

## VISITS



John and Jane Piggin, and Martin and Sue Tanner met up with O.R.s, Arif Ebrahim (1981-1984) (pictured left with John) in South Africa, and Bradford Machila (1977-1983) (pictured on front cover with John) in Zambia, this summer.



Michael Ryan (1955-1962) and his wife, Meryl, paid a surprise visit to Royal Russell School in the summer - they are pictured here outside Hill View.

ALL O.R.s ARE WELCOME TO VISIT THE SCHOOL.

PLEASE CONTACT JULIA POWELL FOR A PERSONAL TOUR.

## JOLLY BOATING WEATHER

Chris Gough

Once again the Really Old Russellians' biennial trip on O.R. Bill Cave's narrow boat took place on Monday 6th August. O.R.s Edwina Good (1946-1958), Jane Hall (1948-1953), Richard Dadson (1947-1955), Chris Gough (1951-1955), Keith (1937-1944) and Rosemary (1943-1951) Angel, and of course Bill (1946-1953), left Purford Marina, near Wisley, and set off down the Wey Navigation, heading for Send via Newark Priory and the New Inn hostelry for lunch.

Sterling work was done by Richard and Chris, opening and shutting lock gates, whilst the ladies handled the ropes and managed the galley with great aplomb! Tea was served by the river bank. Then the crew returned safely in time to wend their way home after what had been a most enjoyable and sunny day out!

Thank you, Bill, we look forward to your next trip in 2009, when once again we can enjoy each other's company and wander down 'memory lane'.



## CONDOLENCES

Our condolences go to the family of Old Russellian, Raymond John Ward, who died on 6th May 2007, aged 86. His school years were 1926-1936. Also Ethel Pike (née Barnetson) who died on 7th August 2007, aged 91. Her school dates were 1928-1932. And Chaz Stacey who died on 27th September 2007, aged 79. His school dates were 1938-1944.

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

Email: [jpowell@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:jpowell@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk) or [stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk)  
Website: [www.royalrussell.co.uk/oldrussellians](http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/oldrussellians)

## TEDDY BEARS PICNIC

Had you gone to Chapel Quad on Sunday 1st July, you certainly would have been in for a big surprise.

There were bears to keep, bears to buy, bears to colour in and bears to decorate, as children from our own and other prep schools joined the party. The children brought their parents to this popular event and all left clutching their own Russell Bear that they received when they signed in.



Amongst those present were former students who now have their own families. Pictured left is Aduke Haasz (née Odunsi) (1975-1982) with her children, and below is Vicki Sullivan (née Hedges) (1989-1996) with her daughter, one-year-old Anna.

The storyteller (below) was just one of the many attractions on the day.



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# THE OLD RUSSELLIANS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2007

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

**Last Chance to get your Annual Dinner tickets**  
Contact [jpowell@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:jpowell@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk)

A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS NOW EXISTS FOR GENERAL ENQUIRIES:  
[theoldrussellians@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:theoldrussellians@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk)

O.R. WEBSITE

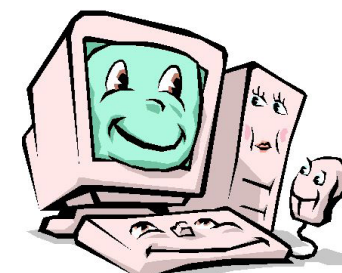
We are currently looking for material for the Archive pages of the O.R. website. If you have anything at all, including photos or scanned images that we can use, please contact Sue Tanner at the school or by email: [stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk)

## RECENT LEAVERS' SOCIAL EVENING

Due to the popularity of the Riverside Reunion in June, we have decided to change the One Year On Event to a Recent Leavers' Social Evening and hold it at Coombe Lodge on the first Friday of the Autumn School Term, starting on 8th September 2008. More details later.

## ELECTRONIC MEMBERSHIP

If you left the school between 1998 and 2002, you should have received this newsletter electronically. We don't have many email addresses for people who left at this time. If you can get people to contact us with their email addresses, that would be great!



## SCHOOL 'SLANGUAGE'

The School's own language was named 'Slanguage' in S. Hopewell's book, 'Royal Russell School, A History'. The ISBN for this book is 0 09 136160 5, first published in 1978 and printed in Great Britain by The Anchor Press Ltd, Tiptree, Essex.

Some examples of School 'Slanguage' are shown below and there are more on the website. If you know of any other words, and/or the origins and meanings of them, please email Sue Tanner at [stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk)

Benched - punished

Buck - When the gymnasium was built at Russell Hill, it seemed so wonderful that it was compared with Buckingham Palace. Hence anyone using it frequently was known as a 'buck'.

Bugs 'ole - St Andrew's House. Originally the old mansion at Ballards, which became St Andrew's before demolition.

Dump - where Croydon Council used to dump all the local refuse, next to the old swimming pool. Now used for the annual Fireworks Display, but not much good for anything else!

Fag - a Junior working for a Senior

Methy - someone whose behaviour was almost too good to be true

Scruff Rig - non uniform clothes worn after teaching hours

Shant - the school (Does anyone know where this originated?)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2007/2008

**Sunday 4th November**  
Fireworks Display and Fun Fair. Gates open 5.30pm

**Sunday 11th November**  
Remembrance Day Service in Chapel at 10.15am

**Saturday 17th November**  
Christmas Fayre 1pm

**Sunday 18th November**  
Chapel Service 6pm

**Saturday 24th November**  
Old Russellians' Annual Dinner at 7.30pm preceded by AGM

**Wednesday 28th November**  
**Thursday 29th November & Friday 30th November**  
School Play: 'My Fair Lady' at 7.30pm  
Tickets available from: [ekingsleyperkins@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:ekingsleyperkins@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk)

**Sunday 2nd December**  
Advent Carol Service 5.45pm in Chapel

**Tuesday 4th December**  
Rolling Stones Tribute Band at Clapham Grand 8.30pm  
<http://www.feedmemusic.co.uk>

**Sunday 9th December**  
Christmas Carol Service 6.30pm in Great Hall

**Saturday 2nd February 2008**  
Quiz Night

**Saturday 15th March 2008**  
Old Russellians' Annual Football Tournament

**PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS OF ALL EVENTS: [www.royalrussell.co.uk/oldrussellians](http://www.royalrussell.co.uk/oldrussellians)**

## PHOTO GALLERY





A SUMMER EVENING ON THE RIVER THAMES JUNE 2007

Every picture tells a story .....



Here are a few pictures that tell the story of Friday 15th June 2007, when about 100 ex Royal Russell pupils gradually took over The Anchor Pub on the River Thames.

The evening started quietly with small groups gingerly appearing from around corners and from the local restaurants.



One group, from 1956, hadn't all been together for 50 years! As the sun set over the river, the resounding laughter could probably be heard all across London. The groups grew and grew, and by the time some of us had missed the last train to Croydon, we finished up inside the pub. Everywhere you looked you saw faces you knew, some recognisable, some not at all, but all friendly faces of people you were about to get to know better, and all from Royal Russell School! Thanks to all those who came along and made it such a fun evening and to Jane Bruce for all your messages and photos on Facebook.



STAFF RETIREMENTS - SUMMER 2007

Mrs Jacky Roe



Mrs Roe joined the Science Department in 1984 and, apart from a couple of years away from school, has continued educating students in Physics. Many of you may well remember her teaching of 'how to wire a three pin plug'. Sadly today, that particular skill is not quite so essential as most appliances now come ready equipped! In 1997 Mrs Roe took on the role of Head of Sixth Form and during that time she has introduced a bonding day for Year 12, an activity week following summer exams and a Ball at school or on the River Thames. Mrs Roe supported sixth form students at all times and encouraged them to get the best out of their final years at school. Although officially retired, she's back teaching for a couple of days a week so pupils are still gaining from her experience and encouragement. O.R.s who remember Mrs Roe wish her well in her retirement and in the extra time that she now has to pursue her interests whilst also spending more time with her grandchildren.

Dr Jim Cunningham

Dr Cunningham became Head of English in 2004. He was responsible for creating the smart new Russellian school magazine. We wish him and his wife many happy retirement years in Wales.

Mr Colin Barrett

Mr Barrett joined Royal Russell in 2001 as a member of the English Department. It was not long before both staff and students realised his love of poetry. Quickly everyone was putting pen to paper and, under his enthusiastic guidance, were creating work of which they never thought themselves capable. He introduced competitions and poetry reading evenings for all to enjoy. Sport is another of Mr Barrett's interests. Apart from cycling to and from school to keep fit, he successfully ran a football team, and was frequently seen umpiring cricket. For the last couple of years he has joined the Oxford House staff as a tutor with residential duties. This part of his job must have been so rewarding that he is back again this year to help out with weekend duties. In order to keep his mind active, Mr Barrett has signed up for yet another university course. This course in Art History will give him a good excuse to visit Florence and Rome etc. We all wish him well for the future.



Mr John Coventon

Mr Coventon joined the Drama Department in 2002 as a part time member of staff. It soon became apparent that he was not there as an extra but as a valuable part of both the Department and School in general. He became full time to cover Miss Davenport's maternity leave and produced the production of 'O What a Lovely War'. Away from the Department John could frequently be found umpiring cricket during the summer term and has helped Mr Piggin in organising and running MUN. Mr Coventon will be missed, but his face will not be forgotten, as he will be back from time to time.

FACES FROM THE PAST - Bill Forster

A mysterious photograph album in the School Archive contains the photographs of nearly 400 boys (and some girls) who attended Russell School between approximately 1950 and 1965. An index of those included is enclosed with this issue of the Newsletter. If your name is on the list and you would like to receive a print quality jpeg of your photograph, please email Bill Forster at: bill@fischer-balcke.de giving your date of birth as proof of your identity. If you are not on the Internet please ask a friend or family member to contact Bill on your behalf to avoid the complication and expense of obtaining and posting prints.

Bill has scanned the album page by page and Keith Angel has linked the file reference to the pupils entry in the O.R. database, which has been used to create the name index. Not all the pupils are named and those without names have been posted on the school website at: www.royalrussell.co.uk/oldrussellians.

If you think you recognise any of them please let Bill know so that their names can be added to the index (which will then be updated and posted on the web).

The pupils were probably photographed in their final term at school by a professional photographer but the precise years covered are not given and not all school leavers are included (members of the VI Form who left school at the end of the Summer term in 1956 are all missing) whilst some boys who stayed on into the VI were photographed twice, perhaps at age sixteen and again at eighteen.

If you know the whereabouts of these missing pages or know exactly why these pictures were taken please contact Bill Forster. He will be glad to hear from you.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR ....

We have previously put names in this section of the newsletter, and have had considerable response. However, some names still exist which can be found on the website. The most recent additions are shown below: SHOULD YOU BE ABLE TO HELP US FIND ANY OF THESE OLD RUSSELLIANS, PLEASE CONTACT SUE TANNER: stanner@royalrussell.croydon.sch.uk

Kieran Rix (1982-1989) who is a member but has not passed on his change of address to us.

An Old Russellian is looking for Bill Agilidis (St Andrew's House, left in 1984). Can anyone let us know his whereabouts please.

A member of the Society, Ray Sutherland, is looking for the following Old Russellians who were at school between 1960 and 1969. Can anyone let us know their whereabouts please?

Christopher Harrison	David Lovegrove (1957-1964)
Anthony Proctor	Quentin Wainwright
David Butler	Mike Scholefield
Stephen Holt	Ann Scholefield
Diane Webster	Peter Gosling

BLUEBELL RAILWAY

Adrian and Julian Edwards celebrating their 50th Birthday with other O.R.s at the Bluebell Railway this summer.

Pictured left to right: Adrian Edwards (1969-1976), Nigel Reed (1965-1976), Alison McKintosh (1968-1976), Mark Vernon (1969-1976), Julian Edwards (1969-1976), Murdo Urquhart (1966-1976) and Ian Walsh.



ONE & TWO YEARS' ON

Although it was disappointing that more people didn't attend this new event, it was still a good opportunity for those who did to see each other again and to meet up with some of their old teachers.



Tom Barlow and Ian Parry talking here to Martin Tanner

Charlotte Bell, James Ellis and Chris Gordon

Having talked about the event to a number of recent leavers, it has been decided to hold this reunion at Coombe Lodge next year.

We hope this will be more appealing than coming back to school!!!



Chris Gordon talking here to Bob Ellis

WE WISH YOU WELL, EMMA

We received this email from Emma Jones (1989-2000) just before she left for China.

"Hey everyone... Just letting you all know that as of August I will be a small and insignificant part of the 1.3 billion people who live and work in China! I have been offered a job teaching geography at an International School in Shanghai! Woo hoo...off again!!! People wishing to book space at my apartment for the Olympics please book now to avoid disappointment, the list is already growing!!! Hope you are all well, and hopefully catch up before I leave... Jonesy (Emma, to some)"

Everyone wishes Emma well in her new venture!