

◆ ECSOGA Newsletter ◆

Issue 11

Registered Charity No. 312623

Summer 2005

From the Chair

Dear Members,

Most of the Committee Officers, apart from the Treasurer, were new to their appointment at the last AGM and we would like to thank our predecessors, particularly Jean Potter and Harriett Nailon, for all their help throughout the year and also all the Members for their continued support.

During the past year ECSOGA's activities have included a donation to the School of a cheque for £600 as well as three CD Player-recorders in memory of Lisette Marion for the Modern Language Department, which is to be located in the new building, which will soon be complete.

ECSOGA is committed to supporting the School's bid for Language College status and has agreed an initial donation of £1,000 towards the amount the school has to raise. Some Members have also committed to make personal donations. The School will not know until June whether or not the bid has been successful but it is possible to reapply in October, so we shall continue our support and ask Members to keep coming up with ideas for sponsorship.

Miss Byard, who is to retire as Head of ECS at Christmas 2005, is to nominate the ECSOGA Chair as a Trustee of the School Archives, which she is determined shall not be lost. We are delighted to be entrusted with this task.

Members of ECSOGA will remember Miss Byard's enthusiasm and tireless hard work for the School and her outstanding help and co-operation with ECSOGA over the years. We shall sorely miss her.

Best wishes from the Committee

Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52)



Diary Dates

Saturday 10 September 2005

ANNUAL REUNION

12 noon until about 4 pm
Decade Marking for those
who entered ECS in
1938/48/58/68/78/88

BOOKING FORM ENCLOSED

Saturday 11 March 2006

AGM & Spring Meeting
DRAMA AT ECS

Full details and booking form
Late January 2006

**Also included: Additions to List
of Members**

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AGM & SPRING MEETING

12 March 2005

The start of the AGM was delayed as breathless Members reported traffic problems. By 12.25 about 55 people had arrived and after that the day went to plan although, sadly, some who had booked were unable to attend. We particularly missed Olive Sellick (Watts 1925-32), Nancy Bower (Thompson 1932-39) and Mrs Marjorie Taylor, School Secretary for over 40 years. Former staff who did attend were Miss Hetty Benjamin, Mrs Jean Clapham and Mrs Joan Hart.

Before formalities began it was announced that Winifred Cowley MBE (1921-28) had died the previous day, aged 94 (See Obituary on page 5). Chair Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52) skilfully marshalled proposers and seconders for each agenda item and Harriett Nailon (Lott 1956-63) gave a comprehensive rationale for the addition to the Constitution. Summary Minutes will be sent out in February 2006. During lunch there was time to read the display of recent press cuttings about the afternoon's topic. There was, as always, much praise for the delicious buffet organised by Ann Wickert (1954-59) and the catering team. After Miss Byard drew the multi-prize raffle everyone resumed their seats to hear the panel examine the question *The Glass Ceiling – Myth or Reality – and does it still exist?* See page 2 for more details.

At the end, a brief but pertinent open forum revealed that people had found the information and ideas put forward both interesting and stimulating. Brenda Saunders (1940-45) gave an elegant expression of thanks which drew a spontaneous round of applause. Mary Stevenson closed the meeting with reminders about future events. Then Miss Benjamin's familiar piano introduction to *Jerusalem* brought everyone to their feet to end the day in time-honoured fashion. The Committee thanks all who helped ensure yet another successful gathering.

SPRING MEETING 2005: THE GLASS CEILING – MYTH OR REALITY?

A summary of the panel presentations

Panel Chair, Dr Mavis Hamilton (Glibbery 1946-53), outlined the ceilings that she met in her own career which began in the laboratories of the Ministry of Supply Explosives Research and Development Establishment. From there, via an HND, domesticity as the mother of four, an Open University degree and Garnett College, Mavis became a teacher in Further Education. An MSc in corrosion science & engineering, then a PhD brought a post as a course manager for the Open University, leading a team of academics producing and maintaining technology courses. Mavis praised the OU as “a very forward looking organisation” which now has a female Vice-Chancellor and a female Chancellor. After sketching a context for the discussion, citing Orwell’s *Down and Out in Paris and London* and listing some “firsts” achieved by women in the 1950s and in the late 1990s, Mavis introduced the other speakers in turn.

Janet Naylor (Riley 1949-54) read an account by Mary Beagles (Comyns 1937-44) which described her secretarial career, at the BBC in the 1940s, where there was no glass ceiling and all jobs were open to men and women. Despite this ethos, Mary conceded that the only women to make it to the top, at that time, were Grace Whyndam-Goldie and two others who headed children’s programmes. Mary stayed at the BBC for over 20 years, enjoying work in various departments and meeting many famous and eminent people. When Mary resigned to see the “un BBC world” the competitive ruthlessness that she found came as quite a shock.

In contrast to Mary’s experiences, Marina Warden (Brown 1946-51) joined Lloyds Bank at the age of 16 and found “a solid ceiling” and very limited promotion prospects. Marina recounted the obstacles she overcame and the determination required to become one of the first female bank branch managers and quoted some figures showing that the glass ceiling does still exist although this fact is usually denied. It was obvious that Marina enjoyed every aspect of banking and relished all the challenges that had come her way. It was equally clear that Marina regrets the recent changes which have resulted in the demise of the traditional bank manager. This observation provoked many nods of agreement in the audience.

Next up to the lecturn was Dr Cathryn Corns (Patrick 1959-66) whose initial ambition was to join the Army. Miss Hogg remarked “I think you might find instant obedience to orders a little difficult.” So Cathryn decided to apply to join the police but her forms were lost in the post and she

took a three month- temporary post in a hospital pathology department. Thirty-nine years later, and after many battles with educational and professional bodies, Cathryn is still in a pathology department as a Consultant Biochemist and Clinical Director of Pathology. On the way she has developed a simple view of life: “Nothing is impossible and rules are there to be broken”. Cathryn is also a serious military historian and has conquered another bastion by being elected to the Royal United Service Institute. Admitting the existence of the glass ceiling, she believes that it is sometimes used as an excuse for a lack of progress which, in reality, is due to a lack of ability or of commitment.

This need for commitment was echoed by Jean Endean (1958-63). Leaving school after GCE O level, Jean went into advertising where she encountered Germaine Greer and Bel Mooney and developed “stunning self-belief”. She lobbied the personnel department on a daily basis to be given opportunities. When her son was born Jean took just six weeks off and she feels strongly that women must be prepared to match men in dedication to work. Jean is now Financial Director of Paling Walters, one of the most profitable parts of the Omnicom Group, the world’s leading marketing services company. Clearly relishing the pressure of big-business Jean has little sympathy for women like the airline pilot who sued her employer because she was not allowed to work part-time: why should a woman get a top job if she is not prepared to work under the same conditions as a man?

The final speaker was to have been Baroness Anelay (Joyce Clarke 1958-65) but unfortunately Joyce was unwell. We were sorry not to be able to learn about the gender politics of the road to the House of Lords, where Joyce leads for the Opposition on Home Affairs. Instead Harriett Nailon (Lott 1956-63) spoke for the majority of women. Most women are not high-flyers partly, perhaps, due to the glass ceiling but more often because of their inability or unwillingness to maintain the focus on their careers and give the dedication which Mavis, Marina, Cathryn and, particularly, Jean had indicated is necessary. After an account of the granite-ceiling in 1960s hotels, Harriett ended with the controversial suggestion that the glass ceiling is not such a bad thing: what women – and men – need is more honesty in recruitment processes and less political correctness. This would lead to more realistic expectations, a better work-life balance and more happiness all around. See p.8 to access a fuller report online.

MEMBERS' NEWS

Our news items are as eclectic as ever. They represent, perhaps, a small cross-section of early 21st century life, albeit with a bias towards the activities of ladies of a certain age who are enjoying some experiences which their mothers could probably have only dreamed about and which their grandmothers could not have envisaged. For example, a quintet of **1950-56** girls got together for a reunion weekend in March. It was the first time that they had all been together since 1956! **Ann Martin (Evans)** set up all the arrangements for **Tricia Hills (Pat Richardson)** who sent us this short report, **Beryl Robins (Nugent)**, **Anne Adnitt (Eleanor Pottinger)** and **Margaret Sales (Read)**. On probably the coldest weekend of the winter, their base was a hotel near the London Eye. Apart from losing their voices with all the reminiscences they managed to fit in a lunch at the Festival Hall, a visit to the Royal Working Wardrobe at Kensington Palace with lunch in the Orangery and a walk round Covent Garden. Saturday was rounded off with a theatre visit to see *Blithe Spirit* at the Savoy Theatre and cocktails in the American Bar of the Savoy Hotel followed by an Italian meal in theatreland. As they dispersed on Sunday to Colchester, Winchester, Kettering, Harlow and Plymouth they vowed not to leave it another 50 years before getting together again.

Also in spring, **Elizabeth Ross (Talbot 1956-63)** made her television debut on BBC's *Flog It*, the popular antiques programme. Elizabeth was filmed on valuation day and later at an auction selling a Georgian leather bucket which reached its reserve. When asked how she was intending to spend the proceeds of the sale, Elizabeth replied that she would be putting the money towards some home improvements. She ignored her sons' suggestion that it would have made better television to say it was for silicone breast enhancement.

On a serious historical note, congratulations to **Dr Carol Chattaway (Crow 1955-63)** who, in February, successfully completed her PhD at UCL. Carol's thesis is entitled *The Order of the Golden Tree: the gift-giving policy of Philip the Bold*. For those whose French medieval history is a trifle rusty, Philip the Bold was the first Valois Duke of Burgundy. Carol will be presented with her degree in August and is hoping to publish several articles drawn from her thesis.

Congratulations also to **Carol Bostock-Smith (Masters 1956-63)** who is having a very busy year: 60th

birthday celebrations in January - attended by class mates **Lesley Williams** and **Harriett Nailon (Lott)** - were followed a week later by the birth of her first grandchild, Benjamin. In March there was promotion to Guide District Commissioner and at Easter Carol hosted two Japanese Guiders for a two-day stay and helped to entertain 27 of their Guides. Carol takes up her Commissioner duties in September whilst continuing as Brown Owl of her village Brownie Pack, a role she has filled for over 20 years.

It is unlikely that Members missed the news of **Geraldine McCaughrean's (Jones 1962-69)** latest success given that it made a huge splash in all the papers in March, at the London Book Fair and on Radio Four. Just in case, however, we are thrilled to report that Geraldine has won the Great Ormond Street Hospital competition to create an authorised sequel to J M Barrie's *Peter Pan*, beating rivals from around the world. The competition judges, including Sir David Frost and the broadcaster Mariella Frostrup and J M Barrie's great-great nephew, David Barrie, read prospective opening chapters and synopses from 100 authors. It is hoped that Geraldine's book will extend part of the copyright due to run out in 2007 and so help to maintain income for Great Ormond Street. Geraldine described the task ahead of her as "a daunting privilege" and has promised to produce a book which "will be true to the spirit" of the original but with more action because "in these days of television . . . children demand pace". At least one commentator has implied that by 2007 Geraldine McCaughrean "will be a household name".

Many congratulations to Geraldine! We look forward to reporting on the publication of *Captain Pan* (the book's provisional title) and to many more triumphs for Geraldine in the coming years. We are aware that Geraldine is on record as indicating that her very successful career has perhaps been in spite of, not because of, her years at ECS. (An unusual but by no means unique assessment of the influence of the School.) We hope, therefore, that Geraldine will not think ECSOGA too presumptuous in expressing our pride in her success and basking in her reflected glory. But, then, ECSOGA is proud of all Members' achievements and interested in their activities. So, don't be shy: your news may not make the national press, or even your local press, but it could be a star item in our Newsletter - **please let us know what you are doing**. **Deadline for next issue - 1 December 2005.**

The Memorial Fund

Taking Stock and Looking Ahead Part I

by Jean Endean and Harriett Nailon

The Past – a brief history of the Fund:

What is now, officially, The Enfield County School Old Girls' Association Fund, (the Memorial Fund is its colloquial name), began following the death of much-loved Maths teacher, Miss Florence, in 1940, when £788 4s 9d was subscribed. By 1952 the fund stood at almost £1000 (equivalent to £30,000 in 2004) and had made disbursements of £900. Later more funds were set up in memory of Miss Broome and Miss Forrest. In 1967 the three funds were amalgamated and charitable status obtained to ensure that the monies were not lost in the upheaval of ECS becoming a comprehensive school. The Trustees of the fund are the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of ECSOGA, currently Mary Stevenson, Beryl Muffett and Ann Wickert. A copy of the 1967 Trust Deed is available at ECSOGA meetings – in the Constitution file, for members' reference. In 2000 we tried to have the charitable status extended to cover all ECSOGA activities but the Charity Commissioners ruled that this was not possible as our events are chiefly of a social not educational nature. Consequently, as explained in Summer 2002 Newsletter, it is only donations to the Memorial Fund which are eligible for tax relief. As these amounts are currently small and infrequent, it is not economic to set up the cumbersome controls that tax reclaim requires. We will only review the taxable status if, in the future, we are fortunate enough to receive substantial bequests or a significant number of regular direct debit donations.

The financial records of the Memorial Fund from 1967 onwards are sparse but from a 1984 report given by the then Treasurer, we know that the capital sum of the Fund stood then at £4,000. Over the years the capital grew slightly from bequests in memory of several people, including Mary Turnbull and Marjorie Read. There have been no new substantial donations to the Memorial Fund in that time.

Using the interest earned on the capital, the Fund Trustees can make disbursements of three kinds – prizes at Speech Day, bursaries and general assistance to the School. In the recent past the main use of the interest has been to award the named prizes at Speech Day. At the AGM the Treasurer reports the total value of prizes. Bursaries are awarded on the advice and recommendation of the Head to students at ECS or, more often, to students leaving and going on to higher education or training. Due to what might nowadays be considered excessive deference to confidentiality, there are no records at all of these bursaries, even in summary form. However, with the

1960s, plus the stagnation of the Memorial Fund's capital and then its erosion by inflation, in the past twenty years few bursaries have been required or possible. No bursaries have been awarded in the past seven years.

The present – current financial situation, in context:

At 31/12/03 the Fund stood at £7,900 including interest. The bank base rate in 1984 was 11.47% compared with 4.5% now, so in order to obtain the equivalent amount of interest, indexed to today's values, the £4,000 sum would need to increase to £30,000 plus.

The committee has frequently talked about increasing the value of the prizes from its current level of £25 and realistically we should allow for a 5% annual increase. By 2004 we had a shortfall of interest earned against prize money expended. If the interest rate continues at the same level without new contributions and the Fund is only used for Speech Day prizes, it will completely dry up in about 15 years' time. It will be exhausted much sooner if we award a bursary or give help to the School. As announced at the 2005 AGM, as ECSOGA itself has built up its own resources in recent years, thanks to Members so enthusiastically supporting our events, it has been possible to transfer £1,000 from the ECSOGA account to the Memorial Fund. This is a short-term measure to try to balance the outgoings and the interest received, for the next year or two, while appropriate procedures are devised to safeguard the Memorial Fund.

The future?

As the above analysis reveals, the Memorial Fund needs some work. In the coming months the Committee will be thinking hard and hopes to have some proposals ready for publication in the Winter 2005/6 Newsletter and for presentation at the AGM on 12 March 2006.

Meanwhile we need your comments, ideas and suggestions.

Write or email Chair Mary Stevenson – see page 8 for contact details.

CAPTIONING PHOTOGRAPHS– AN ONGOING TASK

One objective that the Historical Material Working Party have set themselves is to ensure that photographs in the Memorabilia Collection are comprehensively captioned with date, place, occasion and above all, the names of those pictured. Members are hereby alerted to the fact that when they come to an event there is a strong possibility that they will be asked to help with this process. So, please make sure you bring some little grey cells with you, and please, don't be discouraged if you cannot supply a name the first time we ask – we shall persevere and hope that Members will do likewise.

OBITUARIES

Miss Louise Arnold (1938-43) of Flitwick, Bedfordshire - died 11 February 2005.

Mrs Marjorie Batt (Candy 1930-36) of Enfield – died in 2003. A staunch supporter of ECSOGA in the 1980/90s: known to many Members.

Mrs Sylvia Eagles (Dawson-Whisker 1950-55) - died 30 December 2004. Mother of two daughters and one son. Deputy head at Hampden Gurney School in Earls Court, until being diagnosed as having terminal cancer, Sylvia retired and returned to art, joining several local groups and winning the Chairman's Cup awarded by Marlow Arts Society and passing a diploma in sculpture at Aylesbury College.

Mrs Elsie Gerrard (Noble – at ECS in the 1930s) – died January 2005, aged 79 years. Mother of three daughters who all attended ECS in the 1960/70s: Frances, Christine and Carolyn Gerrard.

Miss Winifred Cowley MBE (1921-28) of Enfield – died 11 March 2005, aged 94 years. Swimming coach to generations of Enfield school children, Honorary UK Life Member of the Royal Life Saving Society, Chairman of Enfield Ranger committee, secretary of Middlesex Rangers, welfare officer, hospital trustee, founder member of the local Guide Dogs for the Blind, Winnie inaugurated the Mayor's Charity Walk of 27 miles. On the staff of ECS for a time, Winnie was always a great supporter of ECSOGA, serving on the Committee on several occasions and, in recent years in particular, was a fund of knowledge about the School and the history of Enfield. The service of thanksgiving for her life, held at St Michael and All Angels, Chase Side was attended by over 100 people including Miss Byard, Mrs Rutherford, ECS Governor Mollie Sutton and four representatives of ECSOGA. **Betty Archer (Young 1937-44), former ECSOGA Chair**, writes: I first met Miss Cowley when I was in the 1st Enfield Guides and she was captain of the 2nd Enfield company – both St Andrews. I remember being impressed with her energy and eloquence – qualities which stayed with her to the end.

In 1938 we were due to have a joint camp at Hastings and although Miss Cowley broke her arm on the night before and was unable to go, the camp went ahead, with several young leaders, without a hitch due to her masterminding of the whole thing.

While she was teaching, Miss Cowley organised swimming galas which raised a lot of money for the Mayor's charity. In recognition of this work she was awarded the MBE.

I met Winnie again when I joined ECSOGA, when my family were off-hand. Winnie was a keen and active member and organised our Committee meetings at the Civic Centre where she was renowned, lunching there most days almost to the very end of her very full life.

HISTORICAL MATERIAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Reminiscences: coming in – slowly . . .

Here are a couple of samples to whet your appetite and get you thinking and putting pen to paper .

Joyce Dale (Abra 1926-32) recalls: *In those days wireless (radio) had only just been discovered and it was new and exciting. The BBC relayed its programmes from Savoy Hill, London. On most afternoons around five o'clock there was 'Children's Hour'. With Miss Woods, our ECS choir became so proficient that we were invited to sing on Children's Hour. So we went to Savoy Hill and were welcomed by 'Uncle Mack' and 'Uncle Peter' and were made quite a fuss of. Of course all our parents proudly listened in while we sang our best.*

Joyce goes on to describe how the choir was once conducted by the young Malcolm Sergeant – and much more about ECS over 70 years ago.

Doreen Coker (Stableton 1937-44) tells us about poker sessions among the Scientists: *They took over the sixth form study at lunch times, and quenched their thirst with cider bought on a pre-lunch visit to an off-licence, by one who was already 18 – we were a very legally minded lot! The most our Arts group managed was a penny sweepstake on the casting of 'Hamlet', in our English lessons with Miss Flint.*

As well as outlining other innocent past-times and pranks, Doreen's account gives an insight into some of the more serious features of life in war-time Enfield.

So, now, over to YOU!

You don't need to type – hand written is fine. The reminiscence can be as long or as short as you like and about any subject. Whatever YOU recall as being interesting or significant or funny or sad about your school days.

Please send your memories to Harriett Nailon, address on page 8.

THE OTHER ENFIELDS - PART II

by Betty Smith

Picking up from where we left off in the Summer 2004 Newsletter:

There used to be six Enfields in the USA but the one in Massachusetts now lies under the Quabbin Reservoir, a water supply for Boston. Of the other five, the one in Connecticut is the largest with a population of over 45,000. It is now largely a commuter base for the bigger towns to the north and south - Springfield and Hartford. It has had a diverse history since the 17th century when the first settlers came to the area. They came to seek freedom of worship and by 1683 had decided to erect a meeting house and subsequent buildings were erected in 1706, 1775 and 1849. The 1775 building has been moved and is now known as The Old Town Hall. From the beginning this Enfield was an agricultural community but has also had mixed developments of manufacturing including carpets, colour printing, Hallmark greeting cards, Lego and gunpowder. The last of these was made in the part of the town known as Hazardville, not because of the nature of the industry but because a Colonel Hazard was in charge for over 30 years in the mid 19th century. According to the American Concise Dictionary of Place Names this Enfield is named after our Enfield but no further detail is offered.

Enfield in the state of Maine was so designated in 1835 and had a population of around 200. Nearly one-third of the acreage is occupied by Cold Stream Pond, a lake four-and-a-half miles long and three miles wide. Today there are many camps and holiday homes in the area which offers extensive hunting and fishing facilities. Another Enfield offering holiday attractions is in New Hampshire. It was chartered as a town in 1761 but settlement did not begin until 1775. It is now a bedroom community for nearby Hanover and Lebanon but has a Village School which teaches up to and including fourth grade. It has a flourishing Historical Society and in 1991 opened its own museum.

Enfield in North Carolina was originally called Huckleberry Swamp and was founded as a town in 1740. The people of the area were always pushing for independence from England. It now has a population of around 3,500 and is largely an agricultural community growing peanuts, tobacco, maize and cotton. The final Enfield in the USA is in Illinois, about 120 miles east of St Louis. It was a late developer, not being incorporated until 1868. It is a village in an area of farms and rolling hills that forms the Enfield Township which covers 36 square miles.

So much for towns and villages around the world called Enfield: but are there any more 'other Enfields'?

In the town of Camelford, in Cornwall, there is Enfield Park. Albert Tingcombe donated the park to the town having returned to his roots after running a drapers shop in Baker Street in our Enfield. We have our own Enfield Cricket Club and there is another one in Accrington that plays in the Marsden Lancashire League. The Lee-Enfield rifle was the major infantry rifle in both World Wars. It was produced at the Royal Small Arms Factory from 1895 following developments since 1850. The Royal Enfield motor cycle was manufactured in Redditch from the mid-1890s. The industrial estate to the north-west of Redditch bears the name Enfield and even though the Enfield Cycle Co. ceased trading there in 1967 the bikes are still made and widely used in India. In the early part of the last century the Enfield Cycle Co. was also involved in car production but it was never a particularly strong marque and manufacture ceased in 1925.

Two residential telephone subscribers are listed in our local current telephone directory - the Enfields who live in Enfield. There is a Viscount Enfield. He is William Robert Byng, heir to the 8th Earl of Strafford. Viscount Enfield lives in Durham and is a computer systems developer. Lastly, we see two Enfields on our TV from time to time - father Edward and son Harry and I understand that Enfield is their real name.

So there you have the 'other Enfields': places, things and people.

Editor's note: Thanks to Betty for sharing her research with us - and to Thelma Sutton for finding Betty. Have any readers come across more Enfields, or been to any of those mentioned in these articles, or met Viscount Enfield or either of the TV Enfields?

Do let us know: see contact details Page 8

REUNION OF THE 1946 INTAKE

The Jolly Farmers was the venue with 33 people attending, including Shirley Bashem (Hughes) and Mary Maddocks (Farrington) who travelled from Spain. Mrs Westman (James/Hargreaves), now 81, sent form photos of IJ and also of her aeroplane which she flies from her home on Skye. Messages were also received from Julie Munro Ashman (Neale) in Australia and Lorna Bates (Head) in Canada. It was a happy gathering with old photos on display and exchanges of reminiscences and updates of news. The buffet lunch was excellent and Brenda Liddiard, who organised it all, was given a unanimous vote of thanks and asked to make the next gathering in two, rather than five, years' time.

IT'S A SMALL WORLD – SOME FURTHER EXAMPLES

From Pat Mullender (Gibson 1945-51):

Unlikely Place for Meeting an ECSOG

Whilst attending Keep Fit classes in my local village during the 1960's, we were informed that an important visitor – Mrs Barnett, Head of Physical Training for Hampshire – was coming to see our workout. Naturally we were a little apprehensive but determined to do our absolute best in the presence of such a notable person. As the class progressed, I suddenly recognised our “visitor” as **Barbara (“Bud”) Johnson (1941-48)** whom I had much admired from my lowly position as a Junior pupil. Barbara was not only a Prefect but also School Netball and Tennis Captain, as well as being House Captain of St Ursula's. I basked, for a long time, in the reflected glory of having been at school with her!

From Audrey Purnell (Tarrier 1945-51)

Keeping Others in Touch

Having personally established the pleasure and benefits of meeting up with ECS colleagues during the excellent bi-annual school reunions, the following recalls a visit in 2001 to the Jane Austen Museum in Bath.

Awaiting Pat Mullender's coach from Fleet, as the rain was tipping down, I was kindly invited to shelter in the museum where I busied myself looking through their literature in the presence of two female guides. I overheard their conversation about the schools they had attended and one spoke of the fact that she hadn't really enjoyed her school days. Feeling saddened by this, I mentioned that I had attended an excellent school – Enfield County – and one of the guides surprisingly said that was the same school she had attended. We excitedly discussed the merits of some of the teachers (and otherwise!) and our personal views of our time at ECS. In particular, Joan Hart's name was mentioned as an excellent teacher and a great help whilst studying Jean Anouilh's *Antigone*. Miss Cox's teaching abilities were also extolled.

I mentioned Joan's wonderful book, *ONWARD EVER*, which she had recently published. My new acquaintance expressed great interest and I offered to pass her name onto Joan to forward a copy to her. This obviously happened and imagine my delight when I read the name **Sue Leblond (Porter 1962-69)** on the 2001 List of Members, living in Bradford on Avon in Wiltshire.

Pat and I were later honoured to have Sue as our knowledgeable guide in the Jane Austen Centre, in which Miss Cox would have taken great pride. Hopefully our encounter has led to Sue being put in touch with some of her school colleagues.

From Iris Thomas (Hodges 1945-51)

Be Prepared – it can happen anywhere

In June 2004 our local Trefoil Guild visited Berwick Church to see the paintings by Duncan Grant. As we arrived, another car drew up and when the occupants saw our Trefoil sweaters, they said that they were also Trefoil members in Derby. Naturally we invited them to join our group looking round the Church. During conversation, one of them happened to mention Enfield. I was just about to say that I used to go to school there, when she spoke about her friends **Sylvia Hinder (1945-52)** and **Beryl Miller (1945-51)**. She was very surprised when I told her that I was in the same year as Sylvia and Beryl and that Beryl and I were in the same sixth form doing a commercial course! I wonder whether **Margaret Greatorex** and **Shirley Rowell** told Sylvia and Beryl about our meeting?

Editor's note: judging from the above, members of the 1945-52 cohort seem to inhabit a particularly small world. Or maybe they are just better at letting us know about the coincidences that they have experienced? Our thanks to Pat, Audrey and Iris. We hope that their accounts will have inspired others to write or email us and look forward to publishing many more vignettes in future editions. So, come on, let's be hearing from you!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

We are still looking for S Webster (Lane 1970-77) and her mother J Lane (Wilson 1940-46) missing since 2003 and in 2004 we lost touch with Mrs Pauline Wiles (Roberts 1939-44) of Long Eaton, Notts.

TRYING TO TRACE: Audrey Bailey would like to contact Joyce Prewer. Please send any information about the whereabouts of these people to Membership Secretary Margaret Meldrum address P. 8

ECSOGA Committee for 2005/6

Elected - Chair: Mrs Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52)
 Treasurer: Miss Ann Wickert (1954-59)
 Secretary: Mrs Beryl Muffett (Egan 1954-61)
 PR Officer: Mrs Carole Howell (Dyer 1962-69)
 Mem. Sec.: Mrs Margaret Meldrum (Clement 1956-63)
 General Members:

Mrs Pat Clarke (Ascroft 1945-50)

Ms Jean Endean (1958-63)

Dr Wendy Knowles (1957-64)

Mrs Janet Naylor (Riley 1949-54)

Miss Jean Savage (1947-53)

Miss Thelma Sutton (1945-50)

Mrs Nan Whitman (Lucas 1943-49)

Co-opted - Mrs Lynn Brana (Dabek 1963-70) Website
 Manager: Dr Jennifer Caddy (1961-68) Ms Lesley
 Pearson (1956-61) Mrs Helen Welsh (Hercok 1957-62)

To communicate with the Committee please see contact addresses below and on our website www.onwardever.org.uk Comments, suggestions and, in particular, news items about anyone and anything connected with ECS always most gratefully received

ECSOGA HISTORICAL MATERIAL WORKING PARTY

Chair: Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52)

Secretary: Mrs Harriett Nailon (Lott 1956-63)

General Members: Ms Helen Dordewic (1965-70),

Ms Brenda Saunders (1940-45) Miss Jean Savage (1947-53), Miss Marion Wiley (1951-58)

Correspondence etc. relating to Historical Material Project to Harriett Nailon – address below.

Texts of ECSOGA Spring Meetings Available Online

Online Members, many of whom are unable to come to ECSOGA meetings will be able to access slightly edited contributions of the 'Glass Ceiling' panel on the private Members' Website where they read the Newsletter. It is hoped that most of the 'Feast of Languages' contributions at the 2004 meeting will also be added and we hope to extend the coverage to future meetings.

Members may access the texts on:

Freespace.virgin.net/ecs.org

CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

1. The addition to the Constitution concerning Policy on Historical Material, agreed at the AGM in March 2005, will be printed in full in the Summary Minutes being sent out with the next Newsletter. Members who like to keep their paper work up-to-date can attach it to their copy of the Constitution. For the less administratively-minded, a copy of the Constitution is always available for reference at our events, on the Membership table.

2. In March 2006 it will be five years since the Constitution came into force. The Preamble specifies that there should be a review of the Operating Document section of the Constitution every five years, followed by re-ratification at the AGM. Accordingly, the Committee have begun work on this so as to be ready for next year. It is not envisaged that there will be need for great changes. Members will be informed of proposed alterations or additions with the AGM agenda.

If you have any comments or suggestions about changes or revisions to the Constitution, please contact Mary Stevenson at the address below, no later than 1 October 2005. Informal discussion of the review will also be possible at the Reunion: see Harriett Nailon, at the Membership table.

Contacting ECS former students over the Internet

Don't forget that ECSOGA has a **private online mailing list**, hosted by yahoogroups.com which is available to all former students of ECS (not just ECSOGA Members) to communicate as a group on the internet.

To subscribe to the mailing list: send a blank email to: ecsoga-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

or send an email to web@onwardever.org.uk asking to be added to the mailing list. You will receive an email from yahoogroups.com confirming that you have been subscribed to the mailing list. The mailing is free and you can unsubscribe at anytime. There have been some interesting exchanges in the two years of its operation and the more subscribers, the more interesting it becomes.

DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR BOOKING FORM FOR SEPTEMBER 10TH REUNION!

Contact details:

Membership Sec: Margaret Meldrum, 46 Heath Drive, Ware SG12 0RF Tel: 01920 461826

Newsletter Editor: Mary Stevenson, 45 Highview Gardens, Potters Bar EN6 5PN Tel: 01707 650560

Copy to: Harriett Nailon, 56 Palmerston Road, London SW19 1PQ Tel: 0208 363 5667

ECSOGA
 (Registered Charity No. 312623)
*keeping former students of Enfield County/Enfield Chace in-touch
 with each other and the School*

ADDITIONS TO THE LIST OF MEMBERS 1 July 2004 – 30 April 2005

We trust that the details given below are correct. As in previous years, please accept advance apologies for any errors and send corrections for publication in next year's list to :

The Membership Secretary:

Margaret Meldrum, 46 Heath Drive Ware, Herts SG12 0RF Phone: 01920 461826

Members are reminded that contact can be made with anyone on the List of Members by writing c/o ECSOGA Membership Secretary. Please put your name and address on the reverse of the envelope. Except in very unusual or urgent circumstances, ECSOGA does not give out addresses, even to other Members.

If you move house please let us know. Sadly, we lose track of someone every year – make sure you keep in-touch. We need you all.

<u>Current Name and Title</u>	<u>Name at ECS</u>	<u>Years at ECS</u>	<u>Residence</u>
Mrs. Rosemarie Green	Goodall	1942 –45	Suffolk
#Mrs Susan Lusher	Martin	1957 –64	Coggeshall, Essex
# Mrs. Mary Lower	Frances Griffiths	1945 –50	Nottingham
#Mrs Shirley Basham	Hughes	1946 –53	Malaga, Spain
#Mrs Jean Fawbert	Appleby	1946 – 52	Alton, Hants
#Ms Jeanne Pimentel	Duval	1946- 51	California, USA
#Mrs Jean Baine	Bryant	1946-51	Vancouver, Canada
Mrs Janet Pelham	Dennison	1945-50	Leatherhead, Surrey
Mrs Rosalind Edwards	Fletcher	1957–63	St Albans, Herts
#Mrs Julie Munro- Ashman	Neale	1946-54	Australia
Mrs Susan Pears	Davies	1957–64	Sedbury, Chepstow
Mrs Lesley Humphrey	Mason	1955–Jan 63	Romford, Essex
Mrs Lin Pearce	Cook	1955-62	Newton Abbot, Devon
#Mrs Doreen Haylock	Bignell	1946–52	Hadleigh, Essex
#Mrs Rose Toomer	Melleney	1940–45	New South Wales, Australia
Mrs Betty Dixon	Stone	1939–46	Carshalton Beeches Surrey
# Mrs Julie Gibson	Leyman	1970's	Enfield, Middx
# Mrs Paula Roll	Atkinson	1969–75	Goffs Oak, Herts
# Mrs Sally Busson	Childs		Enfield, Middx
# Mrs Marina Warden	Brown	1946–51	Watford, Herts
Mrs Florence Goodrich	Foulser	1946–51	Potters Bar, Herts
Mrs Alexa Mason	Romanes	1957-64	Newton Abbot, Devon

= Online Member

ECSOGA

(Registered Charity No. 312623)

All former students and former staff of Enfield County/Enfield Chase School are warmly invited to the

ANNUAL REUNION

in the Hall of the M C Sharp Building, Upper School, Holly Walk

Saturday 10 September 2005

from 12 noon until about 4 pm

(enter via Silver St. please - Holly Walk gate closed - there should be enough parking for everyone)

PROGRAMME

12.30 Opening Address by ECSOGA Chair Mary Stevenson

12.40 Address by Irene Byard, BA, J.P. Headmistress

12.55 Tour of NEW Building - optional

1.45 Buffet Lunch served

Sale of raffle tickets, old school magazines, M C Sharp booklets
Memorabilia display

3.45 Farewell and Jerusalem

A special welcome is extended to those cohorts celebrating their
Decade Marking i.e. all who entered ECS in the following years:

1938 1948 1958 1968 1978 1988

This is a very informal event with the emphasis on giving people time to talk and socialise. We look forward to welcoming you and your friends but don't be concerned about coming alone: Committee members make a point of introducing themselves and helping you to find your contemporaries. Carers (male or female) are also welcome.

£12 per person for the day

to include generous buffet lunch and drinks

(donations of cakes would be welcomed – any over to be added to the raffle prizes)

Capacity of the Hall is limited. To reserve your place please complete the slip below and send with your cheque to the Treasurer a.s.a.p. CLOSING DATE FOR BOOKINGS: Friday 2 SEPT

Please note: Lunch can be guaranteed only for those who have booked in advance

Any questions concerning the Reunion or Decade Marking please contact Membership Secretary, Margaret Meldrum on 01920 461826 OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE: www.onwardever.org.uk

cut here -----

To: ECSOGA Treasurer, 84 Hoodcote Gardens, London N21 2NE

FROM: Name _____ Maiden Name _____ Years at ECS _____

Please reserve _____ places @ £12 for the Reunion on 10 September 2005

Cheque / PO enclosed for £ _____ (Please make payable to ECSOGA)

I will bring a cake - yes/no (delete as appropriate)

We do not send out tickets or receipts. If a receipt is required please send a s.a.e.