



THE OLD RUSSELLIANS NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2012

Please see below all the forthcoming O.R. events to which you will be invited by email. Please note that most of these are now free of charge!

Sunday 4 November from 17:30: Annual Fireworks Spectacular and Fun Fair - ALL profit goes to local charities

Sunday 11 November at 10:00: Remembrance Service in Chapel followed by laying of wreaths in the O.R. Memorial Garden

Friday 30 November at 19:00: A 'Winter Toast' at The George, London Bridge, SE1 1NH

Friday 7 December at 18:30 in the Sports Hall: O.R. Basketball organised by Graham Moseley and David Hughes

Sunday 9 December at 18:30: RRS Carol Service in Great Hall - all O.R.s welcome to attend

Saturday 23 March 2013 from 13:30: O.R. Footie Tournament

Saturday 18 May 2013: The Biennial O.R. Reunion to be held at RRS during the day for the whole family

Please click on relevant links to obtain additional information on all articles www.royalrussell.co.uk/Events

WINTER TOAST



An opportunity for all Old Russellians to meet up on the last Friday in November, following with tradition, to raise a glass to all O.R.s around the world. The George is London's only surviving galleried coaching inn. The committee will all be in attendance for this event, and will take the opportunity to officially swear in new officers at the beginning of the evening. We hope to see many of you at this event, and please get in contact if you need more information.

O.R. TREASURER

The current Treasurer for the O.R.s has sadly needed to stand down, and we therefore ask anyone who may be interested in taking on this role to kindly email Sue Tanner at stanner@royalrussell.co.uk as soon as possible. The task of Treasurer is not too arduous but does need a commitment of attendance at committee meetings and someone with a knowledge of figures.

RESULTS DAY - AUGUST 2012

Headmaster, Chris Hutchinson says:

"I am delighted to report another strong set of GCSE Results for our boys and girls. The overall results show an increase in the number of A* and A grades from 2011. Our A*/A grade % has risen to 45.5% and our pass rate for A* to C grades is 96.5%.



The A level results showed a very strong performance against our predictions and against our 'best ever' results of 2011. It is very encouraging to see that our A* % has increased from 8.9% to 11.7% (this is set against a national picture of fewer A*/A grades) and that our A* to C % also shows a small increase on 2011.

RIVERSIDE REUNION - 22 JUNE 2012



As John Piggin stood down as Director of RRS MUN and Simon Keable-Elliott took up the baton, the Old Russellians were delighted that many O.R.s and ex MUNers joined them at The Anchor Pub on Bankside for a very special reunion. It wasn't just Old Russellians present at this gathering, there were also ex MUNers from other schools, Advisors from other schools, past and current Headmasters, past and current staff, family and friends. As always at this very popular reunion, we were blessed with good-enough weather, and exceptionally good banter and amusing stories. There was even a free drink for everyone. We took over the whole of the upstairs of The Anchor and most of the outside terrace.

Message from Mr Piggin: "It was really wonderful to see so many MUNers and O.R.s at the Reunion (I think that I remembered all of you!!) and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for coming along and also for your kind generosity which I have used to purchase an Ipad. That may be a shock to many of you but panic not, I am going on a course....!!!"

The full photo album is available on the website.

BRITAIN FROM ABOVE



There is a new site just launched showing 1919 – 1953 Aerofilms. Published by English Heritage and the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments of Scotland & Wales, there are some excellent images. A search for Croydon reveals 44 hits, mostly in the south of the borough though we are sure more will be

added. There are some good aerial views of Ballards estate circa 1920. Have a look: <http://www.britainfromabove.org.uk>

In 1912 the Old Russellians' Magazine reported:

"The new Sanatorium at Russell Hill School is to be lit by Electricity. It is hoped that this form of lighting will later be extended to other new buildings at the School."

REUNION IN PERTH, WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Writes Tony Dear (at school 1949-1959):

I got in contact with Michael Ayling (at school 1959-63), brother of Frank Canning (at school 1960-1972). Michael (knows as Mick) lives with his wife Sally in Perth, Western Australia. This was the only Australian state my wife and I hadn't visited, so after some exchanges by email and phone, we arranged to visit them. I remembered Michael as being a great achiever in cross-country competitions and other athletic pursuits. We and the car went on the Trans-Australian train to Perth and later drove back to Melbourne across the notorious Nullarbor (no trees) Plain. Meanwhile, in Perth, we stayed with them and spent much time reminiscing about people and events at 'Shant' and catching up with our life histories.