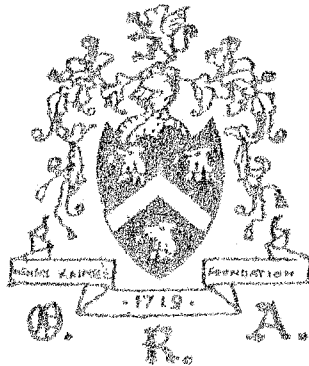


# OLD RAINEIANS' ASSOCIATION



## NEWSLETTER

JUNE 1984

It has been some time since you received a Newsletter from the Old Raineians' Association. This is because until recently, there has been very little news to communicate!

The Association was dormant throughout 1983 following a meeting in January 1983 at which it was decided to put the Association in "moth balls" and consider dissolution. During that period Mr Reffold and Mr Baugh were appointed to handle the Associations business.

In January 1984 Mr Reffold attempted a social gathering of ex-pupils and members and, to his delight, it was well attended. Similar meetings have taken place regularly since January resulting in an increase in membership and renewed interest in the Association sufficient for the idea of dissolution to be reconsidered.

### MEETING AT ARBOUR SQUARE

Following the encouragement of renewed interest in the Association a meeting was held on 16th May 1984 to discuss the way forward and to try and resolve matters such as what the Association should offer its members in social terms.

Approximately 80 members were notified of the meeting, 30 replies received and 17 members attended. The number of replies may not be a reflection of interest in the Association as the membership address records are known to be out of date in many instances.

The meeting was presented with the record of Accounts for 1983 which had been prepared by Mr Baugh. It was pleasing to note that the accounts included new membership.

The main points which resulted from the meeting were: the Parents' Association seem keen to co-operate with the Association over social events; the school is due to move premises in 1985; the Association should pursue a membership drive; and a holding committee should be appointed to run the Association and further the ideas raised at the meeting.

## HOLDING COMMITTEE

The following members were appointed as a Holding Committee on 16th May 1984:

Honorary Acting President	-	Mr D Thomas (Headmaster)
Acting Chairman	-	Mr R Reffold
Treasurer	-	Mr C Baugh
Secretary	-	Mr R Morgan
Membership Secretary	-	Mr M Leonard
Social Secretary	-	Mr R Casey
School Liaison	-	Mr A Groves
Minutes Secretary	-	Miss G Jackson
Committee Member	-	Mr S Freed
Committee Member	-	Mrs S Dudley

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Since January 1984 members have been meeting on the last Thursday of each month at "The Blind Beggar" public house, 337 Whitechapel Road.

In the comfortable surroundings of the venue most members who attend find it difficult to vacate the building before 11 p.m.

Some members have brought guests with them who have also enjoyed themselves. If you would like to join us and want to bring your partner too, please do so.

All members are invited to come along to these social meetings. You may find yourself reminiscing over school days, discussing present situations or considering future events. Whatever the topic of conversation we are sure you will enjoy the evening and perhaps be surprised at the people you meet and remember.

Forth coming meetings begin from 8 p.m. on 28th June, 26th July and 30th August.

## SCHOOL FETE

The annual school fete is to be held in the garden in Arbour Square on 7th July 1984 from 2 p.m.

We shall be using this opportunity to increase membership and to carry on updating our records.

All members are invited to visit the fete and provide us with an opportunity to update the details we have and perhaps cross check those of other members whose addresses you may know. Do you wish to contact old school friends? If you leave us details of the people you wish to contact we will try on your behalf.

## NEW MEMBERSHIP

We need your help to increase the membership of the Association. If you know any ex-members whose annual subscriptions have expired please let us know so that we can contact them.

If you know any ex-pupils who are not members please try to interest them in the Association and give us their details so that we can contact them. Subscriptions are currently £1 for annual and £10 for life membership.

The Association needs new members and renewed participation to succeed.

### TIES

Old Raineians' Association ties are available from the Association Secretary at a cost of £1.70 each including postage and packing.

### STAFF NEWS

Mr J Everton, teaching at the school since 1967, ran in the 1984 London Marathon to raise funds for St Josephs Hospice, Hackney. Jim completed the 26.2 miles in 4 hours and 20 mins and hopes to raise a sum of £500 for the Hospice.

It is our sad duty to announce the death of Mr R Simmons in January 1984. Ray taught at the school from 1958 and retired as head of the language department last July. At his wife Sheila's special request, Fr. Clynick conducted the funeral service which was attended by the Headmaster and several members of staff.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Over the past few months letters have been received from the following Old Raineians. If you can help with their enquiries - or would like to contact them yourselves - please write to the school and your letter will be forwarded.

Derek Smith (1959-64) is now a Lieutenant Commander in the Royal Navy and has a home address in Aberdeenshire. He would very much like to get in touch with his old friends with whom he has completely lost contact: two friends he would particularly like to find are Victor Knope (who left in 1965) and Barry Hurst (who left in 1966).

Christine Burchell (née Davidson) (1967-74) is a mother of two and has recently resumed her career with a job as a clerical officer with the Metropolitan Police.

Mrs Beryl Woolridge (née Cadman) (1933-38) writes that her last connection with the school was at the 250th Anniversary service at Saint Paul's in 1969. She mentions that her father and his brother (S. Cadman) both attended the school and that the latter, sadly, was killed in the 1914-18 War. She asks if there are any prominent people in government and public life who were Old Raineians : are there?

Patricia Perkins (née Tebbutt) (1948-55) was head girl of the former girls' school in 1954-55 and has lived in Canada since 1961. After leaving school Patsy went to teacher training college in Weymouth and then taught for a year before her marriage. She and her husband have four children ranging in age from 23 to 11 years. In Canada she has increased her qualifications and has continued her involvement in education. She has also maintained her interest in drama and is currently president of the Board of Directors of the Theatre Arts' Guild in Halifax, the oldest amateur theatre group in Canada. She would particularly like to contact Madeleine Gray (née Scott) (head girl 1955-56); Cynthia Greenspan (whose married name she does not know) and Beverley Brown (head girl 1953-54) who had a younger sister, Geraldine.

### CAREERS ADVICE - CAN YOU HELP?

Are you in a trade or profession where advice to a beginner would be helpful? In these times when it is difficult to place school leavers in their chosen career the Old Raineians' Association would like to be able to offer advice and counselling to school leavers in the hope that employment and its pitfalls will be clearer to them.

We must emphasise that this idea is only to assist the careers staff at the school and is not a commitment on those who take part to find jobs for pupils.

If you feel that you have something to offer a school leaver, be it advice on Professional Bodies, Training Associations or just an idea of what the job entails, please let us know details of your job so that it can be added to your Association

records.

The school Liaison Officer will then be able to contact you should it be requested.

### MEMORIES OF A MASTER

Winston Churchill's old school song applies to Raineians too - "Forty years on, when afar and asunder, parted are those who are singing to-day". It was my privilege to experience (and survive!) the traumatic changes in the structure of our beloved Raine's from the amalgamation of the Girls' and Boys' schools in 1962 to linking with St Jude's in 1977, which was recently followed by the comprehensive (in every sense!) changeover.

I find it a sobering thought that of a combined Staff of some 60 people when I joined it in 1946, only 8 are still alive - Mesdames Still, Weingarten, Whitehead and Parsons of the Girls' School; Miss Ringer, Messrs Shivas, Broughton and myself of the Boys'.

Now, as the School is due to leave the building it has occupied since 1913, there is understandably a surge of nostalgic affection and the time seems ripe for a resurgence of the Old Raineians' Association. But where are all the Old Raineians now? The casualty rate cannot have been as drastic as that of the staff.

May I jolt a few memories by asking what has happened to these people, among the hundreds of others, who will have been your classmates. Why not try to get in touch again?

- i) The 78 Head Girls and Head Boys since 1946? (One is your Treasurer)
- ii) The families who were at Raine's en bloc - the Marks's (6), Roberts (5), Adlingtons (4), Mulrenans (4), etc.
- iii) The many two and three generation - families - the Matthews, Greens, Penticosts, etc.
- iv) The hundreds who were part of Gilbert and Sullivan productions.
- v) The 2,000 who were in St Paul's Cathedral for the 250th Anniversary in May 1969.
- vi) The temporary heroes who were Oxbridge scholarship winners; rugby, rowing, boxing internationals, etc.
- vii) All those sixth formers who got no lunch until they reached the summits of Sca Fell Pike, Snowdon, Ben Nevis or Goat Fell.

Not to mention those hundreds who had "had it" after their O Levels or were taught Maths, French, Geography or Whatever by old so and so, or got past the "Iron Curtain" and perhaps accidentally set off a fire alarm on a wet day or set off the smoke bomb under the stage on their last day at school! The list could go on and on, but if it leads to happy memories, as well as a desire to see some of those "cronies" again then now is your opportunity.

I, for one, would be delighted to see you all again!

W M SPOONER.

### AND FINALLY

This Newsletter has been filled with the news and appeals from the Old Raineians' Association which are to hand. The next Newsletter in September may not be as full, or dare we say, interesting if we do not receive some news and items from yourselves.

Anything of interest, personal news, memories, requests for contact with other Old Raineians are all welcome and needed. Please write to the Association's Secretary at Arbour Square.