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I have had one or two messages that online copies of the Newsletters each case show that the files were despatched. We are wondering if some PCs have a Junk filter that regards any multiple mailing as junk and diverts it away from the Inbox into a Junk-box. If you have fallen into this category would you please check your Junk folder to see what is residing there! (I know, Catch 22, - if you

There are still some folks amongst you who have not arranged a standing order to pay their subs. It makes life so much easier for Susan if you do so, and your forgetfulness is a thing of the past. Please do set one up with your bank to pay us £10 annually, it is not difficult (There is a standing order form at the back of this Newsletter!). If you are feeling flush, and want to gamble on longevity, you can become a life member for £100. (Contact Susan to arrange this: srdonkin@yahoo.co.uk Tel 07748115950)

The AGM

The AGM was held on Saturday 11th May at The Blue Bell in Kip Hill. About 40 people attended.

Our President, Professor Bob Harrison chaired the meeting with much humour.

The formalities were minimised by having the Minutes, and all the Official Reports printed and distributed to all beforehand, cutting out a lot of verbiage. You will all have had the opportunity to read them, but basically we are doing OK.

Membership is up, and we are still financially healthy after the big spend last October on curtains for the school hall.

Electing the Officers for the coming year highlighted the fact that we needed a new Secretary. Fred, who had helped found the Association in 2000 and has guided it since then, felt the need to retire for health reasons. We are fortunate that

Bob and the one that got away!

Elizabeth Hawkins has agreed to follow Fred. Elizabeth is a past pupil (Elizabeth Thirlaway) and then a long serving member of staff. She is a prodigious worker with a wide circle of contacts, and with Tanfield

printed on her soul! The Association is in good hands.

The only other change at the top is in the post of Minuting Secretary. John Hogg has resigned, as already explained, and is to be replaced by Amy Bilton. Amy is as tenacious as a terrier and is another who has Tanfield printed on her soul. She will be a good addition to the team of Officers.

Other places and faces remain unchanged.

Brown who has not only worked hard but who has clocked a vast amount of overtime on behalf of the Association. Briefly, Peter has individually set up the Association web-site and pulled us up into the

Peter sweet-talks Amy into a job!

21st Century, he was behind most of the organising for the Centennial events, as well as being on hand with the physical work, and he gave a lot of help to Elizabeth with the graphics for the book. As I said, a lot of overtime, and a very worthy recipient of the **Glass. The case was made by Elizabeth, and the Glass was presented by Kevan Jones MP, one of our Honorary Vice Presidents.**

We KDYHDHZZRQUDUPLFHBHVLGHQ/LQKH\$VRFLDWLRQQWkdwlV)UHGHWZDWHUHFRNGW

old fella just disappear after all that he has done for us, so we gave him a position so that he will always be there to keep us right. Professor Warren Pescod made the case for Fred and it was agreed nem con.

We commissioned a one off Tanfield Glass for Fred. It was engraved by Claire Humpherson (Flowers) to whom we are greatly LGHEWHGDGFRPPHPRUDWHG)UHGVFUHDWLROGJKGLORIKH\$VRFLDWLR

I was honoured to tell the meeting what a worthy recipient he was, how the Association was his baby and how he had worked endlessly to build it and to involve those whom he considered had something to offer. The JRRGKHdowkRIWKH\$VRFLDWLRQVDWULEXVHWR)UHGVPDQJHPHWRILW.HYDQIV03SUHV his Glass, thanked him on behalf of the Association and wished him well for the future.

Fred responds to Kevan Jones

:HUHDFKHG,WHPRWKH\$HGDKIWWLRQIURPWKHIORRU7KHUHZDVROREIKWkdWZDVUHOHY

HDWBRZ"µThis was agreed whole heartedly and we adjourned to an abundant and very tasty buffet laid on by the kitchen staff of the Blue Bell who did us proud. The raffle was a disappointment to me. I was second out of the hat and so I missed the bottle of Malt Whisky!! However a litre of sherry was an admirable substitute. The table was groaning with prizes.

The organised part of the get together concluded but there was still plenty of lively conversation. By mid afternoon people were leaving, most went home with their next meal in a sealed container!

A very successful get-together ended.

Our two Treasurers

John Hogg

There have been suggestions that we should have monthly informal lunches, perhaps at the Blue Bell, the Three Horse Shoes or the Hill Top, or a rotation. This would be on the basis of a fixed day each month, e.g. the 3rd Thursday, and agreed venue, and then just turn up for lunch and a chat. Obviously this would be for those who still live locally. If you have thoughts on this why not email or phone to give some idea of support.

Betty Watson and her camera are present at most of our events. Here she is capturing the moment at the AGM.

Marjorie Whalley (Craven) with
Tom Harpe at the AGM.

Ted Brabban.

Dear Members,

At the recent AGM, when Fred stood down as Hon Sec, I was elected as his successor. To say that Fred will be a tough act to follow is, I think, an understatement!

RZHYHU,SURPLVHWKDW,OOJLYMWRPM,PLWKHKDSSSRVLWLRBIMRLODWWUROH[SHULHCH
WHDPDG,NRZWKHOONHHSPHKHDGLDQWKHULJKWGLUHFWRZKLOH,PZHDULOPI
,PVJH,OOEHVHHLDDGKHDULOURPVRPHRIRDVWKHMDUSURJUHVVHVDDGRRNARU

Best wishes,

Elizabeth Hawkins

100 ± Not Out

On January 1st, PDGHWKH1HZHDUUVROXLRQZRZRUNRQ ± 1RWRWVWLOLWZDVILQVKHIG
only such resolution I have ever kept.

Over the twenty-one months that it took to get the book to the printing stage, the work involved a vast number of phone calls, e-mails, letters, interviews, visits, conversations and meetings. I met with such an enthusiastic response that my initial estimate of 100 pages of text and photos was obviously going to be too low. As work progressed, the book got bigger and bigger until we had to draw the line at 200 pages. Any more, and we would have missed the printing deadline.

The book contains 168 photos and 62,768 words. But who can quantify the memories it contains or has evoked in its readers? It has been very humbling to receive so many positive responses to its publication. Yes, it *was* hard work and it *did* take a long time but it had a unique advantage ± every stage leading up to the printing involved pupils, staff and governors from *Tanfield*. How could it fail, with such a driving force behind it?

Four hundred copies of the book were printed, and, to date, only fourteen remain to be sold. There are copies now in New Zealand, Australia, Canada, America, Hong Kong, Bermuda, France and all over the UK, including the Durham County Records Office and the British Library.

I would like, once again, to thank all those who contributed to the book in any way.

Without all of your photos, memories, research, financial backing, encouragement, design skills and problem-solving skills, the book would never have been produced. It was my privilege to put it together, and thH7DQ HOGV VRFLDWLRQSULYLOHJHWREULQWLQREHLQW, WKLQPRVWRIWKHJORUVKRQGJF
itself ± for inspiring us all.

Elizabeth Hawkins

Dear Ted,

,GOLNHWRWDNHWKHRSSRUWQWWRWKDNHYHURQZKRKDVJLYHQHIHIGEDFNISHRNHWQ
RYHUZKHOPHGEWKHSRVLWLYHUHVSRQHDQYHUWRKKGGEWKHJUDFLRXFRPPHQV, YHUHFHL

I also need to make an apology to Sandy Boggon for an oversight when putting the book together ± he generously sponsored a page, intending that it should be dedicated to his aunt, Miss Nicol, who was senior mistress at Tanfield for almost fifty years. This dedication was not included, and for that I am really sorry. It was a big job to take on, and I suppose mistakes were inevitable, but I still hate having made them.

I would like to do articles for the newsletter on the three senior mistresses, Miss Nicol, Miss Thornton and Mrs Jack. If anyone has any memories or photos of these three ladies (I have some already but always welcome more), please contact me. My e-mail address for this will be tanfield100@hotmail.co.uk .

Best wishes,

Elizabeth Hawkins

From Joan Charlton (1932- 39)

Dear Ted,

Congratulations on what has clearly been a very successful Centenary Party. Unfortunately I could not manage to join you ² I wonder if any of my generation did make it and share some of my memories, not all of a serious nature?

Does anyone remember:

The tell-tale strips of paper across cracks in the walls to show if there had been further subsidence?

The occasional display of pictures to be studied and argued about ² Salvadore Dali at Tanfield?!

The magnificent decorated Christmas cakes produced by the Domestic Science classes for our Christmas parties?

The wonderful (and dangerous) ice slides down the sloping playground on frosty winter mornings?

Brown woollen stockings darned and over-GDUHIGZLWKZRROWKDWGLGWTXWHPDWFK"

LOPVKRZV.LGLU KRVLWKH SKVLFVODEVFUDWFKHGEODFNDGZKLWHUHHOVWKDWZH
Magic Lanterns. Shows of peculiar subjects ² Scenes from Lorna Doone ² Invertebratae ² and the horrific
UHVWVRIWFKHZLORVIRRGVXLFHVO\

Or the legendary occasion when a member of the kitchen staff, taking a tray of teacups to the staff room, came face to face with one of Mr Binks frightful masks , and dropped the lot?

And my most abiding memory ² the gentle voice and quiet manner of Mr Hardy?

It was all so long ago, but such a lot remains!

Yours sincerely,

Joan Charlton.

Dear Fred,

Many thanks for the Centennial Newsletter, arriving soon after the book, which we thoroughly enjoyed, by bringing back even many more memories of our time at the school.

Congratulations on the quality of the publications, in particular the introduction of coloured photographs in the newsletter, and for all the time and effort spent by Elizabeth, Ted and the whole team over a long period of time.

With all good wishes and hoping that you personally are feeling stronger and much better now.

David and Jean York.

North Vancouver.

Scenes from the Centennial

As you would expect there was quite a lot of contact following our Centennial celebrations. Here is a selection of images of the occasion

7KHUUV¶

Mrs Hawkins, Mrs Hodgson, Mr Brabban, Mr Peacock, Mrs Jack.

Dear Sue

How lovely to meet you at TS centennial bash of Sat 13 Oct 2012 which I attended with my carer of almost 47 yrs Victoria

My belated thanks to you and the Committee for organising such a good time. I will also e-m Ted

Wasn't sure if I should send Fred a 'Get well soon' or 'Bereavement' card so like Balaam's Ass I dithered but having now received NL 25 I can send an e-m

I could not impose yet again on the hospitality of my nephew and his family in Stanley so stayed in Durham for the centenary meet. You will not be surprised to learn that the taxi's sat nav brought us to the rear of the school playing fields through an unknown [to me] housing estate but I was able to direct taxi driver to entrance. Similarly on way back although [different] taxi driver was waiting for us he had arrived earlier and picked up a couple who had said they were the Browns for Durham. It was only en route to Durham they exclaimed "this isn't the way to Newcastle" that he brought them back where their own taxi was waiting

I wasn't able to fit in a separate school visit so missed the photo hand-out while exploring. and John Lynch tells me he handed over the photo disc to 'The Committee'. I don't know if it is possible to send me my photo for appropriate fee?

I am quite glad you can see through me. Perhaps some of your colleagues wouldn't be able to handle some of my responses to the 'phone such as "Ringmer Sewage Works" [it doesn't exist] "Home for the mentally bewildered" or even a false answerphone message with a human 'beep'. On the other hand it may be the real answerphone which has an electronic 'beep'

As part of your fund raising I can only suggest the sale of ties, pins, badges, cards, a recording of the School Song etc. which no doubt you have already considered.

I'm afraid this is a 'cheque in the post' e-m so I trust you will receive my subs cheque soon through the maelstrom of Christmas post

Sorry about my new e-m address. The original one still works but I can't handle g-mail very well

Yours Eric B

Dear Ted

A much belated thanks to you and the Committee for this successful event. To you in particular for getting the show on the road almost unnoticeably. A boon for those of us with pre-arranged taxi pick-ups who saw the seconds ticking away. Also your speech although necessarily brief was very interesting. I was glad to learn from News L 25 that the mentioned love of your life was a former classmate of mine so do give Mavis my kindest regards although I doubt she will remember me.

Unable to take advantage of the day visits to the school and having already mis-identified someone I thought was a former classmate I did not join the merry throng but explored the school instead and took in the exhibition. I only got lost once but remembered very little of the school. Still I had an interesting chat with the former Charlotte Brown [no relation] and met the lovely Treasurer.

I understand Susan has already e-mailed you with some ideas I had for fund raising. Could I please add to them the inevitable mug and calendar. I suggest a five division calendar for example for husband wife two children [grandchildren in our case] and aged relative. What I would find particularly helpful as a newbie with only three NLs to my name is a disc collection of previous News Letters.

I think the Committee will have to come to terms with selling outside the T.A. possibly using a discount system for those who went to the school but are not TA members.

Best wishes for the Season

Eric Brown

Mavis remembers you well, and indeed tried to pick you out , unsuccessfully, at the get-together.

Hi Ted,

,HEORVHDFRSRIPIDWKHUV5HSRUWERN-RK00 -36) for the Association archives.

He started well but then lost a lot of schooling through having diphtheria. He then, like many others at that time, left at 15 to contribute to family finances.

John at 90 still enjoys good health and lives in Tanfield Lea.

Best wishes.

Stuart Nunn (1959- 1966)

The Opening of Tanfield

You will remember how Amy Bilton researched the life and times of Alderman Wood who gave his name to the early school. At our Centennial get together we presented two of his grandsons with portraits of the Alderman.

When they returned home, one of them remembered a clock, which no longer works, which had become taken for granted, being there without being noticed. When he looked closely he discovered that it had been presented to his Grandfather on the occasion of the opening of the school. We are grateful for the photographs.

Dear Ted

First of all hope you are well,

I need to inform you of an error in the book, which is no fault of the compiler Mrs Hawkins (or as I fondly remember her Miss Thirlaway); the error was brought to my attention by my brother, after we both read our entries. Somehow I managed to omit an important word {page 124 line 31}, to make the entry correct factually
WKHZRUGVHPLVKRØGEHdHUW

I've enjoyed the news letter which you included some of the photographs of yourself and Mr Dawson, and others, I also noted Alan Reay's article, if I'm right he was in the same year as my sister, and remember being at Gateshead athletics track(home of the tartan track as it was called)

Mark Hodgson

School Presentations 2012

We are invited, each year, to attend the Annual Prize giving at school. We witness the rewards given to those who have achieved at their final exams, and our President presents two awards that the Association has funded. Here we are late last year.

Fred Westwater, Ted Brabban and Prof. Bob Harrison. (Secretary, Vice President and President)

Also at the awards one of our older members, Charlotte Stammers (96) presented to the school a Silver Salver which is to be presented for outstanding achievement in English:

Olga is a remarkable old lady. Her badly failing eyesight would have made the writing of the attached letter very difficult. However her memory of schooldays is very vivid ² you may remember reading her account of a visit to Germany just pre WW2. She is an avid supporter of the Association.

Where are they now?

When I was a young and enthusiastic teacher, (with long trousers) I involved myself in various non-curricular activities. The photograph was taken at the culmination of one of them. This group was involved in a project set up by Tyne Tees TV, and had made a documentary film about conditions in the mining industry. (We had one then)

7KHUHZH DUHZLWK0U0FNLHWKHHDGPDVWHUDG WKHWKHORFDO03ZKRVHOPH,FDOUHPH
WKHSDVVLONHDUVPRHPRUVHHPVWRKDYHORVWWKH ILOHWKDWKHOGWKHLORUPDWLRO
hoping that someone out there amongst you will be able to supply the information. So, come on folks help me
RX:KR:VZKRDCZKHUHDUHWKH"RZ"

Ted.

The MP is David Watkins who represented Consett from 1966 until 1983 famous for his Parliamentary bill which forcing manufacturers to show the drained weight of tinned fruit on labels

Peter W Brown 1959/1964

Outdoor French

I was given this photo of my era as a pupil. You will remember your youth, when the sun always shone! This was that time. I know two of the pupils having a French lesson in the sun from Miss Hakin (I think) because they were in my form. Jean Ross (who became Jean Cloiseau) nearest the camera and Dorothy Hardy (who became Dorothy Varty). I think that Cecil Johnson is the centre of the three ERVEX,FDWDPHWKHRWKHUV
Can you?

Hi Ted

Hope you are well and perhaps looking forward to some warmer weather. My cousin in Gateshead can't remember it being so cold ever. In contrast we have had a wonderful Summer which lasted five months. However it is to be cold tomorrow.

Now that the Centenary celebrations have long past-(which I really enjoyed)-I am still looking for The Tanfield Newsletter in my inbox!!

Perhaps it would be better to revert to air mail. My last newsletter was Winter 2011.Hope Fred is fully recovered from his medical problems.

Many thanks

Moira (Moira Bryan in Australia)

Elizabeth Hanson

To fill you in-I came to Bermuda in 1974 having attained SRN at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary (or RGN in Scotland) and midwifery at Chester.

I married Barry in 1978 and have 3 children -Zoe -34 -expecting baby in two weeks! Michael -32- to be married next July and Rebecca -29 - (has serious boyfriend!)

Michael and Zoe are lawyers and Rebecca is in advertising.

We are so lucky that they are all living here in Bermuda!

Bermuda is a great place to live despite recession troubles like everywhere else.

I left nursing in 1998 and began my second career as an organist and piano teacher .

Whilst at Annfield Plain Secondary Modern Girls School I had taken all the music exams and kept going here to obtain diplomas

never too late !

Miss Nancy Hall was our English teacher and I am still in contact with her

I have an organist job at the parish church and also sing in a choir.

Weather here is warm and humid today and we have had rain more than usual for November. Christmas is usually mild and sunny.

Summer weather quite hot and humid in July /August -winter is in the fifties during Jan and Feb (we don't use centigrade yet!)

Looking forward to keeping in touch with the Tanfield Assoc.

Have just transferred 100 pounds into the Tanfield Association for life membership.

Under my mother's name Sylvia Hunter Cheeseman

Thought I might as well hope to live as long as she did!!!

Perhaps Ted could mention my father in whose footsteps I have followed ?

He was organist, lay reader and bell ringer at St. Margaret's, Tanfield for many years..

~~PHIVVLQ~~

I think that this must have been a 6th Form photo. In the centre is John Wilson, and the lad back right is David York. I think that I know some others but ~~PKRSLQWKDW -RKQ~~ and David will supply the details.

Speech Day 1961

~~,ZDVRQWKH6WDIWKHGW,PDIUDLGWKDWU&DOPHUMMO~~ have left me cold, I have no memories whatsoever! Were you clever enough to be presented with a prize then, or is there any other reason why you would remember the day?

Payment Information

TANFIELD ASSOCIATION STANDING ORDER DETAIL

Standing Order Detail for your Bank:

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Payee: | Tanfield Association |
| Payee Bank: | Barclays Bank PLC Newcastle |
| Payee Sorting Code and Account number: | 20.59.42 20700908 |
| Amount and Payment Date: | £10 paid annually 1st Oct |
| 3DNH5HIHUBH28 | R NAME) |

OR

Fees can also be made via **PAYPAL** to Tanfield Association

OR

Send Cheque

Payable to Tanfield Association C/O Susan Donkin, 19 Lindom Ave Chester Le Street CO Durham DH3 3PP

Email srdonkin@yahoo.co.uk

Telephone 07748115950