



Heath Old Boys' Association Newsletter

DIGNI ET VOS ESTE FAVORE

July 1995

The Newsletter.

The Heath Old Boys' Association has been, perhaps, a sleeping monster over recent years. Well, perhaps not quite a monster, although it ought to be, with nearly 400 years of old boys to draw on for its membership!!

The Newsletter has not, I believe, appeared since Ron Swale was Head Master. However, it has been decided to revive this means of communication with the Old Boys of the School, to keep them in touch with the Association, with the School - which is, of course, now The Crossley Heath School, and with each other. Items of news about Old Boys (which should give the year they left School) for the Newsletter should be sent to either the President, David Bottomley, at Austin's Hill, Brafferton, Helperby, North Yorkshire, YO6 2QB; Tel.: 01423 360231, or Fax.: 01423 360800, or to the Secretary, Russell Smith, at 91 Bramley Lane, Hipperholme, Halifax, HX3 8NS; Tel.: 01422 201744.

1597 - 1997 - The Quatercentenary.

The Quatercentenary - the four hundredth anniversary of the School's opening in 1597 - will be celebrated in 1997. That's only two years hence. We will be discussing plans to celebrate this event at the A.G.M. If you have any suggestions or ideas, bring them along to the AGM and Dinner - details in the next column.

Membership.

Our annual membership fee remains at the paltry level of £2.00! This is slightly less than what it costs us to keep in touch with you, so we would be grateful for those of you who are not already paying this sum, to complete the Bankers' Order Form that will be available from the Treasurer, Duncan Turner, at the Dinner, or which can be requested from the Secretary at his address which is given above.

The Annual Dinner.

The next Annual Dinner will take place on **Friday 13th October, 1995** at The Imperial Crown Hotel, Halifax. It will be preceded by the A.G.M. of the Association which will commence at 7.00p.m.

Kingsley Hyland, who left School in 1976 and is now a prominent figure in the legal - and rugby - worlds of the North East, has been invited as Guest Speaker, and, I am delighted to say, has accepted.

All Old Boys, whether formal members of the Association or not, are warmly invited to attend. A booking form is enclosed.

We would like to see even more old Heathens at this enjoyable event, so this year we would like *everyone* to invite one or more guests who attended the School to come along with them. This is a great opportunity to contact an old school-friend you haven't seen for years, or for fathers who attended the School to invite their sons who also attended either Heath or its successor school. Your committee hope also to make a special effort to encourage attendance from amongst those who left in 1970 - 25 years ago - to come along.

Remember, we are all looking forward to seeing you on Friday 13th October - a date that will be unlucky only for those who don't do anything about booking up now!

What has H.O.B.A. been doing these past few years?

The Dr. Favour Appeal.

We hope that you all heard about the appeal we ran to restore the monument to our founder, Dr. John Favour, in Halifax Parish Church. This was highly successful, and raised well over £2,000 towards the necessary work. Your President, David Bottomley, was present at the Service in Church when the bust was re-dedicated by the then Vicar of Halifax, Canon Robert Gibson.

The Heath School Prizes and Honours Boards

The Association is also currently considering the position of the Honours Boards which used to be displayed in Heath School. It is hoped to have some of these, particularly for the prizes still being awarded, brought up to date and displayed in the present Crossley Heath School. Prizes still being awarded are the Heath Old Boys' Association Athlete's Prize (The Harry Birchall Trophy), the C.E. Fox Prize to the Scholar who, on leaving, had brought most credit to the School, and the C.O. Mackley Prize for History. The President of the Heath Old Boys' Association, David Bottomley was invited by the Chairman of Governors, Mrs. J. Tidswell, and the Head Master, Mr. John Bunch, (who, of course, was the last Head Master of Heath as a separate school) to be present at the Annual Prize Giving on 6th April to witness the Prizes being presented - he was delighted to be there.

The Association is also making representations to the Charity Commissioners and the Council to ensure that other Prizes originally given for the benefit of Heath Scholars will once again be awarded to pupils at the present school. Some would appear to be "in abeyance" following the School's opting-out of Local Government control, and adopting a Grant Maintained status.

The Annual Dinner

Revived a few years ago, it has proved most enjoyable, giving a good opportunity for old boys to meet one another again. It has been decided to revive the custom of having a guest speaker, and it is also the intention that old school photographs and other memorabilia should be on display.

The Committee.

The Committee for the current year is comprised of
David Bottomley, President;
Keith McDonald, Senior Vice-President;
John Charnock, Junior Vice-President;
Russell Smith, Secretary;
Duncan Turner, Treasurer;
and
John Robertshaw, Drs. Malcolm Bamforth and
John Iredale, Members.

It is anticipated that Keith McDonald will assume the Presidency at the A.G.M. in October.

Thanks must be expressed to Robert Smithies who carried on as Hon. Secretary during the period of non-activity following the closure of Heath as a separate school and the loss of committee members in the tragic M6 accident. His sterling service to the Association has ensured its continuity, and we are very grateful to him.

The Aims and Objectives of the Association.

Primarily, the Association exists to foster fellowship amongst the Old Boys of Heath School, and to maintain the traditions of Heath, the second oldest institution in Halifax.

However, it is also the Association's intention to foster links with and give support and help to Heath's successor school, The Crossley Heath School, to ensure its continuing success through building on its heritage from its predecessor schools.

The Association will also monitor and be the custodian of the long history of Heath School.

Obituary.

We record with deep regret the death in October 1994 of Malcolm McDonald, who left School in 1949.

News of Old Boys.

Keith McDonald, our Senior Vice-President, (left School in 1946), has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the County of West Yorkshire at the present school.