

Old Raineians' Association NEWSLETTER

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At last, welcome to what I hope is the first of many newsletters to be produced by me. It has been a tough job, trying to follow in Bill Richards footsteps, but I hope that I have come close to doing so. Thank you Bill for all those excellent past newsletters and for choosing me from the vast numbers clamouring to take on the job; it's the first time that anyone from Winterton has willingly passed anything on to someone from Dagger (School)! There is plenty of news in this edition, but I would like to encourage you all to dig deep into your memories and send me as much copy as you can, both about your time at Raine's and afterwards, for the next edition.

I know that the newsletters are welcomed by you all and that to many of you they represent the Association, but in my spare time, I also look after the web site and I would like you all to take a look at it from time to time, to check out what is happening in the Association, in between the newsletters. You might be pleasantly surprised! There's plenty of interest, with more being added and as I write this, we are not far short of 30,000 hits (*and it's not all me - ed*)! Check out the photographs, they're always good for a laugh. Many thanks are due to Carl Bridgeman, who managed the web site before I took over and who passed on his considerable knowledge to me.

And finally, my main job is looking after the membership records. I try to keep them updated, but if you know of an Old Raineian who hasn't heard from the Association for a while, get them to drop me a line, as it might be that their contact details are not up to date. I hope that as many of you as possible will migrate to e-mail for future contact from the Association, as this saves considerably on production

and postage costs - and you get a nicely presented edition! So, if you have an e-mail address, but haven't given it to us, please do and if you have one, please remember to let us know if you change it.

NEW MEMBERS

I am pleased to be able to welcome six new members so far this year, but I hope that more will join soon

- **Mike Bradburn (59-64)** joins us from Norfolk, after a great night out at the November reunion!

- **Stanley Pessok (40-47)** joined after coming across our web site. Stanley now lives in the USA. He writes: 'I joined Raine's when it was evacuated to Camberley, Surrey, where it occupied a large private mansion within its own grounds. Its generous garden and rural context provided opportunities for extra-curricular activities never contemplated in Arbour Square.

Around 1944, a skeleton staff re-opened the school at Arbour Square and I transferred. When the war ended, in 1945, Raine's returned to London in toto. It was there that I completed fifth and sixth forms. During my sojourn at Raine's, A. Wilkinson Dagger was the headmaster. Sometime during this period the school became the Raine's Foundation Grammar School'.

Stanley was in Mann House and became Deputy Head Boy, later joining the RAF for his national service. He studied Physics at Kings College, emigrating to Canada in 1953, shortly after graduating. In 1955 he moved to the USA, with his wife Loretta, whom he had married in Canada. He has been all over

the USA, with his work in the electronics industry and eventually set up his own business. Stanley retired in 2004 and now spends his time travelling, taking photographs and writing. (*I hope that he'll do some writing for us and send some of his school memories and tell us more about his life since leaving Raine's - ed*)

- **Kathleen Williamson, nee Fassenfelt (68-74)** joined after I picked up on a message that she had posted on the message board on Friends Reunited about the Association. Kathleen remembers supporting the school basketball teams and their famous coach, Mr Long! She was in the secretarial sixth and recalls being taught to touch type by Miss Hoskins, to the sound of Strauss in the background!

Kathleen did not pursue a secretarial career, but went into nursing, spending some time in Africa. She is now a nursing sister for the Army. Kathleen is in touch with Cheryl Cole, now living in Australia and remembers Kathleen Crundwell, Margaret Tompkins and Jackie Farmer. Kathleen sent a photograph taken on the sea front at Tenby during a school trip with Miss Jackson and Mr Beck, back in 1970 or 71 and I have posted it on the web site under the heading 'Where are they now?'. Does anybody recognise themselves? Write in and tell me and if you have any similar photographs that would look good on the Internet, send them in.

- **Kenneth Warren (49-53)** is another member living on the other side of the 'pond'. He was quite a sportsman at Raine's, playing rugby and breaking swimming records. His sister Iris was Head Girl and his Mum was the school cook. (*I should keep that quiet if I were you Ken! - ed*)

Ken is a semi-retired graphic designer, who has been living in California for 42 years!

Ken writes: 'I was in England on holiday, partly a visit to memory lane, but also to see old friends who I've had since my early teens. I see that a reunion was held at Poplar Rowing Club, which was one of my stops. The clubhouse was fairly busy when I called in on a Saturday, but they were very welcoming when I told them that I was a member there in 1950. It was then called Poplar, Blackwall & District Rowing Club and the old building, now replaced by the new clubhouse was nothing but a tin shed, where we stored our boats. I did enjoy rowing, even though in those days if you fell into the Thames you had to go to hospital and have your stomach pumped. Evenings I would train for the next regatta by rowing from the club at the Island Gardens to Tower Bridge and back. I must have had the invincible attitude of youth, now when I see how fast the current is in the river I know how foolhardy I was. My best friend in those days was Brian Gould. He worked on the river as a waterman and his father skippered a tug. Brian went on to row for England and he is now back on the river, captaining the Woolwich Ferry. His wife, Patricia Baldock was at Raine's at the same time as me.

I have very fond memories of my years at Raine's, I think that I was the only boy in my immediate area on the Isle of Dogs to attend Raine's and my school uniform was worn proudly, even though the local lads did try to tease me about it on my way to school every day. I did manage to get into a fair bit of trouble at Raine's and remember getting six of the best from the Headmaster (*who was?* - ed) for destroying a sink in the chemistry lab. Me and another boy (*who was?* - ed) mixed just the right amount of acids to destroy the sink! In addition to our tender behinds, we had to clean the labs after school for a month and the worst punishment; no playing on the school rugby team for a month.

Whilst at Raine's I applied for an apprenticeship as a compositor in the London Master Printers Federation. I was one of the few applicants accepted from a large group of young men and at age 16 started to serve a six year apprenticeship at W.W.Sprague Printing Company. After finishing my apprenticeship I earned my London City & Guilds Certificate. This opened many opportunities for me around the world. I had job offers from Africa, New Zealand, Australia, Canada and the United States.

In 1963 I decided on the USA and came to California. I was almost immediately hired by the San Francisco Chronicle and within six months was running the advertising type-setting department on the night shift. The education that I received at Raine's and the apprenticeship in typography in London really set my future on the right track. I'm still in the printing/advertising industry, even though I had to further educate myself when computers took over from the old methods of typography. As recently as two years ago I went to a local college for further training in some software that I needed for my graphic design business. (*Two more potential members out there* - ed)

• **Jill Kirby, nee Rood (69-76)** joins from Essex. Jill has yet to tell us about her time at Raine's and what she's been doing since. But she is a regular at the reunions!

• **Leonard Ornellas (30-39)** (*Yes that is 9 years - read on! - ed*) joins us from Devon, after his daughter, Jackie tracked down the Association via the gallery of famous Old Raineians on David Spencer's web site (www.DavidASpencer.com). (*There is now a link to the relevant pages on the ORA web site, under History* - ed)

Jackie wrote to David, 'My father, Leonard Ornellas attended Raine's School between 1930 and 1939, and still talks with affection of his time there (I think he even still has some of his old school reports!). I came across the excellent Famous Old Raineians section on your web site, and printed several pages from it to show him. We noticed that a few people were included due to being decorated during WWII - and I just thought I'd let you know that my father also received the DFC. The award was made in January 1945, and the citation said that he had 'flown on numerous operational sorties, and displayed fine fighting spirit, keenness and devotion to duty.' I've attached a press cutting containing the citation, and which also mentions that he attended Raine's School; It would be wonderful if you could include my father's name the next time you update the site - he doesn't know I've written to you, but I know he would be very proud to see his name among the other 'Famous Old Raineians'! (*Leonard is now included amongst the 'Famous Old Raineians'* - ed)

Leonard himself wrote later, 'My first experience of Raine's was joining the Kindergarten in 1930, when I was 7 years old. My

father was working as a Relieving Officer for the Guardians of the Poor in Stepney, and because he had to be on night duty occasionally he was required to live in the district; our home then was close to Stepney Station. (The office where my father worked was near Vallance Road, and through his job he knew Mary Hughes, who has been mentioned in previous issues of the Newsletter. I have a copy of her father's book (Tom Brown's Schooldays), given by her to my father, which has a long inscription in her handwriting, referring to me as "the 'olive-branch' of my valued friend and fellow-server", and containing a (rather rambling) anecdote about her father's visit to speech day at Rugby School when he was 72 years old.)

Raine's Kindergarten, which was co-ed, was on the 'girls' side' of the partition in the main school. The headmistress was Miss Haugh, and we in the kindergarten were in the tender clutches of Big Miss Twells and Little Miss Twells - two maiden sisters, one of whom was very tall, and other very short. We also had another teacher, called Miss Thornton. (I'm pretty sure the teacher on the attached photograph, taken in about 1930, was Miss Thornton.)

We all loved being in the kindergarten. It was a cosy little group, and all the parents knew each other, because they used to take us to school. I remember a boy called Alec Butler, and two sets of twins - Stuart and Estelle Brown, and the Bennett twins, both boys.

In 1933 the time came for me to transfer to the 'boys' side' of the partition and join the main school. At around about that time my father changed employers, working for the LCC in Wanstead, and we moved to Redbridge, buying a brand-new house for £830. There was a good school (Wanstead High) about half a mile from where we lived - but such was the reputation of Raine's that my parents decided to keep me there, even though it meant I had quite a journey to school.

I used to go on the 96 bus, which was a busy commuter route serving the City. Because I got on it at the terminus I always got a seat, but it used to get very full as we got further into London. I always sat upstairs (although my mother for some reason had told me not to do so) - for the very good reason that they didn't allow standing upstairs. Of course, if I'd been downstairs and a lady had got on the bus, I'd have been expected to get up and let her have my seat!

From the Mile End Road, where I got off, I'd have quite a walk, through Stepney Green, past Arbour Square Police Station and the local tuck shop. As I got closer to the school

coming the other way were the contingent from East Ham, who used to arrive by tram. I think Raine's had some sort of arrangement with a school there, and we took quite a lot of their pupils.

I can remember the layout of the school fairly well. On the lower floor was the gymnasium, which ran the whole length of the school, and was also used by the girls' school (though not, of course, at the same time as the boys). The woodwork shop and the mechanics lab were at the side of a raised walkway at the side of the gym. Geography was taught in a separate room right on the roof of the building, which had obviously been added later. We used to have to go up the steps to the top of the school, then out into the open, and from there into the geography room.

I also remember our wonderful sports ground. We used to walk to Stepney Green Station and get on the District Line to Becontree; there was a concessionary fare for the school of about 2d return. It was a magnificent spacious ground with a pavilion and showers, a great asset for the school, and the envy of all the other schools. We had about 3 rugby pitches, and there were always lots of sporting events going on at the same time.

Without exception the members of staff had the respect of the pupils. There were very few behavioural problems, and very little use of the cane. In fact, I can only remember one occasion during my time there – and that was for something relatively minor, like being late consistently, or not doing homework. If my memory serves me right, the culprit was a boy called McCabe, one of the 'East Ham contingent'.

The headmaster at the time was Mr Wilkinson-Dagger, and I can remember most of my other teachers. By far the most memorable of these was Mr A H Davies. Not only was he an excellent maths teacher, obtaining very good exam results for his pupils, but he was full of short cuts, memory aids, and mental arithmetic wrinkles, which have stayed with me throughout my life - I can still remember how to prove Pythagoras in six lines. I also have A H Davies to thank, at least in part, for the fact that I achieved top marks in my end-of-course exams when training as an RAF navigator in Canada during the Second World War – which in turn led to my gaining a commission. More prosaically, I can still occasionally beat Carol Vorderman to the solution of the maths problems when watching Countdown on TV!

He also threw into his teaching valuable lessons on general philosophy, and the meaning of life. In fact, many years after I'd left school, when I was running the sub-post office in Woolacombe, Devon, I met Leslie Groves, who had been in my class, and had become

Davies (Physics, which in those days was called Heat, Light and Sound); Mr Wilkinson (Chemistry); and Mr Hayward (Geography)

I left school in July 1939, and after passing a competitive exam started my first job with the London County Council, for the princely salary of £72 per annum, on the 4th September, the day after war broke out.

I have very happy memories of my schooldays. We were all very proud to wear our uniform – we actually felt a bit superior when we were wearing it in, because the school really had a good reputation, and we felt very lucky to be at Raine's, which I felt gave us a good education and fitted us for life'. (Some of Leonard's teachers were still at the school when I joined, almost thirty years later. That's certainly doing your duty to God and Man. -ed.).



RAINE'S KINDERGARTEN 1930
Leonard Ornellas is third from the left, in the middle row

a Methodist Minister in Devon – and A H Davies' lessons on philosophy were one of the things we talked about. (On the subject of Woolacombe - long before I met her, my wife was being taught at the local school there by a Mr Bidgood, who was a cousin of our Henry Bidgood, who wrote the Raine's School Song.)

Other members of staff I recall include Mr Gee – a German teacher whose fearsome appearance (big red face, bristling ginger moustache) I still recall with trepidation. This may be because, unlike maths, I did not take easily to German. In fact I still have a school report somewhere in which he gave his verdict on my performance in the subject – 'amazingly weak'!

Our gym master was Mr Broughton, who played rugby for London Welsh. Another good sportsman among the staff was Mr Bence, who taught History and Economics and who, in spite of a permanent limp, was a very good cricketer. I remember him excelling in matches where the staff played against the Old Boys.

Charlie Nay taught woodwork, and in the mechanics lab was Joogs Andrews, of undeserved fearsome reputation – everyone always dreaded going to him for lessons, but I don't think he was particularly frightening in reality.

Others I remember include: Mr Curtis (Deputy Headmaster, also taught English); Mr Shivas (another English teacher, who taught us the joys of Shakespeare); Mr W H

• **Jim Everton (Biology)** has written from deepest Norfolk. He is busy with all kinds of things that he is involved in from supporting the local cricket club, to serving as a magistrate (*keeping the black cap to hand, just in case Jim? -ed*). As there haven't been any newsletters for a year, Jim was worried that he had been overlooked, but I was able to reassure him that certainly wasn't the case! We hope to see Jim at a reunion sometime, despite his protestations that he can't face travelling nowadays.

• **Tom Bennett (30-35)** wrote to thank Alan Johnson for the book on the History of Raine's and said that not only was he very impressed with it, but so were his family and that it would be making it's way to Australia for further reviews by his family! Like many of us from the Arbour Square days, Tom regrets that the school is no longer there. (*But it does continue to serve the children of the East End, unlike some I could mention - ed*).

• **Gwynneth Jackson (Music)** writes: 'The "Frozen North" actually has been white and frozen from time to time this winter, even icicles were hanging from gutters early in March, but the threatened "hardest winter since 1963" has not happened! In addition to my role of co-coordinating a team of 68 volunteers in the Wharfedale area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, pianist for a choir

OTHER NEWS

Joyce Curtis

It is with sadness that I have to inform you of the passing of one of our longstanding and committed members, Joyce Curtis (Roberts). Joyce was with us at the November reunion, but became ill shortly afterwards and passed away in April. Deepest sympathies were expressed to Joyce's husband Les and her family on behalf of the Association and a floral tribute sent to her funeral. Les has kindly written the following piece about Joyce, for us.

Joyce Curtis, nee Roberts (At Raine's 1952 - 1957) Died 8 April 2006

Joyce was the second of her siblings after Harry (1950 - 1955) to attend Raine's, followed by Ted (1958 - 1964), John (1966- 1971) and Jane (1969 - 1974). She was born in Somerton, Somerset in 1941 where her family had been evacuated from Poplar but she converted to become a real eastender on her return at the end of the War, and spent the rest of her life in the east end. She enjoyed all her years at Raine's, in the days when the sexes were segregated, and on leaving immediately joined the John Lewis Partnership, where she worked continually until her illness, with one break of 12 years to bring up her two children. Although she had broken the unwritten Raine's law when in 1962 she married Les from Cooper's Company School, they shared their happy marriage to the end. Their daughter Lindsey (1981 - 1986) also attended Raine's. Joyce tried to get to as many ORA meetings as possible and particularly remembered the House Of Lords evening hosted by Mildred Gordon MP, as well as the Poplar Rowing Club get-togethers. She had been very involved with the running of the Rowing Club's annual regatta over some 25 years and was proud that both her son Ian and her brother John rowed for their country.

and at the village school, Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council and odd "dogsbody" jobs at the village hall, also helping us to do well in "Yorkshire in Bloom" competition, I have just become treasurer of the local group of parishes (looking after the money on many a field trip or school trip, will doubtless stand me in good stead (and you always got a refund!)). *(All this and seeing and keeping in touch with all those Old Raineians - ed)*

Just recently, Gwynneth has been visited by **Richard Tillbrook (61-68)**, taking a break from his ecclesiastical duties. *(You are indelibly engraved in my memory as the 'Milk Monitor' Richard! - ed)*.

Gwynneth sees **Madge and John Darch** fairly often. At present they live in Nottingham, but John has recently gained an appointment near Blackburn, so Gwynneth hopes to see them more often. **Alan Russell (French)** sent Gwynneth a Christmas card and the pictured scene was just above where the Darches have a holiday cottage. **Mr Stanney** and his wife are well and continuing to enjoy their life in Devon.

Joy Turner (English) is having trouble walking, but still manages to get to the theatre and concerts. **Rosemary Lawton (Geography)** is now living in Plymouth and wrote to tell of the death of **Ann North (History)**; Gwynneth is now Rosemary's last remaining link with Raine's.

Viv Nicholas (Geology) has been keeping up his skiing and has also been on a round-the-world-trip, including visiting the Antipodes, where he experienced the vastness of glaciers, the adrenalin rush of sky-diving and the incredible beauty of the seas around the

Great Barrier Reef. *(Bet none of them were as thrilling as getting to the summit of Ben Nevis with those Raineians in 1969 Viv! - ed).*

Barry Jones is at Leyton Sixth Form College and he hears from **Ray Hart** and **Bob Philpotts**, who are both well. Barry bumped into **Kalu Agbeze (83-90)**, who still has his heart set on becoming a full-time pilot. **Zippy Auerbach** is still teaching; her twins are now both at university.

A Lab Boy at Raine's

Bill Richards was recently contacted by **Dennis Wang**, through a mutual friend. Dennis, who worked at Raine's as a laboratory technician in the 1940's was given a copy of one of the newsletters edited by Bill and this prompted him to write the following piece which I am very pleased to be able to publish here.

By chance I recently came across a copy of the Old Raineians' Association Newsletter, which prompted me to write about my experiences as a lab boy at Raine's school.

At the age of 14 I started work at Raine's in January 1947. At that time the school was in Arbour Square and the science department comprised of two chemistry and two physics labs and a lecture room. The head of chemistry was Dr Wilkinson who had written a school chemistry textbook. There was a younger master called Mr Roberts. I recall that there were two physics masters whom I associate with the nick-name Slog-

ger and the name Lewis. Whether these masters were Slogger and Lewis or one had both names I am not at all sure.

The lab steward was a man in his 20's called 'Russell', presumably his surname. The custom in those days was to address men by their surnames. Russell had seen active wartime service as a Chindit in Burma. He was imbued with the army ethos of cleanliness and made sure that I kept the labs sparkling! There being five labs and a similar number of working days this made it easy to organise a routine of polishing benches, cleaning bottles and sinks. Fume cupboards were cleaned by climbing into them, being careful not to knock over the Kipp's apparatus. Weights were also cleaned with liberal quantities of metal polish. One can only guess what this did to the true weight.

Part of my duties was to distribute apparatus amongst pupils doing practical chemistry. This proved to be invaluable for my own chemistry education, for example, if I were asked about the preparation of hydrogen I could not only mentally picture the necessary glassware and chemicals, but a dozen, or so, sets of them.

I was at Raine's for 15 months and left in the spring of 1948. My academic career was pursued through evening classes. Finally, with the help of a LCC award, I spent seven years at University College London where I gained a bachelors, a masters and a doctoral degrees. In all that time I never failed a chemistry exam and I like to think that I owe

it in no small measure to my early experiences at Raine's.

Denis Wang

(I worked as a lab technician at the school for a while -one of many- and I have already given Dennis an insight into what I remember of Jim Russell, who was still at the school into the 1980's - correct me if I'm wrong. If any of you have memories that you'd like to share, please let me have them. From what Dennis says, Jim hadn't changed much! - ed).

The 'Swinging' 60's

You'll remember that I mentioned earlier, the gallery of famous Old Raineians on David Spencer's web site (*well, you will if you have been paying attention! -ed*). David was contacted by an Old Raineian who has made a career for himself as a professional musician. **Douglas Anthony Thompson (formerly Dodds)**, is known professionally as **Tony Rivers** and he attended Raine's Foundation Grammar School for Boys from Sept 1952 until Dec 1956.

Born in Shildon, Co. Durham on 21st December 1940, he attended Shaftesbury Avenue Primary School, East Ham from 1945-1951. He is a professional musician, singer and backing vocalist who has worked with many of the most famous names in the pop music world. After leaving Raine's, he worked as messenger boy in the City of London, and briefly in the 'Rag trade' in Leman St. In 1961, he joined a local band from Barking and Dagenham called The Cutaways, and soon changed the band's name to 'Tony Rivers and The Castaways'. He then turned professional, touring the UK many times, firstly playing in pubs and clubs and eventually graduating to universities, colleges and then cabaret. He signed a management contract with Brian Epstein's company Nems Enterprises in early to mid 60's, alongside The Beatles and many other famous groups of the day. He went on to sign a new management contract with Robert Stigwood (manager of the Bee Gees) and Brian Epstein when they merged companies. Epstein subsequently died and 'Tony Rivers and The Castaways' were managed by Stigwood alone. Towards the end of the 60's, the band felt that a name change was necessary, they became 'Harmony Grass' and immediately had a top 20 hit with 'Move In A Little Closer Baby'.

Tony left Harmony Grass in the early 70's and went on to become a session singer, working on original songs he was writing

(including songs recorded by Jackie Wilson and Frankie Valli) and also gaining studio experience singing on those budget albums (sold in Woolworth's!) 'TOP OF THE POPS'. These albums recently became the subject of an unlikely BBC TV documentary about their appeal and success! In 1974, Tony Rivers sang the theme for a TV series that lasted for many years that was also recently voted the 4th most popular UK TV theme (Can you guess it?). In 1975 Tony started to work with Cliff Richard in the studios of Abbey Road, singing on and arranging the harmonies on Miss You Nights and Devil Woman (a top ten hit in UK and no.5 in USA). He joined Cliff's 'live' band in 1976 and toured the world many times, singing backing vocals. He has played the London Palladium on many occasions, as well as the Royal Albert Hall with, on one special occasion, the London Symphony Orchestra, augmented by the Cliff Richard band, to record a 'live' album, 'Dressed For The Occasion'. Cliff Richard was recently named the top selling UK artist, ever.

In 1985, Elton John asked Tony to join his band for the world's biggest concert, Live Aid. Tony sang with Elton and George Michael, to about 80,000 people in Wembley Stadium and one and a half billion watching on television, around the world. By this time Tony was also recording and touring with Shaking Stevens who had many hits throughout the 80's. Shaking Stevens was recently named as the top selling artist of the 80's in UK. Tony has sung on some of the biggest record successes for both Cliff Richard and Shaking Stevens, including 'Daddy's Home' which reached number 2 for Cliff Richard and Shaking Stevens Christmas 'classic', 'Merry Xmas Everyone'.

Other artists Tony Rivers has worked with, including on records and TV, are Al Stewart (Year Of The Cat album), Lulu, INXS (Australian rock legends), The Who, Pink Floyd, The Beach Boys, Rolling Stones, Small Faces, Paul Weller, Noel Gallagher, Roger Daltrey, Billy Connolly, John Hurt, Mike Batt (The Barbican and Royal Albert Hall with The Hunting Of The Snark). Tony was recently in the UK charts again with St. Etienne and their single 'Side Streets' taken from their album 'Tales From Turnpike House' on which Tony appears and co-arranges all the harmony vocals with his son Anthony. Tony Rivers is currently living in Oliva, Valencia, Spain. He has an excellent web site at www.tonyrivers.com which contains lots more information on his musical career. *(I hope that Tony will join the Association and perhaps we'll get to hear him sing at one of our reunions -ed).*

AGM

The Association's Annual General Meeting took place on Friday 12th May at the Emperor Wine Bar, Vine Street, EC3N 2PX. Compared to last year, the event was very well attended and it was good to see some 'new' faces in attendance. Tony Groves, the outgoing President, opened the meeting and gave a short speech, outlining what had happened over the past year and highlighting the difficulties in running the Association, particularly with a very small number of committee members.

Apologies for absence were given and the minutes of the last AGM read, followed by matters arising from them. There were no significant matters for discussion and the meeting moved on to the election of the committee. Claire Burrows was elected President and all of the existing committee stood for re-election to their respective posts. Sandra Johnson was elected onto the committee as was Frances Dolman, who is now the Association's Secretary. The committee is now as follows: Claire Burrows (President), Frances Dolman (Secretary), Clive Baugh (Treasurer), Brian Chaperlin (Membership Secretary), Sandra Johnson, Tony Groves and Roy Smith.

Tony then handed over the Presidency to Claire Burrows, who was the Association's Secretary. Claire introduced herself (not that it was needed!) and asked the Treasurer to speak about his report. The accounts are available for anyone to see and currently they show a healthy balance. I then gave my report, as Membership Secretary, outlining what I had been doing, not only in respect of the membership records, but also the web site and newsletter. My report is also available, if anyone would like to read it. There were some questions from the floor, mostly enquiring about how we could ensure the continued success of the Association. Whilst the committee will do all that it can in this respect, success is largely dependent upon the membership continuing to support the committee in its various endeavours. The committee welcomes any feedback on what it is doing.

Thanks are due to Tony Groves for the past three years that he has spent holding the reins as President (no pun intended). I know that Claire Burrows is keen to build on the foundations laid by her predecessors and to move forward, as she says 'to keep the Association active and interesting'. The committee meets at least six times a year (though

not usually more than twelve times) in Central London and if anyone is interested in joining us for a drink or becoming involved please contact a committee member. We're always glad to see new faces and would welcome any contribution to our work. Committee meetings are detailed on the web site - just go to the calendar section. You can also use the web site to contact the Committee and

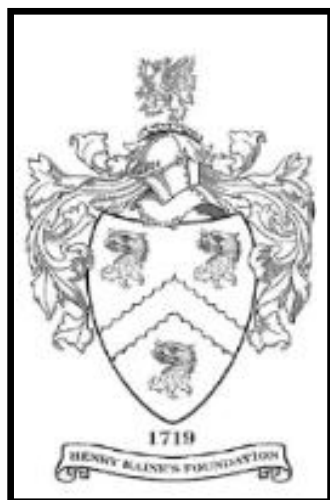
please check it periodically for the latest news and especially the photos. Those taken at the AGM can now be seen on it and shortly, there might be some of the 'Raine's Walk' done on the 25th June! Look at what you're missing and resolve to get involved with at least one of our activities. We really won't try to get you to do more than you want to, but we're sure that once you try what we have

to offer you'll be certain to come back for more! There's a report on our last reunion later in this newsletter and we've already started preparations for the next reunion in November. We have included a flyer with this newsletter - please don't put away (or worse still, throw it away), but book your ticket to a great night out straight away and avoid any disappointment!!

THE COAT OF ARMS

In the June 2004 and January 2005 newsletters, I brought up a little known fact that the current Coat of Arms used by the school has never belonged to the school, nor even to Henry Raine himself. The Trustees of the Raine's School Foundation agreed that it would be appropriate to correct this matter and authorised a petition to be made to the College of Arms to have the Coat of Arms properly registered and recognised as belonging to Raine's. The Raine's School Foundation Trust agreed to fully fund the petition.

'Before/Old'



Note that the Mantling and Gentleman's Helmet do not appear in the sketch on the right, but they are included in the Letters Patent

'After/New'.



We were pleased to hear that, in January, 2005, the College of Arms approved the Petition and a Warrant was issued by the Earl Marshal, the Duke of Norfolk, to the Garter King of Arms to proceed with the Grant of Arms. Thus began the long process of having the Coat of Arms drawn up. The Grant of Arms to Raine's had to be unique and heraldically acceptable to the College of Arms. This was not, in fact, easy. In essence, we had to match an illegal coat of arms that was clearly not heraldically correct with a new coat of arms that has to be heraldically correct - yet they both needed to look more or less the same! There are also many versions of the Coat of Arms that the school has used over its long history - which one was correct?

Over the course of 2005, there have been numerous discussions, letters and emails between the Trust and the College of Arms about tinctures and metals (the official names for the colours that appear on a Coat of Arms), the thickness of borders, fimbriation of the chevron and, especially, the sprigs being held by the griffins heads (in the shield). Should they have stems? What colour is the stem? Are they 'acorns' or 'leaves' on the stems of the sprigs? And then there was the Crest. The upright griffin had already been taken by another Coat of Arms, so we added a Sprig, to be held by the griffin, in the crest. Would anyone notice? [As far as I can see, this is the only discernible visual difference between the old (illegal) and the new (legal) Coat of Arms, but I bet you would not have noticed this unless it was pointed out to you!]. Sketch after sketch was produced and the 'before/old' compared with the 'after/new'. We aimed to make a heraldically correct coat of arms look as far as possible like the incorrect precursor. Could it be done?

Finally in December 2005, The Raine's Foundation Trust accepted the sketch, a slightly reworded blazon and agreed that the Armorial Bearings now be granted by Letters Patent under the hands and seal of Garter King of Arms and the Windsor Herald of Arms. The Coat of Arms saga is thus now almost over - the Letters Patent, framed and hand painted (thanks to the generous offer and contribution of John Matthews and the Raine's Lodge), is expected to be presented to the school in April-May, 2006. It is hoped that the Raine's Foundation School Trust will grant permission for the Raine's Foundation School, The Old Raineians' Association and The Raineian Lodge No. 5763 to use the Coat of Arms so it will, at last, be completely legitimate. All being well, no one will ever now be any the wiser that we have managed to correct a small oversight regarding our school founder, Henry Raine!

David A. Spencer (1975-1982)

SPORT FOR ALL

Earlier this year we were contacted by **Mr David Ryan**, who found the Association through the web site. He had an interesting tale for us and I'll let him tell it:

Raine's Cricket Team 1934

To All,

I am currently decorating the hall of our bungalow and I had to remove several photographs and paintings from the walls and although the attached has been with my wife and me for several years I never had the inclination to follow up any of the background information. I had a quick browse of the internet yesterday evening and came across the Old Raineians' Association. The attached photograph may be of interest to you if you are still an active association.

My Wife's Uncle was **Kenneth F. Maton**, Head boy of Raine's in 1934 as well as Cricket Team Captain, unfortunately he died quite a few years ago now having retired to Tavistock in Devon. He was Deputy Headmaster at Samuel Pepys School in London for many years and was active for much of this time at Honor Oak Cricket Club. When he retired to Tavistock he was a very keen member of the Tavistock Bowls Club for many years and was the Club Secretary.

We also have a list of names with the photograph. The names are hand written under the photograph and difficult to read, so some may not be absolutely correct.

Regards,

David Ryan & Angela Ryan

p.s. My wife's mother is Joan Davey (nee Maton) Kenneth's younger sister, she was also at Raine's and is still alive at 85, but very frail.

One of our members, **James Keen**, now lives in Mallorca, but he remains a visitor to the U.K. And is one of a number of Old Raineians from the late 40's that meet up from time to time. **Les Lagsding** is the man behind the meetings and the research that lead to them. The meetings are held in Brentwood, as Les says, 'at a time suited to our age and

circumstances' (*come on, you're not that old - ed*) and mostly comprise blokes from Les's old form. Les has very kindly written to Claire Burrows recently and sent in two photographs taken in 1949 (the year Les left Raine's) of the Rugby and Cricket teams and I had hoped to reproduce these on the following pages, but no matter how hard I tried, I could not get sufficiently good copies. Les says that he has another photograph, of the athletics team, which includes some boys from the lower years. I hope that Les will send me copies of all three that I can publish in the next



Raine's Cricket Team 1934

Back Row L to R

*Captain R G Turnage, G Joseph, J Ginswick, S Boardman, G Amiel
H Cassman, D Levermore, D Jewson, Mr J M Bense.*

Front Row L to R

*J Pressman, K F Maton (Captain), Mr W A W Dagger,
J W Mercer (Vice Captain), A Smith, S Murrel (Scorer).*

newsletter. I also hope that Les and his mates will consider joining the ORA and that we will at least see some of them at one of our future reunions - one of them is already a regular - but, which one? (*The hallowed portal at Arbour Square must be the next most photographed, after 'No10' - ed*). Les has listed the names of the Old Boys that he is in touch with and they are:

R Ayres, F Alutto, L Banks, B Block, H Brockington, A Brockwell, M Camina, C Coster, G Dworkin, A Franks, M Fishman, F Gallagher, F Gregory, A Hersh, N Holland, T Hollingsworth, R Holloway, J Keen, C King, R Mason, R Merrett, H Newson, L Phillips, D Ravenscroft, J Reed, G Ridgway, B Sims, J Stuchfield, T Thorneycroft, J Truby, D Ward and W Warren.

Is there anybody that you recognise amongst them? Do let us know.

Humphrey Long wins the inaugural "Community Sports Coach Award"

The Annual Sports Coach UK Coaching Awards took place on Wednesday 7 December 2005 and were held at the prestigious Dorchester Hotel in London. The event was deemed to be the most successful and enjoyable yet.

HRH Princess Anne attended as guest of honour and presented the awards to all the winners. Steve Rider was compere for the event and Adrian Moorehouse delivered the Appreciation of Coaching.

Ex-Raine's PE teacher **Humphrey Long** won the inaugural "Community Sports Coach Award" for his services to Basketball. He was presented the Award by HRH Princess Anne.

The Sports Coach UK Coaching Awards recognise inspirational coaches at all levels who have made outstanding contributions to their profession.

The Community Sports Coach Award was based on four criteria; Contribution of the coach to getting more people starting, staying and/or succeeding in sport through high quality coaching. This looks for the evidence of the impact that the coach has had in relation to the above. Evidence may relate to the impact of the

coach on access to competitive opportunities or their work with volunteers involved in coaching. This evidence should be supported with facts and figures where possible.

Widening access to sport through high quality coaching; This looks for evidence of the impact that the coach has had on widening access to sport(s) within the community with low participation groups. For example, this may include increasing the number of girls taking/receiving coaching in a traditionally male dominated sport.

Innovation - Evidence of how the coach has used innovative ideas to promote, develop or enhance their coaching.

Personal Development - Evidence of what the coach has done to develop as a coach. This could be through attending workshops, working with other coaches or other ways in which they have demonstrated a real commit-

ment to on-going development. The Nominee must also hold a recognised national governing body coaching qualification.

Four shortlisted candidates were present at the lunch and each were previewed by a video of them coaching. Much mention of Raine's Foundation School was made both in the video and the speech naming Humph as the Award winner. This award is unquestionably one of the highest that Humph has earned. It was an honour to share that day with him.

David A. Spencer

The photograph on this page shows Humph receiving his award from The Princess Royal. Full details of all the Awards can be seen at:

<http://www.sportscoachuk.org/awards/2005Index.htm>

and at:

<http://www.sportscoachuk.org/awards/2005AwardsoftheYear.htm>

This is the latest of a long line of achievements for Humphrey, who has dedicated his life to sport for East End youngsters and basketball in particular. He seems to have been showered with awards in the past year or two.

He was named as one for the Regional Category Champions representing the East of England in The Year of the Volunteer 2005 Awards. Launched by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary, the Government designated 2005 the Year of the Volunteer. The year was not just a celebration of volunteering but a call to action. It aimed to engage more people as volunteers, raise the profile of volunteering and open more opportunities in the public and voluntary sector.

Humph was one of the original 2,005 Medal Recipients who was awarded the Year of the Volunteer Award medal for his work with the East London Royals Basketball Club. The Award was for "Commitment" of over 50 years Voluntary service to sports and especially his 26 years service to the East London Royals Basketball Club. The prestigious toned bronze alloy medal was produced by the Royal Mint especially for the 2005 celebratory year.

Humph attended the Regional Year of the Volunteer Award Ceremonies for the East of England on 3 November at The Shire Hall, Chelmsford, Essex and, as a Regional Category Champion, was invited to the National Award Ceremony at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, London on 22nd January 2006.

Previously, Humph was nominated as an 'unsung hero' for Sport Month in August 2005, an event that was part of the Year of the Volunteer initiative, organised by Community Service Volunteers, Volunteering England and the Home Office, and just before that he was given a Help the Aged Living Legend award for his volunteer work. Humph still works with the East London Royals basketball team.

Still on the subject of sport, Phillips Idowu, who is an Old Raineian won the Triple Jump gold medal in this year's Commonwealth Games, with his first jump in the final. His jump of 17.45metres was also the season's best.

Phillips was one of Humph's basketball players at the school and Humph introduced him to the Triple Jump, recognising that he had the potential to do well in the sport.



Simone Callender, who was in the same class as Phillips at Raine's is a world class Judo athlete and she won a bronze medal in the same Commonwealth Games. Well done to both of them!

It's not only the younger members of the Old Raineians that excel at sport. Eddy Dodwell sent in a piece about a classmate of his, Tony Babot. Tony now lives in Israel and is a keen bowls player. After he moved to Israel, Tony lived in a Kibbutz for a while, married and joined the army, serving as a paratrooper - as Eddy said, not bad for someone who hated P.E. and Games! Below is an excerpt from the report on Tony's latest sporting effort:

'Worthy of special mention was Jerusalem's effort in winning the fours for the Jessel and Cynthia Mendelsson Trophy. Well skipped by Tony Babot and with consistent cohesive play by his team members, Motti Dreyfus, Beryl Koseff and Haim Deri, the Jerusalem foursome had excellent preliminary round wins against Ra'anana and Ramat Gan

before facing off in the final against Ra'anana's "Green" team of Gerald Sacks, Ivan Kantor, Len Grobler and Mel Trevis.

At 17-17 for the last end, Jerusalem claimed the two winning shots with closer draws to the jack to claim the trophy. Jerusalem's joy was doubled when Tony Babot was awarded the "Sportsman of the Tournament" Trophy'. (Victor Ludorum at last Tony.

I hope that we can persuade you to join the Association and to tell us something about your time in Israel

- ed).

MORE NEWS

• **Annie Tauber, nee Wilkinson, (27-33)** sent her best wishes and apologies to those of us at the AGM. She is now too frail to travel from her home in California, although she would like to make it back to the U.K. one more time.

• **Bernard Harris (40-45)** wrote to Alan Johnson about the Cricket XI photograph in the last June newsletter and identified himself as the team member signified as '???' in the photograph. Bernard went on to say that he well remembers the other players and that he still

sees something of M. Rosen. Bernard considered himself fortunate to play in the cricket team and to have this fact recorded in his hand written reference from the headmaster, Mr A Wilkinson-Dagger, as this was considered a great asset and could help considerably with getting a job in an organisation where team games were played, like a bank, or the civil service. Bernard says that his discussion with the headmaster about the reference lead him to discover that the head was human after all and not a God, as had been suspected!

• **Wayne Burt (57-65)** contacted the Association, as he hadn't heard anything from us for some time and thought that he had been overlooked (which I'm afraid to say, he had). However, he's now back in the fold and living near Adelaide in an eco friendly house designed by his wife. He's still teaching, but is proposing to start a micro brewery with his wife. He is currently mourning the impending closure of Young's brewery in Wandsworth (*Aren't we all -ed*)

NOVEMBER REUNION

I know that it's along time ago, but on Friday 18th November we held a very successful reunion at the Ragged School Museum in Copperfield Road, by Mile End Park and the East London Stadium. Our guests were the Headmaster and his wife and Humphrey Long. As is usual at our events, a good time was had by one and all, this time including the very helpful museum staff! This was an action packed evening, with opportunities to have a guided tour of the museum, be entertained by a magician, as well as drink, eat and chat to your friends.

The former East End Barnardo School was the perfect venue to show Raine's memorabilia, including the icing figures from the 250th anniversary cake and the Founders Chair. The original painting of the Arbour Square building by artist **Eddy Dodwell (1958-65)** was displayed and one of the highlights of the evening was the presentation of Eddy's portrait of Humph Long to the man himself. For those of you who missed the event, I have included a copy of the painting and there is no mistaking who it is of. But, can you recognise any of the other people in it?

Special thanks must go to Headmaster Paul Hollingum for giving us access to the memorabilia, Eleanor Clark of the Museum for allowing us to stage the exhibition, Eddy Dodwell, Lynne Mallery & others for donating raffle prizes and of course, the committee for organising the evening.

The committee also used the evening as an opportunity to present gifts to Sandra and Alan Johnson in recognition of all the hard work and tireless effort that they have put into the Old Raineians' Association for many years. At this point, both had resigned from the committee, but I am very pleased to say that Sandra has since rejoined! Below is a piece that Sandra very kindly wrote for the newsletter.

The Winter Reunion at the Ragged School Museum – what a brilliant night! Certainly one of the best reunions for many

years. The atmosphere was incredible with so many people to catch up with, so much memorabilia to see, a tour of the museum added in for good measure and of course the magician – what a stroke of genius!

Congratulations must go especially to

the 5000!! Brian Chaperlin must also take much of the credit because once the venue was organised it was Brian who gave much of his time in helping Claire 'get the show on the road'! Also thanks go to those members of the committee who helped on the night.

The reunion was very enjoyable with past pupils from a vast range of years, many who know others from varying years purely from meeting them over the years at previous reunions, so a great reason to go along.

There were also a couple of surprise presentations, one being to Humph Long in appreciation of his many years of hard work at Raine's, a portrait of Humph painted by Eddy Dodwell. The painting was superb, not only because it looked just like Humph but also surrounding the actual portrait were other paintings reminding Humph of his years at Raine's with things like the Fairlop train, past headmasters, etc.

The other surprise presentation was to myself and Alan which was very much a surprise, we were given wonderful gifts in thanks for our work for the Association, so a big thank you from both of us to those involved in organising that.

Sandra Johnson

I hope that gives you food for thought, as we approach this year's reunion, details of which are included with this newsletter. I really hope that many of you will join us and should you need further encouragement, please look at the huge collection of photographs that we have on the web site!

Well, that's it almost done. I hope that you have enjoyed reading this newsletter and that you feel that it has been worth the wait! It has been a huge learning curve for me, but I have already begun to prepare the next edition, which should be out following the November reunion. So, please keep sending items in for inclusion in that and don't forget to let us know if your contact details change, especially if you have an e-mail address that we can use in the future.

Brian Chaperlin (Editor)



The Winning Bowls Team, with Tony Babot on the left

Claire Burrows for the brilliant idea of holding the reunion there in the first place, for the hard work and time put in organising it, in liaising with the Ragged School and the



headmaster, Paul Hollingum, and then to manage to get all the memorabilia together and displayed so well on the night, including the Founders Chair! There were photo boards displayed and also food and drink for