

CAIUS OLD BOYS AND GIRLS ASSOCIATION

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE CAIUS OLD BOYS AND GIRLS ASSOCIATION



Winter is upon us and I am looking forward to the reunion on the 29 March 2014. I have already had it confirmed that Gilles Mosseri from Rome, Peter Prager from the USA and Rose Mari Hald from Denmark are attending, having booked their flights and their hotel rooms. John Mobey from France has indicated his intention of attending. Let's hope the locals will make a day of it. As this will be my last reunion please make my day and attend.

MD

I wish a speedy and continued recovery to our Treasurer, Rob Delacour following his stroke and every happiness in his new home in Goring.

How is your memory these days? If it is like mine it only remembers the sun shining and the good times except for certain bad incidents. I find my long memory is the best and I am told that that is usual for my age. (What did I just say?)

The school existed from 1947 to 1968 and what momentous times it lived through. The end of rationing, death of King George VI, the start of the second Elizabethan age and the 1951 Festival of Britain. Also, the slow downsizing of the British Empire, the building and opening of the Southwick Power station now since demolished and replaced and then John Derry breaking the sound barrier over the sea by the school. The great smog and the east coast floods, Jet plane travel, Christine Keeler, Notting Hill riots, the explosion of TV channels, computers, winning the world cup and many more which are too numerous to mention.

Of course the birth of Rock & Roll with Bill Haley, Skiffle, Buddy Holly, Elvis but the swinging sixties have my special memories. What are your special memories? I would like to hear them. Over our lives the advancement of science, medicine, communications etc has been phenomenal. Each generation thinks theirs was the best and that will never change, however, I feel that I was blessed with my time which was and is still enjoyable, exciting and sometimes worrying. I hope the young of today get the same enjoyment out of life that I have had. MD

CURRENT TEACHING. It is interesting to watch the constant changes in education and teaching techniques. The listening to the pontifications of M.Ps about what should be done. I recently began one day a week voluntary teaching at a local primary school, year five. (8 to 9 year olds), covering spelling and reading. It does not take one long to realise how much pressure the teachers are now under compared to my school days. It comes from parents, local councils and the regular OFSTED inspections. I see the different attitudes of the parents towards their children in the way they help, encourage and/or discourage them. In some cases they have a violent attitude towards the teachers. Some parents refuse point blank to let their children, when requested, practice their readings or spellings with them. As one child said to me "Mum said don't bother me I am too busy and don't bother dad". Immigrant children perform the best and they are so eager to learn and their English is usually better and their parents give great encouragement to them because they believe schooling is a privilege.

Teachers are not just 8.30 to 3.30 hours with long holidays, they put in vast amounts of extra time. By the end of term they are knackered. In the staff room 95% of the teachers are female. A young teacher at my church works at a private school and is told that the paying parents are customers and to be treated as such as they do not want to lose their business. My grandson is at Caterham School where another parent sat in front of a teacher and was told that his son was failing badly in many subjects. This parent asked the teacher what they were doing about it, adding that he is paying many thousands of pounds to the school and it was their job to put it right. I wonder how Mr Lewis and the teachers of my days in the 40s and 50s would cope in the modern day. And no they cannot bring back the cane even if you would like it. M.D.



New Email address

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IN MEMORIAM

JANE POWELL. The wife of Tony Powell (Ex-Secretary of the Association) died recently after a long illness. Jane was a great supporter and attendee of the Association in the 1950/60s. She supported Tony before and after they married helping to organise functions. Many years ago Jane and Tony moved to Gatley, Cheshire where they became Pastors of their church. This made it difficult for them to attend any functions over the last 15 years. They were still very supportive of the Association. Both had retired from their calling about 2 years ago but sadly Jane did not have good health and a trip south was out of the question. We send our blessings and condolences to Tony.

Michael Ansell's stepson James, aged 25 years, has finally succumbed after suffering Cystic Fibrosis all his life.

CAIUS EX-PUPILS REUNION 2014

This is to be held on Saturday 29th March 2014. I have not yet received the menus from the hotel; therefore, I have had to price the meal to ensure that all costs are covered. It will be a three course meal with a glass of wine

The format will be 2.30pm to 4.30pm at the school. From 6pm at the Langford's Hotel, Third Avenue, Hove for the reunion buffet/Social. All ex-pupils, spouses and families are welcome. If you wish to partake of the meal the cost is £25 per head. N.B There is a multi-storey car park within 300 meters which is free after 6pm. Please contact your peers and come as a group. **Beware when parking in Third Avenue. Please ensure you read the sign as there are variations in several parking bays on time limits and costs.**

I would, where possible, like an early response. Monies with the order.

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Please send me _____ Tickets @ £25 each for the reunion on Saturday 29th March 2014

Name _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ Post Code _____

I enclose a cheque for £ _____ payable to COBA

Send to Malcolm Dunne 115 Fleetwood Close, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 5QL

VEGETARIAN OPTION PLEASE SIGNIFY NUMBER _____