

March 2006

As a St Mary's Hall Association life member, you are no doubt surprised and maybe a bit disappointed to receive this unfamiliar package instead of the expected and familiar format SMHA Newsletter.

How did this happen? Well, you will perhaps remember that Linda (Belasco) Kings had temporarily emerged from editorial retirement to help us out with the 2005 Newsletter. Sadly nobody has since come forward to take her place, thus no 2006 Newsletter. The SMHA committee is alive and well and working hard on your behalf but is without a member or members with the necessary additional time and skills to produce the Newsletter.

So, we start with an appeal but not monetary this time! If the membership wants to see a properly edited and produced SMHA Newsletter in future years, then we need volunteers for the SMHA committee specifically to take on this project. We believe that an editorial team of three – a news editor, a content manager and a production manager - would allow the work to be broken up into manageable chunks. Is there perhaps a group of three friends out there who would stand for committee in May with the expectation of taking on the production of the SMHA newsletters? Don't be shy in coming forward, email stmaryshallassociation@btinternet.com if you can help.

Talking of appeals and being shy in coming forward, the appeal for donations and regular giving in 2005 generated some lovely generous responses, and also some criticisms for asking at all, but they were very few in both cases. So if you meant to and didn't, all donations and regular giving will still be welcomed by The School Accountant. Remember, SMH is a registered charity but SMHA is not.

There have been changes in the Old Girl Governor population, with the resignation of Penny (Buck) Gardiner in May 2005 due to career commitments and the elections to the Governing Body of Anne (Levisieur) Commin and Margaret (Cook) Rawlings later in the year. This makes both Anne and Margaret automatic SMHA committee members. Congratulations and welcome.

Annual Reunion details and Spring Draw tickets can be found in this envelope. We must tell you that the £100 prize for the 2005 Spring Draw was won by Angelica Meletiou. Please let us know if you can join in the Reunion fun on Saturday May 6th 2006. If not, keep in touch, and keep that news coming.

Contact details for news, views, Reunion replies and Spring Draw tickets

Either, email

stmaryshallassociation@btinternet.com

or, write to

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SMHA 87th AGM held at St Mary's Hall Saturday 7 May 2005

Apologies for Absence: Mary Abbis (Rand), Philippa Biles (Graham), Valerie Boyes(staff), Teresa Broadbent (staff), Liz Caudle (Baker), Julia Clayson (Franckeiss), Olwen Davies (staff), Audrey de Baughn (staff), Mrs Draffan, Trish French (Williams), Sarah Fitzpatrick (Cox), Pat Goode (Smeed), Heather Johnson (Heald), Amanda Jones(Hobson), Kate Lord, Katherine Lower, Gabrielle Lyons (Hutton), June Mack, Elizabeth Meredith (Watson), Robina Methven, Barbara Millbourn (Hunt), Melanie Morrison, Hester Oliver (Girdlestone), Mary Pashley (Theobald), Phyllis Poyser, Momy Pritchett(Pike), Mary Randall (Fosh), Mildred Riddelsdell, Susan Roller (Harris), Mary Scully(Chalmers), Rachel Stewart (Gordon), Bridget Sudworth (Last), Penny Wade, MeganWarner, Daphne Williams, Christine Yates (Peckham), Pamela Young, AngelicaMeletiou, Caroline Egan-Strang, Jean Weston (Scatcliff), Jane Wharton (Alsop).

Prayers: We joined in the SMHA prayer and Mrs Meek paid tribute to those connected with the school who died this year.

Minutes: The minutes of the last AGM were agreed and signed.

Chairman's Report: The Award ceremony changes have been a great success. Garden Party celebrates junior school achievements, particularly years 7-10. The girls presented a report and there was an excellent musical interlude. The celebration for years 11,12 and 13, complete with guest speaker is a much more adult occasion. A 5pm start enabled a seamless move into an evening reception with staff and parents enjoying this new departure enormously. In the autumn term Mr Wells presented us with his 271 production. Roald Dahl's The Witches inspired some really vile and spirited acting from the girls and from two yr 6 boys, much relished by the audience. Ex pupil Maria Redman returned to the chapel to play Rachmaninov's second piano concerto. This ravishing performance, under the baton of ex SMH parent Andy Sherwood with the Brighton Youth Orchestra inspired us all. Nursery and reception came through their Ofsted with a very good report. January saw a very worrying meningitis scare with two year 6 pupils infected. Chapel became a field hospital and antibiotics were administered to everybody with military precision. The medical team were brilliant and the crisis was averted. Our spring concert was, as ever, a beautiful occasion. The premises development is proceeding apace. St Hilary sold at London prices and will be conserved and developed. One part will be put back as a house and the rest will be made into flats. The sixth form will remain there until the Juniors move over to Gloucester, freeing Elliott up for its refurbishment. We hope to move the Juniors in February 2006 because we have to vacate St Hilary by August. We all need to keep our fingers crossed for this, and so far building at the new site at the top of the lax pitch bank is in full swing. There is a keen competitive atmosphere in the independent school sector and Sue Meek is determined, as she embarks on her final five years at the school, to leave SMH vibrant and healthy. We have much new IT equipment in our new suite, as well as two interactive boards. We are looking forward to the Christmas Bazaar on 3 December.

Treasurer's report: Altering our year end to 31 December enables all of us to read up to date accounts in the SMHA newsletter. The finances are healthy and our thanks are extended to Andrew Russell for auditing and Penny Gardiner for liaising with him.

Vice Chairman's report:

Appeal to membership: We have over a thousand active members, 850 of whom live in the UK. 80 of these live in Sussex. Where are they all, we wonder. The new buildings appeal has generated some very generous individual donations, but only 1% of the membership has responded. At the SMHA November meeting the appeal was purely conceptual. The committee decided to give some of our funds to kick start a fund for the Elliott refurbishment. This decision is now ratified by the AGM and we are hereby donating £5,000. This is a great start, but we need £75,000.

Database: Penny fields about 500 lots of electronic mail which she greatly enjoys.

Reunion: Low numbers this year. We need to ponder ways of building on this.

Subs: The rate is climbing in line with inflation, so up by 3.5%. Moyra Corscaden was anxious that this might deter leavers from joining. Olive Leslie felt that it was essential to raise the sub and that most parents can afford it.

Resignations and appointments: Linda Kings is resigning as Hon Editor after her heroic rescue mission. We all extended heartfelt thanks. Anne Nelson is also resigning as treasurer and we are also very grateful to her for much hard work and careful book keeping. Both Linda and Anne will continue as ordinary committee members. Susan Roller (Harris) has agreed to be our new treasurer. As a chartered tax advisor Sue is a great catch and will be having a beady look at our investments. Debbie Raper has resigned from the committee.

Draw: Angelica Meletiou won £100.

Reunion 2006: Saturday 6 May.

The meeting closed at 12.05 with the school prayer.

Autumn 2005 Headmistress Sue Meek's speech at the Awards Ceremony held in St Mark's Chapel

Mr Mayor, Mr Fanshawe, Governors, Ladies and Gentlemen

May I welcome you most warmly to our Awards Ceremony Evening to celebrate the success and achievements of the Senior members of the School who have worked with such diligence and who have either moved on to College or University or who are preparing to move to the next stage of their education.

Our guest speaker this evening is Mr Simon Fanshawe, writer, broadcaster and Brighton Celebrity. I am delighted to welcome you. We are so pleased to have you with us this evening.

I should like to begin by reporting on the extensive development programme which we launched last year. This past academic year has been a time of unprecedented and exciting change for St Mary's Hall. Those of you who left us in July will notice the progress that has been made. During the summer holidays, the "original" Gloucester House has been converted and refurbished in preparation for the opening of the "new" Gloucester House in January 2006, which will accommodate the Nursery, the Pre-Prep and Prep Departments under one roof. The new building is now really beginning to take shape – and what a wonderful building it is! The facilities will be outstanding and Junior staff and pupils are very excited at the prospect of the move in the Spring Term.

In the Senior School, the Design Technology Room has been extended. Room L has been converted to a new IT suite accommodating 30 brand new computers. Year 11 has a new Common Room and adjacent locker-room. The Pool Courts have been enlarged and re-surfaced; we are now refurbishing the English Department facilities in Rooms U and T and at Christmas we shall accommodate the International Centre in Elliott wing in the Main School Building.

Then, over the Christmas holiday, we shall begin converting Elliott House into a new state-of-the-art 6th Form Centre and Senior Boarding House. You will see, as we approach the 170th birthday of the School next year, that we are on a roll of improvements, refurbishment and development. Also, during the course of this year, more interactive whiteboards will be installed in the Mathematics, Accounting, Science and Geography Departments. The Art, Music and Design Technology Departments also have their own specialist technology.

Mr Sefton, the Head of Design Technology, reports that last year's GCSE students really made excellent use of the 3D computer aided design software as part of their coursework and completed a range of interesting and successful projects, including a rocking horse, illuminated mirrors and shelving and storage solutions. The manufacturing capability has now been greatly increased with the purchase of a 3D computer controlled cutting machine. This adds exciting possibilities to the Department's work which Mr Sefton is greatly looking forward to exploring.

The final stage of our current development programme involves this Chapel. At the moment, we are undertaking a feasibility study to adapt St Mark's so that it is not only a beautiful place of worship, but also an Arts Centre for School and community use. We are now consulting community groups in the vicinity of East Brighton who are clearly welcoming the possibility of sharing a new facility for Music, Drama, Dance, Art and Craft. So, very literally, watch this space.

I hope this gives you a flavour of our exciting plans for the future. But now I should like to focus on the academic achievements of last year. We were so thrilled with the results of the public examinations. Yet again, so many of our students surpassed their personal bests at 'A' Level and we are so proud of you. There was a 96% pass rate and almost three-quarters of you obtained A to C grades. Special congratulations go to **Rebecca Marchant** and **Joanna Yan** who both gained AAB grades at A Level.

We were also extremely pleased with this year's GCSE results, with a pass rate (A*-C) of 93% (+2% on the previous year). 92% of our students obtained 5 or more A*-C, that is an improvement of 4% on 2004. The proportion of A* and A grades was particularly pleasing as it increased from 32% to 41% this summer. So, well done to all students and, of course, to their excellent teachers! Special mention must be made of two outstanding students, **Kitty Brandon-James** who achieved 6A*s and 4As and **Rachel Strong** who achieved 5A*s and 4As. Congratulations to them both.

As we look back over the last academic year, one of the highlights was the brilliant Senior School production of "The Witches" by Roald Dahl. Everyone involved worked together in what was a memorable (if somewhat grotesque) team effort! The skilled backstage crew was in evidence and the clever staging meant that the audience was very much part of the action. It was fascinating to be able to see the 'mechanics' of the production unfold, and there were many theatrical surprises and transformations. The boys (wonderfully played by **Alice Kerrigan** and **Bethany Dubow**) being turned into mice by the extremely unpleasant Grand High Witch (**Nicola Johnson**) was a particularly horrific scene, as was the episode in the hotel kitchen with the revolting cooks **Georgia Rushton** and **Chloe Sachikonye**. A foil to the nastiness was the benign and comforting grandmother, sensitively

played by **Keli Farkas**, who gave us all hope. Yet, in typically Dahlesque fashion, the ending was dark with no hope of the boys returning to normality. The poignant final line from boy-as-mouse in his grandmother's handbag was "It doesn't matter what you look like as long as somebody loves you" caused many of us to wipe away a tear! So, congratulations to Mr Wells and Miss Cooper on a wonderfully imaginative production.

The Senior Christmas Concert was another enjoyable occasion, with the highlight being the performance by **Kiwi Lau** of the 3rd movement of Mozart's Sonata in Bb. We were delighted that **Kiwi** was invited to give a recital at a lunchtime concert at the Chapel Royal in Brighton.

We were also thrilled to welcome back to St Mark's Chapel **Maria Redman**, who left SMH two years ago and is in her second year at Trinity College of Music. She performed magnificently Rachmanninov's Piano Concerto No 2, accompanied by the Brighton Youth Orchestra, conducted by Andrew Sherwood. The performance was a truly memorable occasion. **Maria** performed the piece again in July at Hove Town Hall with the BYO in a moving tribute, as part of a memorial concert to Jane Longhurst, the Brighton Teacher and musician who died so tragically last year.

We had a few anxious moments in the first weeks of 2005, following the unconfirmed diagnosis of two girls with meningitis. The first case was treated quickly at the Royal Alexandra Hospital and the second at Worthing General Hospital. Dr Angela Iversen, Consultant in Communicable Diseases, took the precaution to prescribe antibiotics for the entire School community, which was an extraordinary experience. The Chapel was taken over as a sort of "field hospital" and the operation, meticulously organised and undertaken with 'wartime zeal', lasted from 9am to 4pm.

I was extremely grateful to Dr Iversen and her team of 10 doctors, 10 nurses and 10 pharmacists for their expert guidance and support - also to our own school Nurse, Sister Lydia Staniford-Terrahe for keeping everyone calm. Fortunately, both girls made an excellent recovery and we realised with gratitude that when the chips are down, the Brighton community really can rally together.

In March, Mr Jay's Spring Concert was "A Grand Night for Singing", with a range of songs "from the musicals" performed by New Choir, with a delightful solo from **Nicola Johnson** and accomplished instrumental accompaniment from **Keli Farkas** (saxophone) and **Emma Wilkins** (violin). The Orchestra played some spirited dances from Le Roi S'amuse by Delibes before the memorable finale by the Jazz Group, with an outstanding piano interlude played by **Kiwi Lau**. Altogether, it was a very uplifting occasion.

The House Plays, directed by the Sixth Form, are always a pleasurable way to end the Spring Term and this year was no exception. I am always amazed by the high standard achieved after such a short rehearsal period. Certainly, I should have found it hard to choose a winner from this year's performances. However, this was the task of the adjudicator, Ms Felicity Clements. Ms Clements awarded the cup for Best Production to Chichester House for their accomplished performance of 'La Dispute' by Marivaux, directed by **Rachel Flatt**. Several actors were highly commended: **Lily Vernon-Hunt** as Jim in Bristol's "Resting Place" by David Campton; **Sarah Harman** for her performance as Adrian Mole in Adelaide's "The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole aged 13 ¾"; **Vusa Tebe** as Bud in **Georgia Rushton's** original script "Grin and Bare It" for Babington House. The award for Best Actress went to **Chloe Sachikonye** for her polished performance as Azor in the winning play.

A superb achievement last year in the PE Department was that in May St Mary's Hall won the Brighton and Hove Schools' Swimming Championships for the second time running and retained the cup. This year we won 7 races, taking away 5 gold and 2 silver medals. Swimming is going from strength to strength under Ian Newells' expert coaching.

In the **Interhouse Sports Competitions**, Adelaide House won the swimming gala by the largest margin in the last 5 years. Adelaide also won the inter-house sports day. However, Bristol House reigned supreme in all the other events, winning the hockey and netball four years in a row.

Other sports highlights were that the intermediate swimming team won every gala, beating close rivals Roedean and St Leonards Mayfield and the Volleyball team remained undefeated for the season. We were very pleased that **Elizabeth Bodkin** was selected to represent the Brighton & Hove Athletics team and **Charlotte Ridge** played for the Sussex Under 18 Netball team for the season.

Thanks to financial sponsorship from Mr Pat Kerrigan of the Italian Suit Company, the PE Department managed to secure a Sportsmatch grant from the Government. This enabled the sports festival to run which was led and organised by our Sports Leaders. St Mary's Hall girls went out to coach in various primary schools which culminated in the Festival of Sport which we hosted here at the end of the Summer term. **Rebecca Marchant** and **Charlotte Ridge** also coached netball on a weekly basis at Whitehawk Primary School.

I am grateful to Miss Whittaker, Head of PE, for her extraordinary energy, in inspiring PE activities at SMH and also for the annual ski trip which last year was an action-packed week at Alpe D'Huez in France.

I was very proud to announce last year that St Mary's Hall was presented with a series of awards from the Good Schools Guide. These certificates were awarded to schools which had displayed the greatest excellence in subjects at A/S and A2 Level. We received the Overall Best Award for Mathematics at A/S Level and the Best Independent School for Girls Award for Mathematics in the country at A/S Level. This is a phenomenal achievement for us. We already knew how good our students and their excellent teachers were; but it is so encouraging to receive such accolade from an independent source. Warmest congratulations go to Mrs Dempster and the Mathematics Department!

Congratulations too to **Mr Peebles** and **Mrs Abbott** in the Art Department. The Chief Examiner for Art from Edexcel Examination Board was so impressed by our A Level and A/S Exhibition that she visited the School to photograph the work for exemplar material for the Board to distribute to other schools, as examples of excellence.

The Young Enterprise Scheme is always greatly enjoyed in the Sixth Form and gives our students experience of running a business. Our Young Enterprise Company this year was called Passionné and was formed by a group of Year 12 students to sell hand-made accessories (scarves, brooches, keyrings & jewellery) and Chinese style products and origami roses. In addition, they ran a tuck shop in school, which proved both popular and lucrative.

The company was extremely successful and at close of trading on 27 May had reported profits of £600 from sales of £1,700. All shareholders received a refund of their investment plus a 50% dividend upon return of their share certificates. The company would like to thank all staff and customers who helped to make their business run so smoothly and profitably and Greg Baran, Alison Marsden and Anthony Bliss from American Express who acted as business advisors to the team.

This year we have had six girls achieve their Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award and fourteen achieved their Bronze Award. **Dr Ashdown** has led the expedition part of the award magnificently and is currently training 26 girls for their Bronze Award and 8 girls for their Silver Award. Girls have completed a wide range of activities throughout the year, including gardening, reading, horse riding and fire fighting - you may have seen the girls on the BBC news just before half-term.

This year the total amount raised for Charity and Community Service by both Junior and Senior Schools was £3,300 of which £1,640 was specifically for Tsunami relief.

In the community service programme, a number of senior girls have also attended regularly throughout the year for voluntary service at the Royal Sussex and Brighton General Hospitals, where they have gained invaluable experience working on the wards. Social services representatives under the guidance of **Mrs Moss** distributed Christmas and Harvest goods to Stopover, Open Door and St Patrick's Night Shelter and we continue to support the Martlets Hospice in a variety of ways, including the Balloon Race. Several girls won prizes, as their balloons reached as far as the Kent Coast.

Finally, at the end of the Summer term we had to say goodbye to a number of colleagues.

Mrs Bodkin was a friendly and familiar face as an assistant in the Junior Department since 2001 and in the Senior School she was valued for her methodical organisation of stationery.

Miss Cooper was the Subject Coordinator of Spanish since 2000. Her passion for Spanish and her ability as a teacher are well known. She was a tremendous asset to the Language Department and also as Stage Manager for School Plays.

Mr Gladstone did an excellent job in the Mathematics Department last year. The girls clearly benefited from his teaching.

Ms Denise Nunn joined St Mary's Hall in 2000 as an Assistant Housemistress in St Hilary. As our boarding numbers expanded, she was then appointed Head of School House. During her time at SMH she proved herself as a caring and most committed member of staff.

Miss Wallen joined the Boarding Staff in Venn House in 2002. She performed a pivotal role, supporting Miss Withers, the Housemistress of Venn House.

Miss Withers herself retired in July, and she will continue to be remembered for her humour and wonderful costumes for Boarders' parties - and her generosity as Father Christmas, when everyone in the house received a present. She was highly devoted to our younger boarders and we wish her every happiness in her well-deserved retirement. It is wonderful to see her with us this evening.

Mrs Thomason joined St Mary's Hall in September 1983 as a History teacher and the Subject Coordinator for Classical Civilisation. Over these years she organised several very enjoyable cultural

trips to Athens or Crete to visit archaeological sites. She was an inspirational teacher who encouraged several students to pursue Classics-related courses at University.

Mr Wells began teaching History at St Mary's Hall in 1979. He has been a wonderful, inspiring teacher, Head of History, Deputy Head, Director of Studies, Form Tutor and Producer of countless plays. We are very pleased that he continues to be our "Director in Residence" and we look forward to "The Ash Girl" by Timberlake Wertenbaker which will be our next School Play to be performed at the end of this month. I hope to see you there!

While I have the opportunity, may I remind you of another special event this term: the **Christmas Bazaar** will take place on **Saturday, 3rd December** from **12noon to 4pm** in the School Hall. This is the ideal opportunity for some early Christmas shopping. Do put the date in your diary or contact us if you would like to reserve a table to sell Christmas goods. Proceeds will go towards School Development projects, of which there are many as you have heard. We do hope you will support this event. Father Christmas will be there!

I should like to conclude my report by extending warmest good wishes to all those students who have left SMH and have moved on to the next stage of their lives. While you were with us, our aim was to give you the confidence to face the considerable challenges that lie ahead.

The Roman writer and orator Seneca wrote:

"It is not because things are difficult that we do not dare, it is because we do not dare that they are difficult."

So I wish you all the courage and the confidence to dare and aspire to be the very best you can be in every aspect of your lives.

The philosopher Francis Bacon pointed out, "A wise man will **make** more opportunities than he *finds*."

So make your opportunities and in the words of the serenity prayer, "May you have the grace to accept the things that cannot be changed, the courage to change the things that should be changed and may you have the wisdom to know the difference."

Good luck and God bless you all.

News of deaths during 2005

Letter dated 19 March 2005 from William Lowe re **Sue (Møller) Lowe**

My wife Sue was a pupil at St Mary's Hall. I am writing to let you know that unfortunately Sue died of cancer in November 2004. A friend recently said that cancer attacked her body but not her spirit, which I believe to be very true. Sue left St Mary's Hall in 1975 and subsequently left Canterbury Art School with an Art degree. She was a very active artist throughout the last 30 years exhibiting her work in exhibitions in the UK and abroad. She was also a wonderful wife and wonderful mother to our two children Peter and Helen. Three or four of Sue's St Mary's Hall friends came to Sue's Thanksgiving Service in Blackheath.

Letter dated 27th November 2005 from Robina Methven

Robina writes about her friend Margaret Ann (Robinson) Martin:

Margaret Ann Robinson born 7th April 1936 died 28th September 2005. Margaret was a boarder at SMH from May 1947 until July 1953. I was day girl and during this time we became friends. After Margaret left school she went to France for a time later attending Brighton Poly to take training in cooking etc. Margaret lived with her parents in Worthing then Thame near Oxford where for many years she ran her own very successful teashop making most excellent cakes. Some eighteen years ago Margaret married Ted Martin a retired engineer who has built a wonderful 'garden railway' which he and Margaret opened on certain days for fellow enthusiasts, Margaret providing wonderful teas. Her garden was a special joy as were our holidays in the South of France or Austria. I last saw Margaret and Ted in July 2005 and Margaret's death came as something of a shock although she had been in poor health for some time.

We also heard news of the death of **Elizabeth Edwards** in March 2005.

Letters and news from former Headmistresses

April 2005 from **Olwen Davies** - I am really sorry that I cannot be with you at the SMHA meeting in 2005. I had every intention of being there but unfortunately I have acquired a very painful hip and am waiting for a consultant's appointment. Otherwise I am in fine fettle and just frothing with frustration!! Do give my love to everyone.

I met Mary (Noble) Panter in Tesco's. She was a contemporary of Elizabeth Levisour. It was lovely to see her again and she has promised to call in. She has been much involved with Amanda Nicholls who has cancer and is temporarily out of hospital. I hope to see them both before long.

December 2005 from **Olive Leslie** - had been unwell but making a good recovery.

May 2005 from **Teresa Broadbent** - I'm still enjoying retirement and 4 grandchildren

November 2005 from **Pamela James** - Dear Friends

Much of my time this year has been spent in church - not solely on my knees, though some of that too, but particularly in trying to keep the church (St Paul's in West Street, Brighton, between the Clock Tower and the sea) open as often as possible and for as many different people and groups as possible. Opening for three weeks in May and throughout July and August until 3pm each day, we welcomed over three and a half thousand visitors, both local and from all corners of the world. These included 250 school pupils, and also groups from three London churches, down for a day by the sea, starting with Mass to the sound of seagulls before dispersing to the Pier and fish and chips, the Pavilion and the Lanes, the Sand Sculptures at the Marina or whatever took their fancy.

You meet interesting people in churches. A short while ago we had a group a group of thirteen young people from The Prince's Trust working in the church for two weeks on a community project. It was a delight. They were so full of life and energy, ideas and enthusiasm. They generated an infectious generosity of spirit - and did a wonderful job. Do you know about The Prince's Trust? It was set up by the Prince of Wales to help those between 16 and 25 who are unemployed and who, for one reason or another, need a new start. Courses last for twelve weeks and include two weeks on a community project (which is where my involvement came in), a week's residential course, and two weeks of work experience. I was most impressed.

Among recent visitors at the other end of the age range was a lady who found in one of our church histories a photograph of her father as a boy of about 14, one of a group of boys from the Boys' Home then attached to the church, taken in about 1922. The boys, in short trousers and long socks and each with his arms folded, were seated or standing according to size, with the then Priest, looking, I fear, rather grumpy, seated in the middle. On another occasion a gentleman and his two sisters, in their eighties, described how as children they had watched their grandfather, a Brighton fisherman, mending his nets in front of the fire in the room at the church still known today as the Fishermen's Vestry. These living links with the past bring the lives of our predecessors who worshipped in the same place so vividly before us.

Sometimes the church is full of activity, as when Ken Livingston and Margaret Hodge, among others, addressed a fringe meeting at the Labour Party Conference. Sometimes it is very still and quiet - 'a haven of peace', 'an oasis of quiet in a busy city', as some of our visitors put it.

As I said, you meet interesting people in church.

With affection and best wishes to you all.

News from SMH members of staff

From **Sue Carnochan** now archivist for S.M.H

Does anyone remember 'Wally' or 'Bobby' 1965 ? I have a Holy Bible with their names in it. Any information would be welcome.

I would love to have any old photos relating to the school but please put as many names and dates on the back as possible.

March 2005 from **Laura Bristol**

The new buidings sound very exciting – I hope the chaos will not be too dreadful!

May 2005 from **Valerie Boyes**

In France and then mid Wales from where Valerie wrote

I am clearly going Quite Dotty – unfortunately I am in charge of 47 “elderly” doing mid Wales at the moment. At least the weather is fine. Passed thro’ my home for less than 12 hours at the weekend. Flung clothes from France & for Wales in and out of luggage & grabbed a handful of post. I do wish I’d settle down and attend to things more seriously. Thought SMH magazine was very good.

Valerie’s daughter **Jemma (Boyes) Clark** has 4 children. Her husband is an overseas water engineer. The family were lucky to be home in the UK when the Boxing Day 2004 tsunami devastated much of Banda Aceh.

2005 leavers and new joiners to SMHA - welcome

Olugbeminiyi	Ajayi	Brittany	Lock
Kirsty	Annet-Gledhill	Zaakira	Mahomad
Selina	Austin	Jingting	Mai
Pei Pei	Bai	Rebecca	Marchant
Fiona	Barley	Holly Kate	McGill
Stephanie	Baxter	Zara	Miller
Kitty	Brandon-James	Stephanie	Moss
Julia	Buinevici	Wing Yi	Ng
Kirsty	Cameron-Clark	Rebecca	Nicholas
Chin Ching	Chan	Yuen San	Pang
Linxi	Cheng	Cheng Pek	Pao
Tse Ching	Chow	Mira	Patel
Jessica	Daltrop	Huong	Pham
Laura	Davies	Charlotte	Ridge
Ester	Dewey	Georgia	Rushton
Chloe Leanne	Farkas	Chloe	Siddle
Yu Ting	Fong	Katrina	Stalker
Julia	Fortune	Rachel	Strong
Emma	Frew	Sin Yi	Tam
Sarah	Harman	Sze Yan	Tam
Phoebe	Hine	Wing Yin	Tam
Heather Rebecca	Holland	Vusisizwe	Tebe
Lorraine	Hughes	Chin Wai	Ting
Sum-Wah	Ip	Ashley	Tomlinson
Lucy Elizabeth	Ives	Viola	Tsang
Ami	Kondo	Ka Yan	Tse
Rebecca	Labertouche	Abigail	Williams
Nga Lai	Lao	Hiu Kwan	Wong
Yuen Man	Lau	Yee-ting	Wong
Nadia	Leach	Lau-Yu	Yan
Tsui Man	Lee	Oi Man	Ying
Oi Yu	Li	Ka Po	Yu

20 years on - news of the Diane Abbott Rita Alam	1986 SMH leavers on FriendsReunited.com Name only I am now married with a five year old daughter, living in Sheffield.
Helen Alsop	Currently living and working in London - would love to catch up with anyone who remembers me.
Bianca Berry	Living & working in Brighton. Married 3 weeks ago & enjoying life to the max! Would love to hear from Jessica Taylor, Susie Hill, Emma Davies, Sarah Barker-Benfield & Mr Roser!!!!
Lara Bowen	I'm living in Brighton, happy to be living back by the sea Have been running a small Visual Arts Management business for a couple of years, and consider myself very lucky that I got to do what I love, if only for a while.
Sara Brown Bekakpo Clark (Becky)	Name only Hi, my name is Becky Clark, I was at St. Mary's Hall , Brighton, Sussex from for my O and A levels. I am currently back in Nigeria working as a banker in Lagos. I wish to contact my friends and school mates in St. Mary's Hall whilst I was there.
Catherine Cook (Katie)	Worked as a medical secretary at the Children's Hospital in Brighton but had to "give up" recently due to various health problems. Been married for 6 years with an 18 month old daughter. Living near Brighton.
Alison Cox	Still working at the Greater London Authority. Now Mrs Turner after a fantastic Wedding Day on the 5th April this year at Barnsgate Manor Vineyard in E.Sussex. Vicky Mokhtar (now Riley) returned the favour and was one of my bridesmaids. I am also a Step-mum to two lovely boys and enjoyng life in Belvedere Kent.
Ashley Francis	Completed a degree at Sussex in Ecology with a young son in 95. Left Brighton in 98 for Cornwall. Met my new partner down there and now in Telford, Shrops. Training on the job as a primary teacher. Might be heading back down south after my training. Heard from Caroline Wilson through this who updated me on few people. send me a message if you remember me.
Roz Greenwood Melanie Harrow	Name only Living in South Bucks, working freelance in food pr and marketing comms. Married Matt in 1994 and we have 2 lovely children, Henry and Florence.
Anna Hewitt Sarah Hollingsworth Rowena Johnson	Name only Name only Now Rowena Macey-Dare. Married to Edward (solicitor). No babies yet! After school did bi-lingual secretarial course, spent some time in France. Am now blissfully happy and running my own nanny agency from home. Would love to hear from anyone from school.
Serena Keef	If you remember me - get in touch! Currently living the life of riley in Dorset with 3 year old and 2nd one on the way. Have undertaken part time work with anyone who'll have me but am waiting to take the world by storm once the baby machine has finished.
Ruth Luxmoore	Moved to London and became an English teacher. Married John, an architect and have three sons - Tom 7, Ben 4, Dan 2. Recently moved out to Bishops Stortford in Herts - very happy.
Charlotte McCarthy	After graduating from Portsmouth Uni, joined IBM and moved to London, where I have been ever since. Regularly back in Brighton to see family and friends. Married Darren nearly 4 years ago. No children (ever!). Have a 4-year old niece, courtesy of Saffron - that's sufficient for me! Saffron is living in Hove, working for

Katie mcCracken	Lloyds TSB. Still in touch with Cassandra Hosh ("best woman" at my wedding) and Sammy Berry (and Bianca). I have been working in Sales for about 4 years, and I am currently working in Crawley in the Recruitment sector. I am still living in Brighton and have not settled down to married life just yet.. in fact I am a long way off from that as I am still enjoying going out when I want partying.
Suzi Menpes-Smith	Divorced and have a nine year old son, living in London and working part time for a property company.
Toria Miskelly	I live in Worthing, West Sussex with my husband. I am a primary school teacher and am teaching year three at the moment. I would love to hear from anyone that remembers me in the past.
Vicky Mokhtar	I have been working for since I left Warwick uni. I am in the Africa division which means some interesting travel and duty free opportunities. I lived in London for 5 years until 2000 when I moved to St Albans and got married.. well, I did that this year (2001).
Charlotte Oldham	I live in London, have a beautiful baby boy who is ten months old and a wonderful dog called bessie! and am dealing in diamonds
Maria Papa	Still living in Brighton. I have been married for 5 years and have a 2 year old son and a month old daughter.
Gabrielle Pell-Stevens	Name only
Sally Procter	Name only
Victoria Reader	Name only
Charlotte Smith	Married with baby girl who will be one in October. Quit advertising when she arrived no plans to return to the corporate world yet.
Jane Smith	Name only
Julie Standing	Have been working in Hove as a Homeopath, and in Small Dole as an Accounts Assistant for the past couple of years. Am currently staying in LA in California and planning to live here most of the year round from October 2002.
Eliza Taylor	I'm living in Cambridge with husband John, Fin (aged 3) and Archie (aged 4 months). I didn't go to university as studying seemed too much like hard work so instead I had 10 very boring years as a Civil Servant. I'm just stepping back into the working world (property management)after 3 years at home as a 'mum'. Would love to hear from whoever remembers me or my sister Jessica.
Angela Tebe	Name only
Sarah van Carrapiett	I am a health visitor working in Cliftonville married with three children Daniel who is 7, Emma - Louise who is 5 and Harry who is 1. We own and run a general store just out side Ramsgate
Lucy Warwick	I have been married to Steve for 11 years and am currently a full-time mum to Sophie (8) and Emily (4). We live in Hove. I am in regular contact with Sarah Green and Jane Clifford (who are both married with two children each).
Justina Williams	Everyone I knew seems to be happily married with hundreds of sprogs! Well I always did like to be different - I'm happily divorced with one son, Lucas, aged 5. We live in Brighton and I now work from home as a costs draftsman having originally qualified as a solicitor (divorce being my area of expertise!) I still see Keeley Ward, Zara Curzon and Kathy Vokins.
Caroline Wilson	I am now living in Bromley, Kent. I am married to Andy and have two boys - Thomas, 5 and Jamie, 3.
Kate Wolff	Would love to hear from anyone who remembers me. Name only

News from pre Second World War pupils

From **Hester (Girdlestone) Oliver** 1918 - 1927

No news as I am now 98 and even a walk up the road is an effort. I love hearing SMH news and remembering the time when I was Head Girl my younger sister Angela had a reputation for being the naughtiest girl in the school but she did call a truce when I became Head Girl. What became of all those scholarship boards ? [Archivist Sue Carnochan found them safely kept in the chapel]

From **Phyllis Poyser** 1929 -1934

My only interesting news is that I was invited by friends to go with them on the Queen Mary 2 (her inaugural year) last May 2004 and I spent my 88th birthday on board, living in the lap of luxury. It was wonderful and we visited Spain, France & Portugal.

From **Mary (Montgomery Campbell) Lees** 1929 -1937

I am 83 now – I and my 3 younger sisters were at school at the beginning of World War 2. I have been a life member of the Association since I left at the beginning of the War. I used to get the magazine regularly but during the war it suddenly stopped coming and with great sorrow I decided the school had succumbed to the Luftwaffe. What a joy to discover it is still going strong. My mother died in 1928 leaving my father to bring up my brother, me and my three sisters as best he could. He became Bishop of Guildford followed later by Bishop of London. He died in 1970.

I studied medicine at the Royal Free in London but very soon after I qualified I met and married a solicitor called George Lees and we promptly had 5 children. We lived in London till the second was born but then decided London was no place to bring up a family, and reading the Solicitors Journal that a solicitor was required in Bromsgrove. He applied for the job and got it and we have lived here ever since. Sadly George died in 2002. So I am on my own now but children and grandchildren drop in very often & I go to them so life is pleasant enough.

As I write I realize that I have not said anything about my medical career. With the ever increasing family it hasn't been easy to find medical work I could fit in but I was lucky enough to find a very rewarding job working with people with learning difficulties. At that time they lived in large institutions I was the MO in one in Bromsgrove & another in Kidderminster. It was very rewarding but I think the present government is right to make it easy and rewarding for them to live at home with day care provided for them.

From **Mary (Chalmers) Scully** 1933-39

Please send my best wishes to Miss Payne and anyone else who may remember me. Congratulations for the splendid SMHA newsletter . I devoured every page with interest, and some of the achievements are truly amazing. For over 70 years my family home was 47 Sussex Square so have always had a great interest in the area. I was delighted to read that St Hilary has been sold to enable further school development within the existing school curtilage. The awful business of crossing roads in the area has always been a nightmare.

March 2005 from **Angela (Wright) Waller** 1934-1940

I was thrilled to see my name mentioned by Olive Leslie in her Newsletter, as she and I meet quite often, being fellow churchgoers in this very lively village. When we first met she was still headmistress of SMH – what a marvellous coincidence for me!

I visit Mary (Reeson) Clements whenever I can – we first met in 1934 at St Nicholas (then the Junior House) and have been friends ever since, but alas she is the only one of my contemporaries who still lives in Hove. I'm hoping that Mary (Chalmers) Scully may be able to attend [the Reunion] this year.

I went to Cheltenham Ladies College in 1940 for three years and look forward to the Reunions at Cheltenham too. Fortunately I shall be able to go to both this year as the CLC weekend is on May 14th.

Congratulations to all the Committee for producing this wonderful programme and how exciting it will be to see all the new buildings.

It's very impressive to see how SMH has shot up in the League Tables and what amazingly high marks they all achieve.

I'm looking forward to visiting Prague in April – it's a Saga trip which includes a river trip along the Elbe via Dresden.

Pat (Inez Smeede) Goode 1938-40 was in New Zealand in May 2005.

A cornucopia of other news in no particular order

From **Jane (Alsop) Wharton** 1955-1964

Life seems to be very hectic ! Katherine is expecting a baby mid June and they are moving house soon. My parents are now 83 and 93 and we have recently arranged more help for them. We are home from Florida until November 2005 when we return for part of the winter. I hear from Mimi Coleman quite often. Love to all who remember me.

From **Neroli (Barnes) Allen** 1979-1986

Married to James whom I met in 1986. James works for a commercial bank in London. We have two boys, Gregory and Edward. Practised as a criminal defence solicitor for 8 years and then one year as a prosecuting lawyer for HM Customs and Excise. 'Retired' 2003 to care for family full time. Thoroughly enjoying family and community church life.

From **Elizabeth (Cockburn) Males** 1948-59

We have been retired in Dorset for three years and I have a second grandson Anakin, now 2 years old. They have recently moved to Winchester so not so far to go for babysitting once a week. Happily bowling at Blandford and around Dorset during the summer months and the new garden is nearly finished. I have been in touch with **Christine (Bean) Edmundson** who has two new grandchildren to keep her busy.

Judy (Coate) Page is training for ordination in the Scottish Episcopal Church and hopes to be ordained deacon summer 2005. In Judy's Christmas letter she also says her daughter Emma is getting married this year.

April 2005 from **Amanda (Robins) Clarke** 1981-90

I am currently working as a doctor in HIV and sexually transmitted diseases in central London. I married Charlie 3 years ago and in March this year had our first baby – Lola. Am thoroughly enjoying motherhood. We were lucky enough to do quite a lot of travelling to Latin America, Japan & Mongolia before Lola's birth so ready to stay put therefore in London for a little while. I am still in touch with Jessica **Jones, Ole Ibraheem and Sarah David** who are all well.

April 2005 from **Hannah Gale** 1991-1998

Now working as a midwife at RSCH and Nurse at Nuffield in Woodingdean. Just had first baby – Georgia and plan to marry my fiancé in June 2006.

From **Rosemary (Cashel) Petts** 1953-57

As a new member of SMHA I was delighted to receive my first Newsletter & news of Reunion. I definitely hope to be at Reunion in May with my husband. As my previous news synopsis stated my last few years have been dogged with ill health and am at the moment recovering from a hip replacement operation.

Obviously my years on stage dancing and singing after my 3 years at Guildhall School of Music is taking its toll on my bones ! I still do a lot of music – singing solo in concerts oratorio and opera and also teaching piano. Good fro Miss Wyn – music teacher in my days at S.M.H pushed me in the right direction and I have lived a varied life touring throughout UK theatres. I am now heavily involved with Ramsey Choral Society both singing solo with them and raising funds for our various projects – we have recently launched our own CD and are off to Greece in 2006 to do a tour of concerts, by special invitation. My husband John a retired Sqdn Ldr in RAF (46 years) was very involved with Air Training Corps when we met and was in charge of 7,000 cadets in London & S.E. England & so although retired we still attend quite a lot of RAF squadron reunions and ATC events. We have time-share in tenerife and so our holidays are mainly spent there with the occasional visit to Australia and Texas to visit John's daughter & son, when finance allows. We are off to Australia in December 2005.

I have become a very keen gardener & have discovered that although my Parkinsons limits my piano playing a little I am able to make the most of my green fingers in the garden and greenhouse, so if John loses me, he comes down to my hiding hole – in the greenhouse.

August 2005 from **Melanie Morrison** 1976-84

I got engaged (finally, I hear everyone cry!) in May to Radomir Heidler from Prague (he came to the May reunion with me in 2004). The wedding is set for 8 April 2006 at home in Streat (a church blessing, with a civil ceremony in London a week or so earlier). We moved at the end of October into a small house in Balham – with a garden and a fishpond! Fun and games to start with - £450 worth of plumber's bills as soon as we took possession; nearly electrocuted ourselves last night....let's hope

we make it to April!!! Seriously, despite the problems and the chaos at the moment, I'm sure we'll settle in soon and manage to make a nice home together.

March 2005 from **Philippa (Graham) Biles** 1978-84

Gerry and I have now been married for 10 years. I still enjoy being a full time mum to Eleanor (7) and Alexander (4). I am coming to the end of my second year as Churchwarden of our parish church and will be giving up this job in April 2005 to concentrate on teaching the younger half of the Sunday School (ages 3-8). I am also a member of the Mothers' Union. In addition to church responsibilities, I am Chair of the playgroup committee, I hear readers in school and go in for one afternoon a fortnight to 'advise' the music group in an ongoing Enterprise project. When Alexander starts school in September 2005 I am thinking of doing a PGCE to re-train as a primary school teacher.

As if that wasn't enough to keep me busy, I started my own business last year making jewellery which I sell at fund raisin events and house parties. When we finally get hooked up to the net I am hoping to have a website so I can post photos and extend my customer base. Watch out for the Venerable Bead ! (mover over, H. Samuel).

I would love to hear from anyone who did O levels in 1983. Apart from **Karen Bowerman**, who I have been in contact with since we left school and who is a very dear friend, I remember Rowena Philo, Claire Scott, Gabi Barrett, Paula Ashley, Laurie Jennings, & Mary Barltrop who was on the school and house general knowledge team with me.

I find it difficult to get to school these days for the events what with Gerry's work commitments and the children's term dates, a new dog & two rabbits combining with the distance. I don't suppose there is any way next year's [Reunion] could be in half term ?

Sandra (Jantuah) Pepera 1968-77

Hello people, Yes, I moved last October (2004) to Barbados on a posting. I am now the Head of DFID (Dept for International Development), Caribbean. Pls forward my SMHA Mag as soon as you can. I do look forward to it every year.

Sally (Allen) Wilkinson 1953-62 was delighted to meet up with **Jenny (Allen) Holmes** this year. Jenny now lives in Australia (Sydney) - she is married and had 3 children, two of whom live in Oz the other in England. She visited for her son's wedding and whilst staying with Sally, they also met up with **Jean Ann Ellis** - a lot to catch up with after many years. Sally was also pleased to meet up with **Jane Usher, Siggy Liddell, Margaret Cook & Rachel Clarke** & Jean Ann Ellis in November 04 and will repeat the meeting in Nov 05. Sally lives in Harpenden, married with 2 sons and about to become a grandmother for the first time.

From **Renée Edwards**

I have just published a children's book and DVD and there will be another published in July 2005, they are available from normal routes for schools, or our website, and shops are stocking them or can order them in, they are great fun at school, for 3-7 years, as they include art activities and inspire children to do sculpture, gardening etc., at school they can provide several classes of activity, and we are involved with Big Arts Week (see bigartsweek.com) as well, where schools sign up for artists to come in that week, and artists sign up to be allocated a school in the area, the artist visit is worked to fit artists and school and can be anything from a half hour to a week, and activities worked out together-the Big Arts Week team match the schools and artists, this is the first year I've been involved. If you have artist parents, etc. they can sign up too. I am going in to the school at Great Ormond Street hospital during that week for example, with the illustrator and Fenella Fielding, who is going to read a story to the children. we are also involved with other schools around the country...it's fun!

From **Mona Kassim** 1987 - 91

Since leaving school, I gained a Business Studies and Japanese degree whereby I was fortunate enough to be able to experience a highly enjoyable industrial placement year in Japan. I then completed my MBA at Cardiff University and returned to Brunei for a year to work as a university lecturer. I was awarded my PhD from Loughborough University two years ago and have since then returned to Brunei to resume my responsibilities as a consultant and lecturer. I got married in 1999 to Nizam. We have two children, Noor Imanina (3 years 8 months) and Ammar Abdul Hafiz (8 months) and we look forward to having a least 2 more.

My sister **Kasma**, also have two children. She is a diplomat working at the Brunei Embassy in Berlin, Germany. The Bruneian Ambassador's wife to Germany was also from SMH! Noor (a.k.a Yani) will be married in August to Saiful (a.k.a Adam). She is a lawyer and her work takes her to many parts of the world. I am in contact with **Lalida Richardson, Llynette Rogers-Wright, Anne-Marie Ogedegbe and Susan Cheah** (a new mum to a beautiful baby named Ellie). I am contemplating taking

sabbatical leave to learn Arabic in Jordan and to write more papers on business issues and management in Brunei. Currently, my research fieldwork is very exciting but highly exhausting.

I have very fond memories of SMH and was disappointed not to be able to go to any of the reunions held whilst I was in UK. I never thought that being forced to take speech and drama lessons (elocution lessons) by my dad at SMH would ever serve me but it has. Mrs Nye taught me the skills necessary for my line of work!

A bit of news about the other Bruneian students who went to SMH: **Paulina Lim** (now married) is a dentist. **Pei Sheng Lim** has two children and is managing her father's business. **Masrina Damit** has two children, she completed her architectural degree but decided to work as a teacher instead. **Haslinda Hassan** married a relative and she is also a lawyer; she has 4 children. **Amy Ibrahim** has her own businesses. **Norsuriyati Sharbini** has recently got married. She has a law degree and is a high ranking officer in the army. **Mona Aliana Alimin** is also married with children (i think!).

Overall, I think many of the Bruneian girls who went to SMH have done well in their future careers thanks to our education there.

From **Lauren (Hoskins) Lloyd** 1990-94

Got married in August 2003 to Alex Lloyd who is a Pharmacist from Yorkshire. We are expecting our first baby in early October. After leaving SMH I went to University of Leeds and gained an Honours degree in French. I spent a year in Senegal, West Africa as part of my year abroad. Having lived in Leeds for seven years during and after University, I returned to Sussex last year with my husband, and am working in Whitehawk, East Brighton, in a community regeneration role.

From **Heloise (Overshott) Prus** 1987-89

I have been back in East Sussex for the last 3 years since getting married to a local lad; I previously lived in South Wales with my parents. My mother, Wendy Overshott, also worked at the school for many years in the English Department. I look forward to receiving the next newsletter and catching up on all the gossip with past friends.

From **Emma (Durrant-Peatfield) Mizael dos Santos** 1989 -98

I graduated from Bristol University in 2004 with a 2:1 in joint honours Portuguese and Spanish. I am now living in Manchester in our own house with my husband. In 5 years time we will emigrate to Brazil. Please also announce my marriage in May 2003 to a Brazilian Missionary, Claudio Mizael dos Santos.

From **Charlotte (Temple) Cockcroft** 1977-84

Moved to America last year, with husband Roger, and children, Victoria 10, Benjamin 8 and Hugo 6. Roger is VP for an energy company, job that he enjoys very much. All settled in well with their new life and are "having a fabulous time". Charlotte keeps in touch with **Melanie Morrison** and **Janine Johnson**.

Caroline Egan-Strang

Is Managing Partner & Chartered Psychologist Egan Strang Consulting

From **Amanda (Hobson) Jones** 1958-60

Since the death of my daughter, Rebecca, from breast cancer, I have become very involved in fund raising for the research charity, Breakthrough Breast Cancer. I shall be doing a series of runs and walks on the charity's behalf this year, culminating in the 60 km Week-End to Break Through Breast Cancer in September. To my delight, I'll be joined in this by Judith Patten, who was in the same year as I was at SMH, and we will be the backbone of our team, Bec's Babes, in memory of my daughter. It's a terrific undertaking by Judith and so very appreciated.

From **Toria (Martin) Turner** 1981-84

No news to report, just that my four children are growing up too quickly, and while life gets easier on the one hand as a mum, it gets harder on the other, as I can no longer fix their problems with a cuddle and a bottle of milk. Still loving it though, and slowly organising our lives in Taunton, with new schools and all that entails!

From **Anna (Symonds) Glover** -1991

Is the wife of a Church of Scotland Minister and Head of Music and Drama at Secondary School, Motherwell. Has a son, Sam, born, 17.10.04 .

Caroline Johnson and **Rosemary Scully** (both at SMH 1960-67) began their friendship chatting on the train journey returning from the School Outing to Sir Winston Churchill's Lying-In-State in 1965. They both remember hectic revision for the final GCE paper in RE – when they unintentionally dropped their Bibles in the school pond by the San. This friendship was celebrated on August 6th 2005 when the now Rev Dr Caroline Currer conducted the Marriage Service of Rosemary's daughter, Judith.



Caroline married Alan Currer while they were both studying Psychiatric Social Work at Keele University, and they have three daughters. She combines her role as part-time Curate in Stansted Mountfitchet with that of Reader in Social Work at Anglia Ruskin University. Mrs Bell's elocution lessons have paid off in both the pulpit and the lecture hall.

Rosemary is married to Civil Engineer Gordon Heald, with a daughter and a son. She is a primary teacher in South Cambridgeshire, and has continued her love of choral singing and accompanying, first nurtured by Lili Hauser at SMH.