

Association

Newsletter

ST. MARY'S HALL ASSOCIATION



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Vice Chairman	Dame Mildred Riddelsdell, D.C.B., C.B.E.
Vice Presidents	.Miss D. Conrady, Miss Davies, Mrs. E. O. Leslie
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Also the present Head Girl of the Sc	hool and Miss C. Garnsey, Miss J. Launchbury,
Mis	ss M. Morrison.

EDITORIAL

Once again I am hurrying to get to the Printers – I would like to reiterate my plea for your news, letters, etc. to be with me by the beginning of November each year. As I am sure you will all appreciate, there is no lack of things to do at this time of the year (prior to Christmas), and I would ask you all to be extra understanding when mistakes occur in the Newsletter due to rather rushed proof-reading! Excuses made – I now have to make one specific apology to Mrs. Broadbent – you will all, of course, have realised that she is the 'fourteenth' headmistress of S.M.H. and not the 'fourth'!! However, this does seem to have been an almost unforgiveable mistake and I therefore publicly hang my head in shame!

I am delighted to have received much more news and information to include in this issue, and trust that I have been able to read everyone's handwriting reasonably accurately. Please keep sending!

I do hope you all enjoy this issue, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the lunch and supper for more exchanges of news!

Again I print below my address so that you have no excuses not to be in touch:

Raglan House, Pell Green, Wadhurst, East Sussex. TN5 6ED.

LINDA KINGS

LETTER FROM MISS DORIS CONRADY

42 Homefield Road, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 3DX.

Dear Friends,

Another year has passed and Newsletter time has come again!

I have been happy to have been able to get to the Hall for a number of events during the first year of Mrs. Broadbent, my fourth successor – to the Annual Prizegiving in October, the Carol Service, the April S.M.H.A. lunch gathering, the July Founder's Day Service, and finally the S.M.H.A. supper, just a few days ago.

The April lunch was a special occasion for me as Margaret Gray came. She was H.M. of my old School, the Godolphin and Latymer while I was H.M. of her old School S.M.H., a delightful person whom I had not seen since I became unable to travel to London. It was good, too, to see a number of my own Old Girls. These old friendships become more and more precious as one grows old. All this I have been able to do through the kindness of friends who transported me.

I had another unexpected pleasure recently when an Old Girl, Margaret Hatershon, Head Girl 1956–57 paid me a visit. I had not seen her for over 30 years. She has a small pre-prep School and it was a lovely surprise when I answered the door to find a young woman standing outside who said 'you don't remember me do you?' I said I knew her face but I couldn't put a name to it except it was S.M.H! We had a lovely chat reminiscing old S.M.H. days.

My Old Girls will want to know that Sister Brown, who was San Sister during the whole of my 15+ years, has gone into a Rest Home. She is 2 months younger than I am and has been in poor health for some time. She had several weeks in hospital followed by a period in a Rest Home. Her doctor, very wisely, said she could try going back to her own cottage to see how she managed. However, she decided on her own that it was too much for her, and she is now permanently in the Rest Home. Linda Kings recently visited her when she was in Cornwall and so has first-hand information, and I telephone her regularly. Sister Brown was one of those wonderful characters at S.M.H. – a great disciplinarian, but so kind and generous and wise.

Linda will, I am afraid, find this letter exceeds the length she anticipated – so I must stop!

But I still love S.M.H!

With love and good wishes,

DORIS CONRADY.

LETTER FROM MRS. OLIVE LESLIE

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

Dear Friends,

Another year has flashed by and I have been asked to send you my news.

During the past twelve months I have been as busy as usual, firstly caring for my garden and keeping up to date with entertaining. Secondly, I have continued my interest in education through my connection with several schools besides S.M.H. and now I am Chairman (I refuse to be called 'Chair') of our local C. of E. Primary School Board of Governors – no sinecure in this time of change. Thirdly, I have been in demand by, or at least for, my two grandsons now aged five and a half and three and a half. When I returned in June from a holiday in France there was an s.o.s. to go directly to London until a new nanny arrived. In the event, I was in charge for almost a month and on my daily trips via King's Road and Sloane Square to deposit or collect Nicholas, whose school is nearby, I bumped into several Old Girls. One day as I bent down to say a word to Alexander, Lucinda Morrison exclaimed 'Ah! I recognise that voice', I sometimes wish I could see more of you all, but I am grateful to those who keep in touch and tell me of their prowess.

More recently I went to a wedding in East Anglia combined with a round of visits to friends. On my way to Norwich I called in to see Mrs. Wolliscroft who is happy to be within

easy reach of her parents although she misses S.M.H. very much.

Our old School is fairly humming with life and preparing imaginatively for the demands of the twenty-first century. If you haven't been back recently you will be amazed at the changes. It would be lovely to see you at next year's S.M.H.A. supper; this year's was splendid.

Yours affectionately.

E.O. LESLIE.

HEADMISTRESS'S LETTER

Dear Members,

During my first full year at St. Mary's Hall I have been delighted to have had the opportunity to meet so many of you. Present pupils can find inspiration and challenge from meeting Old Girls of the school who have gone forward to work in so many fields. You provide the school with a most valuable resource as role models. I would be grateful if, when you have finished reading this letter, you would complete the enclosed reply slip and return it to me. (You will find this easier to remember if you do it immediately!!).

The last of the 3-Form entry in the Senior School successfully completed their GCSEs in the summer. Academically, their results are excellent, as detailed in my Speech Day address, printed elsewhere in this magazine, and their performances in music, drama, community service, etc. have been outstanding. Last year, they engaged in a 'Banking simulation' to improve their awareness of economic and business issues, and this year they will have a Business and Industry Workshop, as well as further work experience, work shadowing and careers education. These girls will be entering employment as the 'demographic time-bomb' explodes in the work places of this country. Never before will highly qualified young people be so sought after by employers. With your help, and that of your family and contacts, we will provide for them the best possible preparation for the contribution they will make to society.

The school has seen many changes in the last year. At Easter, we said farewell to Mrs Brenda Johns and Commander M Martin. During Mrs Johns' time here, the Junior Department has thrived, and two new buildings have been built – namely, Gloucester House, the new pre-preparatory unit, and the preparatory building which has now been named 'Martin House', in recognition of the contribution made by the former Bursar.

We have welcomed Mr Brian Vidler as the new Head of the Junior Department, now consisting of more than 100 pupils aged 3–10; and Mr John Roper, who was formerly Assistant Bursar of Churchers College.

In December, we will be thanking Lady Ward as she retires after eight years as Chairman of the Board of Governors. She has made an enormous contribution to the life of the school, and has been a great support to many staff and an inspiration to the pupils. She will be succeeded by Mr Anthony Elliott, whose family have served the school since 1836.

Several of you may never have returned to St. Mary's Hall. I hope that you will try to join us for the Summer Luncheon on May 12th.

Mrs M. Teresa Broadbent

Dates for your Diary: S.M.H.A. Luncheon Founders Service

12th May 1990 5th July 1990

LETTER FROM MRS. CLARE FEAVER

6 Mill Lane, Bruton, Somerset.

Dear Friends,

Your Editor has very kindly asked me to write a newsletter about the past year but I am afraid life in retirement will not sound very exciting to the 'workers of the world', although veryabsorbing to the participants. When I look back there does not seem to have been a spare moment even to sort out the attic – a task which has been hanging over me since the builders left at Easter! Once the house was in order, I worked on the garden and have just finished planting new shrubs and raspberries for next Summer. There was a lot of clearing to do and this year I grassed the river bank so that we could sit and watch the Kingfishers which were up and down the river all the Summer – the nest was just round the bend from us. I also grew an enormous quantity of courgettes and cucumbers, but so did everyone else round here! We had a holiday in North Wales on the Mawdach Estuary in June and walked and enjoyed the scenery around Cader Idris and the glorious weather. Since then we have had a constant stream of visitors and have enjoyed showing them this lively part of Somerset. We should love to see any of you who are down this way so please do drop in.

With every good wish to you all.

CLARE FEAVER

NEWS OF THE SCHOOL FROM AMANDA ROBINS PRESENT HEAD GIRL

We are all very busy at the moment with the preparations for the forthcoming royal visit on Prizegiving and Speech Day. Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Gloucester is to open the new junior building 'Gloucester House' as well as present prizes and certificates during the ceremony in St. Mark's Church.

As usual there is the vast number of clubs and activities available to us: the debating society 'symposium' has recently been re-established, providing the opportunity for strong views and opinions to be civilly (?!) aired. The new information technology room, which some of you may have viewed before the S.M.H.A. buffet supper in September, is always in popular demand and is undoubtably providing much pleasure (and eduction of course!) to us all.

A 'hair and beauty' evening has been organised by the Parent School Association, where four girls will have a complete 'makeover' and will be featured in the local paper. Strangely enough most of the sixth form could not be found when volunteers were wanted for this event!

The senior choir is once again planning to participate in the Sussex Schools Concert at the Albert Hall in May. We were also welcomed at the Dome for a Harvest Thanksgiving Service and other concerts are coming up.

Several trips abroad have been organised and there is the usual wealth of ski trips available for all age groups. Amongst all this girls still find time to rehearse for 'Oklahoma' which will be performed in December.

SPEECHDAY 1989

Your Royal Highness, Madam Chairman, Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As Lady Ward has indicated, this is a very special day in the life of St. Mary's Hall in that we are able to welcome Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Gloucester. 140 years and 338 days ago – for those of you who have difficulty with the calculation! – on November 16th 1849, the school welcomed its first Royal visitor, The Duchess of Gloucester. On hearing of this historical information, one of our tiny tots exclaimed: "This Duchess must be very, very old!". Your royal Highness has been able to dispel such myths to-day, as you have taken such a lively interest in the work of the Junior and Senior schools; and as, by your express wish, you talked personally to as many girls as possible. There has certainly been no generation gap in evidence to-day!

In a school such as this, the past is ever with us; its traditions and previous achievements spur us on to new developments and new heights. We, who are associated with the school at present, are here for such a short span of its history. I see myself and all my colleagues as stewards called upon to safeguard the intentions and spirit of the Founder as we take temporary charge of this trust. Unlike the unwise steward of Biblical fame, we have not buried our talents to ensure they remain intact, but we seek to use them in new and everexpanding ways so that they grow and multiply. Such a concept underlies everything that we hope for each pupil in our care as we challenge them to invest now in the development

of their personal futures.

To continue the historical theme, in 1921 the school was visited by Princess Mary. Perhaps, from the records of the Royal Family, you are aware of any impression she may have had of the girls of St. Mary's Hall. Recently, in my post I received a packet of letters which had been cleared from a house following the death of one of our old girls. As a school girl, she had welcomed Princess Mary and had written home about every event of the day. Time does not allow me to read the whole text, but I will quote a short extract: "... and then she had to leave and got into her car. When it turned the terrace corner we gave terrific cheers. The motor took a long time getting round the corner, but when it had succeeded we all flew down the drive, still cheering". and later ... "Now I will describe her and tell you what I thought of her". (Your Royal Highness has nothing to fear from what follows). "She is a perfect angel and sweetly pretty in my eyes – not a bit like the AWFUL photos you see of her. She was rather shy and that made her ever so much nicer for me".

That young lady focussed on the person she had met as an individual, and responded to her warmly. Your Royal Highness, I am confident that many letters will go home to-night

recording your own interest in individuals, and the warmth of your response.

I must quit the historical scene and bring us to the past academic year, my first full year at St. Mary's Hall. Many are expecting that I am now able to shed my L-plates, as I have experienced every function in the school year, but I cherish the thought that there is still so much to learn about the school and in so doing I have the support of such excellent colleagues. Keeping a wayward Headmistress on the straight and narrow is no easy task, and I must pay public tribute in particular to Mrs Pamela James for all her efforts in this respect, reflecting her commitment, loyalty and enormous capacity for hard work. The dedication, perseverance, expertise and good humour of my other colleagues is evidenced by all that is achieved by the girls. Many schools and school managements fall into the trap of forgetting that the prime purpose of any school is to meet the pupils' needs; this does not happen at St. Mary's Hall, and I am thankful.

During this past year, Gloucester House seemed to grow overnight above the West Field, and now resounds with the excited voices of the young. It is there that the foundations are laid for academic successes such as those we recognize to-day. Thanks to a legacy from

a previous member of staff we have added this fine Yamaha Grand Piano to our collection - not only for our own use, but also as we take our place in the musical life of Brighton. Technology thrives, but is no longer confined to the specialist rooms. A computerised stage lighting system is programmed by the girls, and we see their technological skills enriching their dramatic and cultural talents. Computers and synthesisers are basic tools of the trade for our young composers of music. A natural development in this field has been the completion of the new Information Technology Unit which, under the direction of Mrs Jayne Dempster, provides the opportunity for all pupils of all ages to take advantage of these facilities to service all their studies. Gone are the days of 'Computer Studies' in isolation from all other learning now these methods of processing information are used in English, History and Classics, as well as in Science and Technology. Our Nimbus Network promises much challenge and fun for pupils and staff alike. Teaching staff are continually challenged professionally by new initiatives. The National Curriculum is no exception. Although, as an independent school, we are not obliged to follow this route of attainment targets and testing at key stages, we want to provide the same basic educational entitlement as children in maintained schools, although we are free to provide so much more. I compare the National Curriculum guidelines to a motorway on a map taking us from A to B. St. Mary's Hall will take the scenic route between these two points - there is so much more to learn and experience since we have the energy and commitment to make the detours.

To-day, we congratulate the certificate and prizewinners on their achievement in the last year. Those who have left us to go on to Higher Education are now reading for degrees in Medicine, Nursing, Biochemistry, Law, Accountancy, International Studies, Languages, Classics, Arts and Education; some are continuing with their studying or are travelling abroad, or working to widen their experience before entry to Higher Education/the world

of work.

They remind those who are younger (GCSE prizewinners included) of the need to aim high and expect to succeed if they are to achieve their full potential.

Last year's Fifth Year are to be congratulated. By the end of that academic year nearly half of the year group (48.4%) had 9 or more qualifying grades A–C, and 11% of them had won 11 or more such grades. 30% of the girls had 4 or more grade A's to their name and

a similar percentage (29) had gained an A or B grade in AO Mathematics.

In a year when 24 Heads of leading independent schools have complained to our examination board that grades were significantly lower than expected, I know I have no such cause for concern. If these were their only achievements, they would deserve our applause, but they are not! St. Mary's Hall does not describe itself as an academic workshop, where noses are kept to the intellectual grind stone. There is so much more to life! These girls have been involved in drama and music productions, theatre excursions, music, speech and drama examinations, the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Community Service, been active on the sports fields and in a number of societies in and out of school. They have played jazz, chamber music and so on – in fact, they have played hard, worked hard, and achieved success across the board. They are 'whole' people, not narrowly academic. Throughout the year I present innumerable certificates and awards in our assemblies, which to-day we recognize and applaud, although time does not allow us to congratulate each girl individually.

The school has welcomed many visitors this year. We have so much to be proud of and so much to share. Readers of The Sunday Times were made aware of the facilities and opportunities which can be provided by a school such as ours, and how increasing numbers of parents are making great sacrifices to send their daughters to an independent girls' school, recognizing that they are investing in education, arguably the best of all investments. Several times, the reporter and cameraman said 'This is SO EXCITING – we had

no such opportunites at my school!' The ITV cameraman had a similar refrain: 'I have filmed in hundreds of schools in most continents, but NEVER, EVER have I seen pupils having such fun as your jazz group.'.

FUN - EXCITEMENT - ENJOYMENT - HAPPY ATMOSPHERE key words - and

into the bargain the girls are LEARNING.

This impression has even penetrated to those who have not so much as visited the school. Can you think of anything less thrilling than marking hundreds of GCSE scripts? One such GCSE examination moderator, having read our English scripts, wrote to us and praised the high quality of the work and ended with the phrase: "These pupils have been EXCITED to EXPRESSION". What better motivation for learning! I hope that phrase typifies most of what we do across all the subjects.

Excited to expression

to exploration to experimentation

to enquiry

and thereby stimulated to success.

ITV and The Sunday Times were asking: 'Why do parents choose a school like this?' There can be no one answer.

Recently published research by Professor Peter Mortimore of Lancaster concludes that the school a child attends has a far greater effect on achievement and progress than social class or background than hiterto believed. (That is a relief to those of us who teach, who have sometimes been told by researchers that we have only a 1% chance of affecting a child's progress). After monitoring 5000 pupils' progress, they concluded that good schools provide a framework where there is always plenty to do,where pupils are stimulated and challenged, where parents are involved in the true ethos of the school, and where teachers communicate their enthusiasm to the pupils; schools with a sense of purpose in which children can be happy. I am confident that parents can find these qualities in St. Mary's Hall.

The Department of Education and Science has published statistics this year showing a drop in the numbers of pupils studying Maths and Science, with only 15% girls compared with 34% boys. This is another reason why parents select a girls' school where they know that their daughters have no limits on their expected performances in those fields; where they will not have less teacher interaction than the boys in their class, and to quote another piece of recent research by Fox & Creeser: "Girls in the independent sector who are educated in fully co-educational secondary schools achieve fewer GCSE and A levels than those educated in all-girls schools." An HMI report this year concludes: "The majority of our pupils are not being stimulated and encouraged". They did not respond kindly to the sentiment that: "Oh, the bright children - they will survive anywhere". It raises the question – are we merely satisfied with 'survival' for our gifted children? These are the scholars and intellectuals of to-morrow. They need the stimulus of being in schools where learning for its own sake is encouraged by teachers and pupils alike, where Classics and Humanities thrive, where the influences of mediocrity are not felt.

This is another reason why parents choose St. Mary's Hall. Your Royal Highness, through your patronage of the National Association for Gifted Children, reminds us of the need to provide for this VITAL human and national resource.

I have enjoyed my first year at St. Mary's Hall. I have found the school to be exciting, stimulating, challenging, caring and fulfilling. I commit myself and my staff towanting to provide an educational environment in which pupils are 'EXCITED TO EXPRESSION'.

THE THIRD SPRING LUNCH

The following members enjoyed a very pleasant lunch in April but we missed Mr Thomason, the caterer, who always looked after us so well.

Mrs Frances Bearn (Moojen), Mrs Valerie Boyes, Miss Laura Bristol, Miss Kathleen Chambré, Miss Doris Conrady, Miss Moyra Corscaden, Mrs Marjoirie Elliott (Duke), Mrs Gay Fawcett (Gosnell) Mrs Alma Fosbery (Smallpiece), Mrs Penny Gardiner (Buck), Mrs Diana Gosnell (Moore), Miss Margaret Gray, Miss Margaret Hill, Mrs Eileen Howard (Portas), Mrs Linda Kings (Belasco), Mrs Olive Leslie, Miss Robina Methven, Miss Audrey Miller, Mrs Vivi Nahum (Murad), Miss Margaret Payne, Miss Phyllis Poyser, Mrs Eileen Reekie (Vaughan), Miss Jean Robertson, Mrs Joyce Tinto (Colman), Mrs Alex Wooster (Rolt).

A RECEPTION AND REVIEW OF THE YEAR'S EVENTS WAS HELD AT THE SCHOOL ON SATURDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 1989 AT 6.15 p.m.

Present:

Chairman

Mrs M. Teresa Broadbent B.Sc.,

Committee

Mrs Bearn (Frances Mogen), Mrs Valerie Boyes, Miss Doris Conrady, Mrs Kings (Linda Belasco), Miss Janine Launchbury, Mrs Olive Leslie, Miss Robina Methven, Miss Melanie Morrison, Miss Margaret Payne, Mrs Tinto (Joyce Colman), Mrs Fawcett (Gay Gosnell).

Head Girl

Miss Amanda Robins

Members of staff

Mrs Blunt, Miss Corris, Mrs Drew, Mrs Jackson, Mrs James, Miss Meadows, Mrs Overshott and the Rev. Broadbent.

Members

Miss Sarah Bright, Miss Julia Buchmann, Miss Kathleen Chambré, Miss Moyra Corscaden, Miss Anthea Davy, Miss Joanne Galbraith, Mrs Gardiner (Penny Buck), Miss Cheryl Garnsey, Miss Amber George, Mrs Gilles (Rosemary Boorne), Miss Philippa Graham, Miss Sarah Greenwood, Miss Katrina Lewis, Miss Lisa Martin, Mrs Meikle (Daphne Wilson) Miss Sarah Naish, Miss Heloise Overshott, Mrs Peaty (Penny Waddington), Miss Tracey Rawlings, Miss Jean Robertson, Miss Joanna Slater, Miss Angela Smith, Miss Christine Songhurst, Mrs Thompson (Vivien Greenyer) Mrs Wharton (Jane Alsop).

Apologies were received from:

Miss Laura Bristol, Miss Janet Dodd, Mrs Feaver, Mrs Gosnell (Diana Moore), Mrs Howard (Eileen Portas), Dame Mildred Riddelsdell D.C.B., D.B.E.,

The evening opened with the School prayer and remembrance of those who had died since the last meeting – Barbara Burner, Nonie Christian (neé Howe), Miss Johnston, a former member of staff, and Margaret Outram.

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

Mrs Broadbent welcomed everyone and gave her report, mentioning the article in the Sunday Times in April and also the visit by TV-AM.

The Duchess of Gloucester is to open the new Prep-Prep Department on October 20th and also present the prizes at Speech Day. The Parents' Association is producing a

Newsletter each term. Members were asked to support this venture.

Numbers in the Junior School are expanding; there is now a waiting list.

The Officers were re-elected en bloc and new Committee Members Miss Cheryl Garnsey, Miss Janine Launchbury and Miss Melanie Morrison were elected and welcomed.

Old Girls were invited to Speech Day on October 20th, Open Day on November 10th and performances of 'Oklahoma' on November 30th and December 1st and 2nd – all details from the School Office.

After the Reception members enjoyed an excellent supper provided by the new caterer Mrs Barnes and her staff.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 1990

The 4th Spring Lunch is on Saturday May 12th 1990 at 12.30 p.m.

The 10th Buffet Supper will be held on Saturday September 22nd 1990 at 7.00 p.m. This will be preceded by a Reception at 6.15 p.m. and a Review of the Year's Events at 6.45 p.m. Tickets for the lunch are £6; for the supper £8 and both are available from the Hon. Sec., Mrs Fawcett, 17 Windsor Road, Salisbury, Wilts SP2 7DX. Please make your cheques payable to S.M.H.A. and enclose a stamped addressed envelope. Please apply for the lunch by May 2nd and for the supper by September 12th. Committee members please note that your meeting, with tea, will take place at 5.00 p.m. on September 22nd 1990.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

The S.M.H.A. will be having a stationery stall at the Fair on November 17th at 2.00 p.m. Any contributions, however small, will be welcome either at School from September onwards or sent to the Hon. Sec. please.

S.M.H.A. Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st August 1989

Expenditure Typing, Printing, Postage, etc. Newsletters Miscellaneous	136.98 515.93 6.00	658.91	Income Interest received C.B. of F. Subscriptions Donations (x) O.G. Supper/Lunches (nett) Interest received Deposit A/C	457.50 1039.00 72.00 249.00	
Excess of Income over Expenditure		1165.45 £1824.36	Miscellaneous	5.00	1824.36
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st August 1989	at 31st Augus	t 1989			
Liabilities Balance c.f.		5506.77	Assets Deposit A/C C.B. of F. *C.B. of F. Shares Barclays Bank Deposit A/C Current A/C Cash	818.32 1061.25 23.70	3484.50 119.00 1903.27
		£5506.77			£5506.77

^{*}Note According to information I have been able to obtain I understand you hold 238 shares. These shares are currently valued at £5.53 which if sold would realise £1316.14.

I have prepared the above financial statement from the accounting records and other information supplied to me by the St. Mary's Hall Association. I have not carried out an audit of the financial statement.

LETTER FROM LADY WARD, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE GOVERNORS, IN RESPONSE TO QUERIES FROM OLD GIRLS TO THE HON. SEC. RE THE SALE OF THE FIELD OVER THE ROAD FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.

The Old Rectory,
Patching,
Nr Worthing,
West Susssex BN13 3XF
August 4th 1989

Dear Mrs Fawsett,

The Bursar of St. Mary's Hall telephoned me yesterday to say that some of the Old girls were wondering why in 1985 they had been asked to contribute to the 150th Appeal, when last year the school was able to sell the South Field and thus raise a great deal of money.

May I, as Chairman of the governors explain what happened?

Firstly, we wanted to mark the fact that St. Mary's was 150 years old. The diocese had handed St. Mark's Church back to the school and we wanted to convert it, not only into the School chapel, but into a Music Centre for concerts and possibly use it for plays as well. Also it was essential that a Craft, Design and Technology Department should be set up if the girls were to compete with boys in this field; a field which plays an increasingly important role in today's education and G.C.S.E. exams. Thanks to the generosity of the Old girls and to various Trust Funds and Friends of the School, St Mark's and the C.D.T. Department are now in full use and are marvellous assets to the staff and pupils alike. There was also enough money raised to improve the gym/hall.

Secondly, in 1985 when we launched the anniversary Appeal, we had no idea that we would be able to sell the South Field, let alone get planning consent on it. One of the real worries at that time for the headmistress and the Governors was that Brighton College was going Co-ed right through the school (3–18). Miss Harvey felt that if St. Mary's was to hold its place in Brighton the School must have a Play Group and a Pre-prep Department

to compete, not only with the College but also the High School.

Having sold the field we now have a splendid new building, which I hope you and all the Old girls at your Association Meeting will take a good look at. But almost the most important thing for people to understand is that the School is now on a sound financial footing. For the first time in its history, St. Mary's now has money invested which enables us to fund Bursaries, to keep the buildings in excellent repair, and ensure for St. Mary's Hall a secure future.

I do hope that this letter will put your mind at rest, as well as the minds of others. Should you wish to have this letter copied to send to Old Girls please feel free to do so.

Your sincerely,

PAMELA WARD

WANTED

Please does anyone know the current address of any of the following members whose Newsletters were returned marked 'gone away'? If so, please contact the Hon. Sec., 17 Windsor Road, Salisbury, Wilts. SP2 7DX as soon as possible.

Miss H. Rabjohns, Mrs S. Palys (Havam), Miss K. Turner, Mrs P. Millar, Miss S. James, Miss G. Hutton, Mrs M. Foukes (Sloggett), Mrs M. Collis (Langmead), Miss N. Kianifard, Mrs M. Lillywhite (Whale), Mrs J. Holtham (Gooding), Mrs M. Bennett (Radford), Mrs A. Willis (Taylor), Miss R. Sheaf, Miss J. Dorman, Miss J. Kent, Miss T. Campbell, Mrs M. Bruno (Hawkins), Miss C. Furguson, Miss N. Gardiner, Mrs D. Edyvean (Gayer), Miss C. Bethell, Miss L. Abdulla, Mrs M. O'Hara (Banks), Miss J. Hayes, Miss J. Podd, Mrs N. Rodriguez (Obadiah), Miss S. Newman, Miss A. Ashiagbor.

NEWS FROM MRS. JOYCE M. TINTO (COLMAN)

In March I had a small reunion here of contempories including Barbara Boag (March), Marjorie Elliott (Duke), Marion Deschamps (Bucke), Moria Corcasden, Mary Holland, Barbara Millbourne (Hunt), Phyllis Poyser and Margaret Wilkinson. I've also seen several of the aforementioned again during the year. Marion Deschamps had an enjoyable holiday in Malta in November.

Then in September, I went with several members of my family to Prague, a fascinating old city. It is so interesting now to follow the exciting events in Czechoslovakia. We were there at a peaceful time for we saw no demonstrations. Our hotel was on a street below Wenceslas Square and we can often pick it out on the news flashes and picture ourselves there. We also visited the Lidice Memorial erected to honour all those who were killed by the Germans as reprisals during the War. It was a most moving experience to see this impressive memorial.

Now, I am planning a Christmas holiday in Adelaide with my daughter and family – so lucky to have a month's break from this cold and damp.

LAST DAY OF THE SUMMER TERM 1976 A FAREWELL GATHERING

(submitted by Kathy Howard (1967-76))



Penny Perry, Elizabeth Ferguson, Gaynor Webb, Sue Møller, Sue MacDunagh, Maddy Pickard, Kate Hill, Claire Bowes, Jackie Giles, Libby Leviseuz, Sue Hayllar, Jill Walsh, Jane Woodhead, Sue Davis, Kathy Howard, Angie Charles, Vicki Angus, J. Banner.

THE S.M.H.A.'S PRAYER

O God who art everywhere present, look down in Thy mercy on all those who have gone forth from this School. Grant that by the light of Thy divine inspiration and the gifts of Thy bountiful providence they may fulfill Thy purpose for them here on earth and may attain at length to that blessed home where they shall go no more out but serve and praise Thee continually in Thy temples; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

NEWS OF OLD GIRLS

Amherst-Clark, Sue and Jane are both now married, and anyone wishing to get in touch with them can do so through Philippa Graham.

Ashford, Sarah (Hunt) is living in Bordeaux where her husband. Peter, is working for Shell.

Ashwin, – Miss Miller, former Elliott Housemistress, says the Ashwins, who are amongst our oldest and most faithful members, have had a difficult year. One of them has been ill and the other has been looking after her. We send them our love.

Avis, Mary (Yule) 1921-26 is living in Hampstead.

Aylin, Victoria is living in London.

Baker, Tracey has taken up rowing at Oxford in spite of the early start. She is having to work hard at practicals and essays but enjoys it all.

Barakat, Maha is in third year studying medicine at Cambridge University – top and only Pharmacology 1st in June, 1989.

Barakat, Hoda has just finished her first year Natural Sciences at Clare College, Cambridge, but is going to transfer to Law for 2 more years.

Barr, Carole is in Australia at present and on her return is going to work in Washington. Barr, Anne works for Keith Prowse organising sporting events – such as the Rider Cup. Bartrop, Mary has been abroad a great deal and is now at University in London studying French.

Batten, Miriam works in London and is a serious rower who hopes to row for Great Britain in the 1992 Olympics. (We all wish her every success!)

Bowerman, Melissa is studying A levels at a School near her home in Dartmouth.

Bowerman, Aureol is in her final year at Durham University reading Education.

Bowerman, Karen has just graduated in Theology from Oxford with 2:1 July, 1989.

Buckroyd, Victoria is engaged and hopes to get married in 1990.

Bruce-Merrie, Heather is at College in London following a career in nursing.

Bryant, Susanne has been in America for three months. Chapman, Ruth is doing medicine at Charing Cross.

Chatwin, Monique is working in Eastbourne in a Mortgage Office.

Chatwin, Yvette is living in Banstead with her husband and is taking her midwifery finals. Cheah, Linda is in her second year Art Foundation taking fashion, textiles and 3D design at Chelsea College of Art and Design in London.

Chua, Swee Fern is a qualified doctor doing her housemanship year at St. Steven's, Fulham, London.

Clarke, Sybil (Barff) 1921-26 studied at Rochampton and did Froebell Teaching.

Clarke, Joy (Stebbing) was pleased to receive a copy of last year's newsletter and was kind enough to let us have her news and the news of two other Old Girls who were all in St. Hilary House between the years of 1921–26. Joy studied science at Kings College, London and was Private Secretary to Lord Rutherford until the year before his death, at the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge.

Davey, Anthea is studying medicine at Bristol University.

Duxbury, Karen is at College in London following a career in nursing.

Edmunds, Susan is currently studying Maths at a University in South Wales. She is really enjoying it there and has just completed her first year.

Fearn, Alex is working in the Duke of Edinburgh's office at Buckingham Palace.

Finnerks, Catherine held an exhibition of her paintings in Blewbury, Oxon recently. Francis, Hildegard writes that she spent two terms at S.M.H. in 1922 when she was 10 years old and then was at S.M.H. from 1935 to 1939. Miss Francis saw the notice in the

Times concerning Nonie Christian's (Howe) death, and tells us that Nonie was one of her School Mothers. She writes 'I am so delighted that the Newsletter has gone back to the old form.'

French, Joanna says she is now "a super secretary in the high-flying financial world with Morgan Stanley International in London. Great fun, long hours, but I've already done some jet-setting. Life is great!"

Galbraith, Jo-Anne graduated from the Polytechnic of the South West in Business Studies in 1989 with a 2ii. She is now training to be a Montesson Teacher and looking forward to further travel in Australia.

Garner-Richardson, Virginia (Crowe) (1970–77) qualified from Cambridge University in 1986 as a Veterinary Surgeon and married Ean (also a vet.) in 1987. They live and work together in Romsey. On the 24th December, 1988 their first son, Jonathan, was born, and Virginia writes that he is keeping them very busy!

Garnsky, Cheryl is studying French and Italian at Bristol University.

George, Amber is at Norland Nursery Training College at Hungerford.

Goodsell, Louise was apparently thinking of going to University to read languages, but had been working for Stoll Moss Theatres.

Graham, Miranda finished A levels this Summer and is going to Exeter University to do a BA (Ed.) in English and Drama.

Graham, Phillipa has just graduated from Cardiff University in Economics, and is now working for Friends Provident in Dorking as a Graduate Trainee (Management) in their Pensions Department. She would love to hear from anyone in her year (?) and her address is printed later in this newsletter. She really enjoyed our supper event in September and hopes that more of you will attend next year's.

Hall, Rosemary (Baker) has been appointed a School Governor and is hoping to make a useful contribution, being an Old Girl and a present parent. She has two daughters Catherine and Emily. Her father was organist at St. Mary's Church and is buried in St. Mark's where her parents were married. Her grandfather was vicar of St. Mark's and also a School Governor!

Hamid, Mawarni is a qualified doctor working in Southampton.

Harris, Susan has just qualified as a Certified Accountant with Legal and General. She plans to go to Washington to work with that firm's American Office. She and Ann Barr attended Juliet Morris' wedding.

Hitchcock, Jane is working at Harrods and seems to be enjoying life in London.

Holland, Anthea (Drake) (1967–70) has a beautiful baby daughter called Alice Mary who was born on the 12th June, '89 at University College Hospital.

Johnson, Tamsin is working at Bradwell Nuclear Power Station as a Nuclear Physicist. She has just returned from a holiday in Kashmir.

Johnston, Rachel Couper (Hewitt) is hoping to do part-time work as a beautician, after her own business selling country clothes and boots sadly failed. She is still examining students studying beauty therapy and living in a cottage on a farm in Rusper, West Sussex. Jupe, Gaynor is Sponsorship Manager for the Midland Bank.

Kasir, Nathalie is now working in London in the travel industry, and hopes to be travelling abroad with her job.

Launchbury, Janine is currently working as a Section Manager for Woolworths Plc. (which she loathes!) having graduated from St. Andrews with a 2:1 in Art History in 1988. She is leaving her present job in July, 1990 to start her own photographic business with her husband to be.

Laxton, Christina is now Dr. Laxton having graduated from Bristol University this Summer. She is working in the hospital down there at the moment.

Martin, Lisa works as a Marketing Research Executive for Nestles – lots of free chocolate! She regularly sees Caroline Simmons, Anne Barr and Susan Harris. She went to Jordan with Susan in November (89).

Meletiou, Angelica is at present living in Italy once again where she is running a restaurant.

Methven, Robina hears each Christmas from Ann Mather (Waterhouse) whose husband Group Capt. Mather has now retired from the RAF. Their last tour abroad was spent in Bangladesh. Ann found it an interesting tour and met many interesting people, but she was looking forward to returning to the U.K. early in 1989. She and Barry had lots of plans for his retirement. Robina keeps in touch with Margaret Martin (Robinson) and they had a delightful holiday together recently. She hears from Tessa Ellis and her sister Jane. Jane's son and daughter are now grown-up. She met Janet Jones earlier in the year ('89) who had to return to U.K. from Canada following her mother's illness.

Michaels, Shena (Freshley) is living in California with husband Al and daughter Ashley. Miller, Miss Audrey L. Miller whilst writing with news for this publication, says that she: "loved my three years at S.M.H. prior to retirement – the Staff were super and I agree with all that J. Draffan had to say about Mr. Liddell and Miss Griffiths." (in the 1989 Newsletter). Miss Miller was formerly a Housemistress of Elliott and taught German at S.M.H. She retired in 1977.

Morrison, Lucinda is currently working for Hamlyn Publishers, but wishes to get into arts administration. She has kept in touch with several of her year and has attended lots of weddings. She is godmother to Sarah Ashford's (Hunt) little boy Benjamin.

Morrison, Melanie, after leaving S.M.H. in 1984, did a year's Secretarial course in Cambridge and she started work with Hobsons Publishers. She now works for the London City Ballet Company earning promotion after only a year to Assistant to the Administrator. She helps organise tours, programmes, etc. She says that Mr. Liddell will be fascinated to hear that she is also responsible for organising the salary sheets!

Moussavi, Farshid (1979–83) is doing Architecture at Bartlett, University College, London and is doing 2nd year of Diploma (or 6th year).

Naish, Sarah is working for a Chartered Accountancy firm in Maidstone and is taking the professional exams at the moment.

Pearson-Gee, Melanie is still working for an Estate Agent in Hove and is buying her own house.

Pearson-Gee, Rebecca completes her course in July, 1989 at Agricultural College and hopes to have a degree in horticulture.

Orme, – Miss Orme sends greetings to Old girls who remember her as House Keeper. She and Miss Brown-Douglas, another former member of Staff, now live in Shoreham.

Parkin, Hilary has obtained an HND in business studies and hopes to work for Marks and Spencers' financial department.

Philo, Rowena is nursing at St. Thomas' but is going to Canada in January for a year.

Pile, Liz is studying accountacy in London.

Pile, Alison is studying medicine at Charing Cross Hospital.

Rogerson, Annabel has been working at the Business Design Centre in Islington. She tried to arrange a grand reunion last year, but was apparently unsuccessful. (Why don't you all come to a Spring lunch or September supper?)

Royse, Heloise has been teaching R.I. in Birmingham and will by studying music at Sheffield University.

Sayer, Joanna was in Lincoln for 1988–89 and passed M.R.C.P. pt. 1 in July. Rotation post will take her next to Nottingham.

Searle, Caroline finished her year at Law School in Guildford this Summer and is now working in London.

Simmons, Jane is working for Goldman Sachs on their Risk Arbitrage desk.

Simmons, Caroline is working as a Project Manager for a legal software house in their South East Office.

Slater, Jo is at Queen Mary's University College Hospital, Roehampton RGN training. **Smith**, Angela is doing a Foundation course in Art and Design at Eastbourne College of Arts and Technology.

Sougliobt (?), Christina is going to St. Andrews University to read Biology.

Spofforth, Hilary (Mervin) is now married and is a teacher in Haywards Heath.

Swan, Deborah (Nevitt) lives with her husband in Australia.

Temple, Charlotte graduated from Birmingham Polytechnic in 1988. She is now working in London.

Thompson, Helen (Boswell) at the age of 78 and following the death of her dear husband Bill, is attending lectures on the French Revolution, has joined a painting class, and works with the Parish Working Party to raise money to keep the 500 plus year old Long Melford Church in good repair, she also belongs to a small group who make patchwork quilts and raffle them off for good causes! Although unable to attend the 150th Anniversary celebrations. She remembers the 100th Anniversary in 1935. She keeps in touch by letter with Bettina Conolly (Gill) whose daughter, Janet is her Godchild and they both live in South Africa. Helen understands that both Muriel and Joyce Goodchild are doctors—one looking after the young and one looking after the old.

Tonks, Ingrid has been awarded B.A. Hons. (2:2) in Fine Arts.

Venables, Louise has been spotted at the ballet twice in the last two years, but was unable to pass on her news. We hope she may wish to do so for next year's newsletter.

Waller, Shane is now at St. Thomas's Hospital as a third year student. At the time of the September supper event she was just about to start nine weeks on Casualty. She continues to enjoy life although it is tough going at the moment.

Weatherley, Nicola is currently doing Articles for a firm of Solicitors in Crawley.

West, Candida is living in London, and has completed her A.E.S. drama course, and is awaiting an opening into the acting world.

White, Katherine has unfortunately not been enjoying the best of health, but we hope she is now on the up and up.

Williams, Janet is working full time for the Birmingham City Mission, as a City Missionary in an area called Nechells. She writes that it is a typically needy inner-city housing estate with high-rise blocks, etc., but she is enjoying the work and says that it is good to see God at work in the lives of some of those with whom she has contact. She would love to hear from her S.M.H. friends who left '75/'77 – address is listed later.

Wills, Emma is now training at St. Bartholomews Hospital and living in London. She recently went with the Barts Choir to Turkey.

Wong, Mei Teck (1979–84) is doing Architecture at Bartlett, University College, London. She is in her 5th year now and working in a firm in south Kensington.

Wong, Mei Sing (1978–83) is working as a trainee accountant with Touche Ross & Co. in London and was sitting her final exams in July 1989.

Wood, Ruth was living in London with Melanie Morrison before travelling to South Africa with her Father. She is now back in England and it would be lovely to hear what she is doing now. Her Sister Clare stayed with Melanie and Ruth between world-wide tennis tours.

Woodhead, Jane was due to get married in March, 1989.

Woodhead, Clare is still working for Japan Airlines.

Woodhead, Linda is living in Australia.

Woodhead, Tansi now married had a daughter Lamorna in May, 1988.

Wooderson, Philippa (left S.M.H. 1983) went to Alleyns in Dulwich and then Ardingly College for her A levels which she took in the Summer of 1988. She is going to be doing a language/secretarial course at a Polytechnic but is, at the moment, in Nice as an au pair for six months.

Wooderson, Ruth (1976–83) worked in Israel for six months after leaving S.M.H. Trained at King's College Hospital and qualified as a RGN in March 1987. She then worked as a Staff Nurse for 18 months. In September 1988 she started the paediatric course at Guys Hospital and her finals were in October, 1989.

Ya'akub, Roselina (Dr.) was married to Abbas Pg. Salleh on 8th January, 1989 in Brunei.

ALTERATIONS TO NAMES AND ADDRESSES AND NEW MEMBERS JANUARY-DECEMBER 1989

- * Alam, S. 120 Fairfax Road, London N8 ONL.
- * Allan, B. 4 Shirley Road, Hove, East Sussex.
- * Anderson, E., 2 The Green, East Dean, Nr. Eastbourne, Sussex. BN20 0DA.
- * Anres, G. 'Mayview', 135 Woodland Avenue, Hove, East Sussex.
- ** Avadalla, L. 2249 Avenue Giround, Montreal, Quebec H4A 3LA, Canada.
- * Barakat, H. 39 Roedean Road, Brighton, East Sussex.
- * Brownless, C. 10 Cample Avenue, Kings Caple, Hereford, HR1 4UL.
- * Buckley, G. 57 Welbeck Avenue, Hove, East Sussex.
- * Butler, A. Reymar, Gravelye Lane, Lindfield, West Sussex, RH16 2SJ.
- ** Campbell, T. Zwedenbury 63, 2591 BB Den Haag, The Netherlands.
- ** Cardwell, C. Chestnut House, Sandy Lane, Cobham, KT11 2EL.
- * Chandler, D. St. Stephen's Rectory, St. Stephen's Green, Canterbury Kent. CT2 7JU.
- * Cook, M. Holcott Farm, Vines Cross, Nr. Heathfield, E. Sussex. TN21 9EX.
- * d'Montigny, A. 2 Courcels, Arundel Street, Brighton, East Sussex.
- * Davey, F. Olive Cottage, West Street, North Creake, Fakenham, Norfolk.
- * Davidson, C. Little Meadow, 15 Lewes Road, Haywards Heath, Sussex, RH17 7SP.
- * Davy, A. 16 Graham Avenue, Patcham, Brighton, East Sussex, BN1 8HA.
- * Eleini, A. 36 Hill Brow, Hove, East Sussex. BN3 6QH.
- * Elliott, J. 26 The Warren, Royston, Herts.
- * French, M. The Garden House, Beacon Road, Ditchling, Sussex.
- * French, J. 38 Meadway Court, Kingston Lane, Soutwick, Sussex.
- ** Geary, K. 19 Charlwood Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, BH15 0RJ.
- ** George, S. 1 Roedean Heights, Roedean, East Sussex, BN2 5SA.
- * Graham, P. 166 Western Road, Hurstpierpoint, West Sussex, BN6 7TE.
- * Hart, A. The Hacienda, Hamsey Road, Saltdean, East Sussex.
- * Hill, T. Wunmoor, Mushroom Field, Kingston, Nr. Lewes, East Sussex.
- * Kassim, K. Brunei Darussalam Embassy, 26 Gazira Elarab Street, Mokendesin, Dokki, Cairo, Egypt.
- * Lewis, K. J. 191 Thordean Road, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 4HF.
- * Little, K. c/o 38 Limes Avenue, Horley, Surrey.
- * Manktelow, K. 1 The Close, Winchester, SO23 9LS. (85-89).
- * Merk, N. 52 Longhill Road, Ovingdean, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 7BE.
- ** Moojen, F. (Mrs. Bearn) 34 Fitzjohns Road, Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 1PS.
- * Nicholls, E. Spring Tide, 5 Dyke Close, Dyke Road Avenue, Hove, East Sussex. BN3 6DB.
- * Padfield, R. Friars School, Great Chart, Ashford, Kent. TN23 3DJ.
- * Philo, C. 71 Meadow Lane, Lindfield, Haywards Heath, Sussex.
- * Procter, N. 3 Arundel Street, Kemp Town Brighton, East sussex, BN2 5TG.
- * Read, J. Hampton Cottage, High Street, Rottingdean, Brighton, BN2 7HE.
- * Reader, V. Old Brick House, 1 Orpen Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 6NJ.
- * Riches, C. 50 Broomfield Road, Henfield, West Sussex.
- * Rimmer, L. Tudor Lodge, 18 Shirley Drive, Hove, East Sussex.

* Sheppard, N. - 18 Onslow Road, Hove, East Sussex.

* Smith, H. - 7 Manor Road, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 4NL.

* Smith, A.M. - Longcroft, 7 Manor Road, Seaford, East Sussex. BN25 4NL.

* Sturdy, M. - Broyle Gate Farm, Lewes Road, Ringmer, East Sussex.

** Tearle, S. (Mrs. Golding) 50 Evelyn Avenue, Newhaven, East Sussex, BN9 9SG.

* Urwin, C. - Lark Cottage, 26 High Street, Redbourne, Herts. AL3 7LL.

* Watts, S. - 136 Woodland Drive, Hove, East Sussex.

** Williams, J.P. - 99 Rupert Street, Nechells, Birmingham, W. Midlands B7 5DS.

* Wills, E. - St. Georges Vicarage, St. Georges Road, Truro, Cornwall.

* Wong, N. - 2110 Metropole Building, 430 King's Road, North Point, Hong Kong.

- * Woodthorpe, C. Toad Hall, 89 Buckingham Road, Shoreham-by-Sean, W. Sussex. BN4 5UD.
- * New Life Members.

** New addresses.

DEATHS

CHRISTIAN. On January 19th 1989 peacefully, Nonie, in her 89th year. Beloved wife of Charles and mother of Hazel and Jill, grandmother and great-grandmother.

JOHNSTON. Phyllis - died in a nursing home on November, 12th 1988 at the age of 94.

FULLER. Eleanor (Lechmere Booth) died on the 16th November, 1989 at the age of 74.

BAIN. Mary (S.M.H. 1928–32) died suddenly on the 14th November, 1989 in Sydney, Australia. Much loved cousin of Katherine Ross-Thomson (Seth) and Helen (Seth). Mary will be sadly missed by Katherine and Helen who were brought up with her and always remained very close. Mary attended the 150th Anniversary three years ago.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

To be paid to the Hon. Treasurer, (Mrs. F. Bearn), S.M.H.A., 34 Fitzjohns Avenue, Lewes, East Sussex. BN7 1PS.

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 September 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 years.

NEWSLETTER

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

ADDRESS LISTS

Complete address lists can be obtained from the School – cost £1. We are continually trying to keep this list updated, so when writing to the Hon. Secretary, the Hon, Editor or the School please include details of the years you were at S.M.H.