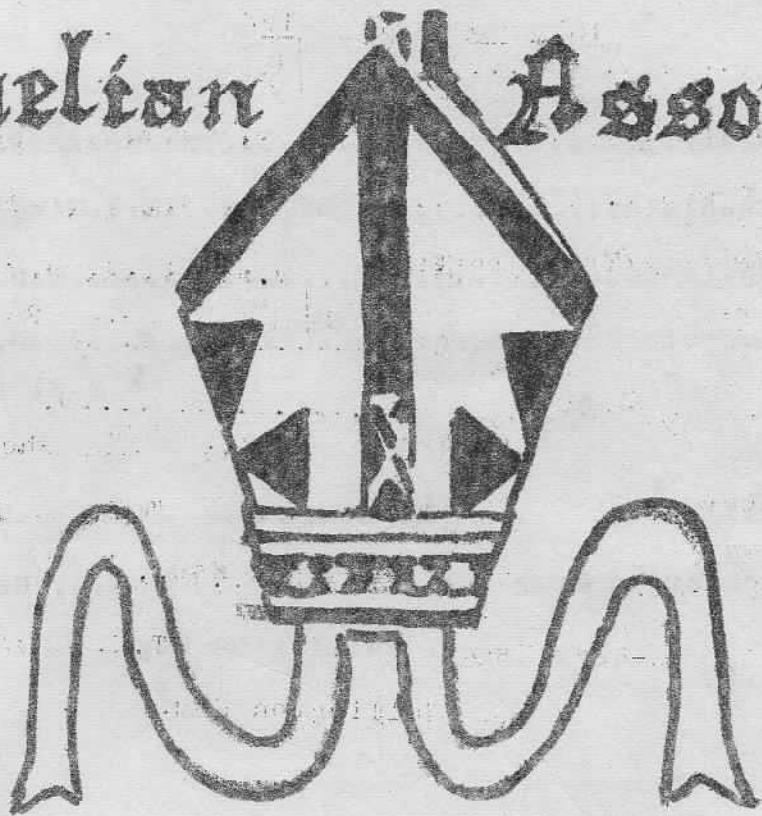


Old  
Michaelian Association



NEWSLETTER

SPRING 1969

*The Old Boys and Girls Association of  
St Michael's School Ingoldisthorpe Norfolk*

OLD MICHAELIAN ASSOCIATION

THE COMMITTEE 1969

President.....The Headmaster ( Ex officio )  
Hon. Chaplain..... The Rev. J.R.I. Wikeley ( Ex officio )  
Hon. Chairman.....M.B.B. Coats Esq.,  
Hon. Secretary/Treasurer(s).....D.G. Lewis Esq.,  
M.B. Shellock Esq.,  
R.M. Hill Esq., M. Oweis Esq., M.N. Boak Esq.,  
I.R. Henderson-Begg Esq., T.E. Healey Esq.,  
J.A. Wallington Esq.,

In order to 'break the monotony' we're trying-out a  
multi-coloured newsletter!!!

## EDITORIAL

It seems the dreaded year of the 'crunch' is upon us; the year when the sad news that the School will be closing at the end of this coming summer term. The School, having served the community greatly, will be missed not only by us but we hope by the "local inhabitants" also.

At the last A.G.M. the Headmaster informed the attending members, of the great possibility that the School might have to close down at the end of the summer term. Then somehow later it was 'breathed' to the contrary: but our hopes were dashed at the recent committee meeting - on Sunday 9th March - when Mr. Pott made clear his decision that the School would close. The committee made itself fully aware of the responsibilities toward the continuation of the Association which now lays in our ( and YOUR ) hands.

Looking back on the past few months since the last Newsletter, we have had the Winter Reunion with the usual activities and the Buffet/Dance, held in new surroundings, at the Lodge Hotel, Old Hunstanton. This seemed to be a success enjoyed by many of those who came to the function - but numbers were rather disappointing in that we always hope for more support.

We look forward to a rather special summer reunion over the weekend of 21st/22nd June 1969 ( for which you now know the reason! ), with a one-day cricket match and social evening following. Further details within the Newsletter.

A preliminary date has been set for the winter reunion this year - 6th/7th December.

Please note in your diaries the dates mentioned above

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WINTER REUNION 1968

The Winter Reunion last year was held over the weekend of the 7th/8th of December.

The weekend started with coffee in the staffroom, which, was not very well attended. But as this was on Saturday morning it is appreciated that many of us were still travelling and some even, still working!

The football match was as usual very entertaining! The result of which we, the the Editors, regret to say has been lost somewhere in our correspondence; but without a doubt the Old Boys MUST have won!!

A disappointing part of the weekend was the very poor attendance at the A.G.M., only 33 members present. As this is the only time in the year when we have the opportunity to be altogether for a meeting one would expect a slightly bigger attendance; but nevertheless many topics were thoroughly discussed.

It was the first time that the Buffet/Dance had not been held at the Manor Hotel, Ingoldisthorpe. After visiting many hotels it was finally decided to hold it at the Lodge Hotel, Old Hunstanton. We feel that the Lodge Hotel was very suitable as it was closed to the public which gave us "The run of the house" and plenty of beds being available. The Buffet/Dance started at 7.30p.m., all of us gathering in the Hotel bar. Then the buffet started at about 8.15p.m. The food was good and there was ample supply. The only minor criticism was that the soup was rather cool for those at the end of the queue.

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The rather successful raffle was spread over the evening, Mrs. Pott kindly drawing the winning numbers.

All in all we had a very pleasant evening which made for an enjoyable weekend.

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We wish to thank all those who kindly contributed prizes for the raffle, the proceeds of which go towards covering costs of the Buffet/Dance.

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By permission? of the Mitre magazine inc.

Quote-

" There are two kinds of men who never amount to much - those who cannot do what they are told, and those who can do nothing else."

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For The Drinkers!!

Quote-

" It's all right to drink like a fish if you drink what a fish does."

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Quote-(from the United Church of Canada's magazine)

" Sleeping in Church is one of the more forgivable sins. There must be something to be said for the man who is so at peace with himself, his neighbours, and his God that he can go to sleep!"

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Who's Doing What!

Who's Going Where!

M. Coats:-

is now a Sales Representative for B.M.W. cars based at a showroom on Park Lane!

R. Hill:-

is working in Crawley with an Air Conditioning Firm having transferred from his original Firm in Woking.

J. Worboys:-

has now taken over his Father's Business in Gerrards Cross; we wish him every success.

M. Boak:-

is now training for Executive Management with a Ford Main Dealer in North London.

The School:-

has for the first time in its History a Japanese Boy attending.

also we are pleased to mention that the G.C.E. results this year are very good: we congratulate all concerned.

GOOD-TIDINGS

CONGRATULATIONS!!! to Benedict Gunner & Anne Cullin who are now married. The Ceremony was earlier this year. We wish both Ben and Anne every happiness.

Congratulations go also to Penny Vawser who was married on January 3rd., Gerald Weatherill who was married at the end of last year and John Wallington who was also married at the end of last year.

cont'd....

P. Yarker:-

to Peter and his wife the birth of a son, James Francis  
born on 10th January.

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G. Wood:-

to Gordon and his wife the birth of a son also, Simon  
Mark born on 11th February (9½lbs!!!)

By the return of the completed form enclosed with this News-  
letter we shall be able to extend the "Who's Doing What etc"  
and If any of you receive any news of Old Michaelians  
please would you send it to any member of the Committee or  
send it direct to :-

The Secretary, O.M.A.,  
"Woodpeckers",  
The Glade,  
FETCHAM,  
Leatherhead,  
Surrey.

.....

Perhaps the Artist will recognise the  
cover page of this Newsletter!!!  
May I take this opportunity of thanking  
him or her for the use of the Lino-cut.  
I trust there is no copyright.

REACH FOR THE SKY!!!

It's gratifying to know that I am even yet "numbered with the Saints!" And I hasten not only to say thank you to Dermot for the chance to talk shop - the besetting sin of all clergymen, in case you haven't discovered - but also the opportunity of saying Hello to my one-time pupils, and to those of an earlier or later generation who were spared this particular ordeal.

But to my task! It's well nigh three years since East Anglia was left behind and I donned the Blue for the first time; the time thus spent has been eventful, giving one more adventure than one dare even hope for when the collar is turned about.

Within six weeks of reporting for duty in Bedfordshire I was in Aden...Aden with its heat and humidity, its noise and news, its terrorists and traffic. In a difficult and often confusing situation, the forces of the Crown carried out the task of maintaining law and order with a coolness and proficiency which speaks volumes for the background of history and discipline which is a part of the British tradition, and a heritage of which we should be justly proud. One saw many sad sights.... young men of no more than 18 dying of gunshot or grenade wounds, or minus a limb. And it was perhaps not until one read in the surprisingly hostile British press of British "Atrocities" that one began to wonder if their particular sacrifice had been in vain.

And then "up country" after one year...to Sharjah, near Dubai in the Trucial Oman States, if you've got an atlas handy. If you ever feel hot in dear Olde Englande, then I wonder what you'd do and how you'd cope with the hot-season noonday average of 120 degrees, falling to a cold 95 by night!

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Again, a quite fascinating place to find oneself in - without the dangers of Aden, admittedly but in little-known desert country. I've just finished reading the fascinating travel book on this part of the world by Wilfred Thesiger called "ARABIAN SANDS." Sun-bathing is an essential part of the daily routine, just as essential as plenty of liquids and air-conditioning.

The Calendar tells me that I've been back in the land of UK for the best part of a year; at Lyneham, which might be called the London Airport of the Royal Air Force, in that troops and freight are flown from here to all parts of the globe, by Comet, Britannia and Hercules aircraft - the VC 10's left us some months ago.

How does the Service ministry differ from a civillian one, I'm often asked. There are of course many similarities: one is making personal contacts the whole of the while; one is sharing the experiences of one's congregation in a full and real sense; one preaches the Gospel of the Kingdom of God with its message of freedom for the WHOLE of human experience. But ours is an ever-changing world, a forever-fluctuating parish, with men and their families coming and going with bewildering frequency. Somebody once described our job as that of the chicken which tries to lay its eggs on the escalator! And I usually suggest that our job is roughly equivalent to that of being Chaplain at Paddington Station, were there such a one!

The Service is a highly professional and technical one, and with yet more complex aircraft arriving on the scene shortly, it promises to become even more so. To remind such craftsmen that they are soul as well as mind and body is the duty and privilege of the Chaplain.

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To a unique degree, he is identified with a lot of his congregation; the same uniform, the same conditions of service, the same discipline. His task is made no easier in consequence, however, because the apathy of the decade appears to have permeated even into the Service.

I count myself highly privileged to be serving in this so-different way. And you'll maybe be reassured to know that St. Michael still has a particular appeal for me, for it's the usual dedication for Churches of the Royal Air Force.

God Bless you all!

Bill Kelly

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#### LIFE MEMBERS

At the A.G.M. last year Page Clowser & Gordon Wood, two Old Michaelians who had worked very hard on the Committee for many many years, resigned not only their office as Chairman & Games Secretary (respectively) but from the Committee.

Their services will be missed considerably; but as a mark of appreciation the Committee approached Mr. Pott with a suggestion to make Page & Gordon Life Members of the Association. This was carried out and was officially announced at the Buffet/Dance.

Thank you Page & Gordon.

SUMMER REUNION - 1969

21st & 22nd. JUNE

The "Editorial" touched lightly upon this subject, regarding what we hope will take place this coming summer.

Past Committees, including ourselves, have never attempted to be so ambitious in wanting to hold a 'big' reunion in the summer, to add glamour to the usual cricket match.

The idea is to have a one-day cricket match on Saturday 21st June starting at 11.00a.m. and close of play (weather permitting) at 6.15p.m.; breaking for lunch at 12.45p.m. (for approx.  $\frac{3}{4}$ hr.) and tea at 4.30p.m. ( $\frac{1}{2}$ hr.). Later on that evening, all Old Michaelians, parents of past and present pupils and some members of the school are invited to a social evening at the Heacham Public Hall\* starting around 8.00p.m. We hope this will be a great opportunity for conversation, with dancing, refreshments and a bar. We anticipate that drinks will be available at reduced prices. The evening should run through till midnight - provided we have some "stayers!".

In order to cover sundry expenses we wish to charge 5/- per. person. Tickets available NOW from the secretary.

\* We have made a preliminary booking for the Heacham Public Hall, subject to confirmation at a later date. Should the Hall not be available an alternative venue will be found.

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