



KEEPING CONNECTED

NUMBER 13



A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF GUY DODD



SATURDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2020

PLEASE REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ATTEND

The Foundation Trustees, Governors and new Head, Andy Johnson, would like to invite you to Truro School's service to honour former headmaster, Guy Dodd, who sadly passed away earlier this year.

It is very difficult for us to make definite plans for this ceremony, given the current COVID-19 situation, and the ever changing Government guidance regarding large gatherings.

At present we hope to hold an outdoor gathering which will include the planting of an oak tree in the school grounds. The ceremony will be attended by Guy's family and friends and *hopefully* anyone else who would like to join in this tribute to a dear friend and former colleague, (guidance permitting) followed by a Cornish Cream Tea. It may only be possible to hold a small gathering, so sadly we are unable to guarantee that we will be able to accommodate all. If you would like to be added to the guest list, please let us know by emailing:

foundation@truroschool.com

Nearer the time, we will contact all those who have indicated their wish to attend, with more information.

OLD TRURONIAN BROTHERS

PETER CO69 AND JOHN (JB) CO76 BATES

Brothers Peter and John (known as JB) attended Truro School in the late 60's and early 70's. Peter now lives in the US and John resides in Gloucestershire. John is another Old Truronian working to help the fight against Covid, through his work in communications and crisis management.

JOHN (JB) BATES CO76

"My Brother Peter and I are both proud Old Truronians. I made a spectacularly unimpressive contribution to school life both as a boarder, starting in Poltisco, and in education in general, despite the very best efforts of Derek Burrell. I have been fortunate in life to have been supported by some very impressive individuals along the way and I list Derek Burrell among them. To this day I treasure his hand-written Christmas cards, with his turquoise ink scribblings."



When JB left school, he went into the hospitality industry, attending college in Torquay and forging a career in hotel management before deciding on a career change, switching to marketing and PR.

John attributes his success to *"Mostly being in the right place at the right time"* and luck (although as film producer Samuel Goldwyn famously said, *"The harder I work, the luckier I get"*).

"I have been lucky. I worked in global businesses such as Group 4 and its different incarnations, where, by some miracle I became Director of Communications for the UK, Australia and South Africa – who would have thought? That job meant I started sparring, on occasions, with the likes of John Humphries (remember him?) on Radio 4's Today programme, Fiona Bruce on BBC's The Real Story and Panorama's Jeremy Vine. All character-building stuff with performances by me I will never forget!"

After a period as Chief Executive of the British Security Industry Association JB set out as a crisis communications and issues management consultant. *"I work in communication – PR – story telling, if you like, and my business partner Chris Webb and I have a 'not for profit' company which brings together communication practitioners to network and enhance their skills in handling emergencies and disasters"* www.epicc.org.uk.

JB is experienced in all aspects of crisis management and has been involved with a range of clients and diverse scenarios, including high-profile projects such as preparations for the Olympic Games in Athens 2004 and London 2012. Often working on high profile topics and sensitive subjects, JB delivers training, coaching and mentoring throughout the UK and internationally. He co-directs training for all new police press officers as well as senior police communicators, liaising from time to time with select committees, COBRA and regulators and carries out assignments in a number of countries.

JB is another example of Old Truronians helping to manage the current COVID-19 situation.

"We were fortunate to be appointed by the City of London to provide communication support in response to COVID-19. From March to the beginning of July we have been part of the team directing the crisis communication across the capital, on behalf of the Strategic Co-ordination Group, including co-ordination of the multi-agency communications group."

On an on-going basis EPiCC is providing support and coaching to share good practice and be best prepared in case the UK is faced with a second wave of infections.

"Containing the virus is essential and I'm proud to play my part even though my 'bit' won't help find a vaccine or a cure. At least, as another proud 'Old Truronian', I'm helping spread the word in the fight against Coronavirus."

Although JB now lives in Gloucestershire he has been back to visit Truro School over the years. "A few years ago, I was delighted to be asked to speak at Speech Day at Treliske – which was a pleasure. I have a school rugby shirt which Steve Floyd CO76 organised for me a few years ago but it has 'shrunk' and now occupies space, alongside other precious items, in my chest of drawers, to be revisited another day."

"As well as Derek **Burrell**, Steve **Floyd**, Jem **Trewhella** and 'Wally' **Green** (all CO76) made my days, 'High on the Hill', especially memorable."

PETER J BATES CO69

Like many Truronians past and present Peter enjoyed his geology studies at Truro School. He still has his Rutley's Elements of Mineralogy "*which I bought for 20 shillings while at Truro School along with A Guide to the Mines of West Cornwall!*"

His thoughts of pursuing geology changed, however, and after leaving school in 1969, Peter spent a summer season in Paignton, Devon before embarking on his hotel management journey – "*More washing glasses and filleting of fish! Once I started down the road of hospitality and my first couple of operational jobs, I knew sales and marketing was the path I wanted to follow and stuck with that!*"

"I have had a number of magical jobs throughout my career starting with the first hotel privatisation of the Thatcher government and the formation in Scotland of Gleneagles Hotels PLC, where I was the first Sales and Marketing Director from 1981. After four immensely satisfying years in Hong Kong with the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group I returned to London as head of Sales and Marketing for The Savoy Group of Hotels and Restaurants. I then spent eighteen months bringing two hotel companies together to form Thistle Hotels before moving to New York as Executive Vice President of the cruise line Cunard and then setting up my own business."



Peter believes his time at school taking part in activities such as the Debating Society, Scouting, Community Service, and being a School Official, taught him the skills required to be a leader, helped give him the basic tools and confidence he needed to establish a career in sales and marketing and hospitality.

Peter now lives just outside Manhattan, in a small village named Pound Ridge, New York State. Some twenty years ago he founded a communications consultancy called Strategic Vision. It works across the areas of hospitality, destinations, tourism and publishing and its offices are set on the Hudson River. Peter now spends a large portion of his time creating new business opportunities and has great advice for any Old Truronians wishing to follow a similar career path.

“Start by getting a really good degree. The University of Surrey, University of Strathclyde in Scotland, Cornell School of Hotel Administration in New York or Ecole Hoteliere in Lausanne, Switzerland are all fantastic centres of excellence for hospitality. The business of hospitality and tourism has changed dramatically and it will again after the current pandemic, however, globally the future remains bright and we need more leaders!”

The US has been affected very badly as a result of COVID-19 and Peter told us *“Global Tourism is shattered, many borders are closed, cruise lines are at a standstill, travel agents are doing 95% less business than this time last year. Luxury city hotels are in many cases still closed, resorts are cautiously opening and doing quite well but we cannot predict what this winter will bring. Airlines are crippled and business travel has in the main stopped. Furloughs and redundancies are prevalent around the world and I fear we have some way to go. My job as a “trusted advisor” to companies is to help them maintain a presence and navigate a future. I feel for the West Country that is so dependent on tourism. The economic impact is devastating and I wish all associated with hospitality and tourism courage and good luck.”*

“Everyone in the hospitality world must reinvent the playbook. Travel will return—I do not doubt that. However, we must all expect it to be a reimaged industry. Everything has to be reassessed and so we are all charged with playing our part in reinventing this amazing restructured industry, continuing to sell dreams and bringing hospitality and travel back to life and profitability”.

Peter is married to Camilla, ‘an Aussie’, and has five children who are currently scattered around the globe, living in Australia, Strasbourg, Bristol and Berkshire. “My daughter is happily married with two children living near Maidenhead – so I am a proud Grandad!”

Unsurprisingly, Peter has little time for hobbies but enjoys finding out more about fine wine and watching golf and tries to make sure he is in the UK when the British Open takes place. Although he no longer has any family living in Cornwall, Peter has returned a few times since living in the US, his last visit being in 2018. He is still in touch with one of his old school friends, Peter **Goudge** CO69:

“We are both Liverymen of the Worshipful Company of Marketers in the City of London - Peter is in fact a Past Master. We attended the Installation Dinner together in January this year.”

And what of the future for Peter?

“Getting through the Pandemic is the biggest issue for me at the moment but longer term I reckon I will continue for a few more years and to retire in five years - perhaps back to Cornwall!”

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD SCHEME

Following on from the news earlier this term that Truro School had the highest level of DofE awards in the South West, we were pleased to receive a certificate yesterday along with a lovely email from the DofE Operations Manager addressed to the headmaster and Mike Cucknell, Outdoor Pursuits Coordinator:

"At a time when volunteering and supporting the local community could not be more important, Heather Thompson, DofE South West Director, has asked me to pass on her thanks to you, your DofE Manager, staff volunteers, and finally your incredible participants who have made, and continue to make, such a positive impact on their local community."



Thank you

to the
Duke of Edinburgh's Award participants

from

Truro School

who donated

3,432 hours

of voluntary service to the local community*
The social value of these hours is

£14,929.20

* Number of hours of volunteer service
is based on participants who have achieved their
Volunteering section between 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020

July 2020

OLD TRURONIAN BROTHERS

STEVEN AND JON ASKEY (CO95 AND 2000)

- HERON TENNIS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TRURO SCHOOL



Brothers Steven and Jon Askey were born and raised in Cornwall. Their love of tennis began while at Truro Prep (then Treliske) where they have fond memories of playing on the grass. They were further inspired at the senior school by their teacher, Dave Hunt. The brothers represented Cornwall in junior and senior teams and both were County Champions at both junior and senior level. They later went to university where Steve's Masters degree in sport sociology resulted in his comparison of tennis systems in the UK, USA and Germany. Steve and Jon both competed internationally in professional tennis in Europe and the USA and are both licensed LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) level 4 coaches.

Steve is now Truro School's Head Tennis Coach, encouraged by Graham Whitmore. *"Working together was very appealing for both Jon and I, being former pupils who still share a love of the school!"* They are directors and coaches at Heron Tennis, the family business. *"We opened in Newquay in 2003 and now have eight outdoor and two indoor courts, a court-side cafe and the Heron room (used for meetings, classes and events). We have a coaching academy which caters for everyone from toddlers up to super seniors. We have great links with Truro School, coaching on site as well as developing players through our coaching programmes at Heron."*



Sonya Newton, Truro School's Assistant Director of Sport, describes how well the partnership is working. *"It's great - allowing school tennis players access to first rate coaching on a weekly basis. Steve takes two teams each week for 90 minute sessions and has also run two top quality tennis trips to Portugal during the Easter holidays which were fantastic for our pupils."*

As with so many businesses in Cornwall, Heron Tennis was affected by the Coronavirus. Jon explains: *"We closed the doors with a heavy heart on March 23rd. But luckily with our sport we were able to open again after only eight weeks and by September we hope to be working to near full capacity."* Steve adds *"In some ways it's been positive - Heron Tennis has been really busy since we reopened as more people have tried tennis and regular players have had the opportunity to play more than they perhaps usually would."*

Jon (left) and Steve are pictured here with their Dad Terry (owner of Heron Tennis). The picture was taken after the first County Championships held at Heron. Jon won the singles beating Steve in the final. As a team they won the doubles title, and Steve won the mixed title partnered by Vicki Eames after beating Jon and his partner.

"Needless to say it was a proud time for our Dad!" remarked Steve.

Steve is engaged to Frances Houghton, the five times Olympic rower who was four times world champion and three times Olympic silver medalist. When not playing tennis he enjoys football, boxing, surfing and nature.

Jon has a passion for rugby and travelling and spending time with his Brazilian wife Adriana and their two children, Isabella and James - whose middle name is Gustavo after Jon's favourite Brazilian tennis player, former world number one Gustavo Kuerten.

And the family connection with Truro School doesn't end with Steven and Jon. Their sister, Helen, is also an Old Truronian (CO98). As well as working for Lodge and Thomas, she is a qualified Equine Masseur, who breeds, trains and competes in dressage around the country.

Jon is in regular touch with fellow Old Truronians including Ben Sidgwick, Claire Stephens and Mitch Holmes (CO2000) who runs 'Eye on High' (www.eyehigh.co.uk) an aerial video production company which took some great drone footage and photos of Heron Tennis, showcasing their facilities.

So if you're keen to get back on the tennis courts, or take it up as a new sport, have a look at Heron Tennis on <https://www.heron-tennis.co.uk/>.



BUSINESS CALL

Do you work within an organisation that undertakes data cleansing and enhancement? Or perhaps you can recommend a company you have used?

If so the Development Office and Foundation would be very interested to talk with you.

Please email: nab@truroschool.com



VIEW FROM THE CHAMBER - 28/07/2020

Cornwall Chamber of Commerce held one of our thrice yearly Cornwall Conversations events last Friday – online of course. I give the same brief to every speaker: What are you doing for Cornwall that people in the know need to know? I chaired it and we had two speakers whose different perspectives highlighted vastly different angles of contemporary Cornwall.

The first speaker was **Miles Carden** who is the director of [Spaceport Cornwall](#). He looked to the future where Newquay could be, fingers crossed, the UK's first horizontal spaceport enabling mini satellites the size of a fridge freezer to be launched into space to capture the sort of data that can be processed by Goonhilly Earth Station on such things as weather patterns, ocean pollution, soil erosion and illegal whaling, that would enable Cornwall to be at the heart of 21st Century environmental research and planetary monitoring.



The impact that a spaceport in Cornwall would have on our young people would be electrifying. The excitement and encouragement for STEM subjects in the school curriculum, the 21st century training and skills development needed here, the impact on downstream suppliers and our drive towards tech businesses would be part of a new age for Cornwall.

The second speaker was **Tamas Haydu**, the CEO of [Cornwall Community Foundation](#) (CCF). The Foundation has awarded grants of over £700,000 to small projects and causes that have been suffering under the Covid crisis since March. About half this funding came from schemes like the National Emergencies Fund; but the other half came from individuals either living here, the Cornish diaspora or the many visitors who love our County. The average grant is something like £3200 so you can work out just how many small local community projects have benefited.

But what that reminds us of is the need here for charity. There are many people in desperate straits using foodbanks, relying on community support for their physical and mental wellbeing, transport, loneliness, dementia... the list goes on, that CCF has helped. It is a tough time and I'm afraid redundancies will get worse and the need of CCF's resources will increase before a stronger future of which the Spaceport will be an element leads to a more resilient, more varied, more environmental Cornwall.

By **Kim Conchie**
Chief Executive Officer
Cornwall Chamber of Commerce
TS Chair Of Governors & Foundation Trustee

[CLICK HERE](#) for the Cornwall Chamber of Commerce website

**Cornwall
Chamber
of Commerce** 

JONATHAN (JON) HOBBS CO70

We were delighted to hear from Old Truronian Jon Hobbs following our D-Day celebration feature edition of 'Keeping Connected'. After leaving Truro School in 1970 Jon continued his studies and obtained his postgraduate qualifications at Aberdeen University (1978).



Jon has had a fascinating career and having travelled extensively has recently returned to the UK. He now provides advice to governments and companies on business and sustainability matters - specialising in environmental and social issues in the extractives and infrastructure sectors. He has recently advised on mining policies, projects and guidelines in Armenia, China, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Cambodia, India, Tanzania and Kenya as well at the United Nations, World Economic Forum, World Bank, OECD and European Union.

Previously he was WWF International's global policy lead on oil, gas and mining matters and has held a variety of fascinating roles including the Inter-Governmental Forum Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development. He is also a Trustee of the Dian Fossey Gorilla Organisation.

Jon has given lectures at universities including Cape Town, Imperial College London and Oxford and is an Associate at the University of Dundee's Centre for Energy, Petroleum and Mineral Law and Policy.

With this wealth of experience and knowledge we would relish the opportunity of Jon visiting Truro School sometime in the future to talk to our Geology students.

OUT OF BOUNDS AT TRELISKE PREP SCHOOL.

BY JON HOBBS CO70

Recent 2020 D-day celebrations have brought back recollections of my days of boarding at Treliske Prep School – although I was there a couple of decades after those events (in the early 1960's), there were still some traces to be found of when secretive preparations were being made in and around the school for the D-Day landings.

During the D-Day lead up American troops occupied various parts of Cornwall – including Truro and the Fal estuary. Some were new recruits recently arrived; some were battle hardened and had seen previous action in Italy and North Africa. Treliske was briefly taken over by the 3rd Battalion of the 531st Engineer Shore Regiment and Light Mechanised and Transport Unit – who wore the arm flash 'Hell on Wheels'. They were billeted in and around the house, grounds and surrounding golf course and mostly lived under canvas. As a support unit of the 29th Division, they were responsible for storing and maintaining the hundreds of armoured vehicles, lorries, jeeps and motorcycles including the amphibious 'duck' landing craft developed specifically for the Normandy beach landings. They were soon to head off to battle on Omaha and Utah beaches in Normandy and, those that survived, the eventual liberation of Europe (source: Neville Harcourt Paddy, " WW11 Peoples War" BBC archives). Two decades later there were not many signs left of their time there, but we did come across one.

As I am sure many generations of Treliske's boarders will remember, there was a lucrative trade (and no minor bragging rights) to be gained from going in pursuit of 'lost' golf balls on 'sorties' into the strictly 'out of bounds' territory of the golf course beyond the school grounds. Hole No. 8 was the favourite. A well hit ball off the tee would temporarily disappear from any player's view into a pronounced undulation. It called for the speed of a cheetah, but a ball usually lay there long enough out of vision and ready for 'acquisition' for sale during later exeats leaving somewhat bemused players behind.

However, on one occasion we tried another option. A weekly event was the Sunday morning 'crocodile' trudges out of school to the Gloweth Chapel and morning service. This involved trekking up the long drive-way past where the Royal Cornwall Hospital was about to be built (the foundation stone having just been laid by the then Minister of Health, Enoch Powell).

On one occasion we noted a tempting new prospect for our trade in golf balls. On the driveway, opposite the future hospital site, the golf course paralleled the school entrance road. Situated on the edge of the fairway was an isolated, wooded copse that provided a hazard to the best of golfers - and consequently a treasure chest of lost balls. These were probably a more ethical trade than Hole 8 given that they had been previously lost! Some days later a dash over the fence and into the trees was rewarded with a couple of almost new balls and it became a regular target.

However, on one recce during a winter's day we got an additional reward. Turning over the undergrowth in search of balls we exposed a piece of corrugated iron, covered in dead branches and leaves. Under this was a dugout chamber with a few discarded tins and bottles.

Now, I guess it could have been a pre-D-Day waste disposal site – but, of course, we boys preferred the more likely explanation of it as a camouflaged defensive position, handy should any German attack materialise up the driveway. After all, we reasoned, why camouflage a waste disposal site anyway?

We were keen to share this discovery and to learn more about it, but, of course, that would have risked Headmaster Ayres's wrath, so we kept very quiet about it! The threat was so commanding that I am still cautious about admitting to these illicit excursions out of bounds even today! Perhaps the find is still there?

TAKE A TOUR OF THE SCHOOL

Maybe just for a trip down memory lane or to see what is available at Truro School today, with Jayne Grigg, Director of Admissions and Development.

[**CLICK HERE**](#)



DEREK NEVILLE-WEAVER CO42

TS 1938-1942

Following our recent mailing of Keeping Connected, Derek Neville-Weaver (CO42)'s daughter Susan kindly updated his details and gave her own email address so we can keep in touch with her father with newsletters etc. It was a pleasure to catch up with Derek in a recent telephone call when he told me a little more about himself.



Derek is one of our 'senior' Old Truronians, born in 1925 to parents James and Lillian. Sadly, Lillian died when Derek was only seven years old. Derek attended Truro School as a day pupil from 1938 – 1942. Having volunteered to join the RAF and been accepted for training for air crew duties, he could not enlist immediately as he was not quite old enough and so lived with friends on a farm for a few months at Shortlanesend, near Truro, until he reached the magic age of 17 and a quarter.

Derek recalled visiting Truro School shortly after enlisting:

"I was dressed, of course, in uniform, and very proud of the white flash in my cap showing I was an air crew trainee. I was greeted by Dr Magson's secretary, who (not very politely) told me that "there are no masters available to see you, there is a war on you know?" - something that clearly had not escaped me!"

When the war in Europe ended in 1945 his squadron, having just finished bombing missions in Europe, was chosen to form part of 'Tiger Force' for operational duties in the Far East. Fully trained, equipped and ready, the war then came to an end with America's bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, so Derek's 'Tiger Force' visit to Burma was cancelled.

After serving seven years in the RAF, Derek decided to return to civvy street in early 1950. He settled in the Midlands and found employment in the steel industry. "I joined a company of steel fabricators, and enjoyed the experience of the shop floor - which was very hard work - as well as other sections of the business." After a couple of years, he joined a company of steel stockholders and remained in the same industry until retirement.

Along the way Derek had married Barbara, and daughter Susan, now Financial Director of a company based in Devon, was born. Derek nursed Barbara through a long illness and sadly she passed away in December 2018. Susan and Derek are very close, and she regularly made the 300 mile trip to the Midlands to visit him. Conscious of her travelling, in 2019 Derek decided to 'up sticks' and relocate to Devon. He moved into a lovely care home in Ottery St Mary and told me *"It's beautiful and all the residents are looked after extremely well. Fortunately, the home has not been affected by Coronavirus. Great care has been taken to safeguard us all. We have been confined and only staff can enter and they take our temperature twice a day. Susan visits but we can only see each other through a screen and talk via a telephone."* Recently on Sunday 5th July, Derek celebrated his 95th birthday, when he enjoyed birthday cake and a special afternoon tea.

Derek felt there might not be many of his year group still in contact with the School but he named some who are still in touch with us, so I am hoping to reconnect Derek with friends from long ago.

We very much hope, when we are able to bring our Old Truronians together again, that Susan might bring Derek for a visit or perhaps join us for the annual Afternoon Tea – it would be such a pleasure to welcome him back to Truro School.

THANK GOODNESS TIMES HAVE CHANGED!

RECOLLECTIONS OF TRURO SCHOOL BOARDERS 'NOSH' ENDURED IN 1956-64

WRITTEN BY STUART BIRD

One lunchtime over a beer **Stuart Sylvester** and I reminisced over school food, and wanted to share the stories with a wider audience. Here are our tales - many of which are very amusing.

Martin Corner recalls : *"Who could forget the 'grub' as it was in the 1950/60s?*

I well remember Jam in lurid shades of red and green in tins from the United Yeast Co., but barely distinguishable by flavour! It did have a taste - mainly tin!

One of the less disagreeable meals was 'toad in the hole.' The toad was awful, but the hole was usually OK, although of dubious nutritional value. I think you could summarise the lot as 'slop!'

Still no one suffered from rickets or scurvy, and we scampered around the playing fields on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, so perhaps no real harm was done.

Remarkably this is still a talking point 60 years down the line!

SERVING

One of the duties every 4th year had to endure once a term. It was a necessity to save catering staff having to face hungry boarders, and probably character forming for us. We turned up early, put on brown lab coats, collected a trolley, set the tables, delivered the tureens of food, cleared the plates, and the mess and debris afterwards. That was the easy bit for the team of four unfortunate boys, who had to slave for a ravenous mob of hungry boarders. The pressure was greater when replenishments were needed as tables ran out of water, tea, milk, margarine and other comestibles. Often this occurred simultaneously from several tables of a dozen boys on each, baying for their items. If you had to serve the Sixth Form tables, all hell was let loose if you missed them out, with ragging and bullying to endure.

Stuart Sylvester remembers an incident when he slipped on a pool of water with a pile of dirty plates. He landed with an almighty crash as the plates hit the deck with Stuart landing in a pool of gravy! There was an unnatural silence, as he had cut his middle finger on the broken crockery. This was the only occasion he can remember total silence in the dining hall, except when Bert Willday said grace! Stuart was scraped off the floor and taken to Truro Infirmary, where he had stitches in his finger, thereby preventing him serving for the remaining week. He still bears the scars to this day!



There were perks in serving, as on Saturday lunchtime on your last day, you were rewarded with a large helping of pasties, beans and chips. Mind you the pasties were an insult to the name 'Cornish Pasties,' as they were filled with a disgusting orangey mince mixture. The firm that provided them were 'Myners' and even a 'Ginster' pasty was good by comparison!

For their own safety the catering staff never emerged from their kitchen domain, where all the delicacies were lovingly prepared by Mrs Rosemurgy (what a name to conjure with!) and Mrs Otten.

THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE INEDIBLE!

Bernard Cockfield's contribution was to the point : "burnt porridge!"

Richard Stevenson remembers *"those horrendous beef sausages with dark tanned leather casing, with their grim flavouring which put me off sausages for a very long time!"* Richard also recalls the raspberry jam in those large catering cans. He said *"I'm sure it never saw a raspberry in the manufacturing process, and we reckoned the pips were made of wood!"*



Stuart Sylvester had to endure 7 years as a boarder. Seared in his memory are: *"...the stinking tinned pilchards, gristly pasties with flabby pastry, watery powdered scrambled eggs, rice pudding with burnt blackened skin, flabby cold tough toast, weak tea and coffee from battered urns, tasteless 'Eldorado' ice cream as a Sunday treat, hogs pudding - I could go on! 'Daybugs' were fortunate to suffer only school lunches - BUT WE SURVIVED!"*

Richard Payler: *"Whilst serving I managed to spill some juice from a tureen of sloppy baked beans over the boy at the head of the table! Naturally he wasn't very impressed! The most unappetizing food was streaky bacon swimming in fat. To avoid that delicacy we used to bring our own baked beans in to supplement our diet and eat them cold with whatever was on the menu! As a result we can thank TS for enabling us to be grateful for whatever was served, resulting in my siylphlike figure!"*

Martin Wilmshurst: *"Dishes such as fish pie did nothing to titivate my taste buds. School fish pie was basically cottage pie using Coley, cooked with milky liquid and onions then covered in mashed potato. 'Toad in the hole' was intriguing, being a large dish with solidified batter (Yorkshire Pudding) and a dozen portions of sausage, strategically placed to allow twelve portions of snag and Yorkshire pud."* (Martin is now a professional caterer in Deniliquin NSW Australia.)

Richard Dale-Green: *"Some things stick in my mind. Do you remember the food riots? Stale bread rolls were thrown out of the windows! Another time at breakfast 'Tink Taylor' was on duty, and was clearly embarrassed to say there was no milk, but could we consider orange squash with our cornflakes? I think I ate the cornflakes dry and drank the orange squash later."*



One tiny sliver of butter was considered a Sunday tea treat, the rest of the week it was margarine!

Being in the scouts had one big advantage. When camping we could go to the kitchens and take anything we could lay our hands on. Bacon, eggs, bread and butter, which we enjoyed with great fry-ups when two or three of us camped out at the weekend.

Baked beans and chips were OK for me with porridge. The pasties were inedible, full of unidentifiable meat and veg, which put me off for years. Half a century later I tried again and had a very good pasty at the Lost Gardens of Heligan - Cornwall's honour was saved!

Jim Sayell : *"Breakfast to set you up for the day - scrambled eggs with whole eggs, bacon like leather and tinned tomatoes - what a delight!"*

Brook Berry: *"The greasy chips - which we, nevertheless, guzzled greedily. The cremated beef with tasteless gravy, the banana custard in which I found a fag-end masquerading as the tip of a banana!"*

Keith Gray: *"You have now reminded me of marmite, peanut butter and jam by the bucket load. Tapioca pudding which I was told to eat, ended up on someone's head, which cost me a detention! Do you remember walking out with the tables? Charlie Monks was on duty and asked the top table to carry on, so we did just that! Cruel looking back but we survived. I now live in Sydney with my family, but not because of those dining experiences!"*

David Woodley: *"I always remember the coffee at supper time that tasted like dishwater!"*

Andrew Lyner: *"I was a day boy so missed out on a lot of these delights. But I do remember the toast being burnt on a single gas ring in the Prefects' Room, along with an unsavoury pack of butter, and a dodgy spreading knife. If I'd been aware of the state of starvation of the boarders at the time, I wouldn't have scoffed as much as I did."*



I notice ALL of you comment on the quality of the food, but for me without sufficient pocket money (2/6 pw), and no Dundee cake in my locker, it was the lack of quantity that upset me. I often felt starving at night and couldn't get off to sleep. I weighed only 8st 7lbs in the 5th form, which probably resulted in me not becoming obese!

I joined TS in the 4th year, with no experience of boarding. I couldn't get over the boys on your table acting like 'gannets' if you refused food. The only item on the menu the boys turned their noses up at was the burnt skin on rice pudding, which I thoroughly enjoyed!

My biggest relief was the twice-termly 'exeats' we had to visit home or in my case my Aunt Olive Gluyas at Pencoose Farm in Stithians. Aunty usually carried off the top prize for pasties at the Stithians Fair. She made me the first pasty I ever tasted which covered my plate! I thought it was for the whole family, and could only manage to consume one half. It was delicious, made of beef skirt, potatoes, yellow swede, butter and onions, seasoning, wrapped in shortcrust pastry, crimped at the edges and glazed with beaten egg. Once cooked for an hour until golden brown I have never tasted a better pasty in all my life! To a starving schoolboy it was bliss!



Thank you to all of you who contributed, it has been quite an education in survival!

Regards

Stuart Bird

REVEREND KEITH VIVIAN - FOND FAREWELL

TS 1938 - 1945

19/02/1927 - 16/07/2020



We have received the very sad news of the passing of Old Truronian, Reverend Keith Vivian.

Keith was born in Beacon, Cornwall, and educated at Truro School where he was captain of rugby and cricket. He went to Cambridge, where he met Audrey, and started out in life teaching at Christ's Hospital boarding school.

He was already playing rugby for Cornwall and, on moving to London, joined Harlequins in the days when rugby was still very much an amateur game. His rugby career included captaining Warwickshire and playing for Sussex.

Keith and Audrey were married at Ponteland in Newcastle upon Tyne. They moved on to Rugby School where Keith secured another junior housemaster's position, teaching maths and physics, before getting his first headmastership in Herefordshire.

Keith was ordained in Hereford Cathedral and got his first job in the church as a priest and then Rural Dean of Chew Magna in Somerset, a post he held until retirement.

Keith and Audrey retired to the town of Lyme Regis and Keith immersed himself in the community.

Francesca Evans writer for Lyme Online wrote: *The word 'legend' is one of the most overused in the English language. Its dictionary meaning is someone who is 'very famous and admired, usually because of an ability in a particular area'. If ever there was a man who deserved such a description it was the Reverend Keith Vivian. Not for being 'famous' as fame would not interest Keith – but no man has been more universally admired in our town.*

There is no corner of our community that has not benefited from his kindly and sympathetic counselling. It also seems trite to describe this rugby-playing cleric 'a man of the people' because he was so much more than that to the people of Lyme.

There are few organisations in Lyme which did not benefit, one way or another, from Keith's wise counsel and generosity. These included the Woodroffe School, where he was a governor; the Rotary Club both in Chelwood Bridge and Lyme Regis; the twinning association of which he was a founding member; the Monmouth Club; the University of the Third Age; and of course, St Michael's Parish Church where he continued to conduct services until a few weeks before his death."

At the age of 93, Keith's health had been declining for some time but that did not hinder or interrupt his support of his church duties. During the interregnum between the appointment of clergy for the town, it was Keith who invariably stood in, conducting the Sunday services, civic occasions, weddings and funerals.

Keith was rushed to the Dorset County Hospital with a serious complaint for which he had previously been treated several years before. Given his age, it was thought he might not survive another serious operation. Audrey was with him throughout and he was able to see his children before he died.

A thanksgiving service will be held at St Michael's Parish Church, Lyme Regis, at a time when the people of Lyme can pay their respects to one of the town's most respected and loved citizens.

Another of our Old Truronians, who clearly, will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

CHRIS NADIN CO62,

RESPONDING TO 'WHERE ARE THEY NOW?' – OTHELLO

I enjoyed the 12th edition of Keeping Connected immensely and it prompts me to respond to the 'Where are they now?' – Othello picture. I attended Truro School from 1954 until 1962 and my last school play was Othello in March 1962. If I remember correctly, we actually performed in Perranporth in the town hall as we were unable to use the chapel stage for some reason.

In 1960 I recall we performed Troilus and Cressida which was co-produced by Cyril Wilkes and Watson Weeks. It is my belief that the picture shown in Keeping Connected, edition 12, was in fact, the cast from Volpone which was staged in 1961, produced by Watson Weeks (and not Othello, as suggested) which we performed in 1962, again produced by Watson.



The lead, Volpone, was played by John Rhys **Davies**, (*middle row centre with hand on chin*) and to his left is Mosca, his 'parasite' played by Clive **Westwood**. I believe the old white bearded character to Volpone's right is Corbaccio, played by Charles **Paull**. My own part was that of Peregrine, a gentleman traveller (*5th from left, middle row*).





I believe for most of us involved, the plays, although hard work, instilled a long term love of the Arts and led to the fine acting careers of both John Rhys **Davies** and Nigel **Terry**.

For me it was certainly the starting point of a long and happy career, first in brewing and distribution, then drinks retailing and subsequently wine and spirit marketing - well retailing and marketing are all about theatre! - of Baileys, Croft Original and Smirnoff Vodka. Latterly I was marketing Director of Gilbey Vintners part of Grandmet. This culminated in creating and launching Duchy Originals for HRH Prince of Wales in 1991/93 and then 9 years as International Brand Director Tequila for Diageo, retiring in 2002.

Best regards, Chris Nadin CO62



WHERE ARE THEY NOW? - MYSTERY MAN IDENTIFIED!



RUGBY 2ST XV 1961-62

In the last edition of Keeping Connected the above picture appeared - and there was one name missing.

Our 'Mystery Man' has now been identified thanks to Colin **Mumford** CO62, who recognised himself in the photo.

Back row, 3rd from the left - you haven't changed a bit, Colin!





MARIA'S RECIPE

A lovely one to make with children or visiting grandchildren.



"This recipe most definitely falls into the 'keep it simple' category! It is our bestseller in the Truro School Café, and one I always make for picnics in Summer holidays as it doesn't melt or squash in a picnic! Don't use expensive toffees or marshmallows – supermarket value lines work really well."

MARSHMALLOW TOFFEE CRISP BARS



INGREDIENTS

100 g Marshmallows
100 g Toffees
100 g Butter
100 g Rice Krispies

METHOD

1. Lightly grease a 20 cm round or square tin with a little oil then line with two layers of cling film.
2. Place the marshmallows, toffees and butter in a large saucepan then heat gently, stirring frequently, until everything is combined into a smooth silky 'sauce'.
3. Remove from the heat then add the rice krispies and stir gently until thoroughly combined.
4. Tip into the prepared tin and press down firmly using the back of a metal spoon.
5. Leave for up to an hour in a cool place to set firmly.
6. Using the edges of the cling film lift out the krispy cake and carefully peel off the cling film.
7. Cut into squares or rectangular bars and store in an airtight tin.

Don't forget to send us photos - especially if you make this with your children or grandchildren!

tsa@truroschool.com

Enjoy!

ONLINE CULTURAL EVENTS AND VIEWING



WHAT'S ON STAGE:

Theatres may be closed, but you can always get a stagey fix online. Stage shows, musicals and opera you can watch online now for free:

[CLICK HERE](#)

ARTS & CULTURE

Google Arts & Culture features content from over 2000 leading museums and archives who have partnered with the Google Cultural Institute to bring the world's treasures online. ... Contemporary art collections around the world.

[CLICK HERE](#)



ENJOY A QUIZ?



Alzheimer's Research UK has recently teamed up with The Mighty Quiz for a host of celebrity takeovers to raise money for vital dementia research – and you can still take part!

Let Stephen Fry put your general knowledge to the test, try Jonathan Ross' entertainment-themed extravaganza, or take on Scarlett's fun

and quirky quiz.

[CLICK HERE](#)

HISTORY ONLINE

British History Online is a digital library of primary and secondary sources on medieval and modern history of Great Britain and Ireland. It was created and is managed as a cooperative venture by the Institute of Historical Research, University of London and the History of Parliament Trust.

[CLICK HERE](#)

British History
Online



...AND IF YOU LIKE A COMPETITION, CAN BAKE & ENJOY BIOLOGY - THIS ONE IS DEFINITELY JUST FOR YOU...

BIOBAKES COMPETITION 2020



Entries are now open for The Physiological Society's annual #BioBakes competition. Entrants craft a bake representing a part of the body and how it works to be in with a chance of winning a KitchenAid food mixer!

The Society is the largest network of physiologists in Europe and they are keen to engage young people with the subject of physiology. This competition has become more and more popular over the last 7 years, and is a great class activity or project for the summer.

Find out more: <https://www.physoc.org/supporting-you/public-engagement/biobakes> and see the impressive standard and accuracy of previous entries.

Entries close 28 August 2020. Shortlisted entries will be put to a public vote on 2 & 3 September, and the winner will be announced on 4 September.



TRURO SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

Truro School - Working together with our community

Email: tsa@truroschool.com

Please be aware that it may take a little longer than usual for the Development Office team to respond to emails during the month of August as the office will only be staffed part-time. Rest assured we will respond as soon as we are able and PLEASE keep sending your news and comments.

The next edition of Keeping Connected will be at the end of August.