
❖ ECSOGA Newsletter ❖

Issue 13

Registered Charity No. 312623

Summer 2006

From the Chair

Dear Members,

Firstly, on behalf of ECSOGA, I would like to welcome Ms Pamela Rutherford, Headteacher of ECS, as our new President. Pam has always been a great support to us in the past and we look forward to working closely with her in the future.

The past year has been an eventful one for the School. ECSOGA donated £1,000 towards the School's bid for Language College Status, which I am happy to say was successful. We commissioned a photographic portrait of Miss Irene Byard, on her retirement to go in the gallery of portraits of ECS Headmistresses and we contributed towards an additional portrait of Miss Byard, which was donated by the School for the new Byard Building completed at the end of last year.

Members who were at ECS during the Second World War contributed to a memorial booklet, which was reviewed in the last Newsletter by an ECS student. Ex Chair, Jean Potter and Secretary, Harriett Nailon undertook the 5 yearly revision of the ECSOGA Constitution.

Brenda Saunders (1940-45), aided by a number of ECS thespians, presented a tribute to the drama productions of Miss Flint and Miss Cox 1941-1968 which was enjoyed by everyone.

Our thanks to everyone who has worked to organise and participate in ECSOGA events and contribute to our publications.

Without **your** contributions we cannot continue to go *Onward Ever*.

Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52)



Diary Dates

Saturday 9 September 2006

ANNUAL REUNION

12 noon until about 4 pm
Decade Marking for those
who entered ECS in
1939/49/59/69/79/89

BOOKING FORM ENCLOSED

Saturday 10 March 2007

AGM & Spring Meeting

MUSIC AT ECS

Full details and booking form

Late January 2007

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

Contents	Page
Spring Meeting Cast Notes	2
News Roundup	3
7 Ages of Woman Advanced Teaching	4
Historical Material	5
Obituary	6
Memorial Fund	7
Committee Lists	8

SPRING MEETING REPORT

Miss Flint and Miss Cox Recalled with Great Affection and Professionalism

It was an ambitious project involving a dozen players, several off-stage contributors, whose memories and views were woven into the piece, and a specially written finale which could not be rehearsed until the morning of the performance. A speedy alteration to the running order and a slight rewrite was needed as one actor fell ill with a cold at the last moment. In keeping with theatrical tradition, it was "all right on the night" or, for us, on the afternoon.

The company of players held an audience of over 100 spell-bound for an hour and a half with a fluent account of drama activity at ECS from 1941-68. Scenes, by turns hilarious, touching, tense and nostalgic from plays as varied as *St Joan*, *Twelfth Night*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Richard of Bordeaux* were enacted without costumes or props but with a thorough understanding of the text and the clear diction and immaculate timing that the players had learned so many years ago from Miss Flint and Miss Cox.

Brenda Saunders, deviser and producer of the entertainment, introduced the players who explained how two wonderful teachers guided them in drama productions and in lessons. Miss Flint and Miss Cox had very different personalities with contrasting styles of teaching and directing but both were equally effective in achieving a string of memorable drama productions and in carving a special place in the affections of their pupils. Brenda posed some questions, notably on the sometimes vexed issue of girls playing men. The lively response from a wide age-range of the audience was further evidence of the warmth of feeling and depth of memory inspired by Kate and Doris. In short, ECSOGA is confident that the 2006 Spring Meeting provided a unique experience, arguably the equal of anything that Radio Four or BBC 2 could provide. The Committee will be eternally grateful to Brenda Saunders and the team of players for sharing their talent with us and for all their time and work which ensured such a fitting tribute to Miss Flint and Miss Cox. **See p2 for Cast**

SPRING MEETING 2006 *'This green plot shall be our stage . . .'* Additional Cast Notes

To give the audience a souvenir of the event, the organisers of the Spring Meeting produced a small brochure in the style of a theatre programme. Each of our twelve players was asked to provide a short description of her life and interests. A masterly précis, by Brenda Saunders, condensed the CVs to less than a side of A4. Here are a few facts which had to be left out or which emerged during the performance or afterwards.

Stella Bye (Arnold 1939-46) In addition to a teaching career of over 50 years duration, Stella at one time ran a restaurant at a riverside pub in Oxfordshire. She is an active member of the European Union of Women and a past chairman of its panel on international education.

Doreen Coker (Stableton 1937-44) A teacher at secondary, primary and adult levels, Doreen has clearly inspired her daughter who teaches the handicapped. Doreen was the player who had to withdraw because she had lost her voice. Happily she recovered quickly: it takes more than a cold to keep an ECS girl indoors!

Elizabeth Dixon (Betty Stone 1939-46) A graduate of Girton, Elizabeth was featured in an article in *The Tatler* in 1947 which profiled some of the young ladies who had recently gone up to Cambridge. By a marvellous coincidence, a copy of this article is now in our Memorabilia Collection. It will be on display at the Reunion on 9 September. Elizabeth has clear memories of Miss Flint's plays: she produced gales of laughter from the audience as she recalled that, as Ariel, she wore Miss Wood's bathroom curtain.

Diki Gleeson (Barbara Turpin 1943-50) In the 1949 production *Noah* Diki wanted to play the title part but was cast as Mrs Noah. ECSOGA was, therefore, delighted to grant Diki's wish, albeit over half a century late. Among her many theatre-related activities Diki says that Balkan song and dance is "top of the list".

Sally Packer (Sellick 1957-64) A teacher at Roedean School since 1969 and now Head of English, Sally commented on the clever timing of plays to enable concentrated holiday rehearsals and Miss Cox's insistence on male characters wearing appropriate, unflattering hats. Also recalled were the painted flying angels made by Mrs Hargrave (now Mrs Westman) for *Richard of Bordeaux* and the friendships forged at rehearsals.

Jeanne Pimentel (Duval 1946-51) Work at the BBC, including time on the production team of the famous *In Town Tonight*, was the first step in Jeanne's varied career. Love of travel took her to Australia. There she met and married an American and went to live in California, working in the film industry. Having raised her family, at the age of 53 Jeanne graduated in English and French from Berkeley and became a copyeditor. Jeanne says that as a school girl she perhaps had "more energy than was good for her" which sometimes led to her being in trouble. Obviously she still has great energy, dividing her time between her home and extended family in

America and a house in Kent, bought in 2004.

Madeleine Radburn (Gayler 1956-63) A senior manager in the NHS for 25 years, and, a leading light in the local 'Lions' with her husband, raising thousands of pounds each year for Oxfordshire charities. Reprising her 1960 role as Bottom, Madeleine had the audience roaring with laughter.

Alexa Romanes (1957-64) Known as Alexandra at ECS still uses her maiden name professionally. Her husband was a stage manager and is now freelance Arts Consultant: their three daughters all took theatre-related degrees. Trained at Rose Bruford College, winner of the 1967 Carlton Hobbs Student Award, Alexa has enjoyed a multi-faceted career which has involved acting, directing, producing, teaching and writing. Credits include membership of the BBC Repertory Company, touring with South West Music Theatre, and one-woman shows. Among her published works are three novels and 13 plays for children.

Brenda Saunders (1939-45) A stalwart supporter of ECSOGA in the last few years, Brenda is very well known to regular attenders and is also vividly remembered by her contemporaries and those in following years. Diki Gleeson can recall Miss Flint inviting Brenda, by then a graduate of the Old Vic Theatre School, to come to speak to some of the classes at ECS on the staging of Shakespeare. To write about Brenda seems, therefore, a trifle redundant. Suffice it to say that from the moment Brenda stepped up to the lectern to introduce *'This green plot shall be our stage'* the audience could tell that they were in the hands of a true professional and so they suspended all disbelief and entered into the spirit of the event.

Gill Shepherd (1954-62) An English degree and Dip Ed at Oxford, teaching in London and the Sudan and a PhD in anthropology from LSE led Gill to posts with Oxfam, the UK Department for International Development and, from 1985-2003, work with a Development Research Institute based in Central London. Gill, however, spent much of her time during those years in Africa and Asia and learned to speak Italian, Arabic, Swahili and some Indonesian. Now working freelance, Gill has an LSE professor husband, two step-daughters, two children of her own and a foster child, but no grandchildren – yet.

Joan Whitney (Lanning 1939-46) Now living in Norfolk having travelled extensively with her late husband, who was an Army veterinary surgeon, Joan is still intensely interested in drama and has attended Summer Schools at Stratford-upon-Avon. At the Spring Meeting Joan gave a spirited portrayal of Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, with Stella Bye and Muriel Yates-Mercer as Lysander and Demetrius, respectively.

Muriel Yates-Mercer (Allen 1937-44) In addition to a degree in English and a teaching qualification, Muriel took a diploma course in her spare time at the London Guildhall School of Music and Drama. After a life-time in teaching she is still an avid reader and likes all word games. Recalling the drama activity at ECS Muriel said "I learned a great deal about shaping scenes for maximum dramatic effect, and stagecraft in general. In common with so many others I enjoyed our acting immensely."

Well said! Bravo! Encore!

MEMBERS' NEWS

Congratulations to Meriel Downey (Dasley 1942-49) on gaining a degree from the Open University. Meriel says that she "became hooked" on doing OU modules when, for health reasons, she was forced to give up work. As she already holds two degrees she had no intention of gaining a further one but the courses were so interesting that one led to another until she had achieved a BSc (Hons). As Members may be aware, not all OU qualifications are named degrees. The major part of Meriel's courses related to Health and Social Welfare. After a distinguished career in education, which included posts as lecturer and Dean at Goldsmith's College, Meriel took early retirement and then worked for nine years as an auxiliary nurse and in a Health Information Centre. This prompted her to begin her OU studies.

While Meriel is an exemplar of life-long learning, her great friend from ECS, **Pat Barker (Butt 1942-49)** demonstrates that there is also such a thing as a life-long teaching. Having started teaching German to adults in the early 1970s, when her children went off to school, Pat is still going strong in the Adult Education service and has no thoughts of retiring. What a case of ONWARD EVER!

Jean Endean (1958-63) is also due congratulations. Conferences are a regular part of a finance director's job if your employer is the US marketing services giant, Omnicom, with its 1,000 companies throughout the world. However, a recent conference in Budapest, proved to be very memorable for Jean Endean. The worldwide CFO announced a new initiative for which he was about to ask five people to join him. As her name was called, Jean wondered what on earth she had been volunteered for. Imagine her surprise when it was revealed that one person from each of the company's five networks had been nominated for an excellence award for strategic direction of their business, outstanding performance, and consistent results. Jean says "Not only was this one of the proudest moments of my career, but I retire in three years' time and this is a great finale."

As a permanent souvenir, Jean received a beautiful piece of crystal and a euro cheque which is going towards building an extension to her house in France.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

EC SOGA's new President, Mrs Pamela Rutherford, took time out from her first hectic weeks as Head of ECS to be with us at the AGM and Spring Meeting. We were also delighted to welcome the new Deputy Head of the School, Miss Debbie Upton, whose responsibilities include delivery and development of the curriculum. Mrs Rutherford gave the assembled Members and their guests a brief account of recent events at Holly Walk and Rosemary Avenue. Before there was time for the Head to get her feet under her new desk, OFSTED gave three day's notice of a visit. This short notice period is the new standard procedure for these inspections. No doubt many Members will be able to envisage the situation clearly. Needless to say, ECS sailed through the visit with flying colours and received an excellent report. Congratulations all round!

The Head also gave us an insight into what being a Specialist Language College means for staff and students. For example, ECS can now call upon the services of an Advanced Skills Teacher in French, the only such post in the LEA. Meanwhile 48 Business and Media students have recently visited France and nine have completed work experience placements in France and Spain. Year 7 was looking forward to an activity weekend in France while Year 9 have a skiing trip in the French Alps planned for next year. Also in 2007, 19 ECS girls will be part of a World Challenge team at an event taking place in Central America. This will give students of Spanish an opportunity to become fluent in double-quick time plus some experience of the variety of accents that are found in the different countries of Latin America.

The Enfield Independent carried a news item in February about a group of eight ECS students, led by Ellie Smith, aged 16, who organised a bands competition to raise money for Richard House Children's Hospice in Canning Town. The event, held in November 2005 at Enfield Highway Community Centre, attracted seven bands and an audience of over 400. The band judged to be the best on the night, called Surburus, won £100 and the Hospice received a cheque for £1000. The organising team visited Richard House during the Christmas holidays to meet the children and find out more about the work of the Hospice.

NEWS OF FORMER MEMBERS OF STAFF

Mr Martin Fieldhouse, who taught history at ECS 1975-85 is now permanently resident in Thailand. A Cambridge graduate, Mr Fieldhouse changed professions and joined the Education Authority in Maidstone but then decided to move abroad. He now trains scuba divers for their exams and is thoroughly enjoying it. In between diving trips in the Coral Sea, off Australia, and around Tasmania he also helps one of his former scuba diving students who has opened a dive shop. Anyone wishing to write to Mr Fieldhouse can send a letter via Mrs Joan Hart, but please remember to put the correct amount of postage for Thailand – i.e. World Zone 1.

Mrs Elizabeth Westman (James/Hargrave) Art teacher 1946-75, continues to enjoy life on the Isle of Skye producing pottery, piloting her own plane and photographing the spectacular scenery. March 2006 brought very heavy snow with roads impassable for five days. So much snow is unusual Mrs Westman says "and luckily we always keep our deep-freeze well stocked . . . if any Member happens to come to Skye we do hope you will phone and come for a cup of tea or coffee". Mrs Westman's phone no. is available from Harriett Nailon – see page 8.

SPRING MEETING FINALE

"This green plot shall be our stage . . ." closed with this specially written piece based on a passage from Act II Scene 7 of *As You Like It*: the Seven Ages of Man speech. For us, of course, it had to be

THE SEVEN AGES OF WOMAN

by Brenda Saunders

All the world's a stage
And the men and women merely players
We've had our exits and our entrances
And each girl in her time played many parts.
Her acts are now quite changed. The infant first
Mewling and puking for oft needle jabbed.
At three or four popped in the school-run car
Or trotted, hand well gripped 'gainst naughty folk
Who lurk on route. Then lo! the adolescent
Much plagued by boys and hormone change.
Now add the trials of tests and those exams
A.L. and A.S. starred, G.C.S.E.
All helpfully dreamed up by powers that be.
Despite all these a woman now appears
With equal rights to work or not, and do
Those jobs that erstwhile men preserved. A priest,
Department chief, an engineer or boss
Perhaps she'll teach like Ms(s) Flint and Cox.
Adept at lap tops, mobile phones and Web
She still plays mother, carer and can cook.
She watches diet, joins the gym and knows
The coming years need not be lean or dread
With bus pass, pension and more cash for heat.
To live to be hundred is less rare
And honoured by a royal telegram.

So gathered in this old familiar space
By friendship and shared memories revived
We're well prepared to look benign on youth.
No eye severe, no mere oblivion
But golden girls not quite yet come to dust.
We end this strange eventful history
By kind permission of the National Health
With teeth, with eyes, with hips, with everything.

© Copyright Brenda Saunders 2006

NOTE: Brenda is happy for this piece to be copied or reproduced by ECSOGA Members provided that she is credited and her copyright is acknowledged.

Advanced Teaching Skills in Action

Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52)

I was delighted to be given the opportunity to sit in and observe in action M. Gael Luzet, the Advanced Skills Teacher in French at ECS. I attended a one hour session with Class 8F who were halfway through their second year of learning French. It is a mixed ability class of students, some of whom have severe literacy problems. The main theme was clothes and colours, which is the first stage in their term's project of 'Fashion'. This will include designing advertisements for clothes etc and appearing on a cat-walk in class in their own clothes.

Each desk had an A5 sheet headed *Les couleurs en français* with a list of 12 colours in French and below 12 circles each with a colour in English above it. As the class was settling down and project/work books were being returned to the students, they had to fill in the appropriate French equivalent in the circle. At the bottom of the page they had to select *La couleur que je préfère c'est _____* : *La couleur que je déteste le plus, c'est _____*.

The lesson began with the *Smartboard*, perhaps best described as an electronic interactive whiteboard. With a tap on an appropriate part of the board an image or a question appeared and, with another tap, a coat, shirt or pair of shoes would change colour. The class was prompted to answer the questions which appeared. Some were keen, others had to be singled out to answer. Correct answers were given a round of a applause by the class and teacher, incorrect responses were queried and encouragement given to think again. Every now and then the students were given a short exercise to be entered on the presentation page of their exercise books. Sometimes these were done with a neighbour, sometimes individually.

M Luzet walked around looking at the books, stamping them with a red 'smiley' image for a good answer and neat page. Quite by chance I sat next to a student whose book was beautifully presented, clear easily legible handwriting and well laid out.

At the end of an exercise, when the correct answers had been established the whole class would read out the answers in unison. There was a game of 'oui oui - non non' when a series of flash cards relating to the words already covered were shown. M Luzet called out a description and the class members had to respond 'oui oui' or 'non non' as appropriate.

At one point one of the students (of lower ability) answered a question correctly and was congratulated and told to take over teaching, using the *Smartboard*, which she seemed to enjoy, once she got the hang of it. The whole lesson was conducted at quite a fast pace combining various ways of presenting new information, teaching aspects of grammar and including the revision of adjectival endings.

M. Luzet obviously has a very good relationship with the class. His teaching is lively and full of energy, making the hour go by very quickly and giving no one time to get bored. Asked if he finds this method of teaching tiring M Luzet admitted that it is, because it is so physical, however, it is also extremely rewarding.

HISTORICAL MATERIAL PROJECT

PROGRESS REPORT

In the early part of the year the Working Party concentrated on preparing the 80 or so sheets of photographs from the **Doris Cox Bequest** which were displayed at the Spring Meeting. Also on display on 11 March were several scrap-books relating to recent drama activity at ECS including details of the course requirements for GCSE Drama which drew a few “wish there had been that sort of exam on offer in our day” remarks. Our thanks to **Miss Fiona Keepence**, Head of Drama, for lending us this fascinating material which gave clear evidence that the traditions of Miss Flint and Miss Cox are alive and well. Thanks are due also to English teacher **Mrs Ann Kent** who, as **Ann Cammack** was herself at the School from 1962-69 and took part in Miss Cox’s last two plays. Ann provided us with very useful background information during the preparations for the Spring Meeting and took time during her lunch break to attend one of the Working Party meetings. Both teachers had planned to come on 11 March but, at the last moment, were unable to be with us. We trust that we may see them at an ECSOGA event in the near future.

The Doris Cox Bequest contains 340 photographs from 27 plays plus about 40 other drama related items: cast lists, reviews, informal photographs. We trust that Members will understand that it is going to take some time to prepare all of this material for display. So far we have prepared less than 25% of the material. The captioning may have to be considered as ‘work in progress’ for several years and it may well be that some photographs will never be fully labelled. The Working Party is most grateful to those who have assisted us with names for the captions and looks forward to receiving more help as time goes by. We always welcome additions and corrections and will try to incorporate amendments as soon as possible after notification – and verification. The need for verification arises because sometimes we are given conflicting information about names, dates, scenes or roles. Time can play tricks even with ECS-trained memories!

Meanwhile the **Reminiscences File** is growing slowly but surely. The question, in last summer’s Newsletter, about the vexed issue of females taking male roles in drama productions brought two very thoughtful and interesting contributions. **Nancy Bower (Thompson 1932-39)** has written about the French plays produced by Miss Forrest and has included some sketches of costumed characters such as *Le Misanthrope* in full 17th century attire complete with Louis XIV-style wig. **Sue Le Blond (Porter 1962-9)** has written most amusingly about a variety of things including the problems of trying to get into the appropriate frame of mind to be Sir Toby Belch for lunch-time rehearsals while wearing a “dolly rocker dress . . . (with) Peter Pan collar and hem some six inches above the knee.” Despite there being three decades between Nancy’s and Sue’s experiences, there are some remarkable similarities in their views and perceptions of girls playing men. This is the sort of comparative material which will make the Reminiscences project so valuable for future

readers. So, **please keep the articles coming!**

The snippets from **Ruth Simmons (Leigh 1965-72)**, printed in the last Newsletter, prompted **Jeanette Prior (1958-64)** to reminisce about a number of items and, in particular her appreciation of Miss Millen’s English lessons. To date, however, the star contributor of Reminiscences is **Lesley Humphrey (Mason 1955-63)** who has written several pieces including *Sixth Form Geographers – Memories of Field Work 1960-62* illustrated with excellent photographs. One of the photos is a beautiful shot of Rex, Mrs Wooldridge’s golden cocker spaniel, still remembered with great affection by many. One of Rex’s several tricks was finding Mrs Wooldridge’s glove after it had been deliberately buried in leaves or bracken. The Reminiscence File will be on display at the September Reunion for Members to see for themselves the quality of the material that we are gathering. Thank you to all who have contributed so far – and to those who will contribute in the future. If we could give out Good Work Marks, all those mentioned above would get one, except Lesley who would get two!

At the time of going to press, the Working Party is searching for material to display at the Reunion which we hope will be of special interest to this year’s Decade Marking cohorts i.e. those who entered ECS in years ending in 9. As always, we hope that Members will bring along some of their own historical material as well. If the items brought along are of particular significance to the history of the school or to an important event the Working Party will take the liberty of asking for a copy for the Memorabilia Collection.

So, please, **DO bring your own photos and mementoes and DON’T be shy about showing them to a member of the Historical Material Working Party: see list of names on page 8.**

REMINDER to those kind people who responded to the 2003 Questionnaire and agreed to send us material. As reported in the last Newsletter, we now have plenty of storage space in our new cupboard and so can take delivery of the promised items whenever it is convenient for you. We look forward to hearing from you or, better still, seeing you at the Reunion on 9 September. Please send items to me at the address on page 8 or find me at the Reunion. Thank you all for your continuing support for the Historical Material Project. More news next time!

Harriett Nailon, Secretary to the Historical Material Working Party

<p>WHERE ARE THEY NOW?</p> <p>WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Eileen Sheen (Lark 1932-37) is no longer at her former home in Sandwich, Kent. News of her current address would be much appreciated by our Membership Secretary, please, details page 8. Please remember to inform us if you are moving house: we need you all!</p>
--

OBITUARY

Mrs Sue Chapman (Phillips 1957-64)

Jan Carrington (Gwynn 1957-64) and Sue Lusher (Martin 1957-64) write:

Sue Chapman led a full and active life. She worked hard and played hard and her premature death from ovarian cancer, in March 2005, was a great loss to family and friends.

At ECS she excelled academically and went on to study economics at Birmingham University. She was a keen sports-woman, playing tennis and squash for school, university and club teams. She also enjoyed a game of bridge and sought out fellow players wherever she was living. After university she started work as a teacher but soon decided it wasn't the right career choice and she moved into IT.

Sue married Dick Chapman in 1972. She loved the business world and she was soon back at work after the birth of her children. A life of domesticity was not sufficient challenge for her! Fortunately she was extremely well organised and she was able to combine home life and work with apparent ease. She also managed to enjoy a busy social life and loved entertaining people at home.

Later, when retirement was in sight, Sue and Dick decided to seek a warmer climate and settle in Spain. Sue used her linguistic skills and was soon able to speak Spanish well enough to negotiate with locals in their native tongue. Unfortunately, she was not able to enjoy this new life for long before she became ill. Sue is survived by her husband Dick, children Hannah and David and two grandchildren. Sadly, she did not live long enough to see her second grandchild. Several of Sue's ECS classmates were among the many who attended a memorial service in Welwyn, shortly after her death.

SPRING MEETING POSTSCRIPT

We were delighted to receive a letter from Dr. Lorna Flint, who is well remembered by those at ECS in the late 1940's as Miss Flint's youngest sister and occasional helper with School plays. Dr. Flint was Head of English at Wycombe Abbey where, co-incidentally, Elizabeth Dixon (Betty Stone 1939-46) did her term of teaching practice. At one point there were three Miss Flints teaching English at Wycombe Abbey as Dr. Flint was joined on the staff by her niece and then, to cover for a colleague suddenly taken ill, Kate came out of retirement to teach O level English two days a week. A little later Kate also took on some teaching at King Edward's School in Stratford, working with Sixth Form boys in the room where Shakespeare had been a pupil.

Urgently Wanted YOUR REMINISCENCES

Next time you meet and chat with some of your contemporaries from school, send us a note of what you chatted about, whether it was the excitement of a previous World Cup Football event, the effect of Wimbledon tennis fashions, or the School's reactions to a major national or international disaster. This is your contribution to recording 20th century history, so please send your reminiscences to:

HMWP Secretary: Harriett Nailon (address p. 8).

Catering Matters

There have been problems with our catering arrangements for at least the last three meetings. On one or two of these occasions Members were probably not aware of any difficulty, as Committee Members dropped everything to get the buffet ready on time. Current food safety legislation means that food cannot be collected from the suppliers until the morning of the meeting. The order for the food is usually put in a week beforehand to be collected and taken into the School by about 10.30 am. On two consecutive occasions the orders were mislaid by the suppliers and Committee Members had to spend a considerable amount of time trying to sort things out and find replacement items. Although, in some instances, we gained financially by the suppliers' errors, there was still a last minute rush for the Committee to try and organise the buffet, once the person collecting the food had finally managed to get to the School.

If food were to be collected or prepared beforehand, we would need to carry quite considerable insurance to cover any hint of food poisoning arising from one of our meetings. We therefore, as an experiment, tried the Borough Caterers for the 2006 AGM & Spring Meeting. This was not a success, but it may well have been due to a last minute substantial increase in numbers and an inadequate briefing to the caterers. We are trying again at the Reunion and will make every effort to see that the caterers are fully and adequately briefed.

We know that Catering Matters, but it would be useful to have positive feedback, suggestions, and offers of help from Members. Offers, please, to Mary Stevenson- address p8.

THE MEMORIAL FUND TAKING STOCK AND LOOKING AHEAD – PART III

by Jean Endean and Harriett Nailon

In our article in the Winter 2005/6 Newsletter we detailed how Members might assist ECSOGA to strengthen the Memorial Fund. **ENCLOSED WITH THIS NEWSLETTER IS A FORM FOR ANNUAL or MONTHLY DONATIONS** which we trust you will find helpful.

BEQUESTS - in cash and kind

The article also made a mention of the sensitive topic of **BEQUESTS**. Put simply, **we are asking, please, for every Member to consider remembering the Memorial Fund and ECSOGA in her Will.** There are three ways that you might do this.

The Trustees of the Memorial Fund will be very grateful for monetary bequests, however modest.

If your Will has already been drawn-up it is not difficult to add a small, personal bequest: a letter to your executors, in your own hand, witnessed and dated by someone who is not an ECSOGA Member, should suffice. Your executors should be advised to make the bequest payable to ECSOGA Fund and send it to ECSOGA Treasurer whose address can be obtained from the current Newsletter or our website www.onwardever.org.uk or from the School office.

You may also wish to use your Will to help ECSOGA itself. Obviously this will be greatly appreciated and will ease the pressure on the Committee - always a worthwhile objective. This part of your bequest will need to be made payable to ECSOGA. As Members are aware the Committee is legally bound to keep ECSOGA's money strictly separate from the Memorial Fund. The Treasurer operates several accounts to ensure that this is done and so bequest instructions need to clearly state which account name to put on the cheque. Posthumous donations will be recorded in the Official Minute Book and in the Newsletter. If you wish otherwise, your generosity will be listed as an anonymous bequest. Please let your wishes be known to your executors and we shall carry them out.

The third way that you can help ECSOGA after your death is by contributing material for the Historical Material Project.

This need not involve your Will, as such, and is perhaps more conveniently done in a note to your family or friends. We would like to suggest, please, that you prepare a note to your next of kin, or whoever will be dealing with your personal effects, asking that any items relating to ECS or ECSOGA, which are not wanted by your family and friends, be passed to ECSOGA for use in our Memorabilia Collection or for the

School Archive. Should your photos, school magazines, school play programmes, etc. not be required for our Collection or by the School, ECSOGA will offer them to other Members or interested parties and so, if at all possible, make sure that your memorabilia finds an appreciative berth.

The names of donors to the Memorabilia Collection are going to be recorded in the Reference Section of the Collection and your name will be added to this list even if, because of duplications, we do not actually use the items that you bequeath to ECSOGA. If, however, you prefer to donate your memorabilia anonymously we shall, of course, honour your decision.

This article has been difficult to write. We are asking for money - and more - and foreshadowing sad events. We trust, however, that Members will read our words in the spirit in which they have been composed. The Memorial Fund enables ECSOGA and its Members to show our appreciation for all the benefits we received from ECS, its teachers and our fellow pupils by supporting the School and giving prizes and encouragement to the students of today and tomorrow.

ECSOGA is confident that Members will wish to help us make sure that the Memorial Fund can continue as a tangible expression of our gratitude to ECS.

We particularly want to try to help 21st century ECS students as the costs of Higher Education are now much greater than in the period following 1945. ECSOGA would like to be able to again provide bursaries to assist with post-school studies. A small sum enabling a student to have one summer without the need for a full time job may make the difference between a 2.1 gained with enthusiasm and a pass secured in tired disillusion. The Memorial Fund has not awarded any bursaries for over a decade. To begin to do so again requires considerable funds and will be beyond our reach for a few years yet - but ECSOGA believes that **now is the time to start building-up the Memorial Fund to try to make it equivalent to its value in 1952.** We are aiming for it to stand at £30,000 before too long.

We are also confident that Members will realise that preserving the ephemera of everyday school-life in the Memorabilia Collection is a small, but accessible and significant, way of ensuring that some fragments of the School's history and heritage will go **ONWARD EVER** and be available to future generations.

**THANK YOU FOR READING THIS ARTICLE
AND FOR ANY HELP YOU CAN GIVE**

ECSOGA Committee for 2006/7

Date in square brackets [] refers to year elected to present post. Some Members previously co-opted.

Elected:

Chair: Mrs Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52) [2004]
 Treasurer: Miss Ann Wickert (1954-59) [1992]
 Secretary: Mrs Beryl Muffett (Egan 1954-61) [2004]
 PR Officer: Mrs Carole Howell (Dyer 1962-69) [2000]
 Membership Sec.: Mrs Margaret Meldrum (Clement 1956-63) [2004]

General Members:

Mrs Pat Clarke (Ascroft 1945-50) [2005]
 Ms Jean Endean (1958-63) [2004]
 Dr Wendy Knowles (1957-64) [2003]
 Mrs Janet Naylor (Riley 1949-54) [2004]
 Miss Jean Savage (1947-53) [2005]
 Miss Thelma Sutton (1945-50) [2003]
 Mrs Nan Whitman (Lucas 1943-49) [2003]

Co-opted - Website Manager: Dr Jennifer Caddy (1961-68)

*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: Mrs Mary Stevenson (Bruno 1946-52)
 Secretary: Mrs Harriett Nailon (Lott 1956-63)
 General Members: Ms Helen Dordewic (1965-70)
 Mrs Lesley Humphrey (Mason 1955-63)
 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

CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS

The amendments to the Constitution concerning length of service on the Committee, agreed at the AGM in March 2006, will be printed in full in the Summary Minutes being sent out with the Winter 2006/7 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.

LOOKING AHEAD

**Next Meeting:
Annual Reunion****Saturday 9 September 2006****Booking Form Enclosed**

Why not log on to www.friendsreunited.co.uk to see if former class-mates who are not ECSOGA Members would like to meet you at the Reunion?

Extra Booking Forms on
www.onwardever.org.uk

**DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR
 BOOKING FORM FOR
 SEPTEMBER 9TH REUNION!**

SPRING MEETING**SATURDAY 10 MARCH 2007****AGM and buffet lunch, followed by*****Music at ECS***

Hettie Benjamin, Dilys Pollard (Thomas), Eve Barsham and others will entertain us with their recollections, recordings, photographs and programmes of Music at Enfield County School. If you would like to send us your memories or mementoes please contact :

Mary Stevenson at address below

Contact details: Treasurer: Miss Ann Wickert, 84 Hoodcote Gardens, London N21 2NE

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: 020 8543 6830

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 2005 – 30 April 2006

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>
Miss Janet Moscrop		1952-58	Enfield, Middx
Mrs Janet Shepherd	McGregor	1948-54	Guildford, Surrey
#Mrs Valerie Howlett	Eastabrook	1961 –67	Redruth, Cornwall
Mrs Patricia Branchflower	Gregory	1953 –58	Welwyn, Herts
Miss Irene Byard (Staff Life)		1985 -2005	Romford, Essex
Mrs N Collinge (Staff Life)		-2005	Enfield, Middx
#Mrs Susan Mellor	Kirby	1954 – 61	Hitchin, Herts
Miss Jeanette Prior	Prior	1958 – 64	Lewisham, SE13
#Mrs Maureen Clarke	Frazer	1948 – 53	Great Yarmouth, Norfolk
Miss Hale Ahmet	Ahmet	1989 – 96	Woodford Green, Essex
Mrs Carol Cranford	Godfrey	1954 – 61	Worthing, Sussex
Mrs Pamela Boyland	Friend	1947 – 52	Enfield, Middx

Change of Address

Miss Willa Hislop	1969 – 76	Worthing, Sussex
-------------------	-----------	------------------

= 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 9 September 2006

from 12 noon until about 4 pm

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

PROGRAMME

- 12.30 Opening Address by ECSOGA Chair Mary Stevenson
- 12.45 Address by Ms Pamela Rutherford BA, MA(Ed) NPQH Headmistress
- 1pm Buffet Lunch served
- Sale of raffle tickets, old school magazines, M C Sharp booklets
- Memorabilia display
- 2.15 Tour of NEW Building - optional
- 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:

1939 1949 1959 1969 1979 1989

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 welcome to attend.

£12 per person for the day
to include generous buffet lunch and drinks

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 1 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 9 September 2006

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

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

If you are NOT a Member of ECSOGA please write your address on the reverse of this slip.

ECSOGA

(Registered Charity No: 312623)

Standing Order Mandate

Account Name

.....
(Insert name of account payments are to be made from):

Account Number: Sort code:.....

Instruction:

Please pay CAF Bank Ltd

Branch address 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent ME19 4JQ

Account number: 00091235 Sort code: 40-52-40

Beneficiary's name: Enfield County School Old Girls' Association Fund

The sum of £..... Amount in words:.....

Date of first payment ____/____/____

and thereafter on the same day (or nearest bank working day) every / month*/ quarter*/ year* until further notice or until:

Date of final payment* ____/____/____
**(Please delete as appropriate)*

Quoting reference _____ and debit our account accordingly

Please cancel any previous standing order in favour of this beneficiary under this reference

Special instructions: (e.g. amount of first or last payment, if different).....
.....

Authorisation

Name Name

Signature Signature

Date Date
(To be signed in accordance with your mandate)

CUT HERE-----

PLEASE COMPLETE THE UPPER PART OF THIS FORM AND SEND TO YOUR BANK

To ensure that ECSOGA properly records and acknowledges your generosity PLEASE COMPLETE THIS SLIP & SEND TO: **The ECSOGA Treasurer, 84 Hoodcote Gardens, Winchmore Hill, London N21 2NE**

FROM: Miss/Mrs/Ms _____

Address _____

I have arranged with my bank to pay £ _____ monthly/quarterly/annually (delete as appropriate) to the Memorial Fund Account

GIFT AID – To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we will claim in the tax year (currently 28p for each £1 you give)

Signed _____ Date _____