

## QUIZ NIGHT 2008



Photos taken at the Quiz Night in January 2008. Left: Chris (Prep School Headmaster) and Hazel Hedges with Paul Barlow (Bursar), Right: John Jennings (Headmaster) and O.R. Vicki Jennings; Below: Rose Gedney (Geography) with Peter Cooke (Maths); Below Left: Sue Tanner (O.R. Membership Secretary) with Karl Yabsley (O.R. Chairman)



## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to the family of Elwyn Edwards (1935-1944), whose fascinating obituary can be found in the Times (online) on 31st December 2007.

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS KEITH

Celebrating his 80th Birthday, Keith Angel (1936-1944) invited eighty guests to party with him at Brighton Racecourse, just a few 'lengths' from his Woodingdean home. With no actual racing that day, horses had been confined to stable and Old Russellians among the partygoers were able to concentrate on some lavish catering, inter-table games which got jollier and louder as time went on, then family movies and something of Keith's fifty years of Committee work with the O.R.s.

The highlight was the presentation to him of framed pictures of Russell Hill School and Royal Russell by Chairman Karl Yabsley on behalf of the O.R. Committee. Keith was bedecked for the occasion not just with a favourite yellow rose from his (and green-fingered Rosemary's) garden but with badges of the School, the Rotary Club and also Skal, the travel agents' association, all of which have benefited from his committee work and enthusiasm for over half a century and each of which were represented among the guests.

Spanning O.R. years in the group photo were (left to right): Brian Angel, Karl Yabsley, Rosemary Dennis (Mrs Angel), John Harrison, Peter Harrison, Derek Green, Keith, Bill Cave, Chris Gough, Pamela Barrable (Mrs Turtle), John Dennis (Rosemary's brother), Jane Turtle (Mrs Avent) and Colin Barrable. (Jane is Pam's daughter and Colin is Pam's brother). Pam had been one of Rosemary's bridesmaids ... a dazzling performance in the film of Keith and Rosemary's wedding, which we then enjoyed. All in all, a really great occasion, not just for Keith and Rosemary but for every one of those there.



## CONGRATULATIONS

Nigel Lupton (Art) and Laura Cacace (Maths) on the birth of baby Frank in January 2008; to Sam Antrobus (1987-1996) on the birth of his son; to Andrew Hedges (1992-1999) on the birth of his son, Oscar Barnaby; and to Victoria Sullivan (née Hedges) (1987-1996) on the birth of her second baby girl, Cara Jane born on 21st April 2008.

**THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER -  
PLEASE GIVE US YOUR NEWS AND PHOTOGRAPHS!**

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# THE OLD RUSSELLIANS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2008

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### QUIZ NIGHT 2008

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### MANY HAPPY RETURNS KEITH

### CONGRATULATIONS

The objectives of The Old Russellians are:

- To keep Old Russellians in touch with one another
- To organise social and sporting events
- To publish a regular newsletter
- To keep Old Russellians informed on all matters of interest regarding the school

## RIVERSIDE REUNION

Photos from this popular event will be published soon on the website, and in the next edition of your newsletter, in Autumn 2008.

## O.R. FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT 2008

The weather just about held for us at this year's Footie Tournament, organised again by Steve Greaves (Oxford Housemaster). There were many ex pupils and staff here to support and have a chat during quiet moments. Not that there were many quiet moments – especially during the penalty shoot out! This year's winners were Adam Cannon's team who left around 1998/99/2000. There were 5 Old Boys' teams in the tournament, plus a team of current pupils. The organisers were as follows: 1997 leavers and before - Darren Tehsin, Leavers around 1998/99/2000 - Adam Cannon, Leavers 2001/02/03/04 - Scott Campbell/Chris Ficken/Michael Wood/Madaliso Simango, Leavers 2005 - Chris Taylor & Ben Ellis (2007 champions), Leavers 2006/07 - Jamie Ivory & Jonny Sasati. Thanks to all the organizers! Looking forward already to 2009. Have a look at the website for the photo album containing more photographs taken this year.



## Ozzie Reunion

All Old Russellians, teachers, and their families living or working in Australia, are warmly invited to join us at The Opera Bar, Sydney on Thursday 14th August for a drink and chat.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2008

**Saturday 28th June  
Farewell Tea at 3.15pm**  
Chris Hedges has been the Prep School Headmaster for the past 21 years, and retires this summer. He would like to meet up with Old Russellians at his farewell tea party after Royal Russell Day in the Dining Hall, from 3.15pm.

**Thursday 14th August  
Australian Reunion**  
O.R. friends and colleagues are invited to the Opera Bar, Sydney Australia from 8pm-10pm. Come and join us for a drink and chat.

**Friday 5th September  
Recent Leavers' Social  
Event at Coombe Lodge**  
from 5pm onwards. Anyone who considers themselves a recent leaver is welcome to attend this event.

**Saturday 27th September  
RRS Open Morning**  
for prospective parents and pupils.

**Sunday 9th November  
Remembrance Sunday**  
Service in Chapel 10.15am

**Sunday 9th November  
Fireworks Display and  
Fun Fair - Gates open  
5.15pm**

**Saturday 29th November  
Annual Dinner**  
Invitations downloadable on the website.

**Sunday 14th December  
Christmas Carol Service**  
in Great Hall at 6.30pm.

**OTHER EVENTS  
ARE ORGANISED  
THROUGHOUT THE  
YEAR - PLEASE  
CHECK OUR WEBSITE  
FOR DETAILS: [www.royalrussell.co.uk/  
oldrussellians](http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/oldrussellians)**

## PHOTO GALLERY





## WEST COUNTRY REUNIONS

By Elaine Campbell (1954-1961)

I left RHS in 1961 and I kept in contact with Jean Manley, a fellow classmate. I have also stayed in touch with Miss Brown.

At Ballards in 2001 I was happily reunited with the Frood family of whom Irene was a classmate. She and her sisters Margaret and Nan, and twin brothers Hugh and James had made the journey from Scotland and it was great to catch up on their news.

In 2004 I was delighted to attend a reunion at Purley and meet up with Ann Jones and her sister Sally and to hear lots of news of fellow O.R.s.

As I was now living in Somerset I was curious to see if Lavinia Booth still lived in the South West. I tried contacting her old postal address without success, so I resorted to putting a message in The Local Times. To my delight a friend of Lavinia's saw my message and she and I spoke and arranged to meet. This was the first time we had seen each other since July 1961; it took a moment to recognise her but as soon as she said "Hello" the 30 odd years just evaporated!

Jean now lives in the West Country as does Ann so all four of us have got together for lunches and have really enjoyed reminiscing about 'old times'.

*Ann is pictured below left, Lavinia and Jean below centre, and Elaine below right.*



## BRIAN ANGEL RETURNS TO THE CLASSROOM

In last summer's newsletter we reported on the plans for the forthcoming new building in the school. Work is due to start this summer and should be completed by summer 2010. At the school we have been delighted to be introduced to an internationally acclaimed Finnish-American sculptor, Eino (see his website at [www.eino.org](http://www.eino.org) for information about his work). As Old Russellians yourselves, you may be aware of the school's first Patron, Lord John Russell, twice Prime Minister of Britain and grandfather of Lord Bertram Russell. In 1964 Eino was commissioned to create a marble bust of Bertram Russell for a private collector in the US along with a bust of Albert Einstein. Eino will be resident in and around the school campus over a 6 month period sculpting a bronze bust of Lord Russell to be placed in the lobby of the new Reception area. The bust, in the initial, waxed, stage of work, was shown to Brian Angel, who had a lesson in sculpting from Eino in March this year.



On 18th March Eino's 7ft high bronze of Sir Roger Bannister's symbol of achievement depicting the moment Bannister became the first man to run the mile in under 4 minutes, in 1954, was sited for six months in the quadrangle of the Royal Russell School, opposite Oxford House. On 6th May - on the anniversary of this event - the sculpture was ceremoniously unveiled by Neil Speaight, the current British No2, 1500m runner, in the presence of the Mayor of Croydon, Councillor Derek Millard. Neil Speaight presented the School with a signed running shirt, which is now on display in the Sports Hall.



*Left: The unwrapping of the sculpture  
Below: The unveiling of the sculpture, with L to R: Graham Moseley, Neil Speaight, the Mayor of Croydon, Eino Romppanen, John Bicourt, Chris Hedges  
Bottom Left: Neil Speaight signs the shirt with Graham Moseley and Julia Powell  
Bottom Right: Bannister runs towards Oxford House!*



## WHERE IS JAMES BROWN? JOHN BARTLETT (1954-1965) WRITES ...

I was intrigued to see the photo of Kindergarten 1, Hope Morley on page 3 of the Spring O.R. Newsletter. I can help with the identification of the boys in the photo. It is certainly James Brown at position 1, bottom row, L to R (and not me). Then comes Norma Harrison, then possibly me in position 3. I have several pictures like this of this era, all containing the same girls, but, unfortunately, I cannot remember who your missing girls are. I will ask a couple of my contemporaries with whom I am still in touch (Richard Holliday, Malcolm Sniders), to see if they know.



*In the 'Cowboys and Indians' photo (above) James Brown is standing back row right, with me in the front row, position 1. I'm not certain who the others are. It could be John Allen in pos. 3. Like James Brown, John Allen had very fair hair, but was taller.*

*In the photo (below) back row, L to R are: James Brown, Leonard Shipley, ?, ?, Rodney Vincent. John Allen is in the middle row, pos. 3, and I am in the bottom row, pos. 4 (at the right end).*



*In the Hope Morley photo (above) I am seated at the right end of the front row. John Allen is at the left end of that row. In the back row, L to R are David Pickles, ?, ?, ?, James Brown, Rodney Vincent.*

WHERE IS JAMES BROWN NOW?

## O.R. FAMILIES



*Pictured right: Petra Hirschmann (née Clarke) with Amelia born in May 2007, watching the O.R. Football Tournament.*



*Pictured above: Andrew Hedges (1992-1999) with baby Oscar Barnaby, born on 19th January 2008 to Andrew and Tess, weighing 8lb.*



*Pictured left: Phil Reynolds (1967-1977) with his two children (Christopher and Gemma) taken summer 2007, geocaching (a high tech game of treasure hunting) See Phil pictured opposite in the Junior Soccer Team in 1970!*

## DID YOU KNOW ...

School 'Slanguage' can be found on the website, but did you know the origin of some of the words, such as this from Anthony Mak (1974-1982):

Bugs 'ole - I was told by several independent sources that St. Andrew's House received this nickname due to an outbreak of head lice that broke out in the 60s. I'm sure one of the O.R.s from that era can fill you in with more details!

John - I believe this slang was created by me and my group of friends (Zeki Murad, Brian Winstanley, and John Young). John Davies was our Technical Drawing teacher circa 77-80, and had a 'don't mess with me' attitude. His classes were excellent as he had very high standards. Consequently, he didn't give praise easily, but when he did it was always well deserved. Unfortunately, Mr Davies was a heavy smoker, so he had the tendency to make a short guttural exhaling of breath before talking (a kind of 'eh' sound). Therefore, when anybody did something exceptional, we would mimic his exhaling of breath followed by the word 'John' to convey the sense that the exceptional act would have been worthy of praise even from the great, John Davies. Simultaneously, we would sweep out our hand from our chest downwards in a chopping motion as if to cut-off any verbal dissent.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor

Whilst researching websites about World War Two, I came across by chance the moving story of an Officer Gerald Hood, formerly of your School. To learn more, I then looked him up on the site of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and was surprised to see he is shown as 'Age Unknown'. But your School seems to have a great deal of information and for Gerald's sake the CWGC might wish to update their records. I do know they are (quite reasonably) extremely careful with the information they accept but, equally, it is surprising that the RAF records didn't give them the correct age in the first place. (I was a wartime navigator but fate dealt me a kind hand and I was spared operational service.)

Regards

Don Drew (an Englishman in Wales!)

[dondrew@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:dondrew@tiscali.co.uk)

NOTE : The O.R. Committee have thanked the writer and are in touch with the CWGC.

## HAPPY DAYS by Stuart Adams (1946-1950)

I AM exaggerating a bit but shall I tell you a funny and true story?

When I was in Form 2 or 3 a group of us were playing on the asphalt playground, quite innocently as I remember. Suddenly, a Cambridge prefect shouted at us to report to the Cambridge Prefects' Room ... immediately! We lined up outside the room (there were about 6 of us) and the first one, not me, was called in. Seconds later we heard an almighty bang followed by shouting and screaming and the first boy came out in a hurry rubbing his backside, and he shot off somewhere.

The next one was called in and the same thing happened and similarly, when he came out we didn't have a chance to ask what on earth was happening. When my turn came, in I went and saw a number of Cambridge prefects there including Mochir, Millmore, Wilson 1, Lauwers and Long. One of them had a cricket bat and shouted at me to get my head under the table - there was no trial, just immediate execution. I got my head under the table and the bat was swung back. As it began its downward path Long, I think it was, hissed in my ear, "Now, yell like hell!". And 'crash!!' the bat thudded on to the cushion he had placed across my bum. "Now get out and don't tell the others!"

Silly, ain't it but it has remained with me all these years and even though I was in St Andrew's I had a lot of respect for those 'men'. Well, they seemed like men to me then! Happy Days!

## O.R. TIE/SCARF

The matter of whether or not O.R.s would like a new tie (scarf for ladies) has often been raised at committee meetings, and we need your feedback. If you have a view on this, please email Julia Powell, who would also welcome ideas on the preferred design.