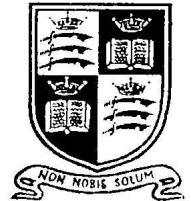
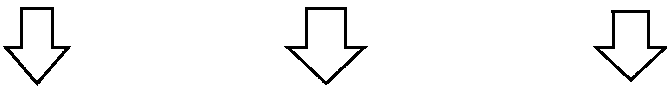


ECSOSA



Edmonton County School Old Scholars' Association
NEWSLETTER Spring 2006

Welcome to our new members!



Another reunion success!

Our Secretary, Cliff Wilkins, tells me that as a result of the October reunion this Newsletter is now read by an extra 51 members. We welcome them and have listed them on the back page of this issue. Who knows, your old schoolpal could be amongst them. If so, and you want to be put in touch just contact Cliff Wilkins, the Membership Secretary, at 214 Maltby Drive, Hoe Green Village, Enfield, Middx. Chairman's Reportt EN1 4EP, or by telephone 020 8805 1570/8350 3670 or E-mail 'cliff@ecsosa.org.uk'.

Chairman's Report

A New Year, a new beginning. 2005 was very much a curate's egg - we lost some stalwart old friends. However, the likes of Jack Long, Eric Wilkinson, Ray Tabor and Bernard Brown, who all made their own invaluable individual contributions to the Association, would, I know, agree on one thing - We move on, with gratitude and fond memories, but forward.

2005 was another reunion year - mainly successful we hope you will agree, but which also taught us some valuable lessons for the next one. One encouraging sign was the number of our "younger" comrades who joined us on the day. Let's hope they stay around and shape our future. We must adapt or eventually we shall just wither away.

So, whilst we continue with one of our oldest traditions, our Annual Dinner, within the next couple of weeks, we are also looking to introduce a new venture for the 'swinging 70's and 80's set' later in the year. Come on you lot, help us make sure we put on something you will remember and enjoy. We need your input.

Meanwhile our Whitewebbs lunches remain very popular, and we are going to Bletchley Park again in the Spring. Hope more of you can join us.

After all their efforts culminating at the Reunion, the archive group has been taking a well earned rest. However, much remains to be done, and we need to think about completing the job. This is a very rewarding task, and we hope more of

Don't forget the Annual Dinner
Now's the time to book
for Saturday, 25th March,
7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

The meal was so enjoyable last year we are returning once again to the Old Owens' Pavilion, Coopers Lane, Potters Bar. The venue has an pleasant atmosphere, and the round tables of eight will allow you either to organise your own group or to quickly get to know others with whom you are sharing.

Tickets have been held for the sixth year at £21.00 each. Please let us know in good time, especially if a vegetarian option is required, although we can accept bookings up until the final week.

There is plenty of parking space at Old Owen's Pavilion, which is a stone's throw from Potters Bar.

You will find an application form at the end of this Newsletter which you can send back or photocopy to save spoiling the page.

you will join us. However, the school is expanding and they need every bit of space they have. Whilst we welcome any contribution you can donate on the school's history, we desperately need somewhere to store the records we have already and hope to gather in the future. Can you help?

Another beginning you will probably notice is in this Newsletter itself. Jan Mills had her own distinctive style, which will be missed, but now Jean and Dennis have the chance to influence us. I look forward with interest if not trepidation.

The chance, therefore, to say thanks again, not only to Jan for her past efforts and to Jean and Dennis for taking over as Editors, but also to every one of your committee for their work and commitment and to all the volunteers who helped at the Reunion. Without them all you would not be reading this.

Frank

The day war broke out...

I was of the generation who had just passed the scholarship exam and were looking forward to joining a new school, in my case Edmonton County. I had been at Raglan School for 4 years so when evacuation loomed my parents thought it better that I go with friends - so I ended up in Ashwellthorpe, Norfolk, and, with several friends, was billeted with a charming couple who owned a mill in nearby Wymondham. I remember going to the village church a couple of days after arriving and, in the middle of the service, the vicar announced that war had been declared - and I couldn't think why most of the adults were crying!

We enjoyed village life but, after about 10 weeks at the village school, collecting eggs and milk from neighbouring farms, etc., Mr. Geary (the head of Raglan) decided that it wasn't particularly safe for 11 year-olds to cycle to Wymondham and then take a train to Diss, the nearest grammar school, so we returned home to Bush Hill Park and went to a variety of schools for short sessions - Enfield County and Latymer - before Edmonton County opened again for business in the summer of 1940. Thereafter we enjoyed quite an exciting time - walking to school and picking up shrapnel to exchange and talk about with others. Commiserating with people who'd had air raid damage to their homes. Watching long convoys of army vehicles along the Cambridge Road on their way to the docks. All this as well as school lessons and learning about the world from radio reports - a world which seemed a long way away then, but now, with travel so easy, is well within reach.

Then came the School Certificate Exams, which entailed having someone outside the room (armed with a whistle!) who listened for Doodlebugs and, when the engine cut out, blew the alarm; we dived under our desks until the thing had exploded, and then returned to the exam. The time we'd been under the desk was added on at the end of the exam! Makes an interesting story to tell grandchildren when they're moaning about exams!

My husband, John West, was also evacuated with his junior school, Raynham Road, and went to Braintree, where he attended the evacuated Edmonton County School for a year before taking up his place at Latymer School; so he knew many of my classmates before I'd even met them - which makes reunions a joy to both of us! Being of a 'certain age' we find it very intriguing trying to work out how we contacted friends when very few had a telephone, and how safe we felt walking to and from Youth Club, Guides, etc., often quite long journeys. We're also amused at our American daughter-in-law's reaction to evacuation: "Of course we'd never allow our children to be taken off without knowing where they're going. Oh yes you would if the danger seemed as great as it did then."

We often say how privileged we are to have had so many different experiences in our lives and to have been able to keep in touch with so many friends. Long may it continue.

Dee West (alias Doris Page - 1939 - 1944)

OBITUARIES

BERNARD BROWN 1936 - 2005

Remembered by his brother Tony

Health problems started early on in life for Bernard, when at Raglan School he was found to have osteomyelitis in his left thigh. He was in hospital for 4 years, and as the North Middlesex was bombed Bernard was moved out to a Convent, a nursing order at Woodford Green. He returned home when he was reasonably well and attended Hazelbury Open Air School. He passed the scholarship and joined me at Edmonton County.

His great passions were tennis and cricket, being a member of Edmonton Cricket Club, and he became one of their scorers. Later he qualified at Lords as a cricket umpire. We both went on one of the last School Camps run by Mr. Bruneels, when we visited Snowden.

Bernard left school and became a librarian. His first job was at the Edmonton Central Library. He married and moved to Grays to run a new library that had been built. His house went with the job. His first wife died and he was left with two children. Later he moved to Folkestone whilst working in London. When our mother died our father moved in with him. He was busy organising Club cricket fixture lists, umpires lists and fixtures. He was also on the Kent C.C. staff when he retired. He is survived by Maureen, his second wife.

RAYMOND BROMLEY TABOR 1920 - 2006

Ralph Christmas

Raymond died peacefully on 13th Feb, 2006 in the Suncourt Nursing Home in Sheringham, Norfolk in his 86th year.

I first remember Raymond when Basil Hoskins, Jean Cawley and I joined the Thespians toward the end of the war. Dear Emma produced 'Rookery Nook' by Ben Travers, and Raymond, in a bald wig, played the hen-pecked husband,



made famous by Robertson Hare, constantly saying "Oh calamity". It was to be the first of many splendid performances. "He could steal a whole scene with just a few lines" wrote one of the newspaper critics. He played the Judge in 'One way Pendulum' and Professor Linden in 'The Linden Tree' by J. B. Priestley, produced by Sam Elengorn and featuring the wonderful music of Elgar's cello concerto.

When not acting Raymond always worked hard, either helping with set design or the business side - we all had to help in those days to keep costs minimal. He always managed to get a photographic record of our productions. His wife Jean too was a great support, both on and off the stage.

When Raymond retired from the Water Board they moved from Rowantree Road to Norfolk, and enjoyed touring holidays, supported their local church and the Cancer Charity 'Big C'.

We send our condolences to Janice and Graham and the grandchildren.

Received from John Hulley (1945 - 52)

Sheila and I were sorry to learn of the death of Dave Langdon. Sheila particularly remembers him at our wedding in 1957 when he was part of the group which came to Paddington Station to wave us off on honeymoon.

At the end of our schooldays a group of us went to a holiday camp on the Isle of Wight, and I enclose some photo's. At the bar we are, from left to right, myself, Dave, Joe Gold, Peter Ellacott and Michael Fielder. We won prizes, I recall, in two fancy dress competitions as 'Beauty and the Beast'. Dave, as the Beast, wore a crash helmet as he had his motorbike with him. Also, Dave and I were attendants of 'The Rich Maharajah of Mogador', a popular song of the time.



We have come across some original ECSOSA (not school) silk badges in pristine condition, suitable for blazers, etc. If anyone would like one please apply with a suitable donation to Frank Wallder.

What do you think?

It has been suggested that we organise a get-together in the Autumn, something on the lines of a Disco, to be held in the School hall. A new venture, perhaps featuring the 'Swinging 60's, 70's or 80's. You can help us make sure it comes to fruition by letting Frank know. We welcome any ideas that will help us to provide something that you will enjoy. You can reply by e-mail or the good old fashioned snail mail.

Ken Powley writes

As a 'lapsed member' who has recently re-discovered the Old Edmontonians, I was very pleased to have been welcomed back by Cliff Wilkins, the Membership Secretary.

Reading through some of the back issues of the newsletter on website I was interested to note that in the Christmas 2004 Newsletter you had listed amongst the missing members both Kriss Akabusi and myself - well, what a small world!

In August last year (2005) my wife Heather and I attended the Dacorum Business Awards presentation in Hertfordshire, where we picked up an armful of prizes for the Industrial Racking business that we have set up jointly, run in Hemel Hempstead. The guest speaker and awards presenter was... Kriss Akabusi. Although we were both at Edmonton School in the seventies we seem to have aged differently - Kriss still looked incredibly fit and healthy, whilst I, well, looked more like the portly 50 year old grandfather that I am!!



I have enclosed a photo of Kriss (the lady is one of the organisers) and myself (he's the tall, handsome one) taken during the awards ceremony. I don't have a postal address for Kriss, but I'm sure you can track him down through his successful Motivation Company by e-mail to the address info@akabusi.com.

Bletchley Park in the Spring

As mentioned earlier, we are arranging another visit to the very interesting wartime 'code-breaking' centre, Bletchley Park, which is just outside Milton Keynes. We have fixed a date for Thursday 18th May, so if you would like to join us for an enlightening morning make your own way there and join us all at 11 a.m.

**BOOK NOW for the Annual Dinner on Saturday, 25th March 2006
to be held at the Old Owens Pavilion, Coopers Lane, Potters Bar. 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.**

First Name: Surname: Nee:

Address:

Years at School: 19..... to 19..... E-mail:

I forward a cheque/postal order for £ made payable to ECSOSA, together with the full names of my guests.

Please return this form together with the appropriate payment to

Frank M. Wallder, 12 Bray Lodge, High Street, Cheshunt, Herts. EN8 0DN.

Tel/Fax: 01992 636164. E-mail: frank@ecsosa.org.uk

Dates for your diary

25th March.	Annual Dinner	Old Owens' Pavilion, Coopers Lane, Potters Bar.	7.00pm for 7.30pm
7th April	Spring Term ends		
24th April	Summer Term starts		
27th April	Lunch Get-together	Whitewebbs Park.	12.30pm on.
4th May	Committee Meeting	Lower School.	7.30pm for 7.45pm
18th May	Day out	Bletchley Park.	11.00am
29th May	Half term commences		
22nd June	Lunch Get-together	Whitewebbs Park.	12.30pm on
21st July	Summer Term ends		
14th Sept	Lunch Get-together	Whitewebbs Park.	12.30pm on
Wednesday T.B.N. T.B.A.	Archive Group. 'Still Swinging'/'Happy Days'/ whatever.	Upper School.	4.00pm

New Members

First Name	Surname	Maiden Name	Years	First Name	Surname	Maiden Name	Years
Peter	Cook		1982/85	Bill	Olive		1956/61
Philip	Hunnisett		1976/81	John	Bushell		1956/61
Sharan	D' All	Burridge	1974/78	Richard	Ford		1956/60
Debra	Kenealy	Pryor	1972/77	Carol	Hall	Bewsey	1955/62
Alison	Seaman	Seaman	1972/77	Linda	Taylor	Hopkins	1955/59
Christopher	Isham		1970/76	Penny	Chesterman	Lynch	1954/59
Dee	Hunnisett	?	1969/75	Peter	Littlefield		1952/57
Linda	Coupland	McNair	1968/75	Martin	Holst		1951/57
Andrew	Lack		1968/75	Ken	Matthews		1951/57
Rosemary	Perkins	Perkins	1968/75	Brian	Ware		1951/57
Janet	Marshall	Marshall	1968/73	Maureen	Shelley	Thompson	1951/56
Ken	Odgers		1967/73	David	Tilley		1951/56
Robert	Goulbourne		1967/72	Brian	Ames		1950/55
John	Souren		1967/72	Tony	Eaton		1950/55
Ann	Sutton	?	1966/72	Valerie	Hicks	Fowler	1948/51
David	Ellis		1966/71	Colin	Walker		1947/53
Christine	Purvis	?	1965/72	David	Pennell		1946/51
Stephen	Benfield		1965/70	George	Smout		1946/51
Madeleine	Burton	?	1965/70	Peter	Steddon		1945/50
Kalvindere	Bamrah		1965/68	Josephine	Condon,	Brennan	1944/47
Gay	Whymark	Lewin	1963/70	Kathleen	Dowsett	Bradstreet	1942/47
Sylvia	Adams	?	1963/68	Keith	Noble		1940/45
Bernice	Cornell	Millbank	1963/68	Joan	Deacon	Moore	1932/36
Chris	Powell		1961/68	Zara	Moore	Taylor	
Rob	Wiles		1960/67	Sophia	Steele	Steele	
Rosemary	Wiles	Marsh	1960/67				

Newsletter Editors: Jean (Wilson) Patten (1947-52) and Dennis Patten (1944-49)

Published by the Edmonton County School Old Scholars' Association.

Any opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of individual contributors and are published in the interests of information and debate. ECSOSA itself holds no collective opinions.