

The Old Wandsworthians Memorial Trust Newsletter

No.12 November 2005



NEWS UPDATE

Since the last newsletter we have been informed of the passing of several friends and colleagues who played significant roles in the origins and development of the Old Wandsworthians. The majority of us will remember **Ted Bacchus** with great respect and affection. Ted died in February this year only a few months after he had been feted at a reunion of the School Choir. He was 91 when he died. Ted taught at Wandsworth from 1947 to 1974 and was Headmaster of the Lower School for many years. His teaching style was completely different to that of Joe Ascher and I owe him a vote of personal thanks for restoring my will to learn French after I had been bundled out of the A Set due to a slight *contretemps* over my 'welsh' pronunciation of french words in 1955.

Among papers sent to Bob Andrews by Ted's daughter Margaret Lintern-Ball were a number of photographs including (opposite) one of the 1972-1973, Under 12 rugby team. The team reads as a rollcall of players who represented the Old Dubs over the last two decades. Their youth is balanced by the presence of their Headmaster, Edwin (Ted) Bacchus.



Ted Bacchus October 2004

In Memoria

In addition to Ted Bacchus, **Reg Finch**, **John Chafen**, **Keith Norman** and **John Clegg** passed away during 2005. Reg died on Wednesday 8 June 2005 aged 83, after a short illness. He was a pupil at Wandsworth Grammar School, from about 1932 to 1939 and played rugby for Old Wandsworthians for a number of years as did his younger brother Derek who passed away in 1997. His funeral took place on Friday 17 June 2005 at Worcester Crematorium.

John St Clair Chafen died on the 12th of August, 2005 and his funeral was held at the South London Crematorium on the 23rd. John was a perfect gentleman throughout life and the tributes paid to him from friends and family revealed a great affection that was shared by the numerous Old Wandsworthians who were able to attend the ceremony.

Andrew Norman had the very sad task of advising his father's many friends that his Dad had passed away on the 2nd of March 2005. Keith was a great clubman and it was great to see him and his family at Imber Court last year. Many of us were shocked at his condition but were hopeful that he would make a full recovery from major surgery that had taken place at the end of December 2003. This was not to be and he is sadly missed by all of us who played alongside him or watched as he encouraged Andy to excel at a game he loved dearly.



John Clegg was a master at the School. He taught music and was Head of the Lower School after Ted Bacchus. He was a kind and thoughtful man who gave so much to so many.

Proposed School Visit

The Trustees invite former members of staff and students to join them in a visit to St Cecilia's, Sutherland Grove. If you are interested please let me know and I will fix a date and time.

Dates to Remember

Trust Sunday Lunch - March 12th 2006

Rugby Club Dinner-Dance - April 8th 2006



What Year?

This section from one of those famously long school photos contains images of several famous or infamous Old Wandsworthians. What year was this photo taken.

Answer to

rtj.moody@virgin.net

Trust Lunch

The Trustees have organised lunch and a large screen presentation of the England versus France game. The times and venue are:

Sunday 12th March 2006
Kings College Clubhouse New Malden

Lags Celebrate Maclean's Medal



John Totham, Pete Eastwood, Ian Maclean

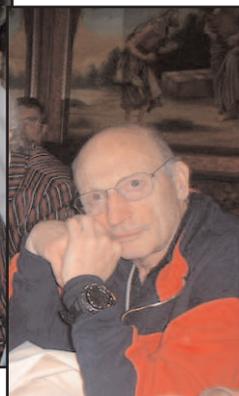


Pete Pierce, Tony Watts, Dick Moody

Apart from George Gallagher and Oona King, Brick Lane was blessed with a visit of ten Old Dubs intent on celebrating Maclean's gong. These images were taken by Pete Eastwood, Angel has been cropped to fit. He was not isolated



Ian will be celebrating his 75th Birthday in mid November and is trying to organise a vets side to play out their last act on his back lawn..He has his own ball and a set of shirts.



Dave Snare, Murray Deards, Chris Munton, Angel Vila

Old Wandsworthian Websites

There are currently three websites dealing with matters relevant to being an Old Dub. They are:Wandsworthians RFU http://www.rfu.com/clubs/index.cfm/fuseaction/hm.home/grou_select/1427/page_id/7589.htm
 Old Wandsworthians Association. A site managed by:Tony Watts: tony_watts@blueyonder.co.uk
 Old Wandsworthians :wandsworthians.org.uk is managed by jim.carpenter@wandsworthians.org.uk
 All three sites offer information to veterans of Sutherland Grove. The site managed by Jim Carpenter is updated on a fairly regular basis and the guests pages are well worth a visit.Tony Watts would welcome any images for our archives.

'A Copper's Tale'

Profile: JOHN TOTHAM

Born 2nd December 1933



Education:

Hotham Road Primary
(Putney) till 1939.
St. Mary's Primary (Putney)
till 1942.
Trannack Village School
(Cornwall) 1943-45.
1945-51 - Wandsworth
Grammar School

House: Morley (B), mentor Ted Bacchus.

Represented School: Athletics, Boxing, Fives, Drama, Music, Rugby, Swimming.

Contemporaries: John Bourton, Alan Carr, John Chafen, Gordon Contreras, Derek Finch, Jimmy Francis, Rex Harrington, Doug Livingstone, Ian Maclean, Mick Munton, Jimmy Nelson, Keith Norman, Ken Sperger, Mike Stear, Tony Treble, Brian Tyson.

Lasting Memory:

Morley House winning Sports Day by _ point from Cromwell, after unsuccessful objection by Ian Maclean!

Gainful Occupations:

1951-52 - British Rail.
1952-54 - National Service with Royal Artillery, serving in Oswestry, Woolwich, Sennybridge (South Wales) and Egypt.
1954-84 - Metropolitan Police officer, serving at Albany Street, East Molesey, Esher, Brentford, Hendon Training School, Earlsfield C.T.C. and Kingston.
1984-92 - Metropolitan Police Civilian Instructor (Major Incidents and Home Defence).
1992-95 - Comptroller, Metropolitan Police 5 Area T.S.G..

Old Wandsworthians Career:

1951-52 - Played in 2nd and 3rd XV's, under tutelage and august company of Peter Bull, Arthur Dicker, Ron Duncan, Bill Forrester, Bob Hammond.

1959-80 - Played in all sides from 1st's through to Angel Vila's "Rams" and Ian Maclean's "Babes"

Vice-Capt. Of Club to Tony Berry

1968-73 - Bar Steward at 'Memorial Ground', Claygate.

1981-90 - Referee as O.W.'s representative with London Society.

1980-85 - With Gerry Johnson, organised O.W.'s "Colts". On 27.3.83, O.W.'s "Colts" won 'Surrey Cup', beating Old Mid-Whitgiftians, 6-0.

During this period, our "Colts" consistently provided four players for Surrey in the inter-county competition.

In 1984, Andy Carter played for London versus South. At this time, to safeguard O.W.'s interests, served with 'the blazers' on the Surrey Colts Committee.

Lasting Memories:

Drawing 14-14 at Old Wimbledonians, captained by Tony Watts, playing in typical Claygate, mid-winter conditions and severely depleted by injuries.

Beating a St. Thomas's Hospital side (packed with 'ringers') at Cobham, in the Surrey Cup.

O.W.'s winning the Brussels Tournament in 1971.

Packing in 2nd Row with Alan Burton, later to become national A.B.A. Heavyweight boxing champion. Donkey Derby' organised by O.W.'s, opened by Michael Bentine, in aid of "Action For The Crippled Child". Checking the Claygate Clubhouse, in a constabulary capacity, in the early hours, and being confronted by Chris Nelson, clad only in a very short vest covered in tomato ketchup! (This case of apparent G.B.H. was immediately solved!)

The rare occasion of Dick Moody taking a winning pass at the Imber Court Sevens.

Other Sporting Achievements:

In 1954, residing in the Police Nursing Home, as a result of having been K.O.'d in the Heavyweight Final of the Met. Police 'Lafone Cup' Boxing Tournament.

In 1955, winning the 'Lafone Cup' Heavyweight Final.

Met. Police Rugby Colours awarded, 1955-56.

1954-59, Met. Police 1st and 2nd XV's

1955-63, three "Barking - Southend" Race Walks (34 mls.) completed.

1969-71, Middlesex County Clubs, scoring 3 tries in first (and only) International versus Belgium.

1977-90, ten "Tanner's Marathons" (30 mls.) completed.

(In 1984, Gerry Johnson and 5 O.W. 'Colts' completed the "Tanner's", to raise funds for new jerseys for the 'Colts'.

True Servants of The Club:

Peter Bull - treasurer.

Arthur Dicker - dedication and hard work in the early days of establishing the Club at Claygate.

Peter Eastwood - secretary

Stan Fairey father figure and motivator.

Ian Maclean - timeless player, contributor of common sense, arch player-scout.

Dick Moody - stamina and longevity in service; of mean talent.

Angel Vila - timeless and organised team secretary; - now trustee.

Domestic:

Married to Eileen for 46 years. Four children, Patricia, Denise, Paul and Siobhan. Seven grandchildren at last count.

Rugby Club

To date the 1st team has played 6 league games and won 2 (lost 4), the 2nd team has played 2 and won 2. We are hoping that the 2nds will be able to get more regular games.

Results

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points Against	Diff	Points	
6	2	0	4	81	184	-103	4

On the social front there is a **Gentlemen's Evening** (club supper of old!) arranged for the **10th December** at GJ's, 89 Garratt Lane, Wandsworth, SW18 4DW. The evening will consist of a 3 course meal, washed down with your choice of alcoholic beverages.

Tickets for paid up members plus 1 guest - £25 each

Unpaid members and additional guests - £35 per head
Hope to see you there - please book now via Jim Grant, numbers are limited so first come first served!

j_d_grant@hotmail.com or 07711 102850

Mick Gover is in the process of arranging a couple of 'President's Days' (provisional dates 7th Jan and 4th March), whereas the Club is organising the **Annual Dinner-Dance** for the 8th April at Imber Court.

The new season has seen a good influx of new players but sadly we have lost some of our regulars. Anyone wanting to receive a team sheet can become a social member or only £20. Contact Ian Plummer @ 51 Somerset Ave Chessington Surrey, KT91PW.

theplumms@blueyonder.co.uk



Aerial view of The old and new school buildings (circa 1956)

Contact Corner

We would like to build up an email listing of all recipients of the Newsletter. This may give us options for cheaper delivery in the future and certainly would enable us to send out news items in a more timely fashion. Please send us your email address(s) to David Pollard at dave@pollard94.freemove.co.uk they will not be passed on to any other organisation nor will we give them to other people without checking with you first. We welcome any feedback on the Newsletters. If you want to place an advert, contact someone or just make an announcement we would be pleased to include it in the next Newsletter.