

OLD BUCKWELLIANS NEWS



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Number 8

The Race to 100%!

WELCOME to edition number eight. Once again, I have had plenty of material submitted and hope there will be something of interest here for all. There is a bit of a musical theme running through this edition and I make no apologies for that.

As expected, the tracing of Old Bucks has slowed considerably. But we are still making progress, and a further 225 have been traced since the last edition. You will see from the table on page 5 that we are now in contact with a very high proportion of most year groups, the highest being 90% (start year 1970).

We now have the intriguing prospect that we could possibly reach 100% for one or more year groups. Here is the challenge: which year will be the first to 100%? This will be a tough challenge, and I would need some help. If you are inspired please contact me!

The list of pupils to be found is now almost complete, but I am still missing some names (including surnames) of people who started at BHCHS in 1939, 1940 and 1944. If you were in one of those years and have a good memory for names, I'd be very happy to send you a complete list so that you may add any helpful information.

The search continues to provide plenty of amusing moments. I was looking for Stuart Kirby (1957) and found a possible person in Birmingham. My speculative letter was returned with this comment: *Sorry Graham but I'm a local lad with local values and I know the local shop keeper - he's local*

*as well, yours faithfully,
Tibs.*

When you look at the obituary list on the back page you may notice a rather sharp increase from the number shown in previous editions. There is a specific reason for this, which I should explain (possibly to allay any concern about the mortality rate). I have a good friend and fellow ping pong fanatic, Alan Lamprell (see p.8), who kindly lent me some microfiche records of deaths covering several years. Wading through these records was fairly laborious, but it did reveal information about some of our colleagues who I now know to be deceased.

Thanks again to all of you who have helped this project to be so successful. I expect to have plenty more features lined up for the next edition, and it will include a **prize caption competition!**

Finally, a word of encouragement to any of you who may have considered sending me some material for publication but have not yet put pen to paper, or finger to keyboard. Do!

Graham Frankel



Sprightly Walter Steals the Show

THE ANNUAL DINNER of the Old Buckwellians Association in October 2002 was another enjoyable evening for the 140 present at the Metropolitan Police Sports Club in Chigwell. For some it was an opportunity to meet former class mates they hadn't met for many years, and it was good to see so many new



Walter May at the Old Bucks Dinner. On his right are Sherwin Hall and Trevor Lebentz

members as well as "regulars". Our speaker was **Sherwin Hall (1939 - 46)** who recounted an amusing collection of anecdotes drawn from his long career as a vet.

Trevor Lebentz, Chairman of the Old Bucks, then made the dramatic announcement that after 27 years at the helm he was going to stand down at the next AGM (read more about this on p. 2). Trevor also presented the JH Taylor Putter to David Blythe, who had won the annual competition earlier that day. But the star of the show was undoubtedly **Walter May**. The 93 year old former French teacher had driven up from his home in France to attend the Dinner accompanied

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