



Association

Newsletter

ST. MARY'S HALL ASSOCIATION

No. 89



Feb 1988

COMMITTEE

President and Chairman Miss M.F.C. Harvey, M.A.
Vice-Chairman Dame Mildred Riddelsdell, D.C.B., C.B.E.
Vice-Presidents Miss Conrady, Miss Davies, Mrs Leslie, M.A.
 Mrs Conroy (U.Trott), Miss A. Baron,
 Dame Mildred Riddelsdell, D.C.B., C.B.E.
 Mrs Tinto (J. Colman)
Hon. Secretary Mrs Fawcett (G. Gosnell)
Hon. Asst. Secretaries Mrs Boyes, Miss Payne
Hon. Treasurer Mrs Bearn (F. Moojen)
Hon. Editor Mrs Kings (L. Belasco)
Also Mrs Cole (M. Cunliffe), the present Head Girl of the School, Miss R. Methven,
Mrs Gibbs (M. Ayling) co-opted members.

EDITORIAL

To be introducing the S.M.H.A.'s the first "solo" newsletter must be, and is, very exciting! The Committee trust that you will all continue to enjoy our magazine in this new form.

My first year as Editor has flown by, and I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this year's newsletter - especially those sending news of other Old Girls as well as news of themselves. Please keep your letters coming - direct to myself whenever possible - we can hardly have a newsletter if there is no news!

It is our intention to include more articles in future and, when asked, to print photographs whenever possible. More articles? Can you help? It would be greatly appreciated if, when sending in any 'tit bits', Old Girls could also include a note of any attendance dates known. We are often asked to include these, but can only print what we are given.

As we are sending this newsletter out at least two or three months earlier than usual, we do really hope to see many more of you at the lunch and supper events this year. How about making this year a 'class reunion'? Dates and times for these gatherings appear later in the magazine.

I would like to apologise to our main contributors for yet again giving an almost immediate deadline - I trust that next year will be just a little more organised. Last

year the school's deadline at the printers was apparently earlier than normal, and of course this year we are launching this new form of newsletter, with an even earlier printers' deadline. I am so sorry!

To close, may I wish each and every one of you health and happiness in 1988. God bless.

HEADMISTRESS'S LETTER

Dear Members,

I hope that you will enjoy this first issue of our separate new sheet.

Your Committee decided reluctantly that the cost of distributing the full school magazine had become prohibitive and we hope that you will find this an acceptable alternative. If you would also like a copy of the school magazine, it can be obtained in May at a cost of approximately £3.

My report of the school year 1986/87 is given elsewhere in the newsletter. As you will read, this year there have been three important developments - the opening of St. Mark's for school prayers and music and drama, the opening of the CDT room and the extension of the junior department to include the pre-school group for 3+ and the pre-preparatory department for children from 5 to 8.

As you will know, the Great Storm did an enormous amount of damage in the South and I'm afraid some 75% of the slates were torn from the roof of St. Mark's. Two of the surviving elm trees in the school grounds were uprooted with damage to the walls and tennis courts. The maintenance men have been doing a magnificent job in putting this right, but it will be some time yet before the Church roof is completed. You will be pleased to know that the main school was relatively unharmed.

I look forward to seeing you all at the lunch on Saturday the 12th March. Open Day will be Friday the 24th June, when I hope many of you will be able to join us. Full details can be obtained from my secretary at the beginning of the Summer term.

MISS M.F.C. HARVEY

LETTER FROM MISS CONRADY

42 Homefield Road,
Seaford, BN25 3DX.

Dear Friends,

Time is very strange as one gets old! Being able, physically, to do so little now, I often find that time drags. Then suddenly I am asked by the Editor to send a contribution for the O.G. Newsletter, and it seems only yesterday that I was sending a letter for last year's Magazine!

Through the kindness of Mrs Leslie and Miss Harvey I was able to attend the Old Girls' lunch in March. It was very disappointing that so few attended what was a happy occasion for the few who did. Then in September I went to the supper party - my good neighbour drove me over, and Gay Fawcett kindly brought me back. I hope that I may be able to attend the lunch party in March, and that more of you will be there.

Apart from these O.G. events, I was happy to attend the School Prizegiving in October, only a week after the recent hurricane which completely wrecked my garage and devastated the garden. Fortunately, I have a wonderful weekly woman who,

with her husband's help, cleared the mass of rubble and broken glass, not to mention fallen trees and bushes. I am sure many of you will have had similar trouble.

I keep in regular touch with Sister Brown by telephone. Her sight is now very poor. A recent eye operation was sadly not successful. However, as you would expect, she remains cheerful and her old determined self.

I so often think of my S.M.H. days. It was so lovely to see so many of you in 1986. How much some of you have changed! Perhaps the change is in me - and I have mellowed in my old age!

My love and good wishes to you all,

DORIS CONRADY.

LETTER FROM MRS LESLIE

Horsefair Cottage,
Horse Fair, Deddington,
Oxford, OX5 4SH.
(0869 38369)

Dear Friends,

This newsletter marks another milestone in the history of the Association, and I am looking forward to reading the finished product.

Although I have been unable to attend school functions this year for various reasons, I keep in touch with educational trends through my connection with other schools. I was particularly intrigued to learn that the new High Introductory Technology and Engineering Conversion Courses are enabling people who do not have A-levels in Maths. or Physics to change the direction of their careers. Some in their thirties and forties, including a fair proportion of women, have already taken the plunge. Perhaps there are members of the S.M.H.A. who would consider moving into these exciting fields?

As for me, I lead a busy life between travelling, entertaining friends from many parts of the world, keeping an eye on my grandsons and undertaking voluntary work. What the French call 'the third age' is proving to be a full and happy time for me.

Best wishes to you all.

Yours affectionately,

E.O. LESLIE

DAME MILDRED

I was very sorry to hear from Miss Harvey just before Christmas that Dame Mildred was retiring from the Governing Body. Our most illustrious old girl has been a Governor of the School from 1959-1987 and also for a short period in the early fifties. In addition, she was Hon. Secretary of the S.M.H.A. for a period of nine years from 1961 to 1970, and all this while she was working for the D.H.S.S., latterly as Second Permanent Secretary.

The Association owes Dame Mildred so much - she has always been a voice for us on the Governing Body and also a very regular attender of S.M.H.A. meetings even though living in Oxfordshire.

To just say "thank you" seems so inadequate but at least her years of experience are still available to us on the Committee.

Let us hope that her replacement will be another old girl who has the interests of the S.M.H.A. so much at heart.

G.F.

MISS HARVEY'S SPEECH - OCTOBER 1987

As I celebrate my Silver Jubilee as a headmistress, I look back over the changing scene in education during the last twenty-five years - a period of change, even of chaos. By accident rather than design, I have spent my career in the independent sector and so perhaps, I have missed the worst of the chaos. We have, we flatter ourselves, 'kept our heads when all around were losing theirs'. We have continued in general to uphold the principles of sound learning and the values of our Christian Civilisation. Self control and discipline have still been maintained even when the bemused parents of the sixties were not sure that this was what they were looking for. Today they are again a selling point and the prospective parent enquires closely into matters of discipline - in the early seventies one hardly dared to admit that there was any! A recent report pointed out that the independent schools have saved themselves and prospered by concentrating on academic success and good examination results - gone are the days when these were barely mentioned and today it is often difficult to persuade parents of the importance of anything which does not directly lead to such success.

During those permissive years, I and many others told ourselves that a reaction was inevitable and now it has come and you will say I ought to be pleased. Certainly life is much easier, but I am concerned. Do we look for good discipline because it leads to good examination results and good examination results because they lead to a good career?

Do we see any real value in self control and a disciplined life?

Do we have any real love of learning for its own sake?

Do we have any respect for the Christian Values of our European Civilisation?

Education today in the last years of the 20th Century, raises quite different expectations from education in the Middle Ages or even as recent as the 18th Century. Society today requires everyone to be taught the skills necessary for daily living and these skills increase year by year, for example, the use of ever more advanced computers.

In the Middle Ages it was not necessary for the population as a whole, whether rich or poor, even to be able to read and write, and schools and universities were for a small minority. The demands of Society today override the love of learning and even university degrees are weighed in the balance of their usefulness in leading to a profitable career. During the past twenty-five years we have seen the gradual diminution of the love of learning in our schools and along with it the self-discipline necessary to devote oneself to it.

When we see the results of permissiveness in increased violence and lawlessness on our streets, it seems to me that it is useless to ask for harsher punishments. The cure is in our homes and schools, in a re-examination of the values in which we nourish our children.

St Mary's Hall upholds the Christian values on which our civilisation has been built - not all of us may accept these values, but if not, we must ask ourselves what we are putting in their place.

HEADMISTRESS'S REPORT ON ACADEMIC YEAR 1986/1987

After the excitements of the 150th Anniversary Year, last year was uneventful. We have already begun to benefit from the Anniversary Appeal and the generosity of so many parents, friends and 'Old Girls'. St Mark's is now in full use as the School Chapel. It was used for the first time for the Confirmation in March when the Bishop of Horsham confirmed sixteen candidates and again for the Founders' Day Service in July when the Bishop of Basingstoke was our preacher. The pews have been removed and sold and the proceeds used towards a new floor and chairs. The floor was essential as the removal of the pews revealed a cavity and not the tiled floor we had expected. The floor greatly enhances the building and the chairs make it possible to use it for a variety of musical and dramatic activities, some of which I will mention later in this report.

Room D has been completely renovated and was fully equipped for Craft, Design and Technology by British School Technology during the summer. All girls in the first three years have started CDT this term and a dozen girls have chosen Technology as a GCSE option in the fourth year. There has been an enthusiastic response to the subject and I hope many of you will visit the room today - it will be open during tea. Another development this year has been the expansion of the Junior Department. We have opened a pre-school group for girls and boys from the age of three in the one-time parish room of St Mark's Church and renovated and newly equipped the Robinson Wing for five and six year olds. This means that we can take girls from the age of three to eleven in the Junior Department and from eleven upwards in the Senior School. We also welcome boys between the ages of three and eight.

Mr L.K. Purkiss

We were all very sad that Mr Purkiss died at the end of August after a long illness. He had been a Governor of the School since December 1980 and Chairman of the Finance Committee since May 1983. Apart from all that he did for the School as a Governor, he took an active interest in all that went on and seldom failed to attend School events. He always had a friendly word for girls and staff and I learnt to depend on his wise counsel and support. We shall miss him both as a Governor and a friend.

Staff

There have been few staff changes this year. Miss Griffiths, the Head of Divinity, retired in July after twenty-one years at the school and Mr Liddell after nineteen years teaching Mathematics. He has not really left us as he is continuing to teach part-time in the Mathematics Department. He is also continuing to run the Photographic Club and to take photographs of school events. We shall therefore go on enjoying his excellent exhibitions and are most grateful for all the work he puts into these. Mrs Ringer has left us after the birth of her baby daughter to be a full-time mother and Mrs Bland has left us to work in London. We have also said goodbye to Mrs Selwood, who taught French part-time for the last two years; Mrs Spencer, who very kindly helped as a supply teacher in the English Department for the Spring and Summer Terms; Mlle Kerckhove, who was French Assistante for the academic year 1986-87; and Miss N Harvey, who very kindly came back for another year to be assistant housemistress at St Hilary in place of Mrs Royse. We are most grateful for all they have contributed to St Mary's Hall and wish them every happiness and success in the future.

We have welcomed to the staff this term Mr Grant to be Head of the new CDT Department, Mrs Overshott to the English Department, Mrs Dempster to the Mathematics Department, Miss Thomas to be assistant sixth form housemistress and to teach Spanish, Miss Lovell to be assistant housemistress at St Hilary and to teach in the Divinity Department under the Chaplain, who is now Head of the Department, and Mlle Cahuzac, the new French Assistante. Mrs Winch is back with us again to teach Art History and Mr Gloyn has joined us to teach Russian in the Lower Sixth. In the Junior Department we welcome Mrs Jewsbury, who is in charge of the pre-school group and her assistant, Mrs Funnell. We hope they will enjoy their time with us and we give them a warm welcome.

Academic Results

It was a good year for the Upper Sixth. Five girls gained entrance to University to read Medicine, including Amanda Bisset with a place at New Hall, Cambridge. Tracey Baker, last year's Head Girl, also did exceptionally well and has a place at Worcester College, Oxford to read Earth Sciences. The 'A' Level results as a whole were very good with a 90% pass rate and nearly 50% of the results being A and B grades. There were good results at 'O' Level too. Anthea Davy is to be especially congratulated on gaining ten A grades. Congratulations too to Janet Dodd, Cindy Lam and Kathryn Little on gaining seven A grades.

Drama

The school play last December was 'Pride and Prejudice', adapted by Constance Cox. This charming adaptation of the famous novel has been a favourite with school and drama societies. All the cast enjoyed taking part and worked very hard. They were commended by Miss Constance Cox, who attended the final performance. It was a particular pleasure to meet the author, who praised not only the acting but also the lovely set and art work undertaken by Mrs Dixon, who also took responsibility for the costumes.

In the Spring Term we enjoyed the Inter House Drama Competition. Bristol House, the winners, produced 'The Dear Departed' by Stanley Houghton. Babington chose 'The Monkey's Paw' by W W Jacobs, Adelaide 'After Magritte' by Tom Stoppard and Chichester produced 'The Six of Calais' by Bernard Shaw. We were very grateful to Miss J. Campbell for her adjudication. In addition to awarding the trophy to Bristol, she chose Katherine Picton of Babington as the best actress. Not only do the girls take part in School and House plays, but also many take Speech and Drama Lessons and do well in both the Guildhall and New Era Examinations.

Music

The Music Department presented three concerts during last year. In December, music was interspersed with poems and seasonal readings, in March, the Senior Choir, Brass Ensemble and an invited orchestra gave a choral concert in St Mark's Church and on Open Day, as many as one hundred and twenty girls took part in a varied programme. There were Senior and Junior Music Festivals and Aimi Jaques won the overall prize. The year ended with our first Music Workshop producing 'Noyes Fludde' in the West End of St Mark's Church. This showed the versatility of the Church, which we hope to use for further productions during the coming year. In addition, the Senior and Chamber Choirs took part in the Brighton Festival when the Chamber Choir was very highly praised.

PE

At the beginning of the school year, several girls were successful in the County Selections - Lynne Rimmer, Natasha Procter, Amanda Robins and Alison Enwezoh were chosen for the First Lacrosse Team. Melanie Miller was selected for the county Netball Squad.

During the winter several matches were cancelled owing to the poor weather, but the season was finished in encouraging style with a well-deserved win by the under 15 VII in the West Sussex Independent Schools Netball Association Tournament held each year at Roedean. Although postponed owing to the snow, the Weetabix Adopta Sport sponsored run took place in January with Sharon Davis coming to school to speak to and be photographed with those taking part. An excellent total of £735 was raised from the run, a proportion being sent to the Olympic Fund and a proportion financing the purchase of new gymnastic mats.

Mr John White of the BAGA will be in school during October and January to coach girls, again as part of the Adopta Sport venture. Two skiing courses were run during the past year.

In January, a group of thirty-five girls from the second to fourth year went to Claviere in North Italy and in March a group of junior house girls visited Turracher Hohe in Austria for what proved to be a successful course, with two of the group winning awards for the most improved skiers amongst the school groups.

As usual the summer heralded the visit to Devonshire Park by the first year to take advantage of the opportunity to see the top women tennis players in what is proving to be the Wimbledon warm-up. Although the Hickstead Schools Tournament was rained off in August, two teams were entered in the Ardingly Spillers Trophy Competition and the team comprising Julia Greenall, Melanie French and Nonie Harries won the shield.

Other Activities

During the Easter and Summer holidays the Modern Languages Department organised the fifth annual exchange between St Mary's Hall and the College Saint-Andre in Saint-Maur. It was organised by Mrs Stevenson and some fifteen girls took part. However, this exchange will not take place again: it has been decided to encourage girls to make their exchanges via Amitie Internationale des Jeunes, as it is felt that this large and experienced organisation will be able to find girls more suitable partners and also that girls will have more choice of dates. The practical nature of the new GCSE examination makes it even more desirable than before that girls spend some time living with a French family, and no girl can fail to profit from such an experience.

On Friday 8 May, most of the Third Year spent an enjoyable day in Boulogne. In previous years the Thirds have spent a day in Dieppe, but this year there was no 7am boat. The staff felt that the shorter sea-crossing to Boulogne was preferable, and, as they were blessed with a really lovely day, they were able to appreciate the beautifully restored Vieille Ville before visiting the shops and the beach.

The History Department organised a wide-ranging programme of visits including Hampton Court, the Houses of Parliament, the Russian Costume Exhibition at the Barbican and Chichester Cathedral. The Geography and Biology Departments organised stimulating field trips to North Wales and the Isle of Wight with the Sixth Form, and the Fourth Form had a day out studying human and urban geography at Newhaven and physical geography at Cuckmere Haven and Seaford Head.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme

There are fifty girls participating in the award scheme at present; forty-one at Bronze level and nine at Silver level. Caroline Brownless, Marianne Proe and Kathryn Little have achieved Bronze and Jennifer Sterry, Silver awards during the past twelve months. Several more Bronze awards and two more Silver awards should be completed before the annual presentation at the Corn Exchange in November. Service courses have been taken with the local Police and the Red Cross and five girls successfully completed an RNLI course at Brighton Marina. Many give practical hours of service by visiting elderly people in their homes or at St Dunstan's.

Expeditions have taken girls to Snowdonia, Dorset, Kent, the New Forest and over the Sussex Downs, but perhaps the greatest fun was experienced on the overnight training exercise at Portslade! The physical recreation and skills sections are very much a matter of a girl's individual choice and the wide-ranging variety of activities which we offer, is possible only because of the great assistance given by many members of the school staff. Several girls from Elliott House are completing courses started within the Junior section of the award scheme, the ASC or Adventure, Service, Challenge section. It is hoped to invite a new intake in 1988 when the present ASC members will have moved on to the senior award scheme.

The Sixth Form

The Sixth Form took part in a varied programme of conferences, lectures, theatre visits and concerts. It is an important part of their course to widen their experience by joining in as many inter-school activities as possible. At the beginning of the last academic year, a group decided to take part for the first time in the Young Enterprise Scheme. The aim is to set up a Limited Company under a strict business code of practice, selling shares and marketing products in order to finance the project for about eight months. Schools and Colleges throughout the UK participate in the scheme in order to experience marketing and develop managerial skills before entering the adult world of commerce. Each group has to assist with legal and technical matters, and companies are assessed not on their financial success, but also on their ability to run the company and survive in the business world, despite its many pitfalls. The St Mary's Hall company was called ACE - Accessories and Cards Enterprises - and was very successful, being placed first in the category of 'Best Promotional Stand' at the National Trades Fair at Milton Keynes and runner up as best overall company in their class at the regional finals held at Lewes in July. Expansion is possibly the greatest mark of commercial success and it looks as if St Mary's Hall will be entering three companies this year.

Charities

The Houses have continued to organise a wide variety of events for their special charities during the year and a total of nearly £1000 was raised. This term, in addition to these activities, the girls are making special efforts in support of the Triennial Fair on 14 November.

This report inevitably cannot mention all that goes on in a school during the year - the daily work of learning and teaching for which the school exists is taken for granted. St Mary's Hall has a high reputation and it owes that to the devotion and hard work of both girls and staff. I should like especially to thank the teaching staff for all their efforts during the past year and with them all those who contributed to the daily life of the school in administration, housekeeping, catering or maintenance.

MINUTES OF THE 80TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 1987, AT 6.00 P.M.

Present: Miss M.F.C. Harvey M.A., Chairman

Committee: Miss J. Baker
Mrs Boyes
Mrs Kings (L. Belasco)
Miss Payne
Dame Mildred Riddelsdell D.C.B., C.B.E.,
Mrs Tinto (J. Colman)
Mrs Fawcett (G. Gosnell)
Hoda Barakat (Head Girl)

Member: Miss K. Chambre

The meeting opened with prayers and remembrance of those who had died since the last meeting - Mary Wonnacott, Audrey Kelhams (Riddelsdell).

Apologies were received from: Mrs Cole (M. Cunliffe), Miss Conrady, Miss M. Ellis, Mrs Gibbs (M. Ayling) Mrs Leslie, Cdr. Martin, Miss R. Methven, Mrs Scully (M. Chalmers).

The Minutes of the last meeting having been printed in the newsletter were taken as read, accepted and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising

A lime tree has been planted by the S.M.H.A. on the right hand side of the drive to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the school's foundation. Unfortunately, due to the cold, snowy spring it had not had a very good start but at least it is still alive.

Chairman's Report

The Craft, Design and Technology centre is now in operation in the Elliott Wing and a form for 3-5 year olds has been created in the parish room of St. Mark's Church. "A" Level results were good, a 90% pass rate, while one girl at "O" Level gained ten grade A's.

Reports

The Hon. Secretary presented the Accounts in the absence of the Hon. Treasurer - a small profit seems likely this year and our financial position should improve from now on.

The Hon. Secretary had received a photocopy of a letter from the solicitors of Mary Wonnacott who had left the Governors a legacy of £3,000 for general purposes. In addition, the Governors are also entitled to a 1/9th share of the residue, so the appeal which stands at the moment at £80,000 should benefit handsomely.

The Hon. Editor thanked members for their news and was congratulated by Mrs Tinto - the previous Editor - on her first edition of the Newsletter.

Election of Hon. Treasurer: Due to the retirement next year of Cdr. Martin, the Bursar, Mrs Fawcett proposed and Mrs Kings seconded that Mrs Bearn be elected - this was agreed unanimously.

The Hon. Secretary had obtained a quote for 12 pages, including the crest and 2 photographs, printed on good quality paper, which, with a 2nd class stamp and envelope would cost less than 50p per copy. This was agreed to and any member who wished to buy a school magazine should contact the School at the beginning of the Summer term. Hopefully, the Newsletter will be out at the beginning of 1988 well in advance of the March lunch and with all the dates of Forthcoming Events.

The Christmas Fair will be held on November 14th starting at 2 p.m.

The 2nd Spring Lunch is on March 12th at 12.30 p.m.

The 8th Buffet Supper is to be held on September 24th at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m.

Although only a few old girls went to the lunch, nevertheless it was a very enjoyable occasion. Hopefully next year, with a reminder nearer the day, more members will be able to come.

Members:
Dorothy Smith (Lilley) 1908-14
Mildred Riddelsdell 1924-32
Jill Baker 1929-36
Joyce Tinto (Colman) 1930-33
Diana Gosnell (Moore) 1931-36
Vivien Thompson (Greenyer) 1933-40
Jean Robertson 1936-40
June Counsel (Hume) 1939-40
Robina Methven 1947-52
Miss Conrady 1950-65
Frances Bearn (Moojen) 1955-64
Gay Fawcett (Gosnell) 1957-64
Mrs Boyes 1962-80
Mrs Leslie 1973-81
Marion Deschamps (Bucke)
Daphne Meikle (Wilson)

Assets	1986	1987	Liabilities	1986	1987
Deposit Account CB of F	5108.24	3012.80	Magazines 1985/1986	4186.75	-
CB of F Shares	119.00	119.00	For Old Girls Supper	202.50	-
Barclays Bank - Deposit	73.48	79.47			
Current	665.45	353.56			
Cash	26.94	30.02			
Dividends	10.12	-			
Subscriptions 1985	580.50	-			
1986	1101.50	-			
1987	-	250.00(est.)	Balance Creditor	3295.98	3844.85
	<hr/>	<hr/>		<hr/>	<hr/>
	7685.23	3844.85		7685.23	3844.85
			Profit on year	£159.62	

THE 7TH BUFFET SUPPER

The Annual Supper was held at the School on 26th September, 1987 but was not so well attended as in previous years, no doubt because 1986 was a very special year.

However, we were made most welcome by Miss Harvey and enjoyed an excellent meal, as usual of a very high standard. Amongst those present were Miss Conrady and Dame Mildred Riddelsdell, who seldom miss these occasions.

Before supper, we were taken by Miss Harvey on a tour of St. Mark's Church and the Craft Design and Technology Workshop. The electronics centre with its strange machines remained a mystery to many of us but the kindergarten room for pre-school boys and girls delighted us with its miniature tables and tiny chairs, resembling the larger ones in the auditorium.

Many thanks to Miss Harvey and Mr Thomason and his staff for a very pleasant evening.

Jill Baker, Frances Bearn (Moojen), Mrs Boyes, Kathleen Chambre, Miss Conrady, Elizabeth Edwards, Gay Fawcett (Gosnell), Penny Gardiner (Buck), Linda Kings (Belasco), Janine Launchbury, Angelica Meletiou, Melanie Morrison, Mildred Riddelsdell, Jean Robertson, Vivien Thompson (Greenyer), Joyce Tinto (Colman).

Members of Staff: Miss Bristol, Mrs James.

Many thanks to the members who sent a donation as they could not come to the Supper:- Diana Gosnell (Moore), Mrs Leslie and Miss Payne.

1987 CHRISTMAS FAIR

Due to the generosity of members, some of whom wished to remain anonymous, the S.M.H.A. stationery stall made £93.72. Thanks are due to Frances Bearn (Moojen) and her daughter Alex, Diana Gosnell (Moore) and her grand-daughter Plum and Linda Kings (Belasco) and her daughter Lianne who helped on the stall all afternoon.

Donations were received from:

Gillian Bardsley, Kathleen Chambre, Joan Eastham, Elizabeth Moore, Lady Redwood (Ursula Hale), Sonia Warner (Mackay).

The following sent items of stationery for the stall:

Lisa Bannerman, Frances Bearn (Moojen), Shirley Chinaloy (Samson), Diana Gosnell (Moore), Linda Kings (Belasco), Janine Launchbury, Angelica Meletiou, Muriel Paterson, Miss Payne, Barbara Randall, Bridget Sudworth (Neville-Last), Celia Willard (Tassell).

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The 2nd Spring Lunch is on Saturday, March 12th 1988 at 12.30 p.m.

The 8th Buffet Supper will be held on Saturday, September 24th 1988 at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. preceded by the A.G.M. at 6.00 p.m.

Tickets for the Lunch - £5, or the Supper - £7, are available from the Hon. Sec. Mrs Fawcett, 12 Devizes Road, Upavon, Pewsey, Wilts. Please make your cheque

payable to S.M.H.A. and enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Please apply for the Lunch before March 3rd and for the Supper before September 15th.

Committee members please note that your meeting, with tea, will take place at 4.30 p.m. on September 24th.

PENNY GARDINER (Buck)

(left S.M.H. in 1965)

Penny very kindly sent us some photographs, two of which we have great pleasure in printing overleaf. Very welcome indeed was the very comprehensive list of names also provided. Thank you very much.

It is very sad to think that between the first and second photographs our dear friend Anne Lenegan died so suddenly. However, I for one am grateful for this reminder of her.

Penny also sent two photographs of Babington's Nativity play in 1963, and she had made a note that the grand sum of £6 was collected for Oxfam and the Pestallozi Village. As she says, not bad for those days!

Penny regularly attends Old Girl functions, and it is always marvellous to see her. She is married to a farmer and they farm at Staplecross in East Sussex. Penny herself is currently Tax Manager at a firm of Chartered Accountants in Hastings.

She mentions that she is in touch with Anne Hollingsworth (nee Finch) and tells us that Anne has four children, Penny being Godmother to the eldest. Anne and her family are, at present, living in Portslade, and Anne is a working Mother as well.

Penny's Mother, Sheila Allison (nee Humphrys) is also an Old Girl of S.M.H. and was at the School around 1936 - the Centenary Celebration era. She is still in social work in the Tonbridge area, but expects to retire soon. Mrs Allison now lives at Leigh, near Tonbridge.

Apparently Penny is looking forward to receiving the first edition of our 'new-look' newsletter. She writes 'very sensible idea - never did see a lot of sense in receiving expensive magazine and not reading 90% of material'. - a view shared by many, although I know there are several who will want to receive both.

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS

Sarah Ashford (Hunt) who was at S.M.H. in the late 1970's, married Peter Ashford in June, 1987 and is, at present, living in the Netherlands. She has applied to the International Teacher Training Institute in Piccadilly, for a course in January for the teaching of English as a foreign language to adults. (The International Teacher Training Institute Certificate and Royal Society of Arts Preparatory Certificate). At present, Sarah is a Solicitor, but apparently rather fancies herself as a Teacher!

Victoria Aylin graduated this year from the University of Leeds with a Class II (ii) B.Sc. Combined Honours degree in Geography/Management Studies.

Mary Bennett (Radford) was married to William Bennett on the 1st March, 1987 and is now living in Evansville, U.S.A. She writes how much she enjoys the magazine and the Association's Newsletter.



UVI March, 1965

Jo Eaton, Sue Ponder, Liz Strong, Anne Lenegan, Tricia Cohen, Anne Finch, Penny Buck, Suzie Fleming, Yasmin Balolia, Marchia Allsebrook, Elizabeth Dowse.

Amanda Blackford - we are told is in touch with **Anne Fridal**. I am sorry to say I do not know the name of our contributor, who goes on to say that she herself saw **Anne** singing at Glyndebourne this Summer. **Anne** is best described as resident in Milan whilst commuting round London, New York and Trinidad the rest of the year! She had helped **Jane Smithard** who stood as S.D.P. candidate for Westminster South.

Nicola Blackwood (1972-1975) after taking a B.Sc. Honours degree at Sheffield University took a PGCE and, having taught for 3 years at King's Manor Comprehensive School at Shoreham, is at present teaching at St. Nicholas & St. Mary's Primary School, Shoreham. Her subjects are Biology and Maths. (Mr. Liddell please note!). She begins next term on a Science co-ordinators' course with the Local Authority.

Tille (Catriona) Blackwood (1974-1979) went to Millfield from S.M.H. and is about to complete an Honours degree in Drama and English, and has been accepted by the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She aims to go on the stage, like her brother Adam.

Nichola Burbidge (Boyes) has a baby daughter as well as one year old James. She is now running a single-handed practice in Chiswick.

Alexi Cameron (Zeki) is living in London, where she has bumped into Mrs Leslie several times in the King's Road Waitrose! Her sister Danya is also married.



PREFECTS & SUB-PREFECTS SUMMER 1965

(Back to front - left to right):

Janet Mileham, Glynis Cox, Marilyn Stead, Bobby Lyons, Frances Stead, Jennifer Gossage, Fiona Braidwood, Rachel Turner, Sally Davies, Margaret Powell, Lesli Price, Tiny Aubrey-Smith, Beryl Pearson, Claire Horley, Stephanie Hirst, Shuk Tak Liang, Penny Buck, Deborah Nevitt, Gillian Synge, Susan Judd, Jennifer Aserappa, Mary Strong, Diane Hohans, Judy Pargeter, Anne Finch, Tricia Cohen, Jo Eaton, Suzie Fleming, Elizabeth Dowse, Marchia Allsebrook, Elizabeth Strong, Susan Ponder, Yasmin Balolia.

Tracey Campbell writes that she has moved again and is now working for the Bally Shoe Company as Group Promotions Administrator. She revisited Belgium last Christmas and New Year and immediately felt integrated back into the Brussels' life.

Brigid Cooper has accepted the unconditional offer of a place at The University of Leeds on their B.Sc. Honours Microbiology course.

Lilian Cooper completed a degree in Architecture, after which she spent six months in Australia first working as an interior designer for a firm of Architects followed by a round trip of the country. She is now at the Rietveld Academie in Amsterdam studying Art.

Caroline Curren (Johnson) 1958-1967 took a degree in Sociology and Applied Social Studies at Keele University in 1971, and qualified as a Psychiatric Social Worker. From 1972-1978 she was in Pakistan with her husband with the Church Missionary Society. On her return to this country Caroline started part-time work for her

doctorate at Warwick where in 1986 she gained a PhD in Sociology. She is now teaching Sociology of Health and Healing to undergraduate and postgraduate students. They have recently moved and have three daughters.

Marion Deschamps (Bucke) and Joyce Tinto (Colman) have once again enjoyed a tour together. This year, 1987, they flew to Athens and then did a coach tour of the Greek Coast up to Istanbul, across the Bosphorous and down through Turkey to Rhodes. There were many stops on the way, but the highlight of the tour was the visit to Ephesus. It was fascinating to walk round this ancient city of marble, where St. Paul had preached and Anthony and Cleopatra had stepped ashore. For any keen traveller who loves antiquities a journey of this sort is hard to beat.

Irene East (Hartman) writes that an 80 year old 'Old Girl' (**Katherine Ogden**) lives in the same street as Irene, and turns out to be the sister of an Australian aunt of Irene's, both of them being at S.M.H. together. Having successfully learnt French and Italian, Irene joined the British Council in London, working there for five years with great job satisfaction and promotions. She also writes that, since leaving S.M.H., she has lived in Florence for three months at one stage. Married, she now lives with her Solicitor husband in Rickmansworth and they have two small boys aged 5½ and 4.

Jo Anne Galbraith has just completed a year at American Express working in the Graphic Services Section within the Purchasing Department. In September she planned to return to Plymouth for the final year of the Business Studies degree. She intends to specialise in marketing. Jo Anne keeps in contact with **Sarah Naish** who has taken her finals in Biology at Exeter and plans to go into accountancy. **Ann Trustrum** also hopes to pursue accounting, as she has decided to give up teaching. **Jo Podd** has just finished her second year at Aberystwyth reading Classics. **Brigitte McAteer** is at Portsmouth Polytechnic reading Maths. **Caroline Searle** has gained a Law Degree and is having a year at Law School in Guildford, hoping to become a Solicitor.

Katy Geary has just been accepted by Trinity Music College of London to start a four year Singers Performance Course starting in September, 1988. At present she is at Brighton College Sixth Form completing her 4 'A' level course.

Sara Gould is still working at Boodle's and is studying for Hotel Management one day a week at Ealing College. In August she went to Los Angeles to gain experience at another Club and had a marvellous time. Her sister **Amanda** lives in North London and is working for Citibank as Resident Vice-President!

Mrs Hayhurst (McEwan) formerly head of P.E. is moving to Jakarta with her family in January, 1988.

J.F. Hitchcock has completed her undergraduate degree at the University of St. Andrews and has gained an M.A. Honours (Upper 2nd Class).

Gabrielle Hutton has gained First Class Honours from Cambridge in French, and is now doing research.

Nikki Luers (Williams) has a baby daughter named Christina, and they live in North Germany. Her sister **Janet** is in Birmingham working for a Mission.

Juliet Morris obtained a 2:1 Honours degree in French at the University of Warwick.

Sarah Wolff after obtaining her English A Level took a year's course at the London School of Printing studying Publishing Production, and as a result entered the United Trade Press in London as a Production Editor. She has since been promoted to Editorial Assistant. **Kate Wolff** after obtaining her French and English A levels went straight to Paris and studied at the Sorbonne for one year reading (in French) History of Art and 19th and 20th C Literature, gaining her Certificate at the Superior level. Kate has just commenced a four year course reading French and English at the Portsmouth Polytechnic.

Julia Ann Wood (Schooling) 1963-1973 is married to the Reverend Wood and lives at Goodwood near Adelaide, South Australia.

Heather Hampson (Gillham) has recently remarried and now has a baby daughter called Victoria. She writes that she has lost touch with Ruth Holder and Nicola Stokes. (Some addresses will be found later in the Newsletter - so do get writing!). There is a possibility that Heather and her husband Tony may go to live in Papua New Guinea. She and her husband were off to America last Summer to stay on Treasure Island off the West Coast of Florida.

BOOK

"TRAVELS IN PROVENCE" by Marion Deschamps (Bucke).
This book, which is highly recommended, combines travel
with gastronomy.

BIRTHS

Burbidge (Boyes). To Nichola a baby daughter - sister for James.

MARRIAGES

Radford-Bennett. On 1st March, 1987, Mary Radford to William Bennett.

DEATHS

Peckham (Foster). On 26th April, 1987, Mrs Peckham who taught at the School in post-war years during Miss Conrady's Headship.

Shallard. On October 12th, 1987, Nell and on October 16th, 1987 Constance peacefully at Highlands, Woodbridge, sisters of the late Gertrude.

Wonnacott. On June 2nd 1987, Mary.

OBITUARY

MIRIAM PECKHAM (nee Foster)

April 26th, 1987

Mrs Peckham, whom most of you will remember as Miss Foster, was one of the early members of Staff of the post-war School, and contributed generously towards rebuilding high standards of work and discipline, never sparing herself in any way. Many Old Girls of my time will remember her kind but firm handling when they were very young. As a colleague she was a loyal and good friend - she will be remembered by many with love and gratitude.

D. Conrady.

ALTERATIONS TO NAMES AND ADDRESSES AND NEW MEMBERS. FEBRUARY - DECEMBER 1987

- * Miss L. Abdalla, Royal Victoria College, 3425 University Street, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H3A 2A8.
- * Miss Z. Abubakar, 32 Cooper Road, Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria.
- * Miss S. Alshaikhley, 7 Challoners Close, Rottingdean, Brighton, Sussex.
- * Mrs S. Ashford (Hunt), 138 Pack Lane, Kempshott, Basingstoke, Hants. RG22 5HP.
- * Miss S. Aylin, 6 Redebourne Lane, Bury, Ramsey, Cambs.
- * Miss T. Baker, 143 Old Fort Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex.
- * Mrs J. Baker (Emmett), Peppers, The Street, Washington, Sussex.
- * Mrs F. Bearn (Moojen), 18 St. Johns Street, Lewes, E. Sussex.
- * Miss J. Bench, 14 Court Ord Road, Rottingdean, Brighton, Sussex.
- * Mrs M.L. Bennett (Radford), 5908 Monroe Avenue, Evansville, IN. 47715, U.S.A.
- * Miss A. Bisset, 10 Riverside Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex.
- * Miss H. Black, 49 Wickham Hill, Hurstpierpoint, Hassocks, Sussex.
- * Miss L. Bowen, 30 Tongdean Road, Hove, E. Sussex. BN3 6QE.
- * Miss H. Bruce-Merrie, Maricote, 16 Brighton Road, Lewes, Sussex. BN7 1EB.
- * Miss C. Burgess, 51 Buckland Road, Maidstone, Kent. ME16 0SH.
- * Miss K. Burt, Crippenden Manor, Cowden, Kent. TN8 7HJ.
- * Miss F. Cairns, 3 Bakers Oak, Lincoln Hill, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire.
- * Miss T. Campbell, 47 Sugden Road, London, SW11 5BE.
- * Miss C. Cardwell, 4 Adam Park, Singapore, 1128.
- * Miss M. Cheah, 19 Jalan Batai Utara, Damansara Heights, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- * Miss B. Clark, 20B Hinderer Road, Apapa, Lagos, Nigeria.
- * Mrs M. Clements (Reeson), 3 Lloyd Road, Hove, E. Sussex. BN3 6NL.
- * Miss R.M.E. Cobb, 17 Arbrook Lane, Esher, Surrey, KT10 9EG.
- * Mrs J. Counsel (Hume), 17 Andrew Close, Ailsworth, Peterborough, Northants.
- * Mrs C. Curren (Johnson), 28 West Road, Saffron Walden, Essex.
- * Mrs D. Deller (Cohen), 52 Woodland Drive, Hove, E. Sussex. BN3 6DJ.
- * Mrs Y. Downer (Claudet), Downers Vineyard, Clappers Lane, Fulking, Mr. Henfield, Sussex. BN5 9NH.
- * Miss K. Duxbury, 1 Warren Lane, Friston, Nr. Eastbourne, E. Sussex. BN20 0HA.
- * Miss M. Ellis, 14 Kemp Court, Church Place, Brighton, BN2 5JU.
- * Miss M. Emmott, The Pond House, The Green, Godstone, Surrey.
- * Mrs G. Fifield (Synge), 3 The Court, West Wycombe, Kent.
- * Mrs C. Fowden (Smallwood) Bridlehay Cottage, Sunhare, Blackboys, Sussex.
- * Mrs S. Garmston (Westerman), 37 Mallory Road, Hove, E. Sussex.
- * Miss K. Geary, 3 Newark Place, Brighton, Sussex.
- * Mrs S. Geddes (Head), Box Cottage, Upper Wield, Alresford, Hants.
- * Miss S. Gould, 27 Lebanon Gardens, Wandsworth, London, SW18 1XQ.
- * Miss T. Gray, 42 Noahs Ark Lane, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex. RH16 2LT.
- * Mrs E. Green (Allwright), Farthings, Furners Green, Uckfield, E. Sussex.
- * Miss J. Greenall, Wykenhurst, Shaves Wood Lane, Albourne, Nr. Hassocks, W. Sussex. BN6 9DY.
- * Mrs H. Hampson (Gillham), 43 Stonehurst Road, Tarring, Worthing, W. Sussex. BH13 1LZ.
- * Miss S. Harris, 12a Barmouth Road, Wandsworth, London, SW18.
- * Mrs M. Hayhurst, P.O. Box 176, (KBY) Kebayoran baru, Jakarta Selatan, Indonesia.
- * Mrs E. Herdon (Ryan), 126 Blenheim Road, Deal, Kent.
- * Miss K. Hill, 16 Offington Gardens, Worthing, Sussex.
- * † Miss M.F. Hill, 24 Rutland Road, Hove, E. Sussex.
- * Mrs A. Hirschfield (Allsworth), 19 Wellington Road, Brighton, BN2 3AB.
- * Miss C. Hobson, Laurel House, Church Road, New Romney, Kent.
- * Miss J. Holden, 4 Challoners Close, Rottingdean, Brighton, Sussex.

- * Miss S. Hollingsworth, Gables, Courtmead Road, Cuckfield, Haywards Heath, Sussex. RH17 5LP.
- * Dr. K. Holloway, 72 Lower Frant Road, Maidstone, Kent.
- * Miss S. Hopkins, Grosvenor Hall, Bolnore Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex.
- * Miss C. Hosh, 8 Chesham Street, Brighton, Sussex.
- * Mrs H. Humphrey-Reeve (Seth), Deepdene, 10 Russell Street, Vaucluse, Sydney NSW 2030 Australia.
- * Miss D. Johnston, Salston, 6 Beaconsfield, Sevenoaks, Kent. TN13 2NH.
- * Mrs J. Jones (Summerscale), 317 Edison Avenue, St. Lambert, Quebec, Canada, J4R 2P8.
- * Miss E. Judd, 18 Tongdean Road, Hove, E. Sussex.
- * Mrs Z. Kelton (McVittie), Wix Farm, West Horseley, Surrey.
- * Miss P. Kennedy, West Ham Vicarage, Devenay Road, London, E15 4AZ.
- * Mrs J. Lambert (Jones), Edelweiss, Hamstead Road, Cranmore, Nr. Yarmouth, Isle of Wight PO41 0YD.
- * Miss M. Lloyd, Flat 11, 173 Anerley Road, Anerley, London, SE20 8EF.
- * Mrs V. Logue (Mileman), 2823 East 24th Avenue, Vancouver, B.C., Canada, U54 1ES.
- * Miss S. Longhurst, 24 Folder's Lane, Burgess Hill, Sussex.
- * Miss M.E. Maley, 56 Elm Grove, Thorpe Bay, Southend-on-Sea, Essex. SS1 3EZ.
- * Mrs G. Meyrick (Ashby), 6 Clyton House, 131/133 Cleveland Street, London, W.1.
- * Mrs S. Miles (East), 1 Trent Road, Buckhurst Hill, Essex.
- * Miss V. Mokhtar, 7 Chartfield Way, Woodland Drive, Hove, E. Sussex. BN3 6DS.
- * Miss E. Moore, Crowds, Hamm Court, Weybridge, Surrey.
- * Miss M. Morgan, 81 Findon Road, Brighton, E. Sussex.
- * Mrs V. Nahum (Murad), 4 Marsh Close, Mill Hill, London, NW7.
- * Miss A. Ogden, 2 Mallory Road, Hove, E. Sussex.
- * Mrs S. Paine (Mileham), 77 Edburton Avenue, Brighton, BN1 6EQ.
- * Mrs T. Parkin (Dawson), Blue Tiles, Middle Trafford, Chester, CH2 4EA.
- * Miss M. Paterson, Lynhay Cottage, North Bovey, Moreton Hampstead, Devon.
- * Mrs S. Pepera (Jantuah), Paynesfield, Albourne, Hassocks, Sussex.
- * Mrs L. Plant (Heath), 7 Shirley Drive, Hove, E. Sussex.
- * Miss B. Randall, 7 Glenleigh Park, Warblington, Hants.
- * Mrs E.N. Reekie (Vaughan), Bushberry, Spaltham Lane, Ditchling, Sussex.
- * Mrs I. Ricci (Rees), 3 Route de Sauverny, 1290 Versoix, Switzerland.
- * Miss J. Sale, 22 Eltrington Road, Hove, E. Sussex.
- * Miss J. Salisbury, 9 Sweetlands, Keymer, Hassocks, Sussex.
- * Miss J. Sayer, Ambleside, Courtlands Way, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, W. Sussex. BN12 4BX.
- * Miss A. Schuller, 17 Bristol Street, Brighton, E. Sussex.
- * Mrs E. Sharp (March), 6 The Hollow, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, Sussex. RH16 2SX.
- * Mrs A. Slaughter (Martin), 26 Buriton Road, Harestock, Winchester, Hants.
- * Miss J. Sterry, 1 The Close, Chart Lane, Reigate, Surrey. RN2 7BN.
- * Miss A. Tarrant, Willow Farm, Assington, Colchester, CO6 5LD.
- * Mrs E. Thomson (Lewis), Greenwood, Old Lane, Mayfield, E. Sussex. TN20 6AU.
- * Miss V. Tink, Windicroft, De Courcel Road, Brighton. BN2 5TF.
- * Miss E. Tuckwell, 5 Howard Terrace, Brighton, BN1 3TR.
- * Miss S. Van Carrapiett, St Barnabas Vicarage, Carterlupe Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
- * Miss S. Waller, The Old Grange, Tanyard Lane, Staplefield, Nr. Haywards Heath, Sussex.
- * Miss J. Wallis-Beer, 22 Beadle Street, Oxted, Surrey. RH8 9JJ.
- * Miss M. Warner, Helygen, Westcott Road, Dorking, Surrey. RH4 3DP.
- * Mrs K. Watts (John), Gravatts, Rudgwick, Horsham, Sussex.
- * Miss J. Williams, 45 Collard Road, Willesborough, Kent.
- * Miss J. Williams, Willowbank, 80 Lydd Road, Camber-on-Sea, Kent.
- * Mrs A. Willis (Taylor), c/o Banque Parisbas, London EC2.
- * Miss K. Wolff, 2 South Beach, Beach Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, Sussex.
- * Miss S. Wolff, 107 Biddulph Mansions, Elgin Avenue, Maida Vale, London W.9.
- * Mrs W. Wooster (Rolt), Moorfield House, The Moor, Westfield, Hastings, E. Sussex.

* Life Members. † Staff. A. Annual Members.

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The Annual Subscription is £2, but members of 60 years of age or over may pay at their existing rate. The Life Membership is £25, payable in one lump sum or in two equal instalments within three years. Annual Subscriptions are renewable in January of the current year and should be received by 1st October at the latest. Any member who does not pay before the end of the year ceases to be a member and will not be entitled to the Newsletter issued in the following year.

Newsletter. Please send all items of news, articles, photographs, etc., to the Hon. Editor, Mrs L.M. Kings, Raglan House, Pell Green, Wadhurst, E. Sussex. TN5 6ED.

Address Lists. Complete address lists can be obtained from the School - Cost £1.

We are hoping to produce a more detailed address list - at the request of a number of old girls - so when writing to the Editor or Secretary please include the years you were at S.M.H.