



MOREANA

THE ST. THOMAS MORE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

CHRISTMAS IS A COMING

I'll soon be with us! Not long to go before the annual rounds of present buying and extended lunching move into the fast lane. All across the country people are dusting off their shin pads and polishing up their knuckle dusters to brave the crowds at the shops. Turkeys are beginning to fear the sound of footsteps in the dead of night. And a rather large man in a red suit is checking that the

output of his elves is hitting target.

Meanwhile, back in the sane and orderly world of the *St. Thomas More Old Boys' Association* members are eagerly awaiting this year's Christmas Dinner, to be held in Thorpe Bay's Roslin Hotel at 7.30pm on Saturday 7th December.

The menu will consist of:-

Minestrone Soup
Prawn Cocktail
Quenelles of Chicken Liver Pate
Penne Pasta with Pepperoni,

Mozzerella & Onion

Traditional Roast Turkey
Pan Fried Sirloin Steak
Grilled Salmon Fillet
Mixed Woodland Mushroom
Stroganoff

All served with a selection of seasonal vegetables

Christmas Pudding with
Brandy Sauce
or
A Choice of Sweets from
the Trolley

Coffee and mints

All for the sum of just **£26.00** per person.

The evening is open to members and their partners, together with members of staff, and will include a disco.

Please make cheques payable to *St. Thomas More Old Boys' Association* and send them to the address below as soon as possible so that numbers may be given to the Roslin by 1st December.

5th DINNER ANOTHER SUCCESS

Over thirty members of the Association attended the 5th Old Boys' Dinner at the school on 19th October and enjoyed a four course meal with plenty of liquid to wash it down.

Our guest speaker this year was Old Boy Martin Carroll (1973) who entertained us with tales from his career to-date as an actor. Martin

took the opportunity to explain that it was through the quite different intervention of two teachers that he ended up in this dubious profession. Elsie Kemp put him forward for a production at The Palace Theatre which kindled an interest within him. However when the Cliffs Pavilion later requested extras for two productions David Finnigan forbade him to participate in the first one.



Speaker Martin Carroll (3rd from right) before his ordeal!

It transpired that the first of the two was a somewhat tedious play that Martin is convinced would have put him off acting altogether, whereas the second (the one he was actually in) was quite fun and confirmed his desire to tread the boards. He briefly mentioned some of the famous people that he has met or worked with including Michael Caine, who actually introduced himself by saying "Hello. My name is Michael Caine"!

Members present ranged

from those who left in the very early 1960's to those who left in the late 1980's. As always this was made up of about two-thirds regulars and one-third new faces. It was extremely rewarding for the organisers to see those new-faces, some of whom like **Jim McCarthy**, who has only just joined the Association, drove down from Warwickshire that night, and then drove back the same night. That's commitment for you.



Jim McCarthy (centre) relaxes before his drive

FROM A LAND DOWN UNDER!

*Charlie Sheppard (1971)
sent this article from his
home in Australia as a
result of viewing the Old
Boys' website...*

Should let you know a little about myself. First came out here in '79 for a holiday (had a 12-month work visa). Worked my way around a bit drifting from town to town, meeting people from all over the world, casual work etc etc. Very hard to explain just how big this country is but to help, consider 4 hours in a Jumbo jet will get you from the west to the east. The north is Tropical and the south has 4 seasons (but not as cold as what you guys get in the winter and not uncommon to hit 40 in the summer). Been a bloody great holiday and this is a great place to live. Married to an Aussie (from Melbourne), have two daughters aged 14 & 12 and yes, now hold an Aussie passport and the accent (so my parents told me 3 years ago).



I live in Melbourne and work for a large Australian company called Amcor. They have plants all over the world even in the U.K. I

hold the position of Purchasing and Coater Co-ordinator for the division I work at. This means I get to spend around 35 to 40 million of their money every year to buy materials etc at the best price I can get from all around the world, and I plan the best way for the factory to run. Great place to work for and its one of those jobs where it can become very demanding but you do get a lot of perks out of it - Grand Prix, Tennis, Cricket, Horse Racing etc - all at a corporate level (someone has to do it).

I was over in the UK in '99 on part of a 3 month around the world holiday (I had been "collecting" leave to the point where I was owed 4 months). Decided it was time to visit the "Mother Country". It took a year to plan as I wanted to take 3 months off from work (that was the hardest part as I needed someone to cover me), spent 2 week in Asia, 6 weeks in the U.K, and 3 weeks in Europe; Malta, Italy, Austria, France etc. The kids met their Grandparents for the first time, Uncles etc. Spent about a week in Southend (still have 2 brothers there) as I hadn't been back since '84. The place is still very much the same, as were the people. But was shocked at the amount of cars on the road and the price of petrol, meat, etc. But it was good to catch up with the family again. On the way home we went via L.A to take in the theme parks etc. caught up with an old school mate in Andy Green on our last day there. It was great to see him again and he had not

changed that much, just a little older like the rest of us. I plan to come over around this time next year as my parents are now that bit older and I need to keep in touch more. This time though, I will come over on my own as the kids are at an age now where it is too hard to pull them out of school for 3 months at a time.

I was shocked when I saw the list of some of the names of the guys that have passed away that were in the same year as me. Never thought about death and that.

Have had e-mails from Brendan Foy, Ian Clifford, Bernie Brooker and John Donovan, and I stay in touch with Andy Green.

The *Moreana* makes very good reading. Had a look at the St. Thomas More Old Boys Association web site, some very interesting stories in that edition which stirred up the old grey matter. Certainly found it strange to be reading memoirs of a master by Mr. Ian Britt, as he was my Science and Maths teacher back in those days. He was also our football and cricket coach through from years 1 to 4 (1966 to 1970 I think), but regret to remind him we only achieved limited success in football (strange how we could beat the same schools each year and, as well, lose to the other same schools every year!) I think we used to finish in the top half of the table but never made it to the top three. But I can remember we had a lot more success in the cricket season over the 4-year period and still recall how sweet the victories were over

Westcliff High (talking about cricket what has happened to your national team?).

As for the list of ex teachers, I still can recall Mr. John Askew, Mr. D Fanning (he was dept. head in my time) Mr. David Finnigan, Mr. Tom Mayhew and the then Headmaster of the school Mr.D. McGregor, and would like to add the comment all with fond, and good memories.

Please pass on my kindest regards to any ex-teachers and old boys that may remember me.

BREWERY TRIP



The next "educational" outing to the Greene King Brewery in Bury St Edmunds (courtesy of Simon Millyard) will be on **Friday 21st February 2003.**

This fact-finding mission will involve the arduous task of sampling various varieties of the company's product followed by a light meal.

Any members interested are asked to contact the Executive at the address on the front page by **31st January 2003.**

STM GOLF DAY

This was the Old Boy's 3rd Golf Day, held on Friday the 8th October 2002 at the Ballards Gore Golf Club in Canewdon, Essex. We had a field of twelve participants and everyone enjoyed themselves. To those not familiar this is one of the longest courses in Essex, so after 27 holes it was quite exhausting. We were extremely fortunate that Secretary of the club, Andy Hall is a former pupil of the school and he not only provided an excellent discount for the cost of the day but he ensured we



were well looked after. The cost including coffee and bacon rolls on arrival, 27 holes, a 3 course lunch and prizes was an incredible £22! The weather was absolutely glorious, so much so the prize giving extravaganza was conducted outside!

The winner of the individual Stableford competition, the 'STM Old Boys Challenge Shield' was Dave Kitchens playing off a 28 handicap (he won't be next time!) returning with 37 points. Ron Patchett picked up the Nearest to Pin prize on the intimidating 14th hole with an excellent effort only yards from the flag. The afternoon event was a friendly 9 hole Texas Scramble with three teams of four persons each. The victorious team were Simon Ravinet, Andy Hall, Steve Hurren & Ben Dawson and this only after a tense countback.



Dave Kitchens receives his trophy from Simon Ravinet

Special thanks to Steve Hurren for bringing his camera and Andy Hall who donated some of the prizes.

All in all it was a very successful day and everyone is looking forward to the next outing which is likely to be May 2003 and details will follow in due course.

If anyone would like to register their interest now, please contact SIMON RAVINET on 01702 478723.

THURSDAY DRINK ITINERARY

In an effort to avoid large gangs of members roaming the streets of Southend like so many thirsty wilderbeeste looking for the herd, the Executive have kindly provided the following schedule for the next three Thursday evening drinks (at 8pm) :-

9th January The Elms
13th February The Angel
13th March The Hogshead



This pic was found by former Membership Secretary Paul McArdle. "I t was behind the radiator by the front door!" he said. Now we all know you have to be 'plastered' to find stuff behind the radiator. What we want to know is, Who are they (apart from Mr Askew)? What year? And more importantly who is on the other side of the rope?!?

STEWARDS ENQUIRY (my name's not Steward!?)

An Executive Member who wishes to remain anonymous is concerned that 3 of the 4 Exec members have recently upgraded their motor vehicles (cars to most people) all at the same time.

Is this a money laundering organisation? - And will they come clean? (Jetmaster Cleaners need not reply).

This now evasive Exec member (supergrass) is in a safe house in hiding from the Don, has had to radically alter his identity in fear of retribution and is now employed as a air stewardess called Susan (see members list).



MEMBERS AS AT 26th NOVEMBER 2002

1961	Graham Lewis	1972	Charlie Sheppard Paul Culleton Toni I mossi David Thomspen	1979	Kevin Thomas Paul Clarke Paul Driscoll David Kitchens David O'Ryan John Suff Sean Tyrie		Brian Martin Thomas Wilbraham
1962	Michael Hughes John Lewis	1973	Martin Carroll Phil Mahoney Simon Millyard			1990	Christopher Hull Stuart Saggars
1963	John Bowman Frank Daley Tony Howlett John Sheehy Barry Wood	1974	Ray Allum Nick Cousins Paul McArdle Victor Peretti	1980	Paul Glynn Sean Leggett Martin McKeown Nial O'Callaghan	1991	Graham Diggines
1964	John Griffiths Ronald Patchett	1975	Eamon Day David Ekers Keith Exley Christopher Fairchild	1981	Richard Baker Sean Conlon John McBrearty Peter Seeva	1995	Douglas Walter
1965	Terry Knights Brian Dalton		Guy Francké John MacDermott Andrew McGregor Kevin O'Hanlon	1982	Sean Corr Mark Harvey Michael Mullally	1997	Elliot Clark
1966	Martyn Barker Patrick Clancy Bill Clegg Paul Hutchinson Gareth Lewis Paul Wenham	1976	Andy (Guy) Thomas Gerry Thomas Trevor Barr Laurence Blainey John Chambers Tony Harmon Clive Knight Jim McCarthy Andrew McWilliam Simon Ravinet Martin Sullivan John Todryk Jim Tyrie	1983	Richard Allard Anthony Crowley Mick Hawkins	2000	Daniel Kelly
1967	Tony Cane Paul Clancy Glen Sweeney Mike Thompson		John Cobbold Richard Copley Martin Hodson John Judge	1984	Michael Barry Paul Deakin Stuart Humfrey Chris Slough	2001	Chris Thompson
1968	Geoffrey Lewis Martin Duggan	1977	Richard Clegg	1985	Tim Allard	2002	Ihsan Azzu Tom Morlock
1969	Peter David Paul Marsh Chris McHale			1986	Paul Cotgrove Alan Martin		Headmaster Frank Keenan Chaplain Rev Andrew Headon
1971	Bernie Brooker Mike Donovan Kevin Flynn Brendan J Foy Nigel Hurley Robert Murphy			1987	Mark Dobson	FT	John Askew
				1988	Martin Corr Martin Diggines Christopher Hall Steven Hurren	FT	Ian Britt
				1989	Paul Baynes Damian Dillon Justin Hennessey Paul Lynch	FT	Pamela Deakin
						FT	D Fanning
						FT	David Finnigan
						FT	Richard Jarman
						FT	Elsie Kemp
						FT	Tom Kennedy
						FT	Rev David Peck
						FT	D.P McGregor
						FT	Tom Mayhew

SPONSORSHIP ??

Don't forget. You too could sponsor a future edition of *Moreana*!

Just contact the Executive at the address on the front page, send them £150 and you can have your name (or company's name) and message in lights!

WILL I KNOW ANYONE ??

Any members now feeling a little unsure about whether they'll know anyone at a forthcoming event (such as the Dinner) now need look no further than our very own website:

www.stmoldboys.co.uk

Our team are now avidly entering the names of those who have committed themselves (!?) so that we can all see in advance who'll be there!

Just have a look if you're in any doubt. But don't let the absence of a familiar name put you off.

Plenty of members from all years of leaving have made friends with others just by being there.

After all, we must all have something in common otherwise we wouldn't have joined the Association in the first place!

CAN YOU FILL IT ??

This tiny space is all that's left to fill in this edition of *Moreana*.

This is thanks to contributions from various members.

Can you think of something

ERRATUM

The article in the last edition of this esteemed publication referring to Glen Sweeney's recent achievement of a black belt in Kick Boxing gave the incorrect telephone number.

It should have been
01702 311760.

UNWELL

We have recently been informed that Old Boy Paul Clarke (1966) who is now the Head of Drama at St Bernards High School is seriously ill.

Sources report that he is in good spirits, but we're sure he'd welcome our prayers.

to write for future editions?

If so, please send it the address on the front page (either postal or e-mail).

If you need examples of contributions that other members have forwarded over the years, then look in

the yearly pages on the website, and you will see pieces varying from a few lines to whole stories.

All the articles on the website have been taken from previous *Moreana*'s.

Go on, send them in!