



# THE OLD RUSSELLIANS NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2016

Please see below all the forthcoming O.R. events to which you will be invited by text and email. Most of these are free of charge!

**Saturday 19th March: Comedy Night at RRS by professional comedians: Please see website for full details.**

**Saturday 16th April 2016: Annual O.R. 7-A-Side Footie organised by Mr Steve Greaves to be held on Top Pitch from 1pm**

**Spring and Summer ORGS Events: To be published on website once they have been finalised. Please email for details.**

**Wednesday 22nd June 2016: Oldies event: Please email for more information**

<http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/ORfutureevents>

**Friday 24th June 2016: Riverside Reunion to be held at The Anchor on Bankside from 7-9pm**

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 2015



Old Russellians and current pupils and staff came together on Sunday 8th November to remember those Old Russellians who had died in recent and past conflicts around the world. They observed the two minute silence at the Memorial Garden at 11am. Rosemary Angel (at school 1943-1951) is pictured left with Kemal Chaudhri (at school 1967-1974). Photos are available by following this link: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/81414720@N02/albums>

## WINTER WONDERLAND



Old Russellian and ex Head Girl, Kirstie Eden (at school 2001-2008) organised a gathering at the Winter Wonderland in Hyde Park just before Christmas 2015. She was joined by a large group of friends who all had a great time. All photo albums can be found in our Flickr site: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/81414720@N02/albums>

## SPONSOR A SCHOOL MAGAZINE: <http://rrsarchive.daisys.websds.net/>



School magazines have now been digitized from their start in 1903 to 1927. These include all the information regarding former pupils serving in WW1. Our aim now is to digitize all magazines to the present day. If you would like to sponsor a magazine, perhaps the magazine from your last year at school, please advise us. The fee is £50 per magazine (and can be split between ex-students). Once we receive your request, we will provide you with further details. All sponsors will be credited for helping us to build this exciting website. The two latest whole school photographs have also been added along with early promotional films and recordings of two of the Queens visits. The site is constantly being updated, do have a look for yourself!

## CONGRATULATIONS



Simon Jones (at school 1991-1998) and Ann-Marie were married in the school chapel on Saturday 24th October 2015. Simon's friend, Charles Froy (at school 1992-1998) was his best man. Many congratulations to Simon (the O.R. Treasurer) from all O.R.s and the committee.

## TWITTER & FACEBOOK ACCOUNTS



Please follow us on Twitter and Facebook to get up to date information regarding events. Our Twitter account is @OldRussellians. Thanks to Kirstie Eden for keeping these sites alive!



Do we have your mobile number to text you about forthcoming events?



## O.R. STORIES / CAREERS

Thank you to all those who provide us with stories. These are kept on the website for six months and then moved to Archives/Archived O.R. Stories, where they are logged in decade order of when you were at school. Do please keep sending in your news and let us know how you are getting on, what you have done since leaving school and maybe even come and speak to our Sixth Form.

## BEQUESTS

A number of Old Russellians have asked for clarification regarding bequests to benefit the school and its pupils. Should you wish to bequeath a donation please make this bequest to : "The Old Russellians".

For further administrative assistance, please contact the Clerk to the Governors, Mr Danny Neely, at the school.

## HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



The Headmaster's weekly newsletter is available to upload from the website, details below. This will keep you updated about the current events in and around the school. Should you wish to receive this as a weekly email, please get in contact with us and we will add your email address to our distribution. <http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/headmaster-newsletter-royal-russell/index.php>

## HISTORY OF R.R.S.



Julia Powell, correspondent to the Old Russellians, gave an illustrated talk on the history of the School, in the Library at lunchtime on Wednesday 2nd December. Having worked at Royal Russell for 35 years (retiring in 2005), Julia spoke about the important people and events which have shaped the school over the past 162 years.

Julia invited pupils to help complete a timeline which highlighted key points in the school's history, from its origins as a charity set up to provide for the orphans of the Warehousemen, Clerks and Drapers Livery companies, to the opening of the all weather sports pitches by David Weir in 2013. We also learnt about past headmasters and headmistresses and of the 70 Old Russellians who died during the First World War. The only triplets to serve in World War 1 were also Old Russellians - the Jones brothers - and amazingly, all three survived. The talk was well attended, especially by year 7 pupils, who were keen to learn about life at the school 160 years ago. They are very grateful that school no longer starts at 6.30am and that cleaning duties do not feature on the current timetable!

## FUNKE OBISANYA'S SHORT FILM



Funke Obisanya (at school 1979-1983) writes:  
My short film Magda's Lesbian lover won BEST SHORTS at BEFFTA (the black entertainment Fashion Film & TV Awards) in London in October, 2015

The photo above shows (left to right): Louisa Warren (supporting actress, Funke and Sabrina Chiemeka who plays lead Magda.

## VISIT BY 1980s O.R.s



We were delighted to welcome back Jane O'Neill (née Cable) and her family from New Zealand, Cathy Bacon (née Merry) and Helen Georghiou



together with their Housemaster, Les Antrobus, with his wife, Hilary. They were all pleased to see their names on the Queen's House doors and those of their siblings on the Honours Boards. Full details and photos can be found on the website.

## CONDOLENCES: <http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/in-memoriam>

### MICHAEL KEFFORD (TEACHER at RRS 1964-1974)

We were sorry to learn of the death of ex member of staff Mike Kefford in early October 2015.

Peter Caplan (at school 1965-1972) writes: On Friday I had the privilege and honour to perform a reading at Mike's funeral, at the request of the family. A number of O.R.s were on parade: Tina Oldham (now Pepler), Simon Linsen, Ian McMaster, Christopher Newdick, Zena Hillier (now Crabtree), and Jane Buley (now Hillier). Despite the sad circumstances, we all agreed that we would try to attend the next O.R. Day, in May 2017.



### MARGERY HENLEY (née GENDLE) (at school 1926-1933)

Passed away on 6 November 2015 aged 98. She leaves children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and many friends who all loved her very much and will miss her terribly. She was a kind and generous woman – an inspiration and example to us all. She was very grateful for the friendship, security and opportunities given to her by the school.



### ANGUS MCGILL (at school 1935-1943)

We were sorry to learn of the death of Angus McGill on Friday 16th October 2015.

Angus was awarded the MBE for services to journalism, having provided the centre spread of The Evening Standard with his 2,000 words of wit and fun - as well as his cartoon strip of 'Augusta' and 'Clive' - for 17 years. He absolutely loved his school years and couldn't wait for holidays to end!

Photo 1: Descriptive Writer of the Year and the MBE for Services to Journalism

Photo 2: O.R. sisters Dorothy and Jean McGill, both school award winners for Public Examination Achievement join Angus at an Old Russellian Reunion Day. Angus's friend, Brian Angel, writes his obit which can be viewed here: <https://royalrussell.fluencycms.co.uk/In-Memoriam>

### MICHAEL PEARSON (at school 1942-1951)

Pat Bygate writes: "I am sorry to inform you that yet another of our contemporaries has passed on, on Sunday 18th October 2015. I reconnected with Michael just before the 2003 reunion. We had a drink afterwards & reminisced about when he had just been made Head Boy (1949), we climbed a tree together behind the chapel, were spotted by Crispin (Crippie) & ordered down to earth again! We remained in touch until Alzheimer's started to take its toll a few years ago. Say "hello" to the other O.R.s, Michael. R.I.P.

Pat Bygate (Bruno) (at school 1945-51)



### NEIL ANTHONY (at school 1973-1980 and Head Boy 1979-1980)

Old Russellian, Neil Anthony, dies at the young age of 53, of cancer. The Old Russellians were saddened to hear this news on Thursday 3rd December 2015. Neil stood on the O.R. committee from 2005 until 2010. At school he was Head Boy and Captain of Cambridge House during his last year. He will be fondly remembered by everyone who came into contact with him over the years and we wish our heartfelt condolences to his family at this very sad time. There is a wealth of information relating to this great man on the website.

**PLEASE CONTINUE TO GIVE US YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS!**

Email: [jpowell@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:jpowell@royalrussell.co.uk) or [stanner@royalrussell.co.uk](mailto:stanner@royalrussell.co.uk)

Website: <http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/Old-Russellians>