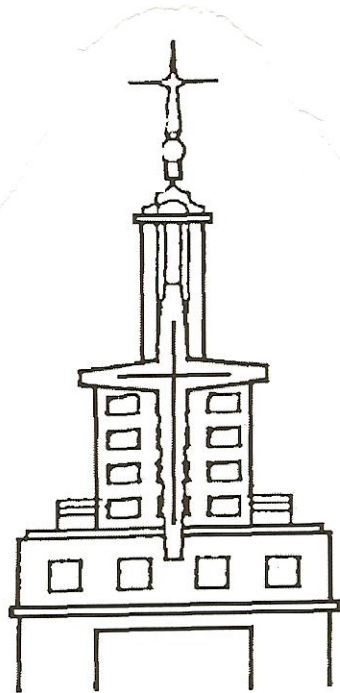


CLARION RECALL



NUMBER 34

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RECALLING OLD FRIENDS - let us know if we can put you in touch!

19/5/12 an email from **Sir Michael Day**: "I wonder if you could let me have the address of Peter Thorburn. I should like to respond to his greetings in the last Clarion. I may be one of the few who do remember him from the late forties.

I am still wondering why I wandered off for the second innings of the match that Geoff Owen wrote about. Perhaps I felt exhausted after my bowling efforts in the first! Regards and with thanks for your efforts to feed our nostalgia.".....Michael Day

3/5/12 from **Barbara Meikle** (nee Warland): "Thank you again for a most interesting Clarion – Deansbrook School, the interesting choir photograph and much more. I was 80 a few weeks ago so I must have gone to Deansbrook in 1936. I certainly remember Miss Crighton (Mrs Pack), but left before the staff photograph. I was pleased to see the news on the geography prize – it still seems so tragic. The last time that Rex and I talked together must have been at JK in the summer of 2010.

Could you let me have Peter Thorburn’s address please? Is he still living in Wells? He gave it to me once. I remember him so well and I’d like to write to him.".....Barbara

Ron See emails: 'Thank you for Edition 33, you can now email it to me at r.see1525@btinternet.com. I was pleased to see the photo of the 5th Edgware Scouts from Alan Sims. I have a clearer one with us all facing the front and would be pleased to send it to him, either by email or on disk if I had his address. Also I can add some more names including myself in the front row.....Regards Ron See (still scouting)

NEWS FROM JK

Ron South reports 27/9/12: 'that Beth Bray, who has lived in Holmwood Grove since the early days of JK, has had to move into Kestrel Grove Nursing Home. She looks forward to receiving Clarion and would be pleased if you could send a copy to her new home'. (*We all hope that you will be very happy and well cared for in your new home Beth. Good to hear that you still enjoy reading Clarion!*)

Whilst Ron and Jill were on holiday at the beginning of September Chris Chivers was taken ill with heart problems, he has previously had a stent fitted. From Ron 1/10/12: 'Chris Chivers has been ordered to take complete rest for a while and is going away this week. The assistant curate and vicar of St Michael’s Church, Rev Steven Young, took our Harvest Eucharist late yesterday. It appears that Chris has a hereditary heart problem.'

15/10/12 'Yesterday’s service was taken by Fr Nadim Nassar, Director of The Awareness Foundation. After the service I learnt that Chris is having a Stent inserted at the Royal Free on Thursday though he has been to S Africa in the meantime!

31/10/12; 'It appears that Chris’ recovery has gone well and he is to take next Sunday’s service 4/11/12. Ron also left church abruptly in an ambulance on 28/10/12, it was not a stroke, Janet Saffery reports but an appointment is being made for him to see a cardiologist. (*I sent Chris a get well email and hope to hear from him with an article for Clarion 35*)

5/07/12 Wendy Walford writes: 'Had a very interesting day on Monday. Sam Wells, who gave the sermon at Rex’s Thanksgiving has returned from America to be the Vicar of St Martin in the Fields and I and a few others from Cambridge went down for his installation. Quite an event and one which Rex would have loved. Lots of music, social commitment and ceremony. So many aspects of London represented, for example, Pearly Kings and Queens, the BBC, the city’s homeless and nearby Chinatown.' Wendy is going to the Advent Service at St Martin in the Fields on Sunday 2nd December and is looking forward to seeing how Sam Wells is settling down.

Peter Warland wrote from NW11 and has recently moved to Totteridge, Mill Hill: 'Would it be possible to have an update on the renovation work on JK and the success of the appeal for funds?

It is most interesting to see old photographs of YC members (as well as the latest pics). Can everyone be encouraged to offer any pics – amusing or otherwise – to help us recall the 1940’s and 50’s? Keep up the good work!Peter

A Reunion at historic Bury St Edmunds



22 of us met in the cathedral at 11 am on the 18th July 2012 and divided into two groups, each with a tour guide. Above are Myra Alexander, Keith & Ann Young, Sybil Fisher, Roland & Shirley Orr and John Pryke-Smith. Georgina Pryke-Smith and Alan Alexander are hidden behind Roly.

After the tour we were served lunch in the Cloisters, which are enclosed, as the lift to the private room had broken down. We enjoyed cold sliced ham, hot new potatoes, tomato & cucumber, mixed lettuce leaves, coleslaw and green bean salad followed by fruit cheesecake, tea and coffee, good conversation and laughter despite the odd passing tourist.

We then made our way with Malcolm's map to 'Nether Hankleys' to see Malcolm's steam trains. Luckily the weather was kind. Malcolm's railway enthusiast friends put on a superb display. Delicious home-made chocolate, coffee & strawberry Victoria sponges and cups of tea were demolished while chatting and trying to put names to faces and places in a JKCYC Reunion Quiz that Wendy provided as a contribution on behalf of Rex. Brian Wright managed to recall quite a few. You can see Q33 on page 5!

Wendy Fisher managed to join the cathedral tour and lunch but got lost on the way to Malcolm's. She writes 'I was so sorry I was unable to get to Malcolm's. After driving around for over an hour I got to know all the lanes around Barrow & Higham but that was it! Being on my own didn't help – I had to find a gate in a field to stop every time to re-read the instructions. I looked for a balloon or something similar to attract my attention – but finally found the Brooms Farm Experimental Station, found two silver cars parked on the gravel & 3 or 4 blue cars on some tarmac but if I'd left my car there I wasn't sure where to go then! I didn't have the 'phone number and I thought Nether Hankleys was a place (although I realize today that it was the name of the house). I was getting tired by then and at 4.30 I decided to head for home as I had another 50 mile drive to do, but I felt pretty frustrated I never made it. Please apologise to Malcolm for me – one day I hope to visit his railway! Apart from the above I really enjoyed the day.'

Thank you Malcolm and Peggy for hosting a very enjoyable and interesting reunion!!

Pictured below Janet Saffery, Sybil Fisher, Derek Fisher, Shirley Orr, Alan Alexander, Myra Alexander & Roland Orr listening intently to the guide



Malcolm, Derek Fisher, Paul Fernberg, Myra Alexander, Sylvia Murch, Janet Saffery, Shirley Collman & Alan Alexander



Paul Fernberg, Keith Young, Richard Collman, Derek Fisher, Georgina Pryke-Smith and Sybil Fisher waiting for the train.

Apologies were received from some of those unable to join the reunion. Barry & Jean Cockerell had a prior engagement. Bob & Pat Harman went on a tour of the area a few months ago, Lavenham, Bury Cathedral, Theatre, Ickworth etc. Henry & Veronica Tuppen, Ron & Jill South and Wendy Walford sent good wishes to everyone. Derek Holden visits France in July and has suggested another Neuvic reunion. If anyone is interested contact Derek: 01727 864046. DH says there are flights from Stolport to Brive la gaillard which cuts the driving time. He may join us for an early June 2013 reunion and a river cruise has been suggested. A few people have expressed an interest in going and John Pryke-Smith has offered to organise one. Telephone 01803 839394 - johnps123@hotmail.com.

29/6/12 Joy Oliver (nee Farmer) says "Regretfully I shall be unable to make the reunion as it will be too near my 5th (out of 6) chemo and I have been having several problems with my blood which puts me into hospital for several days while it gets sorted. I really will miss seeing everyone.....please give my apologies and remember me to everyone. Have a wonderful visit; hope the weather improves for you. They might be amused by the following....."

You know how windy it was recently...well out for a night with girls we came out of the Clubhouse and straight into gusty wind...Off blew my wig which rolled down the car park with my pal Pauline chasing after it with her gammy leg....like hopalong Cassidy...every time she got near the wind blew it away again...Meanwhile my "Friends" are howling with laughter and I'm cowering in the doorway hands over my bald pate which closely resembles a white boiled egg. Ah well the hair will grow again and I should hope to have a reasonable head of hair by next reunion, wherever it might be. ALL THE VERY BEST FOR A HAPPY & SUCCESSFUL VISIT TO MALCOLM & PEGGY'S."

Geoff Owen writes: "I am fit and well, I just have a Zoladex jab every 12 weeks and this seems to do the trick. I had five days of Radiotherapy one year ago and that seemed to solve most of my problems. I have the Bury St Edmunds date on my wall chart but I have 'West Coast Swing' Dancing Tuesday, football training Wednesday and Finchley Games Club Thursday. I need to be here for those activities – not necessarily to participate! It is a long way to come for lunch!!



Malcolm Cherry's "Crowning" as JKCYC Leader. Who is doing the anointing?

Margaret Gerrard (nee Smith) writes: "We hope everyone going to the get together in Bury St Edmunds have a very enjoyable weekend. Graham and I know the area well as I have cousins living in Ipswich but unfortunately, because of Graham's health, we are not able to come. Please give our best wishes to all who remember us."

From **Richard Whitfield** "Dear Shirley and JK Friends, sorry, but we (my Shirley and I) are for several reasons unable to join this planned reunion, though God speed to those who can!

It is of significant note that the 19 March 2012 *New Scientist* features the God Issue: The surprising **new science of religion** – why humans are made with God-shaped space. Stated is the fact that "religion is deeply etched in human nature and cannot be dismissed as a product of ignorance, indoctrination or stupidity. Until secularists realize this, they are fighting a losing battle.

Modern Biblical scholars, evolutionary psychologists and comparative religionists do more than suggest that there is a God shaped hole literally in everyone, so dismantling the specious argument of people like the far too famed secularists Richard Dawkins and Stephen Hawking, though given his massive handicap, compassion for the latter's belief is the more appropriate.

Whatever our engagement with the always fallible and still too divided 'church' over matters of 'authority', this really makes one sit up! God really does hold us together, whether we are aware of it with a degree of piety, or not."

Best wishes, Richard

OBITUARIES: Marion Bennett, of Lyme Regis, passed away on 10th April 2012 aged 75

Marion sent us her new address when she moved in August 2011 and we had a card from her in November 2011:

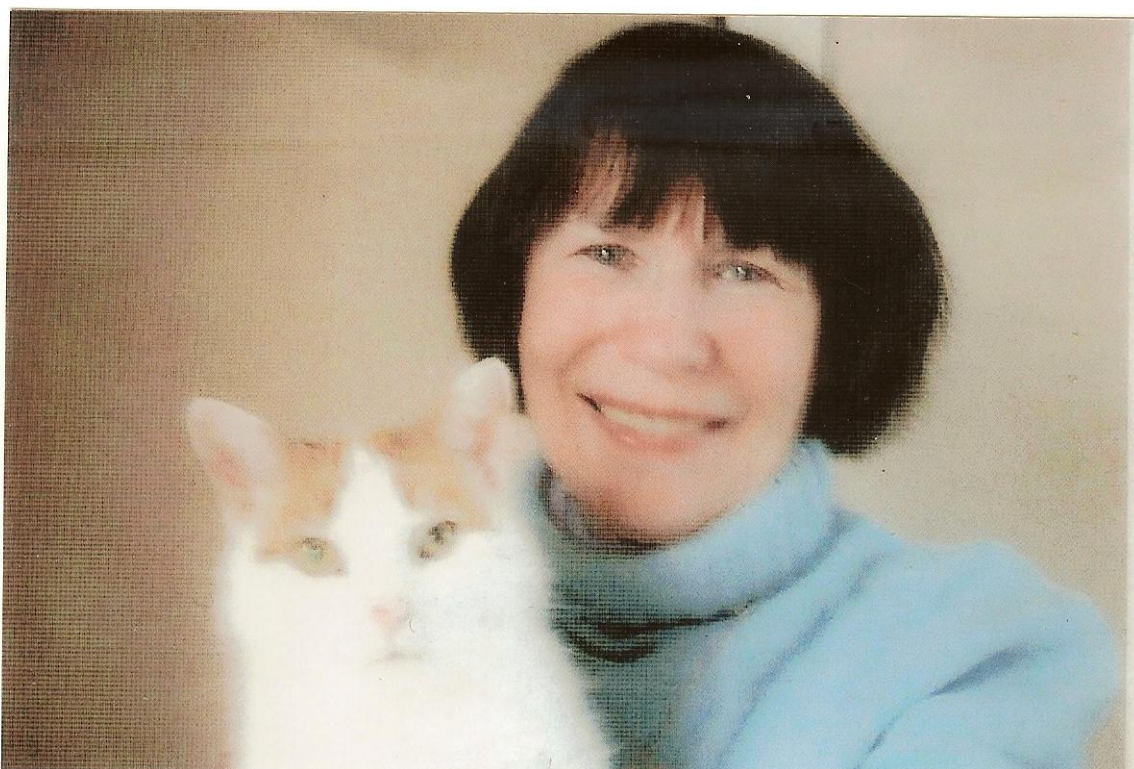
"Thanks so much for sending me a copy of Clarion Recall, delighted to get it. And what a great card you sent me for moving day – How apt that was, and very funny. Am pretty much settled now, but have more hospital visits to come and the surgery is to happen on 20 December!! God, what an awkward time it appears to be, but will be so glad to get it over. Do hope you are alright. You are doing a grand job, taking over from Rex. He must be overjoyed at the direction his work is taking. Much love Shirley from Marion."

Pam Martin, her closest friend, gave us the sad news and provided the photo of Marion and her cat taken about 2 years ago. She had been in poor health for many years but died suddenly of a perforated bowel in hospital.

Mike Gibbard, her friend and carer writes: "She loved the Clarion Recall and would often talk about her John Keble days with great fondness. She still kept in touch with a handful of friends and it was a great delight to her that she managed to meet up with Rex and Wendy Walford in Lyme Regis shortly before he died.

We held a simple but beautiful service for her yesterday at East Devon Crematorium. Ave Maria was sung and Rod Stewart's 'Sailing'. Donations to the 'Cats Protection League were requested instead of flowers.

Marion was very fond of her cats. I am sure that she is now celebrating with her old John Keble friends in pastures new. Marion always had a very strong faith."



Colin Marshall – Lord Marshall of Knightsbridge 16/11/1933 – 05/07/2012

Posted in the Telegraph, Colin Marshall, a friend of Rex and Don, who became chairman of BA, was born a week earlier than Don and died the same week. Don used to call him fatty Marshall. He was ex Deansbrook and UCS. He showed no interest in going on to university and left school to "run away to sea" by joining the Orient shipping line as a 16-year-old cadet purser. He was president of the CBI and held a clutch of other demanding boardroom appointments. He was knighted in 1987 and created a life peer in 1998.

Donald Wright 23/11/1933 – 02/07/2012

Don died on Monday 2nd July after a long illness with bowel cancer. A service was held on 12th July at Bournemouth Crematorium. Joy Oliver and John & Georgina Pryke-Smith represented JKCYC friends and Gill wishes to thank all those who have remembered Don.

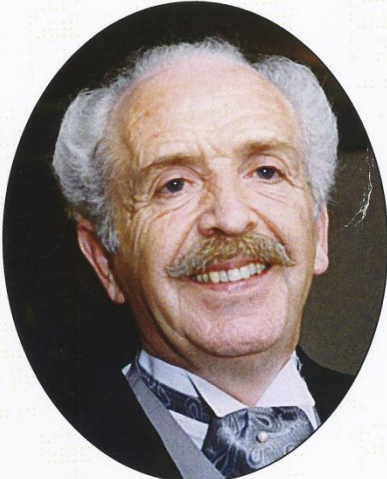
David Jeremy writes: 'Very sad to hear news regarding Don Wright. Being 3 years younger than he, I remember him as one of the "Elder Statesmen" of the JKCYC when I joined. Naturally we lost sight of many like Don as they went off to do National Service, subsequently returning to the fold.

While I have not seen most of you for many years, my memories are thus of those as I knew them...eternally frozen in that time of last meeting. I do remember what a good egg he was, calm, cheerful, like a benign big brother to us all. I am sure that these characteristics carried him through life and were of some assistance to him towards the end.

My best wishes to Gill and all his family at this time. It cannot have been easy but he now rests in peace, truly. His work is done and those left behind can not only grieve but celebrate his life, keep calm and carry on. He remains in our every day to keep an eye out for you all. This I have come to appreciate of late.

I know that he is in a better place, joining old friends and no doubt teaming up with Rex, who will have everything sorted, including the wings with JKCYC insignia, needle and embroidery thread to finish the job. Mo will inspect the quality before these wings are awarded.

*A Service of
Thanksgiving
for the life of*
**DONALD
WRIGHT**
Aged 78 Years



Bournemouth Crematorium

*Thursday 12th July 2012
at 12:30pm*

*The service is conducted by
Rev. Jim Harper*

The other news of Colin Marshall just goes to show how wide the residents from Mill Hill, Edgware and environs have spread out into the Community at large. The other day I realized that even the present Chief Rabbi was an Old Fincheleian, as those who went CCF will, of course, be aware. Other religions were certainly part of our life in those days. It was a very good part of our upbringing in our part of the world which helps us through life. 'Well done good and faithful servant...catch you later!' Please convey the above to Gill and family. *Yours aye David Jeremy*

John Pryke-Smith writes: 'From the time I could walk I was brought up with Don my next door neighbor in Stanway Gardens. Don was one year older than me so obviously he was leading me astray! That's what my mum said. I was able to tell Don's son about our various exploits most of which I dare not put into print. However Don's son was able to relate to the following and told me that he could now understand Don's attitude in not pursuing boys stealing golf balls from his own Golf Clubs. (Don of course built 5 golf courses but did not play himself). We regularly went to Mout Mount golf course and collected "lost" golf balls and sold them back for pocket money. On one occasion Don fell in the reservoir retrieving a golf ball and I remember his brother Roy lighting a fire and drying Don's clothes so his mum did not find out!

Other exploits involved Fire engines (Don's dad was a Fireman) – not to be written about. I last saw Don when we had the reunion 8 years ago – when he was recovering from having fallen off his roof.'

Margaret Gerrard (nee Smith) and husband Graham who celebrated their Golden Wedding in June were very sad to hear the news and Margaret writes: "As you may know they were our neighbours in Stanway Gardens and when I was born my mother told me how the three Wright brothers, along with my brother John, used to all watch me being bathed!! In one way it was a case of growing up with four brothers, not just one, so it made me feel particularly sad as all part of my past growing up. Don was always the twin who got up to all sorts of things too whilst Brian was quieter. Please pass on our sincere condolences to Don's wife and family.

Geoff Owen writes: "Very sad to hear about Don. As you may remember, Don and I remained together throughout our National Service – we trained together in Winnipeg – and we were navigating together for most of that time – we were a good team but I have to say that Don was the number one! I am still in touch with some of the Winnipeg boys and will pass on the sad news.

I read about Colin Marshall in the Times on Saturday – he was actually one day older than me. Colin lived in Highview Avenue, number 69 I think. He was a good friend of Michael Day and Rex Walford. They all went to UCS."

Wendy Walford writes: 'I am sorry to hear about Don. I remember him vividly, especially at the West Country weekend.'

Paignton Reunion 2004 at John & Georgina Pryke-Smith's



Slimming and filling Recipe for quick tomato soup.

Tin of carrots Tin of baked beans 2 Tins of tomatoes 4 pickled onions
1 pint of water + 4 vegetable oxo cubes black pepper and salt if liked.
Simmer for 5 minutes. Blitz, sieve if preferred or serve as is and enjoy!

Elizabeth Taillie writes 15/07/12: Hi everyone from New Zealand. Updating the family news, we now have seven great-grandchildren (unbelievable) – four delightful little boys and three beautiful little girls! The last two were born in March – twin girls to our eldest granddaughter. Beth and husband Hayden currently live at Redhill, Surrey, but came back to NZ to have their babies. Our daughter, Andrea, is in Redhill for a month, now they have returned, but, much as they've enjoyed their time in England, they are coming back to live in NZ in September to be closer to the family.

Leo and I are taking one day at a time – he has recently been in hospital with a collapsed lung and then I was told I had a density in my right lung 'suspicious for malignancy' which was a bolt from the blue. I thought this was taking our 'togetherness' a bit far but there you are – these things just happen don't they? Leo's home and coping quite well and I have been undergoing various tests for weeks. No malignancy has been discovered so far but after two CT scans and two bronchoscopes it still isn't clear what this 'thing' in my lung is and I am awaiting an appointment for another procedure (needle into my lung for yet another biopsy). I must say our health system is very thorough and I've no complaints. Just wish it were over. It's winter here but where we live – in the north of the North Island – it's been very mild and when Andrea rang from Surrey yesterday the temperature there, in mid-summer, was lower than ours – amazing!

'So sad to hear both Colin Marshall and Donald Wright have slipped off this mortal coil. Both were in my class at Deansbrook and Donald and Brian were close friends throughout our childhood and early teens. We all used to play Kingie and Cannon in Stanway Gardens – crowds of us – and we all got on well together – most of the time anyway! Sometimes Rex Walford would wander around from Church Close to join our gang. Beryl Stratford, Margaret Stewart and Ruth Gibson were the other girls who played with us and sometimes Joan Taylor. Beryl and Joan have both died but I email and write to Ruth (in NSW in the Land of Oz) and Margaret (in Iver).

Years ago I saw on the news that Colin Marshall was coming to NZ – he was then CEO or Chairman of British Airways – so I wrote to him, inviting him and his wife to visit or else suggesting I travel down to Auckland and we meet for lunch. Rex had told me that at the last UCS reunion lunch with Michael Day and Colin; my name had cropped up so I knew Colin would remember me. Weeks later I received a long letter from him saying that my letter had been forwarded to his London Office so he hadn't received it until he had returned from NZ! I saw on the website that there were five boys from Miss Minty's class who went to UCS but I can only remember four – Rex, Colin, Michael and Kenneth Haigh, who used to be Bobby Harman's friend and who gave me a blue necklace when we were eleven! Kenneth wasn't a JKCYC member though.

Despite this lung thing of mine, I'm okay. Leo's thing isn't too bad either so our year of the lung isn't too traumatic and hopefully the outcome won't be too dire either, but I'm over any fear about it all. Had a couple of hours of gut-wrenching fear right at the beginning of this entire saga and then I became sort of resigned and I simply haven't felt like that again. Can't say I'm looking forward to yet another procedure because my specialist said it would be a little painful even though I'll be given a local anesthetic. I can endure some pain but still.....! However, it probably won't last long and I must go with the flow and hope for the best. Happy Days! At least if we do manage to get over to England next year for my sister's 90th, all this will be over and done with – well I hope it will be.

Enjoy the reunion, Shirley and please give my love to all who remember me.love Eliz.

Sir Michael Day 9th July 2012 'Too many messages these days of friends' deaths. Thank you for letting me know of Donald Wright's passing. With his twin brother Brian we were together in the Infants school of Deansbrook way back to 1940 and throughout our youth in Sunday school, Cubs, and Scouts and of course Youth Club. Many happy memories of those years when our lives centered on JK.

Another in that same class at Deansbrook was Colin Marshall who was a 'fringe' member of the JK community. Five of us from that class moved on to UCS in 1945 including of course Rex. One died young but the four survivors used to meet up in London for the occasional meal. The last was at the RAC Club and poor Rex arrived tieless and was required to borrow one from the doorman! On a point of detail he lived at Highview Avenue off Hale Lane and was an only child – no sister.

He left school early to become assistant Purser on the Blue Funnel Line and had a much more successful and remunerative career than those of us who struggled to University! He finished up as Chairman of BA and much else. The Obit in the Daily Telegraph of 6th July tells you how much the else was. So 'carpe diem' – as Rex wrote to me a week before his death'.....Michael

The Queens's Diamond Jubilee recalls Tony Woodford's memories of her Silver Jubilee

'Following the various events to mark HM The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations my brother Alan emailed me to say that he had watched the Jubilee Flypast on Canadian television. He added that he recalled that I had been involved in an earlier flypast and asked, if his memory was correct, whether I would write a short piece describing the occasion for the Clarion.

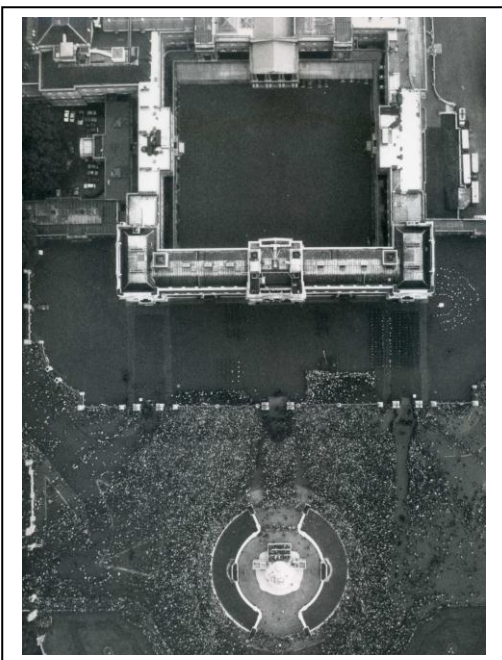
Alan's memory was correct. Early in June 1977, when I was commanding No 101 Squadron equipped with the Vulcan and based in Lincolnshire, I was tasked to organise and lead the RAF flypast following the Trooping of the Colour to mark the Queen's Official Birthday. As the year marked the Queen's Silver Jubilee I was advised that the formation was to be 25 aircraft strong.

My crew set to work to choose a route, obtain the necessary clearances and rehearse with the other aircraft scheduled to join up with us - another Vulcan, two Victors, 12 assorted fighters and the Red Arrows. We planned a route over Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex and then up the Thames with the other aircraft joining us at pre-arranged points. We had one dress rehearsal over the route (but short of the Palace) with the whole formation before the actual day. Weather for all of our practices was excellent. That all changed on June 11th. We started in fair conditions but as we turned west to travel up the Thames at our planned speed of 300 knots the cloud, as predicted, thickened. Ten miles short of the Palace and at 1,000 feet above the ground, we saw a heavy rain cloud in front of us. I had a simple choice - hope that the formation could maintain contact in the cloud and continue or turn the formation away. The latter would have been preferable to a broken formation over the Palace with aircraft going in all directions and the TV cameras catching the disarray! If that happened I knew my career would be finished. My aircraft radar indicated that the rain cloud cleared just before the Palace so I called the formation to close up and pressed on. With much relief we broke cloud with the formation intact and the Mall stretching in front of us with the Palace clearly visible beyond. The over-flight was to the second so all was well. I (and probably my Air Vice-Marshal Group Commander) breathed a deep sigh of relief!

However, within seconds of leaving the Palace behind us we encountered very adverse conditions and, in accordance with our contingency plan, the formation was broken up and groups of aircraft went their separate ways back to their bases.

Strangely for such a well photographed event I have only three pictures from that day. One was the camera shot from the Vulcan (shown below), the second a picture taken by a passenger in one of the Red Arrows and the third a distant picture taken by my mother standing in the Mall.

Two weeks later I met HRH the Princess Anne at Waddington and commented to her that I did not know whether our over flight coincided with Big Ben's first or last strike for twelve o'clock. The Princess coolly observed that "while aircrew would be using GMT, the rest of London was on British Summer Time - so Big Ben, if one could have heard it over the noise of the formation, struck only once". I was put firmly in my place.'



Note: The Red Arrows Photograph is crown copyright and was



Provided by the RAF Red Arrows Photographic Unit.

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Clarion Recall website update

from Alan Woodford

Recently we did some outreach by sending an article describing our website to Paula Storey, editor of Focus. I believe it was to be included in the October issue. So far no resulting contact with past JK youth members - but early days.

With only a few unsolicited submissions from readers we had to look 'in the back-yard' for articles to keep the site active. One from my brother Tony describes his experience leading the 1977 flypast of Buckingham palace. The birds' eye view in one of the photographs must have been taken through the bomb-aimer or target camera window. Even more impressive is the view of the aircraft flying in formation up the Thames – taken from the cockpit of one of the RAF's Red Arrows. I was pleased that Tony agreed to submit this article as he likes to keep a low profile. Little did he know his role as 'King of the Ration Books' was also to be revealed in a Clarion Recall exclusive! (As you can see – if you don't follow the website – you miss a lot.) To complete the family contribution to Clarion Recall I have a few tidbits to add from my sister Heather Hearnden nee Woodford, who now lives at Repps with Bastwick, Norfolk (near Great Yarmouth). Heather follows Clarion Recall and in a recent email to me in Canada remembered JK as follows:

'Did you know that David Farmer went to the same school as Trevor, St. Mary's Church of England School, Hendon? He was in the same year but a different class.'*

No I didn't. David Farmer was our neighbour growing up (in Mount Grove). He appears in his probationer cassock in John Hack's choir photograph. His older sisters are well known to many Clarion Recall readers. David was tough physically - I remember him 'sorting out' Christopher Motley, the vicar's son, one Sunday morning after communion service. We liked David. (* Trevor Hearnden later married Heather at JK).

'I never got involved with the Youth Club. Went to confirmation classes in order to join, but got side tracked with Sunday school teaching and then met Trevor.' *'No mention of Rev. John Baulch in your articles, lovely man.'*

I second that. Unfortunately Rev. Ames sermons were hard to match, but John was a good Youth Club leader and remembered with respect and affection by those in the club at the time.

'Surely the Rev. Cherry wasn't the clergy that chased us up if we didn't attend Bible classes at John Keble. He must be very, very old now?'

Yes Heather. He probably was and is. But most of us now meet that age description.

Heather writes a regular vegetable allotment update article for the local church magazine. She tells me it's more popular than the vicar's article. A sample or two is appended to encourage future similar contributions from readers.

'We have had a good crop of strawberries although the damp weather makes them go off very quickly. I have already stripped 3 blackcurrant bushes and what amazing fruit I have harvested. They could almost be mini grapes they are so big. The boughs are so laden down with fruit they have sunk to the ground. The gooseberries are very poor this year I doubt whether I shall harvest more than a couple of punnets. I have stripped the red currant bush and made some lovely red currant jelly, this goes very well with lamb.'

'Disaster has struck, although we have sprayed the potatoes they have developed blight. With the damp weather this problem seems to be endemic with the local gardeners, I just hope that the farmers with all their vast fields of potatoes are able to surmount this problem.'

Below is a list of the postings and articles added to the website since the last newsletter.

Monthly Postings (News Items or Blogs) on www.clarionrecall.org since CR33:

Date posted	Description	Click to view
March 6/2012	John Keble Church website renewed	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201203
March 6/2012	Links page added	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201203
April 19/2012	Hot from the press! – Clarion Recall 33	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201204
May 6/2012	Marion Bennet passes away 10th April, 2012	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201205
May 6/2012	Hotel and B&B List for the 2012 Reunion	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201205
May 6/2012	CR33 Comment from Sandra Lewis (nee Wynn)	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201205
June 17/2012	Ration Books	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201206
June 17/2012	Recalling 1977 Flypast of Buckingham Palace	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201206
July 7/2012	One of Marion Bennet's cats	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201207
July 9/2012	Donald Wright 1933-2012	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201207
July 11/2012	2012 Reunion Updates	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201207
July 16/2012	Update from Elizabeth Taillie in NZ	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201207
July 21/2012	Clarion Recall 29 now on-line	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201207
July 31/2012	Clarion Recall 25-28	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201207
August 27/2012	Memories of Don Wright	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201208
Sept 18/2012	Update from Elizabeth Taillie in NZ	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201209
Oct 16/2012	Vicar Chris at Royal Free	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201210
Oct 21/2012	Deansbrook 1953 School Journey	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201210
Oct 22/2012	Clarion Recall and October 2012 Issue of Focus	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201210
Nov 8/2012	More posts now visible on this web page	http://clarionrecall.org/?m=201211

May 6/2012 Sandra Lewis (nee Wynn) emailed Alan: 'I just wanted to say how much I have enjoyed reading Clarion Recall since I found it by accident when google-ing JK Church last year. My time at JK was in the late fifties and early sixties and Rennie Simpson was vicar, although Revd. Motley did baptize me in 1947. I was a member of Junior AYPAs and Reggie Ames was in charge of my confirmation classes. My sister Janice was in the 6th Mill Hill Brownies and went on to guides but I never joined. I did occasionally help out at junior Sunday school and remember Rennie Simpson's daughter Katherine Mary was one of the youngest attending, but I am not sure which year.

I was confirmed on 28th October 1959 by George, Bishop of Willesden, and married in the church on 2nd April 1966 by Rev'd Ginever. I think David Norman was the organist, or choir master at my wedding (probably both) and the music on the day was lovely. After that I moved away from the area.

As I now live on the South coast I made a sentimental journey to JK in 2001/2 – not quite sure which – and it was all locked up. I was lucky that George Ramsay just happened to turn up and as I had been friends with his sister Denise we recognized each other, although we had not met for over 40 years, he unlocked the church door, I had last walked through as a bride, and I had a really lovely time remembering my happy times at JK.

I just want to send everyone associated with Clarion Recall my best wishes; I did not go to Deansbrook School although I did attend French evening classes there in 1964, but I find all the articles very interesting and your website is bookmarked for regular visits. With best wishes Sandra Lewis. Please feel free to contact me at any time: Sandra.k.lewis@btinternet.com

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26/10/11 Christine Furey (nee Knight) wrote: ‘Once again thank you Alan for the latest chapter of Deansbrook history. It has been a good read and I was thrilled to see photos of the school grounds – especially the weaving club. I do remember Angela Pack – she would come to see her mother during the lunch time while we wer tackling our weaving. As you say, a very impressive career. When next I see my brother-in-law the dentist, I will ask if he has ever crossed paths with Angela as, before he retired, he was involved with the Australian Dental Association and attended many overseas conferences as well as lecturing at a couple of the major hospitals.

Something that crossed my mind when looking at the photos was the girls in summer uniform – I think the Deansbrooker girls would be more aware of it than the boys. One of the changes made after the war was the summer dress uniform for the girls. It was a floral design quite unique in that era – a change from the stripes and gingham. I think that was another one of the innovative ideas that gave the school a lift along with the excursions and all that went with them. Can’t remember if it’s mentioned in the book so will scan through it again. The association with JK was a bonus – do you remember us all trotting over to the church hall for practicing the nativity. I always seemed to be an angel – we had to wear long white dresses, mine was actually my nightdress!

Since I last emailed you Elizabeth Taillie and I have been in touch remembering old neighbors in our street and surroundings – she also brought forth another revelation that Ruth Gibson who lived next door to me had been living in Australia for the past twelve years. Ruth is in the photo of the street party, the second one with children only. She is near the left holding another child. Elizabeth remembers her and Ruth pushing me and another little girl around in our prams. Elizabeth sent her my email address and told of our recent contact and soon after I had mail from Ruth who now lives near Lismore which the far north coast of New South Wales. In bringing me up to date she said before moving up to Lismore they lived at Tascott and Umina (means nothing to you I know) but that is only a few minutes’ drive away from where I live so we are wondering if we ever rubbed shoulders at the shopping centers! Small world isn’t it?

It’s getting warmer here now with summer on the way. This winter has been the coldest and wettest on record – I have never known such a winter in the fifty odd years I have lived here – so much for global warming though I believe they are now referring to it a climate change that I’ll go along with! I am not a great television watcher but was becoming addicted to the weather forecast wondering when the rain was going to stop.

Best wishes to you and Sheila and any other Deansbrookers you contact.....Chris

Denise Noble (nee Conway) writes 6 Nov 2011:

Thank you for the latest edition of Clarion Recall. I think you and Alan are doing a wonderful job in keeping it going, much appreciated.

Sadly I have to report that my sister, Jean Warren died from colon cancer in March of this year, my only sibling and greatly missed.

All the names in the 'Clarion' brought back many memories. My sister and I were members from 1954 to 1958/9. I spent most of my time on the door collecting subs and relied on Jean for all the news and who's who!

So many familiar names, the three Wright brothers, Geoff Owen, Ricky Claydon and of course Rex, I could go on and on. I remember Malcolm Cherry well as many of the JKCYC committee meetings were held at my parents' house in Laneside and as he was leaving Malcolm would warn the committee not to stay too late!

Imagine my shock at turning to the back page of the No 32 edition and seeing my 13 year old face staring back. The photo was indeed taken in the vicarage garden. In the photo I am standing third from the left with Eileen Smith (nee Jessop) on my left. Third from right is Wendy Symondson's younger sister. Kneeling far left is Pam Wright (nee Smith). Most of us went on to join the youth club.

Eileen Jessop and I were best friends from day one at Deansbrook School and remained so all through infants and juniors and later through our years at Orange Hill. Sadly Eileen died about 20 years ago.

I was sorry to read of Gill Norman's passing. We were next door neighbours for all our growing up years. Gill would walk my sister and I to school in the early days and if an air-raid warning sounded we had to run like mad, either home again or to school whichever was nearer.

Gill's brother David tried valiantly to teach Jean and I to play the piano, but we were not very dedicated students.

I wonder if anyone remembers Miss Trot, Miss Dillinger, Mr Hay, the very stern headmaster of Deansbrook School.

*I have many memories of JKCYC, the rambles, the camping trips, the outings, a trip to Bristol, a holiday in Shanklin IOW, the film nights, talks and of course the dances. I'll have to look through my old photos as I might have some of interest. **(Yes please Denny, we need photos and your letters!).***

For the last 13 years I have lived alone with just my Collie Cross dog, Toby, to keep me sane. I have two daughters, a son and two grandsons, all in regular contact and I am very fortunate to have my younger daughter living five minutes' walk away. In my 70's and retired I now keep busy with some free-lance bookkeeping and some voluntary work for the local Conservative party.

I love receiving 'Clarion Recall' and not being on-line I enclose a cheque towards future expenses (It's ages since my last cheque to Rex).

Best wishesDenny

Pauline Trowell (nee Comber) writes from Harrow Weald:

'Thank you for the news letter. I only attended JK Youth Club for a couple of years with my school friend Jean Allen (Langston). The 50's were certainly memorable years and ones when youth clubs flourished. I went on to study pharmacy at Brighton Tech. Janet Rook and I were Jean's bridesmaids. My husband Mike and I have visited New Zealand on two occasions and spent a wonderful time with Jean and George.....Pauline

Patsy Wray (nee Pinner) writes: 'Thank you for all your hard work throughout the year. I don't have a computer and probably won't buy one. I 'pen-push' all day doing the books for several companies who seem happy not to go "modern"! Please find enclosed cheque. Hoping this goes some way to meeting the costs incurred.....All the best Patsy

11 November 2012

HOPS, POTATOES AND APPLES

I now live in the "backwoods" far away in Herefordshire. We are famous for hops, potatoes and cider apples. The roads are covered in mud as the farmers try to gather the harvest. (Harvest Festivals are important events.) The rain has made it particularly difficult this year. The apples are mainly used by several large cider producing companies within our wider parish.

Perhaps I should start by describing our church of St. Michael's here in the centre of our small market town. It could hardly be more different from my life as a child at JK. First, the church is old, the parishioners are old (I am of course one of them), and young people are rather few. There are activities for children, but they are run mostly by the town rather than the church. We have a good organ, but the choir is in difficulties at the moment!

Now, before you think all is gloom and doom, look at your old school atlas and see that Ledbury sits in the middle of Worcester, Gloucester and Hereford – all with wonderful cathedrals. They provide us with superb choral music once a year at the Three Choirs Festival. Herefordshire has amazingly varied countryside. Farms mix with hills, mountains, castles and rivers. You will realise that the Bishop of Hereford has a problem! Every tiny village has a church. They are old and many of them are ancient. Some of them are incredibly small BUT THEY ARE ALL IN USE! Many of them have a devoted farmer who cleans, brings his tractor for the churchyard, chairs the PCC, keeps the church open every day and sorts out any problems. Of course the problem of staffing and responsibility for all these tiny churches had to be addressed. Shortly before Alan and I moved here, Ledbury parish church was made the "head" of a group of 17 parishes. Our Rector is responsible for them all and they all have services. The "Hop" churches have a full time priest and the "Cider" churches likewise. In this way the 17 churches are shared pretty equally. However, we have so many retired clergy who choose to come and live in Ledbury (12 at the last count, and very recently a retired Dean), many of them willing to help, that the system seems to work well. As you can imagine these churches cover a vast rural area.

When I look back, I realise just how privileged we were at John Keble Church. I was reminded of the early days when I last spoke with Rex a couple of years ago. I always intended to look at the early Baptism registers to see whether David Norman and I were the first – we were both born in February 1932 at the time of the opening of The Hut. We then joined the same class at Deansbrook School. Older Clarion readers like me will remember that JK featured large in all our activities whether they were sporting, social, dramatic or simply friendship. The early teaching has remained with me. Edward Motley was a great vicar during the War years and he paid particular attention to families with fathers away abroad in the forces. I remember this particularly at Christmas time. Finally I must say that I was so pleased to see (on my last visit) just how John Keble Church has moved with the times, yet remains the same.

Good wishes to anyone who remembers me or Peter and Joan from Sefton Avenue.
Barbara Warland (now Meikle)

Thank you Barbara for an interesting article. Please let us hear from more readers. You have a lot of experiences to share!

Pam Wright writes 1/11/11: I expect you have already been emailed with those names from Clarion Recall 32 'Sunday School Seniors – July 12th 1953' (page 23). I'm sitting on the end next to Christine.

Denise Noble (nee Conway) from Laneside
Irene Hawkins from Deans Way
Gloria Neil from Deans Way
Valerie Davies from Meadow Gardens
Sheila Pinner from Meadow Gardens
Florence Orme from Burnt Oak
Eileen Jessop
Margaret Church

There are several faces I know but can't put a name too. I hope this is of use. All the best.....Pam Wright

Thank you to all those who have sent donations to keep us going: Norma Hunt (nee Hilton) via Sylvia Murch after they met for lunch, Janice Grenier (nee Fernberg) who hopes to come to another reunion, Joan Ford (nee Warland) who is visiting the UK end of November, Patsy Wray (nee Pinner), Dawn Gray, Denise Noble (nee Conway), Derek Holden, Barbara Meikle (nee Warland), Sonia Norton (nee Rippengal) (**have you found those Shanklin IOW pictures yet Sonia?**), John Hack, Rita Harvey (nee Neill) and Alan Alexander.

Geoff Owen – JKCYC Cricket News

7th May 1950 is the date of the first cricket match in my records of the John Keble Youth Club. Only 62 years ago!! Sadly nearly half the team that day are no longer with us.

The opponents were St Matthias Youth Club from Colindale and the venue, Mill Hill Park. We must have been there early that day and grabbed the best wicket to play on because the opposition declared on 117 for 3!! There were a few familiar names in their team Carter (Peter?), Weston (Robin) and Williams (Peter). Since the latter two were Hendon St Mary's Players, St Matthias obviously had a mixed team. The Umpires were Ian D. Scott (St Mary's) and our own Don Wright. The scorers which I could have named without looking because of the immaculate score sheets were Jean Bertram and Mavis Murch.

JK started their innings in spectacular fashion – Roy Streatfield, Ken Pinner and Brian Fisher all back in the hutch without troubling Jean and Mavis. Brian was particularly unlucky being run out after a mix up with opener Michael Day (13) who proved he was an expert by running himself out after more chaos, this time with Geoff Owen (18).

John Streatfield (0) made it a hat-trick of run outs and the only resistance came in the form of Roy Goodall (7) a lusty hitter and George Allen (12) who took the total to just 56. Roy Smith and Roy Wright brought the total of 'ducks' to six as JK lost by 61 runs.

Rex Walford award for PGCE students, Teach First, GTP or NQT geography teachers

The awards were presented to Students in a special ceremony at the Society's headquarters in Kensington, London on Friday 23 November 2012.

'The Society was delighted to announce the winner of The Rex Walford Award 2012 for PGCE students and newly qualified geography teachers (NQT), reflecting the late Rex Walford's passion for training new geography teachers. This was awarded for the best set of teaching resources, scheme of work or lesson plans linked to this year's Young Geographer competition. The winner of the annual award in 2012 was Leanne Milner from Beauchamp College in Oadby, Leicestershire.

A History of Deansbrook School Mill Hill CHAPTER II

THE CHANGING SCENES 1919-1934

Early in the 20th Century England and Germany were at war. This was known as the First World War and it lasted from 1914-18. Some of you may have heard your grandparents or possibly even your great grandparents talk about it. Inevitably war leaves its trail of waste and sadness. This war was no exception. During the decade 1920-30 which followed people strove to make good the ravages of war and to make the world a happier place to live in. Some wonderful inventions had been made during the war – the development of aircraft, the mechanization of farming machinery etc. But afterwards there were great difficulties, shortage of money and many men were unemployed. The latter became so serious that thousands of men walked towards London on what was known as the Hunger Marches. Their families were destitute and hungry. The Government responded and in the North of England "soup kitchens" were set up where people could obtain hot soup and bread. It was a very sad state of affairs. People tried to help these unfortunate unemployed.

In London the London County Council decided to build new houses for the people who lived in slum conditions in the St. Pancras area. Hence the houses in Burnt Oak were erected to provide small modern new homes for these people. Much of the Watling Estate was built on land which had been Goldbeaters Farm. When the new families settled they needed schools for their children and so the Hendon Education Committee had to plan accordingly.

At a meeting of the Hendon School Management Sub-Committee on November 26th, 1929 a reference was made to a minute from the School Attendance Sub-committee of the 12th November that year, "regarding the provision of school accommodation for children residing in the parts of Mill Hill west of the Midland Railway. Up to date statistics of children living in the area were submitted. A letter was also read from the Honorary Secretary of the Mill Hill Ratepayers' Association in connection with the provision of an elementary school for Mill Hill". It was agreed to recommend -"That further consideration of the whole question be adjourned until January next." But on January 14th, 1930 a meeting of the School Management Committee was held and "a report from the Surveyor was also submitted regarding the purchase of a suitable school site at Deans Lane Mill Hill." It was agreed to recommend:

(a) "That the Surveyor be instructed to make arrangements for the purchase of the site mentioned and the Board of Education be asked to give their approval thereto."

(b) "That the necessary steps be taken in due course to erect a temporary school on the site."

At another meeting on January 28th a report was submitted from the Surveyor stating that "as instructed by the Committee he had arranged for the purchase from Mr. R. C. Campbell, Neasden Court, Willesden N.W.10. of a school site between the Drive and Deans Lane Mill Hill approximately 4½ acres at £825 per acre subject to contract and to the necessary approval being obtained from the Board of Education and the Ministry of Health." Following this information it was agreed to recommend:- "That the District Council be asked to apply for the sanction of the Ministry of Health to a loan of £4,000 made up as follows:-

Purchase price (approx.)	£3,900.0.0
Legal expenses etc.	<u>100.0.0</u>
	£4,000.0.0

Later on February 11th, 1930 at a Works and General Purposes Sub-committee the Surveyor stated that "the site had been surveyed and the total area was 4.9 acres and so the Ministry of Health was asked to loan £4,300." Also the Board of Education was asked to approve "the erection of a temporary school on the above site, and that the Surveyor be instructed to prepare necessary plans (including lavatories and drainage) and specification together with an estimate of the cost for consideration by the Committee at the earliest possible date."

Now, if you walk around Deansbrook School and read the names of the roads you will be given clues which allow you to discover some facts about life in Mill Hill and Edgware. Some of you may live in Farm Road, Grange Hill, Meadow Gardens, Orchard Crescent, Laneside and Deans Lane. You will realise that the district was a farming area and you will be quite correct. Deansbrook School was built on land that once belonged to Deans Lane Farm which was an ancient farm site from Saxon Times. (See map enclosed). If you walk round the school grounds you can see just a few trees that are very old, the oak near the Church Close entrance and several hawthorns with very thick trunks.

These trees were probably part of the hedges in the farmer's fields. A farmer has usually many acres of land on his farm and when the London County Council began to build in Burnt Oak other builders decided to buy up land and began to build houses for people to buy in Mill Hill and Edgware. It appeared that there was a great change and development taking place. Accordingly the Tube Railway was brought out to Edgware in 1924 and many people decided that Mill Hill and Edgware, which had been quiet villages, were attractive places to live in. The Hendon Council had to provide schools for the children who were living with their parents in the new houses. So you see Deansbrook School was built in this time of revival. Everyone appeared to be excited and brimming over with enthusiasm. Because this time was an era of change and new ideas the Education Authority engaged an architect Mr. Yates to design an entirely new type of school. It was decided to build the school in its present form which is a timber constructed building. It is interesting to note that the Hendon Education Committee Minutes reported that at a Works Sub-Committee on May 6th, 1930 "The Surveyor attended and submitted reports and plans for the alternative provision of a permanent school and a temporary school on the site from which it was observed that the cost of the permanent school would be £17,000 including heating and lighting and a Caretaker's house, and a temporary school £5,400 exclusive of heating and without the Caretaker's house."

On the 28th October, 1930 the Education Committee agreed that the school should be named Deansbrook Elementary School. Also the installation of electrical heating was estimated at the additional cost of £650. By the 6th January, 1931 a communication from the Board of Education arrived stating that "the Board are prepared to approve the plans of the above school to accommodate not more than 400 Junior and Infant Children. The Board are also prepared to approve the proposal for the installation of electrical heating (electrical radiant heating by morganite radiators) on the understanding that it is at present regarded as experimental, and subject to review, that a report will be furnished as to the running costs and the working of the system at the end of a year from the opening of the school and that an opportunity will be given for discussing the relative advantage of electric heating as compared with the hot water system before proposals for a permanent School are submitted." On the 10th February, 1931 at the Education Committee meeting 22 Tenders for Erection were submitted. The tender of Messrs. Spiers of Glasgow was accepted for the sum of £8,030.10.3. "The District Council was to apply to the Ministry of Health for raising a loan of £9,000,

For Cost of Building	£8,030
Furniture and fitting	500
Quantity Surveyor Fees	200
Clerk of Works Fees	182
Legal Costs	<u>88</u>
Total	£9,000

But on the 28th April, 1931 this tender was withdrawn and given to the next lowest tender in favour of Mr. W. J. Cearns of Stretford. The cost of the building now was to be £8,317. Then the contractors commenced work on the 20th April, 1931.

In the next month on the 28th May Mr. Hay was appointed as Headmaster and had to resume duty on the 25th August, 1931. So the first Deansbrook School which opened was of revolutionary design. There was no other similar school in Hendon and furthermore it was surrounded by large playing fields. The architect had a wonderful inspiration when he designed the school because the building seemed to catch the sunshine throughout the day. Because of the large areas of windows and the playing fields around the children were in fresh air continuously. These bright surroundings created happy circumstances in which to work and play.

As you know the school was built in the shape of a square. All classrooms, hall and staffroom looked onto a garden in the middle of the school. Each classroom had two sides of windows and the ones nearest the garden folded back in Summer to allow easy access to the verandah and the garden. It was a really delightful place in Summer time and the scholars which were Infants and Juniors were one large happy family.

The first Headmaster Mr. Hay designed all the activities of the school to take full advantage of the new school and surroundings. Mrs. Hay (then Miss Lee), who was one of the first members of the Staff, recalls events with amazing clarity. She relates how the Staff gathered, as was the custom, at the school the day before the new school opened. The three male members Mr. Hay, Mr. Jackson and Mr. Kew were all wearing the smart attire of the day, namely plus fours. The Director of Education Mr. J. E. Cuthbertson also joined the gathering and before leaving he called the menfolk aside and discreetly informed them that no plus fours were to be worn in school. Men teachers were expected to be correctly dressed in suits!

Referring to the building at this time Mrs. Hay recalls the central quadrangle was a mass of builders' rubble whilst the playground was divided into separate playing areas for boys and girls. Mr. Hay soon had the barrier removed and all ages played happily together. It is recorded on the 25th August, 1931 that, "the school opened this morning and 335 children were enrolled." Apparently a Mr. W. Clark (Attendance Officer) and his assistants were in attendance and the arrangements were so satisfactory that the enrolment was completed by 10.30 a.m. The Director of Education Mr. J. E. Cuthbertson paid a visit during the morning." This was the first of many visits. During the first year Councillors, and members of the Education Committee of Hendon, Chairman of the London Education Authority, Clergymen, Middlesex County Councillors, Students from Training Colleges, H.M. Inspectors, Ealing Education Committee Chairman and members, Dr. Adamson Medical Officer of Health, members of Heston and Isleworth Education Committee, Edinburgh Education Committee, Chief Electrical Engineer of the Middlesex County Council, Dumfries Education Authority and teachers from the United States of America came to view the newly designed school. It was a truly memorable first year. At the beginning of the Spring Term on the 12th January, 1932 there were 451 children on Roll and two classes were at work in the hall! Surely the decision to build a school at Mill Hill had been justified.

The Headmaster was apparently aware of the structure of the school and records show that during the first year he held six fire drills. An entry in the Log Book states "On 22nd September, 1931 Fire Drill taken this afternoon using new electric alarms. School cleared and children assembled in playground in 65 secs." From the start Mr. Hay initiated a wide scope education. He believed that "Happiness comes from making others happy." On the 22nd October parcels were collected for "Pound Week at the local hospital. 223 parcels were brought and dispatched." Armistice Day was observed on the 11th November throughout the school and two minutes silence held. On the 13th July the First Open Day was held and attended by Councillors, the Director of Education and 450 other visitors. Each class provided items ranging from Selections by the Violin Class, Singing Games, Country Dances, Physical Exercises (Senior Boys) and Recitations. An interesting reflection from the Log Book, - "A supply teacher was engaged and paid 18s/10d per day."

It is also interesting to record that Orange Hill Central and Deansbrook Schools were opened on the same day. Furthermore we read in the Education Committee Minutes of the 16th September, 1931 that:-

1. Instructions were given to the Surveyor to make arrangements for the installation of an electric calorifier at approximate cost of £10 to enable the caretaker to heat water for scrubbing purposes.
2. It was observed that the doors in the folding partition windows had been fixed at the wrong ends and instructions were given for these to be fixed at the opposite ends.

However the problem of overcrowding had arisen and it appeared spasmodically throughout the years. At the meeting of the School Management Sub-Committee on the 29th September the Chief Education Officer reported:-"that when Estimates were prepared provision was made for an anticipated minimum enrolment of 300 children whereas to date the actual number on the books was 420." Then it was agreed to recommend:-"That a further requisition now submitted by the Headmaster involving additional expenditure of £45 over the original allowance be approved." Meanwhile on the 28th October, 1931 a letter was received from the Board of Education intimating "official recognition of the school from the 25th August, 1931 and providing accommodation for not more than 400 Junior Mixed and Infant children."

On the 23rd August, 1932 after the Summer Vacation Miss D. H. Robinson and myself joined the Staff of the Infant section. We were newly trained and came straight from our respective Colleges. As unemployment amongst teachers was a national problem we regarded ourselves very fortunate in being appointed. The Chief Education Officer Mr. J. E. Cuthbertson actually came to my College to appoint me from a group of six students. This was often the method of appointment at this time. At some time in his career the Chief Education Officer had held the post of Vice Principal at the College and so I assume it was a pleasurable occasion. I shall always remember the thrill I experienced when I walked into Deansbrook. Coming from the mining areas of South Yorkshire it seemed that I was surrounded by fresh air and beauty. Miss Robinson was very optimistic when she entered Deansbrook too. Her father had told her that Mill Hill was a rural area. He remembered as a young man how farm workers walked from Cambridgeshire to Mill Hill to help with the hay making. With the help of the Headmaster and Staff we joined "the family" quite happily.

As the year progressed school activities grew. Again there were numerous visitors who expressed pleasure at what they saw and recorded that they were delighted with "the appearance of the children and the good feeling that appeared to exist between children, teachers and the Headmaster." That described the situation accurately. Mr. Hay was tireless in his efforts to make the children, parents and Staff happy. He instigated a series of netball matches between the Deansbrook Staff and the Staffs of neighbouring schools. These took place after school hours and ended with a tea party! In October we thought of others less fortunate than ourselves and again 283 parcels were donated to the local hospital (then Redhill). Whilst at Christmas toys and books donated by the children were given too.

Whenever a new school is erected the landscaping of the gardens is the aftercare. So Mr. Hay decided that each class should have a hand in cultivating the land. He obtained small size gardening tools and the area at the back of the school was the scene of our labours. It was great fun and thrilling to take home our produce. At this time the modern idea of project work was in its infancy - it was called the "Playway". Each class teacher became inspired and some were more successful than others in the realization of their dreams. I can well remember doing a project on railways. The model was most realistic as many children visited the little L.M.S. Railway Station to study it firsthand. The children had assistance from their parents and from numerous work sheets which were prepared for them.

Of course, with an open air school it was an inviting situation to keep various pets. The Headmaster presented me with two prize mice from the St. Alban's Mouse Show. The caretaker obligingly made the home and exercise apparatus for the mice. The children observed and looked after their pets and eventually we had thirty three mice to our credit! It was interesting, but Monday mornings were not very pleasant and for years afterwards the Chief Education Officer used to enquire from me, "Do you still keep mice?" Of course we had a good Nature Table and I can remember another Monday morning when we discovered that all the tadpoles had developed into baby frogs and were hopping all over the classroom floor! We did have fun but carefully transferred them to the pond in the middle of the central garden. All ended happily, to be followed by a lesson on the usefulness of frogs in our garden. Undoubtedly project work had a very healthy infancy at Deansbrook.

In those days holidays were different. We had a system whereby the school could earn a half day's holiday for good attendance of 95% during a consecutive four week period. We achieved that in Summer time. Also the 24th May was celebrated as Empire Day. In the morning the school "assembled on the playing field. The Union Jack was saluted and National Songs were sung. Suitable lessons for the occasion were given by class teachers." Then the school closed for holiday in the afternoon. There were holidays for the children to attend the Annual District Sports which took place on the Burroughs Field, Hendon. Everyone seemed to attend and it was a great reunion day too for teachers in the Hendon District. Later, in July the Middlesex County Sports took place. On the 20th July, 1933 the first Annual School Sports was held. It was "conducted on the team system." The House Shield was presented by the Mill Hill Rotary Club and it was won by the Red House.

The Log book contains a directive which was issued by the Education Committee stating that "the total accommodation for the school will be:

8 rooms at 50 children each.....	= 400
+ John Keble Hall (temporary accommodation)	= <u>100</u>
	Total = <u>500</u>

As a result, the outcome of a meeting by the Works Sub Committee on the 25th October, 1932 gave authority to the Surveyor to provide "light folding canvas screens for the purpose of separating the classes accommodated in John Keble Hall at the estimated cost of £9.0.0." At first the Staff, children and school caretaker had to stack the desks away each night in the cloakroom and of course they had to be put out each morning before lessons could begin. So the John Keble Hall caretaker was paid 7sh/6d per week to do this work for the original arrangement was impracticable. This Hall was used in this way until July 1934.

On the 10th January, 1933 the School Management Sub-Committee submitted a "Report of the Director of Education with regard to the need for additional accommodation at this school." It was agreed to recommend:- "That the Board of Education be asked to approve the following proposals:-

- (a) The-organisation of the present combined Junior and Infant Department into an Infant's Department for children 5-8 years.
- (b) The erection on the existing site of a Junior Mixed Department with accommodation for 400 children of 8-11 years at as early a date as possible."

A letter was received from the Board of Education on the 17th December, 1933 approving the proposal to re organise as suggested. Meanwhile on the 25th April that year Colindale School was opened and it was built in a similar design.

Earlier on the 28th November, 1933 at the Education Committee meeting the Surveyor's report stating that, "22 tenders had been received for the erection of this school (Second Deansbrook)" was submitted. This was followed on the 30th January, 1934 at the Works Sub-Committee by a communication from the Board of Education:

"Approving work shown on the plans for the enlargement of Deansbrook Council School by 400 places together with the erection of a bungalow for use of caretaker."

On the 27th February, 1934 it is recorded at the Works Sub- Committee meeting that, "work on contract commenced on 12th February and preliminary works are well in hand."

Events had moved quickly for also on the 27th February, 1934 a memorandum from the Town Clerk was given to the Finance and General Purpose Sub-Committee showing particulars of loan sanctions from the Ministry of Health.

Tender	£10,258
Quantity Surveyor Fees	250
Clerk of Works	182
Legal Expenses	110
Total.....	<u>£10,800</u>

In the next month on 27th March, 1934 it is reported at the Works Sub-Committee meeting:- "Work is proceeding in a satisfactory manner. Work of drainage, excavating, concreting and brick work is well advanced and carcassing has been commenced." On the same date the Finance and General Purpose Committee asked: "sanction from the Ministry of Health to borrow £275 for furniture" and also sanctioned the following expenditure:-

Wood Frames	£131.3.6
Steel Windows	380.2.3
Hollow Tile Floor.....	42.0.0 (for verandah floor covering)

On the 15th May, 1934 at the Works Sub-Committee meeting, "satisfactory progress was reported" and it was decided "to recommend sanitary fittings (quotation accepted) for

£219.09.8 and:	
Heating (automatic firing system)	£729.10.0
18 Fire Extinguishers and 14 Fire Buckets	29.13.0
Roof tiling (London Facing Brick Company)	378.16.5

During that month too, Miss M. M. Chick was appointed Head Teacher for the new Infant Department as from the 28th August, 1934.

An interesting report at the Works Sub-Committee on the 19th June, 1934 states: "Satisfactory progress. The excavation, concreting, asphaltting, bricklaying, stud framing, roof tiling and external insulating board is nearing completion whilst the work of floor, folding screens and internal wall boarding has commenced."

Eventually as from the 28th August, 1934 the Board of Education recognised the Hendon Deansbrook Council School, No. 24 as providing accommodation "for no more than the following number, Junior Mixed 400, Infants 400." In the existing combined Junior and Infant School building, the school had reopened in January 1934 with 532 children on Roll. There were now twelve classes in which the largest had 52 children and the smallest 38 children. The others were over 40 each. As already described a new building was being erected during this year to accommodate the junior children whilst the existing building was to be devoted to the Infant Department.

During March three of His Majesty's Inspectors (H.M.I.) visited the school and subjected it to a General Inspection. The Report that followed stated:-

1. The children are lively and responsive and they are being handled sympathetically.
2. The children have natural freedom of expression which is such a good feature of the school.
3. The school is doing good work.

In addition to the established school activities a Savings Bank Collection was organised by the Deputy Headmaster Mr. R. Jackson. It should also be recorded that on the 9th November, 1932 Hendon was granted a Charter to become a Borough. In celebration pupils were escorted to the Aerodrome field to welcome the first Mayor of Hendon, B. J. Munro, as he rode around in his mayoral car.

The school's proximity to the Hendon Aerodrome became acutely evident when aeroplanes rehearsed for the Air Pageant which took place yearly in June. During this period it was very difficult to teach because of the noise and excitement.

End of Chapter II

Taken on a JKYC ramble, presumably at the mandatory pub stop. Is that Muriel West on Brian Lord's lap?



Alan recognizes Reg Ames, Eric Foster (standing behind Reg), Valerie and Jacquie Griffiths and Chris Alexander. Can you name others in the photo?

Photo taken around 1960?



Alan recognizes Robin Gray and Dawn Butler, Trevor Johns, John Stead (surname?), Sheila France, Adriel X, and behind her Valerie Briggs, both on the left sitting on the ground.

Where were these photos taken? Email, write or phone! Please let us have your old JK photos and any recent ones of interest also.

We wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year and hope to meet again in 2013!