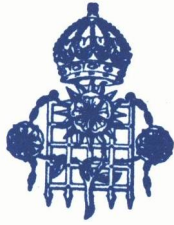


Spring, 1988



The Old Elizabethans (Barnet)

NEWS LETTER

From the Chairman:

51 Harpenden Road
St. Albans
Herts. AL3 6BJ
Spring '88

Dear O.Es,

Thank you to all those who attended the Association's A.G.M. on April 13th, when John Fuller (1931-37) was unanimously elected President following the completion of George Heard's term of office.

George has been a tremendous source of inspiration and leadership over the past three years, and has made a very significant contribution to the running of the Association during this period. I would like to take this opportunity of expressing, on behalf of the Association in general, our appreciation and thanks for all the help and guidance George has contributed. We are exceptionally fortunate that his expertise and experience will not be lost as he has agreed to continue and has been elected to the new committee.

John Fuller, like George and Ron Orton, is a lifelong member of the Association, a past President of the Hertfordshire RFU, and our Rugby Club, a Director of the Playing Field Co. for more years than he cares to remember, and has made major contributions to the development and up-keep of Gipsy Corner since its conception. I am sure that like his predecessors, John will afford us the wisdom of his experience, and maintain the high standards of his Office.

Apart from George there were no other nominations received (surprise, surprise) and last year's Committee were elected en bloc with the exception of Cyril Winchester, now the OECC representative on the Committee, Martin Gould, who as previously notified, has moved to the wilds of Essex, and Tony Johnson, who has been forced to stand down due to business commitments. We are however, very fortunate that Colin Tyler has agreed to continue to commute from Brussels or later Cambridge and continue as Honorary Secretary. We do need fresh blood; surely someone, somewhere, has something to contribute.

In the past month I have received a couple of letters from OE's; firstly R.J. SIM (1907-16) has advised me that in the last Newsletter I stated that a Mr Simes attended the annual dinner. I do apologise; how can anyone apart from me confuse Sim with Simes. Bob is now the sole survivor of the OE committee that started Barnet Rugby Club. He has recently spent eight weeks in hospital and has only just returned home, and we wish him a speedy recovery so as to be able to join us again at this year's Annual Dinner in October.

Graham Donald (1922-27) writes from Thames Ditton that for many years he has been closely involved with yacht racing, and the Royal Yachting Association, and at this year's AGM will be invested by their President, the Princess Royal, with the RYA Award for "distinguished services to yachting". He is President of the Association of Thames Valley Sailing Clubs, an International Judge of the International Yacht Racing Union, in which capacity he has been on International Juries for major and World Championships in many countries, the most recently only last month in Israel. In between all this he continues as an Honorary Member of the Council of the Westminster Chamber of Commerce, having been Chairman a year ago. He sends his best regards to his old stalwarts of his "rugger XV", Ron Orton and LOW Herbert.

Well, to all you other OEs, why not tell us what's been happening in your life?

This year's Founder's Day is on Saturday, June 18th. After the Service in the Parish Church at 11 a.m. there will be a Roll Call on Stapylton at 12.30, followed by the unveiling of the new Memorial Plaque for E.H.J. His old boys will be most welcome.

The following day, June 19th, is Founder's Sunday at Gipsy Corner, with Past v. Present Cricket. We'll keep our fingers crossed for some decent weather.

See you there!

John Hume

SECRETARY'S REPORT, 1987-88

Under the chairmanship of John Hume, the Association Committee met four times during the previous year.

Last year's Secretary's report touched on the real desire and real efforts now being made to create a more appealing club. This year has seen this theme pushed forward under the active guidance of our retiring President Mr L. R. Heard. His efforts on behalf of the Association over the whole of his presidency have been greatly appreciated and the termination of his period in office will be a sad loss.

Considerable thought has been given by the committee to the problem of recruiting new members to the Association, particularly from the new School Leavers. This preoccupation has been aired at A.G.M's since at least 1974 and is possibly the single most important problem confronting an ageing Association. Closer ties with the current day school and a better understanding of the aims of the Old Elizabethans are amongst the topics now being studied.

Amongst the events staged during the year, the annual dinner was held in the School Hall. This provided its annual happy memories for those who attended and financial headaches for those who organised. Other events included the third consecutive annual Cambridge O.E.s' Dinner. This event though often only an alcoholic blur for those who attended is now becoming well established.

During the course of the year the committee lost the valuable assistance of Martin Gould who, following his retirement from the school, settled for some relaxation out in the wilds of Essex. His work both as a Master at the School and an active supporter of the Old Boys covered nearly three decades during which his commitment was very much appreciated by generations of O.E.s. A Leaving Party was held for Martin and Hew Purchase, Art Master at the school and frequenter of Gypsy Corner, whose retirement after 32 years left the post of Senior Member of the Common Room vacant for someone of younger blood.

Also earlier this year, the committee were sad to hear of the death of Mrs E. H. Jenkins; a donation in her memory was made by the committee on behalf of the Association. The actual E. H. J. Memorial Prize for Sportsmanship should be presented to a boy at the school for the first time in the coming year.

Colin Tyler, Hon. Sec.

THE OLD ELIZABETHANS (BARNET) ASSOCIATION

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1987

	<u>1987</u>	<u>1986</u>
	£	£
INCOME		
Subscriptions - Current Year	1,545	1,758
Subscriptions - Arrears	9	478
Donations	26	42
Profits on "200 Club"	1,318	1,139
Dinner Dance	56	127
Building Society Interest (gross)	873	661
Treasury Stock Interest (gross)	177	177
	<u>4,004</u>	<u>4,382</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Newsletters	1,418	1,516
Printing 1988 Year Book (provision)	-	150
Printing, postage and telephone	30	59
Social Club subscriptions	125	125
Loss on Annual Dinner	112	74
Wreaths	25	25
Corporation tax on interest	285	243
Donations to School Games	21	40
Sundry gifts and donations	77	50
Charge by Borough for use of School Swimming Pool	144	-
	<u>2,237</u>	<u>2,282</u>
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	1,767	2,100
Less: Appropriation to Ground and Pavilion Fund	1,318	1,139
ACCUMULATED INCOME	<u>449</u>	<u>961</u>

THE OLD ELIZABETHANS (BARNET) ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

31 DECEMBER 1987

	<u>1987</u>		<u>1986</u>
	£		£
INVESTMENTS at cost			
Old Elizabethans (Barnet) Playing Fields Limited			
5 Shares of £1 each fully paid	5		5
7¾% Treasury Stock 1985–88 (Redeemed Jan. 1988) (Market Value £2,286)	1,500		1,500
Building Society Deposit	10,382		9,213
	<u>11,887</u>		<u>10,718</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks of of ties and badges	307	171	
Debtors	1,318	1,139	
Cash at bank	39	132	
	<u>1,664</u>	<u>1,442</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provision for printing year book	450	450	
Creditors	171	45	
Taxation	49	51	
	<u>670</u>	<u>546</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS	994		896
	<u>12,881</u>		<u>11,614</u>
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT			
Balance brought forward	6,534	5,573	
Accumulated income for the year	449	961	
	6,983	<u>6,534</u>	
GROUND AND PAVILION FUND			
Balance brought forward	5,080	3,941	
Appropriation for the year	1,318	1,139	
Less: Contribution to Playing Field Company for ground works	<u>(500)</u>	<u>—</u>	
	5,898		5,080
	<u>12,881</u>		<u>11,614</u>

A. D. Morris
Hon. Treasurer

THE PLAYING FIELD COMPANY

At a recent Association Committee meeting it was decided that from time to time the current affairs of the Playing Field Company should be reported in the Newsletter. It was also agreed that initially it might be helpful to offer a brief summary of the constitution and functions of the Company as a reminder for older, and an introduction for younger members. Ron Orton has kindly provided this account.

It appears that the function and purpose of the Old Elizabethans (Barnet) Playing Fields Ltd should be clarified.

The origin goes back to 1952, the time when the field was acquired and when Alderman Harold Fern, who had such an affection for the school, was instrumental in negotiating a lease of the 15 acres from the owners, Hertfordshire County Council. The Council required that the lessee should be an ongoing legal entity capable of carrying out the requirements of the lease, and so the limited company was formed and the centre of O.E. activities was Gipsy Corner.

At that time it was decided that 7 shares should be issued of £1 each, five being held by the Association through nominees, one by the Rugger Club and one by the Cricket Club. This shareholding still exists.

Under the Articles a maximum of 9 directors may be appointed who are not necessarily shareholders. Every year accounts are submitted to the shareholders at a meeting when 3 directors retire by rotation and the opportunity is given to the shareholders to re-elect these or not. A director may resign at any time. The directors are responsible to the shareholders who in turn have regard to the wishes of the share owners.

So having disposed of the dull machinations, the active purpose is also set out which is of a more practical nature, that of ensuring that the 15 acres are maintained for the sporting and social interests of the Association members. To this end O.E.'s have been appointed to the board who are capable of contributing in differing spheres for the benefit of the total undertaking.

It would be a pity to lose an opportunity to recognise the load of work put in by those in the Sections who have volunteered for certain duties - the attendant team functions - the working parties - the bar stewards and all and all. Members are always welcome to do a job however small which would go to promote a vigorous club.

The company, with its responsibility to give sporting opportunities, has to face expenditure of approaching £10,000 a year, and to meet this, rents from Sections, contributions and importantly bar profits go to make ends meet so that on average the company makes neither profit nor loss, relying entirely on the funding sources.

Reverting to the lease, this ends in 2005 and protracted negotiations have been taking place with the Borough of Barnet, the present lessors, with a view to securing an extended tenure and preserving this Memorial Field which may be enjoyed well into the next century by past, present & future boys of the school.

It is hoped that this dull reading may prove of interest.

R.E.O.

The E.H.J. brass plaque has been prepared and will be unveiled at Founder's Day this year. I have located the plaque just above the John Bond Lee brass in the crush.

Founder's Day service will take place at the Parish Church on Saturday, 18th June at 11 a.m.

On this occasion we will be joined by the Mayor, Councillor Don Goodman, who is a Trustee of the School, and by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Wilf Lipman, who is a Governor and Trustee of the School.

O.E.s are welcome to attend.

Another anniversary coming up soon is Joe Dunkley's fortieth year at the school next October. Joe has been suffering from diabetes for over a year and has been in hospital for the past four weeks. First news was rather grim as the surgeon was of the opinion that Joe's toes would have to be amputated. Careful and dedicated nursing has prevented that and it seems we may have Joe back with us before the end of the summer term. I am most anxious that Joe should remain on the staff until his anniversary at least. O.E.s who wish to contribute to a special presentation for Joe should send their donations to me at the school.

There are big changes coming up in schools as the effects of the 1986 Education Act come into effect. Indeed, before the ink dries on the final provisions the even more extensive Education Reform Bill should have received the Royal Assent.

Governor Peter Hobday, who is a partner in MacIntyre Hudson, has arranged for an audit of all our voluntary accounts. This check and review of our systems will be enormously valuable particularly in view of the move to financial delegation to schools. Grant Glegorn, a partner in the firm, and an Old Boy of the school, is in charge of the audit and we are looking to him to ensure that in addition to the balancing of the books we will have the very best advice on both financial and management accounting. I am indebted to Mr. Hobday and his partners for this very generous service: had we to pay for this it would cost more than the accounts contain.

We approach the Big Bang in Education with increasing confidence and optimism.

We said farewell to five young members of staff at Easter. Vaughan Reade left us to take up a similar teaching post in Barnet. Alan Lancaster, who has done so much excellent work with his boys preparing sets for Drama productions, and his colleague, Charles Brendon-Cooke, have given up teaching to develop their business in interior design and decorating. Ian Leafe is also leaving teaching to work in computers. Richard Smith, who has worked hard for the Languages Faculty, has accepted an appointment in the travel business.

Their posts will be taken by: Mr A. West, a graduate in Fine Art and portrait artist and Miss J. Nash. Our Physics replacements are Dr T. Yeo and Mr T. Zucker. Miss G. Bell and Miss E. Allsopp will join the Language Faculty.

The annual ceremony of the changing of the Prefects and House Officers took place at Easter. My sincere thanks to Neil Jaques who has served as Captain, and his tireless lieutenants, Dan Harrison and Frios Manolas. I must record also my gratitude to Martin Price, Senior House Préfect, who has pioneered this office and made it part of our structure. My thanks to the Prefects and House Officers who make the school tick and who have been a model of reliability.

The new School Captain is Ewan Wilson. His lieutenants are Gareth Stockbridge and Richard Tyler. The Senior House Prefect is Ian Wayne.

The Chairman of Governors visited the school earlier in the spring term and met the new school Captain.

Keen readers of E.H.J.'s book will be aware of his regular battles with the local authority over the matter of site maintenance. Things have changed little in that respect.

Guttering jobs remain outstanding, and the oak tree still pins the ruin of the pavilion to Stapylton. I am unable to get any information from L.B.B. about the insurance or possible action on the pavilion. The caretaker tells me that he heard from a chap in the Blackhorse that the contract for rebuilding has been issued.

No repairs have been effected to the doors of the swimming pool, weakened by years of rot and neglect and made dangerous by a falling tree in the October storm. We are told that both door ways are to be renewed in PVC clad aluminium in May. The heating system, enriched by a new burner, developed a leak before Easter, which was rapidly repaired by L.B.B. The latest leak under the service road between Main School and Mayes is being tackled as I write.

We moved our computers from the cramped store room in Fern Building in the autumn to the old senior changing room. The Authority paid for the wiring but were unable to provide anything else. Already our needs are well beyond capacity of the new room which has 120% load. Planning for computer room 2 is underway and the Trustees have given a substantial grant to start on the work. We need a further £14,000 to convert and equip the old Senior cloakroom.

I am just informed that the boys have collected £2,400 in the Easter Draw; the First Year sold over £1,100 worth of tickets. This is well in excess of last year's figures and the boys are to be congratulated.

We are delighted with the success of our Sixth form course in Business Procedures. The course aims at a level between GCSE and 'A' level. It was designed by QE for the Royal Society of Arts Examination Board, which was the originator of technical and commercial qualifications in this country. The qualification awarded is the Advanced Diploma in Business Procedures which means it is at a considerably higher level than, for example, the Certificate of Pre-Vocational Education courses. The national review body which assesses courses located it firmly at BEC National level and considers sections of the course to be of an even higher standard. QE is the first school in the country at which the Royal Society of Arts has awarded diplomas in this area and at this level.

The Business Courses Presentation Evening was held at the close of January to promote this new course. The evening was well attended by representatives from local industry, the Royal Society of Arts Examination Board, organisations like the Industrial Society, Young Enterprise, and Understanding Industry. Parents and boys from the Fifth Year with teachers and students from schools interested in adopting the QE Course were also present. The presentation is an annual event and O.E.s responsible for recruitment or training might well wish to attend next year's presentation.

Two developments linked with the course are the establishment of the School 'MidBank', which opened on the first day in February and is now operating very successfully under the patronage of O.E. John Holloway. Wealth Enterprise is a company for which boys on the course raised capital by selling shares and by negotiating a bank overdraft. They have conducted their own market research, costing, marketing and book-keeping and will prepare their own company accounts before liquidation at the end of the year.

The sale of a mini filofax accounted for most of the initial profits and the boys now wish to diversify into the sale of clocks.

Our musicians have had another busy and successful term. The Chamber Concert in February was particularly memorable in that we were able to listen to a large number of outstanding young musicians who will be at QE for some years. We shall chart their development with not a little delight.

Shortly before the end of Spring Term our music was heard at the Queen Elizabeth Hall where, as in previous years, we took part in the National Festival of Music for Youth. Judges' assessments are necessarily technical but we were not surprised to read that "... the performance was highly impressive ..." and "... their enthusiasm permeated from top to bottom ...". Towards the end of the term we repeated an item from the 1987 Music Festival, the Jazz Evening. As last year, the winning combination of the Louisiana Joymakers and the QE Stage Band provided guests with a highly enjoyable and polished evening's entertainment.

Our boys opened the West London Festival of Languages earlier this month and throughout the day contributed by performing four pieces, two in German, one in French and one in Russian. The event was held in Hillingdon and more than a thousand pupils from London schools took part. Some weeks ago, the Bac to Bac Language Theatre visited the school for a workshop production.

The players performed an interesting piece in French, for Second Year linguists. An eagle eyed, and widely read, Head of fourth year, Dr John Marincowitz, quickly identified it as the work of an African Marxist novelist: caveat emptor!

The Old Elizabethans' Cambridge Dinner was held at Magdalene College this year. Members of staff and the School Captain and lieutenants travelled to Cambridge on the coldest night of the year. The dinner was arranged by O.E. Andrew Thomas and the post prandial port, which was both excellent and plentiful, was provided by Colin Kolbert in his rooms. Visitors were accommodated in guest rooms. I still feel a sense of sacrilege dipping into Samuel Pepys Bible box for my cornflakes in the morning.

During the Half-term, the annual skiing visit to Chamoix took place. Despite some last minute changes to the travel arrangements which national difficulties forced on us, all went very well. The popularity of this visit and requests for places on future trips has led Neil Kobish to arrange two visits for 1989, one over the Half-term and another during the Easter holiday period.

The Elizabethan Union Dinner Debate, held in March, is the major occasion in the EU's programme for the year. The motion, 'This House believes that the best things in life are free', was keenly fought but the outcome was never in doubt.

There have been numerous visits and activities throughout the term. The number of clubs has increased further as has their popularity.

It is rare to come across a boy who is not involved in the life of the School in some way. Many are obtaining their first experience of how to manage time and energy; some must sleep very heavily indeed, when they finally switch off the bedside lamp.

A very busy term has seen a wide range of sporting activities.

Our rugby fixture list has been supplemented by Borough, league and cup competitions in basketball, water-polo matches, cross country and Eton Fives. Both inter school and inter House events have been very successful.

A total of twelve boys has been selected to represent Hertfordshire at rugby with two playing for the South East of England at U16 level. Three boys go for England trials later this term. Further honours have been claimed by the Second Year rugby side losing only once at XV a-side and winning the St George's and Bedford Modern Sevens competitions.

They brought joy and credit to the school by winning the National Sevens at Rosslyn Park, beating Harrow, Eton, Winchester, Wellington and indeed, every major public school in the country and the premier rugby schools of Wales. Their victory took place on the school's four hundred and fifteenth birthday: our predecessors are fittingly honoured by this seal of excellence. Our Fourth Year, once again, have had a good season, losing only twice. As holders of the U14 QE Sevens trophy, we lost narrowly in the semi-finals in a sudden death play-off.

The U16s, after an encouraging season, lost in the quarter-finals.

Eight boys have represented Barnet in the Middlesex Championships at swimming, with our juniors making up five of the six in the team. Water-Polo remains popular with regular fixtures against Highgate, Haberdashers and Bedford Modern.

The cross country team have won the Borough League and individual championships. Our Third Year came second at the Highgate Relays by thirteen seconds. Six boys have been picked to run for Barnet in the Middlesex competition. At Haste Hill and Haberdashers Relays a QE boy was winner and our team was third overall. Two pairs have competed at Fives at the Eton Fives Championships and Southern Schools Championships. We now have regular fixtures against Aldenham, Highgate and Harrow School.

We did not have to endure the wearing of red plastic noses to join the efforts of Comic Relief and raise £364. The Prefects' disco at Gipsy and a special initiative from Underne House produced the bulk of this sum. Two members of staff participated in a sponsored swim as part of the Wishing Well Appeal for the Great Ormond Street Hospital. Their impressive swim of 200 lengths, or 5000 metres, or three and one-eighth miles has brought in over £700 so far from sponsorship. A group of Fourth Year boys made a profit of £60 by selling toasted sandwiches at lunchtime, for the same cause. Four boys from the First Year took part in a sponsored silence early in the term and this brought in £28 for Leukaemia Research.

SCHOOL DIARY

DATES FOR THE SUMMER TERM

Friday 29th April: History Society Dinner 7-7.45 pm

Saturday 18th June: Founder's Day 11 am; Friends' Fete 1.30 pm

Sunday 19th June: Cricket - Past v. Present 2 pm

Thursday 30th June and Friday 1st July: Year 2 Drama Production - 'Mozart Mystery and Imagination'

Thursday 7th July: Annual Parents' Meeting 8 pm

Tuesday 19th July: Concert 7.30 pm

Wednesday 20th July: Cricket Week begins

Wednesday 20th July: Concert 7.30 pm

Thursday 21st July: Summer Term ends

FROM T.B.E.

Dear O.Es,

Is there anyone out there? I asked Dennis Nelms not long since whether he could give me some idea of what O.Es might actually like to see in the Newsletter. Ever a polite, gentle and tactful man, he told me (in effect) that, since he had had no (or very few) complaints and since he had spoken to some O.Es who had actually read a piece I had written and who had registered no serious dissatisfaction, he presumed that what I had written was probably all right . . .

Well, thanks (?). But it would be good to get your news, you who never think of supplying it. Not only I, but many others would be delighted to hear from you. Fingers away!

It was good to meet again an encouraging number of younger (and some not so young) O.Es at the Cambridge dinner held in Magdalene College on February 11th. The organisers, notably Andrew Thomas, are to be congratulated and thanked for their hard work and effective planning. D. Haxby's (1939-46) lengthy reminiscence of wartime school days made an enduring impression.

I very much enjoyed hearing again from Fred Sheward (1918-24) from his home in Canada. He had been interested to read my account of our trip to Hong Kong and Bangkok, as he and his wife had both been there. Fred particularly asked Eric Daw (1915-21) for help. Fred had received the 1919 photograph of the school from Monty Williams (1918-24) in Australia and this now hangs framed in a prominent place in the Sheward household. But he hopes that Eric Daw will be able to provide him with 176 names to go with it: he can himself identify only two. He had again been on a long drive through southern California and their 20 month old car has already covered more than 70,000 km. 'So far, nobody has threatened to commit us!' He apologises – quite unnecessarily – for his handwriting (which is very easily legible to one who had to contend with that of many hundreds of boys, as well as of Eric Shearly and other indecipherable colleagues); Fred's eyesight is causing him some difficulty. Finally he asks whether there has been a list of O.E. Association Members since 1983. Perhaps I can encourage him by telling him there may be a new one before long?

I had a pleasant surprise when I bumped into Roger Cook (1945-51) at a concert in the Snape Maltings early in April. Apparently he, too, is lucky enough to be able to relax in rural Suffolk on occasional weekends. Unfortunately we lost sight of him during the interval and so did not catch up with his other news.

Eric Crofts (1949 – Biology) made a very welcome but all too brief visit on the way to his dentist recently and we shared memories of the Holly Tree Hostel, among others. His zest for travel is quite undiminished and we compared notes. For myself and Pat, our next venture in May is to go walking in southern Spain, in Andalusia, taking in Granada, Seville and Cordoba on our way (travelling by rail and coach for some of the distance, I hasten to add).

I seem to have run already to the end of both news and available time, so with apologies for such a short letter on this occasion, let me wish you all well.

T.B.E.

NEWS AND CORRESPONDENCE (or 'A MAGIC SPELL')

I believe that many a significant discovery has been made by blind chance when someone has stumbled across the solution to a problem which years of effort have failed to conquer. Something of the same kind appears to have happened to our perennial difficulty in persuading OEs to write in with news of themselves and others - we too have tripped over the answer. It seems that we need only mis-spell someone's name for the injured party, or his second, to hurl himself at the notepaper, and with luck, when justice has been done, to become a regular correspondent. Thus Colin Gibbens (1947-53), who first wrote to me last year when I mutilated his surname, has sent me a press cutting about the appointment of Captain R. T. Newman R.N. to become Flag Officer Sea Training, in the rank of Rear Admiral. Colin writes, "Roy Newman is an OE (1947-54) and was a contemporary of mine. In 1954 Roy entered Dartmouth to train as a Naval Officer, whilst I was called up for two years' National Service, also in the Navy. During this period we kept in touch by correspondence even though we went in opposite directions - Roy to do sea training on an aircraft carrier in the Caribbean and yours truly fulfilling duties as an Able Seaman on a minesweeper to Icelandic waters for the first of the cod wars! It has been pleasing to watch Roy's career develop so successfully, and presumably he becomes the first OE to reach the rank of Rear Admiral?" Thank you, Colin; keep the letters coming.

In our February issue we reported with pride on the presence at the Annual Dinner of a very senior OE, R. J. Sim. Fortunately we got it wrong again, adding an 'e' to his name, and once more the trick worked, because the spelling error provoked not only a letter from R. J. himself to Chairman John Hume, but also the following most welcome dissertation on local history from Fred Jefferies (1916-23). Nothing less than reproduction in full could do justice to his letter:

Dear Dennis,

Please forgive the waffling of an old 'un but I am bothering you with this in order to do proper honour to an even older 'un, the spelling of whose patronymic causes some difficulty to those who write so entertainingly for us in the OE Newsletter, and by reason of which he might not even be recognised.

I refer to:- R. J. SIM, B.E.M.

who was at the School 1907-16 and whose name appears at p.16 of the 1983 Edition of the List of Members. Notwithstanding his great age his fitness is such that he allows himself no interruption in his joy of continental travel.

Largely at the instigation of the then Headmaster, W. Lattimer (Bill), the School's winter game was changed in 1913 from one played with a round ball to another played with a ball of different shape. The following Editorial appears in The Elizabethan Vol II No. 8 for July 1919 at p. 129 and I feel reasonably sure was written by Bill:-

"Elizabethans past and present must hail with delight the prospect of a properly established Rugby Club in Barnet. It is a source of extreme satisfaction that the spade work done by the School since 1913 is at last to have effect. There is no better game for men than Rugby Football. We are quite content to let those who wish to watch football rather than to play it, crowd at the pay gates of the professional Association Clubs.

Rugby is THE game for the player. The more clubs there are, the better for the physique of the race. It will act as a stimulus to the School enthusiasts to look forward to earning a place later in the Town Fifteen."

At the AGM of the OE Club as it was then called, held that year, the founding of a Rugger Club was considered and a Committee formed consisting of:-

H. A. Dalton, one of the School's more brilliant games players, J. L. Howson, English Master recently returned from serving throughout the war in the Friends Ambulance Unit, a Cumberland County forward, Bill, J. A. Strugnell, H. M. Williams and Sim.

The last named, a founder member of the Barnet Club had just returned from service with the R.A.F. having joined the Royal Flying Corps soon after leaving School.

OEs not only took a prominent part in the founding of the Club but provided the Club Captain in the first playing seasons 1919/20 and 1920/21 (Howson and Stokoe), Officers of the Club, Secretary, Team Secretary, Treasurer, etc., and, until the O.E.R.F.C. was formed shortly before the Second War, some of the more prominent playing members.

Please don't think I am writing in any kind of complaining mood - I know only too well how easy it is to get names wrong - but merely to put the record straight and, purely selfishly, to indulge in a piece of nostalgia and refresh my memory of the heroes of those days.

Yours ever,
Fred

Our newly-elected President, John Fuller, has passed on to me this next item, an account of a recent trip which must have given him great satisfaction.

A SALTY STORY

Three Old Elizabethans were present at the Commissioning of H.M.S. Cornwall, in the presence of Her Royal Highness, The Princess of Wales and Duchess of Cornwall at Falmouth on Saturday, 23rd April. The event was of particular importance as it marked the introduction into the Royal Navy of the first of the Type 22, Batch III Frigates incorporating the latest technology in weapon systems and sensors.

Commander Richard Aylard R.N. was attending Her Royal Highness, who is the ship's sponsor. Captain Neil MacEacharn R.N. (Rtd.) was present as Clerk of the Worshipful Company of Leathersellers, which has adopted the ship.

John Fuller, Leading Supply Assistant, R.N. (Hostilities only) was invited as a survivor when the previous H.M.S. Cornwall was sunk by Japanese dive-bombers on 5 April 1942 in the Indian Ocean.

Neil and John attended the Ship's Church Service on the Sunday when various presentations were made to the ship, including gifts from The Leathersellers' Company and the H.M.S. Cornwall Association (1939-42).

On the Monday, John was one of the company of 16 survivors that sailed in the ship from Falmouth to Plymouth.

Captain Chris Wreford-Brown D.S.O. is the skipper of H.M.S. Cornwall; he was the Commanding Officer of H.M. Submarine Conqueror that sank the Belgrano. By a strange coincidence the last convoy escorted by the old H.M.S. Cornwall was to Western Australia. The Cornwall tied up astern of the U.S.S. Phoenix, a heavy cruiser, in Fremantle harbour. The Americans sold that ship to Argentina and she was re-named Belgrano.

It's a small world!

To complete a nostalgic nautical month John is travelling to Germany to attend The Treffen of the Hilfs Kreuzer, 33, "Pinguin". This ship was a commerce raider sunk by H.M.S. Cornwall on 8th May 1941. Members of H.M.S. Cornwall Association (1939-42) have been attending this reunion for the past eight years. By another strange coincidence some members of the Pinguin crew, as prisoners of war, were held in Trent Park for questioning before being sent to Canada for the rest of the war.

The real enemy is the sea!

John also visited Bernard and Marjorie White in Camborne during the weekend and they send greetings to all OE friends.

Last year Tim Edwards reported in the Newsletter that A.P. (Tony) Herbert (1957-62), one of "LOW" Herbert's (1920-25) sons, had undergone heart surgery for a 'by-pass' operation at St. Thomas' Hospital in the autumn of 1986. A recent 'up-date' from LOW brought splendid news. After some delay in healing, Tony was discharged with an invitation to take the hospital's rehabilitation course some months later. He took the course so successfully that after it he decided to undertake a sponsored swim of ten lengths of a standard swimming bath in aid of the British Heart Foundation. He did this in August of last year, raising nearly £550 by his efforts, and recently he received a presentation shield from a grateful Harpenden branch of the B.H.F. Tony intends to try a repeat performance this year in an attempt to raise £1000 for the same good cause. Potential sponsors among his contemporaries, please note. Well done, Tony! And thanks, Dad, for your letter.

Another OE to whom I am particularly grateful is D. C. Webster (1946-52) who actually responded to our plea for correspondence without waiting for his name to be spelt wrongly. He has, he says, been so interested to read about his contemporaries that he feels there may be some who would be interested in **his** recent news. On March 10th David was received at Buckingham Palace by H.M. The Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Gloucester at a reception for winners of the Queen's Award for Exports. "One of my subsidiary companies, D. W. Windsor, which makes Victorian reproduction outdoor lighting, won the award for exports mainly to the Middle East." He is currently President of the Institution of Lighting Engineers which, apart from giving him a very busy year, has enabled him to meet many interesting people including the Prince of Wales.

A new up-to-date List of Members will be issued shortly, and I am asking the Membership Secretary to ensure that at least every third name contains an obvious spelling error, a ploy which should ensure a steady flow of correspondence for at least the next five years. But why wait? Get your blow in first and spell my name wrongly; but make sure the address is right, 20 Greenway Close, Totteridge, London N20 8EN. Be a devil and splash out on a stamp.

Dennis Nelms

LETTER FROM OXFORD

For a school whose last two headmasters were educated at Oxford, Queen Elizabeth's remains sadly under-represented at this country's premier University. This seems even stranger when the thriving community of OE's at Cambridge is taken into consideration.

The current tally of Oxonian Elizabethans stands at only two. Indeed, this is the highest number we have had here for some years! I act as 'elder statesman', now in my third year of Philosophy, Politics and Economics at Hertford College. Stephen Mawhinney follows in my footsteps as a First Year PPEist. Notwithstanding my earlier observations about lack of numbers here, it must be borne in mind that to send anyone at all is a considerable achievement. Though the percentage of state school applicants to Oxford is increasing, a surprisingly high number of these come from Grammar rather than Comprehensive Schools, though the state sector supports many more of the latter than the former. It can be concluded from this that Q.E. is doing remarkably well to send a steady number both here and to that 'other place'.

Despite this, when I first arrived in Oxford I believed that the school's representation had preceded me. I was occasionally asked by well-to-do students if I was an 'OE'. It was only later that I discovered that in answering in the affirmative I had claimed, to my eternal shame, to be an Old Etonian!

Nonetheless, coming from a school as rich in tradition as ours helps one to adjust to some of the more archaic aspects of Oxford life, though it is hard to imagine staff in today's Q.E. being taken seriously if they had to dress up in the 'penguin suit' of Mortar Board, Gown, Dark Suit and White Bow Tie that lecturers and students are compelled to wear in University examinations here!

A bewildering number of activities are open to any undergraduate (providing one can avoid the nuisance of academic work). As an active member of the Oxford Union, it has been my good fortune to put the debating skills learnt at the Elizabethan Union into action. Despite the grand surroundings and high calibre speakers of the Oxford Union, I can honestly say I prefer the cheerful informality of its school counterpart.

On the sporting ground, both Stephen and I try to be active. He plays badminton for college and also takes part in Hertford's premier sport which, I am sorry to say, is Football. For myself, I can claim to be Secretary of the College 2nd XV, a body more noted for its enthusiasm than professionalism. This becomes obvious when I admit not being good enough to play House Rugby at school! Our only real claim to fame is that we are undoubtedly the best funded Rugby second team in the University. The reason for this being that combining the roles of 2nd XV Secretary and Junior Common Room President last year meant that 'my' team was ensured a very generous share of the sports budget for that year!

Both Stephen and I were flattered to be asked to the Annual Dinner of the Cambridge Old Elizabethans in February. We both attended. It was in fact my second year, and I remain surprised at the quality of both food and company at such a sadly second-rate academic institution. It would be very pleasant to hold a similar event here, but sadly, with such a small contingent, it does not appear practical.

As finals approach, I have cause again to be very grateful to my teachers at Q.E. - considering my indolence over the last three years, I sometimes doubt whether I would survive my degree examination at all without the help of my 'A' level notes! My three years at Oxford have been most enjoyable, and though the prospect of being both an Old Elizabethan and an Old Hertfordian makes me think that the days of youth are finally passing, I nonetheless look forward to taking a benevolent interest in the progress of both institutions.

Michael J. Stewart

O.E. GOLF SOCIETY

Honorary Secretary: Mike Swinn, 7 Lower Tub, Bushey Heath, Herts WD2 3SN. (01 950 4680)

After a forecast of unsettled weather early in the week, the Spring Meeting at West Herts on 6th May was held in superb conditions - sunshine with a little lunchtime cloud, light wind and temperatures around seventy. The course was in excellent condition although the greens were found to be a little tricky and the rough was growing vigorously.

The turnout was good with 33 in the morning and an extra three after lunch. These included new faces - Don Christie, George Jones and Dave Coombs together with a good turnout from the younger generation. The heavy traffic around Watford forced some dynamic changes to the day's pairings.

West Herts is an excellent test of golf even from the forward tees with two par fives beaming long par fours in the second nine. This restrained the scorers in the morning with John Wells winning the Captain's Cup with 33 points from Bruno Gardner, 32 points. Seven members scored 31 points amongst whom Peter Allen had the best last six and Clinton Green the best Rabbit's score.

The scores in the afternoon Greensome Foursomes were very good, with the family pairing of Eddy and Gilles Pratt scoring 43 points based on playing the first twelve holes in two over par by playing excellent golf. Second were Jerry Oubridge and Tony Elias with 38 points and the best Rabbits were Peter Hawkins and George Jones - 27 points.

The handicaps of the above were suitably adjusted including John Wells 21 to 19, Eddy Pratt 10 to 8 and Gilles 23 to 20. Just to show the Handicap Committee gives no favours, the Hon. Sec. was cut from 13 to 12 for playing off the wrong handicap.

A new feature of the course was two mobile phones which caused some members to complain that they were on the golf course to get away from the ringing of the telephone.

The evening featured an excellent dinner followed by the Captain, Mike Harrison's, speech which contained a liberal sprinkling of rhyming slang.

One wonders whether West Herts under the management of Watford Council in 1989 will be able to provide such an excellent day's golf - if you have doubts be sure to play there this year.

Our next meeting will be at East Herts on Friday 24th June, with matches against the School at Arkley on 1st July followed by North Wilts on 2nd July and the EBOGS at Crews Hill on 28th July. Our Autumn Meeting will be on 29th September at Knebworth where John (Josh) Wright, who is Secretary, hopes we will have an extra special day.

It is very pleasing to note that the Golf Society Syndicate in the 1988 OE '200' Club has 34 members, up from 21. The members of the previous syndicate plan to play at Burnham Beeches on 15th June, heavily subsidised by their winnings.

If you want to joint us for one of these events, it's never too late - George Jones rang the night before West Herts, please contact Mike Swinn for information.

Mike Swinn

O.E. RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB

Honorary Secretary: N. A. Ward, 82 Barnet Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 2RD (0707 58066)

The end of season results record reads as follows:

	played	won	drawn	lost	for	against
1st XV	28	19	1	8	355	210
A XV	27	19	0	8	466	288
Extra A XV	24	18	0	6	544	133
B XV	13	6	0	7	156	123
Colts XV	11	5	1	5	154	114
Club	22	13	0	9	295	268

The above shows that it has been a successful season throughout the Club but the well worn sporting cliché "If only . . ." very much could be used for at least two of the Club teams in March. The 1st XV were poised for top position in the Herts Division 1 of the new Courage Clubs' Championship with a game against lowly Stevenage but, as the many OE's on the touch line saw, the formbook was turned upside down as we lost 0-3. Credit, though, to Kevin Watt, the Club Captain, for trying to run in the try in the closing minutes when many others would have taken the soft option of a penalty goal to draw the match. Little did he know that a draw would have been enough for promotion! In the end, four clubs ended on the same number of points but Hemel Hempstead, whom we had beaten 6-0 in October, leapfrogged over ourselves, Old Verulamians and Barnet to take promotion on the points differential basis.

Two weeks later, the Colts XV reached the final of the Herts Colts' Cup but, unfortunately, were well beaten on the day by a good Hertford side. Three times finalists, the Colts will try again next year.

However, these two results should not, and do not, cloud what has been a good season rugby-wise even though the weather was probably the worst in many seasons. Many matches were called off in January and we had to travel around the County looking for a dry (or drier) ground to play on. A creditable draw at Bishops Stortford and a good win over Aylesbury were two plus points in the second half of the season whilst the 'A' XV and 'Extra A' XV also had a good 1988, losing just six games between them but recording many more good wins including an 'Extra A' XV win over a strong Barnet side.

My only regret is that the 'B' XV only played twice after Christmas and the Club are taking steps to ensure four sides are fielded regularly every Saturday next season whilst the Colts continue to play on Sundays.

In the Sevens tournaments, the Club had mixed and moderate successes - the County Sevens were a disappointment but in the Middlesex Sevens preliminary rounds we played the best rugby probably all afternoon and had Saracens more than worried before narrowly losing to them. The Colts reached the semi-final of their County Sevens tournament.

It has not just been about playing good and attractive rugby but OEs' name is getting around the county as an improving club and we hope this will continue. The fun and games in the clubhouse show the players' optimism and confidence.

No end of season record can be complete without appreciation of the background workers who keep the Club alive and I certainly include Bob Parker's list of bar stewards who have done a great job on a sometimes hectic Saturday, keeping us alive! Bob, himself, is always in the background helping things along - he and Scotty Yates had a regular 8 am pitch inspection on a Saturday morning - and his wife, Liz, has kept the teas/refreshments going for over thirty years, which is a remarkable record by any standards. Paula James, as ever, supports the Club in every activity and Eric Shearly has been more than his usual active self in keeping the ground playable when the weather intervened. David Yates stood in for John Fuller as Fixtures Secretary last September and kept it going all season. Gail Dunkley cajoled the Colts to another good season. To them all, and the ones I've missed, thank you.

The Annual Dinner and Dance was held on 6th May at Ye Olde Cherry Tree, Southgate.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Clubhouse on Wednesday, 22nd June 1988 at 8 pm. Formal details will be sent to members.

N.A.W.

O.E. CRICKET CLUB

Honorary Secretary: N. Strachan, 17 Dinsdale Gardens, New Barnet (01 449 2178)

The cricket season for the club began on Sunday 24th April with a home match against East Barnet Valley, a fixture that has not been played due to the weather for the last couple of years.

How encouraging it was for the club to have a winning start as the OEs bowled East Barnet Valley out for 100 and scored the necessary 101 for the loss of 6 wickets.

It was also pleasing to hear that the Gipsy Corner wicket played very true as over the last few years it had gained a reputation for somewhat uneven bounce.

Unfortunately, there were only 10 men each side, E.B.V. obviously suffering similar early season availability problems. Still, it was a winning start.

The AGM was held at Gipsy Corner on Sunday 10th January after being cancelled on the original date due to an unfortunate clash with the rugby club Herts Cup match against Cheshunt, or rather a clash with the festivities afterward.

However, once it did reconvene the main business as usual was the election of officers to the committee and they are as follows:-

<i>President:</i>	- Alan Smith
<i>Secretary:</i>	- Neil Strachan
<i>Treasurer:</i>	- Eric Shearly
<i>Team Secretary:</i>	- Eric Shearly
<i>Fixture Secretary:</i>	- John Dawkins
<i>Press Officer:</i>	- Peter Yates
<i>Social Fund Raising Officer:</i>	- George Cook
<i>OE Association Committee Rep:</i>	- Cyril Winchester
<i>Other Member:</i>	- Bob Elderfield
<i>1st XI Captains:</i>	- David James Tristan Smith
<i>2nd XI Captains:</i>	- Mark Chenery Chris Forster
<i>2nd XI Vice-Captain:</i>	- Andrew Tullis

Alan Smith announced that this was to be his last year as the President and Eric Shearly said he could not continue as Treasurer after this year due to over commitment to the club. So if there are any of you seeking higher office perhaps you could make it known during the next year.

There was also some lengthy discussion as to whether the club should continue to play League cricket after last year's poor showing. It was decided to continue for at least another year as the League has expanded this year and has also found a new sponsor; it will now be known as the Laing Homes Herts Cricket Competition.

The cricket net has now been re-erected and net sessions are to take place on Thursday evenings throughout the summer, no doubt followed by a couple of pints in a local hostelry afterwards. For anyone interested the nets start at 7 pm and the drinking about 9 pm.

Let's hope the club can continue in the winning fashion it has begun this season. Here's to a successful 1988.

Neil Strachan

O.E. ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

Honorary Secretary: A Silvey (01 449 8573)

It seems likely that the First Team will have to spend another year in Division One of the Barnet Sunday League but the Reserves are still in with an excellent chance of promotion from Division Four and are through to the quarter finals of the Junior Cup. Weather played havoc with the fixtures in January and February and has caused a fixture pile-up especially for the Reserves that means several double header games.

The results for both teams since the last Newsletter are as follows:

FIRST TEAM

LEAGUE	Eversley	Away	Lost	1 - 2
	Nimrod	Away	Won	5 - 0
	Victoria Park	Away	Drew	1 - 1
	Victoria Park	Home	Drew	0 - 0
	St. Stephens	Away	Lost	1 - 4
	Vale United	Home	Drew	1 - 1
	Nimrod	Home	Won	5 - 2

RESERVES

LEAGUE	BRSA	Away	Won	12 - 0
	Roving Reporters Res	Home	Won	2 - 1
	Muswell Hill Res	Away	Won	6 - 1
	Old Ashmoleans Res	Away	Drew	0 - 0
	Old Ashmoleans Res	Home	Lost	1 - 2
JUNIOR CUP	Oakleigh Res	Home	Away	5 - 0

O.E. 200 CLUB

E. N. H. Shearly, 14 Granville Road, Barnet, Herts EN5 4DU.

As each year goes by the cost of maintaining the Association's Headquarters at Gipsy Corner increases, and in the next two years large amounts of money will have to be raised to cover the costs of major works to the pavilion and grounds.

The Club plays a vital role in helping to raise the necessary funds, and we thank all members for this support. If you are not a member, why not join and help the Association to extend its help to the Sections and to the School?

The next draw will take place on "Founder's Sunday", June 19th at Gipsy Corner and you would be especially welcome to join us on that occasion.

Eric

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Honorary Membership Secretary: P. G. Yates, 3 Manor Court, Mutton Lane, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 2AA (0707 44046)

First of all, on a sad note, I have to report the death of R. V. DEARSLY (1915-20) on 18th March 1988. His son, Nigel, writes that his father had happy memories of his QE School days but also of taking part in OE functions and in particular cricket and rugby.

Changes of address to announce of OEs include:

SQDN. LDR. P. M. ECKERT, B.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.E.R.E., M.R.Ae.S. (1960-67) to 39 Chiltern Avenue, Cosby, Leicester LE9 5UG (0533 862670) having retired from the RAF last October.

D. BROOME, C.Eng., F.I.Mech.E., M.I.R.T.E. (1948-55) to 'La Roche', 43 Coombe Drive, Steyning, West Sussex BN4 3PW (0903 814170)

A. L. PERRY (1942-50) to P.O. Box 90, Waibanae, New Zealand.

D. J. TIBBS, A.C.I.B. (1969-72) to 21 Heather Grove, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire RG27 8SE.

J. C. TUTTE (1918-25) to Ingham Old Hall, Ingham, near Stalham, Norfolk NR12 0TW.

N. G. S. WATLING, F.M.I.Pur.M. (1950-56) to 8 Cheriton Close, Jersey Farm, St. Albans, Herts AL4 9HU (0727 34687)

P. E. HART, F.C.A. (1949-57) to Little Moretons, Combeinteignhead, Newton Abbot, South Devon TQ12 4RR (0626 873434)

New members to the Association include I. C. BARCLAY, R. CALVER and former member S. GREENFIELD.

P.G.Y.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions (£5 p.a.) become due on January 1st each year. If you do not pay by Banker's Order and have not yet paid for 1988, please send your cheque as soon as possible to the Hon. Treasurer, Alan Morris, 35 Williams Way, Radlett, Herts WD7 7HA.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Event	Contact
1988		
June 18	Founder's Day Service 11 a.m. Roll Call 12.30	
June 19	Founder's Sunday Gipsy Corner	Eric Shearly
June 22	Rugby Club A.G.M. Gipsy Corner. 8 p.m.	N. A. Ward
June 24	Golf, East Herts.	Mike Swinn
July 1	Golf v. School Arkley	Mike Swinn
July 2	Golf, N. Wilts.	Mike Swinn
July 28	Golf v. EBOGS, Crews Hill.	Mike Swinn
September 29	Golf, Autumn Meeting, Knebworth.	Mike Swinn
October 14	Association Annual Dinner ("Class of '63" - 25 years!)	Ian Wicken