



MOREANA

THE ST. THOMAS MORE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

DINNER TIME (AGAIN)

Once again it's time to dust of those Old Boy's ties, drink plenty of milk to line the stomach and diet for three weeks as we all prepare for the Annual Old Boys' Dinner.

This year the date (for those of you who didn't do your homework and put in your diaries earlier in the year) is **SATURDAY 23rd OCTOBER** at 7.30pm for 8.00pm and, as is traditional, the venue will be the school Dining Hall. Rumours abound that this

year's speaker will be none other than our very own recently retired Membership Secretary Damian Dillon.

Damian who wisely decided to holiday in the UK this year (presumably since the weather had been so wonderful) chose to summer in Boscastle and was there to witness first hand the destructive power of nature during the torrential floods.

The menu this year will consist of:-

**Seafood Cocktail In A
Pastry Basket With
Rocket & Lemon
Asparagus Soup With**



**Roll And Butter

**Roast Beef &
Yorkshire Pudding
Roast Potatoes
Roast Parsnips
Fresh Brussel Sprouts
Fresh Carrots

**Apple Crumble With
Vanilla Ice Cream
Cheese Board & Biscuits
Coffee & After Dinner
Chocolates**

All for a mere £16.50.

Please send cheques payable to *St. Thomas More Old Boys' Association* to the address below as soon as possible in order that numbers may be accurately forecast.

Dress code for the evening is jacket and tie (preferably Old Boys' tie).

THOUGHTS OF A HOME BREWER

Members may recall the plaintive appeal from a hard-pressed editor in the last edition of this esteemed publication for contributions from the membership (that's you!). I'm delighted to report that one kind soul took pity on the plight of this topic-starved wordsmith and we are grateful to Eamon Day (1975) for this interesting article on Home Brewing ...

Having been a keen *Moreana* reader since its first issue, I can't help noticing that "alcohol" and

related terms get the occasional fond mention. Indeed we would be lost without our local hostelrys and offies. But what if we want something more, something different, what if we crave a heady wine of exotic fruits or an ale that uplifts the soul with aromatic spices, can we only suffer unsated and bereft? Not at all, for we can easily make all our own libations (and drink them) in the comfort of our homes - not only is it a fascinating hobby, but you can amass a varied

collection of exciting and wonderfully flavoured brews (admittedly a few strange and questionably flavoured ones too - never more need you buy proprietary products for paint removal or garden pest control).

My interest in home-made booze goes way back, to when my mum would regularly round up several large buckets, bags, heavy sticks and me and take us all off to her favourite sites for a day's blackberrying. (I should explain the sticks were

for jungle-clearance purposes only, my cooperation in these escapades being entirely voluntary). She's still an enthusiastic winemaker, and has passed much knowledge on to me. Latterly I've developed an interest in making beer and sparkling wines - an ice-cold sparkling apple or strawberry wine is perfect for a balmy summer evening. Most fruits are suitable

Continued on page 3

MEMORIAL MASS MEMORIES

It seems like ages ago now, but the traditional Old Boys' Memorial Mass once again took place on 22nd June in the school.

This was the 24th such occasion (they used to be called the Reunion Mass before this esteemed Association provided more frequent occasions for "reunions") and once again the main focal point was the reading of the list of deceased Old Boys.

is to pray for those who aren't!

It would appear that quite a few members agree with this sentiment since this year saw one of the best turn-outs in recent times. Perhaps they had also come to witness the further evolution of this Association as the torch was passed for only the second time from an outgoing President to the new incumbent.

Gareth Lewis, who has served this Association so



After the Mass had finished the evening transformed into the familiar drinking and socialising around a superb buffet provided by the school caterers. Paul began the proceedings by exercising his constitutional right to make a speech outlining his vision for the Association under his stewardship. He explained that he intends to develop closer ties with the school itself and will be exploring various avenues

over the next few months with Frank Keenan.

Frank then conducted a guided tour of his latest educational pile demonstrating a refreshing grasp of matters technical as we inspected the workshops and classrooms within the new block that had been officially opened earlier that day by Lord Petre, Lord Lieutenant of Essex.

Speeches and formality now over the evening seemed to be enjoyed by everyone present with past pupils and their partners mixing with former teachers, catching up with old friends and eating and drinking until late into the night.



Paul Hutchinson is inaugurated as President

Nearly every year since this tradition commenced there are more names added to the ever growing list and, as we've mentioned on more than one occasion, no past pupil should yet have died of old age!

This year was no exception and it creates, perhaps, a sobering moment in our busy and hectic lives when you suddenly recognise a name amongst the list and can actually picture the deceased as he was in his teens wearing his school uniform. It seems the least that we, who are living out our lives, can do

well for the last three years, began his last Memorial Mass fulfilling his final official act by reading the Execution Account of St. Thomas More.

The Vicar General, Rt. Rev. David Manson, who presided at the Mass then gave an enlightening homily on the life of St. Thomas More before inaugurating Paul Hutchinson as our third President. Paul's first official duty was to immediately read the bidding prayers culminating in the list of deceased.

HOME BREWING *Continued from page 1*

for making wine, not just boring old grapes. I have little experience of using vegetables, apart from a little foray into potato wine some time ago - this turned out to be one of those wines that, er - need a little longer to mature.

Potatoes notwithstanding, you can make wines and beers of a quality as good as, and often superior to, commercial brands - but for me the most fascinating part is the range of types and flavours you can experiment with. Make wine from any fruit, make it robust or delicate, dry or sweet, low alcohol or knocking your socks off, still or sparkling, put a citrus tang in your beer, a hint of raspberry in your cider, any way you like it...

Some people are discouraged because you have to wait some time before drinking it - not necessarily so, beer is ready in a few weeks, some wine can be drunk soon after making. Some brews benefit from a long maturation - but even then it's a good idea to take regular "quality control" samples (just so you'll know when it's ready, of course).

I will be happy to answer questions or pass on a few tips for getting started to anyone who may enjoy taking up this pastime, and swap notes with other practitioners - if anyone wants to get in touch please email me at ednmr@yahoo.co.uk

If anyone else out there can bring their old English lessons to bear and put pen to paper it would be appreciated. - Ed!

OLD TEACHERS NEVER DIE...

You may often wonder what happened to old Mr XXXX my old Maths, etc teacher (*or perhaps you couldn't care less - Ed*).

What does happen to old teachers? Do they retire happily to some foreign clime returning to our shores occasionally just to carry out an OFSTED inspection or take up a lucrative public speaking engagement, or do they slide quietly into some Sunset Years Rest Home for the Terminally Confused? Or is it more likely that, in order to

make ends meet, they take up a part time job grateful for whatever work they can get?

This mystery has deepened with the publication of these two

photos recently obtained by this esteemed publication.

David Milne, it would appear, has decided to get things organised before it's too late and



has, we are led to believe, begun giving piano recitals under the catchy title of "*Lunchtime with Les*" to reflect his unique style. He's teamed up with former Deputy Headmaster John Askew who undertakes usher and crowd control duties.

We understand that Frank Keenan, who retires at the end of this school year, has applied for the position of roady!



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I have heard it remarked that one of the most moving events in the Old Boys' Association's calendar is the Memorial Mass held on our patronal feast day in the school, particularly the account of the execution of Sir Thomas More and the reading of the list of deceased old boys, members of staff and governors.

This year the tribute to our deceased friends and colleagues fell to me, minutes after I had been

installed as the third President of our Association by Mgr. David Manson. I can report that it is particularly poignant, the more so as the realisation slowly fell that some of those names are people I remember not just from my St. Thomas More days but also from my primary school days. It is right and fitting that we remember them every year.

However, the whole of St. Thomas More day, which the school celebrated as enthusiastically as ever, was this year one of great celebration and thanksgiving, particularly given the opening of the new school buildings. For this very old boy it was difficult to remember the new small school that I joined as a lad in 1961. The morning mass for the whole school was suitably dignified, and the hymn singing had, I think,

improved somewhat from my days. The boys v. the masters cricket match, which took place in the afternoon, showed the eagerness the boys demonstrated for defeating their masters as strong as ever, even if the result did not live up to their expectations.

The evening, after our Memorial Mass, we held a supper for all those attending - and a jolly good spread it was too!

During the supper I said that with the other members of the Executive I hoped to build on the pioneering work undertaken by our first two Presidents, Paul Driscoll and Gareth Lewis, although both would be difficult to follow. Optimistically, I feel sure we will continue to increase our membership, and our fundraising. I hope that we can continue to provide a diverse and

interesting range of events for all old boys to enjoy.

I would particularly like it if we could find a way to increase our involvement in the school's life, perhaps by aligning ourselves to a particular project. I will be speaking to the Headmaster about this early in the school year.

For the present, however, I am sure we are all delighted that the school has been granted Maths & Computing Specialist status from September 2004. Our association had previously agreed that if the bid for such status was successful, the Old Boys would provide £1,000 sponsorship to help the school in accessing additional capital funding. Our contribution was paid in August; a tangible example of working for the benefit of what is still our school.
PAUL HUTCHINSON

MEMBERS AS AT 4th October 2004

1961	Graham Lewis	1971	Bernie Brooker	Laurence Blainey	1988	Martin Corr
1962	Michael Hughes		Mike Donovan	John Chambers		Martin Diggines
	John Lewis		Kevin Flynn	Tony Harmon		Christopher Hall
1963	John Bowman		Brendan J Foy	Clive Knight		Steven Hurren
	Frank Daley	1972	Nigel Hurley	Andrew McWilliam	1989	Paul Baynes
	Tony Howlett		Robert Murphy	Simon Ravinet		Damian Dillon
	John Sheehy		Charlie Sheppard	Martin Sullivan		Justin Hennessey
1964	John Griffiths		Paul Culleton	John Todryk		Paul Lynch
	Ronald Patchett		Toni Imossi	Jim Tyrie	1990	Brian Martin
1965	Terry Knights	1973	David Thompspon	1977	Christopher Hull	
	Brian Dalton		Martin Carroll	Richard Copley		Stuart Saggars
1966	Martyn Barker		Michael Glen	Martin Hodson	1991	Graham Diggines
	Patrick Clancy		Phil Mahoney	John Judge	1995	Paul Bending
	Bill Clegg	1974	Simon Millyard	1978	Douglas Walter	
	Paul Hutchinson		Ray Allum	Richard Clegg	1997	Elliott Clark
	Gareth Lewis		Nick Cousins	Kevin Thomas	2000	Daniel Kelly
	Paul Wenham		Paul McArdle	1979	2001	Chris Thompson
1967	Tony Cane	1975	Victor Peretti		2003	Chris Barker
	Paul Clancy		Eamon Day			Andrew Cooper
	Glen Sweeney		David Ekers			Sean Perrotton
	Mike Thompson		Keith Exley			James Smith
1968	Geoffrey Lewis		Christopher Fairchild	1980		Alison Walker
	Martin Duggan		Guy Francké		2004	Liam Dean
1969	Peter David		John MacDermott		H/M	Frank Keenan
	Paul Marsh		Andrew McGregor		Chaplain	Rev Kevin Hale
	Chris McHale		Kevin O'Hanlon	1981	FT	John Askew
			Andy (Guy) Thomas			Ian Britt
			Gerry Thomas	1982		D Fanning
		1976	Trevor Barr			David Finnigan
						Richard Jarman
						Elsie Kemp
						Tom Kennedy
						John O'Connell
						Rev David Peck
						D.P McGregor
						Tom Mayhew



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BETTER, FASTER (CHEAPER???)

Would members who would like to receive a full quality pdf of future editions of *Moreana* please inform the Association via email using their own address with which they would like this service received. Members with broadband will receive a full size version (with improved picture quality).

HATCHES, MATCHES & DESPATCHES!

Once again it with sadness that we have to report the recent death of another two Old Boys.

Paul Wallaker (1995) died as a result of a tragic accident in June and Nicholas Busic (1990) died in September. May they Rest in Peace.