

Newsletter

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September 2010

Welcome to the September issue of the Newsletter.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Please note that the Association's Annual General Meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Monday October 11th 2010 in the Staff Room at Marling School.

Annual Dinner

As you know, 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of the School opening on the Downfield site and your Committee thinks it appropriate that this should be celebrated and commemorated by making the 2010 Dinner a particularly special one.

One of the implications of this is that we are expecting a higher than usual demand for tickets this year. The Annual Dinner is always a popular occasion and is consistently over-subscribed. We have therefore made arrangements for this year's event to be held at a different venue from our usual 'home' at Marling School.

Full details are given below.

1) Venue

The 'Marquee', The Whitminster Inn, Bristol Road (A38), Whitminster, Glos. GL2 7NY, Tel: 01452 740234.
(Please note – the post code should be reliable for satnavs)

The 'Marquee' will accommodate over two hundred guests and is fully furnished, heated and equipped.

There is ample parking space on site.

2) Date and Time

Date: Friday, 12th November 2010

Time: 7:00pm for 8:00pm – midnight.

3) Tickets

Ticket price is £19.65. This will include a complimentary copy of the Centenary Magazine which will be available on the night.

Tickets will be available from your usual sources or direct from the Secretary (David Boulton) on application and on receipt of cash or cheque made payable to S.T.S.O.B.A., ideally accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

4) Refreshments

(a) There will be a 'cash bar' in the Marquee serving a full range of beers, wines, spirits and soft drinks.

(b) *Corkage*:- Guests sometimes prefer to bring their own bottles of wine and, of course, may continue to do so. However, we must draw to your attention that at the Marquee a 'corkage charge' of £3:00 per bottle will be made and collected on arrival. This is standard practice amongst proprietors of licensed premises and, indeed, the amount charged is sometimes considerably higher than this. Your Committee has, in fact, been successful in negotiating a substantial discount to the usual corkage charge and we hope that guests will accept and appreciate this with good grace.

5) Menu

This is, at present, in the process of being finalised but will include a starter, main and dessert courses followed by a cheese board and coffee.

Special diets can, within reason, be catered for. If you have any concerns or requests regarding this, please contact the Secretary as soon as possible.

6) Speakers

Tony Andrews has kindly accepted an invitation to speak at the Dinner. Other guest speakers have yet to be confirmed.

7) Prize Draw

Raffle tickets will be sold in the usual way on the night and the Prize Draw will be held during the course of the evening.

We are greatly indebted to our President, Mr. Keith Urch, who has kindly offered to provide the prizes.

8) Transport and Accommodation

Details of taxi services can be obtained directly from the Whitminster Inn.

Accommodation is also available at the venue. Those interested are advised to make enquiries as early as possible.

N.B. Whilst every effort will be made to adhere to the above arrangements, circumstances beyond our control may oblige us to alter certain details at short notice and we apologise in advance should this be the case.

Obituary

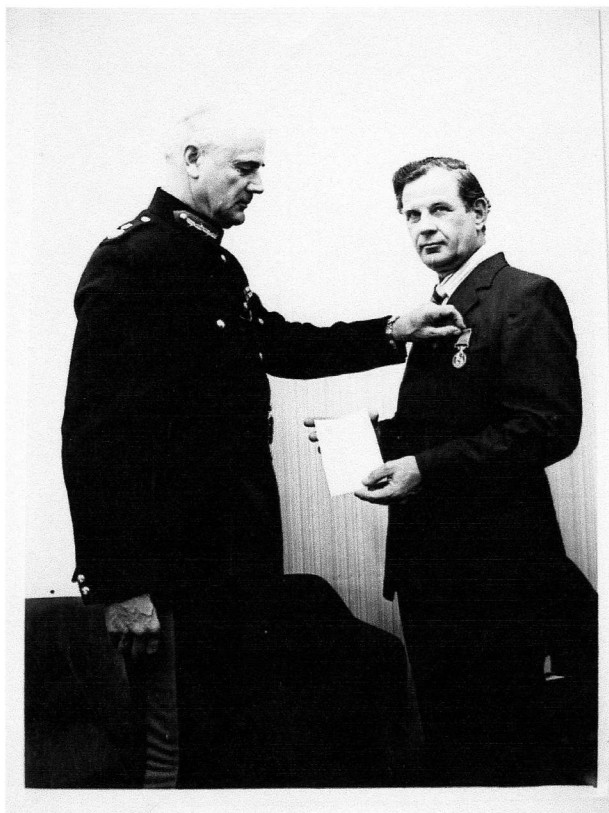
We are sad to have to announce the death of John Camm (1937-41, Scott House) on June 16th a short while before his 84th birthday.

John was our 'newsletter postman' in Saul for many years.

Born in Frampton-on-Severn he cycled to School at Downfield every day. Mr. Elliott states in John's leaving testimonial that he had 'practically perfect attendance' and had clocked up something in the order of 17000 miles during his school career.

On leaving School at 15 he joined Hoffmans Ltd. in Stonehouse. He became an RAF reserve volunteer at 17 before being called up at 18, training with the Gloucestershire Regiment and then joining the Worcestershire Regiment in India in 1945. Duties with the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in Japan, Singapore and Malaya ended on arrival and subsequent demobilisation back home in 1948.

Rejoining Hoffmans he completed his career there, retiring in 1987. He was devoted to his work and his conscientiousness was rewarded in 1978 with the honour of the British Empire Medal with the added citation:- 'An outstanding employee maintaining loyal service to the Company.'



John receives the British Empire Medal from Col. M. St. J. V. Gibbs, Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire, in 1978.

Devoted to his wife, Margaret, he is survived by daughter, Mary and son, Gerald.

Known as the local 'Mr. Fix-it' his skills learned at the 'Central School' were constantly put to good use!

We must also regretfully say goodbye to **Ronald William Clissold (1931-33)** who died on June 26th aged 90.

A Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather, he left School to train as an upholsterer and was a former landlord of the long gone Court House Inn at France Lynch. He was later the proprietor of a sweet shop in Stroud.

Old Boys' News

Mike Peacey writes:-

'Hi David, I was in Drake House, as I remember, but no great sporting achievements except bunking off on a Wednesday afternoon and whilst thumbing a lift to Painswick being picked up by History Master, Mr. Plumb. He never let on but warned us not to try it again!'

Stan Thain writes from Portugal:-

'We, as sometimes naughty lads, used to hold the governors down so that the gas engine (in the workshop) raced like the dickens.

I recall that one day during the war when all pupils had to be accounted for, I took the opportunity to skive a day and failed to report. W.G.E. had another idea and sent a scholar on his bicycle to inform me to report to School A.S.A.P. causing me some anxious moments. The error of my ways was pointed out to me and I got off really lightly under the circumstances.'

Tony Dadson emails from Australia:-

'Arrived at the Stroud Boys Tech in 1952 and left (not exactly in a blaze of glory) in 1957; joined the Royal Navy the same year and left same in 1968.

I spent a year with the RAF as a civilian radar maintenance person.

Having never been to the Antipodes, my wife and I became ten pound poms and arrived in Australia on January the thirteenth, a Friday, on wharf thirteen.

We now have two daughters and five grand daughters.

I am now retired and resting on my laurels, such as they are.'

Congratulations to John Mutton (1950 – 55), secretary of Brimscombe and Thrupp AFC, who was awarded Stroud District Football League Secretary of the Season Trophy.

And finally:-

Overheard while passing Room 2: "Sir, how long is a metre rule, Sir?"

That's all for now, chaps.

Get in touch! Keep in touch!

Chas Webb, Hon. News Editor.
