



ECSOSA

NEWSLETTER
Autumn 2003
Published by the Edmonton County School
Old Scholars Association



Last Issue Photo

There was a wonderful response from you regarding the photo from Miss Henderson's effects. Some of you got a lot of them right and a lot of you got some of them right! The Chairman has come up trumps with all of them and the correct date. You will find all the information in his Report which follows.

Please note that the ECSOSA trip to Duxford has been postponed one week from 14th to 21st September. The 14th is Battle of Britain Weekend and will be very crowded and very expensive. However, if anyone does wish to go on the original date, it should prove an interesting experience.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Once again AGM time is approaching – far too rapidly for most of us. We have received no new suggestions, there are no proposed changes in subscriptions and everyone on the committee is standing again. Another interest packed evening then! HOWEVER, we are still without a Secretary – this is a far from onerous task but at the moment duties are shared around other committee members who would much appreciate a little lightening of their load – any volunteers? **PLEASE!** Especially from our younger membership. We are hoping the meeting will confirm the Vice-President nominations but if you have anyone whom you feel should join the list, it is not too late to propose them. Autumn also brings a revival of our Social activities with meetings at Sevenoaks, Duxford and Whitewebbs

coming up shortly. Please check the Diary on page 4 for details, but please note that the Duxford visit has been put back by one week. Also note that next year's Dinner has been booked for March 20th at last year's venue.

We have had several different people who say "they joined ECSOSA" at one or other of our Whitewebbs meetings, yet we have no record of membership application or payment of subs. We do ask everyone who attends these functions to sign in for our records. We can only assume that some people think that this is a membership application. Sorry, it is not – and we do not charge for these events, so if you have any friends who believe they have joined but have not heard anything, then please contact Eric Wilkinson with their details and **their subscriptions.**

The archiving task of Magazines, Photos, etc. continues at the main school on Wednesday 1st October from 4.00 p.m. – if anyone wishes to join Maureen and myself in this most interesting task, you are very welcome.

Further to many requests, we are investigating the possibility of holding another Reunion next year BUT this will not take place if we do not get more volunteers. Everyone wants a reunion but nobody wants to help. We may well

have to change the format in any case – it's up to you.

Miss Henderson's Photo

Beryl Cushion is a little out in her estimate of the date of the Staff photograph in the Summer 2003 issue.

Both Q and Miss Fothergill were still around in 1952/3. Q left during, and Miss Fothergill at the end of, the 56/7 School year when Sam Elengorn and Doris Staples took over as Senior Master and Mistress. Emma also left early during the year and Miss Owers arrived after Miss Staples was promoted – Solly Galin had left in the summer of 56.

Of those in the photograph, Mr. Bartlett and Miss Quinton left in the summer of 57 to get married, Mr. Buckle and Peter Simmonds also left then, as did Miss Taylor, Miss Brennan and Miss Wrigley. (Graham Briggs arrived with several others in September).

This process of elimination puts the date of the photo as Summer Term, 1957.

Back Row (L-R) Mr. Bartlett, Mr. Buckle, Miss Healy (hidden) Mr. Kevill, Mr. Lowe, Miss Taylor, Mr. Woodward, Miss Young, Mr. Wilkinson, Herr Steinkopf, Mr. Simmonds. Middle Row (L-R) Miss Quinton, Mr. Crellin Dr. Bentley (then Dr. Stiven) Mr. Cleverdon, Miss Brennan, Jack Long. Miss Wrigley, Mr. Burrige.

Front Row (L-R) Miss Horrex, Mr. Akhurst, Miss Fothergill, Mr. Hudson, Miss Staples, Sam Elengorn, Miss Henderson, Mr. Doubleday.

OVERSEAS MEMBERS

If you are planning a trip home, why not let us know about it? We will publish your contact details and itinerary in the newsletter and on the Website to help you arrange meetings with old friends. One word of warning, please give us enough notice for the Newsletter – that means at least four months

Frank Wallder

OLD EDMONTONIANS F.C.

To bring you up to date, this Season we are running seven sides in the Amateur Football Combination league. This is a new league that resulted from the merger of the Old Boys' League and the Southern Olympic League at the end of last season. Last season we had three league winners, with one of these teams also winning the London Old Boys Cup (Arsenal were not the only double winners last year!) We have recently greatly improved the clubhouse facilities, those of you who have not been inside the clubhouse for a while will be very impressed. The next planned development is to add a changing area to the clubhouse (we are still using the old changing rooms at the end of the Barrass Stadium for home games!)

You are always welcome to drop into the clubhouse on any

Saturday afternoon during the football season for a drink and chat. We would love to see you!

Martin McBride.

Hon. Sec.

Old Edmontonians Football Club.

OBITUARIES

Arthur Spencer writes: We went to the Southgate College Opera a couple of weeks ago. The programme mentioned the death of one of their Friends of Southgate College Opera – K.T. Beddall – who left a substantial legacy to them to assure the future of the company.

I suspect that this might be Kenneth Beddall who was at the ECS probably from 1939 and left in 1946 at the end of my First Form year.

He was Deputy Head Boy, I believe, and in Andrew House, like me! He was my 'head of table' at the dreaded school dinners, so as a junior, I suppose that I knew him a little. He was always very interested in music and ran the music society. He studied physics and became a science teacher at Tottenham Grammar I believe.

If I am correct, it may be that you will find someone of his generation to expand on my brief comments.

Arthur Spencer

**Ronald Alexander Rush
1919-24.5.2003**

Ronald joined the school in 1931 and for the whole of his life was a keen member of the old scholars. After war service with the RAF in India, he joined the Nestle Company and was a member of their international business school, run in Switzerland in conjunction

with Harvard Business School. He spent his whole business career with the company rising to senior management and serving as chairman of British Food Export Council for which he received his O.B.E. in 1983. He was also elected a member of the Worshipful Company of Grocers. After his retirement, he was very active in charity work, recording talking books and gaining an award for his branch of the Cancer Shop in Sunningdale for the highest earnings in the county. He was a founder member of the Friends of Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens where his proudest achievements were the refurbishing of the Peter Pan statue and the erection of the Queen Mother gates. His family will plant a tree there in his memory. Among his enthusiasms were skiing, travel, cricket and walking and as a member of the London Group he organised the May walking Weekends for several years always walking the course first to make sure every detail was in place.

His greatest love was theatre and he was active in amateur dramatics until his death. From early days with the ECOS group until his last involvement with the Quince Players of Sunningdale, for whom he directed the Christmas pantomime for many years, this was his major delight. His funeral service ended with a selection from Noel Coward, whose proudest boast was that he had "a talent to amuse". Certainly this sentiment was shared by R.A.R. an old scholar who made the most of his life. The funeral was a family affair only and there is to be no

memorial service, but if anyone wishes to mark his passing, the family suggest any cancer charity of your choice.

Minnie Greenaway (nee Cawley)

Unfortunately, I must report my sister Minnie's demise last year having had heart trouble for several years. She was 83 years old and had fond memories of her school years.

Jean Martin (nee Cawley)

Pat Tidbury (nee Johnson) writes from her home in Australia: For those who do not know, and might be interested, after leaving school in February 1944 and spending too many months in a factory on National Service, I was released to complete a speech and drama course at L.A.M.D.A. in 1943. Lack of funds sent me off looking for work, and in January 1947, I was lucky enough to get a job with American Overseas Airline, which were merged with Pan-Am in 1950. Many travel miles and happy days later. I met and married an Australian in 1957 and with a young (very) daughter, we left for Hong Kong where we spent seven years before settling in Sydney late in 1964. I worked in Radio Hong Kong, mostly as an announcer for six years, which must have been while Bruce Goddard was with the BBC? We were a BBC subsidiary, taking much from their overseas service. I did visit ECS briefly in 1964 and came to an AGM, meeting Raymond and Jean Tabor, who I had known at school and in the Thespians, also Ralph Christmas and Ted Lawrence among others. I also keep in touch with Basil Hoskins from time to time. I am enclosing a photo of Prefects taken in Summer 1943 – I repeated 5th that year, trying to improve my

maths marks – I did not! However, I'm sure Mr. Morris, Mr. Akhurst and 'Q' would be pleased to know I have never over or undercharged a passenger or put more people on an aircraft than we had seats!

I lost touch with ECSOSA for a lot of years, when I came here (Australia) but as this is the 27th home I have made in 77 years, I guess I could be forgiven.

However, it has given me great joy to catch up in the last ten years or more. I am very lucky to see and talk with Gerry Bailey (also knew him from Raglan Road days) and his wife Judy. Margaret Cole rang me in late 1999, unfortunately we could not get together as it was over Christmas and New Year, but spoke to her brother Peter who lives in Sydney. I am about two hours north on the New South Wales Central Coast.

Through Gerry's internet, I received an E mail by post from Ted Lawrence. I was delighted to hear from him. I often wonder where others from the photo are now. I believe Doreen Ellis is a doctor in Bristol? Last time she rang me was in 1950 to say she was an MD – Peggy Ellis also got her PhD that year. I think Irene Wright died some years ago. She was a lovely girl – her brother Ron was in my class, but I had no idea he was connected until he wrote to the Newsletter. I owe him an apology for an incident in the Gym during a dancing class in 1938? Sorry Ron – he will know what I mean. I often see Bill Clarke's name mentioned, and think he is Renee Clarke's brother – did she go to Canada or Nova Scotia? So many memories and most of them very good – we were all so fortunate to attend ECS. Such marvellous teachers. Mr. Locke (Gus) once took me and Florrie Weir to London for the day in 1938 as we were not going away for a holiday – the

Tower of London, lunch, a movie (The Four Feathers), afternoon tea and a red rose for our mothers – he was such a nice man. Dr. Galin, who could never find his glasses which were always on his head! He was an old friend of my Dad – and dear Miss Emery. To whom I owe so much for her lunch time Elocution lessons, and her belief in my abilities – what a shame we can't thank them all. In closing, I fear I must contradict Miss Fothergill – something I wouldn't have dared if she was here! but we did lose one of the pupils in World War 2. Her name was Eileen Bawd and I think it was 1940 or 1941, when she was 14 or 15. She died when their air raid shelter was hit, and her parents were also killed.

Eileen had a serious heart condition, and had told me about it, as she wasn't allowed to play games etc. I always thought it strange that she should go like that as she was an only child of 'older' parents with a limited life span anyway, but as someone said 'life is often stranger than fiction'

I hope you might find some of the above of interest. I still have a good memory and very few ills seeing, as Gerry Bailey tells me 'we are now pushing 80,' so cannot complain!

Best wishes to everyone and thanks for all your work to keep the news coming.

Pat Tidbury (nee Johnson)

DIARY DATES 2003

Lunch Get-together	Crown Point Inn.	Thursday	11th September	12.30 p.m.
Deadline for postal votes for AGM			12th September	
Day Out	Duxford Museum	Sunday	21st September	11.00 a.m.
Committee Meeting	Lower School	Thursday	2nd October	8.00 p.m.
ESA AGM	Lower School	Thursday	2nd October	12.20 p.m.
ECSOSA AGM	Lower School	Thursday	15th October	8.00 p.m.
Half Term	Week Commencing	Monday	27th October	
Autumn Term Ends		Thursday	18th December	

DIARY DATES 2004

Spring term starts		Monday	5th January	
Annual Dinner 2004	Old Owens Pavilion Coopers Lane, Potters Bar	Saturday	20th March	

Pat gave her address and telephone number for anyone who would like to contact her. Her address is Kalyan, 3/12 James Road, Toukley, N.S.W. 2263 Australia. Tel: 0243971687 Pat would also like to know if anyone knows the whereabouts of the prefects in this picture, there are also one or two gaps to

Front Row:
Sheila Hay, Peggy Ellis, Beth Burns, Edna Harris, Peggy Camani, Norman Clay (Head Boy) Joan Marriott (Head Girl) Jean Pengelley (I think) Irene Wright, Pat Johnson and Margaret Thompson.

Send any contributions direct to the Editor or post to the Website.

Members, staff (past or present), old scholars or guests are all welcome to attend any of our social events or meetings. Committee meetings are held at the Lower School, Little Bury Street, N.9 Go into the main entrance, turn left down corridor to first room on the left. Come along and find out what goes on – your ideas and contributions welcome. Meet at 7.30 for prompt 7.45 p.m. start.



Please send all news and contributions to the news editor:

Mrs. Jan Mills,
278 Westhorpe Road,
Gosberton, Spalding,
Lincs. PE11 4 EP
Tel: 01775 841320

E.Mail:
Janmills@beeb.net
All contributions gratefully received!

be filled in her memory
From L-R Back Row
Stan/Fred?, Albert Fish, (?)
Freddie McAdam, Basil Hoskins,
Douglas Dawkins, Don Smart,
Doreen Ellis, Ted Lawrence and
Roy Fowler.

WANTED– News. Views.photos and articles. The success of the newsletter depends on **YOU**. Don't think all your old friends already know what has happened to you – don't think that they don't care. Don't rely on them to write first.