



The Old Collyerians Association

Autumn 2008

President's message

Welcome to the Autumn 2008 edition of the newsletter.

Although I am writing this at the end of August, the weather has had a distinctly autumnal feel to it!

Another round of A Level results has just been published nationally, and for the 26th year in a row, apparently, the performance of students has gone up. By my calculations, this means that the last time that results went down (or maybe stayed the same) was in 1981, which happens to be the year that I and my contemporaries sat their A levels. There is a sobering reflection!

It is good to see, though, that the national trend is reflected in the results of Collyer's, and the Principal's comments in the *West Sussex County Times* go into more detail on this. Warm congratulations to all of those students!

The end of August is also a time, for those of us in the education sector, when thoughts have to turn to the next academic year. Timetables are being drawn up, lesson or session plans need to be brought out and updated, new students need to be inducted, and then term begins. For the Collyer's leavers, there is the exciting prospect of university or maybe a gap year. For

those who are particularly good at maths, then a vacancy exists on the long-running Channel 4 television programme *Countdown* with the imminent departure of Carol Vorderman. According to what I have read in the Press recently, the TV company is casting its net wider than that of the celebrity pool!

By the time you are reading this, my session as President will be nearing its end. I have had the pleasure and privilege to be invited to attend the autumn livery dinner at the Mercers' Company in October. After that I shall chair the AGM which takes place immediately before the November dinner at Collyer's. I hope to see as many of you there as possible, when I hand over to my very worthy successor, Derek Sturt. Unless there are any successful competing candidates, I shall then take up the post of Treasurer, taking over from Nick Weller who has held this post and performed his duties very capably and successfully for quite a few years now. My thanks go to him and the remainder of the Committee for their support and assistance this year.

CB.

Contact us (e-mail is the preferred method)

Either through our web site www.oldcollyerians.org.uk -
or see p2 for individual e-mail addresses.

J o t t i n g s

Nick Weller writes: In this issue can be found an article from Richard Lamplough, a contemporary of mine and an OCA member. I enjoyed reading it very much, remembering performances Richard gave, including the one described at the 1981 leavers' party.

Richard is trying to promote his album, having expended much time (and money) in getting it out. We are pleased to allow him the plug at the end of the article - for those who want to find out more, look for *Promised Land*, the new album by The Fake Lazy Supernovas, which is out now on CD from Townsend Records, and on most digital on-line stores. The band's web site is at www.thefakelazysupernovas.com.

Denys Dyer

When Peter Dyer sent in the obituary to his father Denys Dyer (1936-1940) he mentioned that Denys once preached a sermon in Latin at the University church in Oxford on some University occasion, and gave him a copy when they were having a drink in a pub in Manchester before going to watch a football match.

Denys had two elder brothers, Geoffrey, who emigrated to New Zealand, and Alan, who is still alive and living in London (it is thought that Alan may also have gone to Collyer's).

1958 CCF Shooting VIII

Since moving to the picturesque village of Yalding, Kent just over a year ago Hon Sec Anthony Barnard has joined the local rifle club,

taking up the sport again in which he last participated in 1965. At Collyer's, Anthony was captain of the CCF team in 1958, taking part in the local team competitions in small bore and competing at full bore at Bisley in the annual CCF competitions.

Anthony would very much like to get in contact with other members of that team. Please contact him at his E-mail address shown in this newsletter.

More memories...

Tony Cripps (1952-1957) writes concerning the Spring newsletter, in particular the memories of two of his contemporaries, Brian Osley and Francis Holford. Although they were both two years ahead of him - which at that age seemed a great gap - their reminiscences brought back deep memories: "particularly Bob Greenop's squeaky leg, Froggie Kenyon, the 'Pondtails' and those cold showers and changing room afterwards, with that scurrilous master, also mentioned, who ran the tuck shop opposite, who delighted in the 'peepshow'.

Tony also seeks copies of school photographs from that period.

Alan Gorringe

Derek Dinnage has passed on the sad news of the January '08 passing of A.A. Gorringe (head prefect in the 1940s, and a member of the Richard Collyer Lodge. He says that Alan was a close friend - both coming from the 'Common',

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Brian Sturt, Brian Slyfield.

From the College: Jackie Johnston

and served as best man at each other's weddings. When Derek last visited the UK in 2001, he included a brief re-union at Alan Gorrings's house in Churchdown, Glos, where he had been headmaster of the local grammar school. Derek tells us that Alan was also a close friend of John Leppard.

Derek remembers serving on the OCA committee at the same time as the late Gil Prewett, who managed to celebrate his 100th birthday before his passing this year.

French without tears

Audrey Garnett has been in touch after seeing a copy of the last newsletter in which Justin Frank (1970-1977) praised her French teaching skills. Although she said she was not at all sure that the confidence was justified she would still like to get in touch. We are happy to have been able to reunite pupil and teacher after 30-odd years.

Still more memories...

Bob Farren (1940-1944) is another for whom the piece in the last newsletter by Brian Osley triggered a number of memories, albeit of a slightly earlier period.

"Sadly," writes Bob, "we did not have dancing classes at the High School but we did occasionally have ATC Dances in the school hall. On one of those occasions I, Derek Gowlett and Derek Edwards managed to miss the last bus home to Cowfold, which left the Carfax at 10.20pm, and had to walk the seven miles. Needless to say we were not popular when we arrived, no mobile phones in those days. Fortunately it was a pleasant Summer evening.

"Not so pleasant was the Wednesday afternoon in February 1943 when many of the windows were blown in courtesy of a Junkers 88. I wonder how many there are still with us who were in the School at the time. A number of

ATC cadets were there as we usually stayed on after school on a Wednesday, and I believe there was boxing in the hall. I know Flt Lt Rivaz was talking to some of us in the then art room. The best part was that we had the Thursday and Friday off while repairs were carried out. That of course minimised our ill feelings toward the Luftwaffe."

From New Zealand...

Having perused the current membership list distributed with the last newsletter, Jim Partridge writes to say that it seems he is one of the only two current members living in New Zealand. Neither can he find many of his contemporaries, feeling that they must either not be members or have passed on. Though he points out that at 80 years of age this is hardly surprising. So if anybody reading this knows other Old Collyerians either from the same period or living in New Zealand, we would be pleased to pass on the information to Jim. Talking of NZ - see page 8.

...and from Canada

Membership Secretary Mark Collins reports that Austin Carn (1942-1946) rang him from Canada having stayed up until 2am to make the call at a time he hoped would be convenient. He asked about OCA ties and if a more recent design than the ones he owned had been produced. He has the pale blue and gold striped design, the dark blue with the 'old lady' motif repeated and the dark blue with single large 'old lady' motif with a stripe above and below. He mentioned an OCA tie that had a "starburst in the centre". Is anybody aware of such a tie ever having been produced?

Austin mentioned that a few years ago he met Roy Harrington, a retired ferryboat sea captain, who also lives in Canada. Roy was at Collyer's but is not a member of the OCA.

Richard Collyer Masonic Lodge and Chapter

The Richard Collyer Masonic Lodge is almost as old as the OCA having been formed in 1927, while the Chapter is a mere junior having been formed in 1958. Both are very active organisations and meet regularly at Horsham Masonic Hall.

The Lodge members would be delighted to hear from any old Collyerians who would like further details or who might be interested in joining.

Full details may be obtained from:

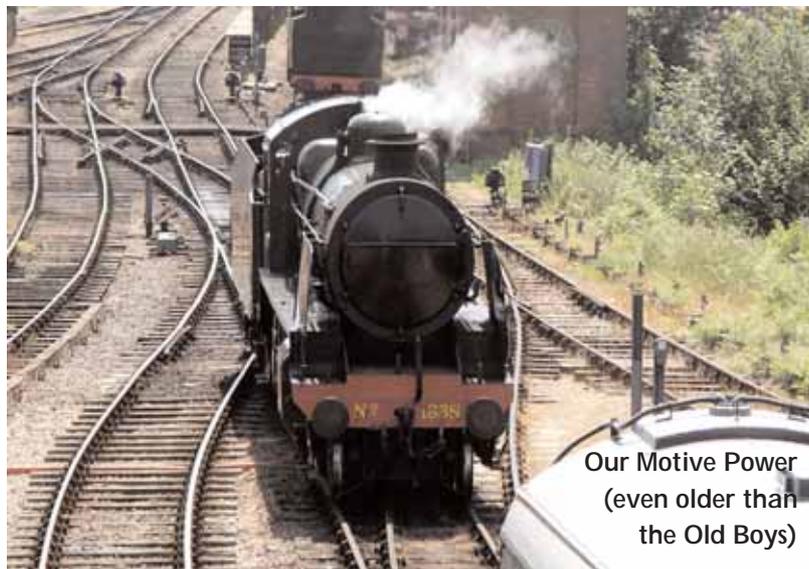
Peter R Ticehurst, Flat 32, Bowes Close, Horsham RH13 5SZ.

Summer reunion 2008

Bluebell railway Sunday 8 June

This year's summer reunion took place in glorious sunny weather on Sunday 8th June. The venue was the Bluebell steam heritage railway line in Sussex. It was a busy day on the railway with three trains in operation. 28 Old Collierians including guests arrived at Horsted Keynes station that morning, and then travelled in a 1950s style buffet car (we had forsaken the chance to travel in older compartment stock, so that we could mingle). The first journey was to Kingscote Station which is currently the northern terminus of the line. Work continues on completing the line as far as East Grinstead where a direct connection will be possible with the National Rail network.

At Kingscote, we sat in the large garden adjacent to the platform, to have some refreshment, and watch the steam engine run around to the front of the train for the return trip. We saw here and at the other stations on the line how volunteers have succeeded in recreating a country branch line complete with goods trains, stations, signal boxes and sheds where engines, coaches and trucks may be restored. At Horsted Keynes station, there was even a Southern Railway coffin carrier parked up on the platform! Happily it was not in use.



Our Motive Power
(even older than
the Old Boys)

Our next stop was Sheffield Park which is the administrative headquarters of the railway, and where it is possible to inspect the steam engines in the three-road shed. We could also visit the well-equipped shop, and buy books, photos, models and anything relating to steam railways that they stocked. Just as we arrived, the Bluebell's own version of the Orient-Express Pullman train was departing northwards. The Pullman cars were laid out immaculately inside for a delicious lunch. About two and a half years ago, I had the opportunity to ride on their Pullman train for a four-course evening dinner, and was particularly impressed how the waiters

and waitresses managed to serve hot soup from a huge tureen when the carriages were lurching a little from side to side! If you ever have the opportunity to dine on the Bluebell's Pullman, then I can thoroughly recommend it.

But back to June 8th, and we re-joined the train for the final leg of the journey back to Horsted Keynes. After that, we quickly made our way to the Green Man pub for a delicious Sunday lunch, and, with drinks, we lingered into the afternoon enjoying convivial company and reflecting on a lovely day out.



Our very own
carriage
All pics by Gary
Jones

Clive Barham

A very good turnout of members and guests was augmented by particularly good weather, a welcome change from that experienced in 2007.

The impeccable organisation by our chairman resulted in us being seated in a reserved carriage and an on-time departure from Horsted Keynes for Kingscote. Kingscote is the current northern extent of the railway but after a very detailed briefing by one of the volunteers, some of us are now familiar with all the trials and tribulations of the work involved in the planned extension to East Grinstead. If successful, this will be very significant for the Bluebell as it will join up with the modern railway for the first time.

After this pleasant and sunny interlude including fluid refreshments, we rejoined our carriage for the trip back down to the other end of the line at Sheffield Park. Here we had some time to explore the locomotive shed displaying a varied array of engines, both small and large. It was reassuring to find all these historic examples of bygone transport being kept under cover so that their continued existence is assured whether they are kept in running order or not.

Any more detailed information was available a-plenty in the station bookshop.

The final leg of the trip was the return journey to Horsted Keynes where we left one train, rejoined our road transport and formed our own 'train' through the winding country lanes to the village and the gastronomic delights of the Green Man public house.

Being, as it was, such a glorious day, the pub was very busy but, once again, the organisation paid dividends with tables made available for us all. We were joined here by more members and guests who had been unable to take the trip and spent several enjoyable hours 'catching up' on news and stories.

Thanks go to Clive and others whose organisation and weather selection made this such an excellent day out.

Gary Jones



From top: Membership Secretary and Mrs; Booze cruisers; Senior VP (there's always somebody who can't find his ticket) - pics by Gary Jones

Obituary - Denys Dyer

Denys George Dyer 1921 - 2008

Denys George Dyer was born on 22 September 1921 in Camelsdale, Sussex, as the youngest of the six children of Henry Dyer. He was educated at Collyer's School in Horsham, and in 1940 went up to Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he read German and Latin. He visited Germany for the first time in the late 1930s and remembered arriving in Cologne late at night to find the city swarming with SS men, as Hitler was in town; he heard Hitler ranting against Beneš live on the radio. Like many of his generation, his studies were interrupted when he was called up to serve in the forces, in his case in the Royal Air Force. He served in North Africa and Italy.

After the war he returned to Cambridge and completed his degree, which he followed with a doctorate in 1950. He wrote his thesis on the 17th century German Jesuit playwright Jakob Bidermann, who wrote in Latin. In 1951 he became a lecturer at the University of Manchester, where he spent what he later called eight happy years as an impecunious junior lecturer; his starting salary was £600 a year. It was here that he first started watching Manchester City: he chose City over United because City fans had a sense of humour.

It was while teaching English at a summer school in Zürich that he met Elisabeth Banholzer. They were married in Cambridge on a cold January day in 1949.

From Manchester he moved to Oxford in 1959, as a lecturer in German at Wadham College for a while, and then at Exeter College. He was a Fellow of Exeter from 1964 until his retirement in 1988. He was an international authority on one of the greatest German dramatists and story writers, Heinrich von Kleist; other writers he was particularly fond of were Grimmelshausen, Fontane and Günter Grass. His publications include *The Stories of Kleist* and (with Elizabeth Longrigg) a translation of Bidermann's

Cenodoxus, but he was better known as a lecturer; it was said that he was one of the few lecturers whose audiences actually increased as term went on.

At Exeter he played an important part in college life, socially as well as academically, as President of the Senior Common Room, and not least in the important office of running the wine cellar.

He had many interests outside the college. He was member of Oxford City Council from 1968 to 1974 (as one of the councillors elected by the University) and was instrumental in promoting Oxford's link with its twin town Bonn. He then stood as a Labour candidate, but narrowly failed to be elected. He was a magistrate from 1972 to 1991, serving as Chairman of the Oxford City Bench from 1988. He went back to his old school, now Collyer's Sixth Form College, as a governor. He was an enthusiastic chess player and a keen, if erratic, golfer. He was also a founder member of the Oxford Branch of CAMRA, the Campaign for Real Ale, and enjoyed travelling round England in search of good beer (not least the King & Barnes bitter at the Dog and Bacon).

He often visited Switzerland and always enjoyed speaking Schwyzerdütsch.

After retirement he became more involved in village life in Cumnor, for instance as a member of the parish council, and as president of the village horticultural society.

He was brought up in the Church of England but later converted to Catholicism, influenced especially by the Dominican theologians at Oxford. Until a few months of his death he helped at the Blackfriars priory in Oxford by manning the lodge for one or two mornings each week, as one of the 'doorkeepers'. His speeches at the annual Doorkeepers' Dinner are still remembered.

Elisabeth died in 2006 after over 50 years of a happy marriage. Denys is survived by his son Peter and his brother Alan.

The 2008 Annual General Meeting of the OCA, followed by the Winter Reunion Dinner, will be held at the College on Saturday 15 November. Full details are enclosed with this newsletter

Obituary - Gil Prewett

Gil Prewett 1940 - 2008

Sadly we have to report the death of Gil in his 100th year. Gil was born in Horsham on 15th January 1908, and died on 2nd July 2008 at a nursing home in north Wales where he was living to be near his eldest daughter.

Gil attended Collyer's from 1916 to 1926 where he excelled as a student. He loved Latin, maths and science and was offered a place at Cambridge to study medicine. Although he desperately wanted to go to Cambridge, his father wanted him to join the family business at Prewett's Mill in Worthing Road. A strong sense of family duty led him to do so and he assumed responsibility for the business when his father died in 1935 and continued until 1948 when he



handed responsibility to a relative. During the 2nd World War he was unable to join the Armed Forces as he was considered to be in a reserved occupation as a miller. He became a Freeman of the City of London.

After retiring from the business Gil became a tractor driver on a local farm which had always been one of his ambitions, and he and his wife ran the cafe at the Capitol Theatre. He was an accomplished pianist and enjoyed amateur dramatics in Horsham's Theatre 48. He was widely read and read *The Times* every day right up to the end of his life. He remained a trustee of Horsham Unitarian Church until his death and on 16th July a service was held there for the interment of his ashes. The OCA was represented at the service.

Lawrence Windwood

So who were Ricky and the Seniors?

I know... it's a question you have asked yourself time and time again over the last 27 years but have never quite found the answer. You can remember Gerry and the Pacemakers, you can vaguely recall Danny and the Juniors... But Ricky and the Seniors?

Well I can tell you exactly who they were. They were me, Richard Lamplough (the 'Ricky' bit) and my three musical chums Ed Tattersall, Ian Nicholson, and Peter Lodge. True, they were teachers and I was a student (having just finished my A-levels) but for one balmy summer night in 1981 we were as one: a do-wop band intent to wop-bam-aloo-bam-a-wop-boom-bang the Duckering Hall at the students' leavers party.

And that's exactly what we did. In my couple of years of playing and performing with my pals, Tim Cotton, Tim Franklin, Graham Lipscomb and David Comley as part of White Amethyst (what do you mean, you don't remember them either?!!) I can safely say that the ovation Ricky and the Seniors received completely surpassed anything that Amethyst could muster or bluster.

For me, 1980 and 1981 were two wonderful years. And I'm pretty sure it was the same for the arty crowd who hung around the music rooms with dreams of making it big in music, drama, or anything else that didn't quite fit in with double maths or lumpy custard. Of course, White Amethyst had an added incentive - by 1980 Collyer's was a fully-functioning sixth form college full of beautiful babes yearning to be impressed by five dashing young bucks whose confident swagger was matched, only partly it has to be said, by our ability to provide something harmonious with a guitar, bass, a home-made synthesiser and a ropey old drum kit. Our lack of half-reasonable equipment contrasted vividly with the two grand pianos that stood proudly in the music room. It was one reason why we would hang around there so much: we always sounded a million times better there than at Tim Cotton's garage in Slinfold.

Looking back with, I admit, extra-pink rose-tinted spectacles I firmly believe it was this part of my life, rather than any other, that shaped

what I did with my music over the next 27 years. And much of this was due to encouragement of people like Ed, Ian and Peter. So maybe it's a little late now, but I want to take this opportunity of THANKING all the staff who tolerated our teenage tenacity as we made strides to become bigger than the Beatles.

You guys would barely blink an eye-lid as we would wheel in stacks of shabby, noisy, badly wired-up amplification equipment that often seemed to have the potential to take out a power grid covering that chunk of urban landscape between Hurst Road and Littlehaven. You genuinely didn't seem to mind us running off countless A4 posters on the college photocopier to publicise our concerts. You were even willing to let us use the drama room (formerly the language lab) in the evenings to let us make our first attempts at multi-track recordings (it's amazing what you can do with an old reel-to-reel tape recorder). So, I say it again... THANK YOU. You helped us chase our dreams, and many of us lived those dreams into adulthood, if not in music or drama, then in areas of our lives that were still undiscovered in 1981.

As for Ricky and the Seniors... word has it that Peter Lodge ended up managing Oasis throughout the mid 1990s before retiring to Malibu. Ian Nicholson wrote a biography about Mama Cass



Ricky and the Seniors... from left to right: Ian, Richard, Peter, Ed and roadie Tim Cotton

before selling the film rights to Universal for a million dollars. As for Ed Tattersall, he is currently transcribing the entire Led Zeppelin back catalogue into Latin, before his plans to add his own vocal and release it on i-Tunes under the name *Ed Said Led*.

And me?... after a 15 year career managing a employment project and running music groups for people with learning disabilities in London, I have gone back to my roots and spent the last couple of years writing and recording an album called *Promised Land*.

Still chasing my dreams you see.

Richard Lamplough

Greg Pirie

Great-grandson of Collyers' famous headmaster

The Hon Sec advises that Greg Pirie has written from New Zealand asking if it would be possible for him to attend the annual reunion dinner as he will be in UK at that time. Greg was duly invited to attend and when replying, our Sec queried whether Greg really could be only three generations removed from William and also whether there might be any link with the late Gordon Pirie who held the world record for 5000 metres in the late 1950s. This elicited the following interesting response:

"Let me clarify the generational question. Headmaster William Pirie married at age 57 (1859) and produced William Sawyer Pirie at age 58 (1860). William Sawyer Pirie married again aged 36 (1896) and produced John Sawyer Pirie at age 52 (1912). John Sawyer Pirie married again aged 34 (1947), migrated to New Zealand

in 1948 and produced me at age 43 (1955). The Piries do have a predilection for fatherhood late in life!

"Whilst I have not looked into Gordon Pirie's family, and so do not yet know if there's a connection, he introduced orienteering to NZ and I ran with him at one tournament in my teens. Up until some 25 years ago, I used the "like Gordon Pirie" reference to explain the spelling of my name, but today's generation of name-takers knows nothing of him!

"I managed to track down a copy of Wilson's book earlier this year by way of a rare books shop that had established an internet presence. Thanks to him, I am now able to put a face to William Pirie's name. My only image prior to this was a photo of his statue in Horsham, kindly supplied by a cousin".

Sweet Success

For member of 'The Hive' 1955/56 (excuse the pun)

The Hon Sec has been communicating with Martin Richardson (1952-1958) who was also a member of the school shooting VIII which he captained. For members who were College students 'The Hive' was a fast track class for the brightest students who took their O Level (GCSE) exams in year four and were through the upper sixth in year six (I believe the name was derived from 'half five', and the idea was discontinued in the year in which I would have been passed y for entry, i.e. around 1963 - Ed). All very well, but the Sec knows of at least one such student who had completed his A Level exams at the age of 15, won a scholarship to Oxford and then had to wait two years to start his degree studies because in those days students were not permitted to start degree studies until they were 17.

Martin writes:

Having just moved from Toronto to Niagara-on-the-Lake, the first Capital of Ontario until those nasty Americans made threatening noises across the Niagara river and the Capital was moved to York, now Toronto. It was a smart move due to a short invasion in 1812 and when the Brits with the help of local Indians forced them back across the river. The original town was burnt to the ground during the withdrawal and quickly rebuilt. It was also the end of the underground railway for absconders during the slavery exits to safety. We now take revenge

taking greenbacks from American tourists.

I would especially like to express my best wishes to the schoolmates in the 'Hive' 1955/6 and have retained the class crest painted by Evershed with a symbol for each class member. Collyer's was a magnificent educational institution for 400 years and I still cannot understand the stupidity of politics which could not appreciate the value and results achieved by seven years of life foundation with traditions and loyalty deeply planted. I was never in the top echelon, but the skills learnt trying to keep up with the leaders was a great ethic which has served me well in the workplace. Emigration to Canada as a Chartered Accountant lead me to business in sugar refining, competing with a Tate and Lyle subsidiary, then importing refined sugar mainly from the US. That lead to blending sugar containing products like Iced Tea, Drink Crystals and gelatine blends that were re-exported back to the States under their quota system, and building an \$80 million business with two partners. We were eventually bought out by a large refiner in 1996. The sugar business has taken me around the world, Cuba, South Africa, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala and Costa Rica, and I am now quite happy with my feet up in Canada's wine growing region."

Following a reply from the Hon Sec, Martin added:

I have just re-hung my 'Hive 1955/56' crest on my home office wall and hopefully have remembered the correct name and nickname spelling.

<i>Top above shield:</i>	<i>G.G.Marden and Tim (Nellie) Cattell</i>
<i>Top row on shield:</i>	<i>A.J Pethick, Lawrence Smith, Al Rosen and Martin Richardson</i>
<i>2nd row on shield:</i>	<i>Evershed (the artist) and Chris Rees (Red Herring)</i>
<i>3rd row on shield</i>	<i>"Tubby " Leedham and Colin Pugh</i>
<i>4th row on shield:</i>	<i>"Teddy " Ticehurst and Raymond Trickey</i>

UPDATED OCA WEB SITE

www.oldcollyerians.org.uk



The association is completing the process of updating its web site, under the expert care of Gary Jones, making it more comprehensive and user-friendly.

If you have any suggestions please do not hesitate to communicate them to the Hon Secretary.

The OCA online

The new website is now operational at www.oldcollyerians.org.uk. The material so far displayed is a little limited due to some time constraints.

However Nick Weller, our archivist, has extracted a wealth of very interesting historical documents and made them available for scanning and publication on the website.

This material includes the *Collyerian* school magazines from 1922 through to the late 1970s, various school event publications, newsletters and the precursor to wide-screen cinema, those great school photographs. In view of the volume of material, we shall probably 'drip-feed' the publication to provide ongoing updates, so please take a regular look to see what is new.

Some of the documents have a surprising number of pages, so the digitisation and conversion process is somewhat lengthy. Hopefully, the results will serve us well at least until the end of the digital age!

An associated problem is the total lack of focus displayed during the scanning process due to the absorbing content and the consequential need to read them all first. It is a tough job!

Also, we have some very interesting 8mm footage from the early 1960s. Sadly, as you may

expect, the quality is not tremendous to say the least. Most was taken on 'bottom-end' equipment and film financed from paper-rounds. However, there is plenty of interest value including occasional shots of famous staff members and the demolition of old buildings like the Fives Court and the construction of newer ones like the Duckering Hall.

One black and white film even has a drama club rendition of a 'No Drink-Driving' promotion; even more amusing when one realises it was made outside the Dog and Bacon Pub!

Some of this may take a while to get to an online viewable condition, so please bear with us.

We have been encouraged by reaction to even the initial content and the offers of other material. If any readers have material they think would be worthy of inclusion, please do let us know via any committee member. I cannot promise immediate action, but you can rest assured we shall follow through as time allows. Our thanks go those who have already promised input or commented.

Gary Jones (webmaster)

Guild of Mercers' Scholars

The Installation Dinner for the new Guildmaster, Simon Hills, took place on 8th October at Tallow Chandler's Hall. The Guest of Honour was Francis Maude, M.P. for Horsham.

Several social events have been planned for 2008/2009 including the Lord Mayor's Show, attending a carol concert at the Albert Hall and the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower of London. Anyone interested in joining the Guild can obtain details from the Guild's Collyerian Court Assistant, Anthony Barnard, at 1 Walnut Close, Yalding, Maidstone, Kent, ME18 6DH

Lawrence Windwood

RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY E-Mail

We are still hoping to hear from more members prepared to receive their newsletters by e-mail. All monies saved on publishing and distribution, as a result of this, can be re-assigned to other useful activities of the Association. And it arrives faster, and in glorious colour.

To receive your newsletter by E-mail, please send your name and years of attendance at Collyer's, exactly as it appears in the Address List, to the Hon. General Secretary

ANTHONY BARNARD at: ocawalnutclose@btinternet.com

M e m b e r s h i p

**Membership updates are available
only to paid-up OCA members**

Collyer's in the news

As expected, and in line with the performance of recent years, examination results at Collyer's are once again . The overall pass rate at A level for 16-18 year olds is 98.5%, with 53% at grades A and B. In 30 subjects at A level, the pass rate was 100%. The AS results, with a 91% pass rate, are also extremely high.

In other courses, results are similarly pleasing, with a 100% pass rate in the Diploma in Childcare, with 57% at A/B and a 100% pass rate in the Certificate for Teaching Assistants with 92% of passes at grades A and B.

Noteworthy individual successes were achieved in a number of subjects. In Electronics A level, four students at the college scored in the top five marks nationally, including the very highest score of all. Harry Wilcox, Jonathan Steele, Darren Richardson and Joshua Gupwell were delighted to be informed by the examination board AQA of their outstanding performance. The Director General of AQA, Michael Cresswell passed on his congratulations to these students by personal letter.

Ruth Lloyd was among the top ten students in A level Textiles. Edexcel's Managing Director, Jerry Jarvis said, "This is a tremendous achievement and testament to the hard work students put in to preparing for their exams. We send our congratulations to Ruth."

Students achieving all four A levels at grade A included James Bailey, Ann Bailey, Claire Bloomfield, Niall Browne, Stephanie Daly, James Egerton, Joshua Gupwell, Rosemary Hunt, Ruth Lloyd, Jake Mulcahy, Rosemary Pigott, Darren Richardson, Sabrina Robinson-Caturla, Caroline Swarbrick, Yrene Themistocleus, Angela White, Victoria White and Nicholas Williams. Bryony Clarke achieved five A levels at grade A and Lorna-Belle Harty achieved five AS levels at grade A.

Students heading to Oxford or Cambridge University include Niall Browne, Bryony Clarke, Rebecca Crosdil, James Forbes-King, Iain Mckeand, Simon Rafferty, Sabrina Robinson-Caturla, Angela White, Victoria White, Nicholas Williams, Ann Bailey, Rosie Piggott, Helen Gilpin and Jessica Giesen.

The Principal, Dr Jackie Johnston, said that

students should be recognised for their achievements and that no one should underestimate the hard work that they put in to their studies. "Young people in Britain often receive very negative media attention, which is generally unjustified. Instead of complaining about falling standards, we should be celebrating the positive contributions they make and I hope that locally, everyone, whether or not they are parents of candidates this year, will take a pride in the performance of the young men and women of the town."

The College of Richard Collyer was proud to achieve the 'Outstanding' overall rating awarded by Ofsted in March this year, confirming that, as a Beacon college, it is a top performing institution

In sports, the College *Contact* newsletter tells us that the first XI football team have completed the double this year, winning both the League Cup and the Knockout Cup. The 2a and 2b teams had mixed results with the 2a team just missing out on the play-offs and the 2b team suffering with poor early season form and injury.

A team of 16 Collyer's students represented the South East Region as British Colleges Sport celebrated the 30th anniversary of the National Championships, held at Loughborough University. The rugby tens played against teams with England internationals and premier academy hopefuls, but held their own and learned from the experience. Cali Stanton and Matt Wooldridge both competed in the swimming championships.

The rugby 1st XV reached the fifth round of the Daily Mail National Schools competition, the furthest ever in the competition, but could not beat Champion School from Essex in round five. The 2nd XV won their league with 100% record this season.

The netball team had great results in the British Colleges cup and the Sussex cup. Mixed hockey and basketball teams have had some ups and downs during the season. Individuals have also starred at their sports this year, including Ben Cranfield who came fourth in the European gymnastics competition and Jessica Lumbard who has represented Great Britain at fives and England for handball.