



Heath Old Boys' Association Newsletter

DIGNI ET VOS ESTE FAVORE

November 1995

Another Newsletter!!

When, as President of the Heath Old Boys' Association, I prepared the July edition of a Newsletter - the first for many years - I did not expect to be writing another one later the same year. I had thought that once a year - or, at the most, two a year would be ample.

However, true to the traditions of the Heath Old Boys' Association, nothing ever runs smoothly, and for some reason (or reasons) our July issue did not reach a large number of people for whom it was intended.

I was therefore asked by our Secretary at the Annual Dinner last week, if I would produce an up-date, reporting on the Dinner and bringing the latest news to all our readers! So, here it is. It is not in fact repeating anything that appeared in the last newsletter as I hope that will be accompanying this one to those who did not receive it.

The only thing that I intend to repeat is the request for news items or information about Old Boys of Heath School for inclusion in future editions. They should be sent to me, (as I seem to have become the unofficial and perhaps self-appointed editor), 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.

£2.00 - for a good cause!

May we remind all Old Boys of Heath School, that our membership fee is only £2.00. If you are not already paying it, please contact our Secretary at the above address who will be glad to send you a Bankers' Order Form - it is hoped that one might be enclosed with this Newsletter.

Lost! Many Heath Old Boys!

We do need the names and addresses of as many Heath Old Boys as possible. If you know of anyone who has lost touch with the Association, please write to the Secretary and let him know.

Quatercentenary 1597 - 1997

The 400th anniversary of the School's opening will be celebrated in 1997. Your committee have one or two ideas for marking the occasion - a dinner, an exhibition of memorabilia, a civic service on Founder's Day. However, other ideas will be welcome. Send them to Russell Smith at the address above.

Successful Bun-fight

The Annual Dinner took place on Friday, 13th October 1995 at the Imperial Crown Hotel, Halifax. It was held in the quite appropriate, apparently learned surroundings of their "Library Room", which at first glance might have been reminiscent of the old 'Lit & Phil' on Harrison Road. However, closer inspection of the 'tomes' found that they were not so learned after all - and few, if any, bore any resemblance to the section headings on the book cases: the Dewey Decimal system has not penetrated the Imperial Crown.

However, they obviously knew where to find their cookery books, and recipes, because we were served a sumptuous feast of delicious home-made mushroom soup, followed by Loin of Pork served with Crackling, Stuffing, Apple Sauce and Fresh Apple and Sage Gravy, with Cauliflower, Carrots, and Roast and Boiled Potatoes. The dessert comprised Poached Pears, and the meal concluded with coffee. The choice of wines was left to the diners, but the red house wine was excellent.

The guest speaker, who proposed the toast to our Founder, Dr. John Favour, and to The School, was Kingsley Hyland, who left School in 1976 and is now a prominent figure in the legal - and rugby - worlds of the North East. He is first team manager of Gosforth R.U. Club, now linked so closely with Newcastle United. He referred to regular meetings with another Heath Old Boy famed in the Rugby world - Phil Horrocks-Taylor.

An amusing and witty reminiscence of fact and fiction kept everyone entertained, and we were all delighted to hear of Mr. Arthur Owen's talking frog! We were also fascinated to hear of the changes one D. K. Hyland had wrought, as Editor, on The Heathen in 1975 which nearly bankrupted the School, the Heathen and The Old Boys' Association! It brought forth from our revered former Head, Ron Swale, a suitable sally which we were delighted to hear read to the company - namely that the Editor's father, an eminent physician in the town, should be present at the next meeting in the likely event of a case of cardiac arrest! Few had expected to hear Ron Swale's words of wisdom at a Heath Old Boys' Association Dinner long after his decease.

Next Year's Dinner - 11th October 1996

Make a note *now* of the date of next year's dinner - Friday, 11th October 1996 at The Imperial Crown Hotel.

School News

At the Annual Dinner, the Head Master, John Bunch, who was of course the last Head Master of Heath School before its merger with the 'old enemy' up the Moor, gave news from the School and in particular, of some members of staff.

Peter Hand, who joined Heath School in 1963, teaching history, and continued to serve in the new Crossley Heath School, has now fully retired from teaching.

Malcolm Blythe who first taught chemistry at Heath in 1959 and has continued ever since in full time teaching at the school, has retired from full time service, but will continue on a part-time basis.

Rodney Eastwood, an old boy of Heath School (1954-61), and who has taught English at the school since 1976 has also retired.

However, the links with the old and the new school are continuing, as John Bunch advised us that Steven Donlan who was the last Deputy Head Boy of Heath school when it was independent, has now joined the staff of Crossley Heath teaching History and P.E.

Moreover a Heath Old Boy, Grayham P. Smith, who left in 1959, has joined the Governing Body of The Crossley Heath School.

The School had been delighted that Keith McDonald had been present at their Open Evening held recently, and our newly-elected President expressed his admiration of the work that was being carried out at the School. Considerable capital expenditure has been employed in developing new 'state of the art' laboratories, which are very far removed from what most old boys remember as science labs., and work has now commenced on modernising the school library.

The Head mentioned that the latest new technological advances in Information Technology had opened up access to an American-based electronic encyclopaedia called 'Encarta', and they had been proud to see that the six-line entry on Halifax included three lines about Heath School!

An attractively illustrated colour brochure on the School today has been produced, containing not only something of the school's ethos, but also examination statistics, which show that Crossley Heath has built upon the firm foundations of its predecessor schools. If you would like a copy, drop a line to the Head Master at The Crossley Heath School, Savile Park, Halifax, HX3 0HG. (Tel. 01422 360272)

Heath RUFC

Heath RUFC wishes it to be known that you are welcome to visit the Club at West Vale. There is a splendid bar purveying John Smith's and guest beers; moreover you can always get a bite to eat on match days.

Warm welcome for father and son

We were delighted to welcome Mr. John Marsland, who left Heath School in 1933, and his son Peter, also an Old Boy, leaving Heath in 1968, who came along to join the party at the end of our Dinner. Their presence was purely fortuitous as now living in Leamington Spa they were visiting Halifax to attend a Rugby function at Ovenden Park. For old times' sake they had visited the former Heath School premises to find that the School was no longer there. They were directed to The Crossley Heath School where they met the Head Master and were delighted to be invited to our Dinner. They could not be present, but we were all delighted that they were able to come along at the end and meet so many of us. We hope that next year they will both plan to return to Halifax to join us at our Annual Dinner.

The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Heath Old Boys' Association was held immediately prior to the Annual Dinner, and the following members were elected to The Committee:

Keith McDonald, President;
John Charnock, Senior Vice-President;
John Robertshaw, Junior Vice-President;
Russell Smith, Hon. Secretary;
Duncan Turner, Hon. Treasurer;

and

John Allingham,
Dr. Malcolm Bamforth, and
David Bottomley, Members.

The Head Master, Mr. John Bunch, is also a Member, *ex officio*.

The President expressed the grateful thanks of the committee, and indeed all members, to Bert Smithies who had carried on as Hon Secretary during a very difficult period of the Association's life. Without his services it would surely have foundered.

HEATH OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Hon. Secretary:
RUSSELL SMITH
91 Bramley Lane
Hipperholme
Halifax HX3 8NS
Telephone 01422 201744

Obituary.

We record with deep regret the recent death whilst on holiday in Washington, D.C., of Dr. John A. Iredale, who left School in 1948. John was Director of Post-Experience Programmes in the Development and Project Planning Centre of the University of Bradford. He was, at the time of his death, serving on the Committee of the Heath Old Boys' Association, and his knowledge and helpful advice will be sorely missed. We extend our condolences to his widow and family.