



# AD - VISOR



ISSUE No. 1

## The Newsletter of Birkenhead Institute Old Boys

Published by Harold Beckett, "Little Haven", 1 Salem View, Oxtou. L43 5UH Tel. 0151-652-3782

### WINTER 1998/9

#### WELCOME

Welcome to our first, and hopefully not our last, Newsletter. We now have 300 names of Old Boys on the register and the aim is to have 500 by the year 2000. 1999 is the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Birkenhead Institute and it would be a great achievement if we could reach our target by the end of the anniversary year.

There are overseas names from Australasia, Thailand, Canada and U.S.A. If you know of Old Boys or former

Masters not on the register we would be pleased to have names, years of birth and years of attendance at B.I.

#### GET TOGETHER

An informal "Get Together" was held at Prenton Golf Club on 6<sup>th</sup> July 1998. About 50 attended and we had a very successful evening. It became evident that there was a good deal of enthusiasm for a Reunion Dinner

#### REUNION DINNER

This took place at Prenton Golf Club on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1998. 128 attended from all

quarters of the U.K. We were particularly pleased to welcome Ron Pritchard (1952-57) who came all the way from Canada. The youngest was aged 32 and the oldest 87 and we had 7 Old Boys on an octogenarian table! The venue proved to be excellent. The food and service were first class. Ian MacDonald (1941-46) wrote a special Grace for the occasion, which he said, and this set the tone for the evening. There were two very fine speeches from Tudor Owen (1931-36) and Campbell Weir (1946-53)

#### AN INSTONIAN GRACE

GOD BLESS THOSE WHO PREPARED THIS TREAT  
FOR OLD INSTONIANS ASSEMBLING TO EAT  
AS PUPILS OF OUR GRAMMAR SCHOOL  
WE WERE LED BY OUR TEACHERS TO LIVE BY THE RULE  
DO YOUR BEST AND BE HELPFUL TO OTHERS  
AND HONOUR WITH JOY YOUR FATHERS AND MOTHERS  
THE BASICS WERE HELPED BY SCOUTS 23<sup>RD</sup>  
SELF DISCIPLINE AND RESPECT "KLON" ALWAYS PRESERVED  
ELITIST OR NOT BY WAY OF SELECTION  
THE SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED INFLUENTIAL DIRECTION  
WE GATHER HERE NOW WITH C.V.'S. OF ACHIEVEMENT  
OLD BOYS WHO CARRY B.I. WITH ENDEARMENT  
WHILE REMEMBERING THOSE NOW IN HEREAFTER  
FROM ATKIN, STITT, TATE AND WESTMINSTER  
WE ASK GOD TO BLESS THIS FOOD AT OUR TABLE  
AND US IN HIS SERVICE AS WE ARE ABLE  
AMEN



There was a Charity Draw thanks to the generous donations of prizes from various Old Boys. This raised £250 which was donated to the Alzheimer's Disease Society.

There was one "fly in the ointment" in that a microphone was not used by the speakers and some members had great difficulty in hearing: apologies for this omission. It will be corrected in future.

Those attending the Dinner were asked to complete a questionnaire and about 62% returned these. The indications were approximately 95% wanted a further dinner in 1999, approximately 60% wanted a Ladies Night in March 1999 and approximately 60% wanted a Newsletter. You've got your wishes!

### LETTERS/PHONE CALLS

It has been most heart warming and encouraging to have received so many from Old Boys saying what a great evening they had on 16<sup>th</sup> October and thanking all those who helped to make it so successful. The following are extracts.

"I just had to drop a line to thank you for organising such a splendid evening last Friday. Everything, including the meal, appeared to go without a hitch and I really do think that you and your "helpers" are to be congratulated"

"A short note to say how much I enjoyed the B.I. reunion. It was tremendous fun. I, for one, appreciate that such a splendid evening does not just happen. A helluva lot of effort has to go in- thank you for all the hard work"

"Many thanks - and indeed many congratulations for organising such a splendid get-together. I thoroughly

enjoyed myself from start to finish and wished it had gone on much longer"

"Great evening - everything excellent, couldn't have been better"

Enough - too much self-indulgence is bad for you!!

### ALZHEIMER SOCIETY

The following is an extract from a letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> October 1998 from the Wirral Branch

".... I would like to thank all of the Birkenhead Institute Old Boys who were involved in the Charity Draw held at your Re-union Dinner. The sum of £250 is a very generous donation and we are extremely grateful. I would like to assure all involved that this money will be put to very good use.

Sue Newnes, Branch Worker.

### FINANCE

There are no Subs but thanks to your donations and careful husbandry by our Financial Whiz Kid, Eric Jackson (1939-44) our present situation is healthy. Nevertheless, with an expanding Membership, costs of postage, printing, phone etc. are considerable. Your donations are welcome. Cheques to B.I.O.B.

### NECKWEAR

Dave (DSW) Jones (1940-46) has designed a magnificent BIOB tie to commemorate the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The cost is £11 (inc. P.&P.) £12 overseas. These ties should be available early March 1999. Should you wish to order in advance please send remittance payable to Greg Pandit (1972-78) at 107B, Banks Road, West

Kirby, Wirral, L48 OAB.  
Tel. 0151-625-6601. Email  
Pansco@aol.com



### TIT BIT

We understand from Eddie Woodfine (1956-63) that all his three sons have "gone up" to Oxford University and one has gained his "Rugby Blue" in this years Varsity match. Many congratulations. (If only I had married Mrs. Woodfine - just think - ah well.)

### RUGBY UNION

Name: -

- 1) An Old Instonian who played for England.
- 2) An Old Rockferrian who played for England.
- 3) An Old Caldeian who played for England.
- 4) An Old Birkonian who played for the British Lions but was never capped by his country.

### FUTURE AD-VISORS

This will depend entirely on you. We are thirsty for "copy". If you have an article in you - or "relevant" news - or even an anecdote, let's have it. Come on lads, use the education you gained at B.I.!!

### OLD INSTONIANS (AUST)

Has a membership of 10 covering OZ., NZ., Indonesia and Thailand. The contact is: - John Jordan (1946-53) 237 Scenic Drive, Wynyard, Tasmania 7325. Telephone 036 442 1679

### DATES FOR DIARY

**Ladies' Evening Buffet**  
Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March 1999.  
Application form enclosed

**Old Instonians' Golf Society Meeting** - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 1999, The contact is Derek (Mick) Turner

(1946-50), 46 Cornwall Drive, Prenton. Tel. 0151 608 5785

**110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner**  
- Friday 15 October 1999  
Prenton Golf Club.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW - ANY NEWS PLEASE

Brian WARE	72	Phil WOOLLEY	72	Graham BAXTER	74
Ted WOOD	70	(Te Huiti, New Zealand)		C.A. ALLDIS	83
Paddy ADAMS	65	Norman BOYD	71	Tony DOVESTON	66
Gerry DODD	66	John FARRELL	54	Barry DOVESTON	61
Dave DOCHERTY	54	Ted (Joe) PRINGLE	70	J.D. (Johnny) ROBINS	68
Bert THOMAS	70	Des SPARROW	75	PROBERT	75
G.A. (Gas) SMITH	70	Billy UPTON	65	Ted RILEY	68
Brian BOWKER	55	Alan BRAMMALL	63	Alan PARKINSON	62
Dave SHERLOCK	65	John SEYMOUR	67	Jeff WALSH	60
Bill KEATING	56				

### BIRKENHEAD INSTITUTE OLD BOYS

A Ladies' Evening in the form of a buffet is being held at Prenton Golf Club on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March, 1999 (7-0p.m. for 7.30p.m.).  
The cost is £10. Maximum attendance is 100 and early application is recommended.  
Please detach and return to

**Harold Beckett**  
**1 Salem View**  
**Oxton**  
**Birkenhead L43 5UH**

I require tickets at £10 per person and enclose cheque for £.....made payable to B.I.O.B.

Name.....

Address .....

.....

.....

Name of guest.....