



Old Rutlishians' Association

Orbit Newsletter



December 2013

Links

The Association
www.theora.co.uk

Cricket
www.oldrutscricket.org.uk

Football
www.olderutts.co.uk

Rugby
www.olderuttsrugby.com

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Tue 24th Dec | Christmas Eve Bar | 17:00 to 23:00 |
| Wed 25th Dec | President's Christmas Drinks | 12:00 to 14:00 |
| Thu 26th Dec | Rugby and Football Fixtures | 11:00 to 17:00 |
| Tue 31st Dec | Dinner (Sitting at 20:00) and NYE Disco | 18:00 to 01:00 |
| Sun 5th Jan | Cricket AGM | 18:00 |
| Fri 24th Jan | Cricket Managers Event (Graham Mills) | TBC |
| Fri 1st Feb | Kendo's All-Stars v ORRFC | TBC |
| Wed 8th Feb | ORRFC Past Player's Lunch | 12:00 |

Winter Opening Hours

Monday 7pm -11pm
Tuesday 7pm-11pm
Wednesday 7pm-11pm
Thursday 7pm-11pm
Friday 7pm-11pm
Saturday 12pm-11pm
Sunday 11am-10.30pm

Our President Writes

As I alluded to in last month's ORBIT I attended two school assemblies on Monday 18th & Tuesday 19th November both of which were to commemorate the Rutlish students who died in the two World Wars. In particular the focus was on Lieutenant Colonel John Dimmer V.C., M.C. and Second Lieutenant George Cates V.C. who are buried at Vadencourt British Cemetery and Hem Farm Military Cemetery respectively. They were very moving occasions and I laid a wreath on behalf of the Old Rutlishians' Association on your behalf. If anybody wants to find out more about our two V.C.s I have posted their records in the Dropbox Archive folder entitled 'In Memoriam' – further details of the Rutlish war dead will be forthcoming when Cynthia Clift has completed her work on the project. If anybody needs to be invited onto the Dropbox folder please e-mail me at ilambert49@talktalk.net. If any of you have archive materials that you want to go into this folder please e-mail them to me and I will add them. For those of you who may be unaware but the ex-Head of English at Rutlish – Mervyn Sillifant passed away in November and I attended his funeral at Merstham. I knew him as a Sutton & Epsom rugby player and good friend of my younger brother – a sad loss. November 23rd was the first weekend of heavy organization for Peter Norrie – that of arranging the Past President's Dinner – John Dodd 'chaired' in an inimitable manner with a series of 'witty' quips and jokes that had us rolling in the aisles! Thank you to Mike Trimmings and Pat Keene along with Shoshana Foster and all the others for giving us such splendid food and service. Photographs of the evening would have been available but Mike Trimmings cooking is far superior than his photography skills!

The following week Peter had his second event – that of the OAP's Reunion for all ex-pupils of 65 years and above. With over 80 guests Steve Simpson & Dave Fisher (both P.P.s) along with the help of Geoff & Tracey Waterman plus others produced a wonderful four course meal eaten in the French order with cheese before sweet. Thanks again to all concerned and everybody agreed what a successful reunion. Congratulations to Peter Norrie for the two events.

This time of year finds me sending Christmas Cards to all four corners of the earth and I find heartening that so many of our members return the favour and these cards are on display in the bar on the 'Snug' handrail.

The more observant of you will have noticed the disappearance of the Wendy House from beside the smoking shelter – this is to facilitate the construction of a purpose built BBQ which is separate from the main building – Fire Regulations and Common Sense dictate this on safety grounds. The Wendy House will re-appear somewhere else on the ground.

The school Carol Concert based on the traditional Nine Lessons & Carols was held at St. Mary's on Thursday 12th December and once again the musical talents of the pupils was on show with the addition of a school staff choir and band – most entertaining and I recommend if you have the chance to come along next year if you can. Peter Norrie, Graham Mills and I read the first three lessons. The Golf A.G.M. was held on Friday 13th December and Brian Carter has taken over as Captain from Les Sharp. The lights were turned on and Brian placed a golf ball from the 10 metre touchline by the clubhouse through the rugby posts and onto the soccer pitch as tradition dictated. Numbers have diminished of late and I think it is probably because not many realize what a good section it is – events at Pine Ridge and Reigate Heath every year are greatly enjoyed and very inexpensive. After the meeting I recruited four members who were in the bar and I'm sure there are more of you out there. There should be an article in this ORBIT with more information else contact Derek Kean

(derekjohnkean@gmail.com) and/or Pete Leonard - (thleonards153@gmail.com).

Finally – don't forget you are all cordially invited to the clubhouse for

**'CHRISTMAS DRINKS
WITH THE PRESIDENT'
12:00 MIDDAY**

BE THERE OR BE SQUARE!!

A Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year
to you all I. Lambert

Paying by Card

The option of paying at the bar by credit or debit card is part of our system. We have set a **minimum payment of £10**, and cashback is also available (with debit card only) to help you buy that extra round of drinks!
Peter Day

Our Chairman Writes

*"Christmas is coming, the Chairman's
getting fat,
Please put a pound in the old mans hat,
If you haven't got a pound then a penny
will do"*

This Christmas ditty seemed appropriate as I write because finance always dominates the Executive Committee discussions. Whether it is how to save money or who deserves to have money spent on a project. Whatever the outcome it always entertaining to see the pained expression on the Treasurer's face! Seriously though, the cost of running the Associations affairs is not cheap. In common with everyone else our utility costs are rising as are expenses generally, everyday bar turnover is falling but through the magnificent efforts of a few stalwarts we have managed increase overall bar turnover year on year to keep ourselves ahead of the game.

However we must not be complacent. Over the years, through a lack of resources the Clubhouse has begun to look tired and weary. While we have had to "make do and mend" as far as possible, it is coming to the stage when we will have to invest some serious money in the infrastructure and fabric of the building. Recently we have had to upgrade our fire system, (along with fire training for all our staff) and we have had to spend a considerable sum on our electrical wiring to achieve the Electrical Certificate so prized by our insurance company. We have recently authorised a new purpose built BBQ structure to support the successful events that have graced the Grounds over all but the coldest months. I look forward to its completion and the first offerings in due course! This has been possible because of a generous bequest from the late Patrick Malony. We are also purchasing some new round function tables. Over the past few months a sub-committee has been looking at a possible complete refurbishment of the Clubhouse, Changing Rooms and the Hall. The ideas emerging from these meetings include improving the viewing perspective over the playing fields, transformed changing and showering facilities and improving not only the facilities but the disabled access to the Hall. It is hoped that full details with some form of display and presentation will be placed before our Members early in the New Year. We have tried to listen to the demands from our Members and from my perspective, the plans (and the computer generated images) are looking not only imaginative but inspiring as well.

Finally may I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very Happy Christmas

Kendo Hau (1989-94)

It is with great sadness that we report the death of our dear friend Ken Hau, who died unexpectedly whilst on holiday in Dubai, 19th November aged 37. A true gentleman of the club, Ken was one of life's genuinely good guys.

His funeral service was held at Croydon Crematorium on Monday 16th December and saw around 400 people in attendance, including new and old Old Ruts, many who played rugby alongside him at Poplar Road. Which showed just how loved and respected Ken was and will be.

The date of February 1st has been set to host a 'Ken All-Stars' XV v ORRFC memorial rugby game at Poplar Road. Save the date and please stay tuned for more details to follow, but will feature many of the faces (some coming out of retirement) that have played with Kendo over the years. As Editor I personally remember some of his pre-match warm-ups would result in many of the less physically-honed players to peak before the game had begun!

Ken's family would like raise awareness and support for the British Heart Foundation <http://lastinghope.bhf.org.uk/kenhau> and a fund for vital research has been set up by Nicky Broadwell, to whom we share our condolences.



50-50 Draw

10th November

| | |
|-------------|------|
| P. Day | £120 |
| P. Di Biase | £80 |
| J. Rundle | £40 |

Quarterly Bumper Prize goes to
D. Hamilton £128

200 Club Draw

29th November by Gavin Lennard

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| # 60 Emily Wellstead | £50 |
| # 148 Marion Bull | £25 |
| # 16 Simon Armstrong | £10 |

Next Draw 25th December

Finch & Co. ORA Sponsors



Nestled amongst the John Innes designed Merton Park conservation area, Finch & Co enjoys a unique position. 'Green flag' awarded spaces, tree lined avenues and beautiful Edwardian houses occupy the surrounding roads. The area feels rural despite its proximity to London. In the late 19th century, John Innes, of compost fame, together with his brother James, turned one of London's original garden suburbs into a semi rural suburb for the City businessmen of the time. Now in the 21st century, we can fully appreciate the quality and style of these 1920s and 1930s homes that were not destroyed during the war. The homes designed by Quatermain and Brocklesby remain highly sought after.

The Finch office team are enthusiastic, exuberant and excited. They speak with great affection for the area, especially Beryl who has been with the company for 23 years. Her local knowledge is invaluable, thanks to her super memory. With Manager Katharine; Stefan, David and Beryl provide a service to the community which is unique. Sponsorship and links with Old Ruts sports club demonstrate that the 'village' spirit is alive and thriving. The area is now home to all combinations of housing stock, from flats and cottages to large detached homes, all carefully designed to complement the locality.

RUTLISH SCHOOL TRI-REUNION



On Saturday 13th September 2014 there is to be a tri-reunion of the classes of 1958, 1959 & 1960 at the Old Boys, it is hoped to include a visit to the school on the day. There will be a buffet lunch (approx cost £16) and a chance to catch up with school friends. If you are interested in attending please contact
Malcolm Griffin
malcolm.griffin@sky.com
01903 784522 or 07867 605816

BOXING DAY RUGBY

OLD RUTLISHIANS V OLD WIMBLEDONIANS

CURTAIN RAISER MATCHES:

U11 KO 10.00AM

U13 KO 10.30AM

SENIORS KO 11.00AM

AT POPLAR ROAD

KICK OFF: 10AM



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OUT WATCHING TWO LOCAL
TEAMS PLAY FOR THE
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NEXT 12 MONTHS

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CRICKET

Colts Cricket

Our winter programme will continue after the new year on Tuesdays (years 3-6) and Fridays (years 3-10) at Rutlish School. Surrey (see their website) and other providers also have winter programmes. Registration forms for 2014 will be sent out in the Spring. Anyone new wishing to join is advised to register their interest NOW particularly if child is primary age. Further details please contact Graham Mills, grahamw.mills@btinternet.com

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FOOTBALL

Results Round-Up 14th December 2013

With chronic availability issues hampering the Ruts this weekend we actually did very well to field 3 teams. Although it was a case 'all hands to the pump' with some walking wounded manning the benches and the odd body hauled out of virtual retirement. And so the aforementioned was hardly ideal for the 1st XI who welcomed last season's beaten finalists Horsley FC of the Surrey Elite League to Poplar Road. In fairness the Ruts worked incredibly hard throughout and they took a first half penalty strike from Liffen in to the break securing the half time lead. Riordan nearly doubled the Ruts tally midway through the 2nd half only for the crossbar to save Horsley from falling further behind. Eventually Horsley's efforts saw them level, around an hour after the Ruts had taken the lead. They then pounced on 2 quickfire errors to spin the game on it's head to leave Poplar Road with a 3 - 1 win. A hard fought contest for both sides which may have ended differently on another day. The 2nd XI secured the Ruts only win of the day as they beat Great Brixton FC 3 - 2 in the League Junior Cup, whilst the 3rd XI lost 5 - 1 to AFC Ewell Reserves at Nursery Road in the League. The Vets won 4 - 2 against the Bank of England Vets on Sunday. Keep up to date with matches and events via the football website www.oldruts.co.uk



RUGBY

Juniors off to great start...

As we hit the first week in December our Junior teams have all kicked off their Surrey League seasons and are putting in some great (and the odd not so great) performances.

The Under 13 As have started their Division 2 campaign in fine style with 3 wins out of 3, the latest being a 7 try to 1 demolition of Haslemere. Brief highlights from the match report: *Another impressive performance today by the Old Ruts League 2 team. I'll keep this short. Forwards were powerful all game long and carried the ball straight at the opposition. The backs gave them no time on the ball and turned defensive pressure into attack. It was fast and furious – well played everyone! Moment of the game: could be Joe's break from our line to theirs, or Jonah's awesome sliding catch of a high ball, but, for me, it was Sid's bone-shaking, George-North-you-ain't-seen-nothin'-yet, tackle on his opposite number (poor boy), who spilled the ball for Silas to neatly collect and run 30 metres to score.*

The U13Bs lost their opening game to Cobham but put in a committed performance which should see victories against weaker Division 5 oppo later in the Season. The U14As started their 2nd season in Division 1 with a comfortable away win at Farnham, 25 – 5. A big match for them coming up this weekend against Effingham & Leatherhead. The U14Bs started their campaign with a hard fought 17-0 defeat to a strong side from local rivals Wimbledonian Warriors. The effort and work rate was superb against an A team and the team will only improve throughout the season. The U15As at last lost their proud 3 season win streak – having stuffed Rosslyn Park with 50 points in their first ever league 1 match they came up against Guildford who were unbeaten in winning Division 1 at U14 last season and they proved too good on the day running out very worthy 31-5 winners – they are a truly excellent side and one which I am sure Stacia and her team will be looking to learn from. However, the guys came pounding back in their 3rd match when in front of a large and appreciative Poplar Road crowd they put 50 points on a spirited but outclassed London Irish team. The U15Bs continue to press on the heels of the A team and have won 2 out of 2 in Division 4 including an impressive away win at the Warriors and incredibly, we also run a C team at this age group and they also have won 2 out of 2 home and away to Streatham and Croydon.

The U16's followed up their victory against Chobham with a very hard fought victory away at Sutton & Epsom, a penalty kick 5 minutes from time by the ice cool Dan Finn and some heroic try line defence bringing a 13 -12 victory. However, they didn't show up against a very good Guildfordians team and the match was over before half time!! There is a great chance to put that right at home on Dec 15th against Esher.

The U17's have done a brilliant job in pulling together and rebuilding the squad and suffered a heart breaking 1 try defeat to Ironsides last Sunday. With players coming back in the New Year look out for better news in terms of results.

| Age | Div | P | W | D | L | Pos |
|------|-----|---|---|---|---|-----|
| U13A | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1st |
| U13B | 5 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5th |
| U14A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3rd |
| U14B | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5th |
| U15A | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2nd |
| U15B | 4 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 3rd |
| U15C | 6 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1st |
| U16 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 4th |
| U17 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 6th |

New look Old Ruts repeating the winning sensation...

Old Rutlishians picked up their first win since the opening day of the Surrey Two season, thanks to a 29-19 win over Streatham-Croydon. James Kearney, Olly Douch and Stof Robson got the tries, and Matthew Chandler kicked 14 points.

Old Ruts remain second from bottom, but are now only two points behind Streatham-Croydon. Backs coach Darren Ramen said: "We threw away a 16-point lead, and were 19-19 with about five minutes left". But some fantastic interplay between Andy Ratcliffe and Stof Robson led to a vital try from Robson.

"Streatham-Croydon were coming off the back of a great win over Old Amplefordians, so this win was all the more special, and it keeps us in touch with the main group." He added: "We're a work in progress. We have a whole new coaching set up and we're looking to create a core of consistent players, and that is happening with each win".



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COMPETITIVE RATES

For all enquiries, please contact:

Simon Piper-Masha

M 077 8753 0009

E pipermasha@gmail.com

Darts

Darts players wanted for the Old Ruts team!



Meeting Wednesday evenings
at Poplar Rd, all abilities
welcome!

Rutlish Foundation

Mick Spacey, who has been one of the Trustees appointed by the Old Rutlishians Association, has resigned after 21 years service. We would like to thank Mick for his work including a number of years as Chairman. **If anyone is interested in being appointed as a Trustee please contact a member of the Executive.** The Rutlish Foundation is a registered educational charity that has interest in all the Rutlish School land, other property and investments and provides grants to Rutlish School and former students and local residents attending higher education courses. Graham Mills, Clerk to the Trustees can provide more information.

For Hire

The Old Ruts' has a large upstairs hall, with annexe bar which is available for private hire. Hirers are advised to pay the deposit when booking.

For further details please ring
020 8542 3678

Next Edition

Friday 18th January

Queries should be sent to the author of item concerned. Contributions to be sent to oraorbit@hotmail.com by Tuesday 15th January.

Squash

The Old Rutlishians' has a purpose built squash court with changing facilities and a spectator's gallery. All members are entitled to book the court and play at no additional membership charge.



Our Editor Writes

Dear ORs, it has been a genuine pleasure to have been interim Editor of Orbit for the past 6 months. This is due to it having been a challenge in learning a new skill and also in giving something back to the Association. As I take up work commitments that won't allow me time for this, I wish to introduce Nick Carroll as new Editor, who will assume responsibility in January 2014 and I wish him the best. We are keen to see Orbit go from strength to strength, so if there is something you as the readership want to see/read/change in Orbit I would suggest it be passed to the Editor - after all it is by and for the membership. Personally, thank you to the readership for the praise and I wish you a merry Christmas and happy new year!
Greg Bryant

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execfit1@btopenworld.com

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Rob Mobile 07979 345 184

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BOYS AND GIRLS... WHO FANCIES A GOOD RIDE?

Just in case you get the wrong idea I am talking about the London to Brighton bike ride!

One or two may already know but I am keen to get a team together from the Old Ruts for hopefully a fun day out with the benefit of raising funds for charity. Priority registration opens on Tuesday 12th November for teams of up to 20 people and closes on Tuesday 7 January 2014. Standard registration opens on 18 January 2014.

A fee of £35.00 is due for each entrant. The ride itself takes place on Sunday 15th June 2014. Any of you who are interested please let me know and we can get the ball (or wheels) rolling.

Bill Tidey (07762482605)
b.tidey@btinternet.com



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Vice Presidents Scheme



Recently a number of Members have asked how they can contribute financially to the Association. One way is to join the Vice Presidents Scheme. While the benefits to Vice Presidents are not great, the occasional lunch and a copy of each sections fixture card by far the most satisfying is to that you are contributing to the day to day running costs of the Association and helping us maintain our position as one of south west London's, if not one of the country's, leading sports clubs providing sport for up to 1200 young people.

If you feel you would like to join this scheme please complete the form and return it to the Club either by post, to someone behind the bar or to a Committee member.