

Old Beaumontians Newsletter

December 2007

Issue 53

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Editor's Comments



You should receive this newsletter before the Christmas holiday, thus providing us with the opportunity to wish everyone a very, very happy Christmas and healthy and prosperous New Year. For those of us who have passed our retirement date, let 2008 be a year of no more visits to the hospital for replacement knees, hips or heart bypasses and let there be a reduction in the intake of the dreaded pills! Maybe the Government will sanction a huge increase in our old age pension and the weather forecaster provide us with "wall to wall" sunshine over our bowls and golf clubs and warm weather for holidays whether at home or abroad. *(Well we can always hope).*



Carol Service Beaumont School has kindly invited members of the Old Beaumontians to join them at a Carol Service, to be held at St.Albans Abbey. The Service will take place on Tuesday December 11th commencing 7.00pm. You will get an invitation from the School to which we hope you will respond positively and join us at this pre Christmas event.

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Do any of our members have recollections of, or have worked at the De Havilland Aircraft Company in Hatfield? Did you serve an apprenticeship there? We are particularly interested in wartime production of the Mosquito and post war, the Vampire and Venom aircraft.

Have you visited the museum at Salisbury Hall? If so, please write or e-mail with your impressions!

A number of folk have also expressed an interest in knowing about the Ballito Stocking Factory in Fleetville. Can anyone help?

The E-mail news of the St.Albans and Harpenden Review reports the death of one of the older members of the Thrale family, Richard Thrale. The article says that the Thrale family has been associated with St. Albans for centuries and has, since the early 1920's been involved in the commercial life of the City by opening a bakery and cake shops, in London Road and in French Row. It was 1939 when the family opened the Water End Barn Restaurant in St. Peters Street. "The Barn" became well known for its Society evenings, Dinner dances and Coffee mornings. In recent times the Water End Barn has become a haven for "Clubbers."

We thought this piece might be of some interest, particularly as Rosemary Jones commented in September's Newsletter on the Thursday and Saturday evening dances at the "Barn," during the 1950's.

Looking ahead to 2008 and to the next series of Newsletters, I do hope you will continue to support us by sending your contributions for inclusion in our quarterly publication. You can either e-mail or send a letter. The subject doesn't matter too much, however it would be great to hear about your interests and highlights of your time at Beaumont School. Please remember that we need your support for the continued success of the OB's Newsletter.

It is also worth a plea for additional help in running the Old Beaumontians, we would welcome any help from ex-pupils or staff, particularly in view of the forthcoming 2008 reunion. [E-mail djlowe@ntlworld.com](mailto:djlowe@ntlworld.com)

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Your Letters



Hi Don (*An email from Anne Bailey (Smith).*)

I have been contacted by Gillian Budworth (via Friends Reunited) Gillian is looking for a **Ruth Martin**. I do not recollect either of these names so I am unable to help. I wonder if you can include the details in The Old Beaumontians Newsletter, someone might know Ruth.

Thank you again for all your work with the newsletter it gives a lot of pleasure.
Anne.

(If you know of the whereabouts of Ruth Martin please write or e-mail with details).

We also understand that Anne has been in contact with Sylvia Turner. We hope they manage to get together and exchange memories of their time at Beaumont School!

Dear Don, (*A letter from Rosemary Green. (Nee Corley).*)

I started at Beaumont in September 1959 among the first group of girls when it became a mixed class school. My elder sisters Brenda and Janet were there when girls and boys classes were separate. Janet moved when Beaumont Girls transferred to the Sandfield site with Miss Ellis the Headmistress.

The 1951 photo in the September newsletter is too small for me to recognise any teachers, but Mr Longbone, Mr Hodgkinson, Mr Luxemburg, Mr Chapman, Mr Costain and Mr Caffery were all still there in 1959 when us girls arrived. Mr Dawson was our Headmaster.

Mr Longbone was my form teacher in 1962-63. I remember when he retired. With the help of Mrs Millard our needlework teacher we spent our break times embroidering a blue counted cross-stitch tablecloth as a retirement present. I wonder if there's anyone reading the newsletter that also remembers sewing away on it!

Sorry Don, I don't have e-mail but I hope this reaches you by post.

Yours sincerely, *Rose Green*

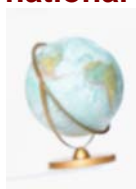
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Extracts from Beaumont Life (October/November 2007)

From the Head Teacher (International links)



“As part of our growing international links, I have been delighted to welcome staff and students from overseas recently. Mr Ric Faulkner, our previous Head of Sixth Form, left Beaumont to teach at the Island School in Hong Kong four years ago. We have now set up a link with his school and 26 students have joined us for one week as an exchange; our students will stay with their partners in Hong Kong during Easter 2008. We have also welcomed staff and students from a school in Slovakia and in Sicily as part of a triplet European partnership.”

International School Award

“I have just returned from receiving the DCSF International School Award (ISA) 2007 on behalf of staff and students of Beaumont. Recipients from more than 400 primary and secondary schools from all over the UK received the award, which recognises outstanding development of the international dimension in the curriculum. Credit for the award must go to Miss Maxfield (our previous Head of Geography and international Co-ordination) who put together a portfolio of evidence before she moved away in the summer. Additional credit must, of course go to all those students and staff who have developed an international and global perspective in specialist subjects. My congratulations to all those involved.”

Elizabeth Hitch.

Note: This is an edited version of the article. Full details can be found in the Beaumont Life magazine and on the school web site.

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The next issue will be published in March 2008.

Please let me have your contributions by the latest 14th February 2008.

Email Don Lowe djlowe@ntlworld.com

To access the Old Beaumontians web page; on your PC type www.beaumontschool.com the “search results page” lists “Beaumont School – St.Albans” click this heading, you will then have accessed the school web site. Click on the tab “about us” scroll down to the “Old Beaumontians” click on this tab to access the OB’s pages.

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