. BB6 8HF Tel: 01254 245088

The dinner is already booked at the Stakis Earl Grey Hotel, Dundee for Saturday the 16th November 1996. Support from members at Edinburgh and other Scottish universities would be appreciated.

## LONDON BRANCH

Secretary is David W. Hargreaves, 94 Portland Road, Kingston-upon-Thames. KT1 2SW Tel: 0181 549 1953

The dinner and AGM is held in London, usually in March on a Saturday evening. The members attending have a wide spread of ages but unfortunately few student members have found their way to Endsleigh Street in recent years.

## CHESHIRE/SOUTH MANCHESTER BRANCH

Secretary is Denis M. Martin, 27 Broad Hey, Romiley, Stockport. SK6 4NL Tel: 0161 430 4969

The dinner will be held at the Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham on Friday 9th May 1997. The dinner has been attended by a regular group of members and their guests. Any other Old Blacks, old and young together with their wives/husbands/girlfriends/boyfriends would be most welcome. Students from Manchester can easily reach the venue by tram.

## OXFORD BRANCH

Secretary is Joseph W. Hart, Fairacre, Longsight Road, Clayton-le-Dale, Blackburn. BB2 7JA Tel: 01254 813394

In Oxford Joseph is at Corpus Christi College.

*PLEASE SUPPORT THE  
BRANCHES IF YOU  
POSSIBLY CAN.*

~~~~~  
Latest information can be
obtained from:

The Branch Liaison Officer,
Mr STEVE MONK

at School
Tel.: 01254 59911

or at home
40 WESTCLIFFE
GREAT HARWOOD
BLACKBURN. BB6 7PH
Tel.: 01254 887348

1996 Annual Dinner

The Old Blackburnians' Association is delighted to announce that Nigel Evans MP has accepted the invitation to be the Association's Chief Guest at the Annual Dinner of the Association to be held on Saturday 21st December 1996.

Nigel was educated at Dynevor School and University College, Swansea where he graduated with an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Politics.

After serving as a councillor on West Glamorgan County Council and as a governor of several schools and University College, Swansea he moved to the Ribble Valley to contest the by-election in 1991. Since that time he has been a familiar figure in the community and a most welcome guest at the Association's Annual Dinner.

The toast to the School will be given by David Nicholson MP who is currently Member of Parliament for Taunton. David was educated at Queen Elizabeth's and Christ Church, Oxford.

Before election to Parliament in 1987 he was Deputy Director-General to the Association of British Chambers for Commerce. He was Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Rt. Hon. Lynda Chalker, Minister for Overseas Development from February 1990 to April 1992.

He has since served on four Parliamentary Committees and is currently serving on the Select Committee on the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration and on the Select Committee on Education and Employment.

David is married with two sons and a daughter and he is interested in travel, gardening and music.



Photo: Courtesy of "Lancashire Evening Telegraph"



REMEMBER LAST YEAR !

Invitation

The 1996 Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnians' Association

Saturday 21st December 1996

(Saint Thomas's Day)

Big School Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn

6.30 pm for 7.15 pm

Tickets available to members only.

Price £18 with a reduction to £13 for members who left school after June 1991.

This is a price REDUCTION from last year but is exclusive of wine.

There is one FREE ticket available for a member who is willing to act as official photographer
for the evening.

Please volunteer by phoning the Chair of the Dinner Committee (Ian Pickup on 01254 248034).

As explained elsewhere, the Association is anxious for help with the running of its activities, particularly
the organisation of the Annual Dinner and the preparation of Magister.

If you can help, please drop a line to the Association with your ticket application.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ANOTHER SPLENDID EVENING.

APPLY BY COMPLETING THE SLIP BELOW:

Yes I would like to attend the 1996 Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnians' Association.

Name Years at school

If possible I would like to sit near

I am / am not prepared to accept a seat in the Ante-Room (*delete as appropriate*).

Tickets for Big School are allocated on a first come first served basis.

Address

.....Day time phone Evening phone

Please circle if you would prefer a vegetarian meal Yes

I enclose a cheque for £18.00 / £13.00 payable to "Old Blackburnians' Association" and a STAMPED
ADDRESSED ENVELOPE for my ticket.

Please return to:

Ian Pickup (OBA Dinner), 157 Pleckgate Road, Blackburn. BB1 8QR as soon as possible.



£3

magister

MAGAZINE OF THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

NUMBER 40 WINTER 1997

VIETNAM VISITED

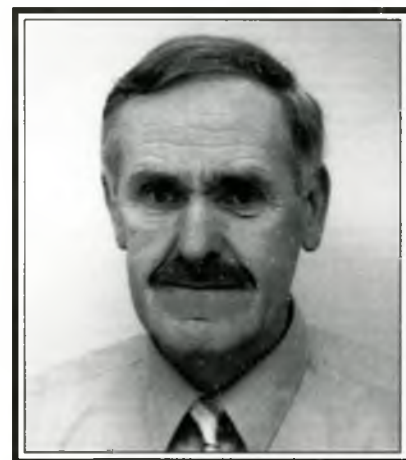
Albert Eastham writes . . .

Tourists are now beginning to travel around Vietnam in increasing numbers but, as yet, it is largely unspoilt. The people are extremely friendly and helpful - kind, gentle and always smiling. Having been at war with the Chinese, the French and the Americans, there is not a great deal to smile about is there? Well, yes there is; it is a beautiful country slightly larger than Italy, with a population of 78 million. It is the third largest exporter of rice, and in the countryside, where most of the people work, one can see rice fields manually tended from dawn to dusk. Fishing is a major industry and their coastline extends for 2,000 miles.

There are two large cities, Ho Chi Minh City, the former Saigon in the south, which has 3 million people; and 1,000 miles away in the north, Hanoi with a population of 2 million. For most of my time, I was located in the former communist capital city of Hanoi, which is a city of lakes, shaded boulevards, beggars and street vendors.

My 2-star hotel was state-owned, and conveniently situated in the middle of old Hanoi, with so much activity all around me for most of the day. I ate at restaurants from a dozen different countries and enjoyed a tasty dinner for a few pounds. Not once was I ill, nor was I robbed, as I have been in other countries. The downside is that there is, apparently, no cultural or social activities in this large city. Communism appears to have dulled their brains; the party system preaches "one best way"; TV and the family are important, as the local people are often too poor and too tired for activities outside the home. Westerners drink in the posh hotels, and entertain in their homes. Golf courses are being re-opened, but I couldn't find a bridge club anywhere.

The traffic is horrendous, and the death rate on the roads is double that of the UK. There are no rules of the road, so at inter-sections bicycles, rikshaws, motorbikes and cars battle for space in the crowded streets. Ladies, in attractive dresses and often wearing hats, ride their Honda motorbikes with gloves to their elbows and silk scarves to cover their faces, because only the peasants are sun-tanned.



Corruption is endemic in this part of the world; most people seem to expect a "slice" from every transaction. It is hard for westerners to get used to the fact that American dollars are given to elicit information and to prevent obstruction.

Many countries feel sorry for Vietnam, and there is a great deal of aid money coming in from all around the world. At the same time, international business firms recognise that, with 40% of their population under 15 years in age, this country will be a large one next century, and it could become a "tiger economy" like Malaysia and South Korea.

This year, GNP is expected to be around 9%. At times, my stay in this country was very frustrating; interpreters are essential because little English is spoken. Nevertheless, I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to work there, and I have made some good Vietnamese friends.

Albert was a pupil of the School between 1946-51 and then returned to teach English between 1960-65. Since then the bulk of his professional time has been spent as senior lecturer in Management and Public Administration at Oxford Brookes University from which he has only recently taken early retirement; he still works as a part-time lecturer there. Since 1983 he has worked on seven consultancy projects in Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Australia (twice), Ghana, Mauritius and, as written about above, Vietnam.

(I'd like to thank Albert Eastham for penning this story for Magister. It's always nice to read about life after QEGS - FFC)

Through the Garstang Room Window!

It hardly seems possible, as I sit here in front of my PC, that a little over three years ago, I was a pupil at QEGS. So much has happened to me since that time, to the extent that my school days were beginning to seem just a distant memory. On my recent return to the hallowed West Park Road footpaths, however, all those great memories suddenly returned; like the first time I represented the school at national croquet level (and won!); the one (and only!) time I managed to complete the Lammack cross-country course non-stop and finished a creditable 66th place (even gaining a point or two for Frobisher House in the process!); the annual procession to the cathedral (now sadly discontinued); being congratulated by Philip Johnston for my GCSE results; I could go on and fill this entire issue with happy reminiscences but I sense that this would not be in the readers' interest.

However, in the current economic and political climate it is still good to know that some things never change; Government ministers still get into trouble for towing the wrong party-line; French lorry-drivers still striking; Manchester United once again sitting pretty at the top of the Premiership table; and QEGS still providing a very high standard of education for those fortunate enough to travel along its corridors.

As is customary in these articles, I must thank numerous people for their help in compiling this, my first, and *Magister's* 40th, edition. John Read has been my 'guiding star' who has patiently responded to my non-stop barrage of memos and letters, many of them delivered by hand by my brother, who I must also thank for deputising for Royal Mail in these instances! Bill Proctor has, once again, been our man of the press, keeping a close watch on newspapers for OBA news; without his input, *Magister* would be a single paged supplement. Liz Mashiter in the Bursar's office has kindly helped out with the administration side producing all the address labels which adorn the envelopes you have just opened. I am also eternally grateful to the OBA officers in charge of golf, the Christmas Dinner and Branch Co-ordination; Andrew Norman, Ian Pickup and Steve Monk have all provided input to this issue. I must also thank Albert Eastham for penning his reminiscences of Vietnam, David Hemsall and Ellis Metcalfe for providing background information to other stories, and also say a big thank you to all those members (or members' parents) who have written to the school to keep us informed of their lives. Without your correspondence, this magazine would be pointless. And finally, to Garry Readett, who has got around all the incompatibilities of my computer and his printer and has assembled, printed and distributed this magazine, I offer you my sincerest thanks.

On a slightly sour note, I feel it is my duty to point out some glum news. Interest in the Association at branch level has, in all but a few cases, practically ceased; this is a great shame. I know there are many secretaries around the country who have pain-stakingly organised events only to

have to cancel them when the lack of support becomes apparent. The continued existence of the Association is in the hands of us, its members. If we do not continue, and in some cases, increase our support, the Association may find itself treading a downward spiralling path of no return. I, as I'm sure you, care too much about our old School to see this happen.

I end this Editorial by explaining the very title of it. On a hot summer's day in 1993, whilst practising a tricky croquet manoeuvre, a yellow croquet ball was seen to travel up the Thomas Atkinson monument, outside the Head Master's office, having been hit by a mallet that I was in control of. The spherical object then ripped through the air at an alarming pace over my right shoulder, evading my efforts to catch it, and struck a stained-glass window in the Garstang Room, on the full, causing four pains of glass to completely shatter; an achievement hard to imagine, let alone achieve!

For the record, four croquet-playing friends, (you know who you are!), who were witnesses to this act, immediately "escaped" to the safety of the far side of the lawn, away from danger; the feeling of sudden independence was overwhelming.

Geoff Lavery, then Head of Music, standing conveniently nearby, was quick (to say the least) to point out my misdemeanour to then Vice Master Eric Whittle, who, as fate would have it, just happened to be in the proximity. Despite Geoff's best attempts, Eric was busy contemplating something far more important and despatched me to the Bursar for an interrogation. Stan Waring was most understanding of the event and it was soon dispatched to the archives of the memory as one of the more comical moments to occur on the croquet lawn and the "monu-shot" was born. The monument suffered no damage and the window was quickly repaired you'll be pleased to hear but with my dignity damaged, I rarely attempted the same shot again. "Achievement and Independence" indeed!

And thus I come to the end of my comments. I hope you enjoy this issue of *Magister* and that you have a prosperous and happy 1998.

FINDLAY F. COLQUHOUN (87-94).

P.S. Should any reader have any comments regarding the contents of this or future issues of Magister then I would be only too happy to hear them. Please contact me via the school.

Opinions expressed in Magister are not necessarily those shared by other members of the Old Blackburnians' Association.

All information correct at time of printing as far as I'm aware.



Letter from the new Chairman

Blackburn

9th November, 1997

Dear Old Blackburnian,

At the AGM held on the 6th November, 1997, I was greatly honoured to be elected as Chairman of the Old Blackburnians' Association. I attended QEGS from 1950 to 1960 and was in Raleigh House. Glenn Blake (1979-1989, Grenville House) was elected as Vice-Chairman. A very experienced committee of 21 other members of the Association is available to help us in our duties.

We are very conscious of the fact that there have been tremendous changes over the years, both in the School and the structure, and also moods and expectations of our society generally, which have, in turn, affected the expectations and desires of Old Blackburnians towards their School and their Association. One obvious area is the seeming lack of representation, and voice, of our Old Girls in Association affairs which we would very much like to change and encourage, but there are many other aspects that need to be reviewed and updated.

Nothing can be achieved without your help and comment as an Association member. We need ideas and constructive criticism and we need it soon. For example:-

Do you feel that you get enough information about what is going on?

Do you feel that although you would like to attend area branch activities, which are fairly widespread throughout the UK, you do not do so because:-

you have a fear of not knowing anyone there due to many years of lost contact with School for whatever reason?

you feel too old or too young for the gathering in question?

you feel that a particular event, in your view, is too formal?

you are simply too shy to get involved?

Most of us get out of life a proportion of what we put into it. QEGS stretched it's tentacles (and we hope, influence) throughout an ever-shrinking world and the OBA can help you to facilitate contacts at home and abroad.

The focal point of the Association year has traditionally been the dinner held in the magnificent surroundings of Big School and is to be held this year on Saturday 20th December. If you can't make it this year will you please consider next year? Never been before and unwilling to go on your own? Then why not contact a few contemporaries and arrange a small party; either way, if there is a problem, Ian Pickup and his dedicated team will help you out. The 1998 Dinner will be held on Saturday 19th December so please pencil it in. We can guarantee a superb evening for everybody. You will meet people that you know but don't see on a regular basis throughout the year and sometimes people that you haven't seen for many years. One goes home sober, by choice alone, from this particular gathering.

There are however other social activities within the OBA. The best known, of course, is the football club at Lammack, better known simply as the "Old Blacks". They have superb club-house facilities and will extend a hearty welcome to anyone who can either kick a football in roughly the right direction or lift a glass in the bar - those who can do both are especially welcome! The late morning Boxing Day soccer match with vast numbers of both very young and very old on each side, is a worthwhile family event for any Yuletide calendar.

There is an annual Old Blacks golf match, usually held in June or July. For very little cost you can be guaranteed a very pleasant evening with the added bonus being that an ability to play golf is neither a pre-requisite for playing nor attendance. It was a great evening last July despite the weather and it will be even better next year. Are you interested? Any lady golfers out there? Would you like to be kept informed of the date of the next competition? Just let us know and we will do the rest. First-timers will be particularly welcome and I personally guarantee that you will keep on attending.

There is also a thriving Masonic Lodge at School of many years standing which meets five times a year. Guests are assured a warm welcome. There are social activities within the lodge, the most important being the annual Ladies' Evening held in November each year.

An important fixture which seems to have vanished from the School calendar was always the School v Old Boys cricket match. Any cricketers out there who would be prepared to take the School on?

We want to improve that which we already have and explore the viability of ideas and suggestions from you of things that as yet, we haven't. Please will you help us to make a good thing better? I am anxious to hear from, or better still meet, as many Old Blackburnians as possible in the coming year and Glenn or myself can be reached through letters addressed to the Chairman of the OBA at the School or directly to me at 7 Lower Cribden Avenue, RAWTENSTALL, BB4 6SW. Tel: (01706) 220495. Glenn Blake can be telephoned on (01282) 860367.

May I, on behalf of all the committee members of the OBA, wish you and yours a very happy Christmas and New Year.

JOHN D.S. WISHART, Chairman, Old Blackburnians' Association.

ELLIS METCALFE

Steve Monk writes . . .

Surely, there cannot be many past members of Staff who have made such a monumental contribution to QEGS as has Ellis Metcalfe during his long and distinguished association with his beloved school?

'Long' it has been certainly: Ellis began his connection with QEGS in September 1948 as a fresh-faced and keen newcomer to 'Big School' in George 'Pecker' Eastwood's 2A. Could those legendary members of the Staffroom in those far away days possibly have anticipated the contribution this boy would ultimately make to the school which he was so eagerly joining?

'Distinguished' his association has been - this is undeniable as anyone can recognise in the way in which he has managed the Chemistry Department throughout the last fifteen years of his service to QEGS. Can this have been easy? Such a highly-strung and thrusting collection of individuals as one could possibly imagine (!) must have presented a challenge to say the least during a difficult period of frequently-changing requirements in education. However, more of this later.

Before he left the Sixth Form in July 1956, Ellis had impressed as a sportsman, athlete and thespian. These accomplishments also produce a long and distinguished list:

U14 100 yds. Champion, represented Blackburn Schools at the County Sports.

QEGS First XI Soccer Team (4 seasons - last one as vice-captain).

QEGS Rugby XV.

Frobisher House Captain.

QEGS School Prefect.

QEGS Deputy Head Boy.

Several appearances in QEGS Dramatic Society productions of the time, including:

D'Artagnan in 'Three Musketeers', Ferdinand in 'The Tempest'.

Reading Prize

Marsden Prize (For the boy who has made the greatest contribution to the general life of the school.)

Following such an activity-packed school life, Ellis went on to do similar things at University College, Durham, where he first studied Chemistry and then a Dip. Ed. course with a view to teaching. As a student, Ellis still managed to carry on with his sporting career: he captained his college First XI Soccer team, and played both tennis and soccer for the Combined Colleges Teams.

For two years after obtaining his qualifications, Ellis spent some time teaching chemistry at Canon Slade Grammar School, Bolton, where his sporting prowess was also recognised in the fact that he was also installed as their First XI Soccer Team Manager.

Since his appointment to the teaching Staff at QEGS in 1962, Ellis has devoted his professional skills to the Chemistry Department. Initially this was under the leadership of the legendary Harry King. It is a mark of Ellis's ability as a professional that when a revision came about in the A-level Chemistry syllabus, Mr. King asked Ellis to write the entire 2-year course, including notes, homework and the practical course (which was then half of the curriculum time). This was a prodigious undertaking, but such was the quality of this magnum opus that Ellis's work was still

available to new teachers (such as me) years later. It is difficult to overstate how easy this makes one's introduction into a new department of any colleague, especially if newly qualified. It has been the case ever since that colleagues have been welcomed to the department with a full set of teaching notes, which they could make use of if they so wished.

When Mr. King retired in 1977, Ellis was naturally invited to 'assume the mantle..'. There were to be many changes in the educational world including revisions for both the O-level syllabus and the A-level syllabus. Eventually the GCE was to become the GCSE, and A-level was to become modular, both levels required internal assessment of practical abilities, and new courses needed to be designed to cope with these changes.

The department grew throughout the intervening years incorporating girls into the Sixthform, and expanding in terms of the number of A-level students, and Staff needed to teach them. Ellis listed for me, some things which he was pleased to have done as Head of Chemistry. It was a short list of only four items:

The high percentage of students gaining A/B at A-level (~70% of them).

Winning the UK Top of the Bench Chemistry Quiz Competition sponsored by Shell UK.

The year in which six students went up to Oxford to read Chemistry.

The fact that for a number of years now, Chemistry has been the most popular A-level subject (a fact which goes against the national trend).

None of these considerable achievements would have been possible without sound long-term professional management of the Department. This has included redesign of laboratories now named C3 and C4, and the design of C5.

Many pupils and students over the years have thrilled to practical lessons in these laboratories, especially with Ellis himself: never shrinking from the possibility of performing experiments personally, these events were often referred to as "Magic Moments with Metcalfe". These memorable occasions did occasionally go wrong: once, a mixture of hydrogen and chlorine gases (this is light-sensitive), being stored temporarily in a plastic Coca-Cola bottle, exploded because the sun came out and exposed a small chink in the brown paper covering which Ellis had carefully attached. The consequent explosion caused this bottle to hit the ceiling with enough force to make a permanent dent. (Look above the demonstration bench in C1). It then travelled along the ceiling at great speed, closely missing the window at the back. Ellis never flinched (the show must go on of course). He carried the occasion off as if it were intended to have happened that way, although we all thought he looked a little paler of complexion at break in the Staffroom.

On another occasion at an Open Evening, such a large quantity of zinc-sulphur mixture was ignited that a family temporarily lost their Grandmother in the fog at the back of C4, and another demonstration mixture, stored in the fume cupboard, unexpectedly began to react behind the Bishop of Blackburn, who became wreathed in purple fumes as well as his purple robes. The overall effect was so marked that thereafter, the Chemistry Department was asked to 'tone down' its Open Evening performances on the grounds

that it was 'too interesting' and was distracting visitors who didn't bother to visit other departments. We all knew that Ellis was enormously amused by this turn of events: he kept telling us!

Apart from the academic life, Ellis has contributed a great deal to the rich fabric of QEGS life outside the classroom. One of his earlier passions was the QEGS Community Service Society. This he ran before he was Head of Department, in the 1960s and early 1970s. Quite close relationships were developed with a number of charitable organisations in the town and the neighbourhood. Under Ellis's guidance, elderly and infirm people were visited, by pupils and Staff, in order to help with gardening, decorating, or simply to maintain contact. Much fund-raising took place, and this was through several events, including the annual QEGS Charity Week, held at the end of the Summer term, and the annual Staff Review of which Ellis was the impresario. This latter was held at the end of the Autumn term. Those of us who were fortunate to be there will not forget such gems as 'The Two Ronnies' (Ellis and Eric Whittle); 'The Dance of The Sugar Plum Fairies' (Stanley Cooke and Dave Edmondson); 'The Six Pestles' (various Staff members imitating a punk rock group of nearly the same name). There were many others, all of which with hindsight seem hilarious, but are still frequently mentioned by Old Blackburnians who were pupils at the time, and so must have been genuinely entertaining.

Ellis was once responsible for ordering and distributing all the text books throughout school; he was Frobisher Senior House Master for two years and tells me that these were the only two years when Frobisher has won the 'Cock House' trophy! Recently he has served on the school's Curriculum Review Body which has spent many hours over the last year, designing our new curriculum and 6-day cycle. During Mr. Johnston's Headship, Ellis was nominated for the Salters Award for Chemistry Schoolteacher of the Year. This was a mark of the great respect in which Ellis is held. Indeed, as well as earning respect, he extends it to others. For example, he has always insisted that the success enjoyed by students of the Chemistry Department was as attributable to the laboratory staff as much as to the teaching staff.

Having two daughters and a son educated at QEGS is testimony to the esteem in which Ellis holds the school. An interesting fact is that his son, Christopher, when Head Boy, also won the Marsden Prize, making the two of them surely, the only father and son double in the history of the prize.

Away from school, Ellis has been a member of the Old Blackburnians' Football Club, an elder at Revidge Fold United Reformed Church, an acting member of the Blackburn Drama Club. There was something else I should

mention here . . . oh, yes! Ellis is arguably the most avid Staff supporter of Blackburn Rovers Football Club, as was Mr. King before him. There the tradition will end because his successor as Head of Department supports another team!

In Ellis, we have seen a great servant of the school: indeed, he relishes the school motto - *Disce Prodesse*: learn to be of service. I can reveal to you, Ellis's own philosophy of teaching, it is certainly straightforward:

"Give the pupils and their parents what they want, trying to be as entertaining as possible. Be a friend to your students, giving them your time and be prepared to listen to their problems. Chemistry isn't the 'be-all and end-all', it is only a means to an end."

Ellis, we think you succeeded admirably.

But what of the future? Again, I refer to Ellis's own words:

"Playing with my two grandchildren

Following Rovers around Europe

Playing golf

Travelling"

To Ellis and Margaret his wife, all of us wish you both a long, happy, healthy and enjoyable retirement.

SJM

(For the last five years of my school life I, too, was privileged to be taught by Ellis. Indeed, his "Magic Moments" will forever live in my memory though not necessarily the ones detailed above. Ellis' great party-piece was the liquid nitrogen test in which normally supple items were 'freeze-dried' and dropped on the floor of the lab to smash instantly into hundreds of pieces, much to the amazement of young on-lookers. This particular first year favourite usually culminated with Ellis pouring some residual nitrogen over his head whilst spouting something about "So this is how I lost my hair"!

More seriously, however, it was a great privilege to be taught by Ellis and I'm sure that everyone else who enjoyed his lectures and practicals will feel the same way as I do. Ellis is a one in a million character; true to the last. On behalf of all Old Blackburnians I'd like to wish Ellis a long and very happy retirement.

One final note which I cannot let pass without mention. I note that Ellis wants to "follow Rovers around Europe". Presumably this must be some sort of British Leyland connection as Blackburn Rovers are going no further into Europe than most British truckers during French lorry driver strikes!

Perhaps I should introduce him to the Champions League and show him a northern team capable of playing in Europe year in, year out - FFC)

LATE NEWS

Due to the late publication of this year's Magister, I now have the chance to mention some key changes brought about at the recent AGM.

John Wishart has been elected to the post of Chairman of the Association with Glenn Blake taking up the post of Vice Chairman. David Forbes returns as Secretary.

Following the elections of the above new officers, I was pleased to hear our new Chairman speak passionately about his old School and hear a broad outline of his intentions as Chairman. It seems that at this time of decline in popularity of the Old Blacks, if attendance at branch dinners is anything to go by, John's election has come at precisely the right time. Whilst John is certainly no 'old blade', the election of Glenn Blake as his 'second in command' now provides the Old Blacks with a combination of experience and youth, something which I believe is vital to the continuing prosperity of the Association. Under the guidance and leadership of Messrs. Wishart and Blake, the Association, I believe, now has as good a chance as any to prosper and bring in new ideas and take us into the next century.

On behalf of all Old Blacks, I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all our newly appointed members a long and happy time in their positions.

MEMBERS' APPOINTMENTS AND NEWS

Elizabeth Pink (92-94) "After completing a pre-degree course in Art Foundation Studies at Blackburn College, in which she gained a distinction, Elizabeth embarked on a B.A. (Hons) Illustration and Animation course at Manchester Metropolitan University. This proved to be totally unsuitable and after much serious thinking and with supportive and helpful advice from Mr Whittle, she decided to leave at the end of the term and re-apply through UCAS to study History of Art. To gain a place at either Nottingham or York universities she needed to then re-sit her A Level French and gain a C grade. She had to study a different examination board but took the exam in May 1996 and gained a B grade, as well as distinctions in RSA Word Processing and Information Technology. She decided on York University and started her first year in September 1996. She did a parachute jump for the York Rag charities!"

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**Robert Pink (90-96)** "Robert has recently completed his first year at Leeds University doing Economics with History and North American Studies. He particularly enjoys History, a subject he did not even study at GCSE."

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Nicholas Pink (86-92) "After graduating from Durham in 1995, Nicholas spent an uncertain year deciding where his future lay, but in December 1996 he gained a Graduate Engineer position with Costains Civil Engineers, based in Harwich working on the new Stena Link port. Now he has transferred to the Cambridge office where he is working in Biggleswade on town centre refurbishment, gaining valuable experience and now on the first steps to becoming a Chartered Engineer."

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*(Scientists amongst us may also care to note that Sir Ernest Marsden, who worked with Rutherford on the splitting of the atom, was also an Old Blackburnian!)*

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Adrian A. Barham (86-93) "Completed Postgraduate Diploma in Legal Practice, Exeter University, with merit. Awarded the Swiss Federal Government's Research Scholarship for 1997-98. Proceeding to a one year programme of legal research at the Institut Universitaire de Hautes Études Internationales, Geneva on The Interaction between International Law and National and Supra-national Legal Systems. Additionally awarded a Language Bursary for a three month's French Language Programme at the Université de Fribourg, Switzerland. On completion of programme, proceeding to appointment as Trainee Solicitor with Messrs. Burges Salmon of Bristol, part of the Norton Rose M5 Group of International Commercial Law firms."

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**Andrew G. Barham (82-89)** "Appointed to position of Assistant Projects manager, Boots the Chemists, Head Office, Nottingham (1995). Promoted, in 1996, to Dispensing Project Manager (UK) and, in 1997 to Pharmacy Systems Development Manager, Healthcare Business Centre, The Boots Company PLC."

**Paul R. Barham (81-88)** "Admitted to degree of Doctorus Philosophiae, Churchill College, Cambridge University (1996) for a thesis entitled "Devices in a Multi-Service Operating System".

Elected as a Fellow of Christ's College, Cambridge (1997). Currently continuing post-doctoral research at the Computer Laboratory, Cambridge University."

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Derick (56-86) and Phyllis Lund, the former QEGS Bursar and his wife, have retired from St John Ambulance after a lifetime of devotion. Together they have clocked up a total of 80 years service to Blackburn and East Lancashire as a whole.

Derick and Phyllis celebrated their Golden Wedding last year and have now decided the time is right to bow out.

"We are passing over the work to our younger, dedicated workers and wish to thank all the wonderful people who have helped us along the way. It's been a lifetime of enjoyable service."

Derick was chairman of the Blackburn association and its Lees Hall headquarters, with his wife by his side as secretary.

However, during his 40 years of voluntary and unpaid work, he has held a variety of posts for the Order of St John. He was initially promoted to the Order of Commander of St John in 1978 and in 1980 took on the joint appointment of Area Commissioner and Assistant County Director.

Phyllis Lund, who has also served for 40 years, retired in 1984 as a Nursing Sister at Blackburn Royal Infirmary. She was invested of the Order of St John in 1981 and was Deputy Area Commissioner to her husband.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

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**Stephen Hughes (86-92)** graduated in 1995 with a History/American Studies B.A. (Hons) degree from the University College of Ripon and York St John (Leeds University). He subsequently took a sabbatical year as Vice President and Athletics Union President and is presently working for Railtrack at the London and North Eastern Records Centre.

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22nd July 1997 will prove to be very memorable for **Martin Gabbutt (67-76)** but for all the wrong reasons.

Martin, and his brother Tim, were taking a hot-air balloon flight, along with eleven other passengers, as part of Martin's birthday present when it became apparent that something was wrong.

"The pilot said it was going to be a rough landing and it was. We bounced twice. I remember feeling a huge sense of relief when we first landed because I thought we had got down in one piece but then someone screamed that they had broken a leg. Panic set in and then we took off again."

Many Longridge locals had been watching the ill-fated landing and one on-looker had called the emergency services.

Martin went into shock and had to be removed from the balloon's basket whilst "shaking and shivering". It was later found he had broken a leg.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

The following article was published in the Lancashire Evening Telegraph in July 1997. It is reproduced primarily for those mentioned in the last paragraph.

"It seems almost incredible that in just over a month's time it will be 50 years since I left Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn, having been there from 1942 after obtaining a scholarship from Christ Church School, Mosley Street, Blackburn.

When we went to the grammar school the teachers were nearly all quite elderly, indeed one or two had been brought back out of retirement, because of the war and, to be truthful, looking back we must have given them a bit of a dog's life.

This was suddenly brought home to us when younger teachers started to re-appear after the war ended and our treatment became what, to us, a lot harsher. However, I for one have nothing but fond memories of QEGS and my only regret is the way things have changed educationally and boys like myself have been deprived of the opportunities that we had.

So might I please send my best wishes to all of the leavers in 1947, the likes of Bunny Brown, Johnny Barker, Don Clarkle, Frank Taylor, Ernie Clarkson and so on and I hope to write again in another 50 years."

Ken Halliwell (42-47), Bolton Road, Darwen.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

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**David W. Catlow (82-91)** has recently graduated from RAF College Cranwell and 'got his wings'. David joined the RAF in January 1992 but obtained his pilot's licence while still at School thanks to a Flying Scholarship provided by the RAF. His main interest is cricket and he is captain of the RAF under-25 team and the combined services under-25s.

He has now been posted to RAF Lyneham where he will fly as part of a five-man crew on Hercules aircraft.

*(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)*

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Bradlow Racing's newly refurbished Clitheroe office was formerly opened by Blackburn Rovers' striker Chris Sutton in December last year. The family-run firm is headed by chairman **Jack Jefferson (43-47)** who's two sons Alan and John are joint managing directors.

First set up more than 30 years ago, Bradlow Racing is the longest established independent bookmaker in East Lancashire and the only independent betting office in the area to offer a credit facility via Delta or Switch cards.

On 10th December 1996 Bradlow were offering odds of 8-1 for snow to fall on the roof of the Manchester Weather Centre. I wonder what those odds are now.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

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**David Chesters (89-96)**, son of the Bishop of Blackburn, has completed the first part of his training with the Royal Navy.

David joined the Navy in September '96 after winning a prestigious university cadetship. He has now completed the initial phase of officer training at Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. The eight month course helped Midshipman Chesters get to grips with life in the service and develop leadership skills. It included two months at sea on board the Type 22 frigate HMS Boxer - a fully operational warship - in the West Indies.

David is now studying modern languages at Bristol University but will spend future vacations on Royal Navy training exercises.

*(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)*

**Kirk Taylor (82-91)** is tripping the light fantastic after winning a role in the hit show, Spirit of the Dance. Kirk dances in the show's chorus and started a British and Channel Island tour with the Riverdance-style production in April '97.

Having completed his A-levels at the School, Kirk set up his own school. As well as being a dance teacher with his sister Zoe, Kirk has also performed regularly at Alton Towers and produced and choreographed shows all over East Lancashire.

*(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)*

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Governor of QEGS and one of East Lancashire's best known industrialists, **Geoff Livesey** has retired as managing director of the Cobble Blackburn Group of Companies. He joined the carpet tufting machinery firm in 1973.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

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Some of our younger readers may not know the name **Gary Smith** but cinema-going Old Blackburnians will certainly know "Shooting Fish", a film produced by Gary's company, Winchester Multimedia PLC in Soho.

The quirky comedy starring Kate Beckinsale was shown at the Cannes film festival where it proved so popular that security guards were hired for the second screening to prevent over-crowding. Fox Searchlight Pictures also liked the film and have signed to screen it in America and Europe.

The film is the fifth to be made by the company which was set up four years ago to encompass films, music and television. The 14-strong team are also about to produce three more movies: "The Sea Change", "Raving Beauties" starring Steve Coogan and "An Inch Over The Horizon" with Bob Hoskins.

After training as an accountant Gary bought out the former Kenyon's Bakery in Blackburn before selling it and getting involved with a group which owned the rights to children's animation favourites including "The Wombles" and "Paddington".

Gary's success story is not all good though. Apparently he is a huge fan of Blackburn Rovers (well, somebody has to be I suppose) and even renamed his Birmingham house to Ewood Lodge. (If only people would learn...!)

*(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph.*

*Football-related comments: The Editor)*

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Tony Worswick has collected the 1958 Daily Express trophy for the "most meritorious performance" by a member of the Lancashire Automobile Club. Tony also finished second in the 1996 BOSS championship, which has eclipsed F3000 as Britain's fastest single-seater racing series.

The Daily Express trophy dates back to the 1958 Silverstone race meeting which was won by Ferrari's Formula One ace Peter Collins, just three months before his fatal accident at the Nurburgring in Germany.

Tony bought two Jordan Formula One cars to help him in the BOSS (British Open Single Seater) series. Valued at a cool £250,000 brand new, the cars arrived in Blackburn in June and marked the culmination of 18 months of negotiations between Worsick Engineering and the Silverstone-based Jordan Grand Prix team, who have only previously released their cars for show purposes. Tony hopes to have an Original Hart V10 engine fitted to the power unit-less cars.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

Blackburn fire station commander **Chris Norse (63-68)** was celebrating reaching new heights after taking delivery of a new piece of equipment.

The £350,000 Aerial Ladder Platform is only used in one other Lancashire fire station and the 32 metre-high Volvo machine replaces the station's turntable ladder.

Chris was promoted to his current position in September '96 after serving more than 25 years. He has also been made an assistant divisional officer.

He began his firefighting career in Blackburn in 1970 and later worked at the Darwen station. He later became station officer at Preston before returning to his native Blackburn in 1990.

(Sources: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

Professor John Garstang commanded the attention of civic leaders as they gathered outside his home whilst a Blue Plaque was unveiled in his memory.

Professor Garstang discovered the Royal Palace of Jericho in the 1930s and later became director of the British School of Archaeology. Apparently his love of golf was so great that while excavating in Benihasan, he built his own course from sand dunes.

Many Old Blacks will recall that a lecture is held annually in School in his memory and the Queens' Wing houses the Garstang Room.

The plaque is located at his birth-place, a house in Strawberry Bank.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

On a television theme once again, **Mark Gorton (67-73)** had reason to celebrate this Easter when he picked up a BAFTA award. Mark produces BBC1's Mrs Merton Show which scooped the Best Talk Show gong at the British 'Oscars'. Mark broke into television as a researcher for Granada over ten years ago.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

T. Tarquin Scott (75-82) was awarded the degree of Master of Science with Distinction in Urban Renewal in November 1996 from Liverpool John Moores University. He is now preparing to work in Utah with his brother and communication from other Old Blacks in the Utah area would be most welcome.

Please address your correspondence to: 613 Main Street, PO Box 1626, Park City, UTAH 84060

(A telephone and fax number are available upon request - Ed.)

Andrew Norman (66-75), the current Treasurer of the Old Blackburnians' Association has recently been appointed as a partner of the firm Moore & Smalley.

After gaining a first class honours degree in Mathematics at Liverpool University, Andrew joined the city office of an international firm of accountants with whom he qualified. In 1984 he moved back to his north west roots and for the last six years has been a partner specialising in the commercial development of owner-managed businesses in the region.



Chris Woolard (83-86) has recently passed MBCMB at Liverpool in 1995 and is currently still in Liverpool working as a Paediatric SHO.

Beginning February '98 Chris will travel to Australia where he will be undertaking A&E work for twelve months and then intends spending a further six months to travel and explore the continent.

Chris also promises to write an account of his adventures in the Antipodes when he returns.

Wayne Hemingway (nee Winders) has recently won the Street Style Award at the British Fashion Design Awards.

Wayne, together with his Padiham-born wife, set up one of the biggest fashion houses in the country, Red or Dead, 15 years ago.

(Source: Lancashire Evening Telegraph)

David Higginson (59-66) and **John Davies (78-84)** have joined forces in becoming partners at the Veterinary Health Centre in Daisy Street, Blackburn.



David qualified as a verterinary surgeon at Glasgow University in 1971 and is the lead singer in a folk band called Moorland Folk.

John qualified in 1989 from Edinburgh University and enjoys juggling, a hobby of his for 5 years.

Old Blacks in Print

Clive R. Barlow (65-76) has been living in Gambia for 12 years and has recently co-written The Field Guide to the Birds of The Gambia and Senegal, which "is the first field guide to the birds of The Gambia, covering 600 species".

Clive has also set up a couple of reserves and national parks and most of his income is raised from running safaris and facilitating small research projects.

He has also assisted in the production of a couple of Wildlife on One documentaries with David Attenborough.

(I should like to thank Jennie Barlow and Ellis Metcalfe for providing the above information and, in case of copyright breaches, I hereby acknowledge Bird Watching October '97 as the source for the quotation above - FFC)

Obituaries . . .

Jennie Shaw, wife of former member of staff, the late **Thomas Shaw**, passed away peacefully in her sleep on January 15, 1997. She leaves behind her son Jeffrey.

Brian Molyneux (40-47) died peacefully at his home on December 6, 1996. He leaves behind his wife Joan and children Neil Molyneux (68-74), Clive and Alison.

(Below is an extract from an article published in the Lancashire Evening Telegraph in the wake of Brian's death.)

"A motor sport fanatic, the driving force behind 'The Best Rally in the World' has lost his battle against cancer.

Brian Molyneux was known throughout the rallying world as the man who helped set up the prestigious Tour of Mull event in 1969, then saved it from Government legislation in 1988.

Brian obtained a unique order on behalf of the Blackburn-based 2300 Car Club allowing their event to continue using public roads on the Scottish island when the practice was outlawed by parliament.

Earlier this year he received the Prince Michael of Kent Award of Merit for services to the sport.

Brian spent his working life with Mullards of Blackburn, later renamed Philips Components. He was one of the founding members of the 2300 Car Club, established for Mullard employees in 1957.

Brian retired to his beloved Mull from the company's factory near Southport where he was a plant director.

His interests in rallying began during his university days at Kings College, Cambridge, when he competed as driver and co-driver."

Geoffrey Christopher Haworth (36-42) died in hospital on March 11, 1997 after a short illness.

William Gillibrand Stephenson (35-39) passed away at his home in Cherry Tree on March 8, 1997. He leaves his wife Vera and children Nancy, Elizabeth and George.

James Donald ("Don") Redman (16-23) died on 29th May, 1996, in hospital. A keen cricketer in his youth, he retained an active interest in the game all his life, spending many happy hours watching matches at the East Lancs ground in West Park Road. Before his retirement in 1970 he was employed as a shipping manager at Cocker Chemicals in Oswaldtwistle. He and his wife Joan moved to London in 1984 to live in Islington near their son Geoff Redman (57-64) and his family. He is survived by his wife and son.

Martin Cowling Starks (46-55) died on the 14th November 1996 aged 60.

In 1953 he won a scholarship sponsored by the English Speaking Union and spent a year at Willaston Academy in Massachusetts. After School he went to Fitzwilliam House Cambridge and graduated in the Faculty of Estate Management in 1958.

A Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors, Martin spent most of his working life as a partner in the Manchester firm of W.H. Robinson and Co.. An accomplished musician and pianist Martin was a Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music. A founder of Cathedral Chapter and a member of Cathedral Lodge 7814 of the Freemasonry movement, he was promoted to Grand Rank in 1988.

Martin lived in Blackburn all his life, and was a gentle man who worked for the public good and in a quiet and unostentatious way.

He leaves behind a widow Anne, a son and daughter.

William Gerald Brooks (42-49) past away last July. Among his contemporaries were Philip Hacking, Stan Pomfret, Geoff Stonehouse and Keith Powes.

He suffered a pulmonary embolism following a disabling stroke the previous February.

Walter Calvert (26-33) passed away on 14th November, 1996 from an overwhelming stroke.

He entered Manchester University Medical School qualifying from here in 1940. He retired in 1980 having been Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist at Stepping Hill Hospital, Stockport since the beginning of the Health Service in 1948.

Reg J. Smith (25-32) has died aged 82. The Dunkirk veteran passed away in North Tyneside Hospital. Reg had been ill since October '96.

Reg was in wartime Intelligence Corps and moved to Tyneside from Blackburn after marrying. He celebrated his 50th wedding anniversary in September '96 with his wife Kirsten.

Reg leaves behind son Erling Murtha-Smith and daughter Karin Bond.

(Source: Newcastle Evening Chronicle)

Frank Pomfret (32-39) died suddenly on 10th October, 1997, at Chorley and District Hospital. He leaves behind his wife Dawn and his children.

Old Blackburnians' Association Statement of Accounts

Previous editors of *Magister* have given over as much as three pages of the magazine for publication of the Association's financial affairs.

Having performed a quick straw-poll at the last committee meeting, and on consultation with other Old Blackburnians, I have decided not to continue with this practice.

I will, however, report that, as for the year ended 31st July 1997, a surplus of £1,554 was transferred to the Old Blacks "accumulated fund". (Note that this figure, like the full accounts, have yet to be fully ratified.)

A copy of the Association's accounts are available for inspection by writing to The Secretary. FFC



Annual Dinner 1996



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT TO THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting on November 7th 1996

It is with sadness that I begin my report by recalling the deaths of two members of the Committee during the year. Tom Hindle died in hospital on the 11th January 1996 after a short illness. He was a particularly staunch supporter of the Annual Dinner. Harold Burrows died suddenly at home on 28th March 1996. It would be fair to say that no one has served the Association longer than Harold. He was elected to the Committee in 1934 and became honorary secretary in 1935, serving in that capacity until the AGM in 1967. At his death he had served the Association for more than 61 years.

All of the activities of the Association have not followed their normal format during the year under review but the Annual Dinner has. This was held in Big School on December 16th. Once again it was very well attended though applications for tickets did come in rather late. District Judge James D. Heyworth, a parent of a young boy at the school, was chief guest and responded to the toast to the guests. Dr Colin Bell, former head boy and now computer wizard proposed the toast to the School to which the new Headmaster, Dr David Hemsall responded with some searching comment. It was particularly pleasing to see so many current members of staff present at the dinner once again. The Association is grateful to Andrew Norman and Ian Pickup for the time and effort they have put into organising a successful dinner.

The branches have had some difficulties in holding dinners during the year. The Oxford Dinner was postponed from its normal date in November to February 22nd. The dinner at Lady Margaret Hall was well organised by Ryan Pixton and attended by 17 Old Blackburnians and guests. The Cambridge Dinner was held at the normal time on November 18th at Downing College. There were 18 diners but only 7 of these were from the Cambridge area and they were all students. The London Branch continues to be unique in holding an AGM at its Annual Dinner. This year's event was held on March 16th in John Adams Hall with the special help of Hyman Abel.

The turnout was not as good as in previous years. Unfortunately the North-East Branch Dinner, arranged by Rachel Pickup for 20th April in Newcastle-upon-Tyne had to be cancelled through lack of support. The Cheshire and South Lancashire Branch Dinner at Altrincham on May 10th was reasonably well attended and the customary pleasant relaxed informal evening was enjoyed by the diners. Last but not least the Scottish Branch has not yet held its Dinner but it will take place at the Stakis Earl Grey Hotel Dundee on November 16th. The Dinner has been arranged well in advance by Natalie Abbott and hopefully more support from outside Dundee will be given compared to last year. At this point in my report it is appropriate that a special vote of thanks is recorded to Steve Monk our Branch Liaison Officer and the various branch secretaries for their hard work in furthering the objects of the Association by arranging these dinners.

Andrew Norman is to be thanked for once again arranging the Golf Competition. This year's event was held on the June 13th at the Blackburn Golf Club. The level of support received was encouraging and all those who took part had a very pleasant evening. The result of the competition was that Mike Sumner was presented with the

Sir Gilbert Gerrard Cup and Peter Hobkirk received the Judge Walmsley Cup. The Old Blackburnians entered the Lancashire Old Boys Association Golf Society competition for the first time on June 7th. The team of five was pleased to come fifth out of fifteen at the event held at Rossendale Golf Club. Our thanks also go to Roger Masters who continues to give valued service to the football club.

The editor of the Association's magazine *Magister* resigned shortly after last year's AGM. Your chairman volunteered to act as a receiver of material for the magazine. Very little unsolicited material was forthcoming but altogether enough was assembled to make a presentable magazine for issue to the membership. I am grateful to Graham Slack, Ellis Metcalfe and Barry Brown for proof reading the efforts of Findlay F. Colquhoun and myself at keying in the text. In my view Garry Readett did an excellent job at laying out the text so that there were no continuations to much later pages and seeing to the printing and posting of the magazine. I would like to apologise to Graham Slack for failing to give him credit for most of the photographs in the magazine, including all those taken at the Annual Dinner, but I can blame him for offending the "Apostrophe Society" of St. Andrews University (see page 21 of issue 37) in three instances.

The Full Committee has met on three occasions over the past year. Besides the normal meetings in February and September an extra meeting was held in May, essentially to try and find ways of improving the attendance at Branch activities. The suggestions made have yet to be implemented for various practical reasons. I would like to thank all the officers and committee for the help they have been able to give over the past year. Coupled with our thanks to the treasurer, Andrew Norman, must be thanks to the auditors William Hare and Ralph Holden who have carried out the annual audit with quiet efficiency once again. Also let us not forget the support we receive from the school, particularly from the Headmaster but also in the provision of hospitality at meetings such as this. On behalf of the Association I gave Judy Scott our thanks and best wishes on her retirement from the School Office in February.

Looking to the future, those of you who have read the editorial note in *Magister* will be aware that I do not intend to put myself forward for re-election to the office of chairman of the Association. As the vice-chairman elected at last year's AGM resigned after less than a month, the Association is faced with a difficult situation. I presaged this situation arising when I accepted the office of vice-chairman four years ago but felt at the time that I ought to do my two year stint despite my own reservations of suitability for the task. I am especially grateful to former chairman Barry Brown for arranging speakers for both Annual Dinners which is one of the responsibilities with which I was ill at ease. Hopefully my message in *Magister* will prompt some action, so that the Association can proceed with a committed leadership.

J. S. READ, Chairman.

4 November 1996.

(Due to the timings of both the publication of Magister and the annual AGM, the Chairman's Report is almost a year old by the time it is read; this is an anomaly over which I, personally, have no control - FFC)

REMEMBER THIS?



Do you remember scenes like the one in the photograph? Does the thought of UNISIM still strike a cold chill to your bones?

If so, then you must have participated in one of those enjoyable episodes of high-speed skill acquisition known as 'The Challenge of Industry Conference'.

Now known as 'The Challenge of Management Conference' (no overtones of dirty overalls here), it continues to be enjoyed by the Lower Sixth at the end of the Winter term.

The format is still similar to the one you took part in, but some of the activities are different now.

After more than 10 years of conferences, it still continues to be as good as before in presenting a view of the potentialities of management to the delegates who, up to this point in their lives, may have not come to realise what exciting challenges are offered by a career in this area.

Nor are they aware that a majority of them are likely to become managers, using skills which they have not been required to study in their academic subject areas.

One of the main changes to have taken place in the past few years is to be introduced this year; the conference will identify the delegates' skills in a way which dovetails well with a new programme of study called 'Diploma of Achievement'. The latter is undertaken only in the Lower Sixth and is an exciting new initiative in which QEGS

participated last year when a 'pilot scheme' was successfully operated.

It continues to be a problem to recruit Advisers to guide groups of delegates through the conference - some hardy advisers have attended all the previous ones!

If you think you could help - and here it is worth noting that the vast majority of advisers say that not only is it a stimulating experience, but also an instructive one - then we would welcome your participation.

The requirements are very straightforward: enthusiasm and an interest in young people, and any level of management experience from Management Trainee, right up to Managing Director level.

This year's conference will be held at St. Wilfrid's and QEGS on:-

1st April	Wednesday evening at St. Wilfrid's
2nd April	Thursday at QEGS
3rd April	Friday at QEGS

The Conference Dinner (to which all advisers are invited) will take place in Scholar's Restaurant on the Thursday evening.

If you are keen to help, please contact Steve Monk at school as soon as possible.

S.J. MONK
MAGISTER - THIRTEEN

Weddings . . .

Dr Julia L. Newton (83-85), Head Girl 1984-85, was married in October 1996 at the Civic Centre, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to Ian G. Dormer, company director.

Julia qualified in 1990 in Newcastle and has since worked in hospitals in the same area.

She has recently completed a Ph.D. studying "changes in the function of the stomach with age" and is now working as a geriatrician at Freeman Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.



Dr Sharon D. Newton (85-87) was married in April 1996 at St. Leonard's Parish Church, Balerstone to Dr Jonathan Shenfine.

Sharon qualified in 1993 and is now working in orthopaedics at the General Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,

(Thanks to Keith Newton for providing details and accompanying pictures for the above - FFC)

ALL CHANGE

It will not have escaped the notice of some Old Blackburnians that the QEGS logo has recently changed. Below, the Head Master recalls how and why the changes took place.

Dr David Hempsall writes . . .

In one guise or another, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School has been a feature of Blackburn for almost five centuries. To those in the know, the symbol of the School is its seal, colloquially known as the Magister. This depicts a Tudor schoolmaster holding an open book and brandishing a stick.

The seal appears on blazers as the School badge. Nonetheless, the badge has proved to be rather less than instantly recognisable in the wider community. It was for this reason that, as part of the process of producing a new prospectus to reflect current developments at the School, the idea emerged of establishing what the advertising fraternity calls a "corporate image" for Queen Elizabeth's.

The job of devising a logo was given to a Preston-based firm, Signal Communications, headed by Mr Michael Cross. His brief was to unite a variety of elements in a new design. In particular, he aimed to combine both tradition and modernity, using red and blue which have for so long been the School's colours.

The evolution of what emerged as the preferred option is illustrated in the sequence which follows. In the academic year 1997/8, the logo will be incorporated in new signboards, letter heads and school publications.

So does this mean the end of the Magister? Not at all! This will be retained for its original purpose, that as the School's seal. For example, it already appears on the School's "Standard Terms and Conditions" and it will continue to be used for legal purposes as it has for over four hundred years.



DISTINCTIONS GAINED DURING THE PAST YEAR BY OLD BLACKBURNIANS

H. AGARWAL (1982-92)

Graduated B.A., M.Eng Class 2, Div.2, Chemical Engineering at Downing College, Cambridge. Appointed Management Consultant at LEK Partnership, London.

I. ALI (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 3, Chemistry at UMIST, Manchester.

R. ARMER (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Economics and History at Leeds University.

F. ARSHID (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1 Physiological Sciences at Brasenose College, Oxford. Currently at the John Radcliffe Hospital completing clinical course of medical degree.

D.J. ASPDEN (1982-92)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Music at Jesus College, Cambridge.

P. BARTON (1982-92)

Graduated B.A. Joint Honours Class 2, Div. 1, Modern European Languages at Durham University.

M.A.J. BETLEY (1983-93)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Business and Management Studies at Salford University.

A.L. BOGG (1989-92)

Graduated B.A. Class 1, Law at Exeter College, Oxford.

C.P. BOND (1986-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Classical Civilisation at Leeds University. Appointed Trainee Chartered Accountant at Moore and Smalley, Preston.

R.A. BROOKES (1985-92)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Mechanical Engineering at Churchill College, Cambridge. Appointed Graduate Mechanic/Stress Engineer with the Advanced Technology Group of Ove Arup Partnership.

J.R. BROWN (1982-92)

Graduated in Diploma in Marketing and elected an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Marketing. Currently doing M.A. in Marketing. Appointed Senior Marketing Analyst at Bradford & Bingley Building Society.

A. BUTLER (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Economic and Social History at Hull University.

J.H. CASTLE (1984-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2 Physical Education at Carnegie-Leeds Metropolitan University. Proceeding to Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

R. CAWThERLEY (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2 Government and Public Policy at Northumbria University.

C. CLARKE (1985-92)

Qualified M.B. Ch.B. Appointed House Officer, Arrowe Park Hospital, Wirral.

I.R. CLARKSON (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, History at York University.

S. CLARKSON (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Economics and Industrial Studies at Leeds University.

J.A.J. COKERILL

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Law and Sociology at University of Warwick.

A. COE (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Genetics at Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Proceeding to Ph.D in Cell Adhesion and Membrane Trafficking at Manchester University.

J.L. COLEMAN (1987-93)

Graduated LL.B Class 2, Div. 1, Law at Durham University.

G.L. CORDINER

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 3, Economics with Accountancy at Loughborough University.

B. COUPE (1984-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Medical Sciences at Peterhouse, Cambridge.

EMMA COX (1991-93)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Politics/Philosophy at Durham University.

D. CRABTREE (1981-91)

Graduated B.A. Class 1, Economics and Politics at Leeds University.

MICHAELA CRANE (1991-94)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Applied Biological Sciences at Manchester Metropolitan University.

J.R. DAVAGE (1984-94)

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 2, Law at Leeds University. Proceeding to study Legal Practice Course at York College of Law.

C. DIXON (1990-92)

Graduated B.V.Sc., M.B.C.V.S. Veterinary Science at Bristol University. Appointed Veterinary Surgeon.

M. DODD (1988-92)

Graduated M.Eng. Class 2, Div. 2, Engineering Science at Balliol, Oxford.

SIR KENNETH DURHAM

Elected a Fellow of the British Academy.

ELLEN DURSTON (1992-94)

Graduated B.Sc.(Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, European Studies with Geography at Manchester Metropolitan University.

L.M. FLETCHER (1985-92)

Qualified M.B., Ch.B. Edinburgh University. Appointed House Surgeon, Law Hospital NHS Trust, Carlisle (6 months). Then House Physician, Western General Hospital, Edinburgh (6 months).

B. FOTHERGILL (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Accounting (Special Hons) at Hull University.

IAN FOULDS (1986-1993)

Graduated M.A. Class 2, Div.1, Ancient History at St. Andrews University.

HELEN FOWLER (1991-93)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Psychology at University of Dundee.

H.W.J. FRANKLAND (1985-92)

Qualified M.B., Ch.B. Dundee University. Appointed Junior House Officer at King's Cross Hospital, Dundee (August 1997).

S.R. GAMBLE (1984-91)

Graduated B.D.S. Dentistry at Sheffield Dental School. Appointed to the Royal Army Dental Corps as Captain.

SAPNA GARG (1990-92)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Law at Christ's College, Cambridge. Appointed City Lawyer, Freshfields Law Firm, London.

WENDY GOODALL (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Accounting and Finance at Leeds University.

S. GOODGER (1992-94)

Graduated B.Sc Class 2, Div.1, Biology at Hull University.

A. GRAHAM (1986-93)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, International and Political Studies at Coventry University.

S. GREEN (1989-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1 Law at Trinity College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Bar School in London.

T. GREEN (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Geology at University College London.

S. GUNAWARDENA (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.2, Natural Sciences at Clare College, Cambridge.

B.M. HARGREAVES (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Marketing / Retailing and Distribution. Appointed Brand Manager for J.D. Williams having spent three months in USA coaching major league soccer.

C. HAWORTH (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. First Class, Economics at Lancaster and the University of British Columbia, Canada. Appointed Trainee Business Advisor/ Accountant with Price Waterhouse, London.

M. HAYES

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Environmental Science and Geography at Bradford University.

P.J. HODGSON (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.2, Geography at Newcastle University.

N. HENDERSON (1991-93)

Graduated LL.B (Hons) Law at Strathclyde University.

C. HOYLE (1986-93)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Applied Biology at John Moores, Liverpool.

J.D.I. HUNT (1985-92)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Literature - English and European at University of Essex. Proceeding to Sheffield Hallam University to study Teacher Training.

J.E. HUNTER (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. (Joint Hons) Class 2, Div.2, Archaeology / Anthropology at Durham University. Proceeding to College of Law, Chester.

D. INMAN (1985-92)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Mineral Estate Management at Sheffield University.

E. ISA (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Economics and Politics at York University.

B. JENKINSON (1986-93)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.2, Business Administration at Bradford College.

G.P. KALEWSKI (1985-93)

Graduated B.Sc. Astro Physics at St Andrews University. Proceeding to Postgraduate Certificate in Education at Manchester University.

T. KARIM (1990-92)

Graduated M.B., Ch.B. Medicine at University of Glasgow. Appointed Pre-Registration House Officer at Stobhill NHS Trust, Glasgow.

SARAH KENNEDY (1991-93)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Classical Civilisation at Leeds University.

MADELEINE KING (1991-93)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Animal Science at University of Nottingham.

J.P. KIRK (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.2, Modern History and Politics at Manchester University.

P. KRAMER (1991-93)

Graduated B.Sc., Class 2, Div.2, Chemistry at York University.

G.C. LAMBERT (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 1, Electrical & Information Sciences at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.

MARIA LA ROCCA (1990-92)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Italian with Politics at Hull University.

N. LATHAM (1991-93)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Politics at University of Sheffield. Proceeding to civil service.

S.R. LONSDALE (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Law and Politics at Hull University.

E. LONGWORTH (1984-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Medical Sciences (Genetics) at Edinburgh University. Proceeding onto M.B. Ch.B. at Edinburgh.

B. McCORMACK

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, English Language and Literature at Exeter College, Oxford.

S. McDERMOTT (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Economics at Manchester University. Starting career as freelance journalist and photographer.

J. McDONALD (1986-93)

Awarded First (Hons) Biological Sciences (Microbiology) at Edinburgh University. Proceeding to Ph.D. at Edinburgh.

SARAH McLEAN (1992-94)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2, English Literature at Durham University.

D. MORRISON (1985-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.2, Geography at Newcastle University.

L. MOTTERSHEAD (1986-93)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Politics at University of York.

M.R. MOTTERSHEAD (1982-92)

Qualified M.B. Ch.B. at Edinburgh Medical School. Appointed Junior House Officer, Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

P. NAHA-BISWAS (1986-93)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Economics at St. Catharine's, Cambridge.

H. PANDITARATNE (1985-92)

Qualified M.B., B.S., at Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School.

C.W. PARKER (1984-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Politics at Nottingham University. Proceeding onto P.G.C.E. in History at Nottingham.

A. PARKINSON (1984-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Geography at Newcastle University.

JULIA PEARSON (1991-93)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.2, Modern European Studies at Edge Hill College, Ormskirk.

R. PICKUP (1985-92)

Graduated B.D.S. Dentistry at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Appointed General Professional Trainee at Newcastle Dental Hospital and in General Practice, County Durham.

HELEN POULSON (1992-94)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2, Human Physiology at University of East London.

LISA REEDER (1992-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Natural Resources at Newcastle University.

J.M. RICKARDS (1986-94)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2, Biology at University of London.

C. RIDEHALGH (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.2, Business Management at University of Humberside.

KAREN SAGAR (1991-93)

Graduated B.A. Class 1, Economics at Newcastle University.

S.D. SHENFINE (nee NEWTON) (1985-87)

Elected a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons (England).

K. SHERWIN (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Management Studies with Applied Biology at Leeds University.

R.A. SILLE (1985-91)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons), Geography at University of Liverpool. Appointed trainee with Ernst & Young chartered accountants in Douglas, Isle of Man.

N.A. SMITH (1987-92)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2, Business Studies at University of Central Lancashire.

K.J. STEWART (1983-93)

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Biological Sciences at Magdalen College, Oxford.

P. STUTTARD (1986-93)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.2, Italian and Marketing at Lancaster University.

J. TAYLOR (1987-94)

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, History at York University.

R.R. TAYLOR (1987-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Biochemistry with Molecular Biology and Biotechnology at Bristol University. Proceeding to Ph.D. in Cryoelectron Microscopy at Sheffield University.

R.J.A. TAYLOR (1992-94)

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Ecology at Durham University. Proceeding onto P.G.C.E. at Durham.

R. THISTLETHWAITE (1992-94)

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Immunology at University of Edinburgh. Proceeding to M.B. Ch.B.

C.D.J. THOMAS (1983-93)
Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Business at Manchester Metropolitan University.

G.R. THOMAS (1988-93)
Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, International Studies at Leeds University.

R. THOMPSON (1986-93)
Graduated B.A. Class 1, Engineering and Computing Science at Trinity College, Oxford.

S.A. TRIP (1985-91)
Qualified M.B., Ch.B. Edinburgh University. Appointed Surgical House Officer, Western General Hospital and Medical House Officer, Glasgow Royal Infirmary.

B.W. TURNEY (1986-93)
Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div.1, Anatomy at Downing College, Cambridge. Appointed Clinical Student at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

G. WARNER (1986-94)
Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.1, Biochemistry and Genetics at Leeds University.

K. WARNER (1981-91)
Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.1, Veterinary Medicine at Edinburgh University.

A.S. WATERWORTH (1989-91)
Graduated B.M., B.Ch., B.A. at Green College, Oxford. Currently working as a Junior House Officer at York District Hospital.

J.J. WESTWOOD (1992-94)
Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div.2, Marine Biology at Liverpool University.

N.J. WHITTLE (1977-83)
Graduated Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Columbia University, New York.

S.M. WILSON (1985-92)
Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div.2, European Business Studies at University of Wales.

M.J. YATES (1987-94)
Graduated B.Sc. Class 3, Chemistry at Sussex University.

BRANCH INFORMATION

SCOTTISH BRANCH

This year's secretary is Marianne Pearson, younger daughter of Dr. Graham Pearson, the Head of Biology. Marianne can be contacted at McIntosh Hall, Abbotsford Crescent, St. Andrew's, Fife, KY16 9HT. Tel. 01334 465 769. Her email address is: mep1@st-andrews.ac.uk

The dinner is already booked at the time of going to press. It is to be held in St. Andrew's, and we hope that there will be a good turnout of students this year.

Last year's Dinner was held at the Stakis Hotel in Dundee, and was attended by a small but select number of students from Dundee University, Stirling and St. Andrew's. From Blackburn, the guests included Dr. Hemsall and his wife Pat, Graham and Gwen Pearson, Steve and Sue Monk, John Read, Graham Parkinson, with 8 students from Scotland. After an excellent meal at the Stakis, the party repaired to a local hostelry until closing time when a torrential downpour failed to dampen their enlivened spirits! The students went on to 'party' elsewhere, the 'more mature' (in age) returned to their hotels.

LONDON BRANCH

The London Secretary is still David W. Hargreaves 94, Portland Road Kingston-upon-Thames KT1 2SW. Tel. 0181 549 1953. The dinner, preceded by a short AGM of the Branch, is held mid-March, and draws a number of regular members from the London region: their evenings are most convivial and members of the student community are cordially invited to attend. Further details of venue and date will be available from David nearer the time.

CHESHIRE AND SOUTH MANCHESTER BRANCH

Dr. Denis M. Martin continues to act as secretary for this branch. Last year's dinner, held at the Cresta Court Hotel in Altrincham on May 9th, was attended by 17 people, including Dr. David Hemsall and Pat, with Mr. John Read from Blackburn. The usual warm interest in the activities of school was expressed and a most enjoyable evening was had by all.

Next year's dinner will no doubt be held in the same excellent surroundings and will be an early Friday night in May, although Denis will provide details nearer the time.

NORTH EAST BRANCH

After the late cancellation of the 1996 dinner due to lack of support, it was with some trepidation that Nick Pratt accepted the 'invitation' to organise the 1997 one, and this took place at St. Aidan's College on the 22nd February.

It was suggested that perhaps the reason for students' lack of interest was the fact that previous dinners had been

formal, requiring participants to wear lounge suits. Consequently, Nick elected to adopt the buffet format so that much more mingling was possible between the guests, and general conversation would be the means of passing on information about school and changes taking place there.

Mr. Ellis Metcalfe (himself a Durham graduate) and his wife Margaret, John Read, and Steve and Sue Monk made up the Blackburn 'party'. Unfortunately, once again, the student turnout was small, but those attending enjoyed a very pleasant evening. Ralph Pickup, in his last year this time at Newcastle has kindly agreed to organise this year's dinner which will be held in Newcastle, sometime in the New Year 1998. Ralph will provide more information later.

(News just in...!) The new secretary is Dr Ralph Pickup and he can be reached at 4 Houndelee Place, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne, NE5 3JU. Tel 0191 271 3640.

OXFORD BRANCH

The Oxford Branch Dinner was held at St. Edmund Hall on February the 14th, "a crisp, early Spring evening", and was organised well by Joseph Hart. All undergraduate age groups were represented. One of the Blackburn party, Dr David Hemsall, recalls that the evening was "excellent" and that "Joseph should be congratulated for his efforts". The Head Master concludes: "Next year's will be eagerly awaited." At the time of going to press, no firm details of the secretary, the venue or the date for the next dinner are available, but it is thought that Jeff Vent of Coventry is to become the new secretary but Joseph Hart no doubt can provide the necessary information and he can be contacted at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, OX1 4JF.

CAMBRIDGE BRANCH

No secretary offered their services following the poorly-attended 1995 dinner, but recruits for the post will no doubt be falling over themselves to volunteer their support and organisational skills for a Cambridge Dinner this season; they have always been extremely pleasant occasions in the past.

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*The Association continues to be grateful in the extreme for the hard work undertaken by the long-suffering Branch Secretaries.*

*Though not an onerous task, it is very time-consuming and often more than a little frustrating to plan, book, choose menus and (hardest of all) drum up support from Association members in the areas and the local universities.*

S.J. MONK

# 1997 ANNUAL DINNER

The Old Blackburnians' Association is delighted to announce that this year's chief guest is Peter Thurnham. The toast to the School will be performed by Michael Walker, an old boy of the School and a teacher in Epsom.

Mr Thurnham was the Conservative Member of Parliament for Bolton North East from 1983 until 1997. He was educated at Oundle School and Peterhouse College, Cambridge where he obtained a Master of Arts degree in 1967. He has been Chairman of the Wathes Group of Companies since 1972. During his political career he was Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Employment and to the Secretary of State for the Environment. He was also a member of the Conservative Back Bench 1922 Committee and held numerous other posts within the Conservative Parliamentary Party.

The menu for the Dinner is as follows:-

TOMATO AND BASIL SOUP  
WITH BREAD ROLLS AND BUTTER

CHICKEN ALEXANDER WITH BROCCOLI AND ASPARAGUS SAUCE  
WITH CHEF'S CHOICE OF VEGETABLES AND POTATOES

INDIVIDUAL PEACH AND MANGO CHEESE CAKE

CHEESE AND BISCUITS

COFFEE AND MINTS

The official application form for Dinner tickets is located on the back page of this issue. Should you wish to attend this popular annual get-together, then please complete as instructed and send away as soon as possible. As always, seating is limited so return early to avoid disappointment. FFC

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## OLD BLACKBURNIANS' GOLF

### Andrew Norman writes . . .

#### GOLF IN '97

The Old Blacks held their annual golf competition on Wednesday 16th July 1997 at Wilpshire Golf Club.

This year 25 players entered the competition and the winner of the net prize, The Judge Walmsley Trophy, was Phil Sumner (91-26-65) with Alan Bradshaw second (79-12-67).

The gross prize and winner of The Sir Gilbert Gerrard Cup was Chris Newsham with an excellent score of 70.

#### GOLF FOR '98

The competition for 1998 will be held in the summer at Blackburn Golf Club although as yet, a specific date has not been set.

I am sure that there must be a lot more golfers out there who would like to take part in the annual event, particularly those under the age of 30.

It may seem a mystery as to how you get to know about the competition so I will try to explain.

At the present time, I write to approximately 45 Old Blacks each year who have played in the competition in the past. The only other form of contact is my name and address in *Magister* which is produced some 6 to 9 months before the competition.

About five years ago we had a tear-off slip in *Magister* asking for any interested golfers - this had a very poor response.

I very much want to increase the number of competitors and see the way forward as follows:-

I need a contact name of a member at each local golf club who could help me build a database of Old Black members.

The contact names I have to date are:-

Andrew Norman @ Blackburn Golf Club

Steve Tart @ Wilpshire Golf Club

Alan Bradshaw @ Clitheroe Golf Club

I would welcome other volunteers who could either ring or write to me.

Any golfer who is interested in playing who I do not already contact by letter please could you write with your name, address and telephone number, together with details of any other known golfers.

I look forward to your response and support.

Andrew Norman  
Old Blacks Golf Secretary  
Schoollands Farm  
Woodford Park  
Mellor  
BLACKBURN  
BB2 7NP

Tel: (01254) 813397

*(If you can participate in next year's golf competition or would like further details then please contact Andrew immediately - FFC)*



# Invitation

## The 1997 Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnians' Association

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 1997

*Big School*

*Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn*

6.30 pm for 7.15 pm

**£14** per person for members who have left school since June 1992

**£19** per person for all other members

To apply for tickets, please complete the slip below:

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*Yes I would like to attend the 1997 Annual Dinner of the Old Blackburnians' Association.  
Please accept this as my official application for a ticket(s)<sup>+</sup>.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Years at school \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Post Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

If possible I should like to sit near to : \_\_\_\_\_

I am ☐ / am not ☐ prepared to accept a seat in the Ante-Room\*. (*tick as appropriate*)

I would prefer a vegetarian meal. ☐ (*tick as appropriate*)

I enclose a cheque for £19 ☐ / £14 ☐ (*tick as appropriate*)  
made payable to "Old Blackburnians' Association"

I enclose a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** for the delivery of my ticket(s)<sup>+</sup>

Please return the above completed application form together  
with your cheque and **stamped, self-addressed envelope** to:

*Ian Pickup (OBA Dinner), 157 Pleckgate Road, BLACKBURN, BB1 8QR.*

\*Tickets for Big School are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

<sup>+</sup>For group bookings, please complete an application form for each ticket.



# magister

MAGAZINE OF THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

NUMBER 41

NOVEMBER 1998

**Alan Howarth, an Old Blackburnian, who has worked on the African continent for many years, writes . . .**

## REFLECTIONS ON THINKING ABOUT RETIRING

As I plan to retire it is interesting to reflect upon what QEGS did to prepare me for my career as a psychiatrist working in Africa - a pretty rare breed incidentally since, outside South Africa we number only about one per million population. Working in Zambia I can hardly complain of boredom, nor of being bogged down in routine duties. I have been able to travel quite widely, mostly in Africa where I have visited 24 sub-Saharan countries, often as a consultant or attending academic meetings. Some of the missions have taken me into the middle of hostilities (30 years ago in Bukavu for instance, or more recently in Liberia), working on the rehabilitation of war traumatised families. Over the years we have had refugees from many countries surrounding Zambia and helping them (sometimes also the victims of torture) has been a challenge. On a more mundane level I long ago took a special interest in alcohol and other drug abuse and this too has taken me on missions to countries such as Burma, Afghanistan and Mauritius. And during the last ten years I have been especially involved with persons living with HIV infection and AIDS, and their families, including the thousands of orphans we are now seeing on our streets.

So what did a Lancashire upbringing do for me? I remember the little thrill of excitement when wandering over Peddle on a grey, misty November day and thinking about the stories of the Lancashire witches. In these days I deal with fear of bewitchment and the benefits of spirit possession almost every day. When I lecture on these topics listeners often ask if I really believe in these phenomena - and the answer is "no" if you are thinking of supernatural beings. The fear can be based upon real horror however, one of my first murder cases (I have prepared reports on at least 200) involved supervising the digging up of a body of a man suspected to have been killed for witchcraft purposes. I have read quite a bit about European witch beliefs and trials and found the knowledge very useful in working in Zambia.

When I passed my School Certificate I was advised to go for languages. Since I was determined to become a doctor I chose science. But I had a good grounding in

French and later (but that's another story) in Latin when I discovered I needed it for admission to Cambridge; and now I must dabble in quite a lot of languages, both in my reading and my work. I am very grateful to the teachers who started me on my linguistic way and especially to Teddy Towle (yes, he helped me with Latin) who forgave an early clash, in the interests of scholarship.

Arthur Holden, headmaster and mathematician expected me to continue with maths in my second year in the sixth form. I opted for more biology (that determination to do medicine again) but never lost my liking for maths - and for (Tylerian) physics. Since I need to understand some statistics in the research I still make use of my maths while reading modern physics is as good as reading a novel on a long flight; "pop" physics of course - Stephen Hawking and such like. And how glorious is the flowering of modern biology and especially genetics, Darwinian psychology and modern immunology. I must admit that as I move into the senior citizen class, history (with lots of footnotes) becomes more interesting. I do have a complaint and that is that I could not take music as a subject at school. I had to acquire my taste elsewhere - mainly from Malcolm Sargent and John Barbirolli at KGH), and I still love my music. Maybe I could do a degree in music when I retire?

Perhaps what I am really saying is that QEGS gave me a love of learning and of books. The school library in my days was very small indeed, but it was a comfortable place. I wonder if the present library has some of the books I would recommend. Perhaps I ought to pay a visit to help fill in a few gaps if needed and if I am allowed.

So at the age of seventy and as I write, about to set out on my second visit to South Africa (two hours flight to Johannesburg for those not sure of their geography) and (about a week later) my third visit to Europe this year, you will guess that I am quite happy NOT to retire just yet. I like my work.

ALAN HAWORTH.

*(Ed - I am most grateful to Alan for writing this article and managing to succeed in emailing it to me from Africa.)*

# Through the Garstang Room Window!

First off, let me apologise for the tardiness with which this invades your privacy. For those wishing to apply for tickets for the Christmas Dinner, let me immediately ask you to turn to the back page and complete the application form thereon. It is imperative that you post this form ASAP both to allow the Dinner Committee to be able to judge numbers and also to provide you the greatest opportunity of a successful application. The quality of our two speakers is such that we predict a sell-out very early on. So get writing now, remembering to enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Those of you still with me or having now returned from back page exploits, let me continue...

As I compile this, my second editorial piece, I decided to look back over what I said last time around and began to note many similarities. Government ministers are still making the wrong news headlines, French lorry-drivers are again blockading Channel ports and although 'not sitting pretty at the top of the Premiership table', Manchester United are only one place worse off than this time last year. Hopefully the new signings of Jesper Blomqvist, Jaap Stam and Dwight Yorke (New Yorke New Yorke, so good they named him Dwight!) will provide United with increased stamina and durability this time around, as it was more a case of us throwing the championship away last season rather than them winning. Not that I'm bitter or anything!

As always, I am eternally grateful to a vast number of people for the help they have provided in compiling this edition. John Read, though less hassled with memos this year, still obtained various information for me with his usual speed and accuracy; Bill Proctor and Ellis Metcalfe kindly cut out useful newspaper articles which exclusively form the 'news and appointments' section; David Hemsall kindly succumbed to writing an article about the School, even though he was supposed to be very busy at HMC in Jersey! I must also thank the large number of contributors without whom this magazine would be nothing. Alan Haworth, Fred Bury, Philip Johnston, Ellis Metcalfe, John Wishart, Michael Bancroft, John Read, David Forbes, Andy Peebles (himself!) and everyone who has sent something to the School for inclusion. It is particularly pleasing to read so many letters from proud parents, wishing to pass on yet more good news. To anyone I have missed out, I thank you.

In particular I should like to thank Garry Readett, my very obliging and very calm designer and printer. Without Garry's expertise, this magazine would be a collection of hand-written A4 pages. It is with great confidence, even as I write this prior to publication, that I can predict another excellent magazine, at least in terms of presentation!

In the last few months, we have seen the usual flurry of league tables and whilst newspaper editors tend to have the data sorted according to the required final outcome, I am pleased to note that Queen Elizabeth's continues to find itself in a very respectable position in the so-called 'first division'. Members will be keen to hear what David Hemsall has to say on the matter in his report further on, but you can rest assured that the School continues to prosper in your absence.

Finally, I would request that as many of you as possible respond to my plea for greater participation. I am continually looking for members to contribute articles to the magazine and this year, I also need input to the re-launched "Letters To The Editor" column as well as "Where Are You Now?". Please feel free to become involved in your annual publication.

FINDLAY F. COLQUHOUN (1987-94),  
Editor,

Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School,  
West Park Road,  
BLACKBURN, BB2 6DF.  
Magister@BTinternet.com



## OLD BLACKBURNIANS GOLF

The annual event was held at Blackburn Golf Club on Thursday 16 July 1998, which was one of the few fine days this summer. There were twenty-six competitors in total with some excellent scores.

The winner of the Judge Walmsley trophy was Ken Brunskill with a score of 90-23-67 after a card play off with Andy Spouse 76-9-67. The gross prize, the Sir Gilbert Gerrard cup, was won by Steven Readett with a score of 75.

The competition will be held at Wipshire in 1999 on Thursday 15 July.

The Old Blackburnians entered a team in the Lancashire Old Boys Association Golf Society competition held at Clitheroe Golf Club. The original competition held in May was abandoned due to the weather and rearranged on 25 August. Unfortunately the weather conditions were very wet again but at least the competition was completed. The Old Blacks came fourth. With the Old Lerpooilians winning the trophy.

The 1999 competition will be held in May or June next year.

If anyone is interested in competing in either of the above competitions please write to Andrew Norman at Schoolands Farm, Woodford Park, Mellor, Blackburn, BB2 7NP.

*(Ed - my thanks to Andrew for his annual report. Golfers amongst us who fancy a gentle stroll through 18 holes, preferably with clubs, might like to speak to Andrew with regards to joining fellow Old Blacks for what is, I am reliably informed, a most enjoyable and relaxed day.)*

## A.G.M.

The AGM of the Association was held on Thursday 26th November 1998 at 8pm.

### Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 1997 annual general meeting
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts
6. Reports from sub-committees  
(a) Dinner (b) Magister (c) Sports  
(d) Branch Activities (e) Records
7. Election of Officers and Committee
8. Subscriptions
9. Dates of meetings for 1999
10. Any other business

Due to space restrictions, last year's AGM minutes are not being reproduced here but copies can be obtained (free of charge) by writing to the Secretary of the Association.

# Letter from the Chairman

Dear Old Blackburnian,

This is my second communication on behalf of the entire Committee of the OBA with all the Old Blackburnians wherever they may be. The year has passed very quickly and all seems well and will get better. I had the misfortune to be unavailable for the Oxford Dinner in February last but had the great pleasure of attending at St Andrews where a splendid evening had been organised by Marianne Pearson. The Head Master certainly set off to attend but Virgin West Coast Mainline felt that Carlisle was the nearest station according to their network map and declined an invitation to take him any further due to the lateness of the hour and, more particularly, their train! Steve Monk and wife, Dr Pearson and wife and myself joined a good turnout at a very posh hotel - cold, windswept and (later) snowy it might have been but the ale and company were just as welcoming. I learnt at first hand of the difficulties that present themselves to an 'organiser' of such an event. The money to provide an evening for others to attend and enjoy often has to be provided 'up-front' by the organiser and recouped later - sometimes much later! This need never happen and we want it clearly understood that any type of event concerning the OBA will be encouraged and supported by the Committee. A float to the requested amount will be provided by return of post if you write to me via the School and I will attend to the paperwork with our Treasurer when recoupment takes place. The Committee do understand the difficulties that organisers face and if recoupment did not quite match expenditure (within reason) I have no doubt that they would be sympathetic in the extreme. I would be extremely pleased to be informed of any forthcoming events and if you want myself or the Vice-Chairman Glenn Blake or other representative from the Committee to attend then we will do so. If it helps the invitation to be forwarded, I can tell you that I always pay for my own tickets. You might note that the 1998 Cambridge Dinner is to be organised by Andrew Bramah and has been pencilled in for either the 20th or 27th of November.

So what else is new? Well, we have a most welcome addition to the Committee in the shape of Virginia Hayton and we also have a new President of the OBA. Sir Kenneth Durham has given the OBA outstanding service during the many years that he has served as President and we thank him for it. We are fortunate in having immediately to hand a successor in the form of one Eric Kay, a name and friend familiar to us all. It was typical of the man to say to me when he was approached that he was flattered and honoured simply to be considered and we thank him for his acceptance.

The high point of the year is always the Association Dinner to be held this year on December 19th. There has been the usual meticulous planning by the dinner committee with two speakers that we commend to you. The guest speaker will be Andy Peebles of Radio Lancashire fame and who needs no further introduction. Frank Riley will give the toast to the School and may well need further introduction unless you happen to be a footballer at the Old Blacks who has never collected a trophy because HE collects them all, year in year out, or maybe you are a quiz fanatic in which case you will again recognise him as a winner. This is a particularly good double act so please apply for that dinner ticket today as we anticipate a sell out. (Ed - application form on back page. Due to late publication, I strongly advise the completion and return of this ticket application immediately. Tomorrow may well be too late!)

There have been golf and soccer meetings which are covered elsewhere in Magister. I am keen to see a revival of Old Boys/Girls fixtures against the School in the not too far distant future. There is also a Masonic ladies' evening held each year in early November - usually at the Moorcock in Waddington - to which all are welcome and is something to consider for next year. It really is a good evening.

The tireless Dr Hemsall has done all he can to help the OBA in various ways and we are very grateful for the time he spends with us and the facilities that he makes available to us. We also extend a warm welcome to Jeremy Ranford, the new Bursar. In a short meeting I had with him at Speech Night he made it perfectly clear that he would do anything to assist the OBA or any member who had cause to contact him directly.

The continuing problem of remaining in contact with you all will have to be resolved during the coming year. I don't understand 'databases' or how they work, but fortunately others do. What I do understand is that unless we have your correct postal address (and if possible, a telephone number) a great deal of time and effort is wasted. I would welcome a short note from you all stating your full name, address, telephone number, house and years at School so that the existing records can be checked. (Ed - reminding other members who have already lost contact with School to do the same, would also be much appreciated.)

Finally, may I convey the thanks of the Committee to Findlay Colquhoun for getting this edition of Magister out (nearly) on time despite a computer mishap and then may I on behalf of myself, the Vice Chairman Glenn Blake and all the other members of the Committee, wish you and yours, wherever you may be, a very happy Christmas and New Year.

J.D.S. WISHART,  
Chairman, OBA.



*In what must be one of the longest articles Magister has ever seen, I am proud and privileged to introduce an article written by a man who certainly needs no introduction from me . . .*

## MORE THAN 'FORTY YEARS ON'

After several bouts of arm twisting by an enthusiastic and very persuasive editor, I was eventually cajoled into attempting the impossible - 'condensing', as the chemist would say, the experiences gained over a 50 year connection with QEGS, into a suitable article for this magazine. However, having accepted the challenge, I should point out from the very outset, that if anyone is now anticipating my opinions on the relative merits of the heuristic and didactic approach to teaching, or my views on Piaget's comprehensive theory of children's cognitive development, then they are going to be disappointed. I intend it to be a pure, unadulterated, nostalgic trip down memory lane, bearing in mind of course that nostalgia isn't what it used to be.

It was in September 1948 that I first entered the hallowed portals of QEGS as a slim, blonde haired, fresh faced and short trousered schoolboy. Inevitably the passage of time has brought about a remodelling of my physical appearance, and whilst THIS reshaping has been evolving, I have also witnessed several changes taking place within the environs of QEGS and some of these I will attempt to recall. However, for the purposes of this article I must, by necessity, be selective, and feel that this résumé can best be approached by my recalling the various roles I have filled during my passage through a school for which I have always had the greatest affection.

### AS A PUPIL

Some of my fondest memories are of the staff who taught me and, in particular, their individual characteristics and the techniques they employed in endeavouring to inculcate a knowledge and understanding of their subject into the mind of a pupil who was a somewhat reluctant academic.

Repetition was a feature of 'Pecker' Eastwood's approach to History teaching and many of you will recall performing the annual task of drawing or tracing a Spanish galleon. His marking schemes were also somewhat unique and, at times, rather contentious - the correct answer of 'Jesus Christ' to one of his test questions bringing the additional comment from Pecker of "1 mark for Jesus, 1 for Christ". He was also a committed Housemaster, and I can visualise him now standing on a windswept, muddy Lammack encouraging his team on with the frequent exhortation of "Come on Dwake". Doc Tyler's lessons were conducted in his own inimitable but effective style, with only about 20% of the time being devoted to Physics. For the remainder, the class were either regaled by stories concerning 'the fairies at the bottom of his garden' or given culinary advice on the best way of making traditional local delicacies such as Lancashire Hot Pot - and this from a proud Yorkshireman! My interest in Chemistry was probably initiated by the entertaining and inspirational teaching of Harry King, who was later to become my 'boss' and for whom I always had the greatest admiration and respect. Adopting a resolute stance at the front of the class, he would frequently inform us that he was "King by name, King by nature" and his lessons were certainly of the highest quality.

More briefly I can recall Fred Bury's sarcasm, 'Judd' Lewney's dexterity in drawing a perfect circle freehand, 'Spike' Kennedy's ability to work out even the most complicated mathematical problem in his head, Bill Proctor's propensity to issue what were essentially simple instructions in words of at least 5 syllables, Geoff Mercer's measured gait, whatever the circumstances, and his tendency to 'sniff' at least

70 times in a single period and Leo Collier's distinctive wardrobe, much of which he had tailored himself using skills acquired when he was a Japanese Prisoner of War. It is also with a sense of apprehension that I still remember the hand bell being rung, and the silence which ensued, as the whole school waited to hear the distinctive footsteps of the then Headmaster, N.S.T. Benson, making his way slowly down the corridor from his study to Big School in order to take morning assembly.

On reflection, I feel that there were occasions when we were rather cruel in our treatment of some members of staff, although at the time it was regarded as 'good entertainment'. I well remember when 'Bud' Earle had difficulty in reconciling a falling thermometer temperature with a slowly heated liquid in which it was placed - the fact that the bulb was in the air and not in the liquid was not drawn to his attention! Furthermore, during practical Chemistry lessons in the Sixth Form, it was the 'norm' for the students to brew coffee in a Pyrex beaker and then persuade Bud that the brown coloration was indeed 'a Group II precipitate'. However, whatever situation he faced, Bud always displayed a kindly nature and had the pupils' best interests at heart. Older readers will no doubt also be able to recall the various 'traumas' experienced by such teaching stalwarts as Tommy Shaw and 'Tusker' Partington.

Sport played an important role in my schooldays, although the choice of sports available was much more limited than it is today. Golf, horseriding, ice skating et al have now appeared on the curriculum, alongside the major sports of football and cricket which were the dominant ones in my day. Much of the football in my early years was played at Lammack on what were euphemistically called the 'spud pitches'. Later, on graduation to the first XI, I was able to display my skills on a surface more appropriate to my talents. It was then that I came under the watchful eye of Fred Dewhurst, a very fine coach and mentor to the first XI. Unfortunately, I think I was something of a disappointment to him, for as a consequence of a very active social life, I found that I frequently had difficulty lasting the 90 minutes of a competitive match. As a result, Fred's weekly Saturday morning team talk - yes, we were at school on Saturday mornings - invariably began with the question: "And which half are you going to play today, Metcalfe?" In later years he has confessed to being reluctant to drop me, as he felt I could do as much damage in 45 minutes as anyone else in the team was likely to do in the full 90!!

In the artistic field, I think it was the 'lure of the greasepaint and roar of the crowd' that encouraged me to display my Thespian tendencies on a number of occasions. As was traditional in those days, female parts were played by boys in the junior forms whose voices had not yet broken - in fact my first speaking part was as the serving wench Sally Jellyband in the play 'The Scarlet Pimpernel'. However, once in the Sixth Form, and for reasons unknown, I was usually cast in the romantic lead, with roles such as D'Artagnan in 'The Three Musketeers' and Ferdinand in 'The Tempest'. It is of interest to note that the cast of the latter play included the late Russell Harty and was produced by the late Ronald Eyre, who went on to produce in the West End and at Stratford-on-Avon as well as directing several BBC documentaries.

On the discipline front, pupil punishment was certainly more physical than it is nowadays and even senior prefects were given permission to beat persistent miscreants with a

flexible bamboo cane. They also ran their own 'punishment drill' - an occasion when the so called 'naughty boys' were subjected to some fairly rigorous exercises, such as hanging from the wall bars for 10 minutes or doing 100 press ups. It is perhaps also worth recalling here that around the 1950s an activity known as 'break PT' was very much in fashion. Every morning break, all pupils changed into their PE vest and shorts, and in various areas around the school grounds were led through a series of mildly demanding physical exercises.

### **AS A MEMBER OF STAFF**

In this role, I can state that from the very outset I found the staff room at QEGS to be a most friendly and entertaining place, and the light-hearted banter between colleagues is one of the things I have missed since retirement. However, it is probably fair to say that in my early, pre-inspection days, it was rather more a 'Palace of Varieties' than it is now. Lunch times were the highlight of the day, when the 'extroverts' of the staff performed their particular party piece. The late Harry Ingham would use his umbrella to demonstrate his wide variety of cricketing strokes, Alan Jackson and Bill Stansfield would perform their handstands, Bill Proctor would attempt to juggle with the 'thousands' of cigarette ends which cascaded from his locker, and Harry Aspden would initiate all new MALE members of staff by sitting down beside them and telling them what appeared to be a perfectly feasible story, but which ended with the gullible newcomer receiving an unexpected kiss on the cheek from Harry! However, Jack Monk was the 'raconteur par excellence', and his legendary 'Arfur' joke was one which he always told when impressionable interviewees were present in the staff room. Many of us felt that the reaction of the candidate to the story was a much better indicator of their suitability for a job at QEGS than the more conventional way of an interview with the Headmaster. If they laughed they would be OK, if they didn't they should be avoided at all costs!

Obviously, over the years I have witnessed changes in the variety of subjects being taught and the teaching methods employed. Politics, Economics and Psychology are all relatively new arrivals on the scene, and in the majority of subjects the teaching approach has become more 'heuristic' or 'child centred'. For my part, perhaps I remained an educational dinosaur for too long, a fact to which many of you could testify, having sat through my double periods writing out notes that were being dictated in a mogadon tone.

On the material front there have been a number of new buildings and several instances of structural alterations being made to allow for a change of use. The Assembly Hall was once the 'Bottom Quad' playground, the swimming pool is situated where previously stood a Woodwork room, Biology laboratory and classrooms (the 'New Wood Wing'), CDT occupies the position of the 'Old Wood Wing', the Garstang Room was a library, classrooms Q8 and Q9 were the gymnasium and the site of the present kitchens was previously the domain of the Chemistry laboratories - some would say that we simply swapped one form of cookery for another!

The introduction of young ladies into the Sixth Form was quite a revolutionary step, but one which was welcomed wholeheartedly by the male members of staff. Furthermore, it now meant that girls could actually play the female leads in school drama productions. In my opinion their integration into the school was a positive step, and one which proved beneficial to all concerned. For my part, having two daughters who, from birth, have had the ability to twist me round their little fingers more or less at will, I experienced some difficulty in trying to establish an effective disciplinary approach to the so-called 'weaker sex' - and to be honest, I failed! I have been flattered by them, being described by one as 'the chemist with the fair hair', but have also been aware of their criticisms, hearing one castigate a member of her form with the words, 'you're so boring you could be a teacher!'

In the field of discipline I was now the transmitter rather

than the receiver, and in my initial teaching years staff were given a fair licence to use whatever punishment they thought fitted the crime. Reluctantly and regrettably, I have to confess that it was not unknown for me in those early days to apply a length of rubber tubing - minus the Bunsen burner - to the backside of a recalcitrant chemist. This, however, I always did in the MORNING, as it allowed time for the weal marks to disappear before the young man arrived home later that day!

On a lighter note, it is probably appropriate at this point to draw the reader's attention to the changes that have occurred since my schooldays in the meaning of certain words and expressions. In the early 1950s, a 'chip' was a piece of wood or fried potato, 'hardware' meant nuts and bolts and 'software' wasn't a word. 'Grass' was mown, 'coke' was kept in the coal house, a 'joint' was a piece of meat and 'pot' was something to cook in. 'Made in Japan' meant junk, a 'stud' was something that fastened a collar to a shirt and 'going all the way' meant staying on a double-decker to the bus depot!

### **AS HOUSEMASTER OF FROBISHER**

My time in this position was brief - two years to be precise - but it was a privilege to follow such distinguished Housemasters as Dr Tyler and Eric Kay and become, I think, the first individual to occupy the roles of both House Captain and Housemaster of the same house. As you know, the House system thrives on sporting competitions and I was fortunate to be able to call upon such talented sportsmen as Tommy Phillips, David Hunter and Roger Hunt. Consequently we were successful in winning the Cock House Trophy two years in succession, and I was able to 'retire' whilst still at the top. Over the years, the demands on your time of being Housemaster have increased enormously, primarily because of the many and varied sports now involved in inter-House competitions and it is now impossible to combine this role successfully with any other.

### **AS MASTER IN CHARGE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE**

This was a role from which I derived considerable pleasure and much satisfaction. Regrettably I feel this is an area where, in recent years, the school could and should have been more involved. Recent statements from the present Headmaster would appear to concur with my views, and I'm pleased to say that steps are being taken to remedy the situation, and ensure that in the future all students at QEGS will once more become actively involved in the community. It is my opinion, that only by such interaction can the students become more aware of the problems encountered in society by people, both young and old, who are less fortunate than themselves. However, this involvement means much more than putting a hand in your pocket, and easing the conscience by donating to a local charity. The priority should be a sacrifice of time rather than money, in effect, PERSONAL SERVICE rather than PURSE SERVICE. In connection with my Community Service work, I have to say that I received a great deal of support from many members of staff, and we were able to involve the students in a variety of activities. These included gardening, painting and decorating, visiting the elderly in the neighbourhood, entertaining the mentally and physically handicapped, and researching and then printing a 'Guide to Blackburn for the Disabled'. Money was, of course, essential to finance these activities and was raised through House collections, a charities week at the end of the Summer term and an annual Christmas 'concert' - and I use the latter word loosely. This was the one occasion in the year when staff had the opportunity to show that they should really be members of Equity and not a teaching union. It was, in fact, the forerunner of ITV's 'Stars in their Eyes' and brought transitory stardom to a wide cross-section of the staff. It is with a wry smile that I recall Steve Monk as Gary Glitter, Steve and Jack Monk as Laurel and Hardy, Jim Grogan as Tom Jones, Mike Bancroft as the seductive Shirley Bassey, Regina Arkwright as the raunchy Suzi Quatro and Dave Hopkinson, suitably adorned with pins, as one of the Sex Pistols. One final memory

of my Community Service work with QEGS involves that ever popular classicist, Jim Grogan, now a doyen of the staffroom. Following an evening in which members of the school had entertained a group of elderly handicapped, staff arrived to provide transport home for the invited guests. Gentle Jim took the arm of an old lady and, against instructions, escorted her from Big School, through the ante-room and finally out of the door by the Garstang Room. Unfortunately, it was here that he then lost his grip and allowed her to fall down the steps, going home more disabled than when she arrived!!

### AS HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

On assuming this role I was very much aware from the outset of the unenviable task which confronted me, for my predecessor, as I indicated earlier in this article, was the legendary Harry King, himself an Old Boy. Harry was known and respected by all levels of society throughout the town and he was an ideal role model for any aspiring Head of Department. Before him, a gentleman by the name of Alan Earle was HoD - Earle, King then Metcalfe - what a let down!

Many of the 'younger' Old Boys will no doubt have their own memories of those members of staff who taught them Chemistry during my time as Head of Department. Some will recall Stuart Ingham's frequent diversions from the chemical script to reveal his personal thoughts on 'coping with women' (in reality figments of his imagination). Some will remember Steve Monk (an OB and the Peter Pan of the department) and his continuing search for the 'elixir of life', others will not have forgotten Alan Sagar and his extensive repertoire of bizarre stories, whilst some may even have distant recollections of my own "Magical Moments with Metcalfe" (alternatively regarded as 'The Adventures of Ellis in Wonderland').

I think that here I must state I considered it a privilege to lead such a dedicated, talented and friendly bunch of individuals. Each had strengths in particular areas, but together they made a formidable team and gave me tremendous support and encouragement. However, all the academic Chemistry staff would agree that the most influential members of the department were the laboratory technicians, Bruce and Sheila. These two were my right and left hand - they pampered me, cajoled me, sorted out my practicals and told me where, when and what I should be teaching. If a member of the teaching staff was away for a few days we could cope, if either Bruce or Sheila were away we came to a halt. As some of you know, I was very proud of the department and its academic achievements, but I was equally pleased with the friendly atmosphere which appeared to exist between the Chemistry staff and their students. During the last 10 years or so, it also gave me considerable satisfaction to see Chemistry become the most popular subject option at Advanced Level, going completely against the national trend. However, perhaps my most memorable moment came when we won the Royal Society of Chemistry's United Kingdom quiz competition in 1989. After winning two preliminary rounds in the North-West region, we then travelled to London for the final. Following a knock out competition involving seven other teams, we eventually defeated Bradford Grammar School in the final round to win £500 for the department.

In concluding this particular section, I'm sure many OB's will be pleased to learn that the Headmaster appointed Alan Sagar as my successor. In his early years at QEGS Alan was something of a 'practical joker' and not even HoDs were exempt from his hit list. When pulling on my laboratory coat I frequently found the sleeves stapled together, and when picking up my briefcase I often found it heavier than expected because of the addition of a 1 kilogram bottle of calcium carbonate. However, he has now 'matured', is an excellent schoolmaster and I feel the department is in very capable hands.

As I write this article, 'A' level results are once again being announced and, as usual, there is the accompanying media

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mania concerned with 'falling standards'. For my part, I feel that although 'A' level Chemistry students of today are subject to a greater number of external pressures, they are very much the equal of their predecessors. They may not possess the same factual knowledge, but they do have a better understanding of the principles of the subject and their applications. Furthermore, their practical skills are infinitely superior to those of earlier generations, and I feel that their achievements should be commended rather than damned with faint praise.

### AS A PARENT

By any definition, this was certainly the most expensive role that I filled!! My son Chris was at school from the age of 9 and Head Boy in his final year, whilst my daughters Alison and Jillian transferred from Pleckgate School into the Sixth Form. All thoroughly enjoyed their time at QEGS, both socially and academically, and Margaret and myself feel that the education they received was a good preparation for both life at University and beyond.

Obviously there are many more memories of QEGS that I take into retirement, the majority of them being happy ones. Fortunately, time and space allow me to mention only a few. It is with much pleasure that I recall the extremely high standards achieved in musical productions such as 'South Pacific' and 'Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat', the thrill of being present at the Oval when the school beat Kings School Worcester in the final of the U15 Lords Taverners cricket competition and, more recently, the delight of watching the First XI soccer team winning the Boodle and Dunthorne Trophy for Independent Schools at Chester City football ground.

These, then, are some of the recollections I have of my time at QEGS, and from the article the readers should be able to recognise some of the changes that have taken place since their schooldays. However, throughout my time there, I always felt that the school provided a stable, caring and stimulating environment, in which all pupils were given the opportunity and encouragement to develop their talents to the full in so many areas. For my part, I regard it as a privilege to have been involved in the academic and social education of so many talented young men and women. It is with much interest that I still try and follow their career pathways, which often tend not to follow predicted lines. Indeed, OBs are to be found as TV presenters, film directors and fashion 'gurus' as well as the more conventional doctors, dentists and chemists.

Inevitably, my retirement brought the curtain down on 37 years as a classroom performer. Paradoxically, however, I felt it was not the end but the beginning of the PLAY. The zimmer frame has been put on hold and golf, travel, GCSE Spanish, Blackburn Rovers, theatre visits and grandchildren are all playing an increasing part in my new and exciting role. Naturally, there are some things about QEGS that I miss, but regular Friday meetings in a local hostelry with a select band of current members of staff, ensures that I am still in touch and kept informed of the latest moans, groans and scandals. However, I shall not forget the advice given by Harold Macmillan in his book 'At the End of the Day', where he states: 'It always seemed to me, more artistic when the curtain falls on the last performance to accept the inevitable E FINITA LA COMMEDIA. It is tempting, perhaps, but certainly not rewarding, to hang about the green room after retirement from the stage'. Hence it is farewell to modules, assessments, mission statements and the like, and a growing realisation that the only league table I now need worry about is that of the Carling Premiership!!

W.E. METCALFE 1998.

*(Ed - Indeed, looking at the current table, worry you might! Sorry . . . couldn't resist that!)*

*The Editor is extremely grateful to Ellis for submitting to write this article, after continual harassment lasting several months! His reminiscences will no doubt be enjoyed by members both old and new.)*

*In a still unpublished article for "The Blackburnian", Mike Bancroft, the current Head of Mathematics, recalls the services of another stalwart of QEGS . . .*

# PETER IDDON

**Peter Iddon joined the staff of Queen Elizabeth's in April 1962 and in the next 35 years gave its staff and students fine service.**

**His main interest was in the teaching of mechanics. This was a subject he loved to teach and it was a happy thing that in the earlier years of his teaching, A-Level Mathematics meant Pure Mathematics and Mechanics. Times changed and statistics became an increasingly popular alternative to mechanics and eventually 'applied mathematics', a mixture of mechanics and statistics, became the 'p.c.' option. This was a sadness to him and he continued strongly to champion the cause of mechanics. Education theories move in circles - today's orthodoxy become tomorrow's nonsense and next week's bright idea. I suspect it will not be too long before mechanics makes a comeback.**

It was not long after Fred Bury (another devotee of mechanics) was appointed Second Master that Peter took over responsibility for the school stationery. It was largely books and biros at that time. Those were the happy days of the Banda and Gestetner machines - many younger teachers will never have seen these and certainly not used them. But the 'tools of teaching' began to change; anti-dust chalk went out, whiteboards, electronic calculators, videos, microcomputers and the photocopies came in. Ensuring that the School had the quantity or colour or size or shape or model that every teacher wanted became a considerable achievement which Peter almost inevitably managed. Whiteboard pens had to be checked by the Health and Safety people to see if they were safe to use - they certainly didn't smell safe - but the photocopier proved an even greater health risk, at least for Peter. I wonder how many times he cursed the day it was invented. Ninety people, banging, hitting or kicking it, could easily reduce it to immobility and tirelessly Peter would get it going again. Sometimes the engineer had to be brought in but Peter salvaged countless lessons by dropping whatever he was doing and releasing a paper jam or just getting it to work again.

Peter made himself available at almost any time of day to meet teachers' needs of materials and advice. Seldom did he count his time his own, rarely did he complain about the sometimes totally unreasonable demands that staff made of him. His service in this area went far beyond the call of duty.

On entering the stationery room one of the things which immediately impressed was the rows of files on the shelves, sheets of problems, solutions to papers, all labelled, all placed there in an orderly fashion. Order and organisation might have been invented by Peter. Perhaps this goes with Peter's interest in chess; he ran the School chess club for many years.

Both Peter and Marian's children came to Queen Elizabeth's. Joanna became Head Girl and both Andrew (whom I had the great pleasure of teaching in the Sixth Form) and Joanna achieved outstanding A-Level results.

Peter was a totally reliable colleague and served the School faithfully. If he was not at school, and that happened rarely, he was decidedly ill. He was also very supportive and I valued those times when changes took place that neither of us liked and we could have a moan together.

I hope that Peter has a long and happy retirement and can reflect on his achievements at Queen Elizabeth's with pride.

M. BANCROFT.

*Ed - Having been taught by Peter for three consecutive years leading up to my GCSE examinations, I have my own memories of Peter. I well remember that on the odd occasion, usually lessons immediately prior to lunch when the School had just taken delivery of new exercise books, our Maths lesson would be postponed whilst the class assembled, military fashion, to help move these books from the office up to his room.*

*Perhaps other Maths students taught by Peter might also recall his leniency in setting homework, each lesson usually ending "just spend a few minutes finishing this off lads" - though in his defence, we were the top set! I can also recall, most vividly, a comment which Peter made after one particular incident which still brings a smile to my face now. A couple of the boys were chatting away in a corner of the classroom and despite previous disdainful glances from Peter, still continued. Said Peter, "oh do shut up - you're like a bunch of old women in that corner!" Coming from a man that took his work very seriously, this added even more wit to the line. Overall, I can only count my blessings that I was lucky enough to be placed under Peter's guiding wings.*

*I found my three years with him most interesting and enjoyable and I can only reaffirm Mike Bancroft's comments to wish him all the very best in his retirement. His services, both to the Maths department and the School in general, will be sorely missed.*

*The Editor would like to thank Mike Bancroft for providing this article for inclusion in Magister. \*\*\* Along with the staff changes outlined in David Hempsall's report, Martin Glover has been appointed the care and welfare officer at Blackburn Rovers' new youth academy.*



# MEMBERS' APPOINTMENTS AND NEWS

Old Blackburnian and former QEGS teacher **Albert Eastham** was introduced to the Princess Royal at a British Executive Service Overseas event in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Albert was due to travel to China in November with BESO to teach at a management college in Gansu Province. No doubt he will keep us informed.

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Blackburn Rovers' supporters may be interested to learn that the summer signing of defender Sebastian Perez was completed, thanks largely to the efforts of an Old Blackburnian. **Karl Myers** - working in the ticket office at Ewood Park during a vacation from Durham University where he is studying French - was asked by chief executive John Williams to act as interpreter once it was realised that officials at both clubs could not find a common language.

Karl was involved from the very start of the deal and claims it was "a tremendous experience that has done a lot for my French".

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**Adrian Barham**, currently studying at the highly-acclaimed Institute Universitaire de Gaudes Etudes Internationales in Geneva, has been selected for a premier legal competition in America.

Run by the International Law Students' Association, the competition is set up like a real case at the International Court of Justice at the Hague. Adrian is to represent Switzerland.

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John Titterington has gone into business with two partners to show British travellers the hidden treasures of China. Having led around 60 tours for various travel companies over the last 10 years, John hopes to use his knowledge of the Communist country to specialise in off-the-beaten-track tours offered by his Leicester-based company, Essence of the Orient.

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Former Vice Master **Eric Whittle** was singled out as the "man who made the difference" to Old Blackburnian **Mick Jackson**.

Whilst at QEGS, Mick confesses to being "more interested in his next fag than creative writing" but under the careful guidance of Eric Whittle, his ideas of becoming a writer were harboured.

Mick's novel "The Underground Man" was released earlier in the year and received a Booker Prize nomination.

Still talking novels and **Gordon Houghton** has published what is described as a "razor sharp novel of secret rituals, self mutilation and suspect sausages". He studied English at Oxford University. "The Dinner Party" took him six years to complete and draws upon his "interest in society's rituals".

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Michael Winterbottom has directed a movie set in war-torn Bosnia based on the true story of ITN journalist Michael Nicholson who decided to smuggle a child back to England after coming across an orphanage under daily bombardment. Michael worked as a film editor for Thames TV before directing the first episode of the award winning crime series "Cracker". The premiere in London's Odeon West End was back in November 1997.

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**Charles Garside**, former editor-in-chief of The European newspaper, has bought the award-winning and current Good Food Guide Restaurant of the Year "Miller Howe" from celebrity chef John Tovey. Set up in 1971 the business was valued at £2.5million in 1989 but continued osteoporosis over the past few years meant that Mr Tovey was advised that selling-up would be his best course of action.

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Having graduated from the University of Aberdeen with a degree in land economy, **Michael Cavannagh** has been appointed associate partner of Trevor Dawson & Co.

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**Richard Hulyer** has been appointed to the helm of the healthcare valuation services department of surveyors Christie & Co. based in Manchester. The firm carries out rent reviews, valuations and building surveying throughout Europe.

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James G. Warner (1971-1981) has been appointed Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon at The Royal Bolton Hospital. After General Surgical training, James completed his Higher Surgical work in Orthopaedic and Trauma Surgery in the north west. Married to Karen, a GP in Leyland, they have two young sons.

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**Stephen Hardman** has won a fellowship to study for an MA in American Literature at the University of St Louis in Missouri. He has just completed his degree in English Literature.

# Letters to The Editor . . .

In this newly re-launched column, I am inviting members to air their views on whatever Association topic they so choose.

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Sir,

I am a fully paid-up member of the Association of some standing. Some years ago, I moved away from the Blackburn area and now poor health prevents me from travelling back for the Christmas Dinner, much as I would like to.

I would therefore like to see more promotion work going on at branch level as I can not recall seeing my local branch mentioned for some years. I'm sure there are many other members in my position who can't/don't want to attend the Blackburn dinner but would like to meet every so often at a less formal gathering, hopefully within a short drive from our homes.

Name and address withheld.

Ed - the committee is currently working on a best way forward to further develop our local branch network. I know many members would like to know further details of their nearest branches and we hope to be able to do this in the very near future. All being well, branches will get an increased space allowance next year.

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Sir,

Having attended the last few Big School Dinners, I am alone in finding the behaviour of some of our younger members, particularly during the moment of silence, to be deplorable. Those men gave of their lives for their School and country. They deserve more respect than any of these youths will ever gain.

Name and address withheld.

*Ed - I couldn't agree with you more.*

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Sir,

I am a seasoned visitor to the Christmas Dinner but am beginning to find the 'value' of the event, in financial terms, to be less than satisfactory. Last year's ticket price of £19 seemed unreasonably high for the low quality food we were served. I well appreciate that the main purpose of the gathering is to meet old friends but this aspect is provided for free. Surely a good meal must feature somewhere on the priorities list? I have attended better dinners given by local charities.

Name and address withheld.

Ed - what do you think?

This column is for you, the members, to express your views and reply to questions raised.

Letters can be sent to:

**The Editor, Magister,
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School,
West Park Road,
BLACKBURN BB2 6DF**

**or you can send email to:
Magister@BTinternet.com.**

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Next issue, I intend to start a "Where Are You Now" column for those members who wish to re-establish contact with long-lost friends. Over the course of many years, people invariably move away from Blackburn and try as they might, eventually lose contact with peers. Anyone in this position should contact me (either by post or by email) and I will do my best to search out the member(s) requested. Should a search not prove successful, a small piece will be featured in the next issue for members to come forward.

It is becoming increasingly obvious that many members are failing to keep the School properly notified of their present address and telephone number. This results in a large number of Magisters being returned to School by the Post Office. If you fail to keep the School in touch, we will not be able to keep in touch with you and it is the decision of the committee that repeated failed attempts to deliver Magister will result in that member being removed from the distribution list. Clearly, those who are reading this article will more than likely have the School up-to-date, but you might know someone who was not received their copy and in this event, please ask them to contact me (by post or by email) and I shall arrange for the correct details to be filed and a copy of Magister to be forwarded to them.

## SCHOOL FEE COMPARISONS

Statistical lovers may be interested to learn of the following, recently uncovered by my father as he chanced across the QEGS bill for my first term, at the same time as receiving the latest bill for my brother who is currently a 5th Year.

In the period July 1987 to July 1998, Main School fees have risen by 138% to just short of £1700, dinner charges have risen by 144% to £121, school transport has risen by 111% (actual cost dependant on route) yet accident insurance has risen by only 50% to £4.50.

Perhaps the School should be placed into the hands of the insurance brokers!

*(Ed - Remember that fees listed are per term and are provided for indicative and comparative purposes only. I believe that many older OBs will be interested to hear of them. Long gone are the days of a Guinea a term!)*

# Annual Dinner 1997



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# THREE COMPLETED YEARS IN OFFICE THE HEADMASTER REPORTS . . .

**I was pleased to receive from Findlay Colquhoun an invitation to pen a few words about the school of 1998. The arrival of a new Headmaster invariably presages change and my tenure of office is proving no exception to that rule. At the start of my fourth year at QEGS, where have we reached and where are we going?**

First and foremost, assembling a wholly new senior management team in September 1996 enabled us to review from top to bottom the QEGS way of doing things. Whilst much survived close scrutiny, much did not. In 1996, therefore, the school year was lengthened to provide more teaching time. In 1997, a new curriculum was introduced which has come fully on-stream this year. At the heart of this lies Complementary Studies, a curriculum area which will develop over time, but through which the school overtly transmits the values for which it stands. A new method of delivery has been introduced, the six-day working cycle. This has allowed us to give proper time to subjects which previously received an insufficient allocation on the timetable. Alongside this, we have introduced baseline testing, measuring value-added and target-setting in the Sixth Form. Thus it is that, not without some anguish in some quarters, the school's core activity and its *modus operandi* are being modernised.

At Board level too, there has been change. Mr Bill Goodall retired as Chairman earlier this year and has been succeeded by Mr Chris Haworth. Like the incoming Headmaster, the incoming Chairman has his ideas about how things might be done. Already he has initiated a review of the Board's existing committee structure and has established a Strategy Working Group which began its activities by considering my first draft School Development Plan. It is enormously encouraging to have Governors who are prepared to look beyond the immediate horizon, to ask "What if..?", and to think the unthinkable.

The Johnston era was one which will be remembered for building. The legacy in bricks and mortar is superb. In contrast, I suspect that my period of office will be rather dull for it is to re-furbishing and bringing up to standard existing buildings that my colleagues and I are increasingly turning our thoughts. Singleton House, our bespoke Sixth Form Centre on West Park Road, was opened in Michaelmas Term, 1995. Since then, building projects have been more modest in scale. For all that, they have been appreciated. They include the re-development of Lawn Bank to accommodate Music and Junior School classrooms, utilising dead space in the Queen's Wing to produce offices for Heads of Year, re-developing the Common Room, and - unglamorous but

necessary - providing new WC facilities in Horncliffe.

The Junior School continues to thrive. As members of the OBA will appreciate, any significant development of Horncliffe is hampered by the cramped nature of the site. Having initiated my own (voluntary) eviction from Lawn Bank, some new space has been brought into service. In truth, however, the development of the Junior School is already the subject of some radical thinking which will, in due course, be addressed by the Governors' Strategy Working Group.

As to staff, the regular turn-over continues. This last summer, we said good-bye to thirteen teaching and non-teaching colleagues. We lost to retirement no fewer than three colleagues with over fifty years' service between them. They included Mr Stan Waring, the Bursar; Mrs Cynthia Johnston, teacher of Mathematics and Headmaster's wife *extraordinaire*; and Mrs Elspeth Butler, teacher of English and French and *impresario* of public speaking for many years. It was fitting, therefore, that in Mrs Butler's last year, the girls' team should win the Elizabeth Peacock Trophy and the national final of the Business and Professional Women's Public Speaking Competition. It is to honour Mrs Butler's singular contribution that trophies for public speaking awarded on Speech Night have been newly named.

One tradition which immediately failed to survive scrutiny was Speech Night's being held proximate to St Thomas's Eve. I was soon made aware by parents and staff that holding this event against the rival attractions of pantomime and Christmas shopping really was "not on". Accordingly Speech Night is now held in mid-to-late September, a change which has met with universal approval. The principal reason for so doing was to enable those about to leave for university to attend. Those winning prizes do, I know, appreciate receiving their prize in book token form as this helps them off-set the heavy cost of books which is such a burden to youngsters embarking on their undergraduate careers. This year, our Chief Guest was Mr Roy Hodgson of Blackburn Rovers. He proved to be an excellent choice and it was good to see King George's Hall full to bursting.

And what of our present-day pupils? They continue to be a source of delight. At Speech Night, we circulate

a little flier called Highlights & Happenings which recalls the outstanding individual and collective achievements of the past year. Suffice it to say that this year, the accomplishments were so many and varied that I had to produce this in seven point! For all of us, however, the greatest satisfaction was drawn from the performance of our youngsters in GCSE and A-level examinations. Our candidates' results this year were excellent. At A-level, they were spectacularly good so that QEGS figured in the Daily Telegraph's First Division of schools. To win this particular accolade, 60% or more of all passes achieved had to be Grades A or B. QEGS's candidates accumulated almost 62% of passes at the requisite grades, a terrific tribute to the hard and effective work of our students and staff alike. Of those leaving last summer, just over one-half were destined for science-based university courses; so that part of the QEGS tradition remains as virile as ever.

This past year, we have been delighted to greet luminaries from the past. These included Mr Fred Bury who gave me a fascinating insight into some of the less well documented - and some wholly undocumented! - aspects of the school's recent history. Earlier this term, I was delighted when Mr and Mrs Brian Kemball-Cook bopped in unannounced. Both were in the most splendid form and intrigued by what they saw and heard. I've received several visitors from far and wide, including some from Canada and Australia. It's open house: all are most welcome!

So what is on or beyond the horizon? QEGS is to be inspected in 1999, an event to which we look forward with great anticipation. The changes presently in train are beginning to work their way through and, as I said at Speech Night, I can offer no hope that the pace of change will slacken. It won't and it can't.

Despite abolishing the Assisted Places Scheme, the present government appears for the present to be genuine in its wish to see a partnership between the independent and the maintained sectors of education. The old certainties have gone. That is why it is our conviction that, in order to control our own agenda, we must be proactive and we must initiate. These are indeed challenging but exciting times.

*(Ed - My thanks to David for producing this article in so short a time period. I hope members will be interested to learn of what has gone and what's to come.)*

# 1997 BOXING DAY FOOTBALL AT THE OLD BLACKS

The annual Boxing Day soccer match between the Old Blacks and the Young Blacks took place - you've guessed it - on Boxing Day, with a kick-off around 11:20ish. The bad weather in the preceding days had put the fixture in doubt but a pitch inspection after the game had finished confirmed that the game should have gone ahead and that the result should stand! The sides were roughly 8-a-side with three sets of 'father and sons' taking part. Dave Bradford had Ryan and Clark with him, Dave Hamilton had Jordan and Kiel and Pat McCarthy had Nick and Andrew. All six boys shamed their respective parents in ALL departments, particularly in the ability to score goals. Alan Bowerbank was pressed into the role of referee but insisted in performing the task from the far touchline in a stationary position which may have accounted for several mistaken decisions which went against the Old Black's team.

Because of the relative youth and inexperience of the Young Blacks, it was agreed that 25 minutes should be played each way, in order not to tire their young legs out. It was a game of two halves (as they usually are) with Dave Bradford as an ex-pro skilfully marshalling and deploying the talents of his very young side against the slower, fatter but vastly experienced (in matters other than football that is) Old Blacks, who were fortunate to turn round with only a four goal deficit.

The second half was similar to the first with the ball being moved around from player to player with the ultimate object of scoring (team talks and tactics so important in this fixture) and at one stage, the scores were level. Suddenly, as if a sleeping giant had awoken, (as in all probability it did) Phil Sumner roared to life and scored the goal of the match, taking the ball the full length of the pitch and beating player after player (greedy sod) before slotting home a fine shot. All were transfixed at such a display and it was a great pity that he spoiled it all by attempting a victory cart-wheel which nearly broke every bone in his body.

The referee quickly came to the assistance of the Young Blacks and after two disputed penalties and two disputed goal-line clearances the Old Blacks resorted to the familiar tactic of muscle to try and save the game.

Unfortunately it was too late and the final result was 13-11 in favour of youth. As many said on the long walk back to the dressing rooms, but for the one-sided official who was clearly (judging by the free drinks in the bar later) in the pocket of the Young Blacks, we would have won easily.

A great game of football and a good session afterwards in the Club House. All that was needed to improve it were a few more players and a few more spectators. How about Boxing Day 1998? Surprisingly it's on the same date as last year with a kick-off around 11'ish.

*(Ed - Many thanks to our Chairman John Wishart for successfully navigating his way around the computer keyboard to produce this light-hearted report of what is an annual light-hearted event - unless you're on the losing side that is!)*

## BRANCH INFORMATION

### CHESHIRE AND SOUTH MANCHESTER

The Cheshire and South Manchester Branch Dinner was held on Friday 8th May at the Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham. Informality is the keynote of this annual event and the "regulars" were once again pleased to hear about the previous year's happenings at the School from the Headmaster.

Enjoyment of the evening is helped by the pleasant surroundings, good food and the chance to meet old friends. The next event is on Friday, 7th May 1999 and Denis Martin is keen to make contact with other Old Blackburnians in the area to get them onto the mailing list.

His address is 27 Broadhey, Romiley, Stockport, SK6 4NL (Tel: 0161 430 4969). Younger members are particularly welcome. Why not give him a call?

### LONDON BRANCH

#### London Branch Honours Hyman Abel



During the March 1997 AGM of the London Branch of the Old Blacks, Hyman Abel was nominated and awarded an honorary life membership of the branch - Hyman adds this to his current honorary life membership of both the NUS and Birkbeck College

Hyman attended school during the 1930s and since then he has spent his life in academic circles. He has attended several universities including Liverpool, Leeds, Manchester and Birkbeck. He combines continued studies with some teaching

Hyman has always been supportive of student activities within the NUS and particularly with the Jewish students society. He enjoys finding time to attend conferences and lists this with travel as his favourite extra curricular activities.

Hyman has kept up his links with QEGS and with his wife Anne is a regular attendee at branch events. He is memorable for bringing jars of lollipops and sweets and helping us befriend everyone in the pub.

The London Branch were pleased to honour Hyman and would like to thank him and Anne for their support through the years.

Rachel Walker (On behalf of the whole of London Branch).

*(Ed - I'm sure I echo the sentiments of all Old Blacks by adding my congratulations to Hyman. Here is yet another man for whom 'disce et prodesse' clearly has been fulfilled. PS - Can I have a red lollipop this year?)*

#### London Branch Dates for 1998/9

22nd October 1998 - Pub Evening at The Red Lion, Kingley Street, W1  
26th November 1998 - Winter Warmer at The Red Lion, Kingley Street, W1  
4th February 1999 - Pub Evening at The Red Lion, Kingley Street, W1  
AGM Date to be announced

Other events will be discussed and arranged at the meeting on 22nd October and 26th November

#### Busy year for the London Branch Committee

1998 has been a busy year for the committee of the London Branch.

The secretary Ian Tomlinson married Jo Brookman on 9th May. The couple plan to move to Surbiton shortly.

On 18th February Julie Hargreaves, the wife of our chairman David, gave birth to their first child, a son, James. The Hargreaves plan to move within Kingston-on-Thames later this year.

David and Rachel Walker have recently moved to Pinner, Middlesex and Rachel is expecting their first child in September.

The committee look forward to a less frantic new year.

#### Contacts for the London Branch

Mr David Hargreaves (Chairman) 0181 549 1953

Mr David Walker (Treasurer) 0181 866 9338

*(Ed - Many thanks to the relevant members of the above branches for making contact, either directly or indirectly. Unfortunately, I have no news from other branches to report at this time.)*

# Obituaries . . .

**Professor Henry Charnock.** *With sadness I pen a forward to the obituary of a childhood friend, Henry Charnock. Circa 1930 the little Audley Range Primary School contributed, via the 11+ examination, a trickle towards the then 40 or so 'Scholarship' boys annually entering QEGS. In a three year spell Henry, John Bell, Arthur Harrison, Jim Mellilieu, Billy Prescott and myself, Fred Bury, all living within a few hundred yards of Audley Range Congregational Church, began our daily walk to West Park Road and, at weekends, met as friends in the Church Hall and Sunday School. Henry joined QEGS in 1932 and matriculated in 1936 but, as was so often the case in those days, even amongst the most academically gifted, he left at the age of 16, in his case to work as a junior laboratory assistant in a local gas-mask factory.*

*He followed the quite popular path of night school, part day attendance at Blackburn Technical Collage and an external London degree, for him B.Sc. (Hons.).*

*When he married, it was to the girl next door - next door to me, that is - Mary, one of Tom Dickinson's sisters, and any Old Boys of the later '40s will almost certainly remember the School's fast bowler! Henry, however, with no particular sporting prowess and too few years at School in which to impact in the performing arts (although an admirer of them throughout his life), will not be so readily recalled by many of his era, yet he was to become one of the highest achievers among all Old Blackburnians and his story surely an inspiration to any who leave School hoping that their best is yet to come.*

Henry Charnock, C.B.E., F.R.S., meteorologist and oceanographer, was born on 25th December 1920 and died on 27th November 1997. Following his London Degree he joined the R.A.F. in 1943, was commissioned and worked in the Met Office for the Air Ministry for the rest of the war. In 1946 Henry returned to his studies, meteorology at Imperial College, a course which included field trips. This was long before the now powerful computers were available to the Met Office, the advance of weather forecasting depending on the development of suitable models and for this Henry had a flair. In particular, he was fascinated by the effect of wind speed at water surfaces. For example, he was able to show how every ocean wave starts as a wind induced rippled and in growing moves into faster air and gets taller still. A 60 mph gale blowing across 1,000 miles of sea for three days would build up 50 ft waves, not uniform, some would build up to four times average height (so far the highest ever recorded was 112 ft high). One lasting effect of this and similar work was that Henry became one of those scientists after whom a 'constant' is named. In a brief but heavily cited paper, he proposed that over the ocean the wind stress in a fully developed sea is proportional to the roughness parameter, the 'Charnock constant'. Such analysis would follow experimental work on the trips and it was on such a trip to Loch Neagh in 1948 that he met Dr George Deacon (later Sir George) who was assembling a group of scientists at the Admiralty Research Laboratory, Teddington and Henry was invited to join. This group was the embryo National Institute of Oceanography and Henry's career was thereby founded.

During the next decade his work on turbulent exchanges in the oceanic and atmospheric boundary layers was to provide the core of his personal scientific achievement. Those years included an interval of classified work on submarine wakes with the Navy at Malta, where his ability to relate easily to Admirals, seamen and dockyard staff alike showed how he retained the friendly unassuming image of

those early Audley Range years. He had returned to Imperial College for a short spell in 1958/59 as reader in physical oceanography, followed by a 3 year detachment from the N.I.O. to be head of the Oceanography Group at the SACLANT Research Centre, La Spezia. Then, in 1966, he was appointed to be the first Professor of Physical Oceanography at Southampton University.

When Sir George Deacon retired in 1971, Henry was his natural successor and from 1973 to 1978 he was Director of the newly formed Institute of Oceanographic Sciences. These were difficult years for funding with Universities, Government Agencies and the Armed Forces amongst others all pursuing research, but Henry had an ever widening influence as, for example, his role as adviser to the marine panel of the House of Lords Select Committee on Science and Technology, and his concept that government research institutes be located, when appropriate, on university campuses (e.g. the eventual Southampton Oceanography Centre) was ultimately adopted by the House of Lords.

During this period he fostered and chaired the Joint Air Sea Interaction Project which, through work in the northern Rockall Trough, brought together for the first time ships, aircraft and satellites in research from the sea floor to the top of the atmosphere. It was during this time that he was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1976.

In 1978 he returned to Southampton University to become Head of the Department of Oceanography. The '80s became busy years: he was now Deputy Vice Chancellor of a rapidly expanding university and President of the Royal Meteorological Society. His appointments proliferated, President of the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, Chairman of several Royal Society Committees and Chairman of the UK World Oceans Circulation Experiment in the '90s. Other activities included membership of the Woods Hole governing body and, for 10 years, of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution. For all this service he was awarded a C.B.E. in 1992.

After vacating his Chair at the university in 1986 he remained active until his death as Visiting Professor of Oceanography and in 1995 helped to inaugurate the new Oceanographic Centre at Southampton. A kindly, rather private, yet interesting man, one Blackburn-based hobby stayed with him throughout - hill walking - and to celebrate their quite recent Golden Wedding Anniversary, Mary and Henry scaled Snowdon. Henry is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters. How well he responded to the School Motto.

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W. Hare, M.A. (Oxon), F.C.A., formerly Chairman of Governors

Two letters I treasure from my Head Mastership, the first obviously from the (then) Private Secretary to Her Majesty The Queen thanking the School for her welcome on a never-to-be forgotten November day in 1987. The other is a more personal one from Mr Hare, sent to me on the anniversary of the day, in October 1977, when, on behalf of the School's Governors, he offered me the post of Head Master, vacant through the sudden death of the late Douglas Coulson, barely three months before.

It was typical of the man that he should remember such detail 20 years later, and the contents of the private letter mean a lot to me, its very brevity at once symptomatic of its author and typical of his own service to the community at large, and Queen Elizabeth's in particular.

Himself a distinguished Old Blackburnian, he graduated from Exeter College, Oxford before joining the family firm of Waterworth, Rudd and Hare, where he remained the Senior Partner for more years than most can even remember. His well-known father, Alderman Hare, had been particularly active in the School's affairs as a long-standing Governor but Billy was - only with difficulty - persuaded to become a Governor, and it was with some diffidence that he became Chairman of the School's Governors, in 1961.

Essentially a very private man, Mr Hare quickly proved to be a staunch ally of his old school, its affairs becoming increasingly complex, the demands upon his time exceedingly manifold. Abolition of the former Direct Grant status, an abortive attempt to work with the former Borough's then Director of Education in compliance with the infamous Labour Government's diktat 10/76, acceptance of the Assisted Places Scheme, co-ed Sixth Form entry in a school of 1200+, massive School building projects in excess of £3.9m and lengthy Governors' meetings were part and parcel of this very busy man's professional life but nothing which could affect the life and interests of his old school would go unnoticed. But his largest contribution was clearly his leadership of the Governing Body, and his daily networking (to use the modern idiom) with the School's Chief Executive, for Billy really believed that the Head Master ran the School and - only rarely - was he ever tempted to depart from the old-established rule that governors govern but do not manage schools.

P.F. Johnston.

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**Paul Howard Bland**, of Bakewell, Derbyshire (formerly of Feniscowles) died on October 31, 1998, aged 53, a member of the Inner Temple and Honourable Company of Wheelwrights and Freeman of the City of London.

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World renowned antiques expert **Michael John Holmes**, 37, died at the home of his brother. Mr Holmes, of Langho, qualified in the restoration of furniture and wood technology at Manchester College of Building, before running Mytton House Antiques in Clitheroe from 1981 to 1985 and helped in the high-profile restoration of Clitheroe Parish Church. A founder member of Darwen Young Conservatives he is survived by his parents and two brothers.

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Former Head of Classics **Geoffrey M. Mercer** passed away on January 9th 1998 having reached his nineties. Having retired some thirty years ago, Mr Mercer moved his wife to Gatehouse-of-Fleet and Marjorie still lives there to this day.

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Former Head of History **David Llewellyn Ramm** passed away on 21st December 1997, aged 63. He leaves behind wife Avril Anne and children Kate, David and Elizabeth.

Raymond Almond (1937-44) has died at home on 27th May 1998 after a short illness and leaves his widow Barbara, sons Matthew and Nicholas (both Old Boys) and granddaughter Natasha.

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**Alan Armstead Smith** has died aged 61. Having left School he entered industry but continued night school studies from where he received the call to enter the ministry. Serving in St Ives, Nottingham and South Wirral, before spending time in Rockingham (North Carolina), he then returned to England to Liverpool, Ormskirk and Southport. Having battled against cancer for ten years, he finally passed away in the 36th year of his ministry.

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William "Bunny" Hare, prominent businessmen and former Chairman of Governors, has passed away on 27th March 1998, aged 59. He leaves his wife Dorothy.

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**Clifford Houghton Singleton OBE**, former council chief executive, died peacefully on Christmas Day 1997, aged 75, following a long battle against cancer. He leaves behind his wife Kathleen and children Christine, Michael and Karen. Mr Singleton served as a fighter pilot with the Fleet Air Arm, serving in HMS Victorious.

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James "Jim" Cunliffe has died aged 73. Having left School and served as a navigator in the RAF during the war, he trained as a teacher in the North East before returning to Lancashire to take up the post of headship at the former Blackamoor Primary School. He remained in this career area throughout his life as well as becoming chairman of the Blackburn group of the NSPCC and a part-time worker at the Langho Epilepsy Centre.

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**The Reverend Len Cragg** has died aged 70 after a lifelong ministry in the Blackburn Diocese. Formerly Vicar of Padiham, he died after a short illness at his home near Clitheroe. Having studied at Trinity College, Dublin he was ordained in 1955. He moved to Padiham in 1969 where he was well-known for his home-made wine.

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Harold Coar has passed away on 3rd September 1998 at Haydock Nursing Home, aged 77. He leaves his wife Margaret.

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*Ed - To all those relatives of sadly deceased Old Blackburnians mentioned above, as well as those not included in these pages, we offer our sincerest condolences. Each one had their own tell to tale and will all be sorely missed. Reading about them, it is clear to see that the words "disce et prodesse" meant something special to each and every one of them. Rest in peace.*



# DISTINCTIONS GAINED DURING THE PAST YEAR BY OLD BLACKBURNIANS

**NATALIE ABBOTT (1992-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Psychology at University of Dundee.

**N. ARIF (1990-92)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. University of Manchester.

**R. BECK (1987-94)** - Graduated M.Eng. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College, University of London.

**D. BLACKADDER (1987-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Biochemistry at York University.

**N. J. BLACKBURN (1986-93)** - Graduated B.Vet.Med. Veterinary Medicine at Royal Veterinary College, London.

**D. BLACKLEDGE (1988-94)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Retail Marketing at Manchester Metropolitan.

**A. E. BOLTON (1990-92)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. University of Sheffield. Appointed House Officer at Ormskirk District General Hospital.

**D. M. BRINE (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, History of Art at Courtauld Institute of Art, University of London.

**T. BULLEN (1986-93)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. Liverpool University. Appointed House Officer at Fazackerley Hospital.

**P. COUGHLIN (1982-92)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. University Of Leeds. Appointed Research Fellow Vascular Surgery, St. James's Hospital, Leeds.

**R. DAS (1983-93)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. University of Leeds. Appointed House Officer at St. James's Hospital, Leeds.

**KONICA DASGUPTA (1992-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Science at University of Dundee.

**R. J. DAWSON (1986-93)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. University of Leeds. Appointed Pre-Registration House Officer at St. James's Hospital, Leeds.

**A. DAYAL (1992-94)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Economics at University of Durham, St. Cuthbert's Society.

**P. W. DENNISON (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 1, Physiological Sciences at Queen's College, Oxford.

**I. DODGEON (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 1, Neuroscience at Robinson College, Cambridge. Proceeding at Worcester College, Oxford.

**R. EVANS (1992-94)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, English at University of Leeds.

**LAURIE FARRER (1993-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Broadcast Journalism at University of Leeds.

**L. GAMBELLA (1987-94)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Theology at St. Benet's Hall, Oxford.

**G. J. GARDNER-BOYES (1988-95)** - Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 2, Law at Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Proceeding onto Legal Practice Course at Manchester Metropolitan.

**R. GURUMURTHY (1985-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, History at Brasenose College, Oxford.

**D. M. HALSTEAD (1988-95)** - Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at University of Manchester. Proceeding onto Legal Practice Course at Manchester.

**P. J. HARTLEY (1987-94)** - Graduated M.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Geography at University of St. Andrews.

**M. HAWORTH (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, English Language at Lancaster University.

**R. J. HAWORTH (1987-94)** - Graduated B.Eng. Class 2, Div. 1, Automotive Engineering Design at Coventry University. Appointed Graduate Engineer at Leyland Product Developments.

**A. L. HEDLEY (1985-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Ecological Resource Management at University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

**A. M. HORKAN (1993-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Physics with Astrophysics at University of Manchester.

**SARAH JACKSON (1990-92)** - Graduated B.V.Sc. Veterinary Science at University of Liverpool. Appointed Veterinary Surgeon.

**J-P JACQUES (1984-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Biomedical Science at University of Sunderland.

**A. JAMIESON (1986-93)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Management at University of St. Andrews.

**SITA JEEVA (1993-95)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 1, Medical Sciences (Anatomy) at St. John's College, Cambridge. Proceeding onto M.B. Ch.B. at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

**S. J. KNOWLES (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at University of Leeds.

**D. M. LEWIS (1983-93)** - Qualified M.B.,B.S. at University of Nottingham. Appointed Pre-Registration House Officer at King's Mill Centre, Mansfield, Nottingham.

**G. MAKINSON (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Applied Biological Sciences at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**J. C. MAYBIN (1987-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, International and Financial Economics at University of Hull.

**R. W. MOULT (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Eng. Class 2, Div. 1, Integrated Engineering at University of Reading.

**N. NAZEF (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Biochemistry at University of Manchester.

**J. R. ODDIE (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Geography at University of Nottingham.

**SHILPI PAL (1992-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Science at University of Dundee.

**M. R. PARKER (1986-93)** - Qualified M.B.,Ch.B. at University of Leeds. Appointed to North Staffs NHS Trust for twelve months.

**I. D. PATEFIELD (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at University of Leeds.

**RUBINA PATEL (1993-95)** - Graduated LL.B. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Law at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**R. D. G. PEACOCK (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Economics and Politics at University of York.

**C. PICKENS (1985-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at Lincoln College, Oxford.

**D. J. PICKERING (1988-95)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Economics at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**RACHEL PICKUP (1992-94)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Law with French at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Proceeding onto Legal Practice Course at University of Northumbria.

**R. PIXTON (1987-94)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Modern Languages at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

**S. PLUMMER (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Joint Honours Chemistry and Biochemistry at Cardiff University.

**B. PONSONBY (1987-94)** - Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 2, Law at Liverpool John Moores University.

**N. B. PRATT (1986-93)** - Graduated M.Eng. Class 2, Div. 1, Engineering at University of Durham.

**HAZEL PRIESTLEY (1993-95)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Geography at University of Manchester.

**D. J. PULLINGER (1985-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, English Literature and Language at University of Leeds.

**S. RAY (1987-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Physiology with Pharmacology and Anatomy at St. Bart's and the Royal London School of Medicine and Dentistry.

**P. D. REEVE (1986-93)** - Graduated M.Phil. Economics at Christ Church, Oxford.

**HELEN RUSHTON (1993-95)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, History at University of Hull. Proceeding onto P.G.C.E. at University of Birmingham.

**SAZIA SAMAD (1993-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 1, Neuroscience at University of Edinburgh. Proceeding with Clinical Studies at Edinburgh.

**EMMA SCHOFIELD (1992-94)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Contemporary Europe at University of Southampton. Proceeding onto M.B.A. at Southampton.

**S. SLATER (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Eng. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Structural Engineering with Architecture Studies at University of Manchester.

**L. R. B. SMITH (1983-93)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Economic and Social Studies at University of Manchester.

**N. SMITH (1986-93)** - Graduated M.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Moral Philosophy at University of Aberdeen.

**B. SOURBUTS (1998-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Physiotherapy at Brunel University. Appointed Junior Physiotherapist Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham.

**A. D. SWANN (1985-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Psychology at University of London. Proceeding onto M.B. Ch.B. at U.M.D.S.

**I. B. TOPPING (1988-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. Licensed Retail Management at Leeds Metropolitan University.

**EMMA TOWERS (1993-95)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Economics at University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne.

**S. VIRDI (1985-95)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Pharmacy at University of Wales.

**J. S. WARD (1987-94)** - Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, International Business with Spanish and Italian at Sheffield Hallam University.

**M. WILSON (1987-92)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Managerial and Administrative Studies at Aston University.

**A. R. WOOD (1984-94)** - Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Environmental Science at University of Bradford.

**Dr JULIA L. NEWTON (1983-85)** has recently been awarded a PhD from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne. Her thesis was entitled "changes in gastrointestinal secretion in relation to advancing age and helicobacter pylori infection". Julia is now working as a specialist registrar in geriatrics at Freeman Hospital, Newcastle. In the meantime, Julia and her husband, Ian Dormer, are looking forward to the birth of their first baby in October.

Congratulations also to Professor **NETAR PRAKRESH MALICK** who is celebrating a knighthood for 30 years of practice and research in the field of kidney disease. Prof Mallick lectures at the University of Manchester and is a consultant at Manchester Royal Infirmary. He was a member of a pioneering working party of consultants set up by the government to look at kidney treatment and transplant procedures in 1965.

**ALAN BOGG** is to be congratulated after gaining two top degrees and setting his sights on a third. Now aged 25, he has been studying law at Exeter College, Oxford. Having gained a first class honours degree followed by a one year bachelor of civil law he has now embarked upon study for a doctorate in employment law and hopes to take up a university teaching post.

**GRAHAM YOUNG (1970-80)** has won a third successive award in a prestigious Film Journalist of the Year competition, open to writers and broadcasters in the UK. Having won the award outright in 1996 he was then judged the "highly commended" runner-up position for the next two years. Having studied at the University of Birmingham, Graham joined the Birmingham Post & Mail where he has remained ever since. In July 1987 he was appointed TV Editor and can boast interviews with a glittering array of stars from stage, screen and television.

**D. M. WOODS (1986-93)** - Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Natural Sciences (Zoology) at St. John's College, Cambridge. Appointed Television Researcher. Congratulations are in order to David Edward Bland after he was awarded the OBE in last year's New Year's Honours for his services to training in the insurance industry. David studied at Sheffield University and went on to become vice-chancellor there. He was appointed Director General of the Chartered Insurance Institute in 1989.

*The following article was unearthed by John Read deep within the bowels of the School! - the author was, at the time, the oldest living old boy, aged 94*

# RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD BOY

by WILLIAM SPENCER LIVESEY

It was in the year 1856 - 80 years ago - since I left the Blackburn Grammar School. I was 15 years of age at the time. I passed on to the Grammar School from a small Private School which occupied the basement of Paradise Church in Feilden Street. The school was run by a Mr Eves who had a great reputation as a Mathematician and who subsequently gave up his profession to become Relieving Officer of Blackburn.

In my day the School was situated at the corner of Freckleton Street and Peter Street and consisted of one room. The building is still there and is now used as the headquarters of the Blackburn Labour Party. (Ed - I am reliably informed by John Read that the Labour Party building is actually on the opposite corner.

The old school building to which Mr Livesey refers is actually part of a car component outlet.) When I arrived Thomas Ainsworth had been headmaster for some years. He was assisted by his brother George Ainsworth and an Assistant Master called Briggs, familiarly known to the scholars as "Old Briggs" although actually he was a comparatively young man. Prior to the appointment of Mr Thomas Ainsworth I have heard it said that the school was in a very deplorable condition, the headmaster being a Mr Bennett, who had only a few pupils and they, boarders. The Governors had, I believe, to compensate Mr Bennett in order to get rid of him.

There were about 100 scholars at School in my day, mostly the sons of the local gentry and tradesmen. The scholars at that time had a uniform dress in so far as we all had to wear mortar boards.

Most of the boys on leaving school followed their father's business. I only remember one boy at school in my day proceeding to the University. He was a boy called Ashe, the son of a former Vicar of St Mark's Witton. After taking his degree he went out as a Missionary abroad.

Another boy I remember particularly well was Harry Varley whose parents had the Monumental Mason's works in St Peter Street. He had a particularly good bass voice and it was commonly said at the time that under proper tuition he would have made a great name.

Mr C.W. Callis, a former Mayor of Blackpool, a Solicitor and well known Advocate was at School in my day. I remember at the Scripture lessons taken as the first lesson on a Monday morning, Callis could

repeat his piece better than any boy there. His training in this way might have laid foundations of that prodigious memory which he so often displayed in after years.

There were no Scholarships in my day. At that time there were four terms in the year instead of three as nowadays and the fees were one guinea per term. School started at 9 o'clock in the morning and continued to half past four in the afternoon with a break of an hour and a half for the mid-day meal.

It was the usual practice to start School with Prayers but the few Roman Catholic boys who attended the School did not arrive until 9.30 and were not required to take part in Prayers. We had plenty of homework but we were never troubled with School Inspectors.

We had no Speech Days, annual concerts and Old Boys Dinners, but prizes were given by the local gentry and presented at the end of the Christmas term by the headmaster. I won a prize for Mathematics which was given by Mr Alderman Baynes who was commercially connected with Messrs Pilkington Bros.. Cotton Manufacturers of Blackburn.

The holidays were memorable for the shortness of their duration. We had two weeks holiday in Summer with odd days throughout the year like Easter Monday, Whit Monday and Christmas Day. There were no playing fields. The only space allotted for games was the yard at the rear of the school, which had a hard soily surface. There were no cricket or football teams. We used to spend our time kicking a ball about.

Both Mr Thomas Ainsworth and his brother George were bachelors. Mr Tom Ainsworth was a careful teacher and a good disciplinarian and a gentleman through and through. He was able to control the School in its worst moments and at the same time retain the respect of the scholars. George Ainsworth was also a teacher of note. A gentleman every inch of him and able at all times to maintain the respect and goodwill of the scholars.

In those days the School had a pew at the Parish Church known as "The Grammar School Pew", which was used by the Masters who attended Church regularly every Sunday but the boys never attended Church as a School.

*Ed - My thanks to John Read for reproducing this article.*

# 1998 ANNUAL DINNER

On behalf of the OBA I am delighted to confirm our two speakers for the forthcoming event.

**The Toast to the School is to be given by Frank Riley and our Chief Guest is to be Andy Peebles.**

**With demand for tickets likely to be high, coupled with the late publication of Magister, I strongly recommend that members wishing to purchase tickets do so at the first available opportunity - the necessary application being found on the back page.**

## Andy Peebles

... has spent all his working life in broadcasting and is now celebrating 25 years behind the microphone.

It all began with BBC Radio Manchester in 1973 where he spent 4½ years before moving on to Piccadilly Radio where his fascination with soul music first began. In 1978 he moved to Radio 1 where he stayed for 13 years and then in 1992 returned to the North West with Radio Lancashire.

Andy will perhaps be best remembered to some of you as the last radio interviewer to talk to John Lennon just two days before his assassination in 1980.

Andy's other great broadcasting area is sport and he covered one day cricket on network radio for 12 years. He still finds time to cover Lancashire games with John Gwynne and John Brewler for Radio Lancashire and local radio in the North West.

His daily Radio Lancashire show encompasses all aspects of daily life and includes 'The Way We Were', a nostalgic golden hour slot. He is also currently working on a new 'Soul Show' to be broadcast on Radio 2 (starting November 25th).

Now living in Blackburn, he tells me that if he were able to throw a cricket ball, he might well break a window at QEGS, albeit unintentionally!

## Frank Riley (1961-66)

... left School and joined Trustee Savings Bank where he worked for many years rising to the position of Assistant Manager until being made redundant. Then he moved to Parcel Force where he held various positions including Office Manager and Customer Care Manager.

He joined the Old Blackburnians AFC in 1970 and is still playing to this day, now in his 29th season! He played regularly for the first XI but had most success as captain of the third XI between 1990 and 1995 during which period the team won their division once, were runners up three times and third once (on goal difference - the three top teams all finished with the same points).

Frank now plays for the fourth XI, the so-called 'Dream Team', which is also enjoying some successful results (third position last season). He has also captained the Old Blacks Vet's Team which, in 1992, reached the semi-final of the Umbro National Vet's Competition.

Frank has been a regular committee member at the club including spells as Treasurer and Secretary and also acts as Master of Ceremonies at most club dinners. Definitely a stalwart and a well known and respected member of the club.

Frank's other claim to fame is taking part in quizzes and is captain of the Hare and Hounds team which has won the Whitbread Bowland Shield (run in conjunction with Radio Lancashire) for the last three years. He also organises quizzes for the football club and various organisations and consequently featured on BBC TV's 'Here and Now' programme for his involvement in, and with, quizzes.

*The menu for the Dinner is as follows:-*

*Vegetable Soup*

*Pork with Orange (Pork Escalope with a tangy orangy sauce)*

*Luxury Fruit of the Forest Tartlette*

*Cheese and Biscuits*

*Coffee and Mints*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible in 'Big School'.*





# *Invitation* **Old Blackburnians' Association** **Annual Christmas Dinner**

on  
**Saturday 19th December 1998**  
at  
**'Big School', QEGS**  
time  
**6:30pm for 7:15pm**

**£15** per person for members who left School in **1993 or after**  
**£20** per person for **all other members**

*To apply for tickets, complete the slip below:-*

Name ..... Years at School .....

Address .....

..... Post Code .....

Telephone Number .....

If possible I should like to sit near: .....

I am ☐ / am not ☐ prepared to accept a seat in the anteroom.

I would prefer a vegetarian meal. ☐

I enclose a cheque for £20 ☐ / £15 ☐  
made payable to **Old Blackburnians' Association**.

**I enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for delivery of tickets.**

*Please return the completed application form, together with your remittance, to:*

*Ian Pickup (OBA Dinner), 157 Pleckgate Road, BLACKBURN, BB1 8QR.*

**Due to publishing delays this year and the likelihood of being oversubscribed, it is recommended that all applications are sent within 7 days of receiving 'Magister'.**

*Tickets for 'Big School' are allocated on a first come, first served basis.  
For group bookings, please complete an application form for each ticket.*





# magister

MAGAZINE OF THE OLD BLACKBURNIANS' ASSOCIATION

No 42

1999

## Q.E.G.S. Wedding



A honeymoon in the Maldives followed the wedding of Dr Kate Elizabeth Ingham and Mr Christopher James Sherry, who met whilst studying their A-levels at QEGS (1988-90).

The couple were married at St John's Church, Higham and following the ceremony, a reception was held at The Clarion Hotel, Foxfields, Billington.

The bride, who works as a project scientist for Pedigree Pet Foods, is the daughter of Mr and Mrs Bernard Ingham of Higham.

Her bridegroom, who is the son of Mr and Mrs Michael Sherry of Fence, works as a senior account manager for a computer company.

Given away by her father, the bride was attended by her friends Miss Emma Rich, Miss Emma Calvert, Miss Rachel Brown and the Matron of Honour was the bridegroom's sister, Mrs Joanne Brown.

Best men were Mr Graham Coward and Mr David Collinge, and ushers were Messrs John Ingham, Tim Brown, Nicholas Daniel and Glenn Mallinson.

It was truly a QEGS wedding, as one best man, two bridesmaids, and three ushers also attended QEGS.

The newly weds will live in East Leake, Leicestershire.

## GOLF

The 1999 event was held at Wilshire Golf Club on Thursday 15 July. This year the event attracted 30 competitors and I am pleased to say included some younger players.

Most competitors stayed on for the presentation in the evening which made for a very enjoyable social occasion.

The prize-winners were:

The Judge Walmsley Trophy (Net Prize) was awarded to Phil Sumner (82-22-66). Runner-up was Eric Holden (82-14-68).

The Sir Gilbert Gerard Cup (Gross Prize) was won by Rick Malloch (79).

Next year's event will be held at Blackburn Golf Club on Thursday 13 July 2000. Any Old Blackburnians interested in playing should contact me.

**ANDREW NORMAN,**  
Schoollands Farm, Woodfold Park,  
Mellor, BLACKBURN, BB2 7NP.  
[ran@moorsmal.demon.co.uk](mailto:ran@moorsmal.demon.co.uk)

## FOOTBALL



*Frank Riley and son at the  
Annual Football Awards Dinner 1999*



# THROUGH THE GARSTANG ROOM WINDOW

The dreaded next Millennium is very nearly upon us...finally. I don't know about you but it seems that all this talk of the infamous Bug has been going on almost a thousand years itself! What with the prospect of serious disruption to just about everything or a New Year like any other - depending on what you read and who you believe - December 31st would seem to be destined to be etched in the memory forever...or will it? The New Year to end all new years. Personally, I couldn't care less whether it's a new Millennium, New Year or the New Seekers! All the hype about impending doom and/or the exorbitant prices being suggested for basic services around the year end, makes me think it might just be worth curling up soon after the presents and turkey and waking up in time for the new school term! Call me Scrooge but I think it's all got just a little out of hand now.

As ever, there's been an awful lot going on at the Old Blackburnians' Association and hopefully you'll get a flavour by reading these pages. One particular item I should like to draw your immediate attention to is the forthcoming Annual Christmas Dinner on Saturday 18th December. Roger Farley and Chris Metcalfe are to be Chief Guest and Proposer of the Toast to the School respectively, and with a very appetising menu (detailed elsewhere) and a guarantee of good company and friendly chat and a reduction in ticket prices, I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible. A form is included within Magister for the application of tickets. However, those of you with access to email and the Internet might like to know that the application procedure can be carried out via our new web site (URL below) which offers the facility for both individual and group bookings to be made. Full instructions and details are provided on-line. As ever, we expect demand to be high and tickets are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. So please fill in either form (printed or electronic) as soon as possible. (Please note that the web site form will not be available until around 2nd December.)

I am pleased to announce our new web site will be live by the time you read this. Since August 1999 a trial service has been in operation advertised by word of mouth and over fifty members have so far asked to be signed up to the emailing list to be kept informed of the latest OBA news and developments. The web site itself currently offers not only the facility to apply for dinner tickets but also selected articles from back issues of Magister as well as details on how to contact various members of the Association and a photo gallery containing pictures in addition to those in this magazine. Those from the Old Boys Boxing Day football match really are worth laughing at! This might be your only chance to see our chairman actually exerting any energy! I only wish I could have devoted a whole page spread in the printed magazine! Various other features will be added over the coming period and it is my intention to provide links to home pages of Old Blackburnians. So if you would like to be included, log on now.

As ever, I am extremely grateful to those people who have given of their time and efforts to help me in this annual publishing extravaganza and I would like to pay particular thanks to Bill Proctor, Ellis Metcalfe and John Read for watching the local presses. Barry Brown's dedication to the OBA cause never ceases to amaze me and he too must be thanked for all his efforts. I must also list the contributions of John Wishart, David Forbes,

Andrew Norman, Roger Masters and Ian Pickup. I should also make special mention of David Hemsall (and the School's secretarial team), who not only provides frequent reports and is always on hand to answer my barrage of emails but also ensures any interesting post he receives is sent on to me. David is also taking personal control of the revamped OBA database, a very much behind-the-scenes task, and his help in sorting out this major headache is very much appreciated by all Old Blackburnians, I'm sure. However, if your address has been printed wrongly, blame him! Last and by no means least, I should like to thank each and every one of you who has taken the time to write or email either myself or other members of the committee. We are here to help you in any way we can and feedback - even those complaining about my support for a certain football team - is very much welcomed. Please keep all your letters and emails coming. A very big final thank you must go to Garry Readett and his team. Garry's job is to take the TXT file I send him and make something magazine-like out of it; this he has done with considerable success over the years and we are all very grateful for his continuing services.

Whilst on the subject of feedback, can I remind you that you should really make every effort to ensure we have your very latest address details. All too often tens of Magisters are returned to me having been delivered wrongly. A simple letter will suffice though, again, our web site has the facility to advise us electronically, of any change of address. The form-filling exercise takes less than a minute but the amount of time and hassle saved, is far greater.

Finally can I wish you and yours, wherever you may be around the globe, a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Millennium. If we're all still around after 1st January 2000, perhaps some of you would like to send in photos celebrating the dawn of a new era in your neck of the woods. I'd love to create a special feature for the Millennium issue of Magister.

Until next time.

**FINDLAY F. COLQUHOUN (87-94)**

Editor, Magister  
Old Blackburnians' Association  
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School,  
West Park Road,  
BLACKBURN,  
BB2 6DF.



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## How Things Were!

Last Christmas I received one or two unusual items from my brother Peter who must have been having a clearout of bits and pieces "rescued" from our former family home including a book "The Encyclopaedia of Sport" - circa 1959 - my one and only form prize from School. The other item he sent me was an Arsenal Football Club programme for the First Division match between Arsenal and Blackburn Rovers at Highbury on Saturday 23rd March 1963. Other than my long standing support for the Rovers, I was not sure why he had sent it to me but I realised when I started leafing through it. On page four there is an article which reads as follows:-

### "Old Blackburnians

We extend a cordial greeting to the members of the Old Blackburnians' Association, some of the members of which are present at the match this afternoon. The Association is holding its Annual Dinner tonight and so they are taking the opportunity of coming to the match here this afternoon.

For those of us in the south who naturally know little about this Association it is interesting to note that Blackburn Rovers Football Club is unique in the Football League in owing its origins to a Grammar School. The Club, one of the original members of the League was founded in 1874 by a group of Old Boys from Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, Blackburn. It is also very interesting to know that Mr G.N. Forbes, a Director of the Football Club, is an Old Boy of the School and is, at the moment, a Governor of the School. He is also the current Chairman of the parent branch of the Association. Mr Forbes is the nephew of the well known late Johnny Forbes who was a celebrated full-back with Blackburn Rovers over fifty years ago.

A hearty welcome to the Old Blackburnians - we hope you may have a happy day (but we cannot hope that you get the points!) and that you have an even more happy evening at your Dinner."

What an extremely interesting article involving, as it does, the Association, the School, Blackburn Rovers and, not least, members of my family. Also, if I may say so, what a very civilised article, depicting a good sense of sportsmanship and friendliness - qualities all too rare these days. I would be very surprised to see a similar article today.

By the way, the Rovers team for that day was: Else; Bray, Newton; England, Woods, McGrather; Radcliffe, Douglas, Lawther, Ferguson and Harrison - remember the old 5-3-2 formation? Also in the squad - Taylor, Clayton, Pickering and Byrom. At that time, Rovers were in fifteenth position in the League - one position and two points better than Manchester United! Unfortunately the Rovers lost the game 3-1.

**DAVID FORBES,**  
Secretary.



# Letter from the Chairman

Dear Old Blackburnian,

Never mind the "forty years on" - this last year went fast enough for anyone and no sooner had the washing-up been completed but Ian Pickup and his merry crew were busy organising the 1999 Association Dinner to be held in Big School on Saturday December 18th next. Please do your level best to attend this most prestigious function as new cutlery and crested plates have been ordered (and paid for) by the OBA for your inspection and undoubted approval. I should also add that the School Masonic Lodge will be generously contributing £750 towards the total cost of some £2,500 for which the Master and Lodge Secretary are sincerely thanked by your Committee. Barry Brown has put a lot of effort into this project for which we are all grateful.

So what has happened since my last journalistic effort to you all? The first event was the 1998 OBA Dinner which was remarkably well attended given the problems which presented themselves to our harassed Editor, Findlay Colquhoun, with his crashed computer and other trivia which caused the late delivery of Magister. Nevertheless our Dinner Committee worked extremely hard to put all the wheels back on and produce an excellent evening with two very good speakers in the shape of Andy Peebles and Frank Riley. This year's guest speaker will be Roger Farley QC, a (fairly) local lad-made-good, albeit via the Giggleswick route and Chris Metcalfe (Ellis' lad) who will give the toast to the school. Both are reputed to be excellent value, so come and see.

Next came the Old Blacks v Young Blacks Boxing Day football fixture at Lammack. Your Chairman is a regular participant in this annual free-for-all but the fixture reached an even higher level of excellence by the surprise appearance of your Vice-Chairman Glenn Blake complete with all the latest designer gear to put in a breathtaking performance on both (dry) wings of a heavy pitch. Alas he could not stop the Young Blacks winning by a two goal margin, yet again on disputed penalties and photographs adjacent to the match report show the savagery of the occasion.

Then came an excellent evening organised by the Manchester Branch with the Headmaster and his good wife in attendance. A very well organised event to which I hope to receive an invitation in 2000. Jeff Vent again put in a tremendous amount

of work for the Oxford dinner and I was pleased to note that Cambridge also managed an event this year. Dining apart there was the Golf match at Wilpshire held on the 15th July 1999 on a lovely summers evening. It was well attended with a good bash afterwards. There has also been the annual football awards dinner at the Old Blacks which was also very well attended with the top award going to Frank Riley's son although my practised eye doubts if he will ever be quite as good as his father in his prime. There was at long last a football match between the School 1st team and the Old Blacks - I'd like to see a cricket match in 2000.

Correspondence has been somewhat light this year. I had a lovely letter from Jeffrey Briggs (Howard, 24-34). He now lives in Essex and can be reached on (01621) 891291 if you were a contemporary. Another letter of great interest came from Brian Corbett (Drake, 43-47). He achieved much in the field of Civil Engineering before retirement and can be contacted on (01444) 236725. If Keith Cheetham or Keith Knott read this letter he would be very pleased to hear from you. The last line of his letter reads:

"I wish you a Happy Christmas and a prosperous 1999 leading into the Millennium - even if the celebrations are a whole year in advance. Such arithmetical inaccuracy is something which Spike Kennedy would have found very hard to stomach!"

Robert Rowntree (Drake, 50-57) has now retired from service with the Inland Revenue and begun a second career reading Japanese and History. At the present time he should be in Tokyo studying until next summer. A busy year indeed with more to come in 2000.

Occasionally I clear my desk and by chance came upon Magister for July 1960. Where are they now I wonder? The editor was David Ambrose whose editorial stated "that there was a grave danger that young people nowadays may be in the act of becoming a race of specialists". Directly opposite was Magister's version of page three with the Venus de Milo showing her assets as photographed by Halpin on the Easter trip to Paris. Disarming stuff for us school leavers. Mr (Mike) Bradford left the staff, Mr Sutherland got married and Raleigh won the School Sports at Witton Park with P.L. Jones and J.C. Pearson as Senior and Junior Victor Ludorums. A photograph of the highlight of the Open Day

shows Schofield diving through a hoop of flames (dogs later copied the stunt) whilst on Alexandra Meadows Brewer and Bradshaw scored 115 runs between them against the Old Boys. Alan Bradshaw was also enjoying great success on the football field at a very high level along with Bendix and Holding. For those with more academic interests there were caged locusts to see and a working diagram showing the action of cell metabolism which must have been spellbinding.

There were working models of volcanoes, an oasis and a lunar view. Mr Farley-Hills ran a film show of school life whilst Mr Whittle directed a play with his Horncliffe pupils. There was a display of goods for export and a rug making demonstration. Mr Marchant ran his art and pottery classes for all to admire.

School leavers in July 1960 could hardly fail in a modern industrial society with this sort of technical background to assist them. Also a photograph of the staff football team shows Bob Sharpe, Vincent Chesters, Mike Bradford, Jack Monk, Fred Raby and, looking no different than he does today, our resident pianist Fred Dewhurst. F.J. Seed wrote a complete article in French which must have gone down well and Paul Jarrett penned the odd report before going to Cambridge and beginning a brilliant medical career. 1960 was also the year of the first Thwaites Scholarship when a number of us went off to America for six weeks - Jack Brewer, Dave Ambrose, Dave Edmundson, Paul Jarrett and myself are the ones I remember.

Heady stuff but nowhere near the standards reached by today's sixth former.

Please keep up your contact with the OBA and the School and support us in any way that you can. I can assure you that a lot of people are working very hard on your behalf.

The thanks of the Committee go to that tireless Headmaster Dr Hemsall and our own Secretary David Forbes for keeping us semi-organised.

Finally may we, the Committee of the OBA, wish you all wherever you may be a very happy and healthy Millennium year. Please keep those letters coming and help us to help you.

Sincerely,

**J.D.S. WISHART,**  
Chairman, Old Blackburnians'  
Association.



# Old Blackburnians AFC

## Season 1998/9



THE OLD BLACKS 1998



THE YOUNG BLACKS 1998



GOAL MOUTH ACTION - OLD BLACKS BOXING DAY MATCH 1998

There was silverware on the table again this year at the end of season dinner and a new feeling of optimism running through the club. Club captain, Pat McCarthy led the fourth team to a well deserved win in their cup competition. They defeated Preston GS in a tight final by a goal to nil, having to field a weakened side at the end of the season. A number of fine individual performances and a determination not to give in to periods of heavy pressure ensured the trophy came back to Lammack. A couple of former Rovers players can be seen in the squad. Paul Round and David Bradford played through the season and David admitted after the final that, unbelievably this was the first trophy he had ever won in his entire football career. Frank Riley continues to defy the years and is still as argumentative as ever, with many a referee being on the wrong end of a tongue-lashing. This despite the fact that Frank has joined the "Men in Black" and can be seen at Pleasington trying to keep order in the Sunday League. As well as the cup success the fourth eleven finished runners up in their league.

The first eleven had another difficult season. The quality needed to mount a serious challenge for honours was not there in enough depth and they fell away as the season progressed finishing mid-table. Mark Riley, Frank's lad established himself in the side and David Hindle's son, Michael also made a number of appearances.

The second team was unlucky to just miss out on promotion from Division 1 Reserves. A very young side developed into a really fine footballing team but a succession of draws in the early part of the season, as they came to terms with senior football left them a couple of points short in the end. Another club stalwart, Keith Taylor, looked after them like a father, making sure that they all had their laces properly tied and boots were on the right feet. Phil Entwistle continued to throw himself around in the mud in goal each week, much to his wife's annoyance.

The thirds did well to consolidate their place in Division 3A, having been promoted the previous season. Several of the younger players moved up to the second team, but were replaced by a new crop of youngsters and the team finished in the top half of the league.

Young players are the key to future success and last year saw Old Blacks truly initiate a youth policy that should ensure a constant supply of new talent. Our under 17's side, playing in the local Sunday League, won the league and both cup competitions without losing a game. Playing in the Lancashire Under 18's Youth Cup, they defeated Clitheroe away and were unlucky to lose 1-0 to Blackpool Mechanics, the eventual winners. It was also pleasing to see four former pupils playing last year. Matthew Kitson, Darren Walton, Paul Greenhalgh and Nick Knight all played for seconds and thirds and despite going off to university we hope to see them again at the start of the new season. Let's hope more will follow.

The season was rounded off with an excellent players dinner at the Club, with John Wishart, the Old Boys Association Chairman, snapping away merrily with his box Brownie.

**ROGER MASTERS,**

Chairman, Old Blackburnians AFC.

# BRANCH INFORMATION

OXFORD DINNER: Friday, February 19th 1999



For the third consecutive year, St Edmund Hall was the venue for this year's Oxford Branch Dinner. Sixteen diners foregathered, representing a cross-section of age groups. The gathering was chaired by Jonathan Turney. The Latin grace was recited by Jeff Vent and received a mark of 8/10 from Chris Hunwick, reading Classics at Lincoln. After a good dinner, Albert Eastham rose to propose the health of the school. Amidst some good-natured heckling, he reminisced and made comparisons between what had been available to him at QEGS, comparing it with the education of his own children in their Oxfordshire comprehensives. The Headmaster responded by relaying some items of news about the school. In his closing remarks, he told his listeners how Oxford and Cambridge now must sell themselves more vigorously to attract undergraduates of high quality. He said that both the ancient universities were running scared of the government; there is anecdotal evidence of discrimination against students from independent grammar schools. More worrying, however, is that current Sixth Formers - not only at QEGS - are no longer convinced as once they were that Oxford and Cambridge offer the best undergraduate courses. Hence they apply elsewhere. This prompted a lively discussion of the quality of teaching at Oxford, the tenor of which broadly supported the Headmaster's concerns. Undergraduate members present undertook to try to get across to those at their colleges who would listen the point that Oxford needs to sell itself more vigorously. The dinner was a great success and Jonathan Turney expressed the thanks of all present to Jeff Vent who had organised the event.

David Hempsall, Headmaster.

CAMBRIDGE DINNER: Friday, February 12th, 1999

A group of nine undergraduates met at the Arundel House Hotel in Cambridge for the branch annual dinner, organised by Andrew Bramah. The Headmaster and Mrs Hempsall also attended, presenting the apologies of Chairman John Wishart who was unable to because of court commitments. The evening was a most convivial one with the accent on informality. Whilst there were no speeches, there was a worthwhile two-way exchange of information. Whilst the Headmaster relayed news from and about the school, his hosts were able to give the student's view of undergraduate life at Cambridge. The Arundel House providing a pleasant ambience for the event, it was resolved that next year's dinner should take place at the same venue.

David Hempsall, Headmaster.

MANCHESTER BRACH DINNER 1999



# Albert Eastham works in China

There is indeed an interesting life to be enjoyed after the age of 55, provided that one is healthy and willing to take on new challenges. 26 years ago the British Executive Service Overseas (BESO) was set up to help the poor countries of the world; it is a sort of VSO for those who have taken early retirement. Having worked for them in Estonia in September 1997, my next assignment was one month in China in October and November 1998.

The location was Gansu Province, the second poorest in China; with a population of 30 million, in a province which is more than twice the size of the UK. My task was to give lectures on management and business administration to civil servants and managers in three large cities.

Now that China is embracing capitalism with Chinese characteristics, they seem keen to hear how we organise things in Western Europe. In the 1970's, Deng Xiaoping had recognised that collectivisation and nationalisation were barriers to economic growth.

Now one sees that the economy has been opened to foreign investment, and that a flourishing private sector has emerged which is giving a vastly wider range of consumer choice.

Chinese people love their families, but not their environment. For most Chinese people the family remains the focus of their life; few people remain unmarried, and most rely on their children for support in old age. Married couples often have to live with their families, and share a bedroom with younger brothers and sisters.

Unemployment and under-employment are major problems, and this being so, there is little attention paid to the industrial pollution of their cities. Beijing is not a beautiful capital city; Shanghai is more attractive. Thousands of cyclists wear masks for protection. I came home with a nasty cough and cold.

Three material assets are particularly valued by Chinese people (a) a sewing machine, (b) a watch, and (c) a bicycle. There are 8 times as many bicycles in Chinese cities as there are cars, because journey times are twice as fast by bicycle. However, when the Chinese are eventually rich enough to own a car, they will rarely use a bicycle again. They seem content to sit in a traffic jam, because even here they can enjoy their own space, housing accommodation being invariably overcrowded.

Corruption and inefficiency are widespread in China; the concept of democratic accountability has yet to emerge and to check up on these abuses. It is probably only a matter of time before democracy does sweep away the Communist Party.

China is a very poor nation, with GDP per capita only one sixth of that in Great Britain, yet for many centuries it led the world in wealth, art and technology. My impression is that despite enormous economic problems, the drive for modernisation is having considerable success.

China seems poised to "take off", and enterprising business people may make large profits. Yet with thousands of dissidents in labour camps, and with the repression in Tibet, it remains a grim state to a westerner.

I have been invited back this autumn to give some more lectures. Perhaps it's because I saved a top communist official from drowning! Whatever the reason, it will be another opportunity to meet old friends again.

Last time, everyone was so polite and friendly, even though one often wonders how much notice they take of western business strategies, and, of course, why should they? On the negative side,

Chinese food is daunting (very different from your local Chinese take away), and their public conveniences are to be avoided. For me, China is not in my top 10 favourite countries: it is a memorable experience more than an enjoyable one.

*P.S. I much enjoyed my second visit, and anticipate a third assignment next year! Yes; they were very hospitable; the weather was good - sunny and warm in the 80s; and the food was more acceptable.*

ALBERT EASTHAM.

# 1999 DISTINCTIONS GAINED DURING THE PAST YEAR BY PAST PUPILS

## **P. AINSWORTH (1988-95)**

Graduated M.Sc. Class 1, Chemistry and Molecular Physics at University of Nottingham.

## **M.J. AMES (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Biology at University of Leeds. Appointed Computer Consultant SEMA Group UK Ltd.

## **P.D. ANDREW (1988-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 1, Mathematics at University of Manchester. Proceeding to Ph.D. in Probability Theory at Manchester.

## **S. ASHLEY (1987-96)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Economics at University of Durham. Currently Economic and Financial Analyst with the Bank of England.

## **T. BALDWIN (1984-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Environmental Science at University of Southampton.

## **JASMINE BASNYET (1994-96)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at University of Hull.

## **M.J. BREMAN (1985-93)**

Graduated B.V.Sc. Veterinary Science at University of Liverpool.

## **M.A. BRITCLIFFE (1985-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Politics at University of Leicester.

## **J. BUTEL (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Eng. Class 2, Div. 2, Chemical Engineering at UMIST.

## **S. BUTTERFIELD (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Politics/Sociology at University of York. Proceeding to P.G.Dip. in Housing Policy and Practice at Sheffield.

## **HELEN CANNON (1990-92)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 2, Law at University of London. Attained P.G.Dip. in Legal Practice with Distinction at York. Appointed Qualified Solicitor at Shammah Nichols, Manchester.

## **S.M. CANNON (1984-94)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at University of Leeds. Attained P.G.Dip. in Legal Practice at York. Appointed Trainee Solicitor at James Chapman & Co., Manchester.

## **N. CHATTERJEE (1986-96)**

Graduated B.Eng. Class 3, Mechanical Engineering at University of Manchester.

## **B. CLAY (1985-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Law with European Option at Trinity College, Cambridge. Attained Training Contract with Hammond Sudbards.

## **R. COAR (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at Proceeding to Legal Practice Course at Nottingham.

## **W.R. COLEMAN (1985-94)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 1, Law with European Legal Studies at University of Durham. Proceeding to Legal Practice Course at York.

## **M.J. COULTHURST (1972-77)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div 1, Podiatry at Westminster University

## **D.J. CRABTREE (1981-91)**

Graduated M.A., Class I, Political Science, University of South Carolina 1998. Graduated M.Sc., Politics of the World Economy, London of Economics 1999.

## **R. DEWHURST (1988-95)**

Graduated M.Phys. (Hons) Class 3, Physics at Magdalen College, Oxford. Appointed Microsoft Developer/Consultant with ARIS UK, Oxford.

## **J. DOLPHIN (1988-95)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, European Business Studies with French at University College, Northampton.

## **M. DOWLER (1986-94)**

Graduated BA/M.Sci. Class 1, Natural Sciences (Chemistry) at Queens' College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Ph.D. in Biological Chemistry at Birmingham.

## **M.J. DUCKWORTH (1985-95)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at University of Leicester.

## **M. DUGDALE (1986-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Agriculture at University of Nottingham.

## **R.J. EDMONDSON (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Geography with PE Sports Science at Loughborough University. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. at Loughborough.

## **DENISE FARNWORTH (1994-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Architecture, Planning, Building and Environmental Studies at University College London.

## **N. FORRESTER (1987-94)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Human Biology at University of Leeds. Proceeding to M.Sc. at Leeds.

## **A.R. GARDNER (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Biology at University of Leeds.

## **ZARRINE GHIASSI (1994-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Economic History at University of London. Appointed Trainee Tax Consultant.

## **J.P. GIBSON (1987-94)**

Graduated B.Eng. Class 2, Div. 2, Automotive Engineering at Loughborough University. Appointed Project Engineer with Rolls Royce and Bentley Motor Cars Ltd.

## **RUTH GILKES (1994-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 1, Politics at University of Bristol. Proceeding to P.G.Dip. at University of Central Lancashire.

## **A.P. GORTON (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Biology at University of Leeds.

## **RUCHI GULATI (1991-93)**

Qualified M.B. Ch.B. at University of Edinburgh. Appointed Pre-Registration House Officer at St. John's, Livingston, West Lothian.

## **JOANNE HACKING (1994-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Jurisprudence at Brasenose College, Oxford.

## **AMANDA HAMPSHAW (1992-94)**

Graduated M.A. Class 1, Social Anthropology at University of St. Andrews.

## **S.J. HANBY (1987-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, History and Politics at University of York.

## **J.W. HART (1998-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at Corpus Christi, Oxford.

## **A. HARTLEY (1988-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Physical Geography at University of Wales, Aberystwyth. Appointed Digital Mapper for the Farming and Rural Conservation Agency.

## **T.W.B. HORNER (1990-95)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Hospitality Management at University of Huddersfield.

## **R. HOSSAIN (1987-94)**

Qualified M.B. B.S. at University of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne. Appointed Medical House Officer, Leighton Hospital, Crewe. Surgical House Officer, Royal Preston Hospital.

## **LAURA JEFFERY (1993-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 1, Construction Management at UMIST. Appointed Construction Manager with Bovis Construction.

## **R.J. KAY (1988-94)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Quantity Surveying at University of Central Lancashire. Appointed Assistant Quantity Surveyor at Edmond Shipway, Birmingham.

## **P. KIRKWOOD (1988-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Environmental Geography at University College, London.

## **C.J. KNOWLES (1993-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Computing and Management at Loughborough University. Currently attending Britannia Royal Naval College, Dartmouth as a Pilot Officer.

## **P.M. LEONELLI (1988-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, French (Distinction in spoken French) at University of Leeds.

## **I. MATHEWS (1984-94)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Management Studies with German at University of Nottingham. Appointed August 2000 as Process Analyst with Anderson Consulting.

## **N. McALLESTER (1987-94)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Urban Property Surveying at University of Northumbria. Assistant Surveyor with Brady Chartered Surveyors, Manchester.

## **N. McMILLAN (1986-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Economic Studies at University of Leeds. Appointed Trainee Accountant with KPMG, Leeds.

## **M.J. McVERRY (1988-96)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Religious Studies and Politics at University of Manchester. Proceeding to P.G.C.E. at Manchester Metropolitan.

## **J. METCALFE (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at University of Leeds. Appointed Trainee Chartered Accountant with Grant Thornton, Manchester.

## **J.A. MOULD (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Psychology at University of Hull.

## **K. MYERS (1988-95)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Modern Languages at University of Durham.

## **J.H. O'MALLEY (1998-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at University of Leeds.

## **N. PARKINSON (1988-95)**

Graduated M.Sci. Class 1, Physics at University of Durham. Proceeding to Ph.D. at Durham.

## **HELEN PENSICK (1994-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 2, Sociology at University of Teeside.

**S. PENSWICK (1988-96)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at University of Leeds. Proceeding to Legal Practice Course at Leeds. Attained Training Contract with Forbes and Partners in September 2000.

**M.G. PETERSON (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Geography at University of Leeds.

**ELIZABETH PINK (1992-94)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, History of Art at University of York.

**Z.M. RAHMAN (1984-94)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 1, Philosophy at University of London.

**A.K. RASARATNAM (1993-95)**

Graduated B.Eng. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Chemical and Process Engineering at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

**S. READETT (1988-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Computer Science at University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne

**A. ROBERTS (1979-82)**

Appointed to the post of Project Manager for the DfEE-funded Collaborative Employee Learning (CEL) Project at the University of Sussex. Also second year D.Phil. - "Darwinism, Reproduction and the Left in 19th-Century Europe".

**S.A. ROBERTS (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Design and Technology with Art at University College of Ripon and York St. John.

**J. ROSTRON (1989-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Computer Science at University of Manchester. Appointed Software Development with ISOFT, Manchester

**D. RYLANCE (1986-96)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 1, Mathematics at University of Leeds.

**DR P. SAHU (1986-88)**

Elected Member of The Royal College of Physicians. Currently looking for a Specialist Registrar post in Diabetes and Endocrinology.

**SIEMAH SHAFIQ (1994-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Law at St. Hilda's College, Oxford. Attained a Training Contract with Bird and Bird, London.

**C. SHARPLES (1965-72)**

Appointed Partner, Jacksons Chartered Accountants, Blackburn.

**V.M. SINGH (1986-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. Class 2, Div. 1, Immunology and Cell Pathology with Basic Medical Sciences at University College London.

**AMBER SMITH (1993-95)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, American Studies at Liverpool Hope University College.

**SYLVIA SOLIMAN (1993-96)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 1, Economics at Manchester Metropolitan University.

**B.A. STOCKDALE (1988-95)**

Graduated M/Maths Class 2, Div. 2, Mathematics at University of York.

**A. SUDNIK (1988-95)**

Graduated B.A. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, European Studies and German at University of Durham.

**A.J. THURNHILL (1986-96)**

Graduated LL.B. Class 2, Div. 2, Law at Sheffield Hallam University.

**J. WILKINSON (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Natural Sciences (Pathology) at Clare College, Cambridge. Proceeding to Post Graduate Study in Pathology at Cambridge.

**J.A. WILSON (1987-94)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Industrial Economics at University of Nottingham. Appointed Business Analyst with Ernst & Young, Manchester.

**N.J. WHITEHEAD (1987-94)**

Graduated B.Sc. (Hons) Class 2, Div. 2, Agriculture at Harper Adams University College.

**J. WOODS (1988-95)**

Graduated B.Sc. Chemical Science at University of Edinburgh.

**T. WRIGHT (1993-95)**

Graduated M.Eng. Class 2, Div. 1, Computing (Software Engineering) at Imperial College University of London.

**HEATHER YATES (1993-95)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 1, Japanese with a Second Language at University of Durham. Appointed Co-ordinator for International Relations (CIR) in Japan.

**D. YEUNG (1989-96)**

Graduated B.A. Class 2, Div. 2, Landscape Architecture with Planning at University of Sheffield.

# Reflections

Born in 1955, Graeme Preston grew up in a rural community in the North West of England. He studied in London and then worked as an advisor to the Manpower Services Commission before joining the European Commission in January 1979. He has held a variety of posts within the Commission in the Directorate General for Customs and Indirect Taxation, the Directorate General for Regional Policies, and, since 1992, the Directorate General for Transport. Since 1997 he has been responsible for road safety legislation, programmes, and campaigns.

He has a Masters Degree in International Relations, (Maîtrise en Politique Internationale), a Bachelors Degree in Social Sciences, and a Higher National Diploma in Business Administration, and is currently researching a doctoral thesis on EU-US trade relations. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Transport.

Seeking to encapsulate one's life in a few paragraphs is a revealing exercise. What to put in, what to leave out.

This task of retrospection is all the more fashionable as we approach the new millennium and many of us reflect both on the developments of mankind in general, and of our own lives.

As I write this, in September 1999, it is 33 years since I began my time at QEGS, and 26 since I left. Those seven years were of course of paramount importance in both my formal education and my social development

Let me say at the outset that I did not particularly enjoy my time at school. The public school ethos, and working within a fairly rigid structure where conformity was rewarded more than individuality, did not appeal to me.

However, let me also make it clear that neither was I unhappy at school. School was something which had to be gone through, and QEGS was no worse than any other, and probably better than most.

The masters I remember with affection were those with a more non-conformist character, or a slightly anarchic approach : Joe Fyles for Government; 'Little Bill' Proctor for English; David Ramm for History. What I learnt from them, apart from politics, Shakespeare and '1780 to 1870 Revolution Reaction and Reform', was that for every formal system or set of rules, there existed a parallel informal system. The trick was learning to use each system as the need dictated. This knowledge has been invaluable in my later professional life.

Since leaving QEGS I have had little occasion to return to Lancashire. Living in Brussels for over twenty years, married to a Belgian, both my parents passed away, I have no knowledge of what became of my contemporaries.

So, if any of 'the class of '66 - '73' are reading this and feel inclined to put pen to paper, or fingers to keyboard, write to Magister and say how the last three decades have been for you.

With Best Wishes for the new millennium,

**GRAEME PRESTON,**

Brussels, September 1999.

## CAN YOU HELP?

Roy Hilton is researching the life and war time career of his uncle, an Old Blackburnian, Edward Hilton, who was killed in action in September 1942 and whose name appears on the Roll of Honour in Big School.

He was born in Blackburn in June 1915 and would have been at QEGS around 1926-32. His address at that time would have been 21 Byron Terrace, Witton and at the time of his death, his father (George H. Hilton) kept the Kings inn, Kings Bridge Street, Mill Hill. After leaving school, he went on to work at English Electric, Samlesbury.

In 1940 he joined the Volunteer Reserve of the RAF and did his square bashing at Padgate and then Morecambe, eventually joining 20 OTU in June 1942 after attending technical training school. At this time he was located in Lossiemouth, Scotland and it was from here he undertook his one and only mission as navigator in Wellington Ic T2561 in one of the first "thousand bomber" raids in September 1942 to Dusseldorf. His aircraft was hit over Holland on the return journey and crashed near Elsendorp killing all five crew members (including two Royal Canadian Air Force personnel). He was buried at Eindhoven (Woensel) Cemetery.

Edward was known to his four brothers as Eddie but when in the RAF seems to have been known as Ted.

**Anybody with any information, of any nature, can contact Mr Hilton at Carrier's Cottage, 2 Far Street, WYMESWOLD, LE12 6TZ or (0115) 9881018.**



# ANNUAL DINNER



ANDY PEEBLES  
*Guest Speaker*



FRANK RILEY  
*Proposer of the Toast to the School*



ER 1998 . . .



# Old Blackburnians' Association

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School, West Park Road, BLACKBURN on Thursday 2nd December 1999 at 8pm. The agenda will be as follows:-

- 1 Apologies for absence.
- 2 Minutes of the 1998 Annual General Meeting (a copy of which appears after).
- 3 Matters arising.
- 4 Chairman's report.
- 5 Treasurer's report and adoption of accounts.
- 6 Reports from sub-committees.
  - (a) Dinner
  - (b) Magister
  - (c) Athletics
  - (d) Branch activities
  - (e) Records
- 7 Election of Officers and Committee.
- 8 Subscriptions
- 9 Future meetings.
- 10 Any other business.

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting held in the Garstang Room at School on 26 November 1998 at 8pm.

## 1 Present:

J.D.S. Wishart in the Chair and sixteen members.

## 2 Apologies:

J.S. Read, R.A. Norman, J.C. Barker, R. Smethurst, J.G. Rawcliffe, S.J. Monk, F.F. Colquhoun, B.R. Brown.

## 3 Minutes:

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 6 November 1997 were read and approved.

## 4 Chairman's Report:

The Chairman presented his report a copy of which is not available at time of going to print.

## 5 Treasurer's Report and Accounts:

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary circulated the accounts for the year ended 31 July 1998 and read the Treasurer's Report. The accounts were approved and adopted and a copy is available on request. The meeting recorded a vote of thanks to the Treasurer and to the Auditors.

## 6 Reports from Sub-Committees:

(a) *Dinner* - Ian Pickup reported that arrangements were well in hand for the forthcoming Dinner when the chief guest would be Andy Peebles of Radio Lancashire and the toast to the School would be proposed by Frank Riley. He was concerned at the lateness of Magister which included the notification of the Dinner and anticipated that he was going to be rushed dealing with applications for, and allocation of, tickets. Although Andy Peebles would not be making a charge for his services, it was expected that the Association should make a donation to Lancashire Schools or Youth Cricket Association and it was agreed that a

donation of £200 should be made. The Dinner sub-committee was already considering arrangements for the 1999 Dinner and bearing in mind the Millennium would then almost be upon us, he invited any suggestions to celebrate that event. He thanked members of the sub-committee for their help in the organisation and in turn the meeting recorded a vote of thanks to Ian and the sub-committee.

(b) *Magister* - In the absence of Findlay Colquhoun, the Secretary presented his report. He apologised for the late publication of Magister which was due entirely to technical problems with his computer. This had meant that he had lost all the material he had prepared and had to start again from scratch. Magister was currently with the printers and would be distributed the following week.

(c) *Sports activities* - In the absence of Andrew Norman and Roger Masters there were no reports.

(d) *Branch activities* - In the absence of Steve Monk there were no reports although the Headmaster informed the meeting that arrangements were still in hand for the Cambridge function in the New Year.

(e) *Records* - In the absence of John Read the Secretary read a brief report from him which confirmed that he had done quite a bit of work on the records of the Association and the School during the summer holidays and continued to do his best to keep the records in order.

## 7. Election of Officers and Committee:

*President* - The Secretary informed the meeting that having made contact with Sir Kenneth Durham earlier in the year, he had indicated that he was more than willing to step down as President in favour of someone who might be able to take a more active part in the Association. The meeting recorded a vote of sincere thanks to Sir Kenneth for being the Association President since 1984 and the Secretary was requested to write a suitable letter to him. The committee had considered his replacement and an approach had been made to Eric Kay who had indicated his willingness to stand for election. Eric Kay was duly proposed, seconded and elected. The Chairman congratulated Eric on his appointment and thanked him for his continued support of the Association.

*Chairman* - John Wishart was re-elected.

*Vice Chairman* - Glenn Blake was re-elected.

*Secretary* - David Forbes was re-elected.

*Treasurer* - Andrew Norman was re-elected.

*Committee* - The Secretary had received no notification of any resignations from, or nominations for new, members to the Committee and therefore the Committee was re-elected en bloc as follows: R. Barham, J.C. Barker, F. Barnes, B.R. Brown, F.F. Colquhoun, I.G. Duckworth, W.R. Garment, M.P. Hayton, Miss V. Hayton, S.J. Monk, K.V. Newton, E.I. Pickup, W.H. Proctor, J.G. Rawcliffe, J.S. Read, R. Smethurst, R. Smith, J. Warner and K. Wightman.

*Ex-officio* - D.S. Hemsall (Headmaster) and R. Masters (Football Club)

*Auditors* - The Secretary reminded the meeting of the death earlier in the year of William Hare but reported that one of his colleagues, David Fielding of Waterworths Accountants, had agreed to replace him. Accordingly, Roger Smith and David Fielding were elected as Auditors.

## 8. Subscriptions:

The Treasurer had not made any recommendations for increasing subscriptions and therefore it was resolved that they remain at £5 per annum or £50 for life members.

## 9. Future Meetings:

*Committee* - 2 February, 11 May and 21 September.

*Annual General Meeting* - 21 October (later changed to 18 November).

*Annual Dinner* - 18 December.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

## News from QEGS

The school has recently appointed Phil Lloyd as development director.

Mr Lloyd, a Lancashire Evening Telegraph columnist, is a member of the Chartered Institute of Marketing and previously held a number of senior marketing positions in financial services companies.

"For me, marketing is not an option for schools, it is essential and I believe my experience from the world of finance can help QEGS continue its fine tradition and achieve its long-term goals."

Commenting on the appointment, the Headmaster said:

"We have a tremendous commitment to sport, for example, and our pupils are increasingly involved in the local community and part of Phil's role will be to make sure that we do not hide our light under a bushel."

For my part, I very much look forward to working with Phil on OBA matters.

*FFC* - The Headmaster's new book, "Favourite Proverbs", will be available soon from all poor-to-modest bookshops!

Forever chatting up the Sixth Form girls, Geography teacher and English Cricket Board coach Brian Woodhead had held "taster" sessions for a ladies cricket team. He hopes to attract sufficient numbers to form a team to compete in friendly fixtures this summer with a plan to join a league at a later date.

# HIGH TECH SURGERY IN THE INFORMATION AGE

Developments in surgery in the new century will change significantly the way surgeons work and how operations are performed. The computer will be an important element in this new era of surgery, how profound the changes will be depends on how much computer capacity, speed and cost can improve in the next few years.

I came to Canada in 1975 and worked as a Specialist General Surgeon in British Columbia until my retirement from active surgical practice a few months ago. For most of this time I worked in small communities in Northern British Columbia. The most profound change in General Surgery in my practice occurred around 1990 when laparoscopic (keyhole) surgery was introduced. In Canada as in other countries this change was rapid and in just a few months laparoscopic removal of the gallbladder became the standard procedure for gallbladder removal.

There are constraints with current technology and these have prevented wider general use of keyhole surgery by most surgeons. However, even with current technology, experts in this field have successfully performed a wide range of operations using the laparoscope. When performing keyhole surgery the surgeon views an image of the operative field on a TV monitor and this is a flat picture, the surgeon has no 3-D vision as in open surgery. In 1991 I became interested in the high tech aspects of surgery when I became involved, as a Medical Advisor, with a Vancouver company attempting to develop and market a 3-D system for laparoscopic surgery. Eventually after much difficulty in obtaining financing a prototype was developed which was unique in the way it produced the 3-D images and I performed the first procedure worldwide using this system in 1995. Unfortunately 3-D technology is not yet developed enough to gain market acceptance and the company, along with several other companies in this field, sold only a few units. Most surgeons could not perceive a benefit in 3-D although in laboratory experiments several groups, including our Vancouver group, have demonstrated a benefit.

In June 1996 I organised and moderated an International Forum on 3-D Technology in Endoscopic Surgery in Chicago. Through contacts I established during this exercise I have been able to continue my interest in High Tech Surgery now that I have retired from active surgical practice. In November 1998 I was appointed Adjunct Professor in the School of Kinesiology, Dept. of Applied Science at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. My research interests can be summarised as Human interaction with virtual environments for, and remote manipulation in endoscopic surgery. I am involved in a research project in this field for which our group has just received a large Federal Grant and I am also involved in Surgical Robotics with the Department of Experimental Robotics at Simon Fraser University. These projects are leading edge and visionary, although they may sound glamorous most leading edge projects are

not successful and this is why some call it the bleeding edge. Nevertheless I am glad that I am involved in these exciting projects at this late stage in my career.

For those readers who wonder what robotics has to do with surgery they should know that a gallbladder was removed for the first time using a robot in Belgium in 1998 by a surgeon/robot system. The system was designed and built by Intuitive Surgical a California company. Also I was at a meeting in Munich in December 1998 and saw a live demonstration from Brussels of the same surgeon performing an abdominal operation using the system. It should be stressed that this is a master/slave system the surgeon is in control and sits at a console several feet away from the patient. The surgeon manipulates the master and the master controls the slave and the slave manipulates the instruments inside the abdomen. An important concept in the use of robots in surgery is that of Dexterity Enhancement, that is the system should provide a better manipulative performance than with the unaided hand. A system that only equals human performance will not find market acceptance because of cost. Although these systems are being used in abdominal surgery the main market that Intuitive Surgical is pursuing is keyhole (Minimally Invasive) cardiac surgery. The main advantage of these systems is that they make complex surgical tasks, such as suturing, easier than using conventional keyhole surgery instruments by having more manipulative capability (degrees of freedom). They also filter out hand tremor and scale down gross movements into fine ones, like a microscope in reverse. It is noteworthy that only ten years ago the Intuitive Surgical system could not have been built because computers at that time did not have enough power.

Much has been made in the popular press about Telesurgery, a situation where the surgeon operates remotely hundreds of miles, from the patient or even in space. This is not possible because of the time delay in transmitting the signal and this limits the distance to about 60Kms with a wire connection and around 200kms for wireless communication. However Telemedicine where medical information or advice from experts is transmitted over long distances to remote areas is possible because the time delay in this case is not important.

Computer aided or computer assisted surgery are terms used to describe this new era of high tech surgery. In image guided surgery computers are used to transform pre-operative information obtained by CAT scans or MRI into 3-D images of anatomical organs such as the brain. These are then displayed on a monitor during surgery showing the surgeon the exact location in the brain of the pathological lesion such as a brain tumour. Because the anatomical relations of structures can change during the operation it is necessary to obtain information at the time the operation is performed (real time). Real time images can be obtained in various ways, ultrasound is a common method,

the images are then superimposed on the preoperative images by the computer. Instruments used to perform the operation are tracked in 3-D space and the instrument and its position relative to the lesion displayed on the monitor. The surgeon is thus able to guide the instrument accurately to the lesion avoiding injury to important structures.

Training systems are becoming increasingly important in surgery. Computers are used to create images of anatomical areas and interactive systems where operations can be practiced. The purpose is to move the surgeon along the learning curve before he/she operates on humans. Some of these systems produce the sensation of touch (haptic feedback) that the surgeon has in open surgery. The vision is that eventually these systems will be as good as the flight simulators that airline pilots use to develop and maintain their skills. At present however computers are not powerful enough to produce realistic images at a reasonable cost. Another approach to training surgeons in keyhole surgery is the use of inanimate models, some of these models are very realistic and are improving rapidly.

Safety and error issues in keyhole surgery have attracted much attention and this is also an area of interest for me. My interest involves the application of the knowledge gained of human error from research in cognitive psychology to laparoscopic surgery. An important point is that this is a systems approach to human error. The systems approach looks for the cause of error within the system rather than placing all of the blame on the person at the sharp end. This approach aims to fundamentally correct the problem, simply blaming the person at the sharp end will allow a similar error to occur again, albeit by a different person.

It should be noted that safe does not mean error free. There is no such thing as an error free system, flying in a plane is safe but it is not error free. The aim is to reduce error it is not realistic to expect to eliminate it.

Information is the key to the 21st century. The young surgeon today will need to understand what information is in the surgical context, how it is obtained and displayed and how it is moved around. He/she faces the prospect of having to learn radically different skills at least once during their working lifetime. Researchers in this field will have to learn how best to present or display this information to the surgeon, in effect how best to fool the brain into thinking virtual environments are real. The prospects for surgeons and patients are good because of the new technology that is being developed that promises to bring great benefits. Technology is neutral, however and whether the result is good or bad depends on the humans who interact with it.

ALAN J. LOMAX (49-56).



# Obituaries . . .

## DAVID RAMM

David Ramm, Head of History for a quarter of a century before his retirement in 1995, was a fine scholar and an inspiring teacher. He was born in 1934 in Bolney, Sussex, the only child of a groom and a laundrymaid on a landed estate. The war disrupted this life, and he and his mother moved to Heywood, Lancashire, where she had relatives. There the family stayed, and David was educated at Heywood Grammar School before moving on to read history at Lincoln College, Oxford (1953-6). After National Service in the Intelligence Corps in Northern Ireland he decided to pursue a career in management in the steel industry. Three years in Scunthorpe and six months in Newport, South Wales, persuaded him that this was not his true vocation - though at the works at Newport he did meet his future wife, Avril Travers, a nurse in the treatment room. Before their marriage in 1963, David began his apprenticeship in education: a brief stint teaching English to foreign students at a country house near Exeter in the summer of 1962 followed by a Dip. Ed. back at Oxford. He then taught for the rest of the decade at the North Manchester Grammar School before arriving at QEGS in January 1970.

David possessed a formidable intellect and a capacious memory for historic detail. His ability to communicate eloquently, splicing his teaching and conversation with anecdotes and humour, sketching from memory complex maps on the blackboard with casual brilliance, made his lessons unusually informative, thought-provoking and entertaining. Because he read exceptionally widely (he built up a library of professorial dimensions), kept abreast of the debates in academic circles, prepared meticulously for class (his detailed handouts were legendary), and thought at a higher level than most of the rest of us, his standards were very high. He often appeared perplexed at the individual and collective ignorance of his students on what he considered to be points of common knowledge, or at their reluctance to view a heavy homework-assignment involving copious reading as a "bagatelle" (a favourite word). Although always patient with students who put in the effort but failed to pull themselves very far up the ladder of comprehension, he was probably more effective at reaching the enthusiasts for history than those with a more passing interest.

David expressed an aversion to undertaking archival research himself, but in many other respects he seemed the archetypal university don. I occasionally wondered whether he was in the right job, and maybe he did too: his strong advice to me to avoid schoolteaching, his pessimism about the state of education, his suspicion of and resistance to curricula changes - part and parcel of a generally gloomy, anti-Whiggish belief that the country's evolutionary line was backward-sloping, particularly under post-1979 administrations - all fed the impression of dissatisfaction. But he never lost his enthusiasm as a great communicator in the classroom, nor his passion for the study of history. And very many of us, permanently indebted to his guidance and example, have reason to be profoundly thankful for the career choice he made.

David taught me between 1976 and 1982, and in the years after I left QEGS I and members of my family met him and Avril many times socially - for dinner, or rambles, or excursions to places of historical or cultural interest, or well-liquored games of trivial Pursuit on New Year's Eve at their home on Billinge Avenue. David was invariably a congenial host and a marvellous, self-deprecating raconteur. At other times, when I was away from Blackburn, he kept in contact through letters and well-selected postcards, sending on newspaper cuttings and other assorted items. These communications, filled with acute observations and expressed in characteristic, inimitable style, were always a treat.

David cultivated an image of mild eccentricity: my abiding memory of him is of his tall, gangly figure, clad in jeans and rucksack, striding towards railway or bus stations (his self-professed technological incompetence ruled out driving), bearing a selection of timetables, out-of-date Ordnance Survey maps, guides to art collections and exhibitions, and a YHA card. He had a deep appreciation and knowledge of the fine arts and travelled broadly in this country to view them; a schoolteacher's salary limited his foreign travels, but through his voracious reading his mental map of cultural Europe (and beyond) was more vivid and complete than that of most seasoned travellers.

David died, far too early, on 22 December 1997, after an unsuccessful heart operation. Avril and their children - Kate, Dave and Liz - survive him. Teacher, mentor and friend, he is sorely missed.

**Dr Brian Lewis,**  
Assistant Professor, Department of History, McGill University, Montreal.

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David was a man I respected immensely and admired in equal measure his sagacity and vast peripheral knowledge.

David, above all, was so interesting; an enthralling conversationalist, a jocund raconteur, an earnest logician, a subject politician, architecture, his National Service experiences or his beloved history. David had no appetite for compromise but would argue articulately and informedly upon any subject to hand, with an accessibility I found rare.

In conclusion, David illuminated my schooldays. Beneath a dilapidating exterior remained a brilliant brain, an uncannily sharp eye and ear, a relentless tongue and a very warm heart.

Ian Plumbley.

Dr EDWARD JAMES POPHAM

Former member of the Biology staffroom Dr Edward James Popham has died aged 86. Later Professor of Biology at Salford University he died suddenly but peacefully on Wednesday 14th April 1999.

Dr BRIAN MERCER

World-famous inventor Dr Brian Mercer has died at the age of 70. The developer of Netlon, a revolutionary plastic mesh which has had a huge impact on industries including civil engineering, horticulture and agriculture, Brian also went on to develop another hugely successful mesh called Tensar, now used in hundreds of different forms from garden fencing and packaging to race-course turf and anti-dazzle fencing for motorways. He retired to Bermuda four years ago having sold his multi-million pound firm and enjoyed sailing his yacht.

Dr RAYMOND CHAPMAN

Dr Raymond Chapman, former Head of English, has died aged 88. Later becoming headteacher of Bemrose Grammar School, he was the first head in Derby to introduce the teaching of Russian as a modern language. In 1966 he was appointed a magistrate and served for 14 years. Indeed, so great have been his contributions to Derby that he has been nominated for an exhibition as an outstanding achiever of the Millennium. He leaves behind his two sons and daughter who is herself a teacher.

HARRY BARON

The owner of Tony's New Empress Ballroom has died at the age of 70. Harry Baron officially retired nine years ago but carried on working until his death in March 1999. After leaving the navy in 1950, he worked as manager of Tony Billington's ballroom where he met his future wife. A keen bridge player and Blackburn Rovers supporter he leaves his daughter and two granddaughters.

RODNEY MARSHALL DEAN

Rodney Marshall Dean died on 9th November 1998 after a long illness; he was 61. He leaves behind wife Glenda, children Dan, Mat and Ned and mother Dorothy.

ROBERT MCCARTNEY

Former Chief Constable of Herefordshire Constabulary Robert McCartney has died at the age of 86. Other notable achievements include being appointed Deputy Governor of Her Majesty's Tower of London, being awarded the OBE and being made a Serving Brother in the Order of St John. He leaves behind wife Marjorie, two children and seven grandchildren. Robert's younger brother Arthur, now 80, also aspired to work in the police force and rose to be Deputy Chief Constable of Devon and Exeter.

ROBIN OLIVER BANKS

Robin Oliver Banks has died at the tender age of 27 in a freak accident whilst celebrating his own birthday at a friend's house party. Robin banged his head and was knocked unconscious and died several hours later in hospital. Robin had lived all his life with his family in Miry Fold Farm, Wheelton. Having undertaken a degree in business management he went on to become managing director of Cheshire-based building company Kaufam and Broad Limited. He leaves behind father George and his brother Jamie.

TRISTAN MANJI

Tristan Manji (89-96) has died from a virus. He was taken ill in Glasgow with TB and was thought sufficiently strong to be moved to Preston where he died from a second virus.

Canon JOHN WICKHAM DIXON

Canon John Wickham Dixon has died at his home in Wilshire, aged 80. He served the congregation of St Stephen, Little Harwood, Blackburn for more than 30 years.

Professor JOHN VAREY

Professor John Varey, hispanist, died on March 28 aged 76. He was born on August 26, 1922. John Varey was a leading authority on the Spanish theatre's Golden Age.

Although there was a long and illustrious history of studying this drama as literature, until he began his research its buildings, actors and costumes were largely unexplored.

His Cambridge doctoral thesis traced the history of Spanish puppets from their origins to the 18th century, and he continued his tireless archival research. With Norman Shergold, and later Charles Davis, Varey transcribed documents in the Madrid archives whose dust had been undisturbed for three centuries, and their research generated the series *Fuentes para la Historia del Teatro Espanol*, which, among other things, charts the history of performances at Madrid's theatres, 1600-1719.

Varey was a fine critic too, having learnt close reading from the Cambridge of Leavis, Empson and Richards. His criticism combined attention to the text with a creative use of his knowledge of staging and costume, with the imagery illuminated by the original theatrical context.

In 1963 Varey founded Tamesis Books, a publishing house dedicated to Hispanic studies.

He took a leading part in the campaign to restore the 17th century theatre hidden under a cinema in the main square of Alcala de Henares, which is akin to the restoration of the Globe Theatre (and he built links between the two projects).

This aroused in him the same passion for the tangible reality of the theatre that had made puppets his schoolboy hobby.

Varey founded the department of Spanish at Westfield College and was its head for 28 years. In 1983, at a moment of crisis for Westfield, he accepted election to the Principalship, and he went on to fight for three years to maintain Westfield's independence, although he did not succeed. But the subsequent merger of Queen Mary and Westfield College preserved the best of both college's traditions.

Varey's talents as an administrator were unstintingly given to other institutions: to the University of London, as chairman of its academic council, and especially to the Warburg Institute as chairman of its management committee, on which he played a crucial part in the defence of the institute's funds and autonomy.

He is survived by his wife Micky, and by two sons and a daughter.

Appointments and News

B.R. Brown (1949-55) D.L.C., M.C.C.Ed., F.R.S.A. - formerly Head of CDT at QEGS - elected President of Rotary Club of Padiham 1999-2000.

J.R. Brown B.A. (Hons), Dip. M., A.C.I.M. graduated M.A. University of Lincolnshire & Humberside. Promoted to Strategic Marketing Manager, Bradford & Bingley Building Society.

F. Gillibrand (1948-56) C.M.A. elected President of Rotary Club of Blackburn Borough.

Dr Robert Horace Davenport (55-61) M.B. Ch.B. D.R.C.O.G. was awarded the MBE for services to medicine in Salford.

Dr Gillian P. Rowland (nee Campbell) (76-78) has recently been awarded an M.Sc. (with distinction in thesis) from the Department of Clinical Medicine at Leeds University. Gillian is now working as a senior medical officer in community paediatrics with the East Yorkshire Community Health Trust.

Sarah C. Brindle (nee Price) (80-82) has been awarded B.A. (Hons) in Business Studies from the University of Central Lancashire. Sarah writes that her son Joseph also had something to be proud of recently, moving into long trousers from Horncliffe.

This is a follow-up to the phone call I made some weeks ago while I was visiting Blackburn. I have been back in Lusaka for about three weeks after a tour taking in Helsinki, London, Washington, Birmingham, (Alabama), Philadelphia, Manchester (England) and of course my home "village" a nice combination of lectures, meetings, (official) dinners, music and pure relaxation.

Professor Alan Haworth has been awarded the OBE in last June's birthday honours. He was also made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists last year. More recently, he has been elected President of the Zambia Medical Association.

A seemingly regular member who crops up in this section is **Gary Smith**, part owner of Winchester Entertainment, whose film production company has recently signed a deal with pop stars All Saints to make a multi-million pound movie directed by Dave Stewart of the Eurythmics. Gary, 41, will be executive producer of *Honest*, a £4.2 million film to be premiered at Cannes 2000.

Andrew Komosa has shrugged off blindness and a recent kidney transplant to qualify as a solicitor. Now in a more senior role at Sowle and Company solicitors in Leyland, Andrew made newspaper headlines in 1996 when his then guide dog, Tarquin, came to the rescue getting hold of dropped Lucozade bottles which his owner needed to boost blood sugar levels to prevent a collapse during an attack of hypoglycaemia. In his leisure time, Andrew loves to get out and about in his red Ferrari Mondial even if it is his girlfriend Catherine Regan behind the wheel.

Alan Upton has been appointed practice administrator at accountancy firm PM&M. Alan joins the company from Medex in Haslingden.

Simon Jersey, the Altham-based firm specialising in the design and manufacture of uniforms for some of the world's biggest companies has completed a deal which will see employees owning a big stake in the company. Founded in 1971 by **Mr Moyle**, he had previously run a chain of women's clothing shops called Tiger Lily and following the share offer, now controls 60% of Simon Jersey.

Oliver Durovic has received the coveted Green Beret and signed up to the Royal Marine Commandos for the maximum length of 22 years. Having endured a 30-mile romp, navigated while carrying kit, a Tarzan assault course and rifle-shooting tests he finds the active, outdoor life extremely appealing.

Roger Bury, of Haworth and Nuttal Solicitors, has been appointed president of Blackburn Incorporated Law Association.

Nick Dougherty has been crowned World Boys' champion following a highly impressive performance which saw him reel off an eagle and two birdies over the last four holes to also help England retain the team title. Needing a good performance following a season of near misses, the England captain did not disappoint sinking an 18ft putt on the last green to claim victory.

Peter Hobkirk, who runs Hobkirk Industrial Sewing Machines, has been installed as the new president of Blackburn and District Chamber of Trade. Peter's father Edgar was president in the 1960s and Peter himself has already held the position in 1979.

Michael Winterbottom is set to work with pop superstar Madonna as a result of his London-based production company, Revolution Films, developing the screenplay for a version of Thomas Hardy's novel *The Mayor of Casterbridge*, alongside the BBC. Michael began his screen career as an editor for Thames Television and has directed award-winning crime series *Cracker*. His latest film, *Wonderland*, was screened at the Cannes Film Festival to great critical acclaim.

The Headmaster forwarded a copy of a letter from **Martin Leigh** which details his career movements since QEGS and might be of interest to those that knew him.

Last Spring Martin was awarded a Doctorate in Music by the University of Nottingham with his thesis on the subject of the late piano of Music of Brahms. During this time, Martin worked with Professor Robert Pascall, possibly the leading Brahmsian in the English-speaking world.

For the last academic year Martin was the Broadwood Fellow in Piano Accompaniment at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama in Glasgow. October 99 saw him start at the Birmingham Conservatoire, as resident répétiteur, and a part-time member of the academic staff.

Last Summer, Martin was also the Assistant Conductor of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra working with Sir Charles Mackerras. He is now continuing this line of study with Sir Roger Norrington.

Letters to The Editor . . .

I was delighted to receive a communication from Bob Mayo during the Summer in which he recalled that he and his wife Noreen were invited to a house warming party in Knaresborough at the home of Desmond and Rosemary Carr. Also present were Guy & Tan Shuttleworth, Jimmy & Jean Watt and Ted & Jean Harper.

What made this such a memorable occasion, Bob writes, was the fact that many of the couples had not seen each other for over 30 years and in the case of the Harpers, at least 50.

It also transpired that all five gentlemen had been members of the U14 soccer team in 1940-41 and the 1st XI from 1943-44.

With his letter Bob kindly sent along copies of both the original school photograph and also one taken at the house warming party, where all five gents assumed their original positions and these are reproduced here.

Bob ends by asking for information on the other members of the two soccer teams. He can be contacted on (01423) 879218 or at 7 By-Ways, HARROGATE, HG2 9PD.



*Standing (from left): TED HARPER (second), JIMMY WATT (fifth)
Middle row (from left): BOB MAYO (first), GUY SHUTTLEWORTH (third),
DESMOND CARR (fourth)*



*Left to right: BOB MAYO, TED HARPER, GUY SHUTTLEWORTH,
DESMOND CARR, JIMMY WATT*

Dear Sir,

I have just had the misfortune to read your most irritating editorial in Magister 41, November 1998. Before eulogising a football team from another city with no QEGS connection, you may wish to consider the historically important and inseparable roles played by both The School and the local football team(s) in the support and nourishment of the local East Lancs community. Having pondered this point you may feel it more appropriate for the Editorial voice of Magister to offer support to a more local football team.

If you feel unable to contain your unfortunate allegiances which are likely to erode the standing of The School in the eyes of the local community, perhaps it would be most appropriate for you to go and edit a magazine associated with Manchester Grammar School.

**Dr Nigel John Brunskill,
MB ChB, PhD, MRCP(UK) (72-79).**

Dear Sir,

I felt I had to put pen to paper to complain about the snidy, backhanded comments from the Editor regarding the town's Premiership football team in Magister issue No. 40. On no less than three separate occasions (pages 2, 5 & 7), references appear either in putting down Blackburn Rovers or singing the praises of Manchester United. This policy I find deplorable. One specific Editorial comment at the end of an otherwise excellent article by Steve Monk about Ellis Metcalfe left a sickening feeling in my mouth. Cheap jokes about the team he worshipped through thick and thin, Blackburn Rovers are just not funny anymore.

Paul Isherwood (66-75).

FFC - Judging by feedback from three members (the third can not be printed as he wishes to remain anonymous) it would appear that I have clearly angered some Blackburn Rovers supporters out there.

Can I first of all apologise to those in the same boat; it was never my intention to cause offence. Indeed, as a result of my seven year connection with Blackburn, whilst I can not claim to like the Rovers, I can at least claim not to dislike them as much as others. Also, it should be remembered that any genuine United supporter can have nothing but admiration for Brian Kidd, whether he be Sir Alex Ferguson's number two or the manager of your own beloved team.

In footballing terms, the historical Treble winning achievements of last season are still fresh in the mind but with the sorry decline of Blackburn Rovers, firstly being relegated to the Nationwide League and now, as I write, managerless, I do feel a genuine sorrow for all Rovers fans reading this and I wish both you and your team a very prompt reversal of fortunes. Let us all hope that the currently assembled team, together with any new acquisitions, can help to return Ewood Park to the glory days of the 1994-95 season, though not too quickly you understand!

As a final comment, those who wrote in about the matter might like to know that I only mentioned my thought provoking allegiances to stimulate member feedback. I am therefore delighted you have responded.

A lovely letter came my way from the proud parents of **Christopher John Newsham** (1982-90).

Chris went to America in September 1992 on a four year Golf Scholarship where he played on the college team throughout.

He graduated in 1996 with a B.Sc. in Health & Physical Education from Georgia College & State University whereupon he elected to stay a further two years to complete his Masters Degree in Special Education. It was during this time that Chris coached the college golf team and also met his wife who was also on the same college course.



He graduated in June 1998 with a M.Ed and started a full-time teaching post in September of that same year at a senior school close to Atlanta. He continues to coach sport in after-school activities.

His achievements at GC&SU include the J. Mike Peeler Golf Award in 1995/96, an Outstanding Departmental Major in April 1996 and becoming a member of Kappa Delta Pi for his outstanding academic achievement.

Chris returned to the UK to marry his American fiancé on 26 June 1999 at West Bradford Methodist Church.

Colin Sharples (65-72) has recently been appointed a partner at Jacksons Chartered Accountants in Blackburn. He goes on to say that he still has a Jensen Healey and that he'd love to hear from any members who are in the Jensen Owners Club. Colin can be reached at Carrwood End, Hothersall Lane, Hothersall, PRESTON, PR3 2XB or on (01772) 786554

Ray Billington (41-45) has enquired as to the whereabouts of surviving members of Form 3B (42-43) and recalls the register as read out every morning by "Gladys" Bakewell as:

Bainbridge, Baron, Bates, Billington, Blakeley, Burke, Caruthers, Edmondson, Emmett, Fish, Hallett, Holdsworth, Houghton, Howorth, Jackson, Jolley, Kemp, Law, Laycock, Livesey, Machell, Marvin, Parker, Shorrocks, Smith, Spedding, Thompson, Waddington, Whalley, Wilson, Woodacre, Yardley.

Ray can be reached at 1E Inworth Street, Battersea, LONDON, SW11 3EW.

1999 Annual Dinner

This year's showpiece event in the OBA calendar will be held at Big School, QEGS on Saturday 18th December 1999. The Chief Guest will be Roger Farley QC and the Proposer of the Toast To The School will be Chris Metcalfe.

Roger Farley was born in Blackburn in 1944 and although two of his own sons attended Queen Elizabeth's, he himself was educated via Roe Lee, Clitheroe Grammar and Giggleswick schools. Having obtained his LLB from Liverpool University he became a solicitor in Blackburn in 1969. In 1974 he became a barrister, and remains so to this day. In 1992 he was appointed Queen's Counsel and Recorder of the Crown Court and became only the second to be Blackburn based. (Old Blackburnian Ben Ormerod being the first.) Roger lists his interests as "all sports, especially rugby" and was chairman of Blackburn Rugby Club 1988-93.

Chris was at QEGS from 1976-86, becoming Head Boy in his final year. He moved on to Hull University where he obtained a degree in Organisational Analysis and Management Systems. A reluctance to leave university, coupled with a strong belief in the "social benefits" from membership of the Hockey Club, lead to a sabbatical year as President of the Athletic Union. During this time he was elected National Vice Chairman of the Universities Athletic Union. A further year at Hull produced an M.Sc. in Information Technology.

In September 1992 he joined Deloitte Touche in London as Senior Consultant. However, in 1996 the lure of academia struck again and he spent two years at the London Business School where he gained his M.B.A. with distinction. He is currently employed as a Project Manager with GEC in London.

Chris now lives in Wimbledon with his wife Rachel and they are expecting their first child on New Years Day - hopefully the baby will not arrive on December 18th!

The menu for the evening (note that the School now employs different caterers) will be as follows:-

*Succulent Prawns and Smoked Salmon,
with Marie Rose Sauce*

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*Roast Topside of Beef with Watercress,  
Game Chips and Mustard Gravy*

*Seasonal Vegetables and Potatoes*

~~~~~

Chocolate Torte with Vanilla Sauce

~~~~~

*Coffee and Mints*

Tickets are priced at £18 (£14 for those members who left QEGS in 1994 or later) and may be applied for using the application form on the back page. Alternatively, our new web site at [www.oldblacks.co.uk](http://www.oldblacks.co.uk) offers you the facility to do all this over the Internet, thereby saving time and effort. Full instructions for the web service are on-line and please note that a valid, regularly checked email address is required.

As ever, tickets for the Dinner are eagerly sought after and we anticipate a high demand again this year. Allocation is done on a first-come, first-served basis (whether submitted by post or electronically via our web site) so you are advised to move quickly.

[www.oldblacks.co.uk](http://www.oldblacks.co.uk)





# *Invitation* **Old Blackburnians' Association** **Annual Christmas Dinner**

on  
**Saturday 18th December 1999**  
at  
**'Big School', QEGS**  
time  
**6:30pm for 7:15pm**

£14 per person for members who left School in 1993 or after  
**£18 per person for all other members**

*To apply for tickets, complete the slip below:-*



**Name** ..... **Years at School** .....

**Address** .....

..... **Post Code** .....

**Telephone Number** .....

If possible I should like to sit near: .....

I am ☐ / am not ☐ prepared to accept a seat in the anteroom.

I would prefer a vegetarian meal. ☐

I enclose a cheque for £20 ☐ / £15 ☐  
made payable to **Old Blackburnians' Association.**

**I enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for delivery of tickets.**

*Please return the completed application form, together with your remittance, to:*

*Ian Pickup (OBA Dinner), 157 Pleckgate Road, BLACKBURN, BB1 8QR.*

**As usual, we expect demand to be high.**  
**Please apply ASAP to give yourself the**  
**best chance of getting a ticket.**

*Tickets for 'Big School' are allocated on a first come, first served basis.*  
*For group bookings, please complete an application form for each ticket.*

