



Old Rutlishians' Association

Orbit Newsletter

September 2014

Our President writes

It has been a good month at the club, weather-wise and success-wise.

First congratulations to our cricketers for winning the 1st, 2nd & 3rd team leagues. A great effort by all.

So in a way, to bring them down to earth, it was nice for the President's XI to thrash the Club side by 45 runs in a Twenty/20 game on 12 September. I wish to thank all who helped make it a memorable day... that includes Chas Cooper & Wally Morgan for umpiring, Ryan Patel for his innings, Gary Forge for starting the Club's collapse with the first ball of the innings and Adam 'Scuttle' Chandler for his remarkable 4 wickets.

The next day was the re-union of those who left the school around 50 years ago (starting years 1956-60). It was very well attended, with Pat Keene and her team giving us a veritable feast at lunchtime. There were about 80 old pupils and their partners, several not having been to the club for many a year, three domiciled in Canada & one in Australia. A great thanks must go to Malcolm Griffin & Ian Newton for organising the event along with Ian Lambert for getting the memorabilia.

There were many comments about the clubhouse makeover, all favourable. This was despite the fact

the flooring & décor was still to be completed.

One initiative we launched at the event was 'adopt-a-chair' at the club. When the club makeover is finished, our furniture will go back in the bar....it will look shabby. So we are asking members to give a gift of £50 to re-furbish a chair as we as an Association, are not flushed with money. We had four chairs adopted on the day.

If you are interested contact Mike

Peter Stokes

Reunions



1957-60 reunion

Seventy former pupils and their wives enjoyed the Reunion Lunch at the OR's clubhouse on Saturday 13 September. Forty made a nostalgic tour of the school thanks to Peter Norrie & Graham Mills, after which they joined the other thirty at the clubhouse to enjoy an excellent four course lunch provided by Pat Keene and her team in the newly decorated upstairs hall. Donna and her team also kept us well refreshed as we tripped down memory lane.

Thanks go to Donna T who captured the reunion on camera, ready to be added to the Rutlish Reunions website and the now infamous Ian Lambert Dropbox. The Club and School memorabilia Ian set out to view on the day was very popular, with many becoming lost in memories of the late 1950's & early 1960's. We hope the photos will be available by the end of September.

Colin Hicks (1957) did a fantastic job tracing people to invite to the reunion and fellow 1957 intake Derrick Pope generously produced an enlargement of the 1961 Rutlish School photograph. Enlargement is an understatement, it had to be displayed along the balcony as it was 23ft x 3ft (sorry we all went to school pre metrication). Mike Stallard printed and kindly donated the programme to the Reunion.

Peter Norrie in his capacity as Chair of School Governors gave an interesting speech on Rutlish School Today which was followed by an equally interesting speech by ORA President Peter Stokes. Both mentioned the need for extra sports pitches as the junior sections are large and continue to expand.

On the day I arrived at the clubhouse building site at 9am and my immediate concern was how 70+ people would feel about having to lunch wearing hard hats and hi-viz jackets. But the strength of our club

came through when Gordon Cuthbert and a team of volunteers turned up and set about the task of making the clubhouse presentable and usable so the reunion would start on time, both of which they achieved.

The whole event was a success thanks to the fatherly advice & guidance of another of the 1957 intake, Ian Newton, whose previous 1957 events experience with his measured control of the sometimes 'hot-headed' organiser ensured the whole event went so smoothly. His work behind the scenes and on the day was immense.

Mike Lambson (1959) gave an impromptu vote of thanks to organizer Malcolm Griffin and amusingly recalled the day Mr Dennis (of whistling teeth fame) taught his class about the different parts of the male and female body.

A very passable rendition of the School Song was also performed by all who lunched before "Spot the Face" was held on the balcony with the 1961 photo.

Thanks to everyone who attended and helped with the reunion. It made me very proud to say 'I am an Old Rutlishian'

Malcolm Griffin 1959-1964