

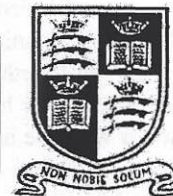


# EC SOSA

## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2001

published by the Edmonton County School Old Scholars Association



### 50TH BIRTHDAY REUNION

Eight of us celebrated our 50th Birthday by spending a weekend at the Cumberland Hotel in Bournemouth. Even though some of us had not seen each other since leaving school in 1967/8, it was wonderful to immediately recognise one another and fall straight into easy conversation and laughter.

We all agreed that the weekend was an unprecedented success. The weather was brilliant (sunny, if a bit chilly by the sea); the hotel was comfortable, food excellent and the company superb. We shared memories of events from our school days (which I can't print here) and caught up with our post school lives. Out came the photos - mostly black & white from that era, even the old school scarf made a guest appearance.

We recognised and named old class mates from the 1965 school photo and sadly remembered those teachers and friends who have since passed away. We were sorry that more people did not join us for the weekend but appreciate that many whom we were able to contact had prior commitments.

We now hope to hold a lunch get together in Enfield in October, so if anyone in our year (must be 50 this year) would like to come along, please let me know.  
**Shelley Arnold.**

*(Hopefully Shelley will give us the date and location in time for the next newsletter together with a contact phone number -we also understand there are plans by other groups, but we have no details.FW)*



L-R Standing: Dave Padfield, Heather Daines (Delancey), Shelley Arnold, John Reeves, Mary Payne (Palowkar) Seated: Judy (Blott), Sharon Pampin (Naughton), Paul Brigden.

### CONTACT FROM CANADA

*The following letter to Martin Rainsford was passed on to us.*

I was surfing the internet recently and came across your web page. I was very interested to see it as I attended Edmonton County in the 50's.

I have lived in Canada since the early 60's and have lost touch with my classmates. In Canada we have a web site called "Classmates" where alumni can post their names and get in touch with other former students from their schools. Is there such a site in the U.K.? If there is I would very much like to renew old acquaintances. If there is no web site, perhaps you would be so kind as to send me the name and address of whoever organises the former

students association. Thank you.  
Sincerely, **Shirley F. Sheridan (nee Kerridge) 51-56.**

*(Have we any surfers out there who can answer Shirley's question? (see the item on our planned Website) I have replied to her letter and hope that we hear from her again soon - if any other of her contemporaries would like her address, please contact me - FW.)*

**Lost & Found** Following our appeal in the last newsletter, we are pleased to report that we have resumed contact with Keith Wallace. However we are still seeking the whereabouts of Marie Luxon and John Hill - can anyone help?

## VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED

for the following positions

**Secretary, Treasurer, Social Co-ordinator, Newsletter Editor,  
ESA Coordinator, Web Site Controller, Database Manager**

**For Great Satisfaction in return for a Little Time & Effort  
telephone Frank Wallder on 01992 470316 to discuss what you can offer  
and find out what we need**

### Chairman's Report.

After the Reunion last summer several group get-togethers were suggested and we offered the help of the Association - so far we have heard of only one.

Did the others take place, were they enjoyed or did they even get off the ground?

Following on the success of our Whitewebbs lunches, a further suggestion was to arrange similar get-togethers for old scholars south of London and perhaps another in Hertfordshire.

Your response? A deafening silence.

In this column in our last newsletter several other ideas for meetings and reunions were mooted - how many replies did this elicit? Not one single call. When contacted with details of our last reunion, many people gave us a list of people whom they would like to contact - but how many gave details of people with whom they remain in touch? Guess. Your committee will help with any proposals but we cannot do it all for you.

This summer in response to demand we are offering more activities than we have been able to for many years. Your committee is a small nucleus which continues to promote new ideas. However it would be better by far for the association if these came to the committee rather than from it.

For more than a year now we have been seeking replacements for committee members who have "already done more than their bit". Again nothing further has transpired - no offers, no response.

Despite this record, yet again we are asking for your help. Why don't you surprise us with your response? To keep the Association going and to provide you, our members, with reasonable service we urgently need feedback and we desperately need help.

With the benefits of modern communication, several of the posts do not require attendance at committee meetings - the job can be carried out effectively from anywhere in the country.

With a full team, no-one has a heavy workload, however without help more work will fall upon existing members and consequently we can expect further resignations. The association cannot continue for long without a wider sharing of the load. One thing is certain - there will not be another major reunion unless the current team is augmented.

Elsewhere we are launching a recruitment drive and setting up a contact service. Another aim is to re-contact ex-staff in order to offer honorary membership and hope that they can join us at future

reunions. This may seem short sighted when we need help in our current situation - we are however putting the hope above experience that we can attract help from a refreshed association, especially from established "groupings" and amongst the "younger" members.

The future of our association is in your hands.

### Obituary

We regret to announce the death of Mr.F.E.F. Doubleday at the age of ninety-two. He had remained fit until he suffered a stroke late in 2000 and finally died peacefully in his sleep in March, 2001.

He was never happy with either of his two "F"s and during a long and active retirement he preferred to be known as Edward - however to generations of pupils of the school he will always be remembered affectionately as "Dubs".

He joined the school on a "temporary assignment" in 1947 which only ended when he left as Senior Master in 1972.

A stalwart of the English Department from its most junior member and through to its Head, Dubs contribution to the school was never confined to the classroom. He starred in school productions when staff joined pupils, notably "The Housemaster", and was an enthusiastic member of the staff teams which played the school at Tennis and Cricket. In his earlier days he was renowned for his control of the "slow bike".

He stayed on through the difficult period when the school became comprehensive and played no small part in ensuring a smooth transition and a continuation of the schools aspirations and standards.

Dubs was one of a small select band - those who do not merely reflect and carry on that indefinable spirit of the school but who help to build and add to it.

Our thoughts and condolences go to his family.

At his memorial service at St Pauls Church, Winchmore Hill, the school was represented by Huw Prosser, ex-staff John Hulley, C.G.Burridge, Joan Ward and Barbara Newsome and the association by Frank Wallder.

### School News

**Martin Rainsford**, Headteacher of the school since taking over from John Hulley has been appointed to as Head of Salisbury School in Enfield. He takes on the challenge of his new post at that school, which is currently in special measures, in September.

His successor has just been appointed - she is Linda Robinson currently Head of a school in Walthamstow - more details in the Autumn newsletter.

We will be inviting her to become our Joint President and Martin to remain as an honorary member of the Association, as indeed we do all members and ex-members of staff.

We extend our best wishes to Martin in his new post with our thanks for all his help and support, especially in arranging our reunions.

Despite the school's reputation and having won an Award from the Department for Education and Employment for School Achievement, they are still experiencing difficulties in filling teaching posts. One of the problems is the demand made on teachers' time outside of lessons due to so many Governments initiatives coming together all at once. Nevertheless, staff and pupils continue to raise money for good causes. A Valentines Rolo Day helped fund a fun day for special needs children at Durants School and there were a variety of events for Red Nose Day.

Other recent outside activities include the Enfield Borough Star project, where school students attend college or work experience placements, and visits to Ypres, Pembrokeshire, London Zoo, Criccieth, Villiers Park near Cambridge, various Drama productions and Music Events, the Travel Show at Olympia, Disneyland Paris and, to top it all, Enfield Town. Exotic though these sound, all were in fact part of courses such as Creative Writing, History and Media Studies.

Other services provided by today's school include support for bi-lingual pupils who use English as a second language and Career and Study advice. Having achieved the national standard in "Investor in Careers", they are now working to achieve "Accredited Careers Library" status.

Sport in a variety of forms continues to add to school life with Sailing coming to the fore as Summer approaches, usually on Banbury Reservoir at Chingford but with "Sail France" hopefully becoming an annual event.

The School is looking for a  
**Teacher of Turkish**  
for a few hours per month from  
September onwards. If you know any-  
one who might be able to help please  
contact **Chris Deacon or Ann Short** at  
the School (020 8360 3158)

## History of the School.

Everyone who has attended one of our reunions will appreciate the amount of magazines, photographs and other documents that the school has accumulated over the years. Unfortunately the sheer quantity of material and prior demands on staff time has prevented proper archiving and cataloguing. It is possible that a start on this could be made in the near future. If anyone would like to help in this daunting but extremely interesting and rewarding task please let us know. It may involve working with current pupils and certainly it will only be possible to work during normal school hours. Watch out for developments.

### Calling all Staff and Ex-staff of the School

Remember you are invited to be Honorary Members of our Association so if any of our activities appeal, then please feel free to join in - and please let us know of any ex-colleagues with whom you are still in touch. It would help if you registered with us so that we can send a regular complimentary newsletter directly to you.

### More Old Scholars News

**Janet Clark** (nee Lochhead, 1959-1964) who served on the committee for some years before moving to Devon with her husband is starting a new summer season at their restaurant at 64B, Fore Street Brixham. Renamed the Pilgrims Restaurant it is near the harbourside above Lloyds Bank. Their son Simon is head chef assisted by his wife Hindira. They will be pleased to see any old scholars who find themselves on holiday in Torbay.

**Kenny Clayton (Kenneth Wilkinson 1944-52)**

On May 9th my brother Ken celebrated his 65th Birthday and a blessing on his third marriage. As the celebration at St Pauls, Covent Garden, was about to begin the quartet of musicians in the chancel broke into "Happy Birthday to You", which the congregation sang with great gusto! The congregation consisted of show business personalities including Bert Kwouk, Anita Harris and Petula Clark and also Ken's first wife with whom he is still friends. Then Sarah and Ken, together with his daughter, two gorgeous little grand daughters and Sarah's three daughters as attendants came down the aisle and the proceedings began. The vicar, who was obviously a friend, said he had presided over many Blessings but that this was one of a kind. All the read-

ings were poetry readings rather than Bible readings, with contents on love, marriage and spouses; various show business personalities including Anita Harris read these. Ken also sang and played a composition he had written specially for the occasion. There were only two hymns in the service and then finally Petula Clark sang the wedding song "There is Love". The couple left the church to "Love and Marriage" rather than the usual Wedding March. **Eric Wilkinson** (*You will be aware that Eric has not been in the best of health recently. He is going into Hospital on Wednesday, 30th May for an operation to sort out the problem of irregular heart rhythms - which we hope and trust will restore him back to the rudest of health. I know everyone will endorse our best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery.*)

We regret to announce that **David Stubbs (1936-41)** passed away on 17th May. There will be an obituary in the next newsletter.

## Social Diary

**The Annual Dinner** this year was held on March 3rd, 2001 at the David Lloyd Centre, Enfield.

Despite numbers being down slightly, judging by the response of those that did make it despite the weather, the evening can be counted a great success.

The facilities at this venue are excellent and new management has improved the level of service and standards to compare favourably with any we have previously enjoyed.

Martin Rainsford used the occasion to announce his transfer to Salisbury School in Enfield and we were pleased that we had this opportunity to thank him for all his help to the Association.

Ex-pupils from the Thirties right through to the Seventies mixed happily to create a friendly atmosphere throughout the evening whilst a birthday celebration of one of our stalwarts added to the ambience. We hope Ron Wright's family particularly enjoyed their evening.

Conversation and reminiscences flowed throughout and the time to leave came all too soon.

We are planning to set up a Website with our own domain name hopefully with links to the School and other similar sites - any Buffs out there ready to take up the challenge?  
Eric's health precludes his active participation but he will be more than happy to offer help & advice.

Those who had originally planned but failed to join their friends missed a "good do".

We need to know whether the lower attendance was due to the change of date or a general lack of interest. Unfortunately, we cannot continue to run this function in its present form at this level of support.

If we cannot attract larger numbers we could require a change of venue and thus probably a significant increase in ticket price. This would be counterproductive and could hasten the end of this long established function.

Provisionally, we plan to hold next years Dinner in early March again next year but please let us know if you would prefer the event to be moved back to the Autumn.

### Whitewebbs Get-togethers -

#### Lunchtime and now - NEW evenings!

Despite torrential rain we had a record attendance of 23 old scholars and friends at our last informal Lunchtime Get-together at Whitewebbs House Restaurant on April 5th. Members came from as far away as Kent, Isle of Wight and even Queensland, Australia! With increasing numbers at these popular functions we may even have to inform the management that there is a real risk of ECSOSA taking over the whole place! Members present were asked if they would like a mid-week evening informal meal at the same venue - everyone living fairly locally said they would hope to attend.

Consequently we have arranged an evening meal on Thursday, July 12th from 7.00pm onwards and our next lunchtime get-together on Thursday 25th October. In both cases there is not a set meal or price - choose from a menu offering everything from a light snack through to a full meal.

To remind you of the location - Whitewebbs House, Whitewebbs Lane, Enfield. No need to book, just turn up and find us in the vicinity of Table No.1 (Past the Bar, turn left, straight on then look for a copy of the Newsletter). J.K. & P.F.

#### Bletchley Park.

We are planning an outing to Bletchley Park, famous as the site where the German Enigma code was cracked during the Second World War, on Sunday 16th September.

Situated very close to Bletchley railway station, Milton Keynes, Bletchley Park is approximately 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> to 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hours journey time from Enfield.

The entrance fee of £5 per person (£4 concession) paid at the gate includes free parking and a guided tour. We suggest

## Diary Dates 2001

<b>ESA Quiz Evening</b>	Lower School, Saturday, 23rd June details 020 8360 7228
<b>Evening Get-together</b>	Whitewebbs Park, Thursday, 12th July 7pm on
<b>Summer Term ends</b>	Tuesday, 24th July
<b>Deadline for nominations, propositions and members to register their interest in the AGM</b>	July 31st
<b>Deadline for contributions to the Autumn Newsletter</b>	August 31st 1972
<b>1972 Reunion</b>	September TBC
<b>Autumn Term starts</b>	Monday, 3rd September
<b>Day Out Bletchley Park</b>	Sunday, 16th September 11.00am
<b>Committee Meeting</b>	Lower School Thursday, 4th October 8.00pm

<b>Deadline for registered members to record their votes for the AGM</b>	October 15th
<b>AGM</b>	Lower School Thursday, 18th October 8.00pm
<b>Lunch Get-together</b>	Whitewebbs Park Thursday, 25th October 12.30pm on week commencing
<b>Half Term</b>	Monday, 22nd October
<b>1967/68 Reunion</b>	October TBC
<b>Autumn Term ends</b>	Friday, 21st December
<b>Annual Dinner 2002</b>	David Lloyd Centre, Carterhatch Lane, Halfway House, Enfield Saturday, 2nd March 7 for 7.30pm

Please let us know the dates of *Your* Reunion

you make your own way to the site and meet in the main house at 10.45 for 11.00am. in good time for the tour at 11.30. Any spare time on arrival can be spent looking at the war-time exhibition. The tour starts in the library, next to the exhibition room and lasts for about an hour. Hot and cold food is available in the house or you can picnic in the grounds. Afterwards there is plenty to see all around the site. More details of the venue are available by telephoning 01908 640404.

If anyone planning to go has spare seats to offer in exchange for help with the petrol or if you would like to go but do not have transport, please contact Peter Francis on 020 8886 7350.

### Contact Database

As so many people ask for news of their contemporaries, we are setting up a database with information on every old scholar and ex-staff member that we can trace - this will only work properly if every one

of you provides us with any information on people with whom you have remained in contact.

Unless we have their prior permission, enquiries about people on the database will not be answered directly, but they will be sent details of the people trying to contact them by the Association. We plan to make this a free service for members but we may have to make a nominal charge to non-members.

### Rules Revision and the AGM

The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Lower School on Thursday, October 18th 2001.

To protect the interests of the membership in the light of the changed circumstances of the Association we introduced a new constitution in 1999. The previous Rules failed to differentiate between constitutional ideas and the running of now defunct Sections. They had little relevance to today's Association and many had been quietly ignored for years.

The constitution is more appropriate to our present structure, responsive to the needs of the membership as a whole yet flexible enough to cover situations (especially progress in communication technology) as they develop.

We now need to complete the process by finalising the day-to-day rules under which we operate. As the Association develops, these can be easily adapted as appropriate to the prevailing circumstances - unlike the constitution which has safeguards which protect the existence of the Association and the rights of all its members, not just those who still happen to live near the location of the School.

If anyone would like details or wishes to contribute their ideas please contact any member of the committee. Remember if you wish to participate in the AGM using a proxy or postal/email votes, you should let us know by July 31st so that we can send you details of any proposals.

## Association Officers

### Joint Presidents:

Martin Rainsford, Headteacher, Edmonton County School, Great Cambridge Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 1HQ  
Mrs. Beryl E. Dewhurst, 22, Queen Annes Gardens, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 2JP, Tel. 020 8360 4679

**Chairman:** Frank M. Wallder, 6a, Stanstead Road, Hoddesdon, Herts., EN11 0RH, Tel / Fax. 01992 470316  
e-mail frank@routemedia.com

**Secretary:** vacant

**Treasurer:** vacant

**Newsletter Editor:** vacant

**Membership Secretary:** Eric Wilkinson, 108, Butchers Lane, Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex, CO14 8UD, Tel. 01255 677946,  
e-mail: ERIC@wilkinsone.freemove.co.uk

**Minutes Secretary:** Mrs. Angela Painter, 17, Wallers Way, Hoddesdon, Herts., EN11 9LH, Tel. 01992 464303

**Committee Members:** Mrs. Pat Mattingly, 4, Riverdale Court, Bush Hill, London, N21 2BY, Tel. 020 8364 2606

Peter J. Francis, 21, Lakenheath, Southgate, London, N14 4RJ, Tel. 020 8886 7350

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Derrick Stone, 4 Brodie Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0EZ, Tel. 020 8363 3631

Mrs. Pat Walker, Sittingbourne Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 2DA, Tel. 020 8245 6305

John F. Kerridge, 6, Park Avenue, Bush Hill Park, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 2HP, Tel. 020 8360 2560

Doreen Bayley, M.B.E., 10 Gardenia Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 2HZ, Tel. 020 820 8360 7274