

**ST ELPHIN'S OLD GIRLS' GUILD REUNION AND A.G.M**  
**SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> MAY 1999 AT ST ELPHIN'S SCHOOL**  
**Darley Dale, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 2HA 01629 733264**

- 10.00 am Coffee will be served in the Stopford Hall and name badges will be available for collection.
- 11.30 am The A.G.M. will take place in the Common Room
- 1.00 pm Lunch will be served in the Stopford Hall
- 2.30 pm Girls will be available to show Old Girls around the school or if preferred you are welcome to wander around on your own, or take a walk to visit old haunts in the area.
- 4.00 pm Chapel
- 4.30 pm Tea and farewells

The cost of the day will be GBP 8.50 for adults and GBP 4.25 for children. If you are only able to join us for part of the day or would prefer to bring a picnic or go to the local pub for lunch, then just let us know you are attending at some point. If you decide on any of these options, there will be a charge of GBP 1.00 per head to cover coffee, postage, name badges etc. Mrs Fisher is offering accommodation and should you require this facility, please get in touch directly with Mrs Ainscough. Please return the slip below to Fiona Hunter, 60 St James Road, London E15 1RN daytime number 0171 398 7802 or evenings 0181 519 6510.

**Raffle prizes would be appreciated. Proceeds to SEOGG.**

Dear Old Girls

We are still looking for a Treasurer for SEOGG. Mary Macqueen very kindly offered to become treasurer, but then obtained a post in Egypt (more under Old Girls news). It would be lovely to hear from more of you and if you would prefer to send me an e-mail, then my e-mail address is [Fi\\_paul@compuserve.com](mailto:Fi_paul@compuserve.com). My office number is 0171 398 7802 and home number is 0181 519 6510.

For those of you who have not met me yet, I work as a compliance adviser for a large insurance company in London. I still travel up to Derbyshire quite often as my partner is also from near Ashbourne.

Looking forward to the London reunion in 2000, I would be very grateful for any suggestions for a venue or activity such as lunch at a famous restaurant, visit to a spa/beauty salon - even tea at The Ritz!

Miss Crook is going to retire this summer and I would like to request donations for a retirement present on behalf of SEOGG. This will be presented at the reunion in York in November. I hope that many of you will come along to this special occasion. Miss Crook has been a popular member of staff and has been at the school for a long time. I am sure many of you would

agree that she deserves a decent present! Please make cheques payable to SEOGG and complete the slip together with details of the York autumn reunion.

#### **Minutes of the Autumn Reunion November 1998**

Christina Codling introduced Fiona Hunter as the new secretary. Offers for the position of Treasurer were sought.

Apologies were received from:-  
Marjorie Gardener (Longden), Dr Susan Tunnicliffe (Dale), Ros Maudsley, Pauline Whitehouse, Mary Aitchson, Dorothy Edwards and May Eddy

Those attending were: -

Valerie Fisher  
Christine Codling, Katrina Codling, Rosemary Chambers (Thornton), Fiona Hunter, Bridget Thomson  
Barbara Marchant (Beard), Margaret Fielding (Coseus), Karen Little,  
Elizabeth Cory  
Lucinda Negus, Evelyn Hanley, Margaret Williams (Patton), Peter Pollard.

Dear Old Girls

In the language of school reports of old, I would say that "steady progress" has been the essence of my life since last May's Newsletter. Much of 1998 was spent in the company of my elder son Hugh. While he was recovering from a serious fall in Spain the previous year. Fortunately he is now much better and attending courses in Leeds and York which he hopes will lead to a job in exports later this year. My

younger son, Ben, is taking a PGCE course in Nottingham, and currently applying for teaching posts in German and French.

Now into my FIFTH year of retirement, I remain much involved in village life and keep remarkably busy. Our local primary school, of which I'm Chairman of Governors, is preparing for an OFSTED inspection next term, and those in the world of education know just what that means. I took part in the village play again last November - for a change playing a 'posh' policeman rather than an anarchic German as in most other plays - and I continue to sing in several choirs. Once again I sang in St Paul's Cathedral and in Shrewsbury during 1998; next month I hope to spend a weekend singing in Carlisle Cathedral.

For various reasons, I've been only once to Derbyshire, for the October Speech Day, which went extremely well and brought back so many memories. I had to miss the May Reunion but was pleased to support the London gathering last November. Naturally I hope that many of you will travel to York later this year for the autumn reunion I've agreed to organise. (Please see separate letter about this.) I remain closely in touch with St Elphin's friends and was delighted to receive a long letter recently from Miss Robinson, shortly after the celebration of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, which she'd enjoyed to the full.

Fiona Hunter has nobly undertaken the Secretary's work done so splendidly by Christine Codling for the past nine years. I know you will support and encourage Fiona - and also Valerie Fisher and all those who work so hard at the school - as she continues to

promote the St Elphins we all cherish.

With very best wishes to you all.

*Yours sincerely*

Peter Pollard

#### **NEWS FROM OLD GIRLS**

*Letter received from Alison Marning (Yates) 1971-1978  
105 Folds Lane  
Beauchief, Sheffield  
S8 0ET  
(Unfortunately this letter just missed last year's newsletter)*  
I have been meaning to write with our news but it was only on receiving the latest newsletter that I have been spurred into action.

My sisters and I were at St Elphin's during the '70's, all of us in Selwyn House. I started in 1971, Debbie followed in 1973 and finally Vanessa arrived in 1975.

We were all very upset when in 1990, Debbie left for Australia to work in ICU in a Sydney hospital. She planned to stay for only a few years but before long had met an Aussie whom she married in this country in 1994.

We were all "over the moon" when Debbie gave birth to Connor in June 1997 on his Daddy's birthday. She had lots of health problems including diabetes and had to be so careful during her pregnancy. Our happiness was short-lived as on 26<sup>th</sup> July 1997, Debbie found Connor dead. He had a diaphragmatic hernia which hadn't been picked up. We really didn't think matters could get any worse when on 25<sup>th</sup> September 1997 Peter phoned to tell us that Debbie had suffered a "hypo" and had been on her own for up to 5 hours and was now in a coma.

From the beginning we were told that if Debbie came round she would be brain damaged and this is the case. Over the months she has made some progress and her long term memory is quite good but she has very little short term memory and because of this it seems unlikely that she will ever be independent or even come home. She left hospital after 7 months and is now in a nursing home.

During those awful first few months I felt that my sister had died that night but I know that she most definitely has not – anyone who knew her will know what I mean!

Nobody knows what the future holds for Debbie. We just thank God that she has such a wonderful husband who is having to cope with all this after only 3 years of marriage.

I would be grateful if you could remember Debbie and Peter in your prayers at the reunion.

Yours  
*Alison Manning*

*Vanessa Hill (Yates)*  
*Debbie Toman (Yates)*

Rachael Farley is now Dr Rachael Dawson. Congratulations on both counts! Rachael has moved – see change of address.

*Letter received from Gillian McAllen (Howard)*

My husband has left the Guards Chapel and the Royal Chaplains (too old at 55!) and we have moved to a delightful parish with three ancient churches, one PCC and only 1600 souls and a six bed Rectory. Our three sons have all left, one teaches A level economics, one's a solicitor and the other a policeman – just married a midwife.

Best wishes  
*Gill(ian) Howard*

Ingrid Victor (Kenney) Powys 1979 – 1981 would very much like to hear from former friends.

Mary Macqueen has recently taken up a post at the Alexandria Conservation Laboratory for Submerged Antiquities based in the Egyptian National Maritime Museum, Alexandria. Mary's home base continues to be in Wales.

*Letter received from Jo Willis '96 – '98*  
Please can you enter my new address in France (see change of address below). Secondly I will be marrying on 5<sup>th</sup> September 1998 near Geneva and will then become Mrs Yannick Pochet. Please could you perhaps publish this for those girls who were in my year, it could amuse them!

Many thanks  
*Jo Willis*

Dr Susan D Tunnicliffe (Dale) '52 – '57 is now working as a researcher in education at Homerton College, Cambridge as well as working from time to time as an OFSTED inspector. Last summer Susan was sworn in as a magistrate for the court in Windsor.

Joanna Lewington (Dent) is working as a surveyor and on 20 November 1998 married Steven Lewington – also a surveyor. Congratulations!

#### Deaths

Mrs Jennifer Jill Mulshaw (Cartwright) '44 – '52. Died in October 1998.

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Karen M C Ashurst  
2 Yeatton House  
Hordle Lane  
Lymington  
Hampshire  
SO41 0HW

Mrs E A Cragg (Walker)  
Glanffrwd House  
Coed Morgan  
Abergavenny  
Monmouthshire  
NP7 9UL

Christine Codling has moved again. Her new address is:-  
Campbell House  
2 Beeston Road  
Sheringham  
Norfolk  
NR26 8EH  
Her telephone number remains the same.

Elizabeth Dickie (Atwell '74 – '75)  
Berry Mill  
Stainland  
Dene  
Holywell Green  
Halifax  
HX4 9QA

Jean Davis (Donaldson)  
C/o Sian Perkins (Davis)  
Alder Cottage  
Fairoak Close  
Oxshott  
Surrey  
KT22 0TJ

Dr Rachael Dawson (Farley)  
38 Aylmer Drive  
Tilney St Lawrence  
King's Lynn  
Norfolk

PE34 4RQ

Joanna Lewington (Dent)  
131A Crofton Road  
Camberwell  
London  
SE5 8LZ

Nicola Holt  
24 Grove Lane  
London  
SE5 8ST

Dr P A Whitehouse  
'83 – '90  
22 A Birdliver Road  
Colliers Wood  
London  
SW19 2HZ

Jo Willis '96 – 98  
18 Rue Gabillot  
69003 Lyon  
France

Hannah Wicks  
Charles Morris Hall  
Mount Preston Street  
Leeds LS2 9JP

Catherine & Stephen Yeo  
27 Burton Old Road  
Streethay  
Lichfield  
Staffordshire  
WS13 8LJ