



MOREANA

THE ST. THOMAS MORE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

TIME TO DINE

The annual culinary fest that is the Old Boys' Dinner is now looming ever nearer on the social calendar!

Saturday 27th October is the date that should be indelibly etched into our minds, with a start time of 7.30pm for 8.00pm.

The venue will, once again, be the school dining hall (which for those of you who haven't been to the school for the past 30 years or so, bears little resemblance to any stark, Dickensian workhouse images that may be festering at the back of your memory).

This year's menu will seem familiar to connoisseurs of recent Old Boys' Dinners and, once again, features the ever-popular Roast Beef. The full menu will be:-

Egg Mayonnaise

Spring Vegetable Soup

Roast Beef & Yorkshire Pudding with Horseradish Sauce



Roast Potatoes
Roast Parsnips

Selection of Vegetables

Apple Pie with Vanilla Ice Cream

Cheese & Biscuits

Coffee & After Dinner Chocolates

That's a five-course banquet for the paltry sum of just **£19.00**

Once again we shall enjoy intercourse bingo. Previous winners have pocketed sums of between £25 & £30 per round (better than Mecca!).

The speaker this year will be the eminent historian, pianist, and theatrical impresario David Milne.

As usual the dinner is

open to all members of the Association and the dress code is jackets & ties - a fine opportunity to model that fashion statement that is the Old Boys' Association tie!

Simply send a cheque made payable to *St Thomas More Old Boys' Association* to the address at the bottom of this page to secure your place.

HATCHES, MATCHES & DESPATCHES

It is with sadness that we report the death of former English teacher Elsie Kemp who died on St. Thomas More day.

Elsie taught at the school from 1970 until the mid-1980's and was a keen member of this Association, frequently attending events until ill-health made it impractical.

May she Rest in Peace.

TEN YEARS ON

What to do to celebrate the tenth anniversary of this esteemed Association?

Perhaps you, gentle reader, might have an idea or a preferred type of event that you might like to suggest.

Should it be a dinner or ball that we let our partners attend?

Or perhaps a barbecue next summer or barn dance in the spring?

Or a coach trip to Boulogne or visit to the races?

Or.....

Please do let us know before we find ourselves celebrating our 20th anniversary.

Simply send your suggestions to the address below and we'll do what we can to put something together.

Details of what you suggest will appear in future editions.

PAST HEADASTERS EXPOSED!

Friday 22nd June this year saw one of the smallest gathering of Old Boys' ever present for the annual Memorial Mass and Social at the school.

Sadly the numbers present didn't even fill the school chapel (to which the Mass had been moved at the last minute, from our usual venue of the Concourse Area).

However, spirits remained undaunted as our Chaplain, Father Kevin Hale, presided over the liturgy, with Peter Travis reading the Execution Account of St. Thomas More and David Milne on the piano once more accompanying rousing renditions of the school hymn and *For All the Saints*.

As usual the list of deceased Old Boys had increased and was, perhaps, made all the more poignant by the announcement of the death that same day of Elsie Kemp.

After the Mass had ended we all repaired to the School Hall for the traditionally lavish buffet (and it certainly didn't disappoint).

However the formalities this year didn't end immediately since our President, Paul Hutchinson, was able to officially unveil portraits of all five previous headmasters commissioned by the Old Boys' Association.

They are permanently



displayed on the wall in the School Hall and, judging from everyone's comments, bear good likenesses to their subjects.

Frank Keenan, the most recently retired of course, was present as was Helen Wigmore, the companion of the late Don McGregor, who was escorted by Don's son Andrew.

Helen and Don's family had also decided that they wanted to make a permanent memorial to his time as Headmaster (the longest serving so far) and the school were delighted to receive an engraved bench for the Headmaster's Garden.



In presenting the bench Helen made much of Don's fondness for the school and the happy memories that he had of his time at the helm.



The evening continued with the usual eating, drinking and socialising.

LOOKING FOR FRESH BLOOD

Your hard-working Executive are in the process of rolling out some fresh campaigns to attract new members.

In early October the school will be mailing all pupils who left between 5 and 10 years ago with our reminder about the Association and inviting them to become members.

Throughout the autumn the Executive will also be working with the school to design a brand new website.

It is planned for this site to contain details of the Association, it's aims and objectives, and members of the Executive.

Perhaps more importantly, it will also contain details of future events which will incorporate a "signed-up" facility so that others can see who will be attending an event which may prompt them to attend themselves.

It will also, amongst other things, include a password-protected section for members.

Business cards simply directing people to the website will be issued to members for distribution as and when we meet other former pupils.

Watch this space!

TWO STALWARTS DEPART

If they had committed murder both David Milne and Clifford Seagrave would have been released from the school many years ago, but with 34 and 35 years service each respectively it must have felt, at times, that they were serving repeat sentences!

However, parole was finally granted in July when these two longest serving members of staff both retired (early, it must be said).

Both had joined the school when it was a small two-form entry establishment with about 300 pupils and no more than a couple of dozen staff.

Computers were the thing of science fiction (and still are in the case of David Milne), with blackboards and Beethoven being the mainstays of their respective departments.

When Clifford started the Concourse Area extension was still to be completed and it opened the following year, when David began his service. At the time the Music department moved into what must have seemed palatial



surroundings at the northern end of the "new block", yet only a few years ago, some 30 or more years later, they moved again into state-of-the-art facilities in the latest extension.

David Milne's History department also moved from its original position in the top floor corner of the Concourse Area to the rooms below previously occupied by the RE department. At the time one wag on the staff commented that the RE department was going to heaven and the history department to hell [*was this a comment on the state of teaching?* - Ed].

Both of these highly respected members of staff brought to the school more than simply the knowledge of their respective subjects. Clifford, through his championing of the

school choir and music tuition, created a tradition of top quality musicianship across a wide range of instruments and, indeed, a number of Old Boys have gone on to become regular performers with international orchestras.

School concerts became a regular feature of the calendar and were enjoyed over many years by staff, pupils, parents and visitors.

Clifford was always keen to ensure high standards of singing and it could certainly not have been easy to coach, cajole and sometimes force hundreds of adolescent boys to sing hymns with enthusiasm. Yet the volume reached on St. Thomas Day during the singing of the school hymn and *For All The Saints* was often staggering!

David Milne also achieved dizzy heights with his own excursions into the arts.

In his 34 years at the school he produced over 30 school plays covering all manner of genres.

He experimented with productions in the round, involved musical accompaniment on occasion and introduced girls to the cast! His last night speeches were legendary (as were his various attempts to feign reticence to appear on the stage) and some of his stars have even gone on to perform professionally.

So it is with sadness and gratitude that the school said farewell to these two much admired members of staff who will both be hard to replace.

However, all is not lost in as much as Clifford is actually being superseded by the "newer model" as his son (and former pupil) Matt, takes over as Music Teacher. Clifford himself is also continuing on a part-time basis.

We wish both him and David a long and happy retirement.

**MEMBERSHIP as at
31ST AUGUST 2007**

1961	Graham Lewis	1968	Mike Thompson Geoffrey Lewis Martin Duggan	1975	Paul McArdle Victor Peretti Eamon Day David Ekers Keith Exley Christopher Fairchild John MacDermott Andrew McGregor Kevin O'Hanlon Andy (Guy) Thomas Gerry Thomas	1985	Tim Allard
1962	Michael Hughes John Lewis	1969	Peter David Paul Marsh Chris McHale			1986	Paul Cotgrove Alan Martin
1963	John Bowman Frank Daley Tony Howlett John Sheehy	1971	Bernie Brooker Mike Donovan Kevin Flynn Brendan J Foy Nigel Hurley Robert Murphy Charlie Sheppard	1976	Trevor Barr Laurence Blainey John Chambers Guy Francké 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			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	1977	John Cobbold Richard Copley Martin Hodson John Judge	1990	Christopher Hull Stuart Saggars
1966	Martyn Barker Patrick Clancy Bill Clegg Paul Hutchinson Gareth Lewis Paul Wenham	1974	Ray Allum Nick Cousins			1991	Graham Diggins
1967	Tony Cane Paul Clancy Glen Sweeney					1995	Paul Bending Douglas Walter
						1997	Elliot Clark
						2000	Daniel Kelly
						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 Tom Kennedy David Milne John O'Connell Rev. David Peck Tom Mayhew
						1981	Richard Baker Sean Conlon
						1982	Sean Corr Mark Harvey Michael Mullally
						1983	Richard Allard Anthony Crowley
						1984	Michael Barry Stuart Humphrey



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 Astroturf Pitch
Everybody Welcome

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

We would also like to personally thank our sponsors

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