



The Old St Beghian

July 2017

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The New Headmaster: Mr Jeremy Hallows

We welcome Mr Jeremy Hallows as the new Headmaster of the school. He will take up his post in September 2017, a year in advance of the formal reopening. Mr Hallows, a Zoology graduate of the University of Sheffield, has formerly been Head of the Senior School at Bromsgrove School in Worcestershire. Prior to this he had extensive teaching and leadership experience at Wellington School and Millfield. Married with four children, he has a number of interests, mainly sporting, and is a keen musician.

He joins St Bees at a time of great challenge and exciting opportunities as the school reopens, and we hope that he and his family will be very happy here.

The Trustees' Newsletter

Enclosed with this Bulletin you will find the next issue of the Newsletter prepared by the Board of Trustees. It continues their policy of keeping OSBs and the general community as up to date as possible with the progress being made to re-establish education at St Bees School in September 2018. There are some especially important announcements in this issue and it will repay OSBs' careful perusal, particularly as to how they may be able to ensure the future success of the school in the years ahead.

From Our President

Dacre Watson (SH 56-62)

It was about three years ago this month that I had lunch with the retiring President of the St Beghian Society for a 'handover' chat; it was comprehensive, brief and entirely enjoyable with the result that I came away feeling that I would be looking forward to the next two years. Nothing could have prepared me for the events which were about to unfold over the next few months and on looking back, I would describe my emotions during the last three years as ranging from despair, cautious hope, optimism and finally to quiet satisfaction as it became certain the school would re-open in 2018. The old adage that in order truly to appreciate the dawn one must have experienced the black night of darkness beforehand, is certainly true

A great deal has been said, informed and otherwise, since the school closed in July 2015 and I remember it as a very dark period as the school property was prepared for 'care and maintenance' during the coming winter; no easy task notwithstanding some small income from various sources. But that fundamental task was achieved by the community rallying together with the St Beghian Society in an effort not only to preserve the school but with the long term intention (more a hope, really) of restoring it to viability with a sound future.

This has been achieved by the dedicated work of people (too many to mention here) coming together, St Beghians and others from different walks of life, all skilled and dedicated to the restoration of education in St Bees under the original vision of Archbishop Edmund Grindal.

As I have said in this Bulletin on a number of occasions, my job as President has been to try to keep the St Beghian Society together and focussed on the future, and apart from communicating through the Bulletin and social media, I have managed to attend a number of lunches and dinners this year, of which in terms of numbers present, the London Dinner hosted by Tim Crossley-Smith was the most successful. I was also able to get to the second Hong Kong Dinner organised by Laurence Gribble and the first Singapore lunch hosted by Duncan Merrin; Kirsty Hobbs will be organising a dinner in New York on 9th September and I shall be there as well. Just as important were the Bristol Lunch and West Cumbria Dinner earlier this year. I do not see these occasions as purely social events, though they achieve this very well, but I also see them as an opportunity to involve all those present in what we are doing, our aspirations for the school, and the lively

question and answer sessions which they generate should be a template for the future in order to keep you all informed.

I would like to thank not only the organisers but also all those who attended. These gatherings are absolutely vital and an act of faith for the future of the Society, but they also provide a venue for all of us to meet again, often after many years; probably the most frequent comment I hear is ‘We must not leave it so long again’.

The main day for us, of course, is Old St Beghians’ Day, which will be held at St Bees on 23rd September this year and I would urge as many of you as possible to attend if you can. One of the Trustees will be there to talk about the future of the school and it will be an opportunity for all of you to meet the new Headmaster, Jeremy Hallows.

At the AGM in September I shall be standing down as President of the St Beghian Society; I will have occupied the position for three years, years which I can only describe as initially ‘interesting’ followed by the exhilaration of realising that our wildest dreams would in fact come to pass. Throughout these years, in good times and in bad, I have had extraordinary support not only from the St Beghian Society Committee, but also the dedicated and wise counsel of David Lord, Tony Reeve and Pam Rumney. Had any of these three not been present, particularly in the early days after closure, I genuinely do not believe that we would be where we are today. It is a sobering realisation that to my knowledge St Bees is the only British Public School to have closed and re-opened without merging with another school.

This is not to ignore the extraordinary work and dedication of the Board of Trustees under Mark George, whose dynamism and strength have shone through; initially led by Mark Rocca, Mark George took over when the former was posted to Dubai and he has welded an excellent team together of OSBs and people from the community all of whom brought their special skills to the table. We owe them a great deal.

It is now time for a change of leadership of the Society and at the AGM in September, Peter Lever will become the next President. Peter joined the OSB Committee in September 2016 and has spent the last year familiarising himself with the various facets of the school and Society finances and the trusts as well as becoming the firm link between the Society and the Board of Trustees. Indeed, once the Joint Venture Company, to be known as the St Bees School Management Company Ltd, is up and running, Peter will be on that Board together with two

members of the existing St Bees School Trust, effectively governors of the school.

Peter brings excellent business and financial skills to both bodies. He will ensure that the Society will be present and involved as the school develops in the future. You will all have a chance to meet him on 23rd September where he will be speaking about his vision for the future.

In my many conversations with Society members, there has been concern expressed that this will no longer be 'their' school, or 'our' school, indeed that it will now reflect some form of foreign ownership.

First, it will still be 'our' school and always will be; Full Circle has taken a very long lease on the school and its name, but the buildings, land and infrastructure will still belong to the school as they do today and always have done. Certainly, the school has changed, though I would prefer to use the word 'adapted', to the economic circumstances of the last few years. When you think about it, though, it has always had to adapt and change with time; for instance, which of us who attended during the 50s and 60s would have thought it would become co-educational in the 70s, or that there would be large numbers of foreign students later and, incidentally, who all rightly consider themselves St Beghians?

After the two years' hiatus we will re-open as a public school run on traditional lines but with innovations which will, I believe, be studied with more than a passing interest by other schools, which will find that they, too, will have to adapt if they are to survive.

So, please make every effort to attend the AGM in September; your questions and concerns will be addressed and I have no doubt that you will find the day to be uplifting.

Thank you, every one of you, for the support we have received in good times and less happy ones. For me personally it has been a deeply humbling experience to witness the extraordinary sense of goodwill towards the school, not only from Society members, but also from the local community and village of St Bees. We must never forget everyone's contribution to where we are today.

Thank you.

Dacre Watson, President, St Beghian Society.

OSB NOTES

David Boucher (SH 54-59) remembers:

My Introduction to St Bees School – 1954.

“I started at St Bees in September 1954. At the time my parents lived in Uganda. They put me on a plane (a Handley Page Hermes) at Entebbe and 26 hours later I landed at London Airport (it wasn't called Heathrow then) and was met by my grandfather. After staying one night in London we proceeded to Wallasey where I was kitted out with trunk, tuck box etc.

Unfortunately, on the day before I was due to start school, I developed “Montezuma's Revenge” (I think I drank water at Cairo airport) and as a result I was five days late arriving at St Bees.

My grandfather drove me up and left me at Eaglesfield in the hands of Cyril Wood, the Housemaster (M 45-59).

My first meeting with my fellow new boys was at supper that evening. I sat next to Mike Craig (SH 54-59), who wanted to know why I wasn't black since I had come from Uganda! At the head of the table was ‘Al’ Ogden (FS 51-56), one of the prefects, who, when he was served with the meal, enquired what it was. Jonny Graham (SH 54-59), who was sitting on his other side declared that it was ‘blind scouse’ qualifying it by explaining that you go blind looking for the meat.

Unfortunately the cook, who was serving the meal, heard him and delivered him a slap around the head!

The following morning I made my way to school for chapel followed by lessons. Lunch was taken at our senior houses, in my case School House. If you managed to get there in good time you could engage in a game of ‘yard soccer’. This consisted of two sides kicking a tennis ball at each other and hopefully scoring goals. There was no limit as to the number of people on each side and no real rules - great fun. A pair of brand new Clarks shoes lasted roughly one week. It became yard cricket in the summer with once again no established rules.

We very soon learnt that the people to be wary of were the members of Senior Studies. It was their brief (self-decided) to make sure we minions were aware of the important things about the school. Top of the list was to know the members of the first XV and be able to recite their names. Basically this was sacrosanct and we lived in fear that if challenged we might not be able to do it. So you better

believe it, we very soon had the first XV fixed in our memories. So, some 63 years later, here it is:

Gallon, Collins, Parker, Newton, ---, Kennedy, Colbeck, Booth, Wilson, Townsend, Brown, ---, Mawson, Young, Plint (?)

My sincere apologies to those I have omitted - perhaps someone may be able to help out here.

So began five enjoyable years of education in the broader sense at a school with some unique characteristics: three quarter days, wearing shorts year round, 'Officially Hot' days, to name but a few and not forgetting Colin Cawthorn's (M 54-62) glider (where our President, Dacre Watson (SH 56-62) learned to fly!!).

Congratulations to the Trustees for reopening the school and good luck to those students starting in September 2018 as they embark on a tremendous opportunity."

(Does anyone have any pictures of this glider which they would be willing to donate or to send as a photo attachment please? We have no images of it in the archives. Ed.)

Chris Grice (G 55-61)

has sent some memories of the CCF-RAF section.

"The reference to the primary glider in the January 2017 issue of the OSB Bulletin prompts me to offer some reminiscences of my time in the RAF section of the CCF. It was during my time in the CCF that we actually acquired the glider (also known as a Grasshopper). It took an inordinate amount of effort to move the parts of the glider from its shed in School House Lane and assemble it on the Crease. On one of its earlier 'flights', piloted by the intrepid Flt. Lt. 'Spike' Cawthorn RAFVR, who was in charge of the RAF section, we managed to knock down a set of rugby goalposts on 'Seconds'.

Actually, the RAF section had a lot to recommend it. For example, on Field Days, instead of bashing around the Lakeland fells carrying a .303 and a few blank cartridges, we were bussed to RAF Silloth; had lunch in the Officers' Mess and then were treated to a flight over the Lake District above the Army section doing their thing below. My very first flight was in a DC3 Dakota, probably one of the most successful aircraft of all time.

I also attended three annual camps at various RAF stations. The first, at RAF Spitalgate, at Grantham, was fairly unremarkable, except for a visit to a V Bomber base at RAF Wittering, where we were allowed to get fairly close to their Vickers Valiants. For train-spotters like myself, the proximity of the main London

to Edinburgh line was also an attraction. A couple of years later I went to RAF Benson, in Oxfordshire, which was a Transport Command station and also the base of The Queen's Flight. While we were there we were able to fill up the spare seats on 'taxi' flights, which in my case took us to Shropshire, Silloth near Carlisle, Aldergrove in Northern Ireland and back to Benson. At this camp, we also had a visit to Heathrow Airport, which included a visit to the control tower and the BOAC hangers, where we were allowed to crawl all over a Britannia. I doubt if this would be possible these days. We spent that afternoon at the Aeronautical Museum in South Kensington. Since this camp included the August Bank Holiday Monday, we were taken to the motor cycle races at Thruxton for the day.

My final camp, in 1961, was at RAF Cranwell, which is the base for RAF Officer Training. We were able to see the passing out parade of the newly commissioned officers and then had the doubtful privilege of being instructed by the NCOs, who normally trained the officer cadets. One of the highlights of this camp was a seven-a-side rugby tournament, which St Bees won. In this, I had the privilege of playing with a future captain of England. (This was P. J. Dixon - FS 56-63.)"

A Visitor From America.

Ivan Jones (FN 60-64).

"I recently remarried after the death of my first wife nearly five years ago. My new wife, Becky, had never been to Europe, so one of the first items in our 'To Do Bucket' was a visit to England from our home in Florida. I wanted to show her as much as possible of the land of my birth and the places that influenced my growing up - and St Bees had to be the top of the list! For a boy who spent most of his holidays in the Middle East, St Bees had an enormous influence on my 'Englishness'. I have never regretted it. I arranged with Pam Rumney to show Becky around the school in May this year. The job fell to Dr Tony Reeve. Not only did Tony show us around but he took the time to explain many of the features we came across. We had a good exchange of 'war stories'. He has an extensive knowledge of the school history. Thank you for taking the time out to show us around.

I must say I was pleased that the fabric of the buildings is being maintained. In many ways it looked just like it did between terms when the students had all left for home. That's not to say that some major TLC is needed in the future. One final comment I would like to pass on. Tony is rotating the old school team pictures on the walls of the Foundation Dining Room, adding some character to a room recently used for wedding receptions.

A few days before visiting the school we had an opportunity to have lunch in Corbridge with Geoff Steven (G 59-64) and Don Williams (FN 61-64), whom I

was at school with. Our reminiscing lasted well into the afternoon. We had not seen each other in a number of years.

The journey from the North East over to St Bees took us through Keswick and over Whinlatter and along the edge of Loweswater. I'm sure the roads are narrower now than in the 60s. My wife thought I was nuts driving along them. No wonder St Bees feels isolated.

After booking our trip I found out that the OSB Bristol & West group were having a luncheon get together while we were in England and wives were welcome. Thanks to Bill Affleck (SH 45-51) for organizing it. Dacre Watson (SH 56-62) was the key speaker and he provided us with a detailed update on the progress being made to re-launch the school. For those of us who can only follow via electronic media it was very informative. He was able to provide a detailed strategic overview that helped us understand what the school is up to. For instance the school will never survive in the long term unless the isolation and low population density issues are addressed (my opinion). As explained by Dacre I believe the plan now being implemented addresses these points very well. Indeed the school may well find itself successfully leading the way in how education is provided in the modern international world in which we live. I was excited by what Dacre had to say. Naturally there were many questions asked and he took the time to give very detailed responses. In fact the lunch went on so long we overstayed our welcome at the venue and the landlord wanted to close otherwise it would have gone on even longer. It's a long time since I have been thrown out of a pub!"

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

SNIPPETS.....

Congratulations to Daley (G 01-08) and Abi Birkett (nee Brown) (L 01-08) on the birth of a daughter, Sovanna Ruth on 19th June.

Congratulations to Veteran Army Major, Dr Jen Warren (nee Jenni Lee) (L 92-99), on being chosen as vice-captain of the UK squad for the Paralympic-style Invictus Games 2017 in Toronto.

Have you recently changed your address? Have you got married recently?

Have any other personal details changed? Have you any interesting news?

Have you told us about it?

**If not, please do so now on: (01946) 828093 or osb@stbeesschool.co.uk
or write to St Beghian Society, St Bees School, St Bees, Cumbria. CA27 0DS.**

OBITUARIES

John Anderson (G 55-59)

John Anderson passed away on 29th January 2017.

Following a period working as ‘troubleshooter’ to the Board of BOC International, he took on the role of Managing Director of the RMA Group, which was primarily involved in consultancy work and project management. As a consequence of this, he was increasingly asked to appear on the television and radio while acting as adviser to an East European University. This subsequently led to his emigrating to Poland and settling in Warsaw from where he ran his own consultancy firm. He also set up a Eastern European Resource Centre to provide a database for contact with Polish companies.

For some years John regularly brought parties of children over from Poland during the summer term to spend time at St Bees School.

He will be much missed by his sons Philip and Iain and his fiancé Kate Wisbey.

M. L. Green (FS 52-55)

Christopher Lord (G 53-57) has kindly sent the following:

“Mike Green died on 14 April after a bravely fought battle with liver disease. A well known and popular character in and around West Kirby, he had been an estate agent until his retirement ten years ago.

When I arrived at St Bees in September 1953, Mike was head of Meadow House, one of the two junior houses to which new boys were directed to ease their induction into the harsh ways of public schools in the early 50s (!). Mike's father was a seafarer; his mother suffered ill health and Mike had been at boarding schools since the age of eight. Before starting at St Bees he had been at Ernseat School in Silverdale, on the Lancashire coast. Although I did not know this at the time, Mike's mother had died when he was only twelve. Maybe this made him sympathetic to us kids away from our own parents for the first time, but I remember him as being kind and helpful to new boys.”

Another new starter at the same time was **John Chadwick (FS 53-55)**. **John contributed this:**

‘I was very sorry to hear of Michael's death, but can't add much about (Monkey) Green, except that I saw him on the last Old Boys’ Day that I attended (2015) and we talked a bit and I reminded him of a particular day in ‘Baby Day Room’. He was sitting in his cubicle and I walked in just as someone dropped a tin of unopened condensed milk onto the floor. The tin rolled towards me and I kicked it (as you do), and it flew up and hit Michael on the temple knocking him out cold. I thought I'd killed him, and carried him up to the matron's room. The ‘Nag’ put

him to bed, and I spent the rest of the day walking round the beach, quite convinced that I had killed him. This, however was not the case.'

'I know he was quite proud of the fact that his father was a Liverpool Bay pilot, but after we left school, I only saw him a few times at OSBC dinners etc. when the Liverpool branch met, which was a bit infrequently.'

On leaving school, Mike became a boat hand with Liverpool Bay Pilots. Close to the end of his training, a disagreement with his boss led to his departure and he joined Jones and Chapman, a firm of local estate agents. Around that time I learned from a mutual friend that he had moved to live close by and I visited him on my old and decrepit motor bike. I found Mike tinkering with his MG TC. I was envious as any sort of car was out of reach for me at that time. After that our encounters were at Liverpool branch OSBC meetings: for many years at the Blossoms Hotel in Chester but in 1974 at the Royal Liverpool Golf Club in Hoylake. This was memorable for dinner being rounded off with 'passing the port' - too many times in my case!

Mike had a successful career with Jones and Chapman, qualifying as a chartered surveyor and being made a partner in the firm. In 1987 he left them and set up his own firm: Michael L Green Estate Agents. He had branches in West Kirby, Hoylake, Irby and Greasby.

Mike's love of the sea continued and he was a member of West Kirby Sailing Club. One of his exploits fifteen years ago was sailing with three other men from Lanzarote to Antigua. His wife, Pam, tells that in mid-Atlantic they found themselves becalmed and running short of fuel for their engine. Radioing for help, they were guided to an area which had wind. They used their diminishing fuel to motor in that direction and were saved from drifting. Modern technology stepped in where nature had failed.

My attendance at the Old Boys' dinners became less frequent as the years passed and I had not seen Mike for a long time until the last ten years, during which we had a number of chance meetings at West Kirby Leisure Centre. Over the last few years we kept in touch and we attended that rather sad OSBs' Day in 2015 together. Mike had an active retirement, being a volunteer driver, serving as a governor at a local prep school, sailing, taking trips in his touring caravan, and keeping fit. Even when his illness meant giving up the gym, he kept up his exercise by cycling.

Mike and Pam married in 1966; they have two children and four grandchildren. Their daughter Johanna was at St Bees 1984-87. Pam enjoyed attending Old St Beghians' functions with Mike and they made the journey to St Bees together for many OSB Days.

Mike was a charming and considerate man. A patient listener, he would always want to know how you were before telling you about his own ups and downs; this

remained so even when he knew he had serious health problems. He will be greatly missed: he was one of the good guys.”

A. R. C. Johnston (FN 37-42)

Arthur Johnston, the former Carlisle architect who died at the end of May 2016, was a popular and enthusiastic personality who devoted his attention to many areas of Cumbrian life. With a flair for precision and getting a job well done, he was committed to the long-established family architectural practice of Johnston and Wright in Carlisle and was a well known participant in community and social work.

He was born in Carlisle in 1924 and educated at Carlisle Grammar School then St. Bees School, where he won a Grindal Exhibition and subsequently became Head of School. In 1942 he began studies in Architecture at Liverpool University for a year before conducting his military service with the Queens Royal Regiment and the Border Regiment. On discharge from the army he returned to Liverpool to complete his degree and successfully obtained First Class Honours. During this period he was awarded the Ravenhead and Holt Travelling Scholarships, the Holland Hannen and Cubitts Prize, and also the RIBA Archibald Dawney Scholarship.

His career began at Michael Scott Architects in Dublin before he returned to Carlisle to join Johnston and Wright in 1950. There, with his brother David, he worked as a partner, director and consultant, representing the third generation of his family to do so since 1885. He managed the commercial and industrial work for the firm which received numerous Department of the Environment, European Architectural Heritage and Civic Trust Awards for the design and conservation of buildings in the North of England. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1958 and became an active lifelong member, as a Northern Architectural Association assessor for the RIBA and Civic Trust Awards, and a Chairman of the Cumberland Branch of the Northern Architectural Association.

He was a natural and capable organizer and his abilities were put to good use on numerous local voluntary committees. He worked with Voluntary Action Cumbria, and in 1959 was the founder chairman of the Cumbria Best Kept Village Competition. He was a founder Chairman of the Cumbria Countryside Conference and a long-serving member of the Rural Industries Committee. He also served as a Vice Chairman of BBC Radio Cumbria Local Radio Council. He served as a Church Warden of St Mary's Church, Beaumont, with Kirkandrews-on-Eden and Grinsdale, and after many years on Beaumont Parish Council was elected Chairman from 1993 to 1999.

He was a keen sportsman at school and played rugby for various clubs in England and Ireland as well as being selected to play for Cumberland and Westmorland. Other interests included walking, shooting and gardening. In 1953 he married Fay Lightfoot, daughter of Lionel and Sylvia Lightfoot. For the most part they lived in Beaumont near Carlisle, where his ashes were interred on Friday 20 January 2017. Fay survives him with their three children, Richard, Adrian and Sarah, and their seven grandchildren.

J.B. (Tim) Nicholson (FN 34-37)

The following notice was kindly supplied by Tim's nephew, Nigel Nicholson (F 55-59):

“Tim Nicholson had positive memories of his years at St Bees School. There was always a good atmosphere amongst the pupils and staff and he enjoyed his school days.

Academically he coped at St Bees with all subjects except one. In his first year he was put in the top Latin class, which was taught by the Headmaster. Unfortunately the Head was constantly called away from lessons, resulting in Tim failing the end of year examination and later giving up the subject altogether. He deeply regretted this decision as it excluded him from the opportunity of entering professions such as medicine, dentistry, law or veterinary science.

On the sports field Tim excelled. He was selected for the 1st XI and played two seasons for the 1st XV. He also played golf and squash and attended ATC training. During the school holidays he represented the U18 Durham County XV for two seasons in their matches against Northumberland and Yorkshire.

On leaving school he started to train as a mining engineer but this was interrupted when he volunteered for the WW2 war effort. He joined the Durham Light Infantry and because of his ATC training was commissioned as an officer. He was sent to train as the battalion sports officer and consequently missed being deployed to Dunkirk where his battalion suffered heavy losses. With the reorganised battalion he was involved with constructing defences along the South coast. He also served in Iceland before being trained to take part in the liberation of France.

He landed at Normandy on D Day plus seven as a commander of a troop of Bren gun carriers with his regiment the Durham Light Infantry, which was part of the 49th (Polar Bear) Division under General Montgomery.

For the next seven weeks Tim and his men were engaged in continuous heavy action near Caen, which he survived despite heavy losses suffered by his battalion. However he was not so fortunate when some three weeks later he was severely wounded when his Bren gun carrier was destroyed by an anti-tank mine.

He spent a year recovering from his injuries, and although he was unable to play rugby again, he was able to continue playing squash until he was 55 and golf until 90.

Tim married shortly before the end of the war, and after discharge from hospital, he returned to the mining industry in Co. Durham. He rose through the ranks of management until his early retirement from the National Coal Board in 1976 aged 56 as Deputy Chief Mining Engineer.

He was not ready to retire completely, so spent the next nine years as Bursar of Durham Cathedral. By this time his three children had married and moved south and so Tim and his wife left the North East and moved to Farnham to be near their family and grandchildren. He became heavily involved at the local golf club and about a year ago he took me for lunch there. It felt like following royalty the way the members revered and greeted Tim when he entered the clubhouse!

A few weeks before he died, the French government bestowed on him the Legion d'honneur medal for his contribution to the liberation of France; a fitting recognition of his service to his country and to France.

Throughout his long life Tim maintained a wonderful sense of humour and a sincere curiosity about other peoples' experiences. He was respected by all who knew him and maintained a lifelong interest in St Bees School. The closure of the school deeply concerned him, but he died happy with the knowledge that the school would reopen.

Tim, as my uncle, was especially helpful to me when I started at St Bees in 1954. It was always with pride that I saw his name listed on the mid 30s 1st XV team engraved in gold on the honours board on Foundation."

John David Stout (FN 55-59)

The following is an edited version of his brother Richard's (FN 56-59) funeral tribute:

"John was born in October 1941 in Cumberland and his early education was at Seascale Preparatory School where he excelled in football and cricket. Being by the sea he particularly enjoyed fishing from a flat bottomed boat.

As the school was a rather isolated boarding establishment, holidays at home could be rather risky or adventurous. One evening after playing on the main road (no traffic then) he threw a stick which got caught in a car wheel. Much to his surprise later on when the police arrived for a chat, he said, 'How do you know it's me? The officer replied, 'Never run up your own drive, use someone else's!' He then moved to St Bees School where he was in his element. For him, it had everything: swimming pool, squash, fives, athletics, gymnastics, cricket, rugby, also classrooms. He excelled in them all, despite receiving the sad news that his father had passed away at the tender age of 46.

The family business was in timber importing and preparation. John had early shown an interest in the firm, but if we ever paid a visit we were quickly ushered out by grandfather – that was the start of Health and Safety!

Almost fifty years ago he married his wife Barbara in Scarborough, who went on to become the loving mother of four children: David (partner Catherine), who works in the police service in Scotland. Claire, who lives in Portugal with husband Christopher. Hilary, who lives in Dubai with husband Ed and three lovely children, Daniel, Ryan and Charlotte; and Anne, who lives in Melbourne, Australia with partner Darren.

John sadly passed away on Father’s Day, a day we will all remember, he will be missed but not forgotten.”

Notification of Deaths

(Since the January 2017 Bulletin)

ANDERSON, J. (John)	Died 29.01.17	G 55-59
CHIDLEY, D. S. (David)	Died 27.03.17	FS 52-58
DOBSON, A. H. (Alan)	Died ??.02.17	G 53-58
GREEN, M. L. (Michael)	Died 14.03.17	FS 52-55
MARTINDALE, J. R. (Jonty)	Died 09.04.17	FN 71-74
NICHOLSON, J. B. (Tim)	Died 30.06.17	FN 34-37
ROBERTS, E. I. (Ian)	Died Oct 2016	G 50-55
STOUT, J. D. (John)	Died 18.06.17	FN 55-59

REMINDER: Change of Society Email Address

The St Beghian Society has had to change its email address

It has been changed from osb@st-bees-school.co.uk to

osb@stbeesschool.co.uk

Please do start to use the new address. Many thanks.

NEW PHOTOS on Website

Late 1940s, Early 50s and 1990s

If you were at school in **the 1940s, 50s or 90s**, you may be interested in seeing the new photographs from these periods recently uploaded to the website.

We would also welcome your help in identifying people, so please contact us on (01946) 828093 or osb@stbeesschool.co.uk.

Links to photos:

1940s - <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/Pics%201940-1949.html>

1950s - <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/miles/1950-60/50-60.html>

1990s - <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/miles/1990-2000/90-00.html>

SOCIETY WEBSITE & FACEBOOK

Please remember the St Beghian Society **website & facebook** pages at

www.st-beghian-society.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/osbsociety>

Please take time to have a look at them and **'follow'** us for up to date information and news of events and other matters that may arise in between Bulletin issues.

We would certainly welcome any comments that you may have.

If any new or existing OSB Members would prefer to receive the Bulletin via email in future (with additional photographs)

Please contact: Pam Rumney on (01946) 828093 or osb@stbeesschool.co.uk

With so much interest being expressed in the article about the inscriptions on the panels in the Foundation dining room (see The Old St Beghian issue number 190), this is a further offering:

LEST WE FORGET

Whilst some of the panels date from the mid-1700s there are four in the south-west corner which are evidently early twentieth century replacements. They hold the names of sixty pupils who attended the school in the years between 1900 and 1919. All are carefully carved and would thus probably have been executed under supervision, unlike the hundreds of names on the older panels, some of which are no more than whimsical scratchings.

Seeking to match the names of the sixty to the list of the 184 Old St Beghians (180 Old Boys and four Masters) who gave their lives during World War 1 inevitably proved sober work.

Eight of the carvers had served but did not live beyond the war's end in November 1918.

Photos of inscriptions may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

Here are the names and ranks of the fallen and the year each had entered the school:

Lieutenant J. S. Scott 1910

2nd Lieutenant F. A. Rankin 1910

2nd Lieutenant J. Routledge 1907

2nd Lieutenant T. E. Wray 1913

2nd Lieutenant P. T. Loft 1913

2nd Lieutenant R. M. Calvert 1910

2nd Lieutenant P. H. Stott 1910

Captain D. F. Neilson DSO MC 1906

Photos of Donald Francis Neilson and also his Memorial Certificate from The Commonwealth War Graves Commission website may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

I guess that 2nd Lieutenants Wray and Loft, having entered the school only one year before the outbreak of war, would perhaps have been no more than teenagers when they were killed.

Entries from The Commonwealth War Graves Commission Registers for each individual mentioned above, with details of their rank, regiment, unit and date of death, may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

A photo of the 1908 St Bees School cricket team, taken from 'The Story of St Bees (1583-1939)' may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>. The text beneath the photograph states that

‘All of the above team served with distinction in the Great War, in which seven – Plummer, Frith, Railton, Jenkins, Halliwell, Saportas and Neilson – gave their lives’. A red dot identifies the seven.

As the Chapel’s V. C. Memorial states:

**‘You were our hope, we dreamed great things for you.
God intervened: and so our dreams came true.’**

G. C. Robson (FN 57-64).

Given that next year will mark the anniversary of the ending of the First World War, it has been suggested that we print tributes to the three OSB winners of the Victoria Cross in this and the next two issues. The first of these appears below. By doing this, we do not in any way wish to diminish the contribution and sacrifice made by all those former members of the school who served their country at that time.

Capt. J. Fox-Russell, V.C., M.C.

Capt. J. Fox-Russell, V.C., M.C., was killed in action in Palestine on November 6, 1917. At an early age, he passed the examination for a Choristership at Magdalen College, Oxford, where he was educated for a few years before coming to St Bees. When at school he was an enthusiastic member of the Cadet Corps. He joined the Middlesex Hospital when only sixteen years of age.

While in London he was a member of the London University O.T.C., and in 1914 obtained a commission in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, and was with them in camp when war was declared. Being anxious to qualify, he was seconded in order to complete his medical studies. After obtaining his degrees, he joined the R.A.M.C., and was attached to a battery of the Royal Field Artillery. Later he re-joined his old regiment and went out to Egypt as Medical Officer. In the first battle of Gaza he won the Military Cross. He was also awarded the Victoria Cross ‘for most conspicuous bravery displayed in action. Until he was killed, he repeatedly went out to attend the wounded under murderous fire from snipers and machine-guns, and in many cases, when no other means were at hand, carried them in himself, although almost exhausted. He showed the greatest possible degree of valour’.

**With thanks to the St Bees Parish Council website
(with slight omissions and expansions). www.stbees.org.uk.**

**Photo of the Chapel’s V.C. Memorial may be seen at
<http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.**

St Beghians' Day

23rd September, 2017

Timetable for Day

- 09.45am** **St Beghian Society Committee Meeting**
In the Business Management Centre
- 11.00am** **St Beghian Society AGM**
In the Business Management Centre
- 12.15pm** **President's Drinks Reception**
* Free but RSVP essential *
Launch of 'The Edmund Grindal Society'
- 1.30pm** **Lunch (Foundation)**
* Pre booking essential (£16 per person) *
- 3.00pm** **Address by the new Head and a**
(Approx.) **Member of the Board of Trustees**
In the Business Management Centre

Please complete the **enclosed booking form** and **return by 31st August, 2017** together, if applicable, with your **cheque for lunch**.

Further updates regarding the day will be posted on the Society website nearer the time (www.st-beghian-society.co.uk) or telephone for information (01946) 828093.

PRESIDENT'S DRINKS RECEPTION

Dacre Watson

**Cordially invites you to a Drinks Reception
and the launch of 'The Edmund Grindal Society'**

on **OSB Day** – 23rd September, 2017

To be held at **12.15pm** following the Society AGM

*** RSVP Essential ***

BRANCH NOTES & EVENTS

Branch Activities:

Asia - OSBs in Asia

This January saw Hong Kong play host to its second Old St Beghian Dinner, making the event an annual tradition! Organiser of the inaugural dinner, James Rebert (SH 91-98) was joined in hosting this year's event by Laurence Gribble (SH 02-09) and Chris Ma (G 02-09), a trio who have jointly founded Old St Beghians in Asia.

Numbers were up from last year, and with Dacre Watson (SH 56-62) flying in from the UK we were nine in total. Those in attendance were: Abigail Birkett (née Brown) (L 01-08), Daley Birkett (G 01-08), Laurence Gribble (SH 02-09), Susan Lowrey (L 95-02), Chris Ma (G 02-09), James Rebert (SH 91-98), Vincent Tse (SH 07-09), Dacre Watson (SH 56-62) and Vivian Yuan (L 06-09). It was a pleasure to welcome Dacre to Hong Kong and we must thank him for his updates about the school and its reopening, as well as for his openness and willingness to answer questions from those present.

The Dickens Bar (inside The Excelsior) has now become our official local and we look forward to more St Bees evenings there in the future. This year we opted for a private room at Modern China Restaurant, indulging in Pekinese and Shanghainese delights.

We are already looking forward to next year's dinner, which is scheduled for 27th January in Hong Kong. We hope that even more OSBs will attend and that we can grow the branch, which will be an important link for the school as it prepares to reopen in September 2018.

We are delighted to congratulate Abigail and Daley Birkett on the birth of their daughter Sovanna.

We were also very pleased to see the first official gathering of Old St Beghians in Singapore this year and look forward to future events and opportunities to meet more OSBs in Asia.

Please do get in touch with Laurence Gribble, James Rebert and Chris Ma:

Facebook Group: "Old St Beghians in Asia"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/480912405435555/> or

E-mail: OSBinAsia@gmail.com

WhatsApp: +44 7930 258791 (Laurence Gribble)

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

Bristol and West

This year the Bristol and West of England Branch departed from its normal practice of a Friday evening dinner and, on May 20th, held a Saturday luncheon. It was the first time we had met since Alec MacCaig's death and we paused to remember his contribution both to the Branch and to the Old St Beghian Society generally. Another absentee was Dr Bill Frankland, who, at 105, couldn't manage an out-of-town engagement. So, in the event there were just twelve of us round the table in the Foxham Inn near Chippenham in Wiltshire. After an excellent lunch the OSB President, Dacre Watson, who had just returned from a Branch dinner in Singapore, told us about the developing situation for the school. Much of what he had to tell us was 'hot off the press' and there was a lively discussion, with our lunch extending to nearly five hours! Present were Ian Macpherson (FS 44-47) and his wife Sally; Bill Affleck (SH45-51) and Joyce; Stephen Lees (G 56-62) and Lesley; Dacre Watson (SH 56-62) and Ann; Ivan Jones (FN 60-64) and Becky (visiting from Florida); Nigel Halfpenny (FN 62-67) and Chris Tetley (FS 63-67). Our thanks to Ian for introducing us to Sarah and Neil at the Foxham Inn; it is a very good Pub!

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

Cumbria (West)

The Society Dinner of the West Cumbria Branch was held at the Castle Bar Cockermouth on Friday 21st April 2017. There were 21 people in attendance. The food was excellent once again and the atmosphere at the Castle Bar first rate. There was no shortage of conversation throughout the evening.

This is an exciting time as in late March 2017 the Trustees of St Bees School announced that it would be re-opening in 2018, so we were delighted to welcome Alastair Lord, a Trustee of the school, who gave us an interesting and informative update on the current situation. A number of people asked questions and were assured that the school was in good hands, both with hard working Trustees and the appointment of a new Headmaster.

Dacre Watson, President of the Society, who had made the long journey from Gloucestershire, gave us an update on OSB matters and proposed a toast to the Society.

Those who were present:

Officials of the Society -

Dacre Watson (SH 56-62), President; Peter Lever (G 62-68), President Elect; David Lord (SH 60-65), Secretary & Treasurer and Mrs Fiona Lord; Darryl Davies (FS 62-68), Secretary of West Cumbria Branch and Mrs Pat Davies.

Alumni -

Tim Brown (G 53-59); Edward Thompson (SH 54-59); Alan Crowther (FN 55-60) and Mrs Evelyn Crowther; Richard Stout (FN 56-59) and Mrs Margaret Stout; Anthony Wills (FN 60-64) (Past President) and Mrs Joanne Wills; Mike Brandwood (FS 62-66) and Mrs Kate Brandwood; David Rowlands (G 63-66); Bill Slater (SH 64-69); Frank Hewitt-Smith (G 75-80) and Dr Ann Slaymaker and Alastair Lord (SH 90-95).

It would be good in future years to see more of our younger members in attendance. After all, you are the future of our Society.

Thanks to everyone who attended and we hope to hold the 2018 dinner at a different venue for a change. It will, in all probability, be held in April/May just prior to the school's opening. I hope that the newly appointed Headmaster will be present, though I haven't asked him yet! A date and full details will be released in the near future.

Darryl Davies,

Secretary of the West Coast Branch.

Darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

London

On Friday 17th March nearly fifty OSB members and their guests gathered at the RAF Club in Piccadilly for the London Branch Dinner. After drinks in the bar and some time reliving memories that spanned many decades, all enjoyed a sumptuous meal in the elegant surroundings of the President's Room. The occasion also marked the 50th anniversary of the undefeated season enjoyed by the 1st XV team of 1967 and several members of the side met to celebrate their achievements.

We were also pleased to welcome Mark George, Chairman of the school Trustees, who, after an introduction from our President, Dacre Watson, described the progress that had been made over the past two years towards re-opening the school (a fact confirmed just two days later).

Any OSB member who would like to be included on the list for future London events, please drop a line to: tim.crossley-smith@gva.co.uk.

Attendees: Tim Crossley-Smith (SH 73-78) & Patricia Crossley-Smith, Dacre Watson (SH 56-62)(President), Mark George (Chair of Trustees), David Lord (SH 60-65)(Secretary), Peter Lever (G 62-65)(President-Elect) & Jane Lever, Hugh Boulter (SH 53-58), Andrew Casson (SH 90-97), Steve Crossley-Smith (SH 47-52), Peter Felton (FN 52-57), Michael Frith (SH 55-60), Nigel Halfpenny (FN 62-67), Mike Hayward (FS 74-78), John Hewitson (SH 52-57), David Hughes (F 63-68), Donald Jackson (SH 75-80), Richard Jones (SH 90-97),

Michelle Kirkland (G 90-93), Peter Klinger (F 56-58), Eric Lafone (F 64-67), Bruce Murdoch (FN 63-68), Stephen Murray (SH 63-68) & Gillian Murray, Rob Page (F 86-91), Dharma Paul (FN 73-78), Tilak Paul (FN 71-76) & Vashti Ragoonanan, David Pearson (SH 90-97), Gordon Peel (FN 55-59) & Yvonne Peel, Michael Pemberton (SH 57-62) & Wendy Pemberton, Paul Raddon (SH 90-97), Nigel Reed (FN 52-57) & Judy Reed, Sam Robson (G 79-81), Dr Edward Rowland (FN 63-68), Mark Spencer Ellis (SH 62-66), Paul Spencer Ellis (SH 68-73), David Stark (F 52-57) & Pam Stark, Alan Stewart (SH 82-89), John Swinglehurst (SH 45-49), Luke Tattersall (SH 74-78) & Lesley Tattersall, Bulent Tugal (FN 76-83), Trent Wallace (FS 73-78) & Tracey Wallace, Douglas Wares (FN 55-59), John Wilkin (SH 55-60) and Paul Williams (M 56-58).

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

Singapore

Another first in the history of St Bees School.

Saturday May 6th, 2017, 6828 miles south east of the school, saw the first official gathering of Old St Beghians - in Singapore.

The event was very well organised by Duncan Merrin. OSB President, Dacre Watson, and nine OSBs attended the Singapore Cricket Club, with one apology, from Johor Bahru.

Within a radius of a thousand miles from Singapore it is thought there are about fifteen old boys and girls. To have had nine in attendance, even though Dacre and John Hewitson were out from the UK, can be considered an extremely good turnout. Congratulations to John and his wife, who had been celebrating their Golden Wedding in Bali.

Two attendees from Indonesia, one from Thailand, four from Singapore, two from the UK and three wives made for an enjoyable, informal, laid-back lunch on the terrace of the Cricket Club. A pleasant breeze and a match in progress made the SCC an ideal location to gather in the school's honour, and perhaps as a forerunner of how it may be in years to come when the brand of St Bees Singapore is a global reality.

Dacre explained in detail the plans for the school's future, once to one end of the table and again to the other end. He managed to eat some of his fish-head curry in between, but only after he was banned from talking, temporarily, by his charming wife, Ann.

Those attending covered about 40 odd years at school, still all young at heart of course, with ages ranging from late 30s to late 70s.

So pleasant was the day it was unanimously agreed to meet again in a year's time and, we hope, to have all OSBs in the region attend, so please put Saturday 5th May, 2018 in your notebook.

Thanks to Duncan for organizing the gathering and a special thanks to Dacre whose efforts and input as President have no doubt helped towards the school even being able to have a renaissance in 2018. He probably experienced worse turbulence during his three years as President than ever he did in 40 years as a 747 pilot. Thanks Dacre for all your efforts.

Those attending: Dacre Watson (SH 56-62), Duncan Merrin (FN 53-57), John Hewitson (FN 53-58), Peter Wharton (G 58-62), Ian Sibson (SH 74-81), Philip Yuen (FS 78--82), David Ng (SH 84-91), Dicken Smart-Gill (SH 85-92) and Nick Hunter (AC 87-94).

Peter Wharton.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

Wanted! - OSB Dinners and Events Photographs

Any photographs from St Beghian dinners and events or even informal impromptu get-togethers would be very much appreciated.

We are always looking for pictures from those attending OSB get-togethers and events to include in both the electronic Bulletin and also on the website.

**Please remember to take your camera and capture the memories!
Please send to: osb@stbeesschool.co.uk or (01946) 828093 or by post.**

Annual Dinner and Other Dates:

Asia

Old St Beghians in Asia Hong Kong Dinner 2018 will be held on 27 January 2018. We have yet to confirm a location but please do get in touch early and we will keep you updated. All Old St Beghians, plus partners and family, will be most welcome. Help us get more than this year's nine attendees and come and celebrate the year of the reopening of St Bees School.

Please do get in touch with Laurence Gribble, James Rebert and Chris Ma:

Facebook Group: "Old St Beghians in Asia"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/480912405435555/> or

E-mail: OSBinAsia@gmail.com

WhatsApp: +44 7930 258791(Laurence Gribble).

Chile!

Are there any OSBs living in or near Chile who would like to meet-up with Dacre Watson, as he will be over there sometime later in the year? For example, are there any OSBs in Buenos Aries, Lima or La Paz who would be willing to travel to Santiago, Chile, in order to make up an OSB lunch? Dacre hopes to be there in November. If so, please let the OSB office know on osb@stbeesschool.co.uk or (01946) 828093.

London (Dinner)

Any OSB member who would like to be included on the list for future London events, please drop a line to Tim Crossley-Smith at tim.crossley-smith@gva.co.uk or (01753) 880546 or alternatively Dacre Watson at dacrewatson@btinternet.com or (01367) 252384.

London (Gathering)

It is hoped to arrange in the Autumn an informal social event for OSBs in the City of London. Please contact the OSB office if you would be interested in attending such an event. Further details will be posted on the OSB website when available.

Manchester

Please contact Roy Calvin if you are interested in attending an event in Manchester in 2018: roycalvin@gcorner.co.uk or (0161) 928 9812 or 0777 189 3900.

North East Branch

Don Williams looks forward to welcoming honoured guests, old friends, and new members to the next Branch Dinner. This will be on Wednesday 8th November, 2017, 7.00pm for 7.30pm, at the Northumberland Golf Club, High Gosforth Park, Newcastle, NE3 5HT. For further information please contact Bill Dove on (01274) 585147 or williamdove15@yahoo.co.uk.

Scotland

A provisional date of Friday, 24th November 2017 has been booked at the Royal Scots Club in Edinburgh. If interested, please contact the new organiser, Jerry Tsang (SH 96-03): drjerrytsang@gmail.com or (0131) 5389703 or 0789 895 8123.

Singapore

Following the very enjoyable lunch at the Singapore Cricket Club earlier this year, a date of Saturday 5th May has been pencilled in for the 2018 get-together. If you are interested in attending or would like further information, please contact Duncan Merrin at duncanmerrin@hotmail.com.

USA Gathering in New York – EXCITING NEWS!!

We are proposing to hold our first USA OSB get-together in New York sometime during the weekend of the 8th or 9th September, 2017. Becky Hobbs (L 87-92) has very kindly agreed to organise the event, along with help from Kirsty Louis (nee Williams) (G 83-90) and David Boucher (SH 54-59). Becky would very much like to hear from anyone who is interested in attending: becky.hobbs@gmail.com or further information will be posted on the St. Beghians of USA Facebook (Closed Group) pages at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1708612526115938/> and also the OSB Facebook page and Website.

Please help to make this a success by getting in touch with them as soon as you can.

Yorkshire

For further information about future Yorkshire events please contact Steve Crossley-Smith on (01943) 830640 or crossleysmith@btinternet.com.

Thomas Froggatt (SH 03-10) Memorial Charity Rugby Match

The third annual Thomas Froggatt Memorial Match will take place at Egremont Rugby Union Club on Thursday 28th December.

This highly successful and immensely enjoyable event has quickly established itself as offering the perfect opportunity for a Christmas holiday gathering point for Old St Beghians.

It is worth stressing however that the event is by no means limited to OSBs of Thomas' era, as some may believe, and we would love to see as broad a cross section as possible in attendance on the day.

The proceedings begin with the rugby match between an Egremont XV and an OSB XV, although a number of last year's attendees had a great time without seeing a moment of the on-field action!

Central to the day are the various charity collections and fund-raising activities, which have so far raised over three thousand pounds for the Calvert Trust, the charity of choice for the first two years. This is a testament to the extraordinary generosity of the OSBs as well as the Egremont club members, as all join to celebrate the festive season in fine style and for a wonderful cause - a truly appropriate way to remember Thomas.

Please note that Jonathan Garrod and Simon Edwards will once again be arranging the OSB XV and full details for all those who wish to play all or part of the match will be available on their Facebook pages a little closer to the time.

Branch Secretaries:

Please find below a list of Branch Secretaries. If you are interested in attending a Branch dinner/gathering or require any other information, please contact the appropriate person. In addition, if you are living in another Branch's area temporarily, due to work or University for example, it would be helpful if such members were to contact the relevant Branch Secretary.

Asia:

Laurence Gribble, James Rebert and Chris Ma:

Facebook Group: "Old St Beghians in Asia"

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/480912405435555/> or

E-mail: OSBinAsia@gmail.com

WhatsApp: +44 7930 258791(Laurence Gribble)

Bristol & West:

Dr. W.S. Affleck (Bill),

Barley Hill, Watledge, Nailsworth, Stroud, Gloucestershire. GL6 0AS.

Tel: (01453) 832619. Email: william.affleck@btinternet.com

Cumbria (South):

N.J.V. Curry (Nick),

95 Appleby Road, Kendal, Cumbria. LA9 6HE.

Tel: (01539) 728808.

Cumbria (West):

D.W. Davies (Darryl),

5 Marlborough Avenue, High Harrington, Workington,

Cumbria. CA14 4NW.

Tel: (01946) 831650. Email: darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com

Liverpool:

I.J. Braithwaite (Ian),

Bramble Grange, Belle Vue Lane, Guilden Sutton, Chester. CH3 7EJ.

Tel: (01244) 300565. Email: ijb.1@virgin.net

Manchester:

R.P. Calvin (Roy),

The Lymes, Priory Road, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire. WA14 3BS.

Tel: (0161) 928 9812. Email: roycalvin@gcorner.co.uk

London:

T.M. Crossley-Smith (Tim)

Tel: 0207 911 2291 or 07983 585799. Email: tim.Crossley-Smith@gva.co.uk

North-East:

W.E. Dove (Bill),
 3 the Rowans, Baildon, West Yorkshire. BD17 5DB.
 Tel: (01274) 585147. Email: williamdove15@yahoo.co.uk

Yorkshire:

S. Crossley-Smith (Steve),
 Garth Cottage, Moor Park Way, Addingham, West Yorks. LS29 0PZ.
 Tel: (01943) 830640. Email: crossleysmith@btinternet.com

Scotland:

Dr. S.T.J. Tsang (Jerry),
 64/5 Lorne Street, Edinburgh. EH6 8QF.
 Tel: (0131) 5389703 or 0789 895 8123. Email: drjerrytsang@gmail.com

Additional events are sometimes arranged between Bulletin issues.

Please do let us have an **email address** if you have one, so that we can inform people of such dates as they arise or, alternatively, do keep checking the Society's website and Facebook pages for further information.

www.st-beghian-society.co.uk
<https://www.facebook.com/osbsociety>

200 Club

The Prize Winners of the March 2017 Draw (draw took place on 12.06.17) were:

Prize	No.	Winner	Prize	No.	Winner
£40	33	H.L. (Lynne) Plummer	£20	69	C.H. (Chris) & C.S. Taylor
£40	49	J.F. (James) Bullock	£20	59	F.O. (Frank) Messenger
£40	64	S. (Simon) Temple	£20	35	A. (Basil) Mawdsley
£40	54	J.M.W. (John) Dunn	£20	51	A.T. (Andrew) Johnston

For further information about the 200 Club, please contact:

Darryl W Davies, 200 Club Secretary and Treasurer.

Email: darryl.davies1@btopenworld.com or Tel: (01946) 831650.

Golfing Society (OSBGS)

Old St Beghians' Golfing Society

Michael Coffey, President of the OSBGS, reports:

Tom Wright has very sportingly agreed to take on the role of Hon. Secretary of the Society and you will be hearing more from Tom in the not too distant future. His first 'report' is that the bench in memory of that great Old St Beghian and golfer, Alec MacCaig, has now been installed next to the 7th tee on the school course. The bench has the dual role of a resting place for golfers and for those walking the cliff-top path. It was funded thanks to the support of several members of the Society and the St Bees School Golf Foundation.

The Foundation, which we intend to relaunch next year at the Critchley Cup, to ensure that golf remains a priority at the school, has also made two very significant donations (one for machinery, the other for support and to lessen the burden on the members) to the St Bees Golf Club in order to assist them with the improvement of the course, which both Tom and Bill Douglas (best described as green chairman/assistant greenkeeper) say is in better condition than ever.

HALFORD HEWITT 2017

We were drawn against Stonyhurst in the first round to be played at Royal St Georges. This always provides the added bonus of being able to have the opportunity to enjoy their marvellous lunches, particularly when the golf matches have not turned out as you would have wished.

Aided by the draw and the determination of our golfers to present a strong and healthy St Bees presence at the Halford Hewitt, we arrived with a team of ten plus three reserves to enjoy the festivities. We were also delighted to have Tom Wright for his first Hewitt, and to welcome back John Berry, who returned after spending almost twenty years living in Australia. The team made the most of the chance to play at St Georges and we had excellent practices on the Tuesday and Wednesday before the event proper started on the Thursday.

We were drawn first out at 0745 against Stonyhurst, which may not be the best starting time for a team keen to enjoy all the socialising, food and refreshments which are all part of the event. However, we had a plan for the matches against Stonyhurst, and but for a few misplaced putts, we would have won what became a very closely fought match with three of the pairings going to the last hole and beyond. Unfortunately, it was not to be, though we were able to console ourselves with an excellent lunch.

And so to the plate event at the Princes Golf Club where we were to play Stowe, who had surprisingly lost the previous day to Aldenham. We knew we would be

in for a challenging match and so it proved. Tom Wright playing with Andrew Deall in the top match was able to secure his first point in the Hewitt, the first of many we hope; again the other matches were closely fought but it was not to be our day.

Despite the results it was an excellent Hewitt and promises much for the future.

GRAFTON MORRISH (6 aside scratch foursomes) Regional Qualifying.
Fixby Hall GC – Huddersfield, Sunday, 14th May 2017.

Contact: Andy Deall at andy.Deall@nsgltd.com.

Although our team of: Mike Stamper and Andy Deall, Ben Wilson and John Berry, John Currie and Ethan Spedding gained much valuable foursomes' experience; unfortunately they failed to qualify on this occasion.

CYRIL GRAY TOURNAMENT (over 55 years - 6 aside scratch foursomes, for the last 32 Schools to enter the Halford Hewitt).

Worplesdon GC – Surrey, Wednesday 21st - Saturday, 24th June.

Thanks to the support of a local (West Hill) Golf Club secretary, Patrick Dawson, we were able to field a full team of six to take on our old rivals and dining companions **Glenalmond** on the Practice Day for the **Cyril Gray Tournament**.

Whilst it was good practice we were unsuccessful:

Adrian Peckitt and Jeff Ellis lost 1 down

Mike Stamper and Andrew Goodwin lost 1 down

Michael Coffey and Patrick Dawson lost 3/2

For Thursday's opening match against **King's Canterbury** we were joined by Tim and Brian Morrison – with the deciding match involving Jeff Ellis and Tim Morrison going to the 19th, where we were 'robbed' by a fine second shot going through the green into a poor lie.

Losing this contest meant that we were required to play again, almost immediately, against former lodging companions **King Edward's School**, Birmingham. They turned out to have shuffled their pack which resulted in a 9/7 victory for Messrs Stamper and Bigwin and Brian Morrison and Adrian Peckitt losing 4/3. That left the bottom match with Jeff Ellis and Michael Coffey comfortably three up with five to play, not so comfortable when they lost both 14th and 15th with some untidy play, the 16th saw a shaky half, but things improved with a good half at 17 and the same at the home hole. We were therefore through to play **St Paul's** at noon on Friday, they proved to be difficult to beat and we ran out losers 2 ½ to ½; then they went on to beat **Glenalmond** 2/1 before losing to **Rossall** in the Plate Final. **Canford** won the main event.

The Cyril Gray Tournament is recognised as the most friendly and enjoyable tournament on the 'past pupil' calendar. We were blessed with fine weather and great company and whilst we had a mixed bag of results a great time was enjoyed by all.

THE QUEEN ELIZABETH CORONATION SCHOOLS TOURNAMENT

(6 aside scratch foursomes).

Royal Burgess GC – Edinburgh, September.

Contact: Andrew Goodwin at andrew@trulyonline.co.uk.

THE CRITCHLEY CUP – we hope to play this next at Seascale during July or August next year ahead of the school's reopening.

Old St Beghians GS

Penrith GC – Saturday, 30th September 2017.

Teams of four from 11.00am, followed by 'lunch'.

Contact: Michael Coffey at michael@golfclubsec.co.uk.

Details may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

Membership of the Golfing Society is by annual subscription of £25 (to contribute to events and entry fees; for example, Halford Hewitt entry is £855 in 2017) by standing order to:

Old St Beghians Golfing Society,

Barclays Bank - A/c. No. 80197742, Sort Code 20-55-34.

For any further information on the OSBGS please contact Michael

Coffey (OSBGS President): Michael@golfclubsec.co.uk or 01255 676727.

Photos may be seen at <http://www.st-beghian-society.co.uk/july17bulletin>.

St Bees Golf Club

At present the club committee and most active members are delighted with the progress of the condition of the course and are ever thankful for the contribution the Golfing Society made to keep the course alive.

The members look forward to a stronger relationship with the school when it reopens next year and would welcome any Old St Beghian to the course to see the advancement the club has made. If any OSBs would like to join the club, the Annual Membership for adults is £260.

The members are keen to restart the tradition of the annual competition 'Old St Beghians v Members', if it can be arranged.

This year's Club Championship at St Bees was won by Old St Beghian Tom Wright, shooting 71 gross in windy conditions.

For further information:

Club number – (01946) 824300 (only available when the club is open)

Membership Secretary, Mr Ian Boak – (01946) 63002.

OSB SHOP

Badge - Cloth	£7.50
Badge - Silver Wire	£13.00
Bar Brooch	£15.00
Bow Tie (Pre-tied) – Satin Weave - New	£10.00
Buttons - Chrome (Large)	£1.50 each
Car Badge	£7.50
Ladies Silver Emblem Pendant (no chain)	£10.50
Picture Prints – Quadrangle, Terrace, General View	£1.50 each
Scarf - College Wrap (Wool)	£16.50
Scarf Ring - Ladies	£4.00
Square - Material	£3.50
Sweater (Navy blue courtelle with embroidered OSB badge) Sizes 36/38/40/42/44 (small fitting)	Reduced to £5.00 (originally £16.40)
Tie - Acrylic	£5.00
Tie – Satin Weave - New	£12.00
Tie Tac	£3.50

Please make cheques payable to ‘St Beghian Society’ and send to:
 St Beghian Society, St Bees School, St Bees, Cumbria. CA27 0DS.
 Tel: (01946) 828093 or Email: osb@stbeesschool.co.uk

SOCIETY OFFICERS:

President:

D.R. Watson (Dacre)
(SH 56-62)

President-Elect:

P. G. Lever (Peter)
(G 62-66)

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:

D. F. Lord (David)
(SH 60-65)

Committee:

R.P. Calvin (Roy) (SH 79-83)	R. Hall (Richard) (F 64-68)
Mrs S.J. Calvin (Sara) (G 77-84)	A.T. Johnston (Andrew) (G 68-73)
D.W. Davies (Darryl) (FS 62-68)	A.D. Lord (Alastair) (SH 90-95)
J.M.W. Dunn (John) (FS 64-69)	A.J.H. Reeve (Tony) (M 89-08)
A.P. Fox (Anthony) (G 62-67)	M.N. Roberts (Mark) (SH 93-95)
A.J. Haile (Andy) (F/SH 76-83)	A.J. Wills (Anthony) (F 60-64)

Trustees:

R.P. Calvin (Roy) (SH 79-83)	N.A. Halfpenny (Nigel) (FN 62-67)
J.G. Craig (James) (FN 75-82)	D.F. Lord (David) (SH 60-65)

If you are interested in being involved,
please contact the Secretary or any of the above members.

**The next St Beghian Society Committee Meeting and AGM
will be held on St Beghians' Day, 2017 - Saturday 23rd September, 2017.**

Copy Deadline: As the target month for the next issue of 'The Old St Beghian' is **January**, the Editor would be most grateful if Branch Secretaries and other contributors would let him have their notices and reports by **30th Nov, 2017**.

The St Beghian Society, St Bees School, St Bees, Cumbria. CA27 0DS.

(01946) 828093 or osb@stbeesschool.co.uk

Website: www.st-beghian-society.co.uk

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/osbsociety>