

Welcome to Edition 1 of the Newsletter and thank you for responding to the circular letter setting it up. Altogether about 160 letters were sent out between Christmas 1995 and Lunar New Year 1996. To date 78 people have replied, which is something around 50% of those approached. In some cases we were working with address lists which were over four years old and it is likely that many of those we have tried to contact would wish to join, but have changed address and the circular hasn't reached them. If you consider that there are colleagues or classmates of yours who would want to be included, but aren't, please let them know about the newsletter when you next contact them.

Thank you especially to those who wrote with the return slip, letting us know what you are doing. Your letters really form the basis of the whole project - without your news, we have no newsletter. Thank you also to all those who provided names and addresses of potential members. We have tried to contact all those with addresses. Those for whom no addresses are known are in the 'Where are they now?' section. If you know where they are, let them know about the newsletter or let us know about them.

The general editorial policy [if there is one] is that news will only be included of those former students who have indicated that they wish to take part. However, we have decided to include news of all former staff, whether or not they have indicated that they wish to become 'members', since a major object of setting up the newsletter is to ensure that our wonderful teachers are not forgotten.

NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Jay ALLEN [FAO Mid 80s] retired from the Army in 1994 and has since completed a certificate course for teaching social studies in secondary schools. He is now living in Maryland and waiting for job offers.

John ASHTON [FCO Early 80s] and wife **Judy [Gao]** are living in Hong Kong. John is working in the Political Advisor's Office of the Hong Kong Government.

Ian BARROW [Cantonese Late 70s] has retired from the Army but is still working for the Ministry *of* Defence as a civilian. He has been to Bosnia on duty and is looking forward to a Hong Kong trip this year.

We were sad to hear of the death of the wife of **John BRENT** [Mandarin Mid 80s] after an illness. John is still in the Army and is serving with the Territorial Army in the North of England.

Bob BREWER [Cantonese Mid 80s] left the Army some years ago and has made a successful second career as a Security Manager at the Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club. He lives near the race course at Shatin.

We are grateful to **Ian BRUCE** [Cantonese Early 80s] for providing the names and addresses of a number of potential members. Ian has retired from the Army and is living in the South of England.

Brian BUNKER [Mandarin Late 80s] has left Grolier International Inc. in Taiwan and is now working for International Distillers [China] Limited, based in Hong Kong.

Martin BURD [Cantonese Early 80s] is planning a holiday in Jersey this year. He sends greetings to all members who know him.

It was good to hear from **Geoff BURDEN** [Cantonese Late 60s] - a member of the first Cantonese Course [C1]. Geoff retired from the Army some years ago and is living in the Midlands of England, looking forward to his 60th birthday.

Mike BYRNES [FAO Early 80s] has been promoted to Brigadier General and is now the United States Army Attaché at the US Embassy in Beijing.

John CAVANAGH [Mandarin Early 80s] went back to the Chinese Department at the Australian Defence Forces School of Languages at Point Cook after his MODCLS course in April 1983 and left in December 1985. In 1989 he returned to Point Cook to study Thai, spending 1990 in Bangkok. From 1991 to 1993 he worked in the Thai Department at Point Cook and since 1994 has been Director of Studies at the School.

Geoff CHADWICK [Mandarin Late 60s] was a member of the first course [N1] taught at MODCLS when the school opened in 1967. Geoff now lives in retirement in Derbyshire, England.

Some members may not be aware that **Mrs. CHAN Yu Yuen Wai**, a very dedicated and professional Cantonese teacher who also enhanced many tutorial sessions for FAO students of Mandarin in the mid 80s, died after a sudden illness in 1987. The school was very much the poorer for her passing.

We congratulate **Alice CHANG** [Mrs. Zhang] on obtaining her MA in Linguistics in Hong Kong during 1994. It was a pleasure to see her with her mother on the day of the award ceremony. Alice is now teaching Mandarin at the new Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and plans to visit the United States this year.

As always, it was a delight to hear from **Mrs. CHEN Shu Fong**, who is now living in Australia. Mrs. Chen visited Beijing with her husband during 1995, their first return trip since leaving the city 48 years previously. Family reunions were happy and emotional occasions, as you can imagine. The further happy news is that she now has two great grandsons.

Just in time for publication we heard from **Mrs. CHIANG Lin Lin** [Mrs. JIANG], who has only recently returned from a trip to the United States and Canada and has been busy with the wedding of her daughter since her return. Mrs. Jiang has not taught since MODCLS closed in 1992, and is enjoying her retirement at home in Shatin.

Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan [Mrs. Zhong] is now living in Idaho, when not travelling around the world. During 1995 she visited South Africa, returning to the United States via London. She is still teaching Mandarin part-time at a local educational establishment, but advancing years have compelled her to ease up on the ice-skating, fan dancing, sword exercises and karaoke at which she once excelled!

Jim CHILTON [FAO Mid 80s] worked for the State Unemployment Bureau in Missouri [Motto: We work that others need not] for a while after leaving the Army, but is now with the agency which tracks down absent fathers who do not provide financial support for their children. Like many of us, Jim would rejoin the Army if he could lie about his age.

Mr. CHONG Ching [Mr. Zhuang] is teaching Mandarin to Hong Kong Chinese at The Hong Kong Baptist University [formerly The Baptist College] in Kowloon, just across the road from Osborn Barracks. He would be pleased to hear from any member who would like to contact him.

Dave CLARK [Mandarin Late 80s] is still in the Army and is currently serving in Northern Ireland. Dave has recently been promoted to Warrant Officer 2.

Congratulations go to Sheena **CONNELLY** (Mandarin Late 80s), who left the Royal Australian Navy some time ago, and who has recently been awarded a National Asian Languages Scholarship. Last month she started a course at Shanghai University in China and we hope to report her progress later this year.

Brian CONNOR [Mandarin Late 80s] has retired from the Army and is now living in England. He would be happy to hear from former classmates at MODCLS.

Andy DAVIS [Mandarin Early 70s] worked with the Royal Hong Kong Police Force for many years after leaving the Army but is now back in UK working for the Atomic Energy Authority.

John DENNIS [FCO Mid 80s] is still serving in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and is currently assigned to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. John spent two years at the British Embassy in Beijing between 1985 and 1987 and returns to London from Kuala Lumpur later this year.

Will DENNIS [FCO Early 80s] provided the names of potential members, for which we are grateful. Letters have been sent to them.

Stuart DICKER [Cantonese Mid 80s] retired from the Army after service in Hong Kong following his course and is now working for the British Airports Authority. His work involves much travel within the UK.

Our congratulations go to **Leonora DUNN [O'Reardon]** [Mandarin Mid 80s] on obtaining her Graduate Diploma in Librarianship and Information Management. Lea has just moved to Brisbane, Queensland, and is pleased to have her soldier husband, Stephen, back home after a tour of duty in Rwanda.

Karl EIKENBERRY [FAO Mid 80s] is now a Colonel and is working at the Office of the Secretary of Defense in Washington DC.

Dave ELLIS [Cantonese Early 70s] has been living in Michigan for a number of years, having moved there from Hawaii. Dave is 'into' computers and desktop publishing. He doesn't promise to write to anybody but can be contacted on the Internet on david@voyager.net and looks forward to E-mail from you!

Roger FLETCHER [Cantonese Mid 70s] has been making a living doing Chinese translation work since leaving the Army some years ago. This is in contrast to many of us who unfortunately have had little opportunity to use our language skills in civilian life.

Anthony GAYNOR [Mandarin Early 70s] wrote from the North of England requesting addresses for several former classmates. Their names appear in the 'Where are they now?' section. Anthony is able to use Internet if anyone would like to contact him in this way.

Brian GOPSILL [Mandarin Mid 80s] is still in the Royal Navy and is currently at HMS Raleigh in the South of England. We hope to see him in the Channel Islands this month on a sailing trip organised by his ship.

David GRAY [Mandarin Late 80s] is still serving in the Royal Navy and is currently based in the South of England. David has been promoted to Lieutenant Commander.

Bill GUEST [Cantonese and Mandarin Mid 70s] is currently based in UK but enjoyed a couple of trips to Hong Kong and one to Beijing last year. He found Beijing to be much changed since he lived and worked there in the late 70s.

Les HAYLOR [Cantonese Late 70s] kindly provided the names of those who attended the Silver Jubilee Dinner at Cambridge in 1993. We have few addresses for these, so the majority will be found in the 'Where are they now?' section.

Just before going to press, news arrived from **Jane HIATT** [Mandarin Early 90s], a member of the very last Mandarin course to be taught at the school. Jane is currently living in Canberra.

Mr. **HO Pui Kei** [Hanson Ho] has been teaching part-time at Hong Kong University, but unfortunately was made redundant during 1995. Mr. Ho visited Britain briefly last year, and he has been very active in his support for this newsletter.

Marianne HOOK [FAO Early 80s] is now a Lieutenant Colonel and is working with the Hughes Aircraft Corporation on attachment in Saudi Arabia.

Charles HOOPER [FAO Late 80s] has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and is working at the United States Embassy in Beijing.

Bob HOWELL [FAO LNO Mid 80s] has retired from the Army and is working as a civilian with the Department of Defense in Washington DC. His work keeps him in touch with Chinese affairs and he still takes an enthusiastic interest in Chinese culture. Bob is also in contact with many former FAO students of MODCLS.

Mr. HUANG Yao Ping is still living in Tuen Mun and working in Hong Kong's Central District as a legal translator of the highest quality. The old 'capitalist roader' remains incorrigible and wonders whether or not it is the government in Beijing and not the people of Hong Kong who should be the more apprehensive about the approach of 1997.

Early students of Cantonese will remember **Teresa IP** [now **Teresa Mei**] with affection. Teresa left the school in the early 1970s and for the past 25 years has been living in Ithaca, New York. She is married to Tsulin Mei, a professor of Chinese Literature at Cornell University, and she works as the Chinese Studies Bibliographer at the University. Teresa says that even after 25 years, the school and its students are still in her heart. Her E-mail address is tkm2@cornell.edu if you choose to contact her in this way.

Dave KITCHING [Cantonese Late 60s and Mandarin Late 80s] has retired from the Army and after a brief spell with United Airlines now works for Grolier International Inc. Dave has just relocated from Taiwan to Hong Kong and will be pleased to let you buy him a beer if you are in town.

We are delighted that Mrs. **KOT Mei Yuk [Ah Mei]** has decided to join our newsletter club. She will be remembered by all students of the period mid to late 80s. She left MODCLS in 1989 to work as a laboratory assistant at St. George's Services Children's School in Kowloon Tong, but was a frequent visitor thereafter.

Miss Marie LAM Fuk Kuen, the school's last calligrapher/instructor, is always busy with work and study, but manages to find time to keep in touch. Her letters are always a pleasure to read, with their beautifully written characters.

Mr. LEE Mein Ven finally retired from the Reader's Digest in Hong Kong at the end of February 1996, having worked there as an Editor of Chinese books since leaving MODCLS in the late 1970s.

Shaun LEWIS [Mandarin Late 80s] is still serving in the Royal Navy and has been promoted to Lieutenant Commander. Since finishing his course Shaun has had little opportunity to use his Mandarin, but is now attending refresher classes in the hope of being able to do so in the next couple of years.

Mrs. LI [Julie Ann Wong] [Mrs. Blakeway] is now living in retirement in Yuen Long in the New Territories. Older members may not know that Mrs. Li rejoined the school as a full time teacher in the late 80s, coming back to us from the Royal Hong Kong Police Force. Mrs. Li and her husband now take a keen interest in Hong Kong's horse racing, so if you would like a few good tips

Ian LIVERMORE [Cantonese Early 70s] has retired from the Army and now lives in the South of England. He spends much time in Germany.

Derek LUI [Cpl Lui] who served at the school in the Mid 80s, has now retired from the Anny and is living as Willie Lui in the South of England. According to his business card, his take-away food is the best in town, so if you are in the Farnborough area, why not try it? [See advert inside back cover.]

James MacCORMICK [Mandarin Early 90s] came to MODCLS after a one year intensive course at the University of Westminster. He is now living in the Southeast of England.

Greg MAN [FAO Mid 80s] has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and is working at the United States Embassy in Beijing.

Kevin McMAHON [Cantonese Mid 70s] has left the Anny and is living in the North of England.

It is with great sadness that we report the death of **Tim MBLNES** [Cantonese Early 70s]. Tim left the Army in the late 70s and from then until 1994 held various senior posts in the Hong Kong Government. He retired at the end of 1994 and had only just settled down with Clare at their home in Kent when he passed away in the Spring of 1995. A memorial service for Tim was held at Christ Church, Kowloon Tong, in September 1995, attended by many colleagues and friends; the school was represented by Mr. Ho Pui Kei. Many of you have asked about Tim in your replies regarding the newsletter, and there is no doubt that we have lost a popular colleague and friend.

Tom MITCHELL [FAO Mid 80s] is still serving in the Army and is now based in Washington DC. Tom and his family have moved to a beautiful new home in Clifton, Virginia.

Jim MORRIS [Mandarin Mid 70s] served for 22 years in the Royal Hong Kong Police Force before transferring to the Security Branch of the Hong Kong Government in 1984. Jim retired in 1995 from the post of Deputy Secretary for Security and is now living in the South of England. We congratulate Jim on the award of Member of the Order of the British Empire [MBE] in the New Year Honours List 1996.

Alan NASH [Mandarin Early 70s] worked in Hong Kong for many years after leaving the Army, but is now retired and living in England. He has become involved with many activities in his local area and teaches evening classes in Chinese and Ancient Egyptian.

The envy of all of us who live in cold, wet climates is **Joe NORTHROP** [FAO Late 80s] who sends greetings from Hawaii.

Chris NOWELL [Mandarin Early 70s] is living and working in Hong Kong.

Just in time for publication we heard from **Rufus [now Richard] ORME** [Mandarin Mid 80s]. After leaving Hong Kong in 1987 he spent one year in Germany, then joined the New Zealand Army. After 18 months' service he left to join the world of commerce, and is still living and working in New Zealand, currently in the sales and marketing of human resource management software. Richard can be contacted on E-mail at srorme@iconz.co.nz or CompuServe at 100241,1602.

Ken PICKLES [Mandarin Late 80s] is still serving in the Army and is currently with the NATO forces in Sarajevo; he now uses Serbo-Croat and not Chinese in his daily work. Ken hopes to return to UK in early May.

Mrs. Lorraine POON is now teaching Mandarin to foreigners at the Language Centre of the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

John PRINCE [Cantonese Early 70s] will soon retire from his second career at Hong Kong University and will be going to live in France.

Kevin RICE [FAO Mid 80s] is still in the Army and is now a Lieutenant Colonel; he is presently a student at the US National War College in Washington DC and is living in Fairfax, Virginia. Kevin can be E-mailed at RICEK@NDU.edu if you are able to contact him in this way. We are grateful to him for providing the names and addresses of FAO former students, all of whom have responded positively.

Mick ROBERTS [Cantonese Mid 70s] retired from the Army in 1991 and is now working in the Rating and Valuation Department of the local government in Guernsey, Channel Islands. The job is extremely unstressful and leaves much time and energy for more interesting activities - such as this newsletter!

Alan ROBERTSON [Mandarin Late 60s and Cantonese Late 70s] is now living and working in London. He maintains a professional interest in Chinese affairs and occasionally visits the Far East.

We were very sad to hear of the death of Sally, the wife of **Simon RODWELL** [Mandarin Mid 70s], Simon and Sally worked in Hong Kong for many years after his retirement from the Royal Navy. Now living near Cambridge, UK, Simon was the prime mover in setting up the Silver Jubilee Dinner for MODCLS personnel at Cambridge in January 1993.

Cliff ROSE [Cantonese Late 70s and Mandarin Early 80s] was posted to Germany as Command Language Adviser on leaving MODCLS in 1992 and later became Head of the Language Department at the Higher Education Centre in Mulheim, which has since closed down. Cliff is now doing a Master's degree course at Bath University in UK, with a view to becoming the first Training Development Advisor on the staff of the Defence School of Languages in Beaconsfield, UK.

John SHANNON [Cantonese Late 60s] has had a successful second career with the Hong Kong Government since leaving the Army. John is still in Hong Kong, working in the Office of the Political Advisor.

Peter SHAW [Mandarin Mid 70s] worked for British Airways in Beijing for a number of years after his course and is now based in the South of England.

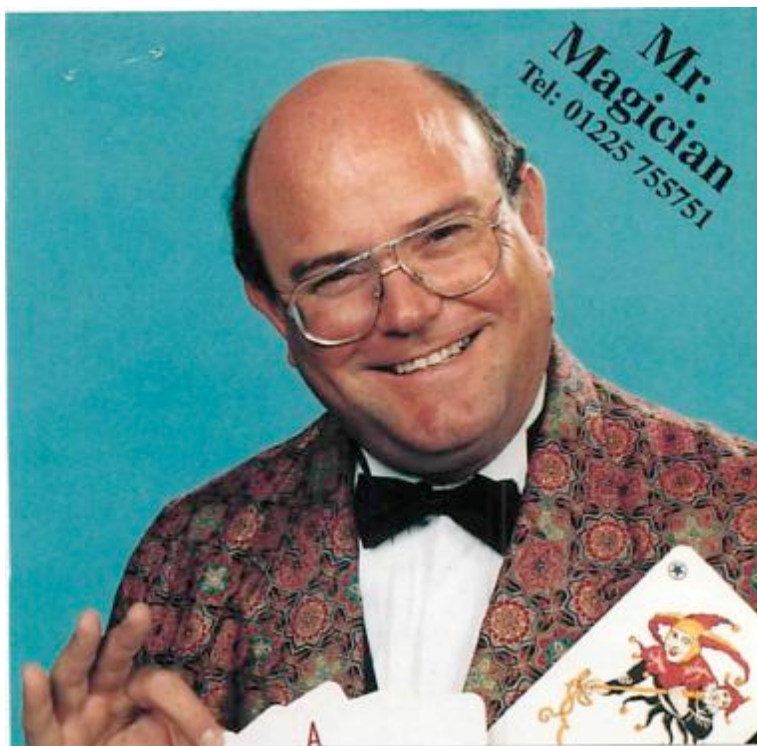
Willie ST. MAUR SHEIL [Cantonese Mid 80s] retired from the Army after a tour of duty in Hong Kong following his course. He is now living in the South of England.

We were delighted to receive a long letter from **Miss Sara SIU Yeuk**, who is now Mrs. LEE, having married Mr. Jimmy Lee, a businessman who has been living and working in the United States for the past 28 years. Sara left Hong in October 1994 and is now living in Dallas, Texas. Sara provided a photograph of her husband and herself in which she looks as beautiful as ever; forgive the poor quality of the reproduction.



It is a pleasure to mention **Bob SLOSS**, the first Commandant at MODCLS, who sends greetings from Cambridge. Bob has a group photograph showing 39 people, staff and students of the first Mandarin and Cantonese courses at the school. If you think you may be in this photograph, and know of others who are also there, it may be possible to have copies made. Please let us know.

Kevin SMITH [Cantonese Early 80s] has left the Army and is living and working in the Southwest of England. Among the reply slips returned, Kevin's name appears the most frequently from members wanting to know his whereabouts; he was clearly a popular colleague and classmate. This photograph shows Kevin at work today.



Don STEVENS [Mandarin Early 80s] has now retired from the Royal Hong Kong Police Force and is living in the Southeast of England. He will be visiting Hong Kong and Singapore in April/May this year.

Paul STOKES [Mandarin Mid 80s] has retired from the Army and is now living in South Wales. Paul is in touch with a number of former students and can be contacted on E-mail.

Brian SUTHERLAND [Cantonese Early 80s] is still in the Army and is working at Headquarters British Forces in Hong Kong. Brian has been very enthusiastic in his support for the newsletter, and has provided the names and addresses of several potential members.

Alan SYKES [Cantonese Late 60s] and his wife Mei are now back in London after working in Hong Kong for a number of years recently. Alan's health has not been too good, which prompted their return. He was a member of the first Cantonese course [CI] taught at the school, which began in February 1968.

David SYME [Mandarin Mid 70s] is teaching French and German at a school in Edinburgh, where he now lives. He also runs a Mandarin class and in 1995 had six weeks of Mandarin conversation with a school exchange from Chengdu, Sichuan Province. David has just become the owner of a personalized car number plate, which reads "NI HAO". If you happen to encounter him on the road flash your headlights.

Mr. TANG Pong is living in retirement in Hong Kong and maintains his legendary interest in culinary matters. We offer belated congratulations to him on the award of Member of the Order of the British Empire [MBE] in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 1992.

Mr. TSE Hau Loong, for many years the Senior Lecturer in Cantonese, is living in retirement in Vancouver, Canada. Mr. Tse has never lost his interest in current affairs, and is particularly knowledgeable on espionage, national security and related matters.

Cyril THOMAS [Cantonese Early 70s] is now living in the South of England but continues to be very active in work with China; in recent years this has been devoted to helping abandoned children, and Cyril is now involved in projects with orphanages in China. He returned to Hong Kong and China three times during 1995, and as we go to press he and Gabrielle should again be in the Far East.

Mr. TSANG Chi Fan [Mr. Zeng] is teaching Mandarin to Hong Kong Chinese at the City University of Hong Kong in Kowloon. In 1995 he visited the United States, where he made contact with a number of FAO former students; he has also provided news of a number of our teachers who are still living and working in Hong Kong.

Richard WELKER [FAO Early 80s] has been promoted to Colonel and is now the Army Attaché at the United States Embassy in Singapore. In May this year he moves to Canberra, for what is likely to be his last assignment.

Steve **WHITE** [Mandarin Late 80s] is still serving with the Royal Navy and has been promoted to Lieutenant Commander. He is based in the South of England.

Mr. James **WONG** Kwok Wei settled in Los Angeles after his retirement from MODCLS in the late 1980s, but has since travelled widely and is now working in real estate in Shanghai. He is extremely busy, being the Deputy General Sales Manager of a company with a staff of 250 people in what is at present a boom town. He returns to Los Angeles frequently, and will be there for a short while in late May this year. It was our pleasure to see him in the Channel Islands in the Autumn of 1994.

Chris **WOOD** [FCO Mid 80s] left the Foreign Service some years ago and has since worked in various Government departments in London. Currently he is Private Secretary to the Department of the Environment's Minister in the House of Lords [Earl Ferres].

Jenny **YANG** [Mrs. Yeung], the school's first calligrapher/instructor, will be familiar to many Cantonese students, since she was a regular member of the examining board at Final Oral Exams for many years after her move to Hong Kong University. We are pleased that she has decided to join our newsletter club.

D W E L L I N G B Y A S T R E A M

I had so long been troubled by official hat and robe
That I am glad to be an exile here in this wild southland.
I am a neighbour now of planters and reapers.
I am a guest of the mountains and woods.
I plough in the morning, turning dewy-grasses,
And at evening tie my fisher-boat, breaking the quiet stream.
Back and forth I go, scarcely meeting anyone,
And sing a long poem and gaze at the blue sky.

溪居

柳宗元

久为簪组累，幸此南夷谪。
闲依农圃邻，偶似山林客。
晓耕翻露草，夜榜响溪石。
来往不逢人，长歌楚天碧。