

St Piran's Past Pupils Association Spring 2011 Newsletter 24



Summer 2011 event

Sunday 26th June 2011

Rounders and Cricket at St Piran's

The games will start at 2.00 so please arrive by 1.30

Cricket Past Pupils XI v Headmaster's XI for the Tippet trophy
Format 20/20 match
Organisers Derek Harris and Jonathan Carroll

Rounders Teams will be selected on the day
Organiser: Helena Stevenson

Teas

Afternoon tea will be available in the Millstone Garden from 3.30

Archive boards will be on view in the Lower School Hall (the old swimming pool)

There will be no charge for the event but a donation of £2 towards the organ fund will be appreciated

If you want to play, or to come along to support the event, please contact any of the organisers above or the school at office@stpirans.co.uk as this will help with the catering arrangements.

St Piran's merchandise will be available to buy and collect on the day. If you wish to pre-order then please use the form in the newsletter and email it to office@stpirans.co.uk

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Events of the past year

Dinner at The RAF Club on 1st February 2011



The third Old St Piran's Dinner was held at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly. 39 were present including Alison Hall (nee Tippet) and her husband John, the Headmaster and the Chair of Governors.

Preceded by drinks in the Victoria Bar, the three course dinner was taken in the President's Room where the walls are hung with portraits of distinguished Air Marshals. Those attending had entered the school between 1943 and 1965, the most senior being Graeme Walker. They represented many fields of human endeavour (to use a phrase often used for future aspiration by Lowther Tippet) including Law, the Military, the Arts, Education, Engineering, Mining, Finance and Commerce. Archive materials had been brought to the club which added to the evening's enjoyment.

Conversation was maintained at a hectic level throughout the evening, finally arrested to give an opportunity for several most entertaining impromptu speeches, reminding us of former scenes and incidents which were brought to life amidst hearty laughter. An outstanding contribution was given by Richard Benson, QC, whose school record, he admitted, had not been fully appreciated by the headmaster. Charles Tippet thanked Richard Link who had been the driving force behind all aspects of the event and our host, Air Marshal Ian Macfadyen, for making the wonderful club available to the Association. Jonathan Carroll, the current Headmaster, spoke in confident tones of life at St Piran's today, mentioning (hopefully) the fund-raising scheme to replace the Chapel organ. We finally left the Club before midnight and many present acknowledged the occasion had been a great success.

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Cricket and Rounders at St Piran's on 27th June 2010

The event that never was. 'World Cup stopped play'

In 2009, the game never started due to the unseasonal rain!!

Then in 2010, just a week before the fixture, this game had to be cancelled because England's football performance at the World Cup caused a surprise clash and resulted in a loss of a number of St Piran's players.

The new Tippet trophy remains in its box to await the winners of the 2011 match. The current results tally stands at 2 - 1 in favour of the Headmaster's XI, following the matches that were held in 1993, 1995 and 1997 and this requires addressing by the Chairman's XI in 2011!!.

Organ fund

The school has a project which it is keen to complete this summer. We all remember Mr Price or Mr Durston-Smith and their amazing tinkling of the ivories in Chapel. Well, the ivories are struggling to tinkle.

The school needs to buy and install a new organ which will cost some £8,000 and they wish to install it in the summer holidays. The preferred organ is the Alpha 200/32, details below.

The Association has offered to contribute to its funding. The Headmaster has expressed thanks to the past pupils who have already made significant contributions. Any further contributions will be greatly appreciated. Any personal payments can be gift-aided. Please contact the Headmaster or Bursar whose details are included in the 'team'.

2011 marks the 125th anniversary of the consecration of the Chapel.

The school is keen to recognise this event coupled with the launch of the new organ with a service in Chapel in September probably on a Friday evening to which any past pupils will be welcome. Please watch the school's website for the date and further details.



"The Alpha 200/32 organ is a specified organ for small churches and chapels. The design and construction of the console and digital sound generation systems are to exactly the same high standards of all other Eminent organs and the general specification is as the Alpha 200/30, but with 33/34 speaking stops, Capture System 2 (General and departmental thumb pistons, and coupler pistons) and 32 note AGO pedalboard as standard. As with all Eminent installations, the organ is fully voiced on site to customer requirements, using Eminent's unique *harmonic* voicing system to provide exactly the sound to suit the acoustic environment and customer requirements. External speakers can be provided, purpose designed to suit particular installations."

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St Piran's Archive Notes

Lt Col C H M Doughty-Wylie CB, CMG, Victoria Cross 1915

CHM Doughty-Wylie was born on 23rd July 1868 and was a pupil at Cordwalles, the name of the school before it became St Piran's. He left in 1882 when he gained a scholarship to Winchester.

He graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in 1889. His military career included the Chitral Expedition (1895), Occupation of Crete (1898), the Mahdist War (1898-99), the 2nd Boer War, the Boxer Rebellion (1900) and Somaliland (1903-04).

He was the British consul in Mersina, Turkey, speaking fluent Turkish, and during the Turkish revolution of 1909 he helped stop the local massacres. He was awarded the Order of the Medjidie by the Turkish Government.

He served in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in the First World War and was attached to the headquarters staff of the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force during the battle of Gallipoli.

He was awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously for bravery at Gallipoli in 1915, and mentioned in despatches. He died on 26th April 1915, aged 46. His medals are held in the Royal Welsh Fusiliers Museum at Caernarfon Castle in Wales.

Citation :

"An extract from "The London Gazette", No 29202, dated 23rd June 1915, records the following: - "On 26th April 1915 subsequent to a landing having been effected on the beach at a point on the Gallipoli Peninsula, during which both Brigadier-General and Brigade Major had been killed, Lieutenant-Colonel Doughty-Wylie and Captain Walford organised and led an attack through and on both sides of the village of Sedd el Bahr on the Old Castle at the top of the hill inland. The enemy's position was very strongly held and entrenched, and defended with concealed machine-guns and pom-poms. It was mainly due to the initiative, skill and great gallantry of these two officers that the attack was a complete success. Both were killed in the moment of victory."

Historical Information :

"The eight month campaign in Gallipoli was fought by Commonwealth and French forces in an attempt to force Turkey out of the war, to relieve the deadlock of the Western Front in France and Belgium, and to open a supply route to Russia through the Dardanelles and the Black Sea. The Allies landed on the peninsula on 25-26 April 1915; the 29th Division at Cape Helles in the south and the Australian and New Zealand Corps north of Gaba Tepe on the west coast, an area soon known as Anzac. At Helles, the 29th Division landed troops at 'S', 'V', 'W', 'X' and 'Y' Beaches, five small coves at or near the southern end of the peninsula. The landing at 'V' Beach was to be made by boats containing three companies of the 1st Royal Dublin Fusiliers, followed by the collier 'River Clyde' with the rest of the Dublins, the 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers, half the 2nd Hampshire Regiment and other troops. The place was very strongly fortified and heavy casualties were sustained during the landing. On the morning of 26 April, Lieutenant Colonel Charles Doughty-Wylie and Captain Garth Walford led the survivors on the beach to the capture of Sedd el Bahr village and the old castle above it. Both won the Victoria Cross but were killed during the fight. (Captain Walford is buried at V Beach). That evening, the main body of the French Corps began to land at 'V' Beach and after the following day, the front line had advanced about three kilometres beyond it. The grave of Colonel Doughty-Wylie is immediately north of Sedd el Bahr, opposite the point at which the 'River Clyde' came ashore. He is buried where he fell, close to the old fort to which he led the attack."

Sources : Mostly Commonwealth War Graves Commission; also St Piran's Magazine for 1915.

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Many St Piran's/Cordwalles people have played a part in the British armed forces and this connection is a big part of the school's history. This Victoria Cross is the highest decoration awarded to any ex-pupil. Lt Col Doughty-Wylie is one of only 1356 people to have been awarded the VC since its inception to the present day.

The grave at Sedd el Bahr



A Victoria Cross



Additional background about the Victoria Cross

"The premier award for gallantry, the VC may be awarded to all ranks of the services and civilians for gallantry in the presence of the enemy. It may be awarded posthumously."

"The Victoria Cross (VC) is the highest military decoration which is, or has been, awarded for valour "in the face of the enemy" to members of the armed forces of various Commonwealth and Empire countries. It takes precedence over all other orders, decorations and medals. It may be awarded to a person of any rank in any service and civilians under military command. In the United Kingdom, it is usually presented to the recipient or their next of kin by the British monarch during an investiture held at Buckingham Palace. It is the joint highest award for bravery in the United Kingdom with the George Cross, which is the equivalent honour for valour not in the face of the enemy. However, the VC is higher in the order of wear and would be worn first by an individual who had been awarded both decorations (which has not so far occurred).

The VC was introduced on 29 January 1856 by Queen Victoria to reward acts of valour during the Crimean War. Since then, the medal has been awarded 1,356 times to 1,353 individual recipients. Only 13 medals, nine to members of the British Army, and four to the Australian Army, have been awarded since the Second World War.

Source : British Army Website and Wikipedia

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News of Past Pupils

Edward Brian Pope (left 1924)

Brian was at St Piran's between 1922 and 1924 and played both rugby and cricket for the school. He played cricket alongside F R Brown in the gold letter years. He left to go to Uppingham where he became Captain of rugby, hockey and cricket. Brian was capped in 1931 for England playing against Wales, France and Scotland. He is the oldest living England international and will celebrate his 100th birthday in June.

(Extracts with thanks to Richard Link, John Millard and Derek Bunting)

David Anthony Collins (left 1962)

Anthony went to Canford and then to Cambridge where he gained a BA in Natural Sciences. He then gained a PhD at Edinburgh. He is a distinguished zoologist who works in Tanzania. His life's work is in primate research by Lake Tanganyika. In addition he works on conservation and community development in West Tanzanian villages with Dr Jane Goodall, the renowned conservationist.

Shiplake College has reported that **Callum Thomas** (left 2005) gained 3 A levels, played for the school's 1st teams at rugby and hockey and is now reading Business Studies at UWE. **Jordan Foster** (left 2005) has gained 3 A levels, played for the school's 2nd teams at rugby and hockey and is now reading Geography at Portsmouth.

Leighton Park has reported that **Charles Lawrence** has gained 3 A levels and that GCSEs have been gained by **Marcus Watkins** (10), **Henry Wellington** (9), **Hal Orchard** (8) and **Sam Brabham** (8).

Reading Blue Coats has reported that 3 A levels were gained by **Nicholas Buckle** now at Newcastle reading English Language and Literature, **Alex Lewis** now taking a gap year, **William Lineham**, **Luke McKenzie-Howard** now at Bournemouth reading Design Business Management and **Henry Stone** now at Birmingham reading Philosophy and Theology. **Edward Kaye**, **Sam Lewis**, **Christopher Roy** and **Jon Weston-Stanley** all gained 10 GCSEs.

The Abbey School has reported that **Antonia Qamar** gained 3 A*s and an A at A level, whilst at GCSE **Ciara Haughey** gained 10 A*s, **Flora Harris** gained 8 A*s and 3As and **Adriana Renucci** gained 9 A*s and 1 A.

The Oratory School has reported that **Nicholas Ansell** gained 3 A levels and is now at Kent reading Business Administration.

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School Website

The school's website is www.stpirans.co.uk and has been enhanced recently. A past pupils section has been added. This will provide an additional communication channel for news and events.

Tim Newton has kindly passed to the school the link to his website www.notwen.net/pirans/stp in which he has set out his memories and reminiscences of his years at St Piran's from 1965 to 1969. We are grateful to Tim for his contribution.

Association team

We are a small group who are seeking to deliver many objectives.

We would like to supplement the eras of the team and to hear from old boys who were here broadly during the periods of 1963-1970, 1977-1984 or 1985-1992 and who can provide us with first hand contacts for events and ideas.

Additionally we are keen to hear from past pupils who were here from 1992 onwards.

We are delighted that, since our last newsletter, Helena Stevenson has joined the team as a result of enjoying a visit to the school.

The team currently consists of:

Jonathan Carroll (Headmaster since 2001)

Richard Link (left 1955)

Charles Tippet (left 1962)(son/grandson of headmasters between 1926 &1972)(Chairman)

Derek Harris (left 1976)(current parent since 2004)

Michele Western-Kaye (parent 1992-2001) (teacher 1997-2006)

Chris Murray (Bursar since 2004)(joined the team in January 2011)

Helena Stevenson (left 1999)(joined the team in January 2011)

New database

A new online database has been created and is being tested.

Once this has been fully tested and is live, we will email you with details enabling you to update and supplement your own records.

This database will become central to the future success of the association, communication and events.

We will display information, newsletters, photos and much more for access by all registered members.

In the short term, can you please email your name, year left, postal address and contact details to pastpupils@stpirans.co.uk. This information will help us to update the existing data and will also enable us to give you access to the new database once live.

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St Piran's Past Pupils Merchandise Products and Prices 2011

Cuff knots

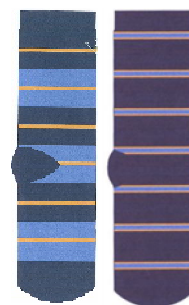
3 colour knots
in gift box



£5.00

Socks

Broad or thin
stripe



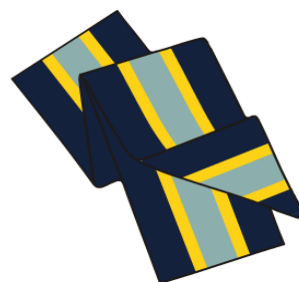
£10.00

Umbrella



£16.00

Scarf



£20.00

Bone china mug



£7.50

To order any items, please
contact the school at
office@stpirans.co.uk

Merchandise can also be
purchased and collected at
the event on 26th June 2011

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Current objectives

We want to enhance our communications with old boys and past pupils.

We want to update our membership database and create a database which includes fuller details about each of you.

We want to communicate primarily by email and circulate newsletters in colour. This will be the last hard copy newsletter posted to past pupils.

We want to revitalise the St Piran's brand for past pupils to include new merchandise – these are now available.

We want to support the raising of funds for the school – we are starting with the organ fund.

St Piran's needs you

We need your help please to achieve this.

We need you to email us your current details. Please visit pastpupils@stpirans.co.uk

We need contact details for any past pupils with whom you are in contact and for you to encourage them to contact us.

We need to receive contributions from you for our future news, achievements, obituaries, stories and articles.

We need old boys to provide us with first hand contacts for events and ideas and especially contact from those who were here broadly prior to 1992.

We need past pupils who were here from 1993 to provide us with first hand contacts for events and ideas.

The school needs more archive material to supplement the existing archives, so please do not throw away any photos, reports and memorabilia when having a clearout but consider giving it to the school.

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