

OLD RAINEIANS' ASSOCIATION



RAINE'S FOUNDATION

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OCTOBER 1990

RAINES REUNION

FRIDAY 7TH DECEMBER

ARBOUR SQUARE

7 - 10pm

£5 PER PERSON

INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS

Come along in your hordes like you did last year and make it as enjoyable an occasion as that was!

NOW READ ON

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October, 1990.

Dear Old Raineians,

Once again four addresses appear at the top of this newsletter, in the hope that people might contact us somehow with their news, or even remind us of their existence. Much of the news in this letter was gleaned at the July 'get-together' at the 'Blind Beggar' by Sandra, to whom I am very grateful, as I was unable to visit the Metropolis twice within a week. The previous week I attended a barbecue held at the Approach Road building on the occasion of Ann Lowe's retirement. Ann had been Head of Girls P.E. since 1965, and many girls will remember with gratitude her help, encouragement and untiring efforts to improve their standards therefore bringing Raines frequent success in championships locally and nationally. She was also an active and committed member of the R.S. department and had been a Head of Year for several years, caring for children and their problems with endless patience and kindness. Sadly she suffered poor health for some time and had been unable to teach for over a year before she was finally granted early retirement. She has now moved back to Hadleigh and is enjoying the freedom from responsibility and the division of days by bells! We wish here improved health and continued happiness in her new way of life.

Yet another 'long-term' member of staff is joining the ranks of the leisured society at the end of term - Gerry Calvert, who has been Head of Maths for many years - more of that in the next newsletter. Do please write if you have any anecdotes (all right Gerry, we'll censor them first!). So the remaining 'Old Guard' at school are Humph Long, Barbara Thompson (who was at St. Jude's before the amalgamation), Ken Crump, Angela Naylor, Linda Linnett and Bob Hudson.

In July the daughter of Frank Luton sent us his O.R. Presidents jewel together with photos and other memorabilia - he taught at Raines for over 30 years and valued the school very highly, talking of it with pride until his death 14 years ago.

Miss Emily Parsons (1919- 1927) and later a member of staff and for many years a very active member of the ORA is now in a nursing home in Buckhurst Hill after suffering a stroke 2 years ago. Her sisters Mabel, Ethel and Connie also attended Raines.

Following the publication of the 1965 staff list, Wally Spooner sent this interesting batch of news.

From Wally Spooner - Some News Items Possibly of Interest

Hearing that Miss Mangold (Head of Raines Girls School just before the two schools amalgamated in 1962), had been a guest at Gwyneth's in her new home, was coincidental with another news item.

John L. Goode, Head of the Boys school during the same period (1956-61?) died in June. He had left Raines to become Head of Woking Grammar and then first Principal of the Woking Sixth Form College. Ill health had caused his early retirement, but he stayed in the Woking area instead of returning north to continue his life-long allegiance to Sunderland! Incidentally the mysterious 'L' stood for Linscott, a reminder of the secrecy surrounding the 'L' in dear Alec Aldridge's A.L.A.' - no wonder it stood for Lancelot!

No doubt there will already be a note on Ann Lowes' retirement. Again sadly because of ill health, but not before she had given Raines 24 years of the most unselfish service. Many girls who would not have got out of London during the long holidays have cause for gratitude to Ann for their introduction to the Camps she helped to run. Gwyneth, Reff and Wally were at the farewell Barbacue held at the school at the end of term. Now only Humph Long and Gerry Calvert remain of the Staff who started the Raines Co-ed school in 1964.

And so to the 1965 staff list produced by Bill Richards. In addition to those either retired, gone elsewhere or even 'called up yonder', the following information might be of interest.

Both the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Governors died some years ago. Of interest to the O.R.A. was the presence of three Old Raineians on the governing body, Frank Hertes, Stan Matthews and Mrs. Grimes (an old girl who then was also on the staff). All three died but it is interesting to note that the O.R.A. has no representation on the present Governing body, though under the new arrangement there are two members of staff on it. Of the others named, Professor Kirkaldy died recently - he was a great friend of Raines being delighted as Professor of Geology at Queen Mary College, when we began to turn out geologists. The Lord Bishop of Stepney at that time was none other than the famous Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, now leader of the World Anti-Apartheid movement.

The Head, Mr. Stanney retired in 1979 after 15 years at the School and now lives at Honiton, Devon.

Terry Harding left to become a Maths lecturer at a teachers' training college in Plymouth and has not been heard of since, though he must be retired by now. John Roden, having achieved fame as a founder of the Rochford Hundred Rugby Club - at one time it almost rivalled the P.L.A. as the substitute for the defunct Old Raineians R.F.C. - became Deputy Head of Basildon Comprehensive from which he retired last year. Alan Russell also became a Deputy Head of a school in Glossop, while Barry Spencer emigrated to Australia. Mrs Wells, the secretary also went to Australia, but going home when her husband, a Vice-Admiral, retired from the Navy.

Viv Nicholas and his wife, Rosalind, (Miss Berrill to some!) frequently come up to O.R.A. do's; Viv Bradley and Pam Davey both joined the staff of Coopers-Coburn when the combined school went from Bow to Hornchurch. Basil Dowling keeps in touch, enjoying his congenial work in a Rye bookshop, and even more so his status as one of the New Zealand's outstanding modern poets. Trevor Enes moved to a school in Broadstairs, his father Stanley also moving to the East Kent coastal town when he retired, Doug Walton is, of course, another of those Old Raineians who returned to join the Staff - you can't keep them out of the well-loved portals!

Gerry Barnes is the organist at the Bloomsbury Central Baptist Church. It is strange that, with Tommy Thompson as organist at the Wesley Chapel, our C. of E. foundation provides the music at two of London's most famous Non-Conformist churches! - the latter also retired last December.

I had a very interesting telephone conversation with Mrs Emily Galbraith from Edinburgh, sadly losing her vision, but who aged 95 visited the school during the summer term and was taken to see the Arbour Square building. She attended school 1903 - 1914, at first in Cannon Street Road from where during the building of the Arbour Square premises, the headmistress, Miss Grier used to take a group of girls daily to watch the building progress. She remembered the first Air Raid, when the prefects lined the stairs and all girls moved silently down into the gym and afterwards she had to walk to Fenchurch Street Station for a train home to Hornchurch avoiding bomb debris. After leaving school she attended mixed dances (organised by O.R.s ?). In 1939 she visited the school, meeting Miss Haugh, who became headmistress, Miss White, Miss Devonshire, Miss Hood and Miss Baker. When the school moved to Arbour Square, the toilets were in the yard, and there was only cold water in the washroom. Despite her visual handicap she intends remaining in her own home and had plans to visit Bedford, Weymouth and Barnes this Autumn!

J.J. Clark wrote from Kidderminster, wondering if any of the staff of his day (1938 - 1941) are still going strong. He mentioned those who were called up immediately, "Piffle" Wilson (French), Mr Dolby (Mechanics), Mr Engledow and Mr Williams (Maths) He continued by mentioning "Slogger" Iuton (Physics), "Fussy" Browning (Chemistry) - "You must be decent", Doc Wilson (Chemistry), Nobby Clark (Music), Mr Hayward (Geography - up in the roof), Mr Bence (History) "Butch" Gee (German), Mr Davis (Maths), Mr Andrews (Mechanics - "That's the way round!"), Mr Horne (the Hornithologist), Jim Chivas & Biffer Broughton. Schoolmate contemporaries he recalled are Ron Whitney, Tony Coombs, Pete Vail, Ken Williams, Paul Diamond, Plaskow, Kurrant and Edelman.

Alan Liddiard was sorry to hear of Biffer's death, and contributed more reminiscences of him. He was Alan's form-master in Stepney and also during evacuation to Brighton. The boys were proud of his prowess as an amateur boxer, and in the Annual Boys V Staff Rugby match recalls that even the entire school fifteen could hardly hold him. When the school moved to Camberley, Biffer and another Welshman, Maths master W.O.M. Williams ran the school scout troop, and Biffer took the boys on cycle rides. After being called up, he visited the school during his leaves, with his Lance Corporals Stripe. Alan last spoke to Biffer after the 1989 Wales - England rugby match, and he had also visited his son, now a consultant anaesthetist in Cardiff. The school should be proud of Biffer, a Gentleman.

Welcome now to some new members:-

Ching Fun Lee (1975 - 1982) who has just spent 3 weeks visiting Malaysia and Thailand and is a solicitor in the City

Ron Havill (1965 - 1971) who is a housing consultant to I.C.C. Corporation.

Sylvia Barry (1966 - 1973) who has just left for Tokyo on a years contract to teach English.

Joanne Marshall (1974 - 1981) shortly to leave for Austria and take her Ski-instructors certificate at Mayrhofen.

Congratulations to Doctor Geoffrey Perry working at Colchester General Hospital who has also married and we have received notice of changes of address from Mrs B.A. Ford and John Williams.

Peggy Adlington (Sayers) and Gavin Adlington were over from Malauri in August. and I am sure managed to meet up with some of their contemporaries. Peggy is teaching part-time in Malauri, still singing and has taken grade 8 exam. Gavin enjoys his work and is playing squash frequently. They have three daughters and a son.

Chris Russell who taught languages is now married and expecting a baby, Steve Johnson (Head of English) is an expectant father. Pearl Pipe (Geography) encountered Debbie Barnett whilst shopping, Penny Young (1977 - 1982) and Rosalind Luxton (1975 - 1980) are both publicans, Corrine Diable (1977 - 1982) is a legal secretary and Jeffery Protherol (1977 - 1982) is now working as an engineer. Tracy Gowers (Wilbey) is awaiting her second child.

Congratulations and good wishes go to these O.R. s now beginning Academic Studies.

Elaine Higgins (1981 - 1986) Trinity College of Music
Sam Bentley (1982 - 1989) Lancaster University
Davy Jones (1982 - 1989) Leeds University
John Featherstone (1982 - 1989) Chelsea College of Art
Tammie Allen (1983 - 1990) Thames Poly
Amy Cox (1982 - 1990) Salford University
Kirsty Wonham (1983 - 1990) La Sante Union
Daniel Ashby (1982 - 1990) Strathclyde University
Trevor Ellis (1987 - 1990) Leicester Poly
John Mossell (1982 - 1990) Thames Poly
Spiro Pereira (1982 - 1990) South Wales Poly
Adam Waldron (1984 - 1990) Portsmouth Poly
Leo Yianni (1983 - 1990) London University
Graham Smithers (1982 - 1990) East Anglia University
Tamara Smith (1983 - 1990) St. Martins School of Art
Kalu Agbeze (1982 - 1990) East London Poly
Neil Mayers (1983 - 1990) Coventry Poly
Rume Miah (1982 - 1990) East London Poly

Several of those who left in 1989 spent a year travelling widely - Sam visited Perth, Sydney, Melbourne, Camberra, missing seeing Davy Jones, Samantha Sawyer and David Bethel who were also in Australia, before flying to America to visit California and Colorado.

David Bethel is now working in Thailand for relatives who have a prawn farm, and David Herbert has joined him.

Now a chunk of news of 1970's pupils, kindly gathered by Joanne Marshall. Joanne has done various sports jobs since leaving Raines and gone ski-ing annually. (That's what Kranjska Gora School trip did for her!) In May 1989 together with 3 female friends they set off to cycle Egypt via Europe, they mountain-biked the French and Italian Rivièras for 2 months, spent 2 months on the Greek island of Los working in a Jazibar (the bikes were exhausted and needed a rest!) They went on to Israel, travelled around and worked on a Kibbutz before finally journeying into Egypt by bus and flying home in October 1989. In winter of 1990 together with Elizabeth Simpson (1974 - 1981) she went to Mayrhofen where they skied by day and Joanne worked in a bar in the evenings. Since returning home she has worked at the East London Stadium. Elizabeth spent 8 years as a Market Research Executive, with annual summer and ski-ing holidays, so last winter whilst in Mayrhofen she worked part time for various holiday companies, and in summer became a full time representative for Intasun in Zell am See, and this winter she will be based in Mayrhofen. Last winter they encountered Paul Green on a ski-ing holiday - any more Raines ski enthusiasts bound for Austria.

Pat Watts (Turner) (1974 - 1979) married Paul Watts (1974 - 1979) and they live in Becton with their 2 year old daughter and a second child is on the way, Paul is a printer and a keen footballer, playing in the Vauxhall - Opel League and has been capped regularly for the England Amateur Team.

Lorraine Copley (Johnson) (1974 - 1980) is married to a taxi driver and lives in South London, She is a secretary for Reuters and expecting her first child.

Carla Marshall (1974 - 1981) lives in Dagenham and works for Norwich Union-she sees a lot of Freddie Stratford (1974 - 1981) who is an Accountant for Thompson Holidays and lives in Stepney Green.

Jacqui Pridie (1974 - 1981) is a Nurse living in Basildon.

Shirin Childs (Qureshi) (1974 - 1981) also married.

Carol Penn (Mills) (1974 - 1979) works for Barclays Bank and lives in Elm Park.

Linda Hall (1974 - 1981) married in July and spent 3 weeks honeymoon in the Far East. They live in Bethnal Green, Linda is a Nursery School Teacher in Hackney (Have you got a late pass Linda?)

Fenella Weaver (Wood) (1974 - 1981) is married with 2 children, living in Abbey Wood

Denise Marshall (1972 - 1979) lives in Wapping and is now an Insurance Consultant having worked for Eagle Star for 9 years.

Teddy Ayers (1974 - 1981) is a surveyor, and married with a baby daughter.

Gary Bird works for the Mail on Sunday

Mathew Alabaster (1974 - 1981) is now married

Maxine Jones (Brown) (1975 - 1982) is now married to a Taxi Driver and lives in Bow.

Jackie Brown (1976 - 1983) Maxine's sister, married this September.

Mark Gittos (1974 - 1979) is a Plumber for Tower Hamlets Council.

David Hodges (1974 - 1979) is married - he was a fireman, but now has his own business (Remember the Mackerel in Lynton ?)

Maxine Gibbons (1972 - 1978) works in Leisure for T.H.B.C.

Sheena Gibbons works in Housing for T.H.B.C., both swim and do weight-training to keep fit, and spend their holidays in Florida.

Now the batch of news from Sandra gathered at the "Blind Beggar."

Robert Gibbs (1973 - 1979) works for Canada Life - something to do with computers.

Paul Rutland (1972 - 1979) works for Clerical Medical as a Director of the Eastern Region.

Nicholas Themostocli (1972 - 1979) works for Nat. West Capital Markets, dealing with Eurobonds.

Dave Bellet (1972 - 1979) is a French polisher.

Tony Simpson (1972 - 1979) works for U.B.S. Phillips & Drew in computing and has just had a baby boy.

John Meredith (1972 - 1979) is a Wang Engineer.

Terry Roberts (1972 - 1979) Used to be a soldier, but came out of the Army and joined the Police Force in Dymchurch, Kent.

Danny Perkins (1972 - 1979) is also in the Police Force.

Sandra Matthew (1972 - 1979) has two baby boys and works for Barbados T.V. (Yes, In Barbados!).

Carole Passmore (1972 - 1979) is now married and was expecting her first baby in September.

Jill Reilly (1972 - 1979) married with a baby girl.

Simla Singh (1972 - 1979) is married and has two boys (at last count!) and is living in Birmingham, and is in accountancy.

James Adshead married to Leslie (nee Cater), they have one son. James is a Fireman and sometime taxi driver.

Barry Gittos is married and works for London Transport. Barry lives in South Woodham Ferrars.

Stephen Fuller is a Euro Bond Dealer for Tulletts.

Tony Voweal (1979 - 1986) (Former Head Boy) is a foreign Exchange Dealer in the City.

Gary Hurst is married to Kathy and they have a son. Kathy was a currency dealer in the City but has given that up to be a wife and mother. Gary is also thought to do some Black Cabbings as well!

Terry Breen has one son John who also went to Raines. Terry is a black Cab Driver.

Frank Massingham - An ex-boxer, but still keeping fit! Frank is also a Black Cab Driver in his spare time.

Doug Marks started off as a pupil at Raines and is now on the staff teaching, Geography. His older brother Michael also went to Raines. His older sister Susan has children and lives in Bermondsey, and sister Ann has children and lives in Liverpool. And brother Andrew.....?

Julie Dawkins went to Oxford to get a degree in French and was last seen working in Guys Hospital.

Tracy Richter last seen as a conductress on a bus going over Waterloo Bridge.

Elaine Adley married, has three children and lives in the Southend area.

Madeline Pettenati - now married and works for City Bank (was in Euro Bonds).

Godfrey Matthew (1970 - 1975) Married, lives in Redbridge, works for British Telecom. His sister Jocelyn (1969 - 1974) is now married and living in Antigua.

Ann Simmonds - (sister of Bob) is now married to a Spanish Gentleman and living in Majorca.

Martin Lake (1976 - 1981) works for Customs & Excise, is married and were expecting their first child in September.

Stephen McDuell (1976 - 1983) is Paul's Casali's flat mate. He works for G.S.I. Computers in the Docklands.

Sean Donovan (1976 - 1983) is married and now runs a Post Office in Portsmouth. He was previously in the Navy.

Richard Erskine used to be in the Navy as well, but is now in the building trade.

David Brown (1976 - 1981) was last seen working somewhere in the City.

Shah Fayyaz (1976 - 1983) is a Director of his fathers' Mail Order business based in the E.C.1. area.

Andrew Boylett works for the Bank of England.

John Wyatt (1972 - 1979) is married, has two children and lives in Upminster.

Susan Turner (1976 - 1981) is a stockbroker in the City. As mentioned earlier her sister Pat married Paul Watts (Both old Raineians 1974 - 1979),

Michelle Docker (Demetriou) married in the Seychelles. She now has two children and lives in Buckhurst Hill.

Wendy Holland (1976 - 1981) is getting married this year in Cyprus.

Ian Stewart (1960 - 1965) works as a draughtsman on Oil rigs all over the world.

Dave Elliott (1960 - 1965) has his own carpet laying business.

Terry Walsh (1961 - 1966) Has his own scaffolding business.

Nicholas Beeson (1972 - 1979) used to be a Maths teacher in Kensel Rise, Maida Vale and from there went to teach in Purley in Surrey. Nicholas now works for Yasuda Trust in Corporate Finance. Nicholas' sister Helen is married with two children.

Carole Day (1972 - 1979) works for Berliner Handels Und Frankfurter Bank.

Gary Bishop (1969 - 1977) is a P.L.A. rugby player. (Gary is known to occassionally imbibe in the odd pint - A true Old Raineian!).

Phil Puttick (1960 - 1967) is working as a consultant for I.B.M. and is married with two children. Phils hobby is cycling long distances (and coming back!).

Gillian, Phil's sister is married with two children and a menagerie. Gillian runs a mums and toddlers group and a play-group until recently.

Tony Szulc (1961 - 1969) has bought a house in Suffolk and spends most of his weekends 'doing it up'. Tony is a lecturer at Southwark College and spends some of his spare time walking and cycling in all parts of the country. Tony often sees Glenys Hughes-Jenkins and also saw Tony Pickford recently, the first time in 18 years.

Richard Powell (1963 - 1971) is married with two children, Christopher 13, and Claire 10. They live in East Ham. Christopher goes to Langdon School (Which used to be East Ham Grammer). Richards' sister-in-law is Hilary Powell (nee Gates).

Steve Hewitt (1963 - 1970) has two children, Elenor 8 and Tom 4, and lives in New Ash Green. Steve works in Aldwych and says "I was a nobody at school and still declining".

Paul Casali (1976 - 1983) is still single and a Bank Clerk in the City. Paul used to train the Girls' basketball side while at school. He hasn't played any basketball for a long while but is hoping to get back to playing soon. Paul played for the East London Royals, The National Junior Squad, mostly made up from boys from Raines and surrounding schools.

Paul Thienel (1976 - 1982) is a professional Salesman in the city and still single. Paul's sister Karen (1979 - 1985) is a Train Captain with the Dockland Light Railway.

Paul (when was your wallet last opened) Smith (1976 - 1983) works for Compaq Computers based in Richmond.

The 'Three Pauls' invaded Crete last year having met up earlier in the year (the first time in several years). They had a wonderful time and met with some new experiences, not all as one would want, as Paul (Wallet) Smith recalled, who during the holiday met a Dutch barmaid called Natasha and got to know her quite well. She kept giving him free beer and cigarettes (and he doesn't smoke!) and after a few nights of being chatted up in the bar was invited back to 'her place'. After many hours of drinks and yet more cigarettes and plenty of chat Paul made his move - only to be told "I like you very much, you are very humorous, but I only want to be your friend". After a put down like that Paul says the moral of the story is "Don't go to the Krypton Disco in Crete, and if you do, forget the Dutch barmaids!".

They also wondered if anyone remembered Mr. Nugents' English lessons (1979 - 1980?) Specifically the filling up of his turn-ups with molecular modules? Or perhaps you were in the French class taken by Mr. Monk (remember him? He was very sharp and didn't like anyone disturbing his class) and Paul (Wallet) Smith (again!) put up his hand and asked if he could go to the loo. Mr. Monk was furious and asked Paul "How long have you been at this school? (meaning as everyone knew, that you should know the rules by now), and Paul looked at his watch and answered "Since about half past twelve". The class collapsed in laughter - but Paul unfortunately was made to pay for it later.

Eddie Murphy (1960 - 1966) is a black cab driver, has one son and lives in Southwark.

John McCormack (1960 - 1967) is a Freelance Proof Reader, married with three children and lives in Pimlico. John's wife Janet is the sister of Peter Bull (1960-67). John sees Barry Walsh, Glenys Hughes-Jenkins, Dave Elliott, Ian Stewart and Terry Walsh.

We hope you have found something to jog your memories of contemporaries and look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on DECEMBER 7TH.