



MOREANA

THE ST. THOMAS MORE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

IT'S TIME FOR A CHANGE!!

After three years of dedicated service our esteemed President, Paul Hutchinson, has decided that it is time to stand down from his exalted position and hand over the reins to someone else.

With nine years as an association under our belt we could, of course, have had 9 different Presidents, since the constitution provides for an election every year.

Fortunately all three incumbents over the years have felt a sense of dedication that has led each of them to serve three terms.

However, now is the time for a change....of leader...of direction perhaps...of style...of **WHATEVER THE NEW PRESIDENT DECIDES!!!**

The whole point of our constitution putting so much authority into the hands of the President is to allow him to drive the Association in the direction that he particularly favours, thereby avoiding the fate that awaits so many associations - death by repetition!



Not for us the need for a President to blindly follow what has gone before "because it's what we always do". This way leads only to the slow strangulation of an association and its aims.

No, our President is free to introduce aspects to the Association and its activities that he particularly wishes to champion.

Now it's the turn of someone new. But who? **WILL IT BE YOU???**

The position only requires you to hold one meeting a month at your own house

(or elsewhere if you prefer) and to delegate the organising of anything to the members of your Executive.

Certain events (i.e. the Memorial Mass and Old Boys' Dinner) almost organise themselves, but everything else is a clear playing field for you to play on!

Age is not an issue and it may well be that having had Presidents who left the school in the 1970's and 1960's that it is now time for the fresher minds of the 1980's and 1990's to take over.

So please do give it some serious thought and put your name forward for election at this year's AGM in May.

Next year the Association celebrates its 10th anniversary, a cause surely for additional celebration. But without a president it may not get that far!!

Don't leave it to someone else, and don't be bashful - step up to the plate and be the fourth President!

CULINARY MAGIC

On October 28th last year (seems like ages ago now) more than 30 members of this esteemed Association gathered in the school dining hall for the 9th Old Boys Dinner.



Once again there was the usual mix of regular stalwarts and first timers, peppered by those transient souls who pop in and out on occasion. At least three former Head Boys were present and the ages ranged from those who left in the early 60's through to those who were still there in the 90's.



As usual a thoroughly good time was had by all and we all tucked in with great gusto to the 5-course meal prepared, as is traditional, by the school caterers. The beer and wine flowed freely and, once again, we all enjoyed a number of rounds of intercourse bingo (if you don't understand what that is make a point of being there this year!)



Frank Keenan took the opportunity to thank the Association for his leaving presents. As he pointed out he was away last year and hadn't been at a suitable Old Boys' function since retiring at which he could previously express his gratitude.

This year's speaker was Paul Clancy (1967) who, since retiring from Her Majesty's Constabulary, has devoted much of his time to his hobby of magic.

Not only did he explain the rigours of Magic Circle initiation but he also accompanied his talk with a variety of tricks which left most of us dumbfounded and trying desperately to work out how it was done.

All in all a very enjoyable night and we look forward with great enthusiasm to this year's 10th anniversary occasion. More details of which will follow in a future edition of *Moreana*.



Our very own Da Vinci code painting!!

BLAST FROM THE PAST

Continuing our series of extracts taken from the original school logbooks, we rejoin the entries in September 1978...

From then on the entries become little more than a record of staff arrivals and departures with the occasional major event receiving a mention.

5th September 1978 saw the start of the next school year and the new staff joining were Mrs Smith (Remedial & Art), Mr Dugan (RE & History), Mr Neilson (Science) and Mr Gwilliam (Geography & Social Studies).

The following school year began on 6th September 1979 with Mrs Ballard (Remedial), Mr Galvin (Social Studies), Mr Rawcliffe (Social Studies) and Mrs Parmenter (Maths & Science) beginning their time at the school.

Times were beginning to change and the school seemed to be broadening its horizons as far as trips were concerned. On 8th December a number of 4th Year pupils (Year 10 in new money) departed for a two week cruise of the Mediterranean on the SS Uganda (2 years later to become a hospital ship in the Falklands conflict) and on 12th April the first school ski trip took place.

Being the school's twentieth anniversary, 1980 saw a number of special events including the first Old Boys' Mass

and an Old Boys' play (*The Front Page*) directed by David Milne and Tom Kennedy.

At the end of the school year Mr Dugan and Mr Edwards left.

The new school year began on September 6th with four new members of staff: Mr Edmunds (Craft, Design & Technology), Mr O'Keefe (Head of the Remedial [for the benefit of younger members, now called Special Needs - Ed] Department), Mr Brindle-Selle (Geography & Social Studies) and Mrs Gurney (General Studies).

Unusually for STM the Prizegiving ceremony seems to have been held on 10th October (presumably for the previous school year) and the presentations were made by Dr Anthony McDermott - an Old Boy!

Later that school-year the school's equilibrium was rocked by the resignation on 2nd March of Don McGregor as Headmaster after 17 years at the helm. He left at the end of that term on 10th April, and at the same time Mr Thompson (Maths) retired.

Things moved fast in those days and Tony McDonald was appointed replacement Headmaster on only 28th April. He was officially inducted as Headmaster on 23rd July.

The end of that particularly bumpy school

year was also soured by the death on 25th June of Mr Charles (Maths).

The new school year, under a new Headmaster, began on 8th September 1981 with a raft of new staff - Mr McDonald (Headmaster), Mr Lebeau (Craft, Design & Technology), Mr HoChee (Maths), Mr Vickers (Maths), Mr Peck (R.E.), Mrs Sekonofsky (part-time), and Mrs Girling.

The new Headmaster introduced the regular weekly newsletter called *Contact* on 11th September (and it is still produced to this day!).

The end of that Christmas term saw the departure of the recently arrived Mr Lebeau and Mrs Sekonofsky.

The new HM must have wondered what he had taken on when on 1st April 1982 the school had to be closed due to toxic fumes emanating from some new cavity wall insulation - The now infamous Urea Formaldehyde episode!

The problem became so severe that the entire school were forced to de-camp to the newly vacated Southchurch Hall High School building for the whole of the next school year!

Don't miss the concluding instalment in a future edition of Moreana!

THERE'S LIFE HERE - BUT NOT AS WE KNOW IT!

There comes a time in every relationship, dear reader, when honesty is the best policy!

Now is such a time!

You may have noticed that there has been a little more than 3 months since the last edition of this esteemed publication - 2 whole months to be precise.

I can picture it now, members up and down the country, nay across the globe, rushing down the stairs every morning since early January, only to be disappointed by the usual collection of sundry bills and direct mail rubbish. Not a *Moreana* in sight!

The reason for this apparent inefficiency is not only down to slothfulness on the part of the production staff but, to be brutally honest, more to do with a lack of articles.

The barrel has run dry! The pot is empty! We're clean out of ideas and no-one is sending us anything. There's only so many stories that we can dream up and write and I'm afraid that we're fresh out of ideas.

The original concept of *Moreana* was for it to be a vehicle to publish articles written by members of this Association. The production of which would

simply involve a little editing and formatting.

However, it quickly became apparent that this was not going to be the case. We came to realise, of course, that we were dealing with products of English lessons at STM afterall!

So we resorted to writing the majority of it ourselves and gratefully including those few articles that have been graciously submitted by a small minority of members. We have even tried to help you all out by suggesting ideas for submissions, but do you respond? I'll leave you to work that out!

The point is, that we are a pretty diverse bunch as members - we live in different parts of the country (and the world), we do different jobs, we have different interests, we had different experiences while at STM and certainly since leaving the place. So why don't you all take a few minutes to think of something (anything) that you could write about and put fingers to keyboard?

You don't even have to write the article. Just send in ideas for one and we'll happily do the rest.

If you don't then, I'm sorry to say, *Moreana* may go the way of the Dodo!

I do most sincerely hope that it won't, but it is up to you. Go on, make an editor happy - write!!

**MEMBERSHIP as at
1st MARCH 2007**

1961	Graham Lewis	1968	Glen Sweeney Mike Thompson	1975	Paul McArdle Victor Peretti	1985	Tim Allard
1962	Michael Hughes John Lewis	1969	Geoffrey Lewis Martin Duggan	1976	Eamon Day David Ekers Keith Exley Christopher Fairchild Guy Franke' John MacDermott Andrew McGregor Kevin O'Hanlon Andy (Guy) Thomas Gerry Thomas	1986	Paul Cotgrove Alan Martin
1963	John Bowman Frank Daley Tony Howlett John Sheehy	1971	Peter David Paul Marsh Chris McHale Bernie Brooker Mike Donovan Kevin Flynn Brendan J Foy Nigel Hurley Robert Murphy Charlie Sheppard	1977	Trevor Barr Laurence Blainey John Chambers Tony Harmon Clive Knight Andrew McWilliam Simon Ravinet Martin Sullivan John Todryk Jim Tyrie	1987	Martin Corr Martin Diggins Christopher Hall Steven Hurren
1964	John Griffiths Ron Patchett	1972	Paul Culleton Tony Imossi David Thompson	1978	John Cobbold Richard Copley Martin Hodson John Judge	1989	Paul Baynes Damian Dillon Justin Hennessey Paul Lynch Brian Martin
1965	Terry Knights Brian Dalton	1973	Martin Carroll Michael Glen Phil Mahoney Simon Millyard	1979	Richard Clegg Kevin Thomas	1990	Christopher Hull Stuart Saggars
1966	Martyn Barker Patrick Clancy Bill Clegg Paul Hutchinson Gareth Lewis Paul Wenham	1974	Ray Allum Nick Cousins	1980	Paul Glynn Sean Leggett Martin McKeown Nial O'Callaghan	1991	Graham Diggins
1967	Tony Cane Paul Clancy			1981	Richard Baker Sean Conlon	1995	Paul Bending Douglas Walter
				1982	Sean Corr Mark Harvey Michael Mullally	1997	Elliot Clark
				1983	Richard Allard Anthony Crowley	2000	Daniel Kelly
				1984	Michael Barry Stuart Humphrey	2001	Chris Thompson
						2003	Chris Barker Andrew Cooper Sean Perrotton James Smith Alison Walker
						2004	Liam Dean Michael Gilham Thomas Grant James O'Sullivan Blane Perrotton
						H/M	Peter Travis Chaplain Rev. Kevin Hale
						FT	John Askew Ian Britt D Fanning David Finnigan Richard Jarman Frank Keenan Elsie Kemp Tom Kennedy John O'Connell Rev. David Peck Tom Mayhew



For up to date results and the latest league tables

Visit Our Website

www.catholicutd.co.uk

Catholic United F.C. would like to invite all Old Boys
and their families to our clubhouse at

WESTCLIFF CRICKET CLUB

CHALKWELL PARK

OPEN Throughout the football season

Saturday 4pm till 7pm
Sunday 12pm till 2pm
Tuesday 8pm till 11pm

Training Details:

St Thomas More School Sports Hall
Eastwood High School Astro turf Pitch
Everybody Welcome

Tuesdays 7pm till 8pm
Thursdays 9pm till 10pm

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