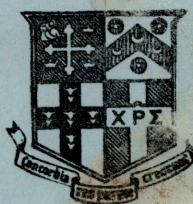


COXAN

CLAPHAM OLD XAVERIANS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



N 1971

NO 2/71

Editor Brian W Pryke 8 Beverley Court SE4 (01) 692 4001

I hereby give notice that the 37th Annual General Meeting of the Clapham Old Xaverians Association will be held on Friday 8th October at 7.30 pm in the Clubhouse at Norbury.

D. M. MARTIN
Secretary

We do hope this meeting will be well supported as the past year has seen several important changes and the picture is somewhat unclear. This is YOUR chance to let us know how YOU feel - so do try to come along on 8th October. We should also like to receive your nominations for Committee posts for 1971/72.

MEMBERSHIP

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We include below a further list of members who have paid for 1970/71 since the last Coxan, or whose names were previously omitted. As mentioned before it is hoped that the publishing of members' names will be accepted in lieu of individual receipts for annual subscriptions.

A. Cleather	C. French	J. Keenan	P. Zazzi
A. Corish	J. Gilhooly	M. Magee	D. Doyle
J. Egan	P. Griffin	H. Mellor	J. Utting
J. Frost	F. Hixson	A.J. Morrish	N. Scott
A. Fulker	P. Hixson	H. Pinsent	M. Hayland

E.J. Hayter Membership Secretary
3 Downs Avenue
Chislehurst, Kent
(01) 467 5244

We would remind you that Subscriptions for 1971/72 are now due (from 1st September 1971) and a full list of those who have paid for the current year will appear in the next issue.

To introduce the new season, Colin Garvey writes the following as an incentive to new prospective members of the section.

"It has come to my notice that I have completed 10 years of playing for the Old Boys Football Teams - not long by the standards of Derek Rowe, Denis Quin, Henry Pinsent or Ted Hughes, but long enough to witness many humorous incidents on and off the field. Some, though oft repeated in the bar, I feel are worth recording in Coxan.

There are two incidents involving Denis Quin. At Reigate once he scored a goal from the half way line. He apologised profusely to everyone saying it was an accident but nevertheless Derek Rowe ran up and kissed him! On another occasion Denis was late in arriving at Balham so he took two taxis and the train to arrive on the pitch at Reigate just on three. Unfortunately, after five minutes he kicked the ball into the lake and as there was no spare ball the match was abandoned.

John McGuire was involved in an incident at Bromley. He was severely lectured by the referee - nothing very remarkable in that, only John was only a spectator! Talking of referees, John Smith, an old friend of ours came into the dressing room at Rose Hill before a game "Now Clapham, no ... arguing today and no ... swearing. Any questions?" "Who won the cup in 1947?" quipped Mick Powell, thus becoming the first Old Boy to go in the ref's book before the game. On a visit to Norbury he was paid his pound after the match, and went into the club house where he lost it in three hands of 'Brag' to John McGuire and Sean Gavigan.

We once went to Addeyans minus Keith Proctor, injured (he had scored 4 against them in the previous game). Their skipper said to me at the toss-up "Where's your blond centre forward - there's only one way of stopping him and that's why he's playing" - pointing to a gorrilla-like figure in a number 5 shirt. Needless to say we played 5 wingers that day.

At Sidcup, I remember us leading seven-nil, when suddenly their captain had to go to hospital with a badly gashed cheek. At the final whistle he reappeared covered in bandages looking very much the worse for wear. "You lost" said Frank Hixson as he marched past him to the dressing room.

Carthusians (Charter House Old Boys) were always complaining to the referee about Tony Amura - "Referee, that frightful little fellow from grammar school is turning this into a market place". A minute later Tony whistled past three defenders to score. "What's the score, Rodney?" shouted Tony.

Mickey Foy was renowned for the lateness of his tackle and once scythed down an opponent at Norbury. "That was very late" the opponent muttered picking himself up. "Yer, and they get later" said Mick nonchalantly. Willy Pepper, a little older than Mick, said to me just before extra time in a cup-tie at Bromley "Here, Col, you and I are over 25, let's sneak off while no-one's looking."

Rich Clarke one Saturday morning by chance met Pete Whelan at Watford Gap service station travelling north. Discovering that both were on their way

to Old Trafford (or was it Hillsborough) to watch Chelsea, Rich guiltily admitted that he was due to play for the 3rd XI that afternoon. "So am I" replied Pete loyally. Both teams lost.

Perhaps the last word should go to Ted Newman. We were 3-0 down to Salesians in the cup. Brian O'Connell had weaved through our defence time and again and had scored all three. I said to Ted at half time "You've got to nail this bloke, Ted - tackle him hard." Ted replied "you tell me which way he's going and I'll jump on him."

All this for 6 bob a week.

Derek Rowe remains as Secretary of the Football Section and will welcome enquiries at 86 Kensington Avenue
Thornton Heath, Surrey.
(01) 746 0155



ROUND-UP

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- Questionnaire** The response to the questionnaire sent out with the last issue received a response far greater than expected. Dozens of them have been returned and are still arriving. In the next issue we hope to be able to publish a full report.
- Summer Events** A target golf competition was held at Norbury on Sunday 12th September. The sunny weather attracted a great crowd of aspiring Jacklins and spectators and was won by John 'Spud' Murphy. This event and the proposed Car Rally/Treasure Hunt arranged for 26th September were separately circularised to members. The rally also promises to be a huge success. Both these new departures from 'regular events' are due to the efforts of Vic Roszkowski, Ernie Larkin and Phil Roderick-Jones.
- Summer Fete** With the sun shining, pipers playing, Irish dancers dancing and Denis Quin sticking bunting onto the pear tree the 1971 College Fete was under way. Tombola and refreshments were the Associations forte and between the two we took about £175 out of a total of £400 plus. Brother Dunstan won six ping-pong balls on the Tombola and was heard muttering something about

emigrating to China. Our sincere thanks must go to Mr Pocock who very generously gave us 25% of the takings and to all those who contributed time, gifts and money.



XAVERIAN NEWS

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Brother Christopher, who remains as Head of Geography at Clapham, and living at Twickenham, has kindly provided the Editor with an up to date record of the whereabouts of the other Brothers.

The new Provincial is Brother Cyril, Headmaster at Manchester; his predecessor as Provincial, Brother Goderick leaves for Kenya on 26th September.

Brothers Dunstan and Matthias are now both at Bradley House in the grounds at Mayfield where Br. Columba is installed as cook. Also on the staff at Mayfield, are Brothers David, Ambrose, Steven, Damien and Thomas Moore.

Manchester has claimed Brother Cajetan as Superior, and Brother Peter as deputy Headmaster; the teaching staff also includes Brothers Sylvester and Kiernan. Brother Leo is also attached to the staff at Manchester and Brother Alphonsus is there in retirement.

Brother Anselm is Superior at the House of Formation at Twickenham.

PERSONALIA

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The first issue of the new image has provoked a lot of interesting personalia, notably a letter from Maurice Gorman in Dublin (33 Sydney Parade Avenue) who describes himself as a Very Old Xaverian, and left the College

in 1916. Maurice regrets not being able to take part in any of the Association activities and says that in a recent but rare visit to London he called at the College but in the Brothers absence, got no reply. The Editor expects that Brother Dunstan will be able to tell us a few stories about young Master Gorman.

Tony Amura tells us that replacing Fr. Gualzatta at Walworth Parish is Fr. Bell, another Old Boy who came to Walworth from the prosperous parish of Sevenoaks.

Brian McDermott (1955) whose letter appears in this issue was found teaching Maths at a Sheffield Comprehensive School. He has a loving wife, two small daughters, a Labrador and a back-breaking allotment where he tries to grow large onions and leeks.

Eugene Smyth also dropped a line to remind us that he is now living at 31 Durfold Drive, Reigate, Surrey and will be pleased to welcome any of the lads who care to call to see the family. Having qualified as a Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries he has at last hung up his examination boots.

With the new football season's purge, top rank referee Ron Lewis is very busy with his notebook in the Metropolitan League. In his spare time he fills in as Group Sales Director of Centre Hotels.

Dave Martin has added Grad.I.P.M. (Personnel Management) to his numerous qualifications.

After winning the major prize in the Tombola at the Fete, John Gilhooly married Gill Cunningham on 7th September. A spy reports seeing Sean Gavigan and Pat Barry (1961) present.

After a whirlwind romance Ethel (Casey) has finally married John Utting - 24th May.

When returning from a back-to-nature holiday in the west of Ireland (manual loo-flushing and a peat-fired stove) Tony Morrish and family met Brian Sanders and family at Watford Gap.

Mick Weir (ex-U.K. Sales Manager of T.W.A.) is now reported as having his feet firmly on the ground "working for Forte's".

Jimmie Rodgers (same year as Ben Hogan; '57 or '58) was in City of London Police, then went to Rhodesia but didn't like it so now is living in Wadhurst, Sussex as the proprietor of a grocery store, and guess who has an account there? - The Community at Mayfield!!!

Seen raving in and around Calatell (Spain) this summer were Vic (1967) and Mark (1970) Roszkowski, Ernie Larkin (1970) and Jim Morrisey (1970). Vic stands to win a bet by marrying Sandie Shaw in April next year. (bet-ter half)

Whilst slumming in Minorca, Dave and Angela Martin ran into Brendan Milligan.

Brian and Julia Pryke spent the summer awaiting the arrival of their second son, Kevin John, born 6th July - Andrew, now two, thinks his baby brudder is smashing.

Kev Barnaville (1967) is off to Canada for a year at the end of September.

It is rumoured that John Shortall (1967) was married in Birmingham this summer and going into the acting profession.

Pete Howden, now married has recently qualified as a Probation Officer. He and Diana are living in Greenwich. Pete says he'll be pleased to hear from anyone he knew in his class.

Joe Gmaj (1962) married Marlene O'Hara at St. Monica's Palmers Green on 4th September. Reception was at the Hilton which explains the five collections at the nuptial! Rich Clark (1962) was Best Man and also present were Les Belletty (1962) Mick Murphy (1959) and J. Ciezkowski (1962). A telegramme was received from Geoffrey Rippon (Tony Gray).

Vic Roskowskii taking over the job of collecting and colating Personalia; if you wish to contact any Old Boy you've lost touch with or if you have any publishable gossip, please send it to him at 26, Turret Grove, London, S.W.4.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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We publish one letter replying to the issues raised by the last edition. Many thanks to others who wrote in with useful personalia and suggestions (notably one letter from the Angry Brigade).

3 Palmer Crescent
Dronfield
Sheffield S18 6XW.

Brian W. Pryke, Esq.,
8 Beverley Court
London S.E.4

6th July 1971

Dear Editor,

Having received COXAN 1/71, I feel I must respond to D. Martin's letter. Whilst I appreciate his reasons for writing thus, his opening paragraphs rather 'taint' the subsequent matter.

Does he really believe that the quality of life in yesteryear was so superior to that of today? Many would disagree with him I am sure. One could point to many facets of personal or public life where standards have improved.

Mr. Martin should consult any economist/social worker for an application of reason/compassion with which to dilute his strictures on the unemployed and

social benefits. As regards "canned amusements", my parents, in common with most of the populace were very much enslaved by the "wireless"; cinemas and theatres were vastly popular also. Were these active pursuits?

During the years 1956 - 62 I played many enjoyable games of soccer with the Old Boys 2nd XI. Derek Rowe often had bother raising the Reserve Team I recall; how many Soccer teams were fielded last season? Except for Boxing Day rave-ups at Norbury it was unheard of for the number of spectators to reach double figures - both teams' supporters that is! The "Dance" as a function does not appeal to the younger person; they prefer modern 'pop' music and the appropriate dances. We older folk weaned on Joe Loss prefer less energetic routines; our inclinations and energies tend to be directed towards other pastimes as well.

But it is naturally a sad matter that the Spring Ball foundered so badly; let us hope the questionnaire sheds some light. May I present some of my thoughts as to the Association's current difficulties.

1. They are not new; similar crises have occurred in the last twenty years, the Association has always survived.
2. In my day at Clapham, the number of 15+ and 16+ year old leavers was high, in the region of 60% I would say. These lads never had contact with COXA, indeed from my recollections, many of them would have scorned the Association I think. What is the situation today?
3. I feel Clapham lads were instilled with a wanderlust. Don't we remember the Personalis in past Concordias? News from all parts of the country, the world, even. Like myself, many have decided that London's pastures are not green enough (!) and have moved away. Here (the Sheffield area) life is good, London has become remote, a memory. Visits back become less frequent; one's new friends and interest multiply; one's offspring grow, one's relatives in the Smoke die out; look closely at your list of addresses!
4. The old order changeth; if Comprehension comes to Clapham (girls too, maybe), the Association must adapt or it will fade away and die. COXA needs annual injection of new blood to stay in business; let us not assume these transfusions will not be forthcoming, that would be betraying a trust. Could I request that COXAN prints regular articles on recent and anticipated developments at College? Let us try to dispel Mr Martin's "cloud that looms over our own College."

Yours faithfully

B.L. McDermott (1955)

POSTSCRIPT

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It has been great for the Chairman, Editor and other Committee members to hear from so many members during the past few weeks - letters, completed questionnaires, donations etc. Please keep it up - let us know about everything - it's good for us to know, it's good for Personalis and it's good for you to read. So don't forget to let us have all details about yourselves and any other Old Xaverians you may meet or be in contact with. We are specially interested to have changes of address in order to keep our records up to date. Whilst on this subject, does anyone know the current addresses of Brian Campbell, A.J. Thomas, T.N. Wedgeworth, Chris Fisher?....