## The Old Croydonian

April 2006



The official magazine for the association of ex-pupils of the Selhurst Schools

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"The tradition of your school is handed on to you by others who were members before you. Play your part as a worthy member, so that you may pass on to others who will follow you, a tradition that is better for your association..."

### Inside...



## THE EX-PUPIL Series John Gooding (Part 2)



PAGE

John Gooding (1925 - 1933)





<sup>page</sup>

Eric Austin (1925 - 1932)

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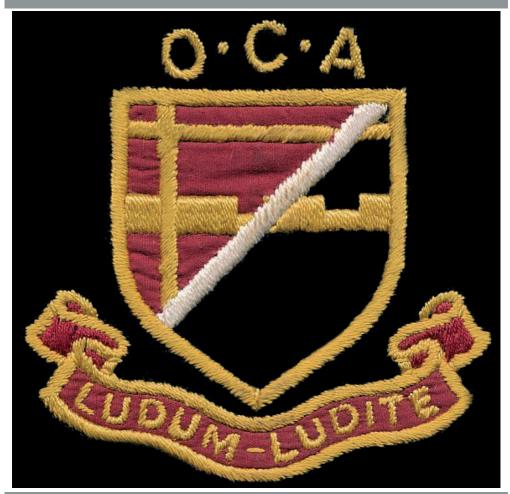
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### **School Badges Series**

A rather nice example of an Old Croydonians' Badge sent in by Bernard Woolnough and digitally repaired by the Editor



You can download a FULL COLOUR version of this on the OCA web site at http://www.theoldcroydonians.org.uk/pics/uniforms.html

See Derek Silverman's article on school badges on page 26 - **Ed**. If you have examples of variations on Selhurst school badges, let us know.. We're especially interested in the HOUSE badges from the Boys' School

### Message from the Chairman



t does not seem the right of the stage in the Hall) and months since wrote my message for the extra 2005 edition of our magawhen you are having

fun? Eight months may have passed the short straw when it comes to but it becomes no easier to find enough words to fill my allotted

space, particularly with the deadline drawing near.

After the enjoyment of the Centenary Lunch,

2005 returned to some normality with the usual events: the Annual Reunion and the AGM. It was not possible for the Reunion to be held at its usual venue at the school so a very successful event was held in- Again, enjoy YOUR magazine and I stead at the St George's Church Hall in Shirley, which we found had very close connections with both Selhurst and the Old Croydonians. You will find a report of the AGM within the following pages.

The boys' school now has a new DEREK MAURI meeting room (Pansy Wedd's old classroom, the door of which was to

"The boys school now new meeting has а room..."

like nearly eight at the invitation of the Head Teacher we have been able to forge a new connection with the school by holding our committee meetings there. Before, it had been the practice to zine, doesn't time fly hold meetings at the Chairman's house, so at least I no longer draw making the tea!

> Looking through the list I can see that our Editor has again accumulated a magazine full of interesting

articles. I particularly looked forward to reading The Eric Austin Story (page 30) - I trust it is the expurgated edition, Eric!

meeting as many of you as possible at Reunion the and AGM this vear.

look forward to

### Hello from 'Ed'



www.elcome to your third new-format magazine and thanks for all the letters and emails regarding its con-

tent and layout. Apparently, you like it! 'Variety', they say, 'is the spice of life', in our case, The Old Croydonians' spice rack is getting fuller all the time!

We certainly seem to have stirred up a lot of memories if the amount of material

you're sending us is anything to go by. So much so, in fact we've now got a slight backlog. If your submitted article didn't make it in

*this* edition, rest assured, we will *definitely* be up-to-date with pending articles by the time we publish the September edition. A quick reminder that the dead-line for articles for the next edition is June 30th 2006, and if you feel moved to provide something, it would be helpful to also ask for a recent head and shoulders photograph of you so that our readers can put the face-to-the-name.

I'm pleased to see a number of articles from ex-pupils of the *Girls'* School - thank you! 'Project Visio', our drive to acquire and scan ALL of the Boys' and Girls' panoramic photographs has got off to a GREAT start (see page 57). I must mention the great help provided by Chris Bennett and his Team who look after the Croydon Archives and their contributions to our collection.

As you all know, 2011 is a special year for the Old Croydonians - one hundred years since its formation. In future editions we'll keep you up-to-date on preparations and plans for its celebration, suffice it to say that we have already begun to think about how the current High School and BRIT school can help

*"We certainly seem to have stirred up a lot of memories..."* 

us make it a memorable event.

In previous editions we've always managed to feature a good ex-

ample of school badges. So far, we've featured the Boys' and Girls' blazer badges, the Boys' sports achievement badge and this month, 'The Old Croydonian' blazer badge. I confess to not realising there were so many variations especially on the Boys' side. So, if any of you out there have got yet another variation, let us know and we'll be happy to publish it in the future.

Enjoy your Magazine!

sterre

STEVE PALMER

### The 2005 AGM

#### RECORD OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held in the Boys' School Dining Room on Saturday 15th October 2005 at 12 noon.

#### PRESENT:



Derek J Mauri (Chairman), Bernard E Woolnough (Treasurer), Peter D Juniper (Secretary), Steve Palmer (Editor & WebMaster) together with 56 members and guests. Our Vice-President, Mrs Joan Pickering, MA (Head Teacher) was again the Guest Speaker.

The Committee Members were: Ray G Carter MBE, Peter G Francis, Isabel MacLeod, Pauline C Sinclair, Norman J Smail; Keith Whitham was unable to attend.

The meeting was opened at 12.03 pm. The Agenda with accompanying Accounts had been sent out to all members by mid-September. There were 80 apologies for absence. The Chairman extended a warm welcome. The Report of last year's AGM in the spring Magazine of 2005 was agreed as a correct record: with no matters arising.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

This report referred to a satisfactory year and the success of our Centenary Lunch on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2004 at which some 230 members and guests had enjoyed the venue and arrangements.

There would be a further Remembrance Service at 11.00 am on 11<sup>th</sup> November in the Boys' School with several representatives invited to join pupils and staff there.

There would be two main events in 2006: the Summer Reunion (probably in the Girls' School on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2006) and the AGM followed by a Buffet Lunch on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> October at the Boys' School again.

The Chairman referred to Steve Palmer's launch of a new-look Magazine in April and a further issue in September, which had proved popular and informative.

The Chairman reminded us that the Association's Centenary was due on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011 and it will be planned accordingly...

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### The 2005 AGM

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Committee has met together on three occasions and is in constant contact to improve its service. Membership has increased steadily but there should now be more concentration on the latter years of the schools to improve numbers attending the events.

The annual Remembrance Service was again shared with existing pupils in front of the Memorial for both World Wars.

At the beginning of 2005 enquiries were made as to the lack of any recognition of service at the Girls' School. There were many replies to an exploratory letter, including details of individual service in all theatres of the war. Accordingly an Appeal was made for donations to fund this idea. The plaque has been completed



and may be viewed today prior to its installation in the BRIT School with the full approval of the Principal, Mr Nick Williams.

The Secretary thanked everyone for their continuing support. He concluded by thanking Pauline Sinclair and her team for again looking after the catering arrangements, both in the summer and also at today's meeting.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer referred to his report accompanying the Accounts. There were considerable donations made towards today's expenses. The cost incurred in connection with a new Members' List would be recouped in sales to members. There were still a number of school ties available at £7 and also the School Song CDs.

Public Liability insurance was now included in the Hire Fee for school premises –in line with the adjoining BRIT School. The Inland Revenue had returned six years of interest on the Association's Building Society Account, as it had been wrongly applied.

All three Reports were approved with no dissent.

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2005-2006**

There were no further nominations so the Chairman suggested that all could be re-elected for a further year subject to proposal. Result: full endorsement with no dissent.

#### **ELECTION OF AUDITOR**

The Treasurer thanked Brian E Smith for all his assistance over the year and for his recent work on the annual accounts. His re-election was unanimous.

#### SELHURST HIGH SCHOOL FOR BOYS

The Chairman introduced the Guest Speaker who reported on a good year and that the school was to specialise in mathematics and computing in the future. More money had been advanced by Lord Harris of Peckham, which in turn had been doubled by further Government Grants. There was to be a new Information Technology Suite and a further Technician employed. Exam standards had improved. The staff levels had remained constant and there were no vacancies. Of 70 entrants, 12 were in need of serious reading assistance over the next year. Further education changes were indicated as to possible amalgamation with another school to increase pupil numbers. There are 530 pupils at present. The Chairman thanked our Speaker for again informing us of the school's progress in the past year.

#### ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Isabel MacLeod reported: 586 members, comprising 153 female and 433 male members. Since October last year there are 50 new members.

A new revised Members' List is available £2 per copy. Only 50 copies have been printed, so early application is advised.

John G Ashe indicated that he wished, on behalf of members, to thank the Officers and Committee for their hard work.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 12.38 pm.

Daphne Clarke née Smith (1936-1941) was asked to present the Girls' School Memorial Plaque for general viewing prior to its permanent display in the BRIT School. Daphne played a role in the latter part of the Second World War; this had involved landing after D-Day in June 1944 and proceeding through France to Germany and Victory in May 1945.

#### Peter D Juniper, Hon Sec 7.11.2005

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### Post Bag - Walter Currie (1950-1958)

Walter talks about his interest in Etymology, organ practice during and after school and seeing himself at Speech Day ..!

hank you very much for sending the CD so promptly. I played it immediately and was thrilled at the quality and, in my mind, transported back 50 years!! I have fond memories of C. W. Scott and admired his talent immensely. Despite lapses of behaviour in class (for which I still feel a measure of shame when one sees the wider context of the staff having survived the years of WW2) he and, later, Ray Heald gave me a lifelong interest in etymology and I have been repeatedly grateful for the surprising amount of Latin which I learned, enough to fail at 'O' Level!

I can also picture vividly the School Hall and was particularly grateful for the opportunity to learn the organ on the school instrument. I spent many satisfying hours playing the organ after school and during lunch hours. The staff did not always appreciate the latter time as it disturbed their lunch hour - there was a second staff room in the corner of the hall immediately below the organ. Mr. Pritchard objected quite vocally on several occasions!

Isabel MacLeod sent me a copy of the booklet recently published about the history of the Selhurst Schools and I was fascinated to see the photo of the School Speech Day at the Civic Hall as it took only a few moments to identify myself seated amongst my contemporaries in a picture of whose existence I was, until that moment, unaware.

I was pleased to learn that the buildings are being put to good use now; somehow the Selhurst tradition of excellence continues albeit in a very different setting from those distant years of the mid-twentieth century. The more I reflect on my school years and the more I learn about education today I become increasingly convinced that I received a first rate education given to us by staff who, with very few exceptions, were very dedicated and caring, as well as being excellent teachers.

### Post Bag - Walter Currie (1950-1958)

Walter reflects on some names and faces from the past, including the discovery of a surprise photograph from the 1950s/60s...

was particularly interested in the account of the 2005 reunion which I had hoped to attend as it was held in St. George's Hall. Unfortunately family commitments made attendance impossible. In the days when I lived at 5 The Glade (a few minutes walk from St. George's) I attended Services held in the Hall as the Church was then yet to be built. My brother, Michael Snook, was a very active member of The Good Companions and I still treasure photo collections of some of the productions. I am sure that Michael Farrant knew my brother as also did Norman Smail, whom I knew too. Sadly my brother was killed in January 1960 following a road accident in London. The name Quiney rings loud bells! Does/did Mike Quiney have a sister called Maureen? A young lady of that name was much admired by my brother, I remember he did an excellent pencil portrait of Maureen. I remember casting well hidden glances (I was only 11/12 at the time!!) at Maureen and also at another member of the choir at that time - Margaret Mayo. I visited the area a few years ago with my wife and saw for the first time the Church building which had replaced the Hall. A very helpful caretaker gave me a copy of a Church Anniversary magazine which had a centre spread photo of the choir from the 1950s/60s and, mirabile dictu, there were the faces and names of people I had never expected to encounter again! A memorable visit indeed!

I was sorry to learn of the death of Charles Oakley, he never taught me (I did French rather than German) but he inspired admiration and respect, as did so many of our masters in those distant days. When we next sort through the attic I will look out for Selhurst memorabilia - I do have some photos - and will pass them on.

All good wishes,

Walter Currie (formerly Walter Snook, 1950-58, Gamma)

### Post Bag - Len Jarrett (1930-1935, Gamma) - The Boys' School Song

*Len recalls the school organ being built in 1933 by one of the sixth formers. Anyone recall his name?* 

was very interested to read the Sept. 2005 edition of "The Old Croydonian", especially Norman Smail's article on the Boys' School Song. That brought a few memories, as it came into being during my first year at the school (1932/3) C. W. Scott was our Form Master and, if my memory is correct, we had to learn the Song and sing it at the 1933 Prize giving. The following year, he composed descants which became public at the 1934 Prize giving. I used to have a 78rpm recording, which a relative transcribed on to a 3½" disc some years ago. While the choir is musical, unfortunately I can't hear the words properly! But I also remember the organ being built on the balcony in 1933 by one of the sixth-formers, but I can't remember his name. I assume he was assisted by professionals. When I joined the Croydon Gas Company on Katharine Street in 1937, he was working in the Secretary's Department.

The School Song on CD is available via the web site. If you don't have access to the Internet, contact the Editor and we can provide a copy on CD for a small fee - Ed.

### Post Bag - The Boys' School Song - The English Translation

We had a number of requests to publish the ENGLISH translation of the Boys' School Song.

1. Where a smiling woodland lay, Fortune's happy bower,

There our school stands forth in grace, May the genius of the place Guard us with her power, guard us with her power.

#### Chorus

Hail Selhurst, woodland fair, Hail to Selhurst's fost'ring care May she flourish now and ever

2. Under thy beloved care, in our task persisting,

Be the prospect dull or bright, Ev'ry burden a delight To us, you assisting; to us, you assisting.

#### Chorus

Hail Selhurst, woodland fair, Hail to Selhurst's fost'ring care May she flourish now and ever 3. When the garb of youth is shed, to the struggle bending,Let remembrance turn to you,Almae Matri, what is dueTo your careful tending, to your careful tending.

#### Chorus

Hail Selhurst, woodland fair, Hail to Selhurst's fost'ring care May she flourish now and ever

4. Let us praise our noble dead – When our country beckoned,
Gladly without scruple nice,
Gave their lives, a sacrifice,
Nor the loss e'er reckoned, nor the loss e'er reckoned.

#### Chorus

Hail Selhurst, woodland fair, Hail to Selhurst's fost'ring care May she flourish now and ever

This and the original Latin text can be found on the website. You can also view and/or download the sheet music - Ed.

### Post Bag - Brian Roote (1944-1949, Beta) - The Punishment Book

Our thanks to Brian Roote for re-supplying this article regarding the punishment book from his time at the school...

recently started researching my family history and whilst using the facilities in the Local Studies section in Croydon Library I discovered that amongst the archives were some of Selhurst's inner secrets.

In the archives is the "Punishment Book" which Heads were required to fill out when applying the cane to errant backsides! The handwritten notebook starts in 1945 and is most revealing reading! What surprised me was the number of my contemporaries who figured at regular intervals but the names will not be revealed here! Also interesting was the change in the nature of the punishable offences as society took what I feel was a turn for the worse.

In the early years, such 'horrific' actions as snowballing in the playground, sliding in the playground, lack of effort in completing work, letting off chemical smells in the classroom all warranted one or two whacks. One monstrous event - letting off a balloon in class (at which occurrence I was present) brought a smile to my face as I can say that the term balloon was more than a little misleading.

As the years passed such descriptions such as insolence, smoking and drinking begin to figure more and more in the book until what I feel was misguided legislation put corporal punishment into history and the punishment book relegated to the archives.

#### **Brian Roote**

### Post Bag - The Mystery Master...

We weren't able to identify the name of the master on page 32 in the previous edition. We had many replies, some are reproduced below

should have reacted the first time that you published the photograph on page 32 of the current 'The Old Croydonian' because I knew perfectly who the teacher mistakenly described as 'Stanswood' was.

He was Mr J. L. Benson and he was an art teacher. He was my form tutor in Years 4 and 5 [1961-3] and we used to refer to him as 'Jim' but I am uncertain what his first name actually was. I remember that he was a very considerate form teacher and very popular. He had an Art Teacher's Diploma from Manchester and he left the staff in the summer of 1963. - *Dr. Trevor James (1958-1965)* 

The fourth man at the back could well have been Mr. Benson. He taught art from 1957 until 1963

- Doug Honer (1948-1972)

*I would endorse lain Gordon's suggestion that the master's name is Benson* - *Fred Simmons* (1957-1963)

*Iain Gordon is correct to suggest that the Master is indeed Jim Benson* - *Julian Hornby* (1957-1964)



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### Post Bag - Alec New (1941-1946, Delta) - Pupils for the high jump!

aving have noticed that a chum of perated tone. mine. Henry Overall, is also a member and I'm sure he won't mind my re- Needless to say, Henry won the event counting an incident at one of the easily, I think reaching the height of sports days (I can't remember which 4'6" but I cannot be sure, the memory year). It was junior high jump competi- tends to play tricks these days. tion and after a short while all had been eliminated except Henry, who I have also seen the names of others was a very good athlete.

and each time was cleared with some killed in a flying accident. ease. Finally, I think it was Mr. Mills

recently become a who said "Just how high can you member of the Association, I jump, Overall?" in a somewhat exas-

of my years whom I remember - Bob Fitsall and Alec Ibbott, I also knew The bar was raised again and again Alan Dark who was unfortunately

> If you have any official school PANORAMIC photographs to add to our collection, please get in touch. The collection is growing, but we need more to complete the series (see page 57) - Ed.

### Post Bag - Reverend Alan Thomas (1948-1955, Beta) Cricket Scorer from 1953-55

Ian was cricket scorer during 1953 until 1955. He sends us a couple of photographs taken at the Staff cricket match in 1952. The batsman on the left is Rogers and in the photograph on the right (L to R, we have Clinch, Montriou and McCormack.



"Thank you so much for another most excellent production. Your presentation is brilliant - many thanks! The Magazine is a delight to read..." Walter Currie (formerly Walter Snook), 1950-1958, Gamma



### Post Bag - Shock horror! Minstrels caught smoking in the library

The picture of Henry IV Pt1, sent in by the Rev. Thomas for the last edition of the magazine, brought back a musical memory. A very young Alan Thomas played Owen Glendower's daughter, Lady Mortimer. Myself and two other string players of the school orchestra, hidden away in the shadows of the hall balcony, accompanied the song. Afterwards we three minstrels adjourned to the library, and were caught smoking by Mr Egford. We were certainly not in his good books that evening.

## John Hamer

1943-50 Beta



On a separate note, John wonders if anyone is interested in a daily quiz show on BBC 2 called 'Eggheads'. As the title suggests, contestants take on the experts. The prize money can increase by £1000 a day! John wonders if anyone is interested in forming a team for a future series. A team of 6 intelligent people is required and they will need a free day for auditions, and, IF selected, another for the recording. Contact Steve, the Editor, if you're interested and we'll pass on your details to John.

### Post Bag - Eunice Clement (1939-1947) - Form Photograph

*Eunice Clement (née Horsley) sends us her form photograph from the upper sixth. It was taken in 1946 or 1947. Anyone recognise anyone? Eunice is pictured in the back row, third from the left* 



Finile

We're always pleased to receive your stories and anecdotes. If you are thinking of sending us something, we prefer them Word processed or Typed or Your best handwriting! If possible, a recent head and shoulders photograph too, helps readers to put the face-to-the-name - **Ed**.

## Post Bag - School 'House' allocation by John Seaton (1969 - 1976)

B ack in December 2005, John wrote to us asking about the criteria used to determine which 'house' you were allocated when you joined Selhurst. We posted the question in various places on the Internet as well as asking around the OCA Committee. The responses are interesting, varied and sometimes contradictory! - see below for a sample of replies we received. In September 2006's edition we'll pull all the information together and attempt to get a definitive answer from those 'in the know'.

"This has been the subject of much debate in the past and has yet to be resolved. There is some support for the view that if your primary school put you in a group and attributed a colour to that group then you kept it when you moved to Selhurst."

"My experience is that brothers get into the same house, (possibly to allow passing blazers down). I have no idea about people from the same school as I was the only one from mine"

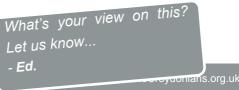
"From what I can remember we were just told where to go and being good obedient pupils we did as we were told"

"I think Gamma and Delta had some criterion to do with sport."

"I think not, as I was Delta and singularly unsportsmanlike."

"No correlation with my Primary house at Winterbourne - Kelvin (red) - and Selhurst - Delta (yellow)"

"My recollection was that they then discussed how perceived academic ability was the criteria. I believe they also asked me about the language requirements for each house. In some way they related the assignment of French or German to a certain house as being somehow indicative of academic expectations. I do not recollect how they thought the ranking worked..."



### Post Bag - The OCA's 50th Anniversary by J J Hornby (1957 - 1964)

Regular contributor, Julian Hornby reminds us that the anniversary of the formation of the Old Croydonians' Association will be celebrated in 2011. He provides us with two extracts from a previous Croydonian Magazine celebrating 50 years of the OCA.

he beginning of this term 661 was to some of you the introduction to a new school and we, the Old Boys of Selhurst Grammar School, bid you welcome. The wonderful history of your school commenced in September, 1904, when it was opened as The Croydon Borough School and the records today show that its pupils have attained high achievements in many walks of life. Old Croydonians can be found in every part of the world and they remember their years at school and the friends they made in the classrooms and on the playing fields. This is where our Association plays its part in uniting all 'the Old Boys of our School'. When you pass through the Hall, pause for a moment to read the names recorded there, some of those surnames can be found repeated in later school registers and there may be some among you today, who can look with pride on the name of an elder member of your own family. The membership of

the Association continues to increase and as well as more recent school leavers we also are proud to have a few Old Croydonians who were at the School over fifty years ago. They helped to found the Association in November, 1911, and next year we look forward to our Golden Jubilee. To mark the occasion we are holding a dinner at the Norbury Hotel."

> Julian adds that the Dinner actually took place at the Shirley Park Hotel on Saturday 11th November 1961 (Armistice Day) - **Ed.**

Post Bag - The OCA's 50th Anniversary by JJ Hornby (1957 - 1964)

This piece was written by C W Scott (1906-1912)

he history of the Old Croydo-661 nians' Association can be given very briefly. It was inaugurated at a dinner held on November 11th, 1910, its purpose being to promote social intercourse between past students of the School. It took some time to develop the necessary impetus, for until 1913, when the Governors courteously granted the use of the new school premises in The Crescent, the club had no abiding place. Thereafter the growth of the Association was unchecked, until August, 1914, when it ceased to exist. As soon as the war was over, energetic measures were taken to resuscitate the Association, and these succeeded so well that since the General Meeting of 1919 there has been a steady growth. If we omit the years 1914-19 it will be seen that the Association is but ten years old, and therefore has not achieved very great things so far. However, the spirit of enterprise is paramount, and every year sees some worthy addition to its activities

The original aim of the Association was to provide facilities for social intercourse among former pupils. In this department we have very little to learn, for our social events, the chief of which is the Annual Dinner, are becoming famous. Sport is represented by strong Football and Harriers Clubs, while the acquisition of a sports ground, for which a fund has already been started, will lead to future athletic development. It is the policy of the Association to stimulate the growth of as many subsections within the parent body as possible. All tastes must be considered.

All Old Croydonians are grateful to their alma mater and desire to make some return for the lasting benefits conferred on them during their stay at school. An Endowment Fund and an Advisory Committee for the benefit of the pupils of the School have been proposed, and preliminary measures have been taken for their initiation. This, we hope, will be the magnum opus of the Association."

### Post Bag - Jean Brant (1932-1936)

#### Jean joined the OCA recently and reflects on her time at the Girls' School

#### Memories of Selhurst Grammar School for Girls: 1932 –1936

1932: I entered in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Form. Miss Postlethwaite was Form Mistress: a charming lady. This was the year that the Lower School was closed. The Lower had accepted pupils from about 9 years of age. Apart from the new intake, pupils from the last Lower School included: Hilda Blow, Margaret Butler, Peggy Hiscock, Joyce Jordan, Hetty Mitchell.

1933: Form Mistress was Miss Doggett - very young and consequently very popular! Other teachers included: Miss Fryer (Gym and Games), Miss Redman (ex England Hockey), Miss Nursey (Physics), Miss Beardsell (French), Miss Veitch (French) - a most attractive lady. Some girls felt she was a member of the European aristocracy!, Miss Rea (History - taught us how to smooth the colouring when drawing historical maps: a method I use even today when applying my make-up!), Miss Lister (Latin), Miss Postlethwaite (Geography) - I had the pleasure of meeting Miss Postlethwaite after I had left school. It was at Streatham Ice Rink. We had tea together. Miss Moncrieff (Art), Miss Baggs (Needlework and Cookery) - I still have her instructions for "How to scrub a wooden table top" in an old notebook.

I was in Canada House. The colour of the button was brown, later changed to orange. S. Africa's colour was red, Australia's blue, India's green.

1934 onwards: girls I can remember.

Dorothy Hart produced a play "The Square Peg" which a group of us performed for the whole school at the end of term. Miss Doggett (who encouraged drama) said afterwards that she was very pleased with us all and that I looked like Hitler (I had worn a Brown Shirt and brown jodhpurs and Wellington boots...) It must have been 1935 –36 as we were all becoming aware of Hitler and the Nazis.

Joyce Edwards: a witty and amusing girl. I sat next to her in the front row. Joanna Jacobs, Mary Kench, Florence Read, Vera Mobsby, Marjorie Matthews, Marjorie Barnes, Barbara Nicholson, Olive Passell whose mother sang with the BBC sing-

### **Post Bag - Jean Brant (1932-1936)**

ers, Mary Guthrie whose mother was the licensee of the pub at Thornton Heath Pond and whose name was later in the national newspaper having become an air pilot.

We used to have Wednesday afternoons off. A group of us spent many Wednesday afternoons rehearsing for a concert party which never came into being! During the holidays a group of us went rambling.

Staff and students performed a play "The Romantic Young Lady". It was advertised for parents and friends. It was a great success. (I believe the school was collecting money at the time – I don't know what for). The girls were most intrigued and, indeed, thrilled to witness the part of the villain being played by Miss Lister – the Headmistress!

There was morning assembly which all girls and staff attended unless they were Jewish or Roman Catholic. Notices were read out and future events announced. One such event would be if a student had been accepted for university.

The prize-giving evening was held in the North End Hall when all staff wore their gowns and sometimes their mortar boards. I can remember one year the guest of honour was General Allenby who led troops into Jerusalem during the Great War.

The school uniform was a white blouse and navy blue gym slip. Members of the 6<sup>th</sup> Form were allowed to wear white blouses and navy blue skirts. It was probably 1933 when summer dresses were introduced: they were in blue, green and tiny red check (appearing to be in pink). Also the dreaded beige lisle stockings were done away with and we wore gold, black and red ties. Ribbons made out of the same material as the school hatbands were awarded for gymnastics each year and fixed proudly on to gym slips!

After lunch each day students went into the playground and in the summer into the field at the back of the school unless we were rehearsing a play or practising with the school choir.

### Post Bag - Jean Brant (1932-1936)

A school debating society was organised and I can remember four or five well known persons going up in a balloon, the gas ran out and inevitably one had to be dropped out. On one occasion I remember the poor soul who was dropped was Princess Marina Duchess of Kent. Generally she was very popular but not with the girls in the debating society apparently!

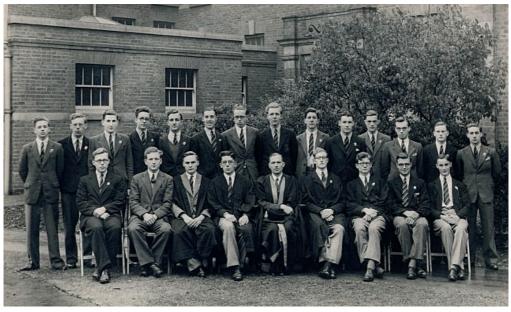


The photograph is of the school play. 'Alice in Wonderland' taken in 1936

The front row includes: Iris Holmes, Kathleen?, Joyce Harrop and Hilda Blow.

The centre row includes: Joyce Edwards, Marjorie Matthews and Jean Brant

### Post Bag - Prefects 1944



Prefects - 1944

Front row - senior prefects (those who had matriculated were allowed t wear gowns)

Prom left to right - Dick Etherington Fred Bailey ? L.H. Bishop F.W. Turner, Headmaster Eric Pascoe M.W. Maycook Dudley Spice Dennis Burley

Back row standing Prom left to right - Peter May Bob Porest Jeffery ? Lewis ? Lock ? Pittman ? Roy Setter Peter Gale Geoff Warrington Keith Mathews ? Alec Robb ? ?



Thanks to Peter Gale (1938-1945) for this rare find Download a larger version from the website Click on 'pictures' then 'prefects' - Ed.

### Post Bag - George Best remembered... by Valerie Heathorn 1956-1962

Valerie discovered this at home and is not sure how she acquired it. The poem and drawing were originated by 'S. Ford'. Does anyone have any more information?

Oh Georgie, Georgie, What's up with you? You won't go training, I don't know.

You went to see Frankie, Earlier this week, I bet you had words That one shouldn't speak.

You've been turfed out o' your home And chucked into digs Hunted by reporters, Just like Ronald Biggs.

Everyone's moaning They're not seeing goals. You're stealing their hearts And starving their souls.

Valerie Deat

If it's this girl The trouble's about, Then phone her up And sort it out.

Just make a clean breast And throw fears away, If you don't you'll be sorry On some other day.

Why not come back, All full of zest, To hear the crowds shouting, "Georgie Best!"



### Post Bag - Library Bookplates

Ken Harman (1946-1949) has found a book that once belonged to W.H. Bentley, the second Headmaster of the Boys' School - and adds a little about the School bookplate design.

earching through Internet sites recently, I came upon a small second-hand book that had unexpected connections with Selhurst. "The Essays of Leigh Hunt" does not immediately appear to have anything to do with the school, but the book was listed under "Selhurst" purely because it had a Selhurst Grammar School bookplate fixed inside. As soon as the book reached me. I found it had an inscription by the then Headmaster, W.H. Bentley: "M.Hawes. Design for Book plate. W.H. Bentley - Nov. 1921". It is possible that there was a competition inside the School for suitable designs and that Hawes won it but whatever the background, I certainly remember this plate in many (if not all) of the library books in the late 1940s. We know from the School histories that after Hawes had left Selhurst and was at the Croydon School of Art, in 1925 he won the prize for the front cover of the new format magazine.

"M. Hawes" was Meredith William Hawes who came to the School from Winterbourne School, Thornton Heath in April 1915 and whose father was a Civil Servant - the family lived in those days at Richmond Road, Thornton Heath. Meredith obviously had artistic leanings and after his years at Selhurst and his matriculation [1920] and Inter B.Sc.[1922], went on to Croydon School of Art from 1922 to 1925. He followed this with four years at the Royal College of Art where he gained a diploma with distinction and a post-graduate scholarship. He went on to do the course in Pedagogy. Then followed his career in art teaching, first at Bournemouth School of Art, Head of Design at Derby School of Arts & Crafts, and Vice-Principal and Head of the Design Department of Hull College of Arts. Not resting on his laurels, Meredith Hawes went on to become Principal of Bourneville School of Art and was appointed as Principal of the Birmingham School of Art in 1946 where he remained until he retired in 1971. He was not only a well-known art academic: he undertook much work for publishing houses and advertising agencies, designed book covers and book jackets, and was also involved in mural decorations, theatrical and costume design and typography. Furthermore, he exhibited over many years at the Royal Academy (his work certainly spans the years from 1929 up to 1964) and at other galleries including the New England Art Club and he became President of the English Society of Watercolourists. Not a bad career for one whose talents had been recognised so early at the School!

# Post Bag - Library Bookplate by Meredith Hawes





### Post Bag - School Badges by Derek Silverton (1935-1939)

Derek was encouraged to drop us a line after seeing the photographs of school badges we've published in a previous edition.

n the last edition of the "Croydonian" you showed two versions of the Selhurst badge. When I was at Selhurst (1935-1939) the top version was in use, only the motto was "Ludum Ludite", which, as I am sure you know, means "Play the Game". The cap badge was a small shield, with a border in the House colours. The blazer badge was, however, a much grander affair. We were told that the design represented a view of the wall of Old Palace, seen through a window in the Town Hall. As the only Old Palace we knew was a girls' school, the significance was lost on us. (And still is!) The background of the badge was red, and the design and motto worked in gold wire. That's right, gold wire, and yes, they were expensive! The all woven pattern, with the same design, came in two or three years later, and was definitely looked down on! After a career in what is loosely described as "Electronics", I am, of course, retired, after fifteen years as a volunteer car driver with the Ambulance Service.

Yours,

Delivet

Derek Silverton.

### Post Bag - The Joy of Army Cadet Force Camps

John Hamer (1943-50, Beta) takes us back to the days of a 'man's army', and the Reverend called 'Chunky'...

was pleased to see that my old school friend Mike Farrant had a copy of the returning Easter cadet camp crowd from April 1948. (See 'Old Croydonian' -April 2005, Page 44). I also recognised L to R, Back row, CSM March (6th), John Taylor (7th), Dell Baxter (9th), Middle row and generally set up camp. Part of the job was for two of us 'volunteers' to go on the back of an open truck to the nearest gas works (Horley, I believe), to load up a supply of coke for the rectory boiler. It was a real 'man's army' in those days. The rectory was centuries old, but the Rector's

Tony Pink (2nd). lan Cron (3rd) and Front row. Dave Powell (3rd). His father was licensee of The Surprise Inn. Shirlev Hills. where we



housekeeper fed us well, which was a good thing as I think we might have starved, left to our own devices.

We all had a great week. We rigged up

used to assemble for fieldcraft schemes, Cert.A exams etc.

The Easter camp was held in the grounds of the Rectory at Merstham as the Officer Commanding the 1st Cadet Battalion of The Queen's Royal Regiment was the Rev. A. E. WIlkinson, OBE, MC, TD. (See page 52) Rector of Merstham. I believe he had the rank of Lieut.Col., but was affectionately known as 'Chunky' (don't ask why). We had a great time that week. I went with the advance party, to erect tents, an assault course with rope bridges and slides. No health & safety to bother us then, we eschewed safety helmets and harnesses. No cissies we!! We also went on manoeuvres, and played sports and 7-a -side rugby. We never went to camp there again. I believe Rev. Wilkinson died within the year. I know a small group of us acted as a Guard of Honour at his funeral, but in which year? My memory fails me.

The highlights of our cadet years were undoubtedly the summer camps at Cliffe

### Post Bag - The Joy of Army Cadet Force Camps

on the Isle-of-Wight. There we spent an idyllic fortnight, enjoying pretending to kill each other each morning, doing guard duty, and spent the afternoons relaxing on the wonderful sandy beaches of Totland Bay. All for £3 or so everything included.

We travelled by special train from East Croydon to Brighton, picking up our other Companies at Redhill. Then along the south coast line to Portsmouth, where we caught the IOW ferry. More trains when overseas, then Quick March to camp.

One year we shared camp with the Gordon Boys' School, made up of the sons of Gordon Highlanders. They had a really professional military band and a pipe band. It made the march to camp much easier having the skirl of the pipes to help us along.

The weather always seemed perfect, hot sunshine in a cloudless sky every day. That was except for the night of the Big Storm. The heavens opened during the night, many tents were blown down in the gale force wind. Next morning we were excused duties, and caught up on our sleep, dossing down in the marquee where the straw bedding was stored.

The camp site was next to a Royal Artillery gunsite on the promontory known as Cliffe End, and we were shown actual test firings of the guns. There were also trips out to The Needles on the RASC waterborne launches. We camped in style, fed by real cooks of the Army Catering Corps, had a NAAFI canteen for drinks and smokes. Yes I must admit most of us smoked like chimneys, away from parental constraints.

I could go on endlessly, but space is tight, and the memories fade with the years. I can't remember what happened in which year. After 5 annual camps, it becomes a blur. The last camp I attended was on Culver Cliff near Sandown. A great disappointment after the previous years. I was by then Company Sergeant Major, and missed the camaraderie of being one of the lads. I think we all missed the great times we had at Cliffe End camp, and will cherish the happy memories.

### Additions, Errors, Amplifications & Omissions

We've added this section to the Magazine to acknowledge members' comments from previous Magazines...

In the September edition, (page 30) we'd wrongly quoted that Colin March FIRST met John Evernden in 1974. We should have said 'LAST met'.

In the September edition, (inside the front cover) we'd wrongly suggested that Graham Davies was at the school from 1964 until 19**6**7. That should have read 1964 until 19**8**7.



"Thank you for sending me the Magazine - I do enjoy reading it with all the memories..." Marie Skewes (née Ambrose)



### The Eric Austin Story (1914 -

As part of our continuing series where we interview past pupils, Isabel has spent some time with Eric Austin, reflecting on his life and loves...



[This is an edited version of the transcript of a taped conversation held at Eric's home on 20<sup>th</sup> April 2005. The conversational tone has been retained, as this is essentially an exercise in oral history.]

was born on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1914 at 127 Melfort Road Thornton Heath. According to my mother I was a very sickly child, but here I am in my 91<sup>st</sup> year.

My grandmother was a widow for nearly 50 years. She lived in Stuart Road, Thornton Heath: by the Clocktower. We used to walk up to the top of Streatham Common on a Sunday morning through the brickfields, no houses in Green Lane in those days. My grandmother used to take me out on Mondays to get me out of my mother's way, so she could do the washing - across the fields, with all the cows. My Dad had an allotment in Melfort Road opposite Braemar Avenue, where all the houses were later built.

I went to a little private school opposite where we lived, run by Miss Rosa and Miss Louie Brooks. In the wintertime my mother used to put leather leggings on me, which you had to do up with a buttonhook, just to go across the road, and poor Miss Louie had to undo them all, and then put them back on when I had to go home. In 1923 I went to Winterbourne Road School. I sat for my Scholarship in March, or April, 1925.

I turned up at Selhurst Grammar School in September 1925, and there I met Raymond Carter on my first day. Mr H A Parkinson was the form master; a good man, but he was very sarcastic. We went round the class in turn to read. When it was my turn, I came to this word b I a c k g u a r d – I had never seen it in my life, so I said black-guard. All the boys dissolved into laughter, and I felt most embarrassed. Mr Parkinson said, "Eric Austin, it's better to keep your mouth shut and be thought a fool, than to open it and remove all doubt".

I didn't do very well that Winter Term, or the Spring Term, because I was invariably away with asthma. In the Summer Term, I think I finished up about 10<sup>th</sup>, so I moved up to the Second Form, still with Raymond Carter. I was hardly ever at school in the Winter Term 1926. Then, in 1927, there was an epidemic, in Croydon, of diphtheria and scarlet fever. I

### The Eric Austin Story (1914 -

was in the isolation hospital in Waddon, where the A23 now goes round.

Mr Bentley was headmaster and he reviewed my case. As I was probably the youngest boy in the form, he said I could stay in the Second Form. So, I stayed and Johnny Wedd was my form master. From then on I always did very very well. George Kinch, a well known Old Boy, was in my form: he was a very clever boy.

I always got a very good report for work, but I wasn't such a good boy really. I always had the bad luck to catch the duster or the chalk when it was being thrown round the room. So, there came a time when I got a Head Master's Report which said, "work excellent, conduct calls for immediate reform". The Head Master said, "Eric Austin, if you come before me again this term, I will recommend the Governors to withdraw your Scholarship". I doubt whether he would have been able to do that. I was on my best behaviour!

You probably dare not write the next bit. Mr Hollinrake was our Geography master. When he entered the class, we were always banging our desks. One day I had the bad luck to be sent out to stand under the clock: right outside the Head Master's study. He would bring you in and give you two, four or six of the best. I hid in the cloakroom and hoped he wouldn't see me, because he used to walk round to see if the boys were hiding. Eventually, some of my chums said, "Don't worry Eric, the Head Master hasn't come to school today and Mr Hollinrake just left on his bicycle". There was worse to come. In the Register, I saw "Austin: C for conduct". Thank Goodness, he wrote it in pencil, because I rubbed it out! I was scared stiff.

Tubby Hollinrake was a lovely man. Bang! Bang! Bang! Contrary to that, H A Treble, Sammy Chambers, the Baron, F T B Wheeler, – when they entered the classroom you could hear a pin drop. We used to call Wheeler, "pouffant" because, when he cleared his throat, he made that noise. Ever heard that before?

I played rugby - we had House Rugby, which we played on the field behind the Girls' School. I was good at scoring tries because I was a stocky little chap who could run fast, and I was good at converting tries too. Mr Stanley, the Games Master, used to put up the teams in the Senior corridor. One day my friend said, "Eric, you're in the first XV". I looked and there I was: <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in the first team. I couldn't believe it. From then I was a permanent

### The Eric Austin Story (1914 -

fixture in the school team. Jack Woodcraft and K J MacDonald were in the same team and I played for the Old Boys', got my colours two years running, which entitled you to buy the special blazer, which you could wear like a big shot.

[IM: How old when you left school?] | was 17. I took Matric in July 1931 and much to the horror of the Head Master, and all the staff, I failed. I got distinctions in Maths and in Latin, but you had to pass English and Maths. I only got about 45% for English. I still haven't any imagination. You ask me to write an essay on daffodils and I wouldn't know where to start. I was good at grammar, paraphrase and parsing, but I hadn't any imagination. The Head had my papers re-marked - unsuccessfully - and I returned to School for one more term. I was given a room to study in and I took External Matric again: and I passed.

[IM: Where did you buy the uniform?] I'm really not sure how I got my school uniform – cap, tie etc, but I think they were sold by the School Secretary – Miss Cayford – from her office. And we bought our Old Boys' stuff up in George Street -Leonard Lyle, later Pickford and Newton. At the other end of Poplar Walk there was a sports outfitter. I used to buy my rugby boots, rugby jerseys, everything there. That shop was completely destroyed during the War.

Sammy Chambers was a fantastic Maths master. He lost his hand in the First World War, so he had a hook.

What a load of lovely masters. Johnny Wedd really understood me. He became great friends with my parents. He thought that the boys I was hob-nobbing with weren't suitable for me. One boy was Norton. We used to wait at Bensham Manor Road for the girls to come and Johnny Wedd used to see me. He told my mother not to let her son mix with that boy. "He's no good". *[IM: Was he right?]* I expect he was.

My father wanted me in his business, so I was sent to Pitmans College in Croydon. When I sat the Royal Society of Arts Stage II Arithmetic Exam, I passed and was awarded the Society's Bronze Medal – first place in the British Isles. I got a job at a firm of Chartered Accountants – Binder Hamlyn and Co - where I was the typist, now called a PA, to the Investment Department, at a salary of £3 5s 0d a week. That was very good in 1932 because most boys got jobs at 30 bob a week.

Mr W G Johnson, Head Master of Pitmans College, encouraged me to try for the Chartered Secretaries. I enrolled with the City of London College in Ropemaker Street, which was destroyed during the War, and I used to go there in the evenings to attend the lectures. There were about 1500 candidates but only a maximum of 10% passed. I was No. 115 when I passed my Final in December 1937.

I had my 21<sup>st</sup> birthday party in a little hall in Winterbourne Road, a proper building next to the School. Simpson (an Old Croydonian) came and performed tricks, an old Boy came to sing, my Dad hired a radiogram, and we danced. The big thing that night was that my Grandma who was born in 1844 came to my party. She died in 1937 aged 93 and a bit. They had a car to bring her and a car to take her home.

In August 1936 I went for two weeks to Shanklin, Isle of Wight. On the pier, I saw one of the most gorgeous young ladies I had ever seen (Rene) with her friend (Phyl). I took Rene out a few times but it was soon clear that Phyl was the girl for me.

Phyl worked in The Empire Stone a small party for Phyl and a few close Company's Accounts office in Fleet friends, at which my Father presented

Street. She used to watch me playing rugby for the Old Boys on their fantastic Sports Ground in Purley Way – the ground we had leased from the Air Ministry. The lease provided that the ground would be taken over by the Government in the event of War and we had to give it up when War was declared in September 1939.

I must mention here that that Sports Ground was really state-of-the-art, after playing rugby at Monks Orchard, Elmers End where we had to clear the worst of the 'cow-plops' from the pitch before the game started and then, at the end of the match, we washed off in 40-gallon drums full of COLD water...Phew!!! So, the Purley Way pavilion was really something: two rugby pitches, one football pitch, three hard tennis courts and an excellent cricket square.

I went back into my firm [IM: What was the firm?] Austin & Young. The diamond business was an ancillary really.

I had known Phyl less than two years when my Father sent me to The Gold Coast. By that time I had persuaded her to marry me. We agreed to become engaged in June 1941. My parents gave a small party for Phyl and a few close friends, at which my Father presented

her with a single stone diamond engage- cleared that place: and we planted croment ring from one of the Hatton Garden Brokers through whom we sold the output from our diamond mine.

At the time of Dunkerque, every ablebodied British citizen world-wide was called up to fight for the country. I was issued with a Non-Combatant Service Notice requiring me to remain in the employment of my company as the Acting Mine Manager: evidence that I was in a Reserved Occupation.

The area we mined was over 2 1/4 square miles. We had a European compound and over the other side of the hill we built an African village. But no-one had bothered about the dogs, and the place was running wild. I put out an edict that any owner of a dog was to lock up the dog, because any dog found wandering was liable to be shot. Amos had a two bore shot gun. I don't know how many he got rid of, but in one night we cleared out all the dogs. Believe it or not they were eaten by one of the tribes from the Northern Territories, the Fra-Fra.

You don't have to be a mining engineer to be in charge of an alluvial diamond mine. It's just like market gardening – if you know what to dig, and how deep down to dig: that's all you need. I really

tons and cannas. Cannas were lovely purple leaved with a red flower. It was quite a sight.

A three-year tour in West Africa was unheard of for any European but Phyl waited for me. For the entire three years I sent her a dozen red roses every month. I had an arrangement with a florist in Leicester. Having arrived in October 1939, I finally got on a ship from Takoradi Harbour in November 1942 to come home and get married.

That ship took about eight weeks to get to Liverpool. Instead of going up through the Bay of Biscay, which was infested with submarines, we went below the Equator up to Norfolk, Virginia. I have never ever seen so many warships. In New York, they assembled a convoy of 107 ships to come across the Atlantic. We were a commodore ship.

If you want to believe that the earth is round go up the Mersey River, look out towards the horizon, and you suddenly see the ships coming over the horizon. Wonderful!

I was married in February '43 at Braunstone near Leicester. You know Braunstone? [IM: I do] I was married to a

Roman Catholic. When I first met Phyl she was a Protestant. She converted to Catholicism. I didn't mind. She could have been a Moslem, a Hindu or a Sikh. She was mine.

I went back to the Gold Coast in 1943. We sailed from the Clyde, three ships in convoy – Duchess of York, the California and a merchant ship. They were going out to Lagos to embark troops to go to the Burmese front. Wonderful sight. I remember it vividly going down the Clyde with all the work going on on both sides. It was a great ship building area in those days.

Just off Casablanca the ship's bells started ringing. There were three German aeroplanes at 10,000 feet. It was high level bombing. We just zigged and zagged. They took one ship each and dropped bombs, turned and came back, did a lot more damage and then flew off back to their bases. I walked down the corridor to where a lot of people were congregating. The purser said, "Go back, there's no order to abandon ship". Being taught by Mum to obey instructions. I went back but the next salvo took that staircase away completely with all the people on it. I could have been one of them.

There were four nuns in the next cabin. Terrified. They were going out to Sierra Leone as missionaries on their first ever trip. In my cabin the flames were licking through the floorboards, and one of the fellows got out through the porthole. I was too fat; I couldn't get out through the porthole. Don't ask me how I did it, but I got up on the rail of the promenade deck and I jumped. Sea down there, and I jumped into my lifeboat. How I got the strength, God alone knows. I was put aboard a destroyer. I got a billet in the Petty Officers' mess, so I got eggs and bacon for breakfast.

When we got to Casablanca I had never seen anything like it. The Americans were in charge. They sent a ship from Oran to pick us all up and we went down to Freetown, Takoradi, Accra, Lagos and I travelled up by train to our mine. 132 miles: took eleven hours on the Gold Coast Railway.

That was good - only been married three months, but I was still alive. The Germans were well into North Africa and the authorities thought they were liable to come across the Sahara Desert and capture the diamond mines. They were very short of diamonds. Stupid – they *couldn't* have come across the Sahara desert.

came out. I worked in the Gold Coast from 1938 to 1949.

[IM: Did you live in Africa again?] No. In 1957 I started to go abroad to get business.

[IM: sport?] I played rugby. I was due to skipper the Old Boys' A XV for the season 1939/40, but the War came.

Melfort Road was one and a guarter miles from the School so I walked in the morning, back for lunch, back to School, and back home. That was five miles a day. That's where I met Kathleen East. East's ran the hairdressing salon in Brigstock Road, next door to Hartwell the butcher, who only packed up a few years ago, opposite Williamsons the paraffin shop and tools whatever you call it [IM: Hardware?] That's right. Joan Williams went to Selhurst Girls' School and was a friend of Kathleen East, and Yvonne East is John Hunsworth's sister-in-law.

[IM: Old Croydonians?] I did join, but I didn't take any jobs because I spent all those years in Africa. A.J. Raynham used to send me the Magazine; he was the Editor before Herbert Cornell. I used to love getting my Old Croydonian out in Africa. I used to write.

In February 1946 my gorgeous wife In 1953 I went to the AGM and Mr Pritchard piped up "We've got Eric Austin here tonight, he's just got back from Africa, he hasn't done any work for the Old Boys' yet, I'll nominate him". I became an additional member, then I became the Membership Secretary. Herbert Cornell did the Magazine and I did all the collating at my house in Carshalton Beeches.

> I must also tell you about the Old Boys' Annual General Meetings. They were held in the School Hall and we always had an act. Have you heard of a man called Simpson? He was a member of the Magic Circle. He was an Old Croydonian. He used to come along and do tricks. We also had singers - Arthur Martin and Norman Hayter.

> Ask me some more questions. I haven't given you enough about the school. [IM You've given me a different perspective of it] The Old Boys' had a stall up at the school sports. Roma Mauri used to sell her plants. [IM: At Duppas Hill?] They had an Old Boys' 220 yards invitation race and an OCA Athletic Club 220 yards race. In the Invitation Race, you ran in what you wore. That silly bugger Gordon Parr decided he would be clever and run the reverse way round the track. He ran straight into me with the inevitable clash of heads which left the blood

streaming down my forehead. And then he blamed me!! I finished up at my Doctor's to have my head stitched up. And I've still got the scar.

*IM: When did you retire?]* I retired in 1997. Officially retired in '97. One day, in 1996, May 2<sup>nd</sup> I agreed to do some telling for the Conservative Party. That morning Phyl was not feeling very well. I was very worried, so I decided to ring the doctor. We were sitting in that window: Elizabeth, me and Phyl. ... I told Elizabeth 999 quick. They took Phyl to Epsom Hospital.

Eventually, they said they couldn't do anything. Elizabeth asked for the Anglican Chaplain. A gentleman came, Revd Vallins, and he saw this tie. He said, "Selhurst Grammar School". I said, "You wouldn't know that". He said, "I would, my uncle, George Vallins, was a master at SGS". [IM: the poet?] Yes, small world.

#### **Additional Notes:**

Eric has a son, Anthony, who has four children, and a daughter, Elizabeth, who has two children. He also has three great grandchildren.

Amongst his photographs, Eric has found some which include School trips under Mr K M (Smiler) King and his Scout Leader to Veyrier-du-Lac in 1931, a similar trip probably in 1933 which included scouts, schoolboys and Old Boys and also the disastrous trip to Suances, Spain, near Santander in 1935 or 1937. On that occasion it rained continuously and the party was washed off the hill-side camp site. They were rescued and transferred into accommodation in a School, or Church Hall.

The trip to France in 1931 cost Eric's parents  $\pounds$ 14.14s. 0d. – the cost included two nights in a Paris hotel, and the stay at a campsite at Veyrier, alongside the lake.

# Anecdotes from 'The Beeches' plus, a School Song for the Girls School...

Roger Nicholas contacted me in 2005. His family were resident in Guildford at the time of Selhurst Girls being at the Beeches. Although he freely confessed to having attended a rival establishment - RGS Guildford, I still agreed to talk to him! Roger asks for our help below.

would be grateful for any anecdotes regarding the school's time at the Beeches. Next Spring, the St Catherine's Village Association is repeating an exhibition on the history of this area and it seems an appropriate time to add a section dealing with schools that were evacuated to this part of Guildford during WWII. Any details concerning the school's activities whilst in Guildford, photographs of school groups etc at this time would be much appreciated. All items would, of course, be safely returned.

My family were friendly with several of the pupils during their time in Guildford. Indeed, when my younger sister was born in 1942 my parents christened her Hilary because they so liked Hilary Vaughan, one of these pupils, who was billeted across the road from our home. Hilary Vaughan subsequently qualified as a medical practitioner at St Andrew's; married a James Black who became a Professor of Physiology and a Nobel Prize winner".

On a related note, can you confirm that the GIRL's school song was entitled 'Glad Hearts Adventuring' with words by M A MacDonald set to the music of Martin Shaw. Although the song was NOT unique to Selhurst - I think it was suitable for ANY school.

I do hope that you will be able to assist our efforts. It would be so nice to have Selhurst Girls' Grammar School represented at our exhibition!

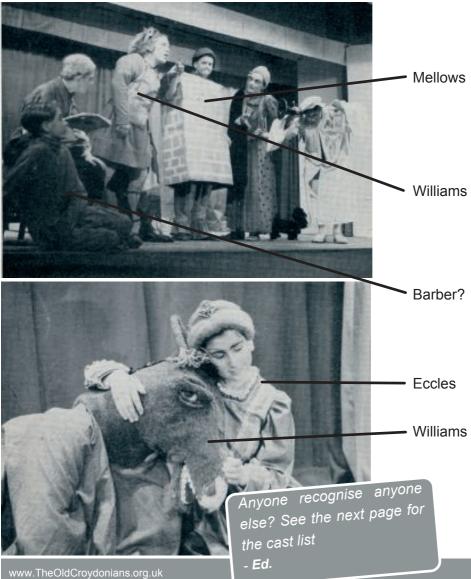
#### **Roger Nicholas**

r.h.nicholas@ntlworld.com

Does anyone have any further details about the song 'Glad Hearts Adventuring'? Let us know - **Ed**.

# Photographs - Keith Whitham (1946-1952, Alpha)

Keith has provided us with a wide range of memorabilia for future magazines. In a copy of the 1952 'Croydonian' Magazine - the Boys' school own magazine, we found some photographs of their production of 'A Midsummer Night's dream'.



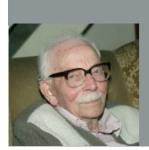
### A Midsummer Night's Dream 1952

A rare find! The cast list with the majority of the cast's autographs too!

## A Midsummer Night's Dream

#### THE CAST

THESEUS, Duke of Athens W. adams . ADAMS, W. EGEUS, Father to Hermia 4.9 Jun HORNER L. J. JENNINGS J LYSANDER in love with Hermia COLLETT, C. A. DEMETRIUS PHILOSTRATE, master of the revels to Theseus FINCH, K, E. ood man, O GOODMAN, A **OUINCE**, a carbenter SERVICE I SNUG. a joiner BOTTOM, a weaver 5 WILLIAMS, T. FLUTE, a bellows-mender HUDSON, J. H. ak Mo MELLOWS, A. R. SNOUT, a tinker JAMES, D. M. STARVELING, a tailor ADAMS, E. C. alo HIPPOLYTA, Queen of the Amazons, betrothed to Theseus HERMIA, daughter to Egeus, DICKER, R. A. in love with Lysander TURNEY, A. J. HELENA, in love with Demetrius REDDING, B. OBERON, King of the fairies ECCLES, M. G. TITANIA, Queen of the fairies BARBER, D. B. Barlos PUCK, or Robin Goodfellow EVANS CHE. Lords HARDANC. H. NIGH, M. D. Ladies WOODLAND, A.W.



I visited John at his home on 14th June 2005 and spent a very interesting time hearing about John's life. John was at the school from 1925-1933. (Ed)



he school in South Norwood was very reasonable until one got to the 'higher end' of it. You began to see the cruel and nasty side of elementary school, with the Masters using the cane with some vigour on the pupils. What did I learn? Spelling, writing sentences and I also learnt about fractions. I learned how to recite Psalm 23 and Psalm 121. - I also learnt about 'cancellation' which led up to simple arithmetic. Things like the 'rule of 3' and 'pi' (a three and a seventh). This allowed vou to do arithmetic about circular things. One day during that period I was told to go and sit for the scholarship, and I walked all the way along Davidson Rd - the end near the Leslie Arms - DH Lawrence taught there previously. So it progressed from there and I was called to go to a school in 'old' Croydon – I can't remember the name for sure, (Tamworth perhaps) and then a call from Selhurst to go for an oral and I remember we had to read pieces from Rip Van Winkle - and Mr Bentley asked questions we didn't know the answer to! Eventually he asked me if an article cost three farthings how much would a dozen cost, and how much would a gross cost? – I KNEW THE ANSWERS! ..and that's how I got a place at Selhurst!

#### **Selhurst Days**

I have recollections that in Form IA, we did very well in Arithmetic, more Writing and Spelling with Mr Parkinson. A gentleman with whom I had difficulty in agreeing was 'Smiler King'. I feel that his classes were almost 'throwaway'. He talked about ancient history and we never had any references or made any notes. Slip tests were on the basis of pure recollection! He also had a term on Geology – a jolly good subject but really, you need a good basis in Geography. In addition to that, it's quite clear now in 2005 that there's a whole lot about Earth Sciences that weren't realised then and that would have made old Smiler's talk about Geology a lot more significant! He also used to keep us in after school, but that was OK because there were always plenty of buses and some boys had cycles. Years later. I had a chance to change my opinion about Smiler. He was

a nice man – odd, but nice! The other thing I didn't like was, we had singing classes after hours once a week, but I think they were looking forward to hearing the arrangements for prize giving.

Now, when we got to form 2A, life started to get more serious, we started Latin. We had Johnny Wedd who taught us French – I enjoyed that...plus more introductions to Science, which, eventually, became my life's work.

# Steve asks: 'Who was your favourite teacher?'

I suppose it was Mr Barlow, you could understand him, and he was a man I could communicate with. The very first lesson he wrote a fractions addition sum on the board and asked for a volunteer to come up (that was me!), and after I had got the correct answer he said "I hoped you would do it more neatly!" but I had never written out front on the board before. We always had a nice little rapport after that, right up to General Schools (1930).

#### Steve asks: What about friendships?

One day in 1928, when I was in Form 3A, I visited the newly opened children's library, in South Norwood, in Lawrence Rd near the Clock Tower. Whom should I meet but form-mate, Vincent Prechner, his parents had come from east Europe

– and I had a very good friendship with Vincent, but the whole thing ended when he was killed in a shooting accident in 1931. Up 'til then, he and I would go around quite a lot. I would go up to his house and go out on lovely picnics with his parents. We went to Penge Empire on occasions. I remember "Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber" about the time of my 14<sup>th</sup> birthday.

There was another boy, from Selhurst, two doors up the road from Vincent, Joe Sear. We went into his house, sometime in 1928 – it was all quiet – just his 13 vear old sister and the Grandfather clock ticking in the hallway – and this is the Grandfather clock (John points out a grandfather clock in his lounge to me). In the end I married his elder sister! Sorry to say, she's been gone these last 18 years, but would have been delighted at the quality of her children and grandchildren. Incidentally, she was an 'old girl', but the family was crippled when the father died in 1926, aged 54. Work became a necessity.

## Steve asks: What was your favourite topic at school?

It's difficult to say, but in the end I'd say Chemistry. You may or may not realise that I studied Chemistry, I have a first class degree in Chemistry and I have a PhD in Physical Chemistry.

I enjoyed French too! I enjoyed Physics in the 6<sup>th</sup> form, but not before. Out of thirteen terms, I came top six times, I came fourth once, third twice, and three where I came second. Things moved on to General Schools, I got distinctions in French, Latin, Chemistry, Maths, and passed more advanced Maths. The Chemistry lab was above the gymnasium. About Physics in the 6th form. I cannot say too much about E W King ('Rhino') who was such a nice man and taught us a lot. I used to see him a bit in London in the thirties. When we were young, his voice down the school corridor seemed so threatening! Later human to human he was niceness itself. In those days, physics problems were 'smoothed' for mathematics treatment --but now, there is a monster called 'chaos' - the real world!

#### ..and least favourite ..?

I had difficulty with History with Mr Wheeler! But that was quite misplaced, because I now realise that history is one of the most important topics I could ever learn about...the behaviour of human beings over the centuries. If I've read any subjects since I retired, it's history – you learn so much about people - and their attitudes. Let me tell you a story by a relative of mine about Geography - It was about one chap who taught Geography, he had wanted to be a teacher, but he couldn't teach anything, so he found himself doing geography! - my apologies to all geography teachers! If we look at what has happened in the last 50 years, say, we realise that we know much more these days about geology - it's what the Americans call 'earth sciences' - Volcanoes. Earthquakes. Tectonic plates. Continental Drift etc, and makes a very valuable subject. I was never very good at Drawing. We had a Master called Mr Drew – he wouldn't allow a single sound! He was a product of a very old school, and I was glad he was replaced by such a likeable chap called Gordon Stowell, who later, would edit the Radio Times.

I was in Alpha house, the same as Ray Carter. I used to walk to school, a mile and three furlongs. I sometimes afforded a penny ride on the tram or the bus. In the 1926 General Strike we all had to walk all ways for 9 days!

#### Steve asks about school hours...

School started at ten to nine and finished at a quarter to four and you could time it quite well. It used to take me 20 minutes to get there, and I could time it just right! and get there just as the first bell rang. One thing, you were not allowed to use the front entrance pathways until you got to the sixth form or you became a prefect, or a Master asked you to park his bike in the Masters' shed!

Steve asks about the school uniform... It was very simple really, the only uniform I can remember was a cap and a tie. Later on, I was proud to have a coloured blazer, that I think we had to pay for. I wore short trousers until some time in the middle of 2A, when I changed to long trousers. My Mother used to say, "you'll get chapped legs...", so I had long trousers.

#### ..and school dinners..?

They were quite nice. I think we got them free if you were a duty Prefect. I think I had school dinners on and off for a whole term, when I was a prefect, otherwise I used to walk home each lunchtime.

#### ..and you were a Prefect ..?

Yes, Mr F.T.B. Wheeler (Alpha Housemaster) asked me to become a house prefect in July 1930 (for September 1930). I think there were eight house prefects (1st year of 6th form) and eight school (2<sup>nd</sup> year 6th) prefects year-onyear. I also became School Head for two terms in 1932-33, had extra responsibilities like Prefects' meetings and used to discuss things like the boys being saucy and what should we do. Prefects at times ran detention classes. We also had Prefects on the doors. Prefects mostly wore the regulation long flowing gowns. On roster, I used to sound the gong for the end of lessons, (first year) - a job that

needed a nice touch of individual skill. Later, the gong disappeared and we had a bell. We had seven lessons a day, three on the trot in the afternoon. We also had Saturday mornings until 12.15 ending with Mr J. Katz and the Debating Class (5<sup>th</sup> forms and above). At morning break (10.30-10.45am - 'playtime') the 1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> formers occupied the large playground. The 6<sup>th</sup> form, by and large used their dignity to stay inside - while the 5th form had virtually exclusive use of the small playground. I saw a first in 1931 or 32 - a small green car driven by a second-year 6th former, parked in the small playground.

## ..and tell me about your sporting achievements..?

In 1A there was a pick up of soccer. Mr F. Hollinrake, the Geography master trying to run a game of soccer! I had played soccer out of school, for a year or two, but the School was turning us into rugby players.

In 1928 when I was in the 3<sup>rd</sup> form, The school doctor rang an alarm bell. My father took me to Harley St and he paid 5 guineas for me to have my heart tested on an early form of ECG machine. The man who did it was called Strickland-Goodall and when his son

died some seven or eight years ago, it was recorded in the Telegraph obituaries. The doctors decided that I had to rest and for the whole of the Summer Term of 1928. I only attended mornings at school. I had to lie down in the afternoons. By the time I got to 4A, I was playing a bit of games again by Summer Term By the time I got to 5A, I was into the football and cricket again. I started off in the 1st XI (in 1930), but I got demoted back to the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI. Who did I join there, but Ray Carter. He and I dismissed Whitgift Middle, 2<sup>nd</sup> XI for 6 runs! Ray took 4 for 3, and I took 6 for 0! After that, I remember I scored quite a few runs and was re-promoted I didn't do very well in the 1st XI until the Old Boys' match - they were dismissed quite cheaply for 98. When I went in, it was 69 for 7 to partner Ken McDonald, who now lives in Toronto and we have corresponded. We knocked off the last 30 runs and won the game - we won the game! That was a wonderful thing! I did much better in 1931 and made guite a lot of runs. – 62, not out against Woolwich County School. In 1932, I became Captain and scored 50 against the parents and won the bat. I continued to hold the captaincy in 1933, but could not play Wednesdays because I was at work. Later, I played cricket for the Old Boys making initially, a rather bad start, but then scored a lot of runs for the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and was re-promoted. I played continuously for the Old Boys 1<sup>st</sup> XI until it all came to an end in August 1939. After that I hardly played again. Rugby – we had a very, very good year in 1932, a good year indeed and I played amongst the forwards and I got my colours cap. I enjoyed playing Rugby. I was lucky enough to get in another full season – 1932/33 playing forward. I experimented later with the Old Boys (A and B) XV as a back.

#### FINAL SCHOOL YEARS

As I entered the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the sixth form, I found myself running around with George Kynch, who later became a Professor of Mathematics at Manchester University. He and I would go around to empty classrooms. I was studying for an examination for the civil service. In the end. I didn't take it because Mr Pritchard who had a friend who worked for a Government laboratory got me an interview sometime around the beginning of May 1933, and I was interviewed by the Deputy Government Chemist and offered a job as an assistant at 30 shillings a week! I worked at the lab bench for four and a half years after that. I can say, that I served my time as a worker in the chemical industry. We took risks that would be abhorred now!. I worked in a laboratory that few people would recognise today.

There were two models, I saw in a museum, one was OLD Government and one was NEW. I looked at the OLD one and

skills, manufacturing and purifying unusual chemicals and subjecting them to carefully controlled tests. This was the



thought "This is the one I know!". Nowadays, chemistry is preparing samples, putting them in machines, reading the results (hey presto!). In the old days it was all colours, gases and precipitates, plus your sense of smell!

Later (1937-39) when I was a research student at University College, London, I was able to improve a lot of laboratory

ending point of my work as a pure experimenter. Afterwards, it was a slide back into administration and paperwork

> The final part of John's reflections will appear in September's edition - **Ed**.

## **Obituary - Maurice Roland Sprake** by John Sprake

t is with sadness, that I have to tell you that my father Maurice Roland Sprake, died on the 21st October 2004 and my mother, Muriel Eileen Wilson Sprake nee Murray died on the 14th November 2004. Both my parents attended the Selhurst Grammar schools, my father from 1930-1935 and my mother from 1928-1933. An article in the Croydon Reports mentions that *'the Boys and Girls were also segregated by an invisible wall...'* 

I have to add that to enforce the separation, the boys school always finished earlier than the girls' school in the hope that the boys would be well on their way home before the girls were released. I have to say that neither rule worked - my mother and father knew each other for over seventy years and were married for over sixty-four of them!



## Obituary - David Wheble OBE, BA by Eric Wheble

avid Wheble OBE, BA was born in Selhurst in 1916, and was, for a period, Churchwarden of Holy Trinity Church, Selhurst. For many years, he was a member of the church choir there. He married Joan Ockenden, who was educated at Selhurst Grammar School for Girls, and they had two boys, Roger & Peter. They had three grandchildren. David was a member of the Streatham Hill Amateur Dramatic Society which produced mainly



Gilbert & Sullivan operas. He also became their President. Joan, his wife, died suddenly in 1977, and David took some time to get over his sad loss. After eight years however, he re-married and lived at Egham. The marriage between David and Doris took place at the Runnymede Church of Magna Carta fame. They lived in Egham until recently and moved into temporary accommodation overlooking Sovereign Harbour near Eastbourne. He left school in 1933, passed his entrance exam to the Civil Service and was then posted as a junior in the Paymaster General's Office. He was called up and served in the Royal Artillery supporting the Black Watch at El Alamein. After he was demobilized, he returned to his office job and was soon promoted. He was well-liked and often asked back for social occasions. He will be greatly missed by family and friends.

## Obituary - Geoffrey 'Kipper' Kindon 1931-2005 (Selhurst 1943-50) by Derek Mauri

Geoff won a scholarship to Selhurst Grammar School where, in addition to his studies, he became an enthusiastic member of the ATC. It was at Selhurst that he earned his nickname when he owned up to being the culprit who placed a kipper behind a radiator at the stage end of the Hall; for which he received suitable retribution from the head-master.

From school, aged 18, Geoff was called up for National Service, which he spent in RAF Coastal Command as a signaller on Shackleton aircraft, shadowing Russian submarines.

On demob he briefly tried insurance before taking a job with the BBC. He married Pat in 1956. After their wedding they lived in Islington where Geoff continued to work for the BBC and also became an officer in a local ATC Squadron. In 1963 they returned to South Croydon and he rejoined Croydon Scouting and the Selhurst ATC. A son, Richard, was born in 1965 and his sister, Bridget, in 1967.

Ill health, brought on by working in all weathers on Outside Broadcasts, caused his retirement from the BBC in 1986. He retired as a uniformed Scouter in 1996 but continued his interest by becoming Group Secretary and membership secretary for the Scout Fellowship, as well as helping with local 'Gang Shows'.

For some years he was the Westerham Village reporter for the Sevenoaks Chronicle.

Geoff will be sorely missed by his family, now including four grandchildren, and by his many friends.

### Obituary for Dr Lewis Derek Heap by Rosemary Heap

am writing on behalf of my Mother, Hazel Heap, to report the death of my Father. He attended Selhurst Grammar School for Boys from 1943 until 1950.

## Obituary for Reverend Richard ('Dickie') Smart by John Hunsworth

am writing to let you know that Rev. Richard Smart died on October 30th 2005. He was at the Boy's school from 1934 until 1940; he was a larger than life character who was known to everyone.

#### Obituary for Ivor Mills by John Hunsworth

also read of the death of Ivor Mills (1932-1939) on December 15th 2005. He was Professor of Medicine, University of Cambridge. He and I shared the distinction of being the only pair of boys from the same form at school to receive recognition in Who's Who.

### **Obituary for Keith Mathews**

by Peter Juniper

eith Geoffrey Mathews O.B.E. of Beckenham, sadly passed away on 14th February 2006. A Thanksgiving Service was held at the Croydon Crematorium on 28th February 2006 at which members of the Old Croydonians Association were present.



# Membership Update - Isabel MacLeod

#### **New Members:**

Surname	First Name	Nee	Start	Finish
Beven	Barbara	Streeter	1949	1956
Beven	Eric		1949	1954
Bowden	Lorraine	Curson	1968	1975
Brant	Jean	Hutchings	1932	1936
Clement	Eunice	Horsey	1939	1947
Foster	David		1955	1960
Hamer	John		1943	1950
Lucas	Eric		1947	1953
New	Alec		1941	1946
Olive	Leslie		1939	1944
Peebles	Joan	Walker	1944	1949
Peters	Margaret	Bligh	1940	1947
Povey	Mike		1948	1954
Tucker	Stuart		1936	1941

#### Sadly Deceased:

-				
Surname	Initials	Nee	Start	Finish
Bowles	KGE		1938	1940
Campbell	С		1936	1943
Неар	LD		1943	1950
Kindon	GΑ		1943	1950
Smart	R		1934	1940

Information correct as at end January 2006

## Membership Update - Isabel MacLeod

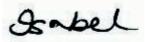
Changes	of	Address:

Surname	Title	First Name	Nee	Start	Finish
Chandler	Mrs	Marjorie	Upton	1932	1940
Chequers	Mr	Mike		1949	1956
Featherstone	Mr	John		1934	1938
Gay-Cuming	Mr	Nigel		1968	1975
Hodges	Mr	Brian		1960	1967
Horscroft	Mr	Courtney		1948	1955
Horsey	Rev	Maurice		1941	1946
Hunneyball	Mr	lan		1961	1968
Hunsworth	Mr	Desmond		1936	1943
Legg OBE	Dr	John		1935	1941
Marcus-Page	Mr	lvor		1966	1971
Moffatt	Mrs	Ann	Garwood	1954	1958
Orr	Mrs	Pamela	Truett	1942	1947
Pipe	Miss	Hilda		1942	1949
Terrey	Mr	Mark		1977	1981
Wallis	Mr	John		1945	1947
Warden	Mr	Graham		1945	1951
Webb	Mrs	Patricia	Hedges	1944	1950

Total number of Members is now 587

153 women, 434 men

For reasons of privacy, we have not disclosed Members' addresses. If you would like to make contact with anyone in the above list, please contact Isabel Macleod, the Membership Secretary - **Ed.** 



Information correct as at end January 2006



Our thanks to Brian Roote (1944-1949, Beta) for sending in a scan of the Calendar from 1947 and also a 'Health Form' from 1949-50

SELHURST GRAMMAR SCHOOL. -----SCHOOL STAFF. Head Master. Mr. F. T. B. WHEELER, M.A. (Oxon.) Name J. Pharach Second Master : Mr. A. J. BARLOW, B.A. (Lond.) Form IVM Mr. W. M. BENNETTO, B.A. (Bris.), reachers Diploma. Mr. G. W. Bosustow, M.A. (Oxon.). House GANINIA Mr. R. F. EGFORD, BA. (Lond.), Teachers Diploma. Mr. B. W. HARRISON, M.A. (Oxon.). Mr. P. F. HOLLAND, B.A., B.D. (Lond.). Mr. H. R. Hore, B.Sc. (Lond.), Teachers Diploma. Time Day Mr. H. C. HUGHES, M.A. (Oxon.), Teachers Diploma. Societies Mr. E. W. KING, B.Sc. (Lond.). Mr. E. W. KINO, B.A. (Lond.), F.R.Hist.St., Mr. K. M. KINO, B.A. (Lond.), Teachers Diploma. Mr. F. MILLS, B.Sc. (Leeds), Teachers Diploma. Mr. H. R. A. NIXON, B.A. (Oxon.). Mr. C. W. OAKLEY, B.A. (Cantab)-t Teachers Diploma. Mr. C. I. OATEN, B.A. (Oxon.), Teachers Diploma. Mr. H. A. PARKINBON, B.A. (Lond.). Mr. J. G. Povzy, B.Sc. (Cardiff), Teachers Diploma. The tradition of your school is handed on to Mr. A. W. PRITCHARD, B.Sc. (Lond.), A.R.I.C. you by others who were members before you. Mr. A. W. RIDOEWELL, B.Sc. (Lond.), Teachers Diploma. Play your part as a worthy member, so that you may pass on to others who will follow you a Mr. C. W. Scott, B.A. (Lond.). Mr. R. H. SQUIRES, B.A. (Lond.), Teachers Dinloma tradition that is the better for your association. ... Mr. J. H. Taylor. ... Mr. C. F. Wells. SWIMMING ... Mr. A. K. Walker and Mr. S. W. Stanswood, Mr. W. H. STANLEY, B.A. (Lond.), A.K.C. Teachers Diploma. HARRIERS .... ... Mr. A. K. Walker and Mr. S. W. Stanswood, GYMNASIUM Mr. S. W. STANSWOOD, Physical Training. Mr. A. STEWART, B.Sc. (Leeds), Teachers Diploma. (Any boy who feels he is not getting sufficient games should see the Games Masters). Mr. A. STEWART, B.Sc. (Econ). (Lond.), Final City Mr. E. Swirt, B.Sc. (Econ). (Lond.), and Guilds. Mr. J. H. TAVLOB, B.A. (Lond.), Teachers Diploma. School Societics. (Meeting on specified days). Mr. J. H. TAVLOB, B.A. Guanding Mr. A. K. WALKER, National Leader of Physical Recreation SCIENTIFIC Mr. J. C. WEDD, B.A. (Lond.). GEOGRAPHICAL Mr. C. F. WELLS, B.Sc. (Lond.). PHILATELIC Mr. H. C. WILKINSON, Chelsea School of Art. HISTORICAL Mins R. V. TICKNER, School Secretary. NATURAL HISTORY CHESS School Officers. LITERARY AND DRAMATIC Captain of the School-J. C. Taylor. Vice-Captain-A J. Egginton. FIRST AID MUSICAL Clark, A. S., Egginton, A. J., Ibbott, A., Jones, V. J., Lelliott, L. G., March, D. W., Sanuels, H. A., Taylor, J. C. Semior Prefects-PHYSICAL TRAINING BOXING SCHOOL MAGAZINE ... Mr. R. F. Egford Ballard, R. W., Bracher, G. A., Carter, I. W., Chandler, S. L., Clark, R. D. J., Crawford, R. A., Kunt, J. S. M. Hyde, P. N., Melintosh, P. N., Kane, J. B., Kaight, D., Randall, D. C., Reding, Wulley, B. A., Peters, D., Randall, D. C., Reding, S J., Shipper, A. T. J., Smith, K. J. D., Vince, F. C. Editor-A. Ibbott. Sub-Editor-K. I. D. Smith. Mr. C. I. OATEN. SCHOOL LIBRARY .... Sub-Librarian-K. I. D. SMITH. NATIONAL SAVINGS GROUP Mr. G. W. BOBUSTOW. ... J. S. M. Hunt. Cadet Corps (Army Cadet Force), " A " Company, isi Cadet Battalion, " The Queen's " Royal Regiment (West Surrey), Rugby Coptain Out of School Activities. Organiser of Physical Recreation-Mr. A. K. Walker. Commanding Officer: Lieut.-Colonel The Rev. A. E. Wilkinson, O.B.E., M.C., T.D. RUGBY ... ... Mr. E. Swift and Mr. A. K. Walker. CRICKET ... Mr. A. W. Ridgewell. (3) ATHLETICS (2) 52

Battn. H.Q.: The Rectory, Merstham, Surrey. Q.C. "A" Company ... Capt. H. C. Hughes Adjutant ... Major H. A. Parkinson 144.87 Quartermaster and O/C Musketry ... ... Lieut, F. Mills.

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Air Training Corps.

N	0. 714	(Selhu	rst G	rammar School) Flight.
O/C	***		***	F/Lt. H. R. A. Nixon.
Adjuta	nt			P/O A. B. Bennett.
Civilia	n Instr	uctors		Mr. J. Beddoes. Mr. B. Tomlin, .
Hon. C	Chapla	in		WIT. D. FORMAT.
Hon. N	.O.N			Dr T. Murphy,

Old Croydonians' Association.

Particulaes from the Hon. Sec., Mr. C. W. Scott, at the School.

House Officers.

ALPRA HOUSE. House Masters :

Messra, G. W. Bosastow, E. W. King, E. Swift, A. Stewart, P. F. Holland, H. R. Hore. Captain-A. S. Clark. Rugby-S. J. Redding.

Swimming-G. A. Bracher. Harriers-D. H. Funnell.

BETA HOUSE.

House Masters :

Messrs. A. W. Pritchard, F. Mills, S. W. Stanswood, H. C. Hughes, A. K. Walker, R. F. Egford, J. G. Povey,

(4)

Homework is set two days ahead, as far as possible, so that Forms I—IV may arrange for one free night per week.

If the time taken is continually too little or too much the Head Master should be communicated with.

The Headmaster may be seen by Parents and Guardians by appointment.

School Caps and Ties and other recognised school clothing can be obtained from Messrs. C. Hewitt & Son, Outfitters, of Church Street, Croydon.

A contribution of 2/6 per term is payable to cover cost of School Calendar and School Magazine.

The private property of every boy must be clearly marked with his name.

A letter from the parent or guardian must be brought at once to the Headmaster to explain any absence from school or hmework not done. A medical certificate is required in the case of contact with infectious disease.

Bicycles may not be brought to school except with permission and conditionally.

Boys should provide their own Bible, pen, pencil, and mathematical instruments.

Captain-J. W. Carter. Rugby-P. N. Knight. Swimming-B. A. Mulley. Harriers-H. A. Samuels.

GAMMA HOUSE. House Masters : Messrs. W. H. Stanley, J. H. Taylor, B. W. Har-rison, C. W. Scott, A. W. Ridgewell, C. I. Oaten, R. H. Squires. Captain-A. Ibbott. Rugby-D. Peters.

Swimming-R. D. Llewellyn. Harriers-K. E. Yorke.

DELTA HOUSE. House Masters : Messrs. J. C. Wedd, H. A. Parkinson, K. M. King, H. C. Wilkinson, W. M. Bennetto, C W. Oakley, C. F. Wells.

Captain-D. N. McIntosh. Rugby-J. B. Williamson. Swimming-G. E. Shackleton. Harriers-P. A. Brooks.

#### Homework.

I & II FORMS.	Two half-hour periods per night for four nights.
III FORMS.	Three half-hour periods per night for four nights.
IV FORMS.	Three three-quarter-hour periods per- night for four nights.
V FORMS.	Three three-quarter-hour periods per night for five nights.
VI FORMS.	As required.

(5) and the set of the

#### SELHURST GRAMMAR SCHOOL

School Roll.

October 1st, 1947.

Form VI A (Up.) Form Master- Mr. J. C. Wedd, B.A.	B Knight, P. N. A Lelliott, L. G. D Mackenzie, D. A March, D. W.
D Bernstein, L. A Bracher, G. A. G Chandler, S. L. A Clark, A. S. A Clark, D. J. B Farley, I. D. G Hancock, R. J. G Ibbott, A.	D McIntosh, D. N. A Moyes, A. F. B Mulley, B. A. A Naylor, R. M. G Peters, D. G Spence, J. G Taylor, J. C. A Vince, P. C.
o Kane, J. B. G Randall, D. C. A Redding, S. J. B Samuels, H. A. D Skipper. A. T. J. G Smith, K. I. D.	Form VI A (Lr.) Form Master- Mr. J. C. Wedd, B.A. A Allen, J. B Bowden, P. C.
Form VI Sc. (Up.) Form Master-	A Byde, P. C. G Elkin, J. C. D Jestico, N. P. B King, D. J.
Mr. E. W. King, B.Sc. D Ballard, R. W. B Carter, J. W. D Chiverton, P. A. A Crawford, R. A. D Drywood, C. G Egginton, A. J. B Fenwick, J. R. G Fitsall, R. A. G Hart, B. L.	<ul> <li>D Lucas, J. R. J.</li> <li>D MacSeath, D. L.</li> <li>Massey, D. A.</li> <li>Morant, D. J.</li> <li>Parry, E. P.</li> <li>P Paul, J. E.</li> <li>Pyran, B. J.</li> <li>D Scott, B. T.</li> <li>A Shaw, A. L.</li> <li>B Smith, P. R.</li> </ul>
A Hilton, R. E. A Hunt, J. S. M. G Hyde, R. D. A Jenkins, P. A. C. A Jones, V. J.	o Taylor, D. A. G Weller, R. J. H. D Williamson, J. B. D Wilson, M. O. G Yorke, K. E.
(	7)

Form VI Sc. (Lr.) Form Master- Mr. H. C. Hughes, M.A. G Baxter, D. A. B Bott, M. C. B Cook, M. C. C. Cox, P. R. B Cook, M. C. C. B Cook, M. C. B Hall, D. A. B Hall, B. A. D Self, B. F. D Self, B. F. D Self, B. F. D Self, B. F. D Sackleton, G. E. A Smith, A. G. D Tarry, R. J. B Theobald, K. A. G Watson, K. B Wheeler, A. W. D Williams, G. E. G Winnett, R. J. Form Master- Mr. H. R. A. Nixon, A. Blake, J. B Bottine, L. H.	B Breeze, A. N. G Bryett, M. J. A. B Carr, P. B. G Chandler, N. D. G Chapman, R. J. B. G Copson, M. J. A Cousens, A. A. C. G Egan, T. B Enshaw, M. R. A Farrant, M. G. A Ford, M. H. A Gander, R. G Goodman, D. F. G Greenfield, W. C. B Hamier, J. M. A Hunscomb, A. E. A Holton, J. T. B Jamieson, D. J. L. D Jordan, A. J. B Jamieson, D. J. L. D Mitchell, C. E. A Peyton, E. J. B Sherman, W. A. A Slade, D. A. D Sprouse, R. C. B Stromes, J. R. A Walker, J. A Yeoman, K. S. Form V. O Form Prefect- L. G. Lelliott. D Baldwin, M. J. G Badwin, M. J. B Bustin, R. W. B Sustin, R. W. B Sustin, R. W. B Coleman, E. P. C Colman, C. J. D Cooke, J. H.	<ul> <li>B Cook, M. C. F.</li> <li>D Elliott, A. D.</li> <li>D Gent, J. B.</li> <li>D Guyer, F. H.</li> <li>B Hathaway, D. G.</li> <li>B Hathaway, K. J.</li> <li>A Haynes, I. S. R.</li> <li>C Honeyball, P.</li> <li>D Huggins, G. J.</li> <li>G Jones, M. J.</li> <li>A Lea, P. F.</li> <li>A Riches, D. C.</li> <li>D Ruddle, J. E. J.</li> <li>G Streeter, I. K.</li> <li>A Sturdey, D. E. G.</li> <li>G Taylor, W. J.</li> </ul> Form V. S Form Prefect- <ul> <li>V. J. Jones.</li> <li>B Bateman, G. J.</li> <li>A Beard, J. S.</li> <li>A Boughton, D. C.</li> <li>Bowden, G. W.</li> <li>A Crossland, R.</li> <li>C Cundy, J. M.</li> <li>D Discombe, A. G.</li> <li>D Ewen, A. C.</li> <li>D Ford, J. F.</li> <li>B Gillies, R. E.</li> <li>B Gillies, R. E.</li> <li>B Gildsmith, B. S.</li> <li>D Hanson, B.</li> <li>D Hanson, B.</li> <li>D Hanson, B. D.</li> </ul>	A Maydwell, J. R. G Reeves, C. G. B Seaward, A. R. B Smith, K. J. Smith, P. A. G Stroud, L. H. G Stroud, L. H. G Symmonds, B. D. Form V. T Form Master Mr. W. M. Bennetto, B.A. Form Prefect A. S. Clark. B Bridle, J. S. A Carbo, J. H. D Core, I. Mc. A. B Davies, B. G. B Davies, B. S. G Feegory, R. J. G Gregory, R. J. G Gregory, R. J. G Hagenbuch, C. Hitch, P. J. D Houre, P. W. A Joseph, A. P. Miller, J. A. R. B Michell, V. A. D Moulton, D. F. B Dirkhard, R. G. S Speller, J. C. Speller, J. C. Speller, J. C. Speller, J. C. Speller, J. C.
B Botting, J. H.	G Colman, C. J. D Cook, J. H.	G Irven, A. 1. G Llewellyn, R. D. C Marsh, R. J.	B Urquhart, L. T. D Walter, A. J.
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Form IV. M Form Master	A Baidwin, J. N. Black, A. R. Cont, D. H. B Chubb, D. P. Chubb, D. F. H.	B Cameron, G. R. B Coppin, F. W. Cordery, N. E. Crick, P. A.	b Evans, C. J. G Forrenter, R. G. F. a Goddard, D. F. G Harding, B.

Form IV. M A Baldwin, Form Master Bildwin, B Black, A Wr. F. Mills, B.Sc. B Chubb, I Form Prefect A A Ibbett. A Cobson, J. B Fenwick, A Anderson, J. B Fenwick, A Anderson, J. B Fenwick, A Anderson, J. B Fenwick, A Adderson, J. B Fenwick, A Adderson, J. B Fenwick, A Charman, T. A Gostale, B Charman, T. A Gosdale, B Charman, T. B Hale, R.	H. D. P. N. F. H. A. R. A. H. A. S. N.	B Coppin, F. W. B Cordery, N. E. Crick, P. A. D Cross, W. C. D Eiger, D. W. B Fred, D. F. D Friar, E. A Grainge, P. R. W. B Harman, K. E. B Harman, K. H.	o Forreiter, R. G. F. a Goddard, D. F. a Harding, B. A Hensby, J. R. c Hinchlille, B. S. A Hopkins, R. H. B Honcroft, A. D. B Johnson, M. W. B Knowles, J.
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G Amos, D. F. O Falkner, A Anderion, J. B Fenwick, A Atkins, J. D. B Fenwick, G Ballard, J. E. O Forsalck O Beauscrift, G. A Ganton, G Charman, T. A Goodale, D Crabb. P. J. Blab. B.	A. H. A. S.	a Ford, D. F. D Friar, E. A Grainge, P. R. W. B Harman, K. E.	A Hopkins, R. H. B Honcroft, A. D. B Johnson, M. W.
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A Atkins, J. D. B Finch, A 0 Ballard, J. E. O Forsdick 0 Bouscarle, G. A Goodale, 0 Charman, T. A Goodale, 1 Crable, P. L Hale, R.	. N.	A Grainge, P. R. W. B Harman, K. E.	a Johnson, M. W.
o Ballard, J. E. O Forsdick o Bouscarie, G. A Gaston, o Charman, T. A Goodale, o Crabb, P. L. B Hale, B.	G. L.	# Harman, K. E.	a Knowley, L.
6 Bouscarle, G. A Gaston, G Charman, T. A Goodale, D Crabb, P. L. B Hale, B. Hale, S. C.	M. L	B FLETHING, P., D.	
g Charman, T. A Goodale, p Crabb, P. L. a Hale, R.		B Howe, R. H.	a Lumsden, J.
D Crabb, P. J. B Hale, R.	K. W.	n Hughes I D	D Mitchell, D. O.
	J. H.	D Hughes, J. D. D Juniper, D. J.	A Moves, D. D.
B Cooper, B. D. G. A Haynes,	H. D.	p Land, B. R.	B Ottewill, D. M. S.
	od, K. B.	a Miller, B. M.	G Rows, C. B.
G Futler, P. T. A Hirst, J.	G.	A Nash, C. A.	A Skeet, B. D.
G Gardiner, A. E. A Kelsey, 1	M.	p Pearson, J.	B Stelling, A.
B Gardiner, B. E. G Massey.	P. G.	B Pocock, J. D.	A Thornbill, A. R.
A Hale, B. H. A Oddy, R	. W.	A Reynolds, R. E.	B Toomer, B. W. H.
8 Hicks, K. W. A Paul, L. n Horsey, P. W. A Peters, I.		B Roote, B. L.	D Tucker, M. A.
		B Sawyer, A. F.	a White, P.
	A DI	B Slaughter, C. A.	a White, P. J. G.
a Kelly, P. J. G Kemp, R. M. D Purcell,	Les W.	D Steward, L. C.	A CALL REPORT OF A CALL REPORT
G Lewis, P. A. A Salvi, B.	w J.	B Taverner, A.	Form III. R
A O'Keefe, G. F. A Sate, A.	T	A Thompson, A. T.	
A Maddock, D. A Scuble, C	PW	A Webb, E. W.	From Master-
# Mahoney, D. B. D Seth, M.	d. p. w.	p Williams, A. St. J.	Mr. A. W. Ridgewell,
d Naah, I. S. A Simmond	In. R. C.	- P. to successful the way do	B.St
A Peacock, D. W. A Spencer,	C. H.	Form III. H	Form Prefect-
a Pescock, D. W. A Spencer, o Pharaoh, T. R. C. A Tair, W.		Form III. FI	J. S. M. Hunt.
B Powell, D. D Tierney,	Α.	Form Master-	B Bailey, A. W.
p Purssell, M. W. D Venus, A	. E.	Mr. P. F. Holland,	o Blackwell, M. D.
o Razzell, E. J. o Willis, G	i. W.	B.A., B.D.	D Buckley, E. C.
o Sampson, P. L.		Form Prefect-	A Chase, R. E.
a Stringer, D. A. A Stringer, E. J. Form IV.	T	S. J. Redding.	B Crowhurst, R.
D Thomas, M. E. Form M	Master-		G Dixon, F. T. B Ellis, K. B.
	Taylor, B.A.	A Beckman, D, H.	
	refect	A Bennett, B. J.	s Eveleigh, D. E. A Famham, R. A.
P. N. Knig		B Brook, L. S.	A Fletcher, J. V.
		Browning, D. S. o Channing, D. W.	A Gilham, R. W.
Corm A V. O	J. F. S.	A Claydon, D, W.	A Goodall, R. K.
Form Master O Righton,	A. A.	A Cockle, A. P.	A Hart, T. F.
Mr. E. Swift, B.Sc. d Bliss, H.	P.	G Cook, C. E.	D Howes, A. C.
Form Prefect- A Bottomley	V. K. B.	p Delafield, H. J.	A Jupp, R. N.
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B Haughton, A.
B Jones, A. K.
G Lambert, M. G.
A Long, A. H.
A Long, A. H.
A Lucas, E. G.
M Mailows, A. R.
D Mellows, A. R.
O Metalf, B. K.
D Monkman, E.
B Paterson, C. G.
G Patient, Y. J.
D Tearis, M. A.
B Thompson, P. G.
Wittia, P. L.
D Wilson, E. C. H. Form I. S Form Master— Mr. C. W. Scott, B.A. Form Prefect— P. A. C. Jenkins. O Bonder, W. B Bright, J. C. B Butler, K. Casnon, B. G. L. B Cavey, A. Copson, T. C. E. Fitsall, E. P. B Goodale, V. D Haw, R. L. B Horner, L. J. Maddock, J. Maddock, J. Maddock, J. Service, J. G. Service, J. G. Service, J. G. Service, J. G. Form L S

<sup>B</sup> Seaward, P. R.
<sup>D</sup> Short, N. L.
<sup>A</sup> Stanbridge, R. D.
<sup>D</sup> Tompkins, R. W.
<sup>G</sup> Wheildon, R. K.
<sup>D</sup> Wright, J. E. C. Form IL H Form Master-Mr. H. R. Hore, B.Sc. Rorm Prefect-B Barton, A. R. D Chapman, T. H. D Chapman, T. H. D Chapman, T. H. D Garland, K. B Gibbes, A. J. G Grovet, B. A Hance, R. J. Heidet, R. D. A Iservis, G. J. A Iservis, G. J. Males, R. J. B Males, R. J. M. J. B Males, R. J. M. J. B Males, R. J. M. J. B Males, J. W. B Spratt, D. W. A Tesi, J. M. G Wright, E. W. Form Prefect-W. Ballard. (14) Thrussell, K. P. o Thrussell, K. P. D Thomsitt, J. A Ward, D. R. O Whiten, P. A. C. Whitingham, M. J. D Williams, T. A Wood, T. M. B Wyld, K. L. Form I. W Form Master-Mr. C. F. Wells, m.s.c. Form Prefect-R. A. Crawford. 0 Bigger, T. R. L. A. Budler, A. R. B. Collett, C. A. B. Collett, C. D. B. Wild, C. D. Form I. W

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# Selhurst

Form II. K Form Master-Mr. A. K. Walker. Form Prefect-B. A. Mulley. C. Allen, F. W. A. Baker, A. F. Baker, A. F. Bates, D. J. Bates, J. E. Charman, M. R. Combes, P. J. Compton, B. H. Combes, P. J. Davison, A. Crawford, E. W. Davison, A. Crawford, E. W. Bavison, A. Greenhead, C. N. Bavison, A. Greenhead, R. S. Gareenhead, R. S. Gareenhead, C. N. A Harwood, G. R. Bockliffe, D. R. Gostinus, R. P. Salkeld, R. M. Bostiwell, B. M. Stowerall, B. M. B Weedon, A. Form IL W Form Master-Mr. H. C. Wilkinson. Form Prefect-D. N. McIntosh.

G Bennett, P. T. A Bramidge, L. J. B Brookes, R. F.

D Coles, V. F. A Collins, B. D Baves, I. D Delaney, P. B. B Dowling, B. L. A Dufty, J. E. G Guess, M. J. D Harris, R. D Harris, R. Harris, R. Marab, A. R. Marab, A. R. Marab, A. R. Sharman, K. F. Sharman, K. H. Sharman, F. W. B Smith, C. T. A. A Whitham, F. H. D Windell, F. F. D Windel, F. F. D Wood, W. A. A. A Worthington, R. G. B Yaxley, B. J. Form I. P Form I. P Form Master-Mr. H. A. Parkinson, Mr. H. A. Parkins B Form Prefect-G. A. Bracher. A Biancher. B Baney. T. H. B Bishton, B. E. G Canning, A. G. A Chatza, G. E. B Clark, G. E. B Clark, P. W. C Degan, T. G Drew., T. E. D Goodlellow, B. C Gregory, A. F. R.A.

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#### COUNTY BOROUGH OF CRUYDON

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Selhurst Grammar School for Boys

YEAR 1949-50

THIS CERTIFICATE MUST BE DELIVERED TO THE HEAD MAST ON THE DAY ON WHICH THE PUPIL RETURNS TO SCHOOL

I HEREBY CERTIFY that during the School Holiday



has not suffered from any infectious complaint, that h has not been staying in a house where such disord exists, and that he has not, so far as I know, been contact with any person who has recently so suffered.

Term	Signature of Parent or Guardian
Autumn	
Spring	
Summer	

-

#### News from the Web site



www.ith my Web Master's shiny hat firmly placed on my head, I can now bring you up-to-date with

the latest developments on the Old Croydonians' Web Site. Even if you don't have a computer at home, many towns now offer free Internet access at local libraries using the latest super-fast broadband technology . I'd certainly recommend taking a look at the Web Site it's another way to indulge in past memories of both schools.

Since the last update in September's Magazine, we've added a few new sections to the web site:

'School Plays' 'Army Cadets' 'Air Cadets'

So, if you have anything that would fit into those categories - stories, photographs etc, please get in touch - or anything else, let us know.

I'm very pleased to announce that we've made FANTASTIC progress with Project Visio - the project designed to locate as many school panoramic photographs as we can, scan them and display them on the web page Your reponse, has simply been OUT-STANDING - Thank you, from all of us.

At the time of writing, (February 2006), we have the following years posted on the web site:

#### **BOYS' SCHOOL**

1937, 1946, 1951, 1954 and 1970.

In the pipeline, we have the following planned:-

1930, 1934, 1941, 1943.

#### **GIRLS' SCHOOL**

1934, 1936, 1938, 1943, 1947, 1949, 1965, 1967 and 1971.

..and in the wings waiting to be processed are:-1951, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1960, 1961 and 1963.

Thanks to all of you who have contributed, especially Chris Bennett and the Croydon Archive Service team. I think you'll agree, this is a really good start. If anyone out there has any years NOT mentioned above, please get in touch.



#### Next issue will be published in September 2006

We already have many, many articles ready for the 2006 edition. Please accept our apologies if you've sent in anything recently and it hasn't yet appeared! We are overwhelmed with your stories, photographs and memorabilia.

#### In the next issue...

- The final part of John Gooding's reflections
- New Series Random Reminiscences of Douglas Honer
- More photographs from ex-pupils
- Update: 'The Visio Project'
- History of the local area by Dr Trevor James
- ..and of course, more of your stories, anecdotes and recollections...

DEADLINE FOR YOUR ARTICLES IS June 30th 2006

#### Articles for submission:-

Please send them to the Editor, or any Committee member. If you are sending *photographs,* please put your name and address on the back so we can return them. If you use a PC and want to email *articles,* this is the *preferred* method. Otherwise, please send *typed copies* in the post or use your *clearest* handwriting. *Thanks* - *Ed.* 

Friday, 14 July 2006 - Summer Re-Union (The B.R.I.T. School) Saturday, 21 October 2006 - Annual General Meeting (Boys' School)

#### Thank you...!

I would like to thank everyone who helped to make the latest magazine possible. Without their dedication and determination, the magazine would have never made it through your letter box.

Our thanks to everyone who contributed an article!

Keith Whitham - For his eagle-eyes.

Anne Johnson - For final proof-reading.

Peter & Doreen Juniper - For ideas, support and filling in the gaps.

Isabel MacLeod - For her roving reporting and eye for detail.

Bernard Woolnough - For setting the standard for the magazine.

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All other Photographs are digital, using a Canon 20d 8 megapixel DSLR