



# OLD SULIANS' ASSOCIATION

www.oldsulians.org.uk

1925 - 2006

## NEWSLETTER MAY 2006

PRESIDENT  
A Blake Esq.

### NEWS

#### Memories:

We have been approached by Mrs Rhian Fox, Head of Drama at School, about a forthcoming Drama Group production. They are developing an 'entertainment' based on the life of the School through it's time on Beechen Cliff and are keen to hear stories and anecdotes from those that served their time there! If you have any memories that would help please commit them to paper or e-mail, and send them to me for forwarding. We might also consider adding them to the Sulian Archive at a later date to preserve them for the future. As an example I visited the Drama Club with your former Scribe, Pete Jenkins, who told of his time as a 'Fire Watcher', camping out overnight on the stage of the hall. Descriptions of the bomb damage, the evacuation to CBGS, digging for victory etc, would add to that era. That leaves the 30's, 50's 60's 70 's etc., and should give you all plenty of scope for tales of Froggy, 'Pop', Chin et al and the various clubs and societies from before the days of political correctness and health and safety! I look forward to being inundated?

#### Ladies Night:

An excellent evening at Sham Castle with a fine meal and the exuberance of the **Just in Time II** Big Band. **Len Dyer's** Super Raffle turned a healthy profit and the Treasurer is sleeping easily at nights. You should be able to find a few pics at our website.

#### A.G.M.:

A fair turnout. Officers were duly elected. **Mike Wood** became a Trustee, **Terry Light** joined the Committee.

#### Parent's Evenings:

At the invitation of the Headmaster we have shown a presence at the last 4 School parents evenings. Our objective was to sow the seed to pupils and parents that we exist. We know from the experience of the last 30 years that the only school leavers who join are already connected by birth! However we have a steady influx of newcomers from the ranks of the retired and nostalgic, speaking of which we welcome **Paul Dahl** (1944), **Bryan Mudge** (1956) and **John West** (1956), who have all recently invested in Life Membership.

#### 1956 Re-union:

For all of you who left around 1956 **Bryan Mudge** writes: "A 50 year anniversary reunion is being considered. It is suggested that we meet at School with a tour and buffet lunch and then an evening meal in Bath (the Hotel where some may be staying?). September/October

is proposed. If you are interested please contact Bryan Mudge at 26A Beachfield Road, Bembridge, Isle of Wight PO35 5TN - email [bmudge@toucansurf.com](mailto:bmudge@toucansurf.com)"

#### School Concert:

Back at the beginning of March several members attended the annual School Concert in the Hall. I was unfortunately indisposed. My spies tell me that a variety of performances provided a splendid evening's entertainment, demonstrating a considerable depth of talent. Once again **Paul Calvert** choreographed the proceedings.

#### Warmer Weather:

Sulian **Vernon Rowland**, a long time supporter and ex-Governor, has departed 'down-under' to be nearer his family and the beach. He left us with a generous donation and will keep in touch. One of our Vice Presidents **Jimmy Ewing** is also looking forward to warmer times. The long cold winter has been difficult but he has emerged from hibernation. **'Big Tone' Bowrey** has been under the knife again and anticipates several months by the pool in Minorca. We wish them all well.

#### Old Sulians Rugby Club:

After a slow start to the season the Su's really got into their stride under new coach, **Simon Jones**. They finished the season at mid-point in Somerset 1 with an excellent late run of results, (W 10, D 1, L 9) including a 60 point win against Bristol Barbarians in the presence of President **Alan Blake**. Their Annual Dinner is on the 12th May, details overleaf.

#### Moving on:

Shortly after the AGM we heard that **Ivan Whipp** had died. Ivan left School in 1941 and after 'doing his bit' joined the Rugby Club in 1948. He played 199 games and was 1st XV Captain in '53/54. He was the architect and designer of the clubhouse at Lansdown and probably most of the extensions for Sulians in Bath! He became a member of the Committee in 1959 and a Trustee in 1979, serving until this last AGM. Always a man of good humour and few but forthright words, we will miss him. There was a good turnout at the Haycombe Chapel and I was privileged to say a few words.

Also recently deceased was **Ron Hartley Price**, (1928) Ron was President in 1959 and the 'Father of the House'. We send our condolences to their families.

#### Finally:

It's a typical wet Bank Holiday in Bath as I write this. If you have any news do get in touch, the next epistle is scheduled for September. Diary details for 2006 overleaf.

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# Diary for 2006

## **12th May (Friday)**

**Old Sulians Rugby Club Annual Dinner** at the Clubhouse, Lansdown. Contact **Terry Haines** for a ticket. (01225 465107) or check the website [www.oldsulians.com/](http://www.oldsulians.com/)

## **1st June (Thursday)**

**Newport High School Old Boys Golf Match**. A traditional event against old rivals from rugby days. At home this year at Sham. **Mick Moore** is in charge and you will receive the summons if you're required to serve your 'alma mater'. (That's for Mick!)

## **16th June (Friday)**

**Association Golf Day** at Bath Golf Club, Sham Castle. The organiser is **Mike Wood** on 01225 335250 or [mike@systemagic.co.uk](mailto:mike@systemagic.co.uk). The usual arrangements pertain: Coffee at 8.30 prior to Morning Medal; the 'Old Tossers' 7 during the morning; light lunch from 12.30; then afternoon Stableford followed by evening meal. Contact **Mike** to put yourself on the list!

## **4th July (Tuesday)**

**Association Approach Golf** at Victoria Park. 6 pm onwards. After three years of deluge and flood we're not downhearted! A valiant 4 managed to wade around the course last year. **Neil Blake** will be back to defend the trophy. As usual '**Pebble**' **Beach** will calculate the handicaps from his little black book. Don't ask me how it works, I've only been going for 27 years!

## **21st July (Friday)**

**President's Night**. 7.30 pm start at Lansdown. Back on the calendar this year, an evening of gentle competition at the Clubhouse courtesy of the Rugby Club. Teams of 3 or 4. The legendary 'Agricola Championship Golf Course' is being renovated by the original manufacturer but should be back in time. (Quicker than 'The Spa' anyway!) The Clan Dyer will return the trophies from last time. The skittles will be polished, the darts sharpened and quiz skills honed. A light supper and a modest charge. Give me a ring on 01225 832207 so we can organise supplies.

## **24th August (Thursday)**

**Walking Treasure Hunt (or Trude's Trundle)** organised once again by **Sue Trude**. Start point this year is back in the Abbey Churchyard opposite the Pump Room. Return to the Bath Cricket Club for verdict and prizes. Teams of around 4 to set off between 6 and 7.15 pm. Modest fee. Please let **Roger Wood** know you are coming. (01225 832207) I promise that you will see parts of Bath you have never looked at but passed by many times. The last few years have seen more than 50 trundlers. Come and have a go.

## **20th October (Friday)**

**Annual Association Dinner**, This year to be held at The Bath Cricket Club, North Parade, Bath. Black Tie. Full details in September but please note the date now. Free parking is available and we will have our own 'en-suite' bar.

## **27th January 2007 (!) (Saturday) Ladies Night**

The same as last year, a new year treat. A straw poll by the President showed the date was acceptable and we apologise in advance to **Den and Jan Lambern** who will be snorkelling in the Antipodes.

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[www.oldsulians.org.uk](http://www.oldsulians.org.uk)

And finally (again) don't forget that our website contains most Sulian details, pictures of various events and 'old' photos. You can also download this newsletter in 'Acrobat' format which means it looks the same as this. Adobe Acrobat is a free download or magazine giveaway. Of course if you are reading this and have a computer you could receive the details by e-mail which saves a stamp! (That's my post-war austerity up-bringing showing!) (And for those that wondered, added to the mast-head is a Griffon, the Beechen Cliff emblem!)

**NOW PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY, PLEASE!**