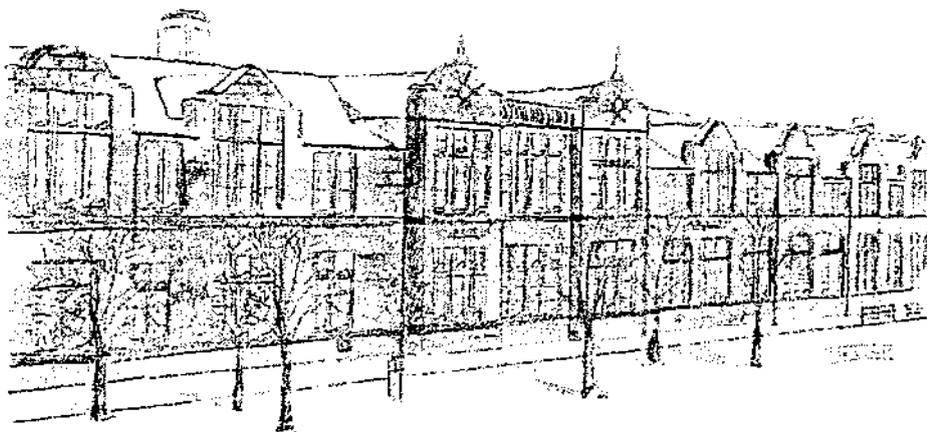


TANFIELD ASSOCIATION



c/o Tanfield School
Tanfield Lea Road
Stanley
Co Durham
DH9 8AY

e-mail tanfield@durhamlca.org.uk
Telephone 01207 232881
Fax 01207 282922

Secretary Mr Fred Westwater
10 Oxhill Villas
Stanley
DH9 7JT
01207 234548

Issue No. 8

Newsletter Summer 2004

Editorial

Another unique profile - perhaps we should call these articles "Talent from Tanfield". Please let us know your feelings on the profile of Douglas MacDonald or any other profile: as we need your feedback. We also require memories of your experiences in youth movements while at Tanfield as a pupil. So come on Guides, Scouts, BB members and youth club members, write to me!

I have been asked to remind all members that administration fees of £5.00 are due at the start of the Tanfield Association year, 16th October 2004. If you are not paying by standing order or you joined before 31st March 2004, please send your £5.00 fee to Susan Donkin at 19 Lindon Avenue, Holmlands, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham, DH3 3PP.

Contact names and telephone numbers for potential new members or any further information concerning the Tanfield Association are as follows:

Fred Westwater	01207 234548
Karen Scott	01207 502349
Ken Dixon	01207 283584

Spring Newsletter Profiles

We have heard from a number of members saying how much they enjoyed reading the interesting lives of Barbara Churcher and Nancy Hall, and how impressive to have young girls fresh from Alderman Wood School at Tanfield to go on and do so much with their lives. These positive reactions reflected an appreciation of how difficult it was for these two girls from mining families of Craghead and Oxhill, in the 1930s, to overcome so many obstacles and achieve success in their chosen careers.

Anyone who knows Barbara and Nancy will know of many admirable qualities still apparent i.e. determination, a strong will, not to mention a good sense of humour, and a continuing determination to take a positive and active part in the 21st Century.

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On behalf of Barbara Churcher and Nancy Hall, may we thank everyone who expressed good wishes and words of appreciation on reading the articles. If anyone wishes to contact either Barbara or Nancy, their details are readily available from the Association Secretary. They would both love to hear from you.

On reflection of the above, it was decided to have a complete contrast to the two profiles given in the Spring Newsletter, and hope the following profile may be of interest to members.

Douglas MacDonald

Douglas - born at Shotley Bridge on 9th September 1971, the youngest of three sons Brian, John and Douglas, to Isabella and Gordon MacDonald.

Douglas is proud of his Scottish ancestry, his grandfather coming from Scone in Fifeshire. His early life was lived at Bryan's Leap in Burnopfield, Stanley, where he attended Burnopfield Primary School when the Headteacher there was Brian Charlton.

To Douglas early school days were only tolerable and even this feeling deteriorated. Early in his Junior School days he came to the conclusion he would really rather "stay at home". These were difficult days and Douglas believes that, had he not shown an aptitude for Gymnastics that was noticed and encouraged by his Headteacher, things might have turned out so differently. He appreciates the effort on the part of Mr Charlton who used this as an incentive which led Douglas into a very real enjoyment of the rest of his school days. He was encouraged to attend the Sports Centre in Stanley for more advanced training in Gymnastics and continued to win many Junior Gymnastic Awards. The confidence this developed spread to other areas and changed his opinion of school entirely.

Douglas continued with Gymnastics throughout his years at Tanfield (1982-87) and represented the Area on many occasions. Douglas remembers the staff at Tanfield very well: Mrs Batty (Form Tutor), Mr Barron, Mr Sheldon (PE), and Mr Alan Johnston who, as well as in PE, encouraged Douglas in outdoor activities and towards The Duke of Edinburgh's Award. He found such enjoyment in outdoor pursuits and showed so much talent in canoeing that at 16 years in his last year at Tanfield he was selected for Great Britain - the only Junior in the Senior Team. Douglas travelled to Ieper in Belgium and to

Essen, Germany to canoe for Great Britain and took part in the national Championships in Coventry and Crystal Palace. Alongside this and school work, he travelled to London every other weekend to receive coaching with the British Team.

As a member of the National Canoeing Team, Douglas was leading an exciting life, but this meant that he had to "return to earth" and facing normal school days in between these exciting events was not always easily done. However, Douglas remembers many teachers with affection, who he says showed firmness but still made his lessons enjoyable. For instance, he mentions by name, Miss McGough (English), Mr Atkinson (History), and Mr Peak who seemed to bring out the best in him, using a sense of realism sprinkled with a good sense of humour. Douglas continued with his interest in outdoor pursuits and gymnastics. In PE he was taught by Mr Johnston who was also stage manager in School/Music/Drama productions. Douglas was drawn into helping in these activities and remembers that being a member of Mr Johnston's back-stage team was always good fun and a much sought-after position.

After continuing with intensive fitness training and canoeing, in 1988 Douglas, then 17 years old, decided that the Armed Forces offered the greatest opportunities for him in fitness and sport. He chose the Royal Marines. Douglas was posted to the Royal Marine Commando Training Centre, Lymstone, where he began thirty weeks, of Basic Training to become a Marine Commando and proud wearer of the Green Beret. Douglas admits to finding it a difficult and gruelling thirty weeks, at the end of which, an average of one-in-three men would not come through it. On passing out, Douglas was posted to 45 Commando in Arbroath for the rest of his training and settled down to life as a Royal Marine Commando.

He was encouraged by his Warrant Officer to take up his studies again, which he did, gaining A level Maths, English and Commerce. Douglas then applied for and was accepted for a thirty week "Mountain Leadership" Course. After completing this, he was promoted to Corporal. The duties undertaken by Corporal MacDonald were many and varied e.g. security during events at the Albert Hall, at Spennet Bridge in Scotland (the WWII Commando Memorial), exercises in USA, Cyprus and rescue and aid work when the volcano at Montserrat erupted. However, it was during a period of security duties at Camacchio, Nuclear Submarine Base, that Douglas received a phone call from Cpl Nick Redshaw, Captain of the Royal Navy Canoe Team. They had heard that he was now a marine and were "head-hunting" him. Douglas was accepted into the Royal Navy team which the very next year won the Navy and also the Inter-Service Championships.

While Douglas was training with them, the Scottish National Team, realising that he was of Scottish descent, asked him to join them and Douglas received permission to canoe for Scotland alongside his Marine duties and being on the Royal Navy Team. Douglas was soon made Captain of the Scottish Team. This team went on to win the British and also the European Championships. There was talk of the Olympics and indeed, the future looked very bright.

However, in 1996-97 Douglas experienced quite severe pain in his leg and sadly was diagnosed with the bone disease Vascular Necrosis - a possible cause being the intense and prolonged physical training Douglas had willingly committed himself to over the last 14 years. Douglas received a medical discharge in 1998. His future in international canoeing also coming to an untimely end.

Douglas accepted this change of direction in his life with characteristic fortitude and in a very short time he was operating his own tyre-fitting business. This is now a very successful venture at Kip Hill, Stanley. Although any form of rigorous exercise is denied him until more is found out about his condition, it cannot prevent Douglas working 'physically' in the business. Observing him at work is rather

like watching a human dynamo as he moves from one task to another, and the onlooker cannot help feeling that whatever this ex-Marine Commando does in life will be done with vigour and cheerfulness. Douglas's own comment on this, is that the tyre fitting business keeps his mind active and, (with a wry smile) "it's about as close to the outdoors as I can be without being in it". The changes to his personal life, brought about by discharge from the Marines, Douglas now regards as a bonus. He is more fully involved in the lives of partner Tracy and their children, 5 year old Caitlin and Tony aged 12 years (a year seven pupil at Tanfield). They are busy renovating their home. Douglas remarks with a twinkle that being an active Dad can sometimes be very tiring even for an ex-Marine. Douglas and Tracy recently attended a year seven parents' evening with Tony. This was the first visit Douglas had made since leaving the school in 1987. The changes in the reception i.e. pleasant sitting area, automatic doors, general office, etc, right from first contact moved the school into another league. "Unbelievable" he thought, compared to his last images of the school.

Douglas's parents are in good health and still enjoying life in Bryan's Leap. His brother, Brian is a Line Manager at Eddis Caravans and living at Low Fell, and John, recently awarded National Branch Manager of the Year by the Nationwide Building Society, is living at Whitley Bay. Both boys are also past students of Tanfield School. Their success will be pleasing to teachers probably now retired e.g. Mrs M Hodgson, John's teacher in Business Studies.

When asked for a comment on the Tanfield Association, Douglas replied that it was enlightening to think about how many pupils passed through Tanfield whose lives have been influenced by the school, its ethics and its teaching. He comments that the Association has made him more aware of this and to quote "given me a glimpse of my heritage and made me conscious of the responsibility that goes with it". Douglas finished by saying he was glad of the opportunity to support the school that is given him by the Association.

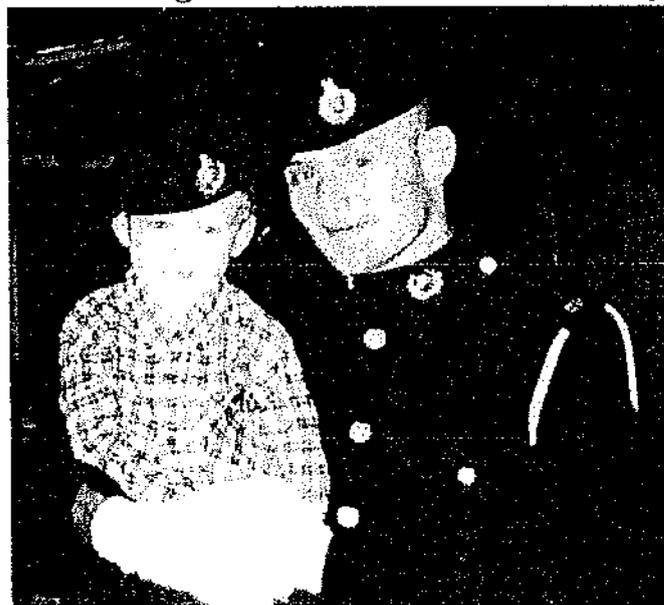
Editor's Comment:-

Many thanks, Douglas, for giving up time and allowing Association Members a glimpse into your life and achievements. I am sure many will join me in sending you and the family our good wishes for the future.

Commando Basic Training - 15 minutes rest after a 30 mile 'yomp' (hike)



Marine Commando Douglas MacDonald with son 5 year old Tony



Annual General Meeting

The guiding rules of the Association suggest that an Annual Meeting be held on a date close to the birthday of the school i.e. 16th October and be an integral part of a social event or function.

The date set for the AGM this year is Thursday 21st October 04 in school at 6.45pm. It has therefore been decided to include the meeting with a cheese and wine evening.

Election of Officers, and other AGM business should really only last approximately half an hour and the rest of the evening be given to guided tours of the school, looking over displays and chatting with friends, old and new.

Only Association members are eligible to vote but it is important to note that this is still very much an open meeting; family and friends are very welcome to be part of the whole evening. Small donations may be made to defray the

cost but there is no set charge, and this is not considered to be of great importance.

Of higher importance is the fact that the event will also serve as a recruitment evening, so if you know of anyone not yet signed up please try to bring them along.

It is appreciated that distance does prevent many members attending the AGM or in fact, any of the Association events. This, of course, heightens the importance of our newsletter.

The newsletter keeps members up to date with Tanfield past and present and keeps them in touch. The Association requires your involvement, your opinion and your comments on what is going on. You can do this by telephone, letter or email. So an appeal is made to everyone to at least return the enclosed form.

Snippets from the Grammarian

The following extract is taken from the Jubilee Grammarian magazine of 1962, the article was written by Dr L.E.Sharp.

He expresses so clearly the meaning of School Tradition and our Heritage in such a simple but extremely well-written way, that it was decided to reprint his thoughts, because we believe they are as relevant today in 2004 as they were forty two years ago.

The Torch Stills Burns.

It is commonly said that the human body renews itself in seven years so that none of the living tissues in a person are more than seven years old. If this is so, it suggests that the dying and discarded cells first educate those replacing them: the scars of childhood remain visible for years after they were caused and physical features show obvious continuity in spite of the transient nature of their components.

And how like a School this is! No pupil stays more than seven years, but the older pass on a tradition to the younger so that they in turn may educate others before they, too, disappear from the scene. Thus, although pupils (and Staff) change, the personality and life of the school continues from generation to generation. Moreover, while we are together, we exert mutual influence on each other in a

more or less direct fashion. It follows that pupils who have left still exert an indirect influence upon present members of the School through the handed-down tradition, however long ago it may be that they were here: everyone who has been here is having influence upon the School of today.

An idea of Wordsworth's come to my mind. In a poem about King's College Chapel, he imagines sounds persisting in the beautiful vaulting of the roof "as though loathe to die". The sounds of the earliest scholars who assembled here on the 21st October, 1912, fifty-three from Tanfield Lea Pupil Teacher Centre and a hundred and seventy-four admitted by examination, have grown rather dim, confused in the noises of half a century—the clamour of some four or five thousand pupils, the hammers of two or three major

alterations and the ever present hum of a busy and active school-but I like to think that those sounds have not faded entirely and that one day a microphone sensitive enough and selective enough might be invented capable of capturing the past, for this is today essentially the same school those earliest pupils attended and had a hand in fashioning.

I personally owe much to this continuity of feeling and thought. The school has been most fortunate in the past by the guidance of two gentlemen, and I choose this word deliberately Mr Hardy set a tradition which developed from the original beginnings through to Secondary School status in 1921 and on for another ten years. He set a pattern which made the school at the same time a place of service to the community and one of which any of its members could speak with pride. In fact whether the name was Stanley Grammar School, The Alderman Wood School or the cryptic initials T.L.H.E.S.P.T.C., this justifiable pride has been a characteristic feature among past and present pupils. When Mr Carr took over the reins of office, the same spirit continued and, as he took the school through the difficult years of war and post-war period, under stress of multitudinous extra duties, staffing troubles, shortages of books and other supplies, the work of education continued in its fullness so

that when, in my turn, I entered Stanley Grammar School, I found a clear-cut routine and conscientious Staff, the very foundations of an orderly and hard-working establishment.

Indeed, the school has always rejoiced in a co-operative and hard-working staff, and such long-standing names as Miss Nicol, Mr Binks, Miss Mortimer, Miss Jeffrey, Mr Gunns, to name only a few, are remembered by Past Students with joy and appreciation. The School owes much to these and many like them for their devotion and zeal. In many ways, however, it is the passing-on of the tradition by pupils themselves which forms the pattern and tone of a school and if you are reading this as a past-pupil, you may like to feel that a part of your school life is with us still.

Therefore, on the fiftieth anniversary of the first use of this building as a place of learning, I should like to send to all past pupils and teachers a message of thanks on behalf of the present members. We have received the torch from you intact and hope to pass it on still burning when it is our turn to do so. We can then join your ranks and, like you, look back with pride on OUR SCHOOL.

L E Sharp, Headmaster 1962.

Thomas Fisk

14th March 1942 - 28th June 2004

Tom lived in School Terrace, South Moor throughout his childhood, the fourth of five children. At 11, he left Greenland PS and came to Stanley Grammar. He loved sport, was a popular pupil and built life-long friendships. Tom was also a very keen boy scout, being a member of 2nd Annfield Plain troop.

After completing his 'A' levels, Tom went on to enjoy three years at Westminster College where he trained to be a teacher specialising in PE. He subsequently taught in junior schools in Shire Moor, Easington Colliery and as Deputy Head at North Blunts in Peterlee. He is fondly remembered by many of his pupils as a strict but fair teacher with a great sense of humour, and time for all of his pupils from the brightest to the naughtiest!

As a teenager, Tom had enjoyed summer holiday jobs working in hotels at Glenridding in the Lake District and in Youth Hostels in London. It was in London that he met his wife-to-be, Diet. They were married in 1967, in Diet's home village of Noordwyk, Holland, and went on to have a son and daughter, and then two grandchildren.

In 1992, Tom took early retirement and spent his last years enjoying time with his wife and family, and some of the simple pleasures in life - reading, gardening and home-brewing.

During the last few months, Tom bore his illness with great courage and patience and maintained his sense of humour to the very end. He died at home with his family around him, as he had wished.

Letters

Dear Sir

As requested in the latest issue of the Newsletter, Spring 2004, please find enclosed a money order in the sum of £5 to cover administration fees for the current year on behalf of myself.

May I add that I do enjoy receiving the newsletters. I hadn't realised that my late wife, Norma (Suddick), was such a celebrity. I have yet to receive a single copy of a newsletter over the last two years in which her name wasn't mentioned at least once! I just recently returned from a visit to Woodstock, Ontario where at the Western Ontario Drama League Festival I presented on behalf of Theatre Sarnia a memorial trophy in Norma's name. She was an honorary life member of both WODL and Theatre Sarnia, having been active in both for many years as an actress, singer and director.

With sincere best wishes

Sam Hunter
Victoria BC
Canada

Dear Sir

I noted in the last Newsletter that you would like details of past Head Boys and Head Girls. My brother and sister were both Head Boy and Head Girl respectively at the same time and it will not be often, if ever that this happens. So these are their details:

At the time we all lived at 10 Tyne Road, Stanley.

Tibby Boggon (Alice Goode)

Born 1927 - attended Alderman Wood Grammar School 1939 to 1946. She wrote the words of the School Song, the music was by the Music Teacher, Jack Dobbs. She was Head Girl 1945-46. After she left school she obtained an Honours Degree in English and Latin at Manchester University and subsequently a post graduate diploma at Hughes Hall, Cambridge. After she qualified she taught at the Prince Henry Grammar School at Evesham. Coincidentally, Mr Hardy retired to Evesham and Tibby went to visit him there. After Evesham, she went to Westwood House School, Peterborough (now Peterborough High School) where she was Head of English and subsequently Head of Classics.

Bill Boggon

Born 1928 - attended Alderman Wood Grammar School from 1939 to 1946. He was Head Boy at the same time as his sister 1945-46. As far as I know this is the only brother and sister to be Head Boy and Head Girl at the same time in the same school.

After he left school, Bill obtained an Honours Degree in Civil Engineering at Bristol University. He then became Chief Engineer with the firm of Crudens in Edinburgh. After that, he joined the large firm of Bovis as a Director.

I think I told you that our Aunt was Miss Nicol, who joined the school at its inception in 1912 as Head English Teacher and subsequently was Senior Mistress until she retired. She lived just up the road from us at 7 Tyne Road.

I hope this information will be of interest.

Kind Regards

Sandy Boggon (Pupil 1935-41)

'St George's Day' - "3 Steps to Hebburn" 24th April 2004

Over one hundred and forty members and friends showed their appreciation of the Band "3 Steps to Hebburn", by refusing for thirty minutes to let the group go home at the end of the night. The band also seemed reluctant to go, as they played and performed encore after encore, so it could be said that the group was really, really enjoyed by all.

Our thanks go to all members of the Band for their performance at the St George's Day event, but particular mention should be made of Tanfield Association members Chris Morrison, lead vocalist and talented performer extraordinaire, Duncan Davis the magic percussionist, and Paul Sowden keyboard player and brilliant vocalist. They lived up to their reputation of being one of the two best amateur bands in the North East of England. It may have been Keith Kirtley who said, "They don't look much older than when they were in the sixth form", but it is difficult to pronounce words with your tongue stuck firmly in your cheek, so we think that is what he said.

The food was once again of a first-class standard as we have come to expect from 'Mel of Lanchester' who is now sixty years of age and retired. However, Mel is not relaxing: he is off to work as chef aboard the Mercy Ship which is manned by volunteers, as it travels around the world giving medical aid (it has two fully equipped state of the art hospitals aboard).

The volunteer members of the Mercy Ship (from Captain, Consultant Surgeons, to cabin boys) also assist with the finance by raising the cost of their food and board, Mel has raised

over £2,000.00 towards his costs. From the Tanfield Association may we wish Mel, 'Good Luck' and thank you.

To get back to the '3 Steps to Hebburn' event and the excellent quality buffet provided for us, the variety of choice was impressive, but the quality was outstanding. This enabled Duncan Davis to go back to the food tables 3 times, but he is a growing lad. Most of us were 'Oliver Twists' and went back for more, and there was still a large amount of food which went into the school fridge, to hand out to the year seven (first year) pupils on Monday morning.

The bar was very efficiently run by Catherine Hanson who is a member of the Schools' Special Needs staff as well as being a member of the Tanfield Association, Catherine's hard work is greatly appreciated. The purchase of drinks tickets, at a separate table (to get around the licensing problem) made the serving of drinks much quicker, and our thanks go to Delcia Westwater, Margaret Moiser and Ann Ward for manning (or womanning) the drinks ticket table all evening. Our thanks are also given to Eric Fisk (Deputy Headteacher), Fred Westwater, and Bob Ward for Front of House duties. Of course, Bob was the 'Bouncer'.

We are also appreciative of the presence of Archie Howat (our Headteacher) who is ready to undertake any task that he feels needs doing.

Our thanks go out to all who made our St George's Day event a successful, enjoyable and memorable evening.

John Gardiner Tanfield 1954 to 1962

On 11th June 2004 John died as a result of a climbing accident in Snowdonia, North Wales where he had been on a climbing expedition with some colleagues for the mountain rescue organisation.

John had retired as Head of Maths at Hatherdown School in Oldham and was currently working with excluded children with special educational needs. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Sue, and family.

John E Hogg

The Working Executive of the Tanfield Association

Who are these people with such an imposing title? We thought it was about time that they were well and truly exposed to all the members of the Association, so they can identify and give name to the people responsible for the great lack of work and effort which should have gone into the Association over the past year. It was also thought that members of the Association need to have knowledge of 'Who', so that they can take part in the election, or make comment in time for the AGM on 21 October 2004.

First of all the title is another name for the committee of people who represent the Tanfield Association Membership, and can make executive decisions on their behalf. The Working Executive do not have regular meetings, but meet as required, which is usually once every two or three months, in School on a Thursday evening from 6.45 pm prompt to approximately 8.00 pm. There is no restriction on the number of people who serve on the Working Executive; any member of the Association can volunteer to serve on it. At present there are twenty non-teaching members and four teaching members, plus Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Chair of Governing Body. Average attendance at these meetings, on a good day, with a tail wind and Archie providing coffee for everyone, is usually about 12 to 14 members.

The people who serve on the Working Executive are as follows: Archie Howat, Headteacher; Eric Fisk, Deputy Headteacher; Jim Brown of Stanley, Chair of Governors; Teaching Staff - Alan Johnston (Head of PE, former pupil 1961-67); Keith Alder, (Engineering and Design); Alan Ramshaw (Head of Year former pupil 1982-87); Susan Smith (Head of Special Needs, former pupil 1964-71); Non teaching members - Professor Warren Pescod OBE (President of Tanfield Association and Chair of Working Executive, pupil 1944-51); Susan Donkin of Chester-le-Street (Membership Secretary, pupil 1976-81);

Karen Scott of Shotley Bridge (Treasurer, pupil 1970-76); Ken Dixon of Annfield Plain, (pupil 1951-56); Dennis Hind of Washington, (pupil 1951-58); Andrew Goodchild of Tantobie, (pupil 1988-93); Gary Preston of Newcastle, (pupil 1976-81); June Todd of Chester-le-Street, (pupil 1950-57); Cecil Johnson of Flint Hill, (pupil 1945-52); Chris Morrison of Chester-le-Street, (pupil 1962-69); Keith Kirtley of Shotley Bridge, (pupil 1959-65); Harry Taylor of Lanchester, (pupil 1943-48); John Nelson of Hexham, (pupil 1962-67); Dawn Hodgson of Shield Row, (pupil 1972-77); Tom Hope of Durham, (pupil 1958-63); Ted Brabban of Hare Law, (pupil 1944-51); Astrid Reeve of Dipton, (pupil 1950-57); Elizabeth Loomie of Washington, (pupil 1961-66); Michael Loomie of Washington, (pupil 1961-66); Fred Westwater of Oxhill, (Secretary/Coordinator, teacher 1977-98)

Another smaller sub-committee called the Events Organising Committee, whose members volunteer from the Executive Committee, meet more regularly before each event to organise the details of that event. The Events Committee during the past year consisted of the following: Cecil Johnson, Eric Fisk, Alan Ramshaw, Susan Smith, Keith Alder, Ken Dixon, June Todd, Chris Morrison, Fred Westwater. This small committee meets during the day from 2.00 pm to 3.00 pm in school. This time of meeting enables teaching staff to be on hand and resources of the school can be seen and organised if necessary.

The above list of people will be seeking approval of their work over the past year and the Office of President, Vice-President, Secretary/Coordinator, Assistant Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer are open for their annual election.

Second World War Memorial

At the St George's Day event, during the supper interval Archie Howat was seen to be deep in conversation with Joicey Craven, one of our Senior and almost one of the most enthusiastic members. The ever-observant Joicey had noticed that the First World War Memorial Plaque was on display in the school, but there was nothing in memory of the former Tanfield Pupils who gave their lives during the Second World War. Archie was explaining to Joicey that it was believed that during the early 1970s (before Archie's time as Headteacher) workmen were demolishing a wall and in their enthusiasm also destroyed a wooden commemorative plaque dedicated to the former pupils who paid the ultimate sacrifice. All trace of this memorial was lost; no one could even be sure of all the names, as no written records were ever kept.

Not to be deterred, Joicey next approached our secretary Fred Westwater with the offer of sponsoring the replacement memorial plaque if the names could be traced. It was thought the numbers would probably be six or seven, at the most twelve. To the amazement of all concerned, a copy of a 1950 Memorial Service was unearthed a few days later, to confirm there were thirty four names of young men who just a relatively short time before had been pupils of the school.

Joicey was overjoyed to hear of the successful research but was deeply saddened on learning of the number of young men killed. There was even more emotion on seeing the list of names, because Joicey remembered quite a few of the boys at school. He remembered the sporting prowess or what school boy escapades some of them got up to; how clever some had been, what bright futures some were looking to have but most of all it was also brought home to all involved in the research how these young men's lives had been cut short at such an early age and what heartache it would have brought to thirty-four families.

After some consideration and enquiry into the cost of a new plaque, it was suggested by Mr Andrew Peak, Head of Technology and Engineering that the plaque could be made in school, which he thought would make it even

more relevant and meaningful. A donation has been promised to the department to cover any cost and in gratitude for the work done.

Once the memorial plaque has been made, the relevant parties concerned will consult with Mr Howat as Headteacher and Mr Jim Brown as Chair of Governors to organise the handing over and dedication of the memorial plaque, possibly in the autumn term, but we will keep Tanfield Association members informed.

The following is the list of names, but as we have no other details we would be grateful for any further information.

34 names

In Memory of

Norman Ainsworth	Henry Middlemast
Albert Armstrong	Alan Pattison
Oswald Beck	Ronald Parry
John L. Bell	Robert Reay
John Blight	John Richardson
Ralph Brown	Leslie Ross
Harry Carr	Walter A. Ross
George Davison	Wilfred A. Scully
George Dodds	Matthew Smith
Ernest W. Durrant	Norman Smith
John E. Fake	Henry Temperley
Ernest Forster	John H. Wells
Jack Glasgow	Jack Wlshart
Ernest Gowland	Jack Whitfield
Joseph Green	Lawrence Whittle
Thomas Hudspith	Warwick Bolam
Alan Hutchinson	
Douglas Maughan	

who gave their lives in the World War
1939-1945

"First things, first."

Head Boy and Head Girl at Tanfield

As reported in our last newsletter, we are attempting to complete a list of Head Boys and Head Girls. The following is the result to-date of your information to us. There are still some gaps, but we are getting there slowly but surely. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to phone or write with names, places, and stories. Please keep it going.

	<u>Head Boy</u>		<u>Deputy Head Boy</u>
1945-46	William Boggon	Stanley	
1946-47	Roger Simpson	Craghead	
1949-50	Stuart Reid		
1950-51	Ken Smith	Greencroft	
1951-52	John Wilson	South Moor	
1952-53	Jim Nicholson		
1955-56	George Morton	South Moor	
1956-57	Brian Logan		
1957-58	Fred Smailes		
1958-59	David Portsmouth	Leadgate	
1959-60	Alan Taylor		
1960-61	John Hogg	Annfield Plain	
1961-62	Bob Harrison		
1962-63	T Hooper		
1963-64	David Proud	Tanfield Lea	
1964-65	Peter Carr		
1966-67	Ken Reed	Stanley	
1967-68	Chris Burdon	Stanley	
1968-69	Tony Brown	Annfield Plain	
1969-70	Tom Ayer	Annfield Plain	
1970-71	Gavin Watt	Annfield Plain	
1974-75	Keith Smith		David Nunn Tanfield Lea
1977-78	Clinton Blackburn	Stanley	
1978-79	Gary Clarkson	Stanley	Stephen Tanfield Lea Hetherington
	<u>Head Girl</u>		<u>Deputy Head Girl</u>
1942-43	Jean Anderson		
1945-46	Alice Boggon (Tibby)	Stanley	
1946-47	June Ross	Dipton	
1949-50	Mary Anderson		
1951-52	Jean Farbridge		Joan Parnaby South Moor
1952-53	Jean Hetherington		
1954-55	Hilary Atkinson		
1955-56	Annie Wilson	Catchgate	
1956-57	Margaret Fisk	South Moor	
1957-58	Cynthia Stoker	Annfield Plain	
1960-61	Vivian Hodgson		
1961-62	Jean Stephenson		
1965-66	Joan Phillips	Stanley	
1967-68	Jean Tregoning	Stanley	
1968-69	Allison Brown	Stanley	
1969-70	Anne Cole	Annfield Plain	

Tanfield Association Annual General Meeting
21st October 2004

I wish to nominate the following Association members for the Offices listed below. (Self-nominations are accepted or move re-election if indicated.)

President of The Tanfield Association.....
(Present holder of this office is Professor Warren Pescod OBE who is willing to be re-elected)

Secretary/Coordinator
(Present holder of this office is Fred Westwater who is willing to be re-elected)

Assistant Secretary.....
(Vacant office)

Treasurer.....

Membership Secretary.....
(At present the above two offices are held jointly by Karen Scott and Susan Donkin, who are both willing to be re-elected)

Non-Teaching Newsletter Coordinator.....
(Vacant office)

Working Executive Member.....

Working Executive Member.....

Working Executive Member.....

Working Executive Member.....

Please give your comments on the back of this form or on a separate sheet, under the following headings:-

1. Newsletter content.
2. Tanfield Association Events.
3. Working Executive.
4. Any other concerns or suggestions.

1973-74	Susan Handy			
1974-75	Linda Hughft	Sunniside	Helen Barrass	Stanley
1975-76	Ann Marie Duffy			
1976-77	Jean Tate	Stanley		
1977-78	Sharon Lawson		Michelle Cooper	
1978-79	Shelley Jefferson	Stanley	Ann Cousins	Burnopfield

Tanfield School Today

The first main piece of news since the last Newsletter, is the appointment of a second Deputy Headteacher, whose duties will take effect from 1st September 2004.

This position is to be held by Mr Graeme Lloyd, who at present holds the position of Assistant Headteacher and also Head of English, here at Tanfield. Mr Lloyd was selected by the Personnel Committee of the Governing Body, from a short-list of six very well-qualified and experienced candidates.

The appointment was brought about after consideration by the Headteacher and Governors of the School Management Structure in the light of achieving Specialist School Status. The Governors are also intending to increase staffing in both Science and Technology to further meet the requirement of our Specialist School Status.

Congratulations to the Governing Body on appointing Mr Graeme Lloyd as Deputy Headteacher. We are aware that his appointment is a popular one among fellow members of Staff, Pupils and Parents, and we look forward to hearing more regarding Mr Lloyd.

On behalf of the Tanfield Association membership we give our congratulations to Graeme, and we send our best wishes to him and his family for the future. We may even try for an interview for the next Newsletter.

The other main piece of news concerns an extremely important aspect of education today,

that is, Monitoring. In the light of School Tables for many educational outcomes; Raising Achievement; Gifted and Talented Pupils; and many other reasons, Monitoring has become a very necessary, but very involved and complex subject if it is to be effective and successful. This very important area is the responsibility of Miss Christine McGough, the other Assistant Headteacher, with Mr Lloyd. Christine is recognised throughout the County as being the County expert in this field of work, and indeed she has played a major role in the raising of standards at Tanfield in recent years, and at present is continuing to develop monitoring systems linked with the development of School Self-Review.

School Self-Review is the important part of the plan of the new OFSTED arrangements, which asks:- what does the school do well, and how do we know? What needs improving, why and what is being done?

It is most important that the School Improvement Plan, in our case the Specialist School Action Plan, links closely with areas identified through self-review. It is Christine's job to ensure that all this happens. We in the Tanfield Association who are concerned about how well the School performs, are very fortunate in having such expertise in this position in Tanfield. We give her our best wishes in this most important aspect of the School work, and we look forward to Tanfield School and Specialist College of Science and Engineering achieving even more in the future.

