

# OLD RAINEIANS' ASSOCIATION



## NEWSLETTER

June, 1989.

Dear Old Raineians,

Here is the Summer Edition of the Newsletter being written during the fantastic spell of Test Match weather - let's hope that those of you who have already had their summer holidays have managed to catch some of this lovely weather, and those whose holidays are yet to come are also lucky.

Since the last newsletter, there has been another informal "Blind Beggar" gathering - it was well attended despite problems in the production of the Feb. newsletter. Alan Johnson was abroad at the time, but Bill Richards stepped into the breach and not only duplicated the copies, but also despatched at least half of them, but we realise that notice of the gathering was very short. It is interesting to note that there is always a varied assembly at these gatherings, a few regulars always appear and then a range of folk from those who left school quite recently back to folk who started school in the 1930's.

I have compiled a book of O.R.A. members by year of entry into school, but am very short of vital information (e.g. year of entry), so please can the following members supply us that information and, at the same time, any news of themselves or other O.R.'s with whom they are in contact, for inclusion in the Autumn newsletter?

Tracy Barlow	Mrs. Jan Mansfield
Mrs. B.S. Canning	Mr. R. Mansfield
Mr. F.M. Clarke	Paul Martin
Mr. T.P. Clements	Mr. F.J. Penny
Mr. D. Deverell	Nigel Philpot
Tom Duncan	Jean Platt
John Eve	Mr. Platt
Mr. H.W. Flack	Roy Powney
Mrs. Barbara Ford	Barry Quirk
Mr. S.A. Foster	Mr. C.E. Smith
Mr. G.R. Gitton	Mr. S.T. Smith
Mr. R. Harrad	Mrs. Susan Smith
Mrs. Suzanne Harrad	Mrs. Irene Stannard
Mr. F.G. Hawkes	Mr. A.G. Taylor
Mrs. Lorraine Johnson	Miss E.R. Taylor
Mr. J.D. Kerr	Chris Waring
Mr. N. Kindler	Mr. R.J. Wheeler

The great advantage of this book is that when a member writes and asks if we have news of his/her contemporaries, we can at least let them know which ones are members, and supply addresses if requested. You may be interested to know that our oldest member is Miss Elsie Fisher, who was at school 1917 - 1924. Sadly, there are very few members who have joined from school since 1978, and despite personal appeals, the present Upper Sixth school leavers are not very interested in joining the Association.

The A.G.M. and Cheese & Wine evening held on May 6th was a very pleasant occasion, and for the first time for years, we actually made a profit. Mrs. Edna Howard (School secretary and Committee member) was responsible for the very nice buffet - we did have requests, which have been noted, that beer should also be available at the next similar occasion.

The business part of the evening included presentations of a report of the year's happenings, a financial statement and a statement concerning current membership - following the request that all members become life members, a number have done so, but approximately 45 annual members have paid no subscription for at least 3 years and may find Steve Brown on their doorstep. Financially, we cannot afford to send out 3 newsletters a year to these folk, so regretfully we shall have to delete their names.

Following election of officers and people being willing to serve on the committee, this is the 1989/90 Committee:-

President - Laurie Dalton (also Membership Secretary)

President-Elect - Bill Richards

Treasurer - Clive Baugh

Assistant Membership Secretary - Steve Brown

Minutes Secretary - 'Reff' Reffold

Newsletter Secretary - Gwynneth Jackson

School Liaison Officer - Tony Groves

Members of Executive Committee:- Edna Howard, Robert Connolly, Brian Chaperlin, Alan Johnson, Norman Holland, Malcolm Pit-Keathly, Craig Rose

Martin Leonard has unfortunately had to resign from the Committee because of pressure of work - we thank him for his loyal service over many years.

Prior to the A.G.M., Sandra Johnson was in touch with Capital Radio (Capital Gold), and their announcements of the forthcoming meeting resulted in several phone calls, unexpected people turning up that evening and an increase of membership. The Old Raineians who called Capital include Carol Batchelor (Hitchcock), Shirley Ogus (Hunter), Lorraine Carter (James), Janet Toledano (Steinberg), Maurice Manning, Pat Robson and Harold Brown. It was also very nice to see Gerry Calvert, Tony Billington, Colin Nice, Viv and Ros Nicholas and Wally Spooner at the A.G.M.

We welcome these life members:-

Janice Smith (Neale), Harold Brown, Dave Drake, Stephen Richardson, Susan Wyburn (Brahame), Diane Wallis (Tinkler), Thomas Nunn, Peter Lodemore, Lesley Jensen (Tear), Victor Hills, Maurice Manning, Fred Groom

and these annual members:-

Christine Bathe (Carr), Angela Belcher (Baker), Kim Driscoll (Hewlett), Barbara Long (Baker), Elaine Cresswell, Lorraine Carter (James), Susan Harding (Dobby), Janet Gilbey and Fred Herbert.

Following the distribution of the last newsletter, I had a letter from Mr. J.E.W. Smith informing me of the death of his father, Mr. E.G. Smith, in February, aged 93. He must have been our oldest member, and his son said he was always proud of his connection with the school, and remembered his time there with affection.

People who have contacted school by phone include Shirley Ogus (Hunter), Doreen Roberts (Spike), Jeff Hecker, Mr. Burman, Mrs. C. Wilcox - are there any of their contemporaries about?

Recently, the Midland Bank has set up a 'Midbank' in school and trained school members to run it - two Old Rainians are part of the training team - Mark Attwaters and Debbie Reid. Debbie and her sister Clare were both keen swimmers, and Clare now works as a life guard for Tower Hamlets Borough. Another keen swimmer, Peter Lodmore, is now at Brunel University studying for a psychology degree, his brother David lives in Boston, U.S.A.

David Lloyd (one of two!), contemporary of Tony Mole, Robert Connolly and Paul Griffiths, would like to hear from them, or anyone else from his year. He lives in Milton Keynes and is Deputy Head of Education of an onsite unit for children in care.

Jack Lowe married recently (we send congratulations) and at the wedding was quite a large Raines contingent of staff, ex-staff and his contemporaries. Tony Perrett, his wife Jodie (O'Regan) and their small daughter, Chris Russell, Steve Johnson, Janis Fuller and Graham Willett who all got to know Jack through ski trips or the Raines runners. Frank Ford, his wife Lesley and their 2 small sons, live at Benfleet, John Gamble lives in a thatched cottage in the wilds of Essex, is married and an expectant father; Gary Bronzeit is married and also has 2 sons. Martin Cater is still a motorbike fanatic - he and Frank plan to 'bike it' to Spain. Martin's brother Graham lives in Newcastle on Tyne, and last year went on holiday in Peru and had some horrendous experiences with the local transport system in bandit country.

Barbara Donovan (Page) is still singing, and met Lynne Ahearne, now married with 2 young children, at a wedding. After 10 years in Zambia, David De'Ath together with his wife and 3 young children, has moved to the Orange Free State where he works for Consolidated Goldfields. Kevin Donnelly lives in South London, married with a baby daughter, and works as a principal architect for the Borough of Lewisham. Craig Rose has recently completed a Ph.D. at Selwyn College, Cambridge and has been elected into a research Fellowship at another Cambridge college.

Malcolm Pit-Keathly, headteacher in a Hertfordshire Primary School, had a letter published in Covent Garden's Education publication "In Touch" expressing his concern that out-of-classroom activities will be severely curtailed now that there is no legal requirement for a parent's contribution for such visits.

Alan Liddiard wrote again from Devon where, in his retirement, he studies part time at Exeter University, does voluntary work for the National Trust and is Vice Chairman of the Regional Group of the Society of Dyers and Colourists. In his working life he worked in the Research Laboratories of the Calico Printers Association, who were the discoverers and patentees of polyester fibres. He later worked in the Philippines, and then as an employee of CIBA as a lecturer, and then, based in Hong Kong, helped to develop the textile industry in China, Vietnam, North Korea and neighbouring countries.

Alice Easton also wrote to us in April - she was at school 1922 - 28 and was President of the ORA with Harry Scott, Fred Collins and Frank Morris. She had been in touch with the sisters of Emily Parsons who, at that time, was still in Chingford Hospital - we send our best wishes for a good recovery. Another former Vice-President still living in Stepney at the age of 89 is Grace Woods - sadly, she is housebound. Vera Mullen is now in a retirement home at Leigh on Sea and Phyllis Buchlie (Lewis) is living in France.

Roy Silvester has moved from Bracknell to the Isle of Wight where he has a small guest house. A newsletter had eventually reached him (wonders of the Royal Mail!), his first contact with the Association since the "Farewell to Arbour Square" function. He was at school 1926 - 33 and was for a short time a Vice President, but someone lost the minutes!

Susan Wyburn (Brahame) would love to have news of any of her class 1961 - 67 - she says she has never seen mention of anyone as yet! Diane Wallis (Tinkler) lives in Nottingham. She has a baby son and works as a physiotherapist. Hazel Fosbraey (Paul) had a daughter in February. Thomas Nunn married Janet Britten and they have 2 children and a bull terrier!

Harold Brown (1949 - 55) is a Chartered Accountant Business broker. He is married with 2 children and is Treasurer and Vice Chairman of the Sportsman's Aid Society. He is in touch with Melvyn Eagle, Stanley Davis and Mott Harris.

Janice Smith (Neale) lives near Ongar. Stephen Richardson 1963 - 71 is a local Government Officer concerned with Housing Strategy, Policy and Research - he is married with one daughter. Dave Drake 1960 - 68 is Senior Lecturer in History at Hastings College.

Janet Gilbey (sister of Jean and Stephen) 1965 - 71 is a secretary. Karen Petersen is assistant personnel manager in the Bank of Nova Scotia. Susan Harding (Dobby) works as a Legal Assistant in Lincoln's Inn, she has one son. She keeps in touch with Pat Nunn, Carol Taylor, Janice Andrews, Shelley Welford and Elaine Barber.

Lorraine Carter (James) lives in Greenwich and has 2 children.

Elaine Cresswell (Barber) lives in Chelmsford and works as personal assistant to the Chairman of the Borough of Tower Hamlets.

Barbara Long (Baker), 1971 - 77, is a secretary at British Telecom. Kim Driscoll (Hewlett), 1971- 76, is also a secretary and has 2 daughters. Angela Belcher (Baker), 1972- 76, is also a secretary - she has one daughter. Christine Bathe (Carr), 1971 - 76, is an insurance clerk living in Hornchurch.

Frederick Herbert 1960 - 67 lives in Sunningdale and is Duty Station Manager for Lufthansa. He is getting married in July - congratulations and best wishes! Clive Baugh who has returned to the Committee is an expectant father. Mick Hawkins at the A.G.M. produced his ORA life membership card, issued in 1967, cost 4 guineas.

Finally, two dates for your July diaries, and please turn up if you can.

School Summer Fête at School (Approach Road)

Saturday July 8th, opening at 2 pm

Informal ORA Summer Gathering

"Blind Beggar"

Thursday July 20th, any time from 6.30 pm

I hope you have found some items of interest in this newsletter - the only way one can be compiled is if we receive news of you, or encounter you - so - please drop us a line, if only to tell us you have had triplets, have rowed across the Atlantic, or helped dig out some archaeological site!

Enjoy your summer holidays, hope to see some of you in July!