

OLD BUCKWELLIANS NEWS



November 1999

Goodbye and hello

THIS is the umpteenth time I have started to write the Editorial for the next issue of "OBA News". As you are all too well aware I have up to now failed to complete the task.

As the Dinner approached I was determined to issue a Newsletter shortly afterwards and include therein a plea for someone who could devote more time to take on the role of Editor.

I am pleased to say this has proved unnecessary as Graham Frankel is eager to step into my shoes. It is relief not to have to twist somebody's arm to take on the job and having a keen volunteer bodes well for the future. I will say

no more on the subject as this is Graham's first Newsletter and I'll leave him to introduce himself.

The run-up to the Dinner is always a slightly worrying time. After the extremely well attended 50th Anniversary Dinner in 1997 there were high hopes for a good attendance in 1998. Numbers were, however, so low at one stage that cancellation became a real possibility. In the end approximately 50 people attended and a proposal to hold the Dinner bi-annually in future was firmly rejected.

This year the initial response was excellent but then tailed off as it became clear a lot of regulars were unable to attend.

A late rush pushed the numbers up and as you will no doubt read elsewhere that about 75 old boys and staff attended and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was had by all.

My first Newsletter in October 1990 indicated I was taking on the job on a temporary basis only and that I would be relying on contributions from you. A tenure of 9-years was not perhaps as temporary as I had in mind but I did receive a lot of letters from "out there" and would like to thank all those who took the trouble to write. I apologise for not having published or responded to all the letters received since the last issue but these have

been passed on to Graham who will again, of course, rely on your contributions. As I said in my first issue "any little snippet of information whether about yourself or someone else connected with the school is always of interest and is really what this Newsletter is all about".

Differences that seemed so relevant at school now seem totally irrelevant. When meeting or reading about an erstwhile colleague twenty or more years on it matters not at all whether they were in 5A or 5C or if they played football or the violin!

Brian Hughes

ALL change in the editorial office! I'm the one whose arm has not been twisted.

Before introducing myself I'd like to pay tribute to Brian for writing the newsletter during the nineties.

Although the school has now been closed for ten years, I am sure many of us would like to stay in touch with others who were there, either as pupils or members of staff and this newsletter is an essential link.

I guess that most of you reading this will have been loyal members of the Old Buckwellians since you left the school. But there are many others, like me, who never joined. In my own case, this wasn't a deliberate attempt to lose contact with the school. But I can't think why, while on holiday this year, I had the idea that the increasing popularity of e

mail and internet gave us an excellent opportunity to establish contact.

Like most of my ideas, this turned out to be unoriginal, and on returning home I soon discovered not only that the Old Buckwellians Association was alive and well, but also that BHCHS even had its own web site (see article on page 2).

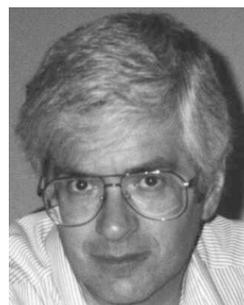
I aim to issue one newsletter per year. If there is enough interesting material I'd be happy to increase the frequency, but I don't want to make any rash promises at this stage. Much will depend on our success in tracing more people.

I look forward to hearing from you with your contributions and welcome any articles and ideas.

Since I became involved in all this several people have commented about the ques-

tion of reunions and in the light of Brian's comments maybe the time has come for a review of the future format of the annual dinner.

I hope you will allow my use of the school crest rather than the Old Bucks' single lion This was quite deliberate on my part. I believe that it is especially important to keep in mind the school motto as the memory of the school itself becomes more distant.



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Nick's Onederful Site

HOW many Old Bucks have not yet ventured into cyberspace? Those of you who are experienced surfers may know that BHCHS has a very active presence on the Internet. This is thanks to the skill and efforts of Nick McEwen (1983), who created the site last year and maintains it with regular improvements. It started out when Nick made e mail contact with another Old Buckwellian in New Zealand. Nick then added the e mail addresses of others – most of the recent additions are people who found the site while net surfing. Recent enhancements include several photographs including two of those long photographs that used to hang outside the staff room. So if you were at Buckhurst Hill in 1963 or 1979 you now have your photograph on the Internet. Another recent addition to the site is a bulletin board, where you can post messages. But you should remember that these messages can be seen by anyone else who finds the site. If you have an e mail address why not contact Nick and get your name listed. You may hear from some of those long

Balancing Act

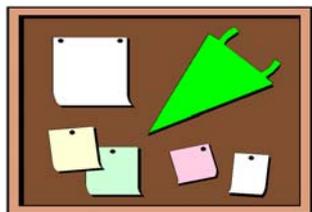


This was taken in 1965 – featuring Mr Neville (English teacher affectionately known as 'Twig'). What was he doing at the time, and who is the person walking on his back?

lost school friends. The address of the site is <http://www.onederful.co.uk/BHCHS>. When you e mail Nick please copy in the editor so that we can update our records – address is at the end of the newsletter.

If you don't yet have e mail but would like advice on how to start, there are many computer literate Old Bucks you could turn to for help. For more about Nick see his entry in *Where are they now?*

OB Network



WOULD you like to advertise a service to other Old Buckwellians? Send details to the editor for inclusion in the next issue of Old Buckwellians News

Where are they all?

DURING its fifty years of existence, some 3,500 boys received a first rate education at Buckhurst Hill County High. We would really like your help to make contact with those who are not currently members of the Old Buckwellians. If you know of others we could contact, please could you either pass on their details or ask them

to get in touch with the editor.

This applies equally to ex-members of staff. Thanks largely to the efforts of Hugh Colgate there is a very successful network of staff members, but he would also welcome other ex-colleagues at the next reunion (see next page).

'O' Dear

Ties

A REMINDER from Malcolm Beard that he still has Old Buckwellians ties available for the amazing sum of £5. Send your cheque (payable to the Old Buckwellians Association) to Malcolm at 17 Luctons Avenue, Buckhurst Hill, Essex, IG9 5SG.

SPOTTED in the 1966 issue of "The Roding" - from Martin Easteal's report on the Sixth Form Forum:

".....whilst the wooden spoon is awarded to the erstwhile manager of Leyton Orient F.C. for a ten minute stutter on the "Managerial Side of Football".

1966, now wasn't that Barry Hearn's last year at Buckhurst Hill?

1999 Annual Dinner

THIS year's dinner was attended by almost 80. Guests included several former members of staff – Hugh Colgate, Bryan Rooney, and John Lakeman. We were particularly honoured to welcome Walter May and Mrs May, who had driven from France to be with us. John Redfern, a former councillor and school governor, gave the after dinner speech telling us about some

amazing coincidences that had occurred to him during his career. Trevor Lebentz reported that he had recently visited the school and had been saddened to see that it was in a very poor state of repair and was currently occupied by only about 70 pupils. An apology for non-attendance was received from Stuart Low, who wrote: ".....needless to say I will once again

be unable to attend due to the 167 bus no longer running from Sydney to Chigwell....." I suspect Walter May would not have been impressed with this excuse.

Next year the Annual Dinner will again be held at the Metropolitan Police Sports Club, Chigwell. Make a note of the date now – Thursday 5th October, 2000

Staff Reunion

THE fourth reunion of former Buckhurst Hill staff was held at Roding Valley High School (formerly Loughton County High School) in July 1998. It was again a great success with 65 attending including Joanne Dormer, former Chair of Governors, and Ian Nicholson, Hugh Colgate's successor as Head. As in earlier years, many of those attending travelled long distances, including from Bristol, Leeds, Worcestershire, Somerset, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Hertfordshire and Surrey. This is a good indication of the spirit of the staff room.

Jeremy Weil, on holiday from Israel, did not get to England in time for the reunion but met Tony Cunningham and Hugh Colgate shortly afterwards. Arnold Smethurst, having reached the age of 86, had been ordered to take life more easily and did not drive down from North Wales, but Hugh and Peggy Colgate visited him whilst on holiday and were given a warm welcome and a tour of the locality in his car.

The next staff reunion will be held on Saturday 25th June 2000.

The Old Buckwellians Lodge

ANYONE browsing through an OBA newsletter in 1970 or thereabouts would have noticed an item on the subject of forming a Masonic Lodge for Old Buckwellians. 1996 was the silver jubilee of the founding of that lodge. Meetings are held at the Masonic Hall, Loughton four times a year. Membership is spread across the age groups and they will be pleased to welcome new members. Details can be obtained from Ian Cathcart at "Skarloey", 28 Laurel Avenue, St. Mary's Bay, Romney Marsh, Kent, TN29 0SJ.

Remember The Arriad?

AMONG the treasures received since the last newsletter was a very amusing and eloquent tribute to the school from Dr. Mike Stewardson (1956). I hope to publish it in full in the next edition, but in it he recalled part of "an inspired piece of doggerel which circulated the playground in the early 50's." He'd be interested to know if anyone can remember the rest.....

In books and magazines I've often read
 Of prehistoric monsters long since dead.
 Extinct at least they are supposed to be
 But I can prove this is a fallacy.
 I know of a room of where congregate
 The awful monsters of the present date.
 Of these the cunning Arrius comes first,
 A name by every wretched schoolboy cursed;
 A nose around the form room door appears,
 Followed by two eyes and then two ears.....

Corrections Needed

TRANSFERRING databases from one editor to another has given us a few headaches. Please help us to ensure our information is up to date by checking the address label. If anything is incorrect or incomplete please tell the editor. As well as your name and address the following items also appear on the label if we have a record – the year you left BHCHS and (below the postal address) your e mail address.

If you found a bankers order enclosed with the newsletter, this indicates that we do not have a record of your membership of the Old Buckwellians Association. If you have not yet subscribed the simplest way of joining is to complete the bankers order. Membership has remained at £3 per year for quite a long time, and it is just enough to cover the cost of production and postage. Please note that completed bankers orders should be returned to the Secretary, Malcolm Beard and not to the editor.

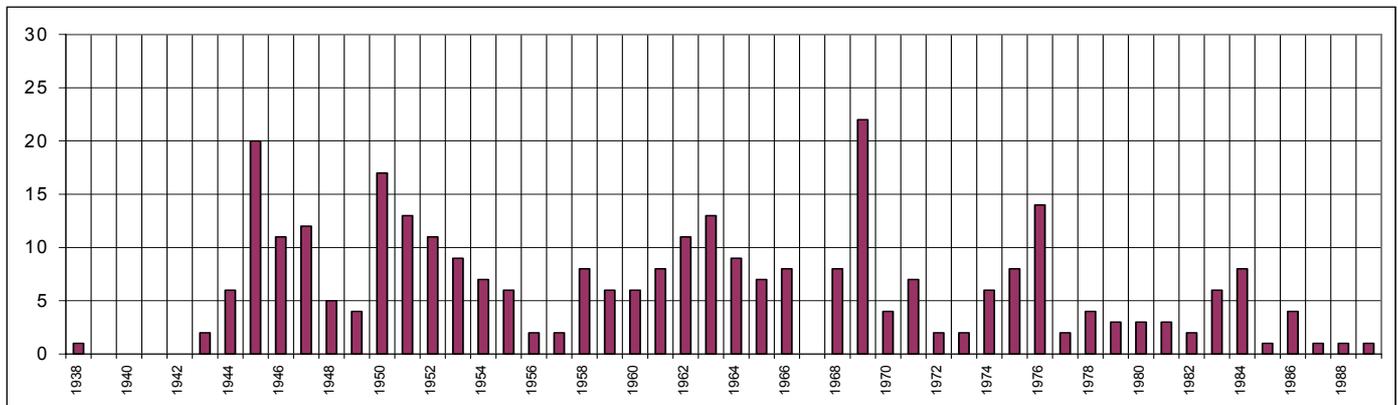
Honours, even

THE 'JOHN SARGENT' CUP PRESENTED BY COL. STUART MALLINSON, CBE, DSO TO THE BEST SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR.			
1939	B. McCARTNEY	1962	R.W. DOCKING
1940	A.S. CHAPMAN	1963	K.F. GRANT
1941	S.A. BRYETT	1964	R.E. BARNES
1942	A.W. FLOWER	1965	D.A. REEVES
1943	S.A. BRYETT	1966	J.D. SMALLBONE
1944	D. HINES	1967	C.M. BLAIR-HARBORNE
1945	B.A. TARLTON	1968	B. SLY
1946	P. RATTENBURY	1969	B.P. JONES
1947	D. NOBLE	1970	R.K. PATIENT
1948	J. GRAY	1971	C. TOWLER
1949	R.K. PENNY	1972	D.G. KAYE
1950	R.K. PENNY	1973	D.G. KAYE
1951	M.R. COOPER	1974	P.A. EUSTACE
1952	G.R. LACEY	1975	M. SLADE
1953	G. MILBURN	1976	S.F. PHILCOX
1954	A.S. McINTYRE	1977	S.W. MURRAY
1955	R.F. SPINDLER	1978	J.P. BAZLEY
1956	D.R. GOWER	1979	D.R.F. O'FLYNN
1957	P.E. LITTLE	1980	H.S. McGUINNESS
1958	J.J. APPLEBY	1981	N.C. COTTON
-	B.H. WAUD	1982	P.D. ISAACS
1959	D.T.G. WILKINS	1983	D. EDWARDS
1960	E. MOORE		
1961	G.J. RUTHERFORD		

Thanks to Ken Bray, we now have photos of all the honours boards in the school hall. More will appear in future editions.

Class of When?

IF you have a magnifying glass, you can see in the chart below how many Old Buckwellians we are in touch with from each year of the school's existence. This shows quite a few interesting facts, but the over-riding message is what tremendous scope we have for contacting a lot more people, and not just from 1967! The mailing list also includes 69 Old Bucks without information about which year they left. You can tell if you are one of them by looking at the address label used to send the newsletter – if we have a record of your year of leaving it will be there. Maybe we should have a competition to see which year can achieve the largest increase in contacts by next year's newsletter. See below for some more fascinating statistics from the database.



Old Buckwellians Golfing Society

BY DAVID BLYTHE

ANOTHER year has rushed by and the new millennium approaches. 1999 was another successful season although the results in the three matches could have been better for us – one draw and two defeats.

This year our numbers have again held up, and although we have a slowly ageing membership and a number of our stalwarts have retired from active service, some new faces have shown up and there were some new recruits who came forward at the Annual Dinner.

In the match against the Old Bancroftians at West Essex Golf Club on 17th May the weather was fine and sunny. Our opponents this year managed a full team and walked to a 3 – 1 success.

At the JH Taylor Putter on 19th July a cast of 13 played for the coveted trophy. This year it was won by Brian Sparks (31 points), with Dave Blythe (30 points) coming second, Roy Low (29 points) third and Chris Patient fourth with 27 points.

Then on 14th June, against Old Foresters, a fine evening, although an away fixture it was played at our home course at West Essex Golf Club, but it didn't help us win as we were beaten 2.5 – 1.5. For the third match on 29th June, against Old Chigwellians, at Chigwell GC, it had rained all day and didn't stop for the whole of the match. The course was very wet but was playable. The six who played would have been better off in wet suits, but we managed to see the match through and it resulted in a draw 1.5 – 1.5. Thankfully it was also *not* dry in the clubhouse and we had a few glasses and a good meal to round off the day.

Anyway, we do not really worry too much about the results once the game is over. The enjoyment is enhanced by meeting and playing against old and new friends and each evening was rounded off with a good meal, a few drinks, and plenty of chatter.

Once again I have not managed to find a volunteer to

whom to pass on the role of secretary and organiser, and I am therefore the point of contact again for the coming year. To combat the slipping numbers I would welcome a positive response from the existing members and some new names to boost the turn outs.

The dates for 2000 are not yet finalised, but will comprise:

Early May – O. Bancroftians at Theydon Bois GC at 3.45pm

Early June – O. Foresters at West Essex GC at 3.45pm.

Late June – the JH Taylor Putter at West Essex GC at 3.30pm.

Mid July – O. Chigwellians at West Essex GC at 3.45pm.

Anyone requiring more information about the Society of wishing to play should contact me at 97 The Avenue, Highams Park, E4 9RX.

Phone:
0181 527 4970 (home)
0171 8316311 (work)
0860 302355 (mobile)

Memories

CONTRIBUTIONS wanted for the next issue – your memories of life at Buckhurst Hill CHS. Amusing, embarrassing or otherwise just memorable. I shall print a selection in the next newsletter, subject to normal laws of decency and libel etc. Send your entries in now!

OB Data

HERE are some current details on the Old Bucks currently in the database:

Total	423
This includes:	
Staff	27
Living overseas	20
E mail addresses	48
No address /e mail	20
Those overseas are in nine different countries, the most popular being the US with six residing there.	
In the next issue (if anyone is interested!) I'll do a more detailed analysis.	

Football Club Report

BY DAVE FELTON

Fifty Years

THIS season sees the club celebrate its half-century. The Committee is at present discussing plans for contacting some ex members, perhaps inviting them to the annual Dinner & Dance. We have also planned an improved Xmas dance/disco and shall be investing in new kit for the entire club to mark the occasion.

Plans

THE committee is currently investigating, with the help from the local Council/M.P. etc, many avenues to secure the club's own pitches, changing facilities and clubhouse in order to

cement the clubs future. Chairman Ron Tyler is working extremely hard behind the scenes and in fact does not receive as much credit for his endeavours as he should and indeed there will be a huge gap to fill the day he steps down from his post. Ideally the club can purchase three good standard pitches within the near vicinity of our current clubhouse, which is Buckhurst Hill Cricket & Lacrosse Club who we are affiliated to. This would then allow us to invest our savings and along with other financial assistance we can redevelop the clubhouse, becoming joint owners. We could then boost facilities to better most other clubs

and indeed attract young players for the future at the same time. There has been an evident lack of 'new recruits' ever since the school closed down and therefore greater facilities can only help to bring players in.

Success

THIS season is the second consecutive season that the 1st eleven will play Premier division football, having got there by winning their division with promotion for four amazing consecutive seasons. This superb achievement included two cup finals and one league and cup double. There are currently two 1st eleven players,

namely Jason Friend and Martin Collett, who are also regulars for the league representative side. The club have five league sides at present in addition to the Vets side who reached a cup semi-final last season.

The 5th eleven have also won promotion for the past two seasons, winning their division last season. The 2nd eleven were losing cup finalists last season. Other notable achievements have seen the 2nd eleven reach two cup semi-finals plus the 3rd eleven coming runners up in their division, all of which were the season before last.

Farmers' Hockey – and more golf!

BY DICK THOMAS

LAST year marked the 40th year of attendance for The Farmers - originally the touring side of the Old Bucks HC - at the Thanet International Hockey Festival in Ramsgate. Sadly, it was the first without Maurice Sunaway, who died aged 63 in August 1997. Maurice's contemporary at Buckhurst Hill CHS, Geoff Gosford, paid tribute to the "Iron Man" in a ceremony at the Farmers' training camp, "The Blazing Donkey", and looked back to Mau-

rice's first-ever match for the Old Bucks 1st XI - in the early 1950s under the captaincy of Tony Jolly - when he was carried off unconscious after 20 minutes. The golf match played every year on the way to Ramsgate has been dubbed "The Sunaway Cup", with a trophy kindly donated by John Dockett.

For several years now The Farmers have been meeting for a regular round of golf at

Bourne in Cambridgeshire. These occasions have lured Frank Hardy from his home in Worcestershire and Bob Harris from Warwick. Another Old Bucks stalwart from even earlier days, Bill Orr, is a regular at Bourne if he is not playing in the south of France.

An Old Buck player who would go anywhere for a game of hockey was Eric Mariner - remembered for

his coolness under fire when called from the bar at Thanet to be told his wife had given birth (Eric politely enquired as to the baby's sex and returned to finish his pint, and his weekend). I ran into Eric in Potters Bar last December. The baby is now in her thirties. Eric was leaving in a few days to play bowls in Australia.

Where are they now?

Thanks to all who sent information. We hope to publish even more in the next edition!

Barrie Butler (1943) writes... I Left school to study Art at Walthamstow. In 1945 began an enjoyable career as a commercial artist in a West End advertising agency. Retired 1992 as a Graphic Designer (MSIAD) - same thing, really, only more specialised. Became a Born-again Christian in 1952. Married Jean in 1953 and have 3 sons in different parts of the UK. Moved to Aylsham after 35 years in Shenfield. Hobbies gardening and model railways.

Terry Kibblewhite (1946) recently retired as a director at the Baltic Exchange. Now living just outside Colchester.

Tony Jolly (1947) A chemistry graduate of London University, has just completed over 22 years continuous service on the Council of the Oil and Colour Chemists Association. A Fellow of the latter and of the Institute of Materials and Faculty of Building and of the Association of Lawyers, has been in private practice as a specialist consultant and expert witness in matters pertaining to synthetic resins (especially seamless flooring) since 1982, after leaving Unilever. A keen member of Lancashire County Cricket Club, he is a regular attendee and Pastmaster of the OB's Lodge, travelling all the way down from Frodsham in Cheshire. Is VERY KEEN, after noting entries in earlier newsletters for Chris Morgan (Liverpool) and Michael Caplin (Lancashire) in getting OB's in the NW to contact him with a view to him organising a get-together dinner with or without wives, depending on the consensus. Please respond!

Stan Newens (1948) writes... I have now retired. I was employed on the coal face in North Staffs, after getting a degree in history at University College, London and doing teacher training. I was a secondary teacher in Hackney thereafter, until I was elected as Labour MP for Epping in 1964. I lost to Norman Tebbit in 1970 but returned to the House of Commons for Harlow in 1974. I lost the seat in 1983 but then served 15 years in the European Parliament, representing Central London 1984-99. I did not seek re-election this year. I am married with four daughters and a son and hope to do some serious writing during the course of my retirement.

Geoffrey Hawker (1950) National service in Ghana (then Gold Coast) followed by 15 years in the TA in London and Eastbourne. Chartered Civil Engineer 1956 (power stations, bridges, tunnels etc.), then called to the Bar in Gray's Inn, 1970. Now engaged in heavy civil engineering disputes in this country and abroad. Lives in Kings Lynn, Norfolk.

Colin Keleher (1951) writes... What a wonderful thing this internet is! People I've never heard of but who have a common bond with BHCHS have been contacting me as a result of my message in response to a chance encounter with the BHCHS web page. After leaving BHCHS in 1951, I apprenticed with Crompton Parkinson in Chelmsford and gained a HNC & Grad IEE in electrical engineering from Mid Essex Tech College. Emigrated to Canada in 1957 & to US in 1968. Now live just outside of Chicago in Plainfield and work for Clorox as a project manager but plan to retire next year. Visit UK regularly to see my dad (90 this year) and a dear cousin. Given enough advance notice (like a year) would be interested in attending a reunion of old boys although I must admit my memory bank is pretty low on recalled names! Mailing address is 5302 Brookshire Estates Drive, Plainfield, IL 60544.

Edward Battershall (1951) is now retired after 45 years in freight forwarding. Lives in Woodford Green.

Alan Thomas (1952) has worked in shipping for a Greek company. Hopes to retire next year. Currently living in Chelmsford.

Brian Waite (1954) writes... After a career with Pilkington (glass) and BT I am now enjoying a well earned retirement at this seaside resort on the sun kissed shores of Lancashire, where I have lived for 30+ years (in the town not on the beach). I have contact details for WH Chew and RH Vitler, both of my year.

Michael Hawker (1955) National Service in the RAF. BSc in Metallurgy, then worked as a Metallurgist in Enfield Rolling Mills. Later a Chartered Mechanical Engineer working for Taylor Woodrow. Took early retirement, lives in Ware, Hertfordshire.

David Williams (1956) writes... In 45 years I've come just 30 miles - to Leigh-on-Sea on the Thames Estuary. So I'm still an Essex boy - or rather an Essex granddad. Three children - two boys and one girl - have managed to produce eight grandchildren between them. You don't want to hear all that golden oldie, carpet slipper stuff; but let's put the record straight right away. I haven't made a million, won the lottery or scored a hat-trick for England but at least I've stayed married to the same woman, Pat, for 40 years (anniversary on Oct 1st and good wishes are appreciated). My last 18 months at BHCHS were certainly eventful. I had a bad accident in 1954, badly fracturing my right leg in a cliff fall at Brixham, South Devon. I missed over six months schooling and struggled with my GCEs. Took them again six months later but managed only five passes. Then I left, to start a career in journalism and eventually film and television as a writer, director, producer and cameraman. Since 1968 I've been freelance. There have, fortunately, been more good years than bad ones and I've been lucky enough to travel the world and see places that not too many have the privilege of visiting. I'm still producing documentary films - but lecturing on the subject is beginning to take up more of my time. But I won't go on...all this I did this and I did that. Gets a bit boring after a while. But I'd be interested to know how many Old Bucks look backwards as they get older. All that nostalgia for the 167 bus and playing a blinder for Hainault in house matches. And does anyone remember Eric McCollin, the Geography master who organised YHA trips. I kept in contact with him for a long time after leaving but he's been gone now at least 25 years. Derek Tomblin was one of my best mates at the time and we still exchange cards at Christmas. He went on to work for the PSA - a surveyor I think - then, a few years ago got a job in Hong Kong. Recently he was working as a VSO in East Africa. And what about these for a few more names...Bob Bailey, Brookes, Legg, Moseley, Green - all members of the school under-15 football team (1953-54). I've still got the team photo on my kitchen wall. And one other mate who was a fanatic at Subbuteo - David Hinkin That's enough. These ramblings of a 60-year-old may be worth a few inches in the Help the Aged magazine but, honestly, I don't feel that old when talking about my old school!! What about the rest of you.?

John Hawker (1958) Took a mathematics degree in Birmingham University, then taught maths etc. in Birmingham Schools; also leads a madrigal group and is a professional vocalist. Took early retirement but continues to control budgets etc. for schools in Birmingham. Lives in Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

Kwamina Ackah (1960) wrote this on the web site bulletin board (having just discovered BHCHS had closed).....
I am shocked to the marrow to learn that our alma mater is no more. Whatever happened? Whilst browsing cyberspace, something just prompted me to seek out any possible information about our old school. I left Britain finally in November '69, but on a visit to the UK in 1982 I did visit the school and met Mr. Colgate and good old Mr. Sillis. I was at the School from 1957 to 1960. Since my return to Ghana I have been in all sorts of things - working in the civil and public services, professional accounting offices, regional international organisation, etc. For almost a decade now I have been running my own small professional accounting office. Even though the school is no more it is heartening to know that its spirit still lives on through the efforts of some old boys like yourselves. Well bye for now. I hope to visit the site now and then.

Alan Hawker (1961) Studied Theology at Hull University, then ordained (C of E). For many years Rector of St Mary's, Southgate, Crawley, and latterly Prebendary Canon of Chichester Cathedral. Recently appointed Archdeacon of Swindon and awaiting completion of new residence in Cirencester.

Martin Williams (1962) writes... After quite a few years working for Moscow Narodny Bank, I took voluntary redundancy and now work for Motability in Harlow in charge of the War Pension and Invalid Vehicle Section. I am involved (on a voluntary basis) as an Aircraft Marshall at 'The Squadron' at North Weald airfield, when we have various 'Fly-Ins' throughout the year and also Airshows and Aviation exhibitions. I am also involved in officiating for Essex AAA and Ilford Athletic Club during the winter months. Some years ago I help set up a Baseball team in Waltham Abbey (Essex Arrows) and Phil Chesterton (who was also in my year) is still involved as their manager. I am married to Carol, with two children. My daughter Samantha is married with three children, and my son Daniel is also married with one child. My telephone/fax number is 01992 610457.

Ian Bardrick (1963) gained his chemical engineering degree at the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, a post graduate certificate of education from the University of Cambridge and the degree of master of education from Nottingham University. He is the Director of the Biochemical Engineering Education Scheme (BEES). The purpose of the scheme is to encourage numerate young scientists to consider Biochemical Engineering for their undergraduate degree. After graduating Ian spent nine years in industry followed by eighteen in teaching. Technical experiences include: hydrocracker design, single cell protein production (particularly downstream processing), emulsion polymerisation reactor design including reaction modelling, control of shear sensitive and temperature sensitive reactions, handling of shear sensitive products, solvent recovery and prevention of explosions from both dust and during the evaporation of solvent from porous resin beads. Teaching was physics at 'A' level, for a short time chemistry at 'A' level, and double science GCSE. Ian has also acted as a consultant to the publishers Hobsons for their subject support materials published in conjunction with CRAC. He is now back at school although it is currently planned that will act in some form of consultancy role to the project at UCL. Ian is a Chartered Engineer, and a member of both the Institution of Chemical Engineers and the Institute of Physics. Email: ucl99@netcomuk.co.uk

Ian Dennis (1963) wrote this on the web site bulletin board.....
I was cruisin' the web and I did a search on "Buckhurst Hill" for fun. I was amazed to find your site, and even more amazed to find myself in the 1963 school photo (sitting next to Brian "Henry" Smith). I attended Buckhurst Hill between 1961 and 1963 (at which time the RAF and my parents whipped me off to Singapore). Since then I've travelled all over the world (several times) and currently live in California where I write programs for computers until they're bright enough to do it for themselves. I have two ex-wives (one in USA and one in Ireland), two daughters and one grandson. I wish I could attend an Old Buck function but I doubt it'd be cost effective unless you held it in L.A. Nevertheless, keep up the good work.

Mike Horsnell (1963) writes... After nearly 27 years as a general news hack on The Times - except for a brief interlude on the Daily Mail in the early eighties - I'm still looking for a proper job. BHCHS from 1956-63. Aged 54. Married with four kids. Large mortgage. Still live in God's County at Thorington, near Colchester. Telephone 01206 251081 or 0171 782 5924. Fondest memory: the shock on teacher Jerry Whaler's face when he was forced to read out in class that I'd got a distinction at A-level spoken French.

Tony ('Nick') Nicholls (1963) writes... I was part of the group which put on *The Teahouse of the August Moon* after A levels in 1963. Changed my life almost certainly as I've been involved in theatre in a variety of ways ever since - went to Southampton University then Birmingham, acted for a couple of years, married, moved to Australia in 1970 and have been based there ever since moving around a lot in the first few years, working in North Queensland, the Northern Territory and Tasmania - have lived in Perth, Western Australia and managed a university theatre department for the last 20 or so years - at the same time I've pursued a career as a playwright (and occasional actor) and am regularly commissioned to write by local companies - plays are performed all around Australia and New Zealand - some stuff published also - I get to visit England fairly frequently lately - every 18 months or so - my family are now based in Lincoln and so that tends to be my base for visits but I usually need to spend some time in London also - will be there in January 2000 as a company is touring one of my plays at that time - I'd like to hear from anybody who was around during my time - I last saw Chris Palmer (1956-63) in Sydney in 1979(?) - he was then planning to move to Hong Kong I think - Mike "Hank" Logan (1956-63) died in the mid nineteen 80s - that's about all I know of my contemporaries really - I can be emailed at nnicholl@cc.curtin.edu.au

Jon Roberts (1963) writes... Being otherwise unemployable I fell into EFL teaching, which turned out to be fun. After marriage and 3 years in Mexico, came back to land a job at the University of Reading in the early days of the EFL boom. Still there! As Philip Larkin said, nothing, like something, can happen anywhere. Other Old Bucks? Years ago bumped into Mick Shadrack, by then a copper.

Roland Watts (1963) writes... I went to Nottingham University 1963-66. Played in the Old Bucks soccer team 1966-68 (days of Trev Lebzentz, & Roger Mason). In 1970 emigrated to US (Chicago). Since then we have lived in New York, Los Angeles (where I made contact with Dave Williams 1954-61, last heard of in Pittsburgh), London, and Princeton, New Jersey. Now our children are both in college, we are in the process of relocating to New York City.

Geoff Blyth (1965) writes... On leaving school I went to Salford University, from which I graduated in '68 with a degree in Electronic Engineering and a passionate dislike of electronics. I joined Marconi Instruments in St. Albans that summer and became a computer software developer when it was vaguely cool to do that sort of thing. The same year, I also met my wife, Joan (an old Braeside girl when it was relatively cool to be one of those, too) who ran a boutique in Queens Road, Buckhurst Hill. We married in '71 and moved from the flat above the shop to Broxbourne Herts., where we still live with our two children. While working at Marconi I moved first into marketing and then into product planning, designing computer networks for electronics manufacturing. As that market evaporated in the UK so did my job, and in 1990 I found myself job-hunting. That took me to BT-Cellnet, where I managed a systems design group until December 1998, when I moved to Siemens as a Principal Telecommunications Consultant, which is what I do today. Around my 40th birthday I re-discovered an old enthusiasm for choral singing, and since then have sung with local choirs based in Radlett, Harlow, Hatfield and now Hertford, taking me to the Royal Festival Hall, the Barbican and most recently the Royal Albert Hall. This is in stark contrast to playing with the 'Black Cat Bones' and 'Growth', two blues/rock bands which some of my contemporaries might remember from the '60s! I also enjoy playing the piano, mostly by ear these days, but occasionally following the dots too. Geoff also mentioned to me that some years ago he had given some lines to Barry Hearn and was still waiting for them to be done! (Ed.)

Colin Vose (1965) is in Strategic Business Development for Quintiles UK, a major pharmaceutical contract research organisation. Prior to that he was running preclinical drug development for Hoechst Marion Roussel. Living in Oxfordshire.

Graham Greenaway (1966) writes... Soon after leaving BHCHS, I joined the Metropolitan Police, and was so employed until retirement with an injury in 1995. I currently work as an administrator for a company a few miles from my home in Brentwood, Essex, which handles financial data for third party companies. I got married to a beautiful Colombian girl in 1976, whom I met through my good friend and Old Buck, Peter Aston, but that is a long story. We are still married, and have two lovely daughters, one aged 21 years is in her final year at Bristol University, reading Sociology, and the other, age 18, who has just completed her A levels, and is working for a year in Chelmsford, before taking up her studies in English Language and Linguistics. My interests include music, particularly singing. I have had classical voice training for the past eleven years, and sing in a small Chamber Choir, which consists of trained voices, and am baritone soloist. I am an active member of the Elvis Presley fan club, helping in the organisation of regular local and national events, also working as a D.J. for Elvis discos, all done on CDs these days. It is surprising but gratifying to see a large number of young members. I enjoy keeping fit, mainly by cycling, but also enjoy running and weight training. I am regularly in contact with Old Bucks Peter Aston and Alan Woods, both fellow hammer throwers and still competing. My e mail address is ositos@zoo.co.uk Ositos is Spanish for little bears by the way !

Don Morecombe (1968) writes... Left BHCH in 1968 and studied chemistry at Exeter University (BSc) and Sussex University (D Phil). Worked since graduation as radiochemist in the pharmaceutical industry at various sites in SE England and now based in Harlow in Essex. Currently, UK Radiation Safety Manager and Radiation Protection Adviser for major multinational pharmaceutical company. Married with 3 daughters aged 17 to 22. Don is in touch with Pete Bedewell and Alan Major (both 1968) and we hope to hear from them.

Graham Frankel (1969) writes... After leaving Buckhurst Hill I spent 3 enjoyable years at Hull University pretending to study psychology. I joined Unilever at their Bedford Research Laboratory feeding experimental food to housewives and then decided on a career in personnel. I started with London Transport, and after a few years moved to Associated British Ports. I stayed in personnel but moved back to R&D becoming Personnel Manager with Beecham, subsequently SmithKline Beecham. 10 years later, having survived a merger, several reorganisations, and two relocations, I was made redundant. I joined Mirror Group for a year and had an exciting year working in Canary Wharf before getting back to drugs - I am now Personnel Manager with Roche in Welwyn Garden City. I live in Hertford with my wife and our 10 year old son. I still enjoy playing ping pong and tennis but my main leisure activity is singing, and I owe my interest in this to John Rippin. While I was working in London I used to sing with some of the big London choirs but nowadays I prefer smaller groups and sing regularly with 3 chamber choirs plus at St Andrew's in Hertford. 25 years in personnel means meeting lots of people, and over the years I have come across quite a few Old Bucks. You may be interested to hear how I discovered that one of my English teachers at Buckhurst Hill was living in Hertford. Our son, who was then 5, had a Mrs Broomfield as his class teacher, and it wasn't long before we discovered that she is married to the same Colin Broomfield who 30 years earlier had patiently tried to explain TS Eliot to me.

Mick Gasper (1969) writes.... I attended Nightingale Junior School (With Clive Reay, Brian Jones and Mick Read). After leaving BHCHS I went to Enfield College of Technology (now Middlesex University!) Went to Essex University gained BA Telecommunications. Joined BT on Microwave Radio. In 1998 became a Teleworker working from Wenhaston near Southwold in Suffolk -same job, better surroundings. I live with my partner Jill (was a headteacher of a large Primary School in London). Enjoy village life, conservation work, footpath work, anything to do with the local pub, holidays (Would you believe we have a caravan!) etc. Meet up with others of our year in London on regular basis (none of us have changed a bit in 30 years). Some also meet in Reading.

Alan Haine (1969) is a Methodist Minister and recently moved from Hoddesdon to Banbury..

Chris Kay (1969) studied Mechanical Engineering at University of Newcastle upon Tyne 1970-73. Started a career in IT with the Post Office Data Processing Service in London in 1973. Returned to Newcastle upon Tyne in 1975 to work for Allen Bradley Electronics followed by Common Brothers Shipping and Hadrian Computer Services. Moved to New York City in 1980 to work in IT for Manufacturers Hanover Trust. Currently working on the road for iDLX Technology Partners as an IT Consultant while continuing to maintain his own IT Consulting company, C I Kay Ltd. Considers New York City a habit which he would find difficult to quit (although an assignment to a major ski area might help accomplish it). Ready to provide expert advice on the Bars & Restaurants of New York City should anyone be planning a visit!. Chris's family still lives in Woodford Green and he returns to the area for a visit at least once a year.

David Moss (1969) is a Town & Country Planning Officer, Three Rivers Authority, Herts.

John Moss (1969) is Town & Country Planning Officer and Chartered Surveyor, Oxfordshire CC.

Alan Woods (1969) writes... Married (2nd time) nearly 2 years ago. 2 sons; 17 (just applied to University) and 14 years. Still competing in hammer throwing; placed seventh in last two European Veterans Championships and 5th in this year's World Championships; still ranked in top 100 UK hammer throwers of all time! Work for Lloyds TSB as Distribution and Operations Director , Business Banking. Live in Bristol; ride motorbike (1100 cc twin).

Dick Nichols (1970) writes... I am married to Renate and we have two children, Hayley aged 11 and Christian aged 9 and we live at Reigate in Surrey. After Buckhurst Hill, I did an honours degree in Computer Science and in 1974 joined Legal & General on a graduate intake. I worked my way up from trainee computer programmer and in 1992, made it to the board of the IT division. I left in 1995 and joined Compass, an international management consultancy specialising in operational performance improvement. I joined as a management consultant and am now Head of Business Consulting.

I regularly see a number of Old Bucks. Since 1976 about ten of us who started at BHCHS in 1962 have been meeting monthly for a beer. This has since extended to walking holidays and Christmas and New Year events. The group was enlarged following the 'discovery' of Brian Hughes 'mob' at the 50 year celebrations at the school.

For my sins, I can regularly be found in the main stand at Leyton Orient not far from that other Old Buck, Barry Hearn! The best way to contact me is via email.

Mike Gapes (1971) is still MP for Ilford South. Many TV appearances including the "Week at Westminster" series.

Dave Hayter (1971) writes... I am working in the software industry in Bracknell, Berkshire where I also live. Having lost contact with all my old class mates, I would particularly like to hear from: John Rogers, John Stone, Kevin Laird, Tony Kay, Robert Grange, Paul Malshinger, Mike Wells and anybody from Form 1Z of Sept 1965.

Stephen Feber (1972) is Chief Executive of a Millennium Project based on a steel mill in Rotherham with a budget of £37m.

Nigel Pink (1973; staff 1978-89) was home at Christmas on leave from the USA where he has worked for the past three years. He expects to return to the UK permanently later.

Martin Heather (1974) has left teaching to become Education Officer at Wimbledon FC School of Football Excellence.

Stuart Hutchison (1974) was Orchestral and Production Manager and Director of *The Sound of Music* at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield.

Simon Muth (1974) graduated from Birmingham University. Simon was headhunted by AMT as Senior Engineering Consultant (Computers) and travels world wide.

Dave Leonard (1975) writes... I worked in the Haematology Dept at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital for 23 years until I left in October last year, disillusioned and disgusted in what was being done to the NHS. People don't know what they have got until it has gone !! I could have murdered 2 people and got out earlier !! I am now living in Athens with my Greek wife and young son and life is much more pleasant, not perfect, but nowhere is !!

Keith Mahoney (1975) writes... I am now the logistics manager for a large retailer. I have two teenage sons who seem to be following in my footsteps with regard to behaviour at school. One of four old pupils who painted café on the pavilion roof. Anyone remember shouting 'fore' at Mr Drury practising his golf. The Welsh trip where 'Stan the Man' was dunked in the horse trough. The skiing trip to Italy where we beat the Italians at football on a floodlit pitch and we were all pissed.

PS Sexy Sam alias Mr Pembleton is alive and well and living in Epping but I regret to say that Duffy Clayton passed away a few years ago.

Andrew Brock (1976) has been in Brisbane for 4 years, working as a recruitment consultant specialising in marketing.

Nick Buckley (1976) Nick joined the BBC as a sound recording technician. Seen recently by David Richards being interviewed on TV News as a witness of the IRA bombing of Whitehall.

Steve Cladingboel (1976) writes...I live in Wiltshire; work in the public sector; and spend my spare time enjoying aircraft, birds, art, photography, music; the list goes on, but is mostly what's probably regarded as 'anorak'. I live a quiet, rather humble existence, but value the people I know very highly and, occasionally, have some good laughs. I have long since lost all contact with other 'Old Bucks' - we all very quickly went our separate ways. Names I remember particularly include Alan Sharpe, Mike Tedder, Simon Hicks, Peter Quantock, Steve Rees, Ashley Morgan (pupils); Mr. Leek, Mr. Prentice, Mr. Downey, Mr. Rippin, Mr. Loveridge (staff). Funny how I still prefix them 'Mr' - I was never in the position to use first names with staff. These are names I remember fondly; they were good days at BHCHS and I think the education sector lost a gem when it closed down. I remember visiting London to see family, when I learned that it had closed. I went to have a look at the old place. It was a strange sensation walking, nervously (lest I should be done for trespassing) through the playground to where the swimming pool used to be. I could hear the kids playing and could see myself playing 'throwball' against the wall, or wandering over to the 6th form 'common room' with its' smoky air so dense it could be sliced! The building had a majesty, but the atmosphere back then was created with skill and with care. Anyway, enough of that. Anyone who used to know me, or just remembers the name, can contact me on 01225 751796 or at cloggy@cableinet.co.uk.

John Dowden (1976) writes...I went to Bath University from where I graduated in Systems Engineering in 1980. I've worked for a number of companies in the software industry, and for the past 11 years I've been working for Motherwell Information Systems in Sunderland. My work involves computer control and information systems for industrial processes. I was married to Carolyn in 1980, and we have three children, Richard 14, Laura 13 and Emily 10. Its a sobering thought that my children are now approaching GCSEs, and it seems only a few moments ago that I was in the school hall at Buckhurst Hill, with a seemingly impossible exam paper in front of me! If you hear from any others in the class of 76 I'd be more than happy for my details to be passed on to them.

Richard Horton (1976) writes... Went to University of Wales in Cardiff, did economics, did a short service commission in tanks, been in oz for 10 years. Spent a couple of years in Singapore. Divorced, no kids, still trying to work out what I would like to do when I grow up. Work: currently having a rest (courtesy of the Deutsche bank/Bankers trust t/over!!) but historically I have been working in mining finance/commodity price risk management within Australia and Asia.

Martin Koch (1976) was Director of BBC's *All Time Greats*, celebrating 60 years of TV.

David Richards (1976) writes... After leaving BHCHS I took a 4 year sandwich course at UWIST (Cardiff) and left with first class honours in Civil Engineering. Between 1986 and 1997 I worked at a consulting engineer in London, becoming an Associate in 1990. My projects included the Prince of Wales' new housing and commercial district at Poundbury, Dorchester, and comprehensive re-developments of six major 1960's housing estates in East London. This involved design, planning and programming the construction of new homes and demolition of existing flats in phases allowing residents to move to new homes without moving out of their community. Works are now well advanced, with several sites nearing completion. In 1997 I moved and now work locally in Braintree. I have been married since 1982 to Maria who trained as a singer at the Royal Academy of Music, and we have 2 daughters, born in 1987 and 1989.

Neil Simister (1976) is Professor of Biochemistry, Brandies University, New York.

Clive Marrison (1977) has been promoted to Wing Commander, RAF and is now posted to the Ministry of Defence.

Stephen Murray (1977) Son of Len Murray (former TUC General Secretary) is now Labour MP for Epping Forest.

Graham Muth (1977) is a Partner at Lee Crowder & Co, Solicitors, Birmingham. Played soccer for a local team until age 38.

Paul Wyman (1977) writes When I left BHCHS in July 1977, I chose to begin work straightaway rather than take up a University place. I joined Beecham Pharmaceuticals in Harlow as a chemistry technician and studied for my chemistry degree on a part-time basis, graduating from Hatfield Polytechnic (now the University of Hertfordshire) in 1982. At that time I was living in Hainault, but moved to North Weald, Essex when I got married in 1984. 20+ years since starting work I am still with the same company (now SmithKline Beecham)! I am currently working as a team leader in the Medicinal Chemistry Department at the now much larger site in Harlow carrying out research into potential new antidepressant and analgesic drugs. Although I've moved house since first going to North Weald I am still within the same village, where I am secretary at the local Methodist church

Dominic Rooney (1978) obtained an MSc with distinction in gerontology.

Keith Wallis (1979) is working in Stuttgart as a technical translator.

Warren Goldstein (1981) travels to the East with his wife with whom he runs his herb and spice import business.

Jan Klimkowski (1981) directed the BBC2 series *Trust me, I am a Doctor*.

Ian Melbourne (1981) is Professor of Mathematics at Houston University, USA.

John Delfgou (1982) is a Baptist Minister in Chelmsford.

Nick McEwen (1982) writes... I am a "Microsoft Certified Professional" specialising in Windows 95, NT, Internet technologies and TCP/IP. I manage "PC & Network Support" for a finance company based in North London. I have a small team looking after a wide area network which covers the UK and supports several thousand users - although my own team is responsible for approximately 500 users and 2 fairly large server rooms in London and Nottingham.

I don't have much free time I have two small boys (7 and 4). I also have a limited company called "Onederful Technology". I design and publish web sites for small companies (estate agents, opticians etc.). I try to avoid getting any more business because I already have more than I want. The company pays for itself and makes a small profit - I see it both as a hobby and a safety-net in case I ever want to work for myself full time.

Lee Blissett (1983) works for Lloyds TSB in London.

Ian Docking (1983) is married with three daughters and now living in New Zealand. He is particularly interested in getting back in touch with Dave Edwards who he last saw at Cologne airport in Germany in 1985. Email: docking@wk.planet.gen.nz

Robert Gaskin (1983) is working as an engineer involved in providing water supplies in the Far East.

Tom Hill (1983) is a Queen's Councillor with Chambers in Grays Inn.

Glenn Holmen (1983) writes... After leaving BHCHS I started a career in computers. I worked on IBM Mainframes with Lloyds Bank for two years, then IBM midrange machines with IBM for the next 13 years. (IBM system 3X and AS/400 for those with an interest in that area.) I ended my time with IBM as a UK support specialist on AS/400 hardware and software. In 1998 I joined my present company (Acushnet Ltd) in St Ives Cambridgeshire as Network Services Manager. So now I play not only with AS/400s, but a frame relay network, PCs, a telephone system and a Token ring network. It keeps me off the streets. I live about 20 miles from work in a town called March out in the Fens. Nice place if you like large flat landscapes and very big skies (which fortunately I do). I've been there over 11 years so I must like it. A few years ago I took up sailing (yachts not dinghies) and sail whenever I can get a few friends together and my hands on a boat. I even got my RYA Yachtmaster certificate (shorebased) although I never went on to do the practical exam. (must take it one day). I kept in touch with Ian Beckett and Ian Docking mostly, and was a founding name on our little website when Webmaster Nick turned up again a couple of years ago. Sadly I lost touch with all of the 'X' boys. So I would like to hear from anyone who was in 5X in 1980/81 who wants to drop me a line.

Mark Inkster (1983) writes... I would like to hear from any old classmates - I think Nick McEwen's website is great and hope it grows and grows. My father John Inkster left in 1957 and can be contacted at the same address.

Ian Lambert (1983) writes... Life after BHCHS: Loughborough University 1984 - 1988 (Computer Studies) including a year at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough designing future supersonic fighter aircraft (but don't tell the Russians!). 1988 - 1989 Australia & New Zealand for a year, none of which can be published in a reputable magazine. Jan 1990 first day of 'real' work. Price Waterhouse - Management Consultancy Services. Jan 1994 Married Alison (ex Loughton County High) August 1994 to present day Barclays Capital - Technical Manager, Financial Systems. Two children, with no more on the way. Robyn 7 and Adam 4. 1 dog, 2 cats and a hefty mortgage. Still living in Epping (not with the parents !)

Joel Nyman (1983) qualified as a Doctor and worked in Australia, tending Aborigines. Now in practice in Cambridge, opposite King's College.

David Pritchard (1983) now lives in Leicestershire and has been working in sales for an NT systems management software house for the last 10 years. He manages reseller and channel partners throughout the UK and Europe. He is currently writing an MBA dissertation.

Gary Baptist (1984) is working for his parents' clothing firm in Aldgate.

Warren Melbourne (1984) obtained a first class honours degree in Maths at Birkbeck College, London.

Mark Warmer (1984) has completed his service with the French Foreign Legion and now works for a security firm.

Neil Henshaw (1985) became a Chartered Accountant, and is working in computers in California.

Bruce McLean (1985) writes... I would like to hear from anyone who knew me at BHCHS especially anyone from the Rugby team or from my class. You contact me by email at brucemclean@yahoo.com

Ian Warmer (1985) is working as an insurance broker in the City.

Tom Croxon (1987) is a professional double bass player. He was stricken with testicular cancer but because he sought treatment early was cured at Barts Hospital. Later playing in the Philharmonia under the baton of Vladimir Ashkenazy, Tom asked the maestro if he would conduct a concert in aid of male urological research and also to raise awareness of the need to catch testicular cancer in its early stages. Ashkenazy agreed and waived his fee as did the piano soloist. The concert, held at the Festival Hall in April 1999, was supported by the Prince of Wales, Sir Simon Rattle and Sir Cliff Richard, and raised £130,000.

James Lawrence (1987) obtained a first class honours degree in philosophy from Middlesex University and went on to study art history at the Courtauld Institute with a view to taking an MA.

Tom Orton (1988) has his own group which has reached its silver disk. Recently toured USA.

Obituary

President of village art group dies

A MEMORIAL service was held last month at St Mary's Church, Theydon Bois, for a former teacher and president of Theydon Art Group.

Charles Rush, who died while on holiday in Italy, worked at West Hatch Technical High School and Wansfell College. He also championed the restoration of Copped Hall and a new village hall in Theydon Bois.

Born in Norwich in 1929, Mr Rush moved to Theydon Bois with his parents before the Second World War. His grandparents managed a farm in the village.

Educated at Buckhurst Hill County High School for Boys, he was captain of athletics and an excellent cross country runner. He enrolled to study French at Goldsmith's College, but then switched to art and eventually to teaching.

He served with the RAF as a national serviceman in Germany and developed an interest in parachuting, hot air ballooning and became an authority on Zeppelin airships.

His first teaching appointment was at his old school in Buckhurst Hill. He then took on

an art post in Epping followed by a move to West Hatch Technical High School where he ran the art and resources departments.

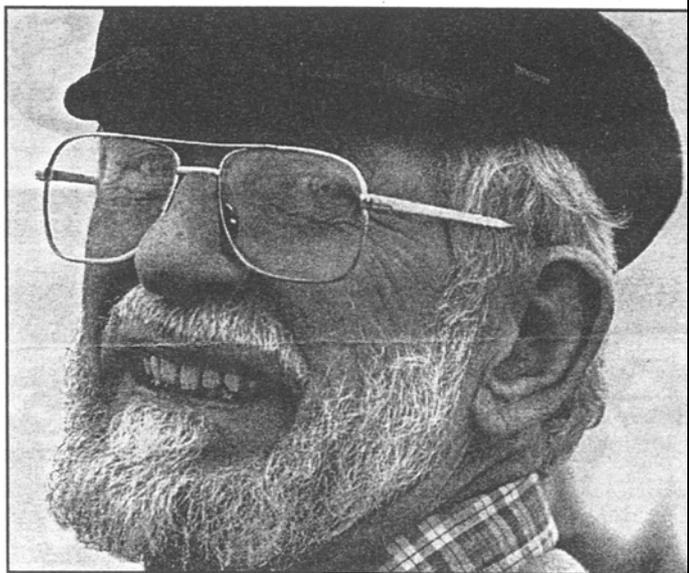
Mr Rush later taught at Wansfell College, Theydon Bois, where he was the first chairman of the Friends of Wansfell College and also vice-chairman of the college's governing body.

He was well-known for his often flamboyant dress styles, ranging from sandals and pullovers to fashionable suits and cravats.

A great designer, particularly with bathrooms, gardens and stage sets, his many other talents included calligraphy, pottery, woodcarving and philately.

He was a founder member of Theydon Art Group - he was its first chairman and its president when he died. He was also a member of the original Theydon Drama Society.

During the war, Mr Rush spent many days on camping holidays, from which sprang a keen interest in the scouting movement and later as an adult, with the Hercules Scout Troop in Harlow which catered for disabled young people.



Charles Rush (c)

A major interest in his latter years was the new village hall. He sat on the village hall redevelopment committee.

Another was the restoration of Copped Hall - he formed the steering committee of the Friends of the Copped Hall Trust.

Mr Rush leaves a wife Kay and five daughters from his first marriage.

Reprinted from the Epping Forest Guardian 28 Oct 1999. Stan Newens, who submitted this, commented that he did not believe Charles Rush ever taught at BHCHS.

Obituary

Professor Peter Thorogood

PETER Thorogood, who was at the school from 1958 until 1965, was killed in a climbing accident in the Alps in August 1998. The following is an extract from the obituary published in The Independent.....

Peter Thorogood was one of the foremost developmental biologists of his generation, gaining respect for his re-

search work on the development of cranio-facial structures in the embryo and foetus, and on the origin of birth defects of the head and neck. In 1989 he took the bold step of leaving his senior lectureship at Southampton University to take up a newly created position as Professor of Dental Surgery at the Eastman Dental Hospital in London. So suc-

cessful was he in this role that in 1992 he was persuaded to take on a similar role at the Great Ormond Street Hospital, becoming Professor of Developmental Biology.

He contributed to the scientific and academic community in a much broader sense than solely through his research. He was one of life's great enthusiasts, fill-

Peter Miller

PETER was one of the original intake of pupils when the school opened in 1938, leaving in 1943. He died in July 1999 aged 72 following a heart attack. His wife Beryl wrote to inform us of this, adding that Peter was always very proud of his school and was sorry when he heard it had closed. Peter had a career in banking and was a former Secretary of the Old Buckwellians.

John Davis

JOHN left the school in 1951 and had been a very good long distance runner. He died in January 1999.

Tributes for man of music

MICHAEL Maxwell, who taught generations of Buckhurst Hill County High School pupils to play brass and woodwind instruments, has died after a fight against cancer.

He held a Master's Degree in Music and the prestigious Doctorate of Philosophy in Music Composition, both from Durham University.

Tributes have been paid to the musical man who has been described as "a kindly figure with a dry sense of humour".

His works were performed in and around London, including the South Bank, and were in a contemporary idiom. He also composed in a more conventional style.

Buckhurst Hill pupils much enjoyed the first unofficial performances of his musical Ticket of Leave,

which he composed in collaboration with one of his colleagues at the Royal School of Ballet, where he also taught.

A shorter composition was his amusing concert piece The Carnival of Vegetables.

He was extremely well-read and well-informed.

Hugh Colgate, who was headmaster at Buckhurst Hill County High School between 1966 and 1985, said Mr Maxwell was "admired and respected by everyone, pupils and staff alike".

He added: "He was an enthusiastic, patient, painstaking and skilled teacher who knew how to get the best out of students, including those who were not musically gifted.

"His former students will remember him with warmth and affection.

"In the staffroom he was a kindly figure with a dry sense of humour."

A number of former colleagues have echoed the same phrase: "Michael was always a perfect gentleman."

Mr Colgate added: "He was also what is now rare in teaching - a character."

Although officially designated as a visiting instrumental teacher, Mr Maxwell made himself very much a full member of staff, sharing a keen interest in all sides of school music and giving freely of his time to school concerts and productions.

A memorial service will be held at St Luke's House, Sandycombe Road, Richmond - near Kew Gardens Station - at 3pm on Saturday.

Finally.....

APPROPRIATE for the obituary page? Some Old Bucks have said they would be interested to see the school song. Well, here it is in full, taken from the back of Mr Taylor's own hymn book. The tune may shortly come back to life on the BHCHS web page. Does anyone know if Mr. Campbell ever wrote a piano accompaniment?

BUCKHURST HILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
THE SCHOOL SONG

R. STEELE S.S. CAMPBELL

Allegro marziale

1 Firm - set a - bove the Rod - ing Stream, By wide and grass - y
leas, Our house stands fair - ly - to the winds 'Twith Es - sex lanes and
trees. While we with - in its walls are found, Like loy - al sons we -
rest. Con - tri - ving ho - nour var - ied gifts May serve the school the

3 beats Verse 3 Allargando

best. Of - years by Rod - ing Stream -

2
As changeful Time with restless speed
Its silent course still runs -
And years may bring an altered scene
To welcome future sons:
In Truth and Honour firmly fixed
And strengthened by our hands,
Our first foundation ne'er can pass,
But resolutely stands.

3
The larger world will make its claim
On us from every side,
And we shall play our several parts
On stages sundered wide.
And yet how'er our paths may stray,
Or school may distant seem,
A loyal mem'ry we shall share
Of years by Rod - ing Stream.

July, 1940

Reprinted from the Woodford Gazette, August 1998

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