

*Welcome to Edition 2 of the Newsletter. It is coming out rather later than we had hoped, but the quantity of material for inclusion took longer to process than we had anticipated. By saying this we do not mean to discourage contributions; on the contrary, we are very heartened by the fact that this edition runs to just as many pages as the first. A very big thank you to those who have written in - we cannot repeat often enough that without your news, we have no newsletter.*

*It will also be of great help if you could provide addresses for those you mention, where these addresses are known to you. As an example, Caroline Mason is well known to so many of you, but at the time of writing we do not have a good address for her. Somebody must know it; is it you? If so, please tell us.*

*In conclusion, I draw your attention to the inside back cover, where an idea raised by Jim Chilton and Bob Tyne is discussed. Anything that will help to sustain interest in the newsletter will be welcome, but I repeat our basic aim, which is to ensure that our devoted and painstaking teachers are not forgotten.*

**A MERRY  
CHRISTMAS  
AND A  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
TO YOU ALL**

## ***NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD***

**Tony BROWNE** [Mandarin Early 70s] is now in Taiwan where he is Director of the New Zealand Commerce and Industry Office. After leaving MODCLS in 1975 Tony was assigned to the New Zealand Embassy in Beijing until 1978; various foreign service posts followed until 1994 when he arrived in Taipei. We are grateful to him for providing the names and addresses of so many former students.

**Geoff CHADWICK** [Mandarin late 60s] has written from Derbyshire putting the record straight on what he is now doing. After completing his tour of duty as Commandant at MODCLS, Geoff was given the task of Staff Officer in Charge of the visit programme for a series of top-level Chinese military delegations to Britain during the 1970s and he was subsequently chosen to accompany the Secretary of State for Defence and the Chief of the Defence Staff on official visits to China. This duty saw Geoff interpreting in the Great Hall of the People. Geoff was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire [MBE] in 1980. He retired from the Army in 1984 and joined the British Technical Education Council as Assistant Chief Officer, serving in the post until 1989, when he moved back to Derbyshire. Geoff is now Chief Executive of a national charity and has most certainly not retired, as our entry in the Spring Newsletter indicated.

Mrs. **CHEN Shu** Fong, who is now living in Australia, visited members of her family in Bolton, UK, during May-July this year. It was a pleasure to speak to her on the telephone during her visit. Mrs. Chen has a collection of over 60 photographs of MODCLS Staff and students, dating from 1969; many of our readers will appear in these.

**Jim CHILTON** [FAO Mid 80s] was disappointed that **Stella Lau** and **Chan Pok** were not among the staff featured in the Spring edition. Unfortunately we do not have good addresses for these two popular teachers, so for the time being they will have to go in the 'Where Are They Now?' section. Jim also believes that our newsletter could serve as a forum for dialogue or discussion on China-related issues, and that any recent visitors to the region, or those currently working there, could provide updated reports on the current situation. We will be happy to print anything of interest [see inside back page for more details] and we thank Jim for his idea. Jim is still living and working in Missouri, and can be contacted on E-Mail [at jchilton@townsq.com](mailto:jchilton@townsq.com).

**Mr. CHONG Ching [Mr. Zhuang]** visited Britain briefly during the Summer of this year; **Alan Robertson** kindly undertook to look after him during his stay. Mr. Zhuang is still teaching at the Hong Kong Baptist University [formerly the Baptist College] in Kowloon.

**Mark COALDRAKE** [Mandarin early 80s] is still in the Army and is now a Major serving in Canungra, Queensland. Since leaving Hong Kong, he has had numerous postings around Australia, but during the past few years has had one assignment to Hanoi and a couple of work trips into China.

**Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan [Mrs. Zhong]** is still teaching at Rick's College in Rexburg, Idaho. The College has 8,500 students and this semester Mrs. Zhong has 25 students in her Mandarin Class. At the end of April she had a hip replacement operation, which was very successful, and she will soon be ice skating and sword dancing again. Mrs. Zhong enjoyed an Indian Summer in Rexburg this year; in her own words: "The sun is shining, giving an extra glitter to the red, gold and yellow of the trees". We all wish her a complete recovery from her operation.

**Steve COHEN** [FAO early 90s] has contacted us from Alexandria, Virginia and we are pleased to have him 'enrolled' in the Newsletter Club. Steve was a member of the final FAO course at the school and is still serving as a Major in the Army.

**Brian CONNOR** [Mandarin late 80s] is now working in England as an independent security consultant, in association with a number of other independent consultants in the same field. Brian would be pleased to hear from any former colleagues who remember him. [Look out for his advert elsewhere in this issue.]

**Robin CROSLEGH** [Mandarin early 80s] has left the Army and is now running a campsite for visitors in the beautiful West Country of Britain. Details of Robin's campsite are shown elsewhere in this issue; he would be very pleased to hear from former members of the school, particularly if they were to stay for a few nights.

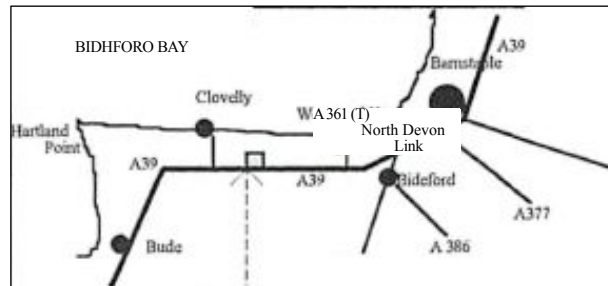
**Mike FARR** [Mandarin late 60s] has joined us from Ross-shire in Scotland. Mike was a member of Course N2 while serving in the Royal Navy and subsequently did duty as Naval Attaché in Beijing.

# Steart Farm Touring Park

Horns Cross, Bideford, Devon EX39 5DW  
01237 431836



**Robin and Lesley Croslegh** welcome you to **Steart Farm Touring Park** which is set in 17 acres of former farmland overlooking Bideford Bay in North Devon. The site is being renovated after some years of disuse and improvements continue all the time. However, we trust that these will not intrude on your enjoyment as they will be carried out in the closed season or away from areas in use. At present there are facilities for 60 pitches of which 18 will have hook-ups for 1996. Hard standing is available. The site boasts a 2½ acre dedicated fenced dog exercise area and a large and secure children's playing area (parental supervision). The charges for a pitch include use of the toilet facilities, showers and washing basins for up to 4 persons per pitch.



Follow A 39 from Bideford, pass through Fairy Cross and Horns Cross. 2 miles from Horns Cross you will find us on the right. From Bude take A 39 past Clovelly Cross and Bucks Cross. You will find us 'A mile after Bucks Cross on the left (OS Sheet 190 GR 356227 Entrance to Site).



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**Simon FEATHERSTONE** [FCO early 80s] worked at the British Embassy in Beijing as Science and Technology Officer for three years after leaving MODCLS in 1983. From 1986 he spent three years in London, in the Falkland Islands Department of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and in the Cabinet Office. Following this Simon served for four and a half years dealing with environmental issues at the UK Representation to the European Community [later the European Union] in Brussels. September 1994 saw him back in China when he became Her Majesty's Consul General in Shanghai and in April this year he moved back to Beijing to become Political Counsellor at the British Embassy. We are grateful to Simon for providing the names and addresses of former students, who have all subsequently 'enrolled' for the newsletter.

**Brian FINCH** [Cantonese early 70s] is back in Hong Kong on what is probably his last assignment there. He will be returning to the UK in 1997 and will be pleased to hear from any old friends who happen to be visiting London. Brian is awaiting the results of the FCO Advanced Cantonese Examination he sat in November. We wish him well.

**Mike FREEMAN** [Cantonese mid 80s] is now working with the UK National Health Service Executive Information Management Group, which creates computer grouping systems and supporting software for the NHS, and he is currently living in the South of England. After leaving Hong Kong in 1987 Mike transferred to the Royal Army Pay Corps and was Paymaster to 1st Battalion the Royal Anglian Regiment in Celle, Germany, before becoming professionally involved with computers as a programmes systems analyst and IT project manager. He left the Army in 1993 and his group is now responsible for the computer systems for the whole of the UK National Health Service's contracting services. Incidentally, Mike's local supermarket sells 'San Miguel' beer - brewed in Gibraltar and not with the flavour of the Castle Peak Road brew!

**Brian GOPSILL** [Mandarin mid 80s] visited Guernsey with a party of Navy colleagues on a sailing yacht in late April. Although the weather was fairly cool, a good run ashore was had by all, and it was a pleasure to see him. Brian is still in Plymouth serving with the Royal Navy and we are grateful to him for providing the names and addresses of a number of former MODCLS colleagues.

**Bill GRAHAM** [Mandarin late 70s] is still in the Army and is currently based in the South of England. In the next few months he will be doing an Arabic course at the Defence School of Languages at Beaconsfield, followed by a two year posting to Oman at Headquarters, Royal Army of Oman.

**David GRAY** [Mandarin late 80s] has left the Royal Navy and is working for a law firm in Hong Kong. David and his family are now living in a former senior officer's quarter at Stanley Fort on the Island.

**Bob HOWELL** [FAO LNO mid 80s] underwent a coronary by-pass operation in late April 1996, a repeat of the procedure he went through some nine years ago. Bob wrote some weeks after the operation that he was making good progress and we hope that this has continued throughout the year.

**John HIGGINBOTHAM** [Mandarin early 70s] has written from Washington DC where he is now the Minister [Political] in the Embassy of Canada. John is one of a number of Canadian students of the period who have been in touch and who are now 'enrolled' in our newsletter club.

It is with sadness that we record the death of **Mike KELLY** [Mandarin mid 70s]. Mike was an officer in the King's [Liverpool] Regiment when at MODCLS, but subsequently retired from the Army and moved to London, where he became a financial services consultant. Mike died suddenly of a heart attack in August 1993, while on holiday in Scotland. We are grateful to **Alan Robertson** for reporting this information.

**Dave KITCHING** [Cantonese late 60s and Mandarin late 80s] has written at length describing life in Hong Kong at present. Dave has relocated to Hong Kong from Taiwan, but is still working for Grolier International. He describes vividly the mood in Hong Kong as 30th June, 1997 approaches; his writing shows his deep love and concern for Hong Kong and its people, and it is good to learn that the general mood is one of cautious optimism.

**Mrs. KOT Mei Yuk [Ah Mei]** has changed jobs and is now working at a Government Hospital, where she looks after the Nurses' Quarters. We are sad to record that Ah Mei lost her son in tragic circumstances earlier this year, and she has now moved to Shatin.

**Marie LAM** has been in touch during the year, and is still not too happy in her current job; she says it is the people she works with and not the job itself which make her unhappy. Marie has provided news of Ah Mei [Mrs. KOT Mei Yuk], and we now have a new address for the latter.

**Bob LAWSON** [Cantonese early 80s] has retired from the Army but is still working for the forces as a civilian in Germany. Bob has recently purchased 'time-share' holiday accommodation in the Channel Islands, so we hope to see him here on a golfing trip before too long.

**Ian LIVERMORE** [Cantonese late 60s] now spends most of his time in Germany, where cooking, the Daily Telegraph crossword and the local German dialect are his main interests.

**Normand MAILHOT** [Mandarin late 60s] was a member of Course N2 at Lyemun and is now the Consul and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Consulate General of Canada in New York. Normand has provided the names and addresses of several colleagues who studied at MODCLS and we have been in contact with most of them. His internet address is: Normand.Mailhot@CNGNY02.X400.GC.CA.

**John McARTHUR** [FCO mid 80s] has written from Shanghai where he is now the Consul-General at the New Zealand Consulate-General. After leaving MODCLS in 1986, John served for three years at the New Zealand Embassy in Beijing.

**Alastair McLEAN** [Mandarin early 70s] returned to New Zealand after leaving MODCLS in 1975 and used his Chinese language skills in his government job for about twelve years, on one occasion interpreting for a high level delegation from China. He resigned from New Zealand Government service in 1989 and subsequently joined the New Zealand Translation Centre Limited, where he is now Sales and Marketing Director. Alastair specialises in Asian language translations and says that while there are a number of good native speaker translators in New Zealand, finding people with the right skills and experience for editing is a problem for his Company. Alastair has provided a large number of names for our newsletter club, but unfortunately many will have to go into the 'Where Are They Now' section. Alastair can be reached on Internet at nztc@centralco.nz or on CompuServe 100231.3231.



**Teresa MEI [Miss Ip]** spent much of the summer away from her home in Ithaca, New York, travelling on business to Taiwan, Hong Kong and China. Teresa is the Chinese Studies Bibliographer at Cornell University and the purpose of her travel was to meet with book dealers and publishers. She returned to Ithaca in August.

**Alan NASH** [Mandarin early 70s] is enjoying his retirement in the East of England, and wonders how he ever found time for **work**. Alan is now deeply involved in many local activities in his area.

**John PAYNTER** [Mandarin late 60s] left MODCLS in 1971 and subsequently became Canadian Ambassador to Thailand, High Commissioner to India, and Ambassador to China. We are sad to record that John died of cancer in October 1995, while serving in Beijing. We are grateful to **Normand Mailhot** and **Don Waterfall** for reporting this to us.

**Melville PETRIE** [Mandarin early 80s] has just left the Royal Navy after 23 years service and has taken up a senior management post with Swire Pacific in Hong Kong. Mel's final assignment with the Navy was Base Supply Officer at HMS Tamar, a job in which he had to get to grips with Cantonese! He will be based in Hong Kong for the foreseeable future.

**Brett RAYNER** [Mandarin early 80s] has been promoted to Captain and is now Naval Attache at the British Embassy in Beijing. Since leaving MODCLS in 1982 Brett has served in Gibraltar, London and at sea in HM Ships Rhyl, Berwick and Illustrious; he is likely to remain in Beijing until 1998. Brett has provided a long list of names of his contemporaries at MODCLS, but many will have to appear in the 'Where Are They Now?' section. He would be delighted to see or hear from any of his friends from his time in Hong Kong.

**Richard REEVE** [FCO mid 70s] is now Counsellor at the British Embassy in Berne, Switzerland. Richard came to know of our newsletter through a chance meeting with **David Syme** in Edinburgh, at a 6 mile charity run in September this year. David was wearing his MODCLS Dragon Boat Team of 1977 T-shirt [sponsored by Watson's soft drinks] and was spotted by Richard who has a similar garment. Incidentally, in 1977 we were sponsored by both Watsons and Cathay Pacific, so we had to wear T-shirts from both. We won our heat in the morning [in Watson's shirts] but sank in the semi-final in the afternoon [in Cathay Pacific shirts]. Maybe the long lunch on Stanley Beach had something to do with the instability of our boat ....

**Mick ROBERTS** [Cantonese mid 70s] tried to get back into uniform this year when he applied to join a new Territorial Army specialist linguist unit. Unfortunately age and general decrepitude consigned him to failure. Nevertheless, it was good to see **David Syme** and **Cliff Rose** while at Beaconsfield for the selection board, and the unit may be of interest to other UK national members of our newsletter club. Let us know if you would like more details.

**Alan ROBERTSON** [Mandarin late 60s and Cantonese late 70s] kindly wrote with a report on the death of **Mike Kelly** [see elsewhere in this newsletter] and also agreed to look after **Mr. Chong Ching** during his visit to London this summer. We are grateful for his generosity, which we believe exemplifies the MODCLS spirit.

**Cliff ROSE** [Cantonese late 70s and Mandarin early 80s] is now serving as Training Development Advisor on the staff of the Defence School of Languages in Beaconsfield, UK. Among those he tested for a new Territorial Army specialist linguist unit in October 1996 were **David Syme** and **Mick Roberts**. It was good to see Cliff enjoying his current job.

**Martin SEARLE** [FCO early 80s] left the Foreign Service soon after leaving MODCLS in 1983 and took up a new job with Standard Chartered Bank, first in London and then in Hong Kong, where he has worked for the past 11 years. Martin has learnt Cantonese during his time in Hong Kong, and may soon be learning Thai, since his next assignment is likely to be in Bangkok. Martin has a message to pass on to all former staff and students known to him, and that is "Thanks for a really enjoyable year".

**Claire SMITH** is the married name of **Claire STUBBS** [FCO early 80s] who was posted to the British Embassy in Beijing after leaving MODCLS, and married a diplomatic service colleague, Michael Smith [an ex-army officer] in 1986. Claire is currently on secondment from the British Foreign Service to the German Federal Foreign Ministry, working in the East Asia Division. She will be moving back to the British service in 1997, where she will work in the British Embassy in Bonn.







**Alan SYKES** [Cantonese late 60s] has written at length from London with many amusing anecdotes of his contemporaries at MODCLS, among them Ken Smith, Nigel Champion, Bernard Rourke, Ian Horrocks, Bill Jackson, Frank Le Maître, John Forde, Tim Simmonds, Vernon Davies, Mike Casserley, Peter Thompson, Mike Farr, Ian Corsie, Warwick Ackland, Anthony Gaynor and John Prince. Unfortunately, with one or two exceptions, all these will have to appear in the WATN? section. Alan's wife **Mei** visited Vancouver earlier this year and met up with **Mr. TSE Hau Loong** and his wife; readers will be pleased to learn that Mr. Tse is now looking better, having been ill earlier.

**David SYME** [Mandarin late 70s] ran in the BUPA Great Caledonia 6 mile run in Edinburgh, Scotland on 29th September this year [**Mick Roberts** was visiting him at the time but unfortunately missed the registration deadline for the run]. David was seen wearing the 1977 Dragon Boat Team T-shirt by **Richard Reeve** who has since 'enrolled' in our newsletter club. David has applied to join a new Territorial Army Specialist Linguists Unit, and is currently awaiting the final determination of his application. If you are interested, David's personalised car number plate [NI HAO] is still for sale.

**Bob TYNE** [Mandarin late 80s] is now a Warrant Officer Class 1 serving in the Australian Army at Canungra, Queensland. Bob has lost contact with many of his contemporaries, largely because of his government's policy that military linguists are trained in at least two languages. This means that those who learnt Chinese together may have gone on to learn other, different, languages, thus losing touch. Bob did provide several names, most of which can be found in the WATN? section. Like **Jim Chilton**, Bob believes that our newsletter could become a forum for discussion of China-related issues.

**Tom WASHBURN** [Mandarin late 70s] is still serving as a Colonel in the US Army and is currently the Army Attaché at the Embassy of the United States in Bangkok, Thailand. Tom has provided the names and addresses of several former students of MODCLS. We have already been in touch with some of them and will be contacting the others with a copy of this newsletter.

**Don WATERFALL** [Mandarin early 70s] is now at the Canadian High Commission in New Delhi, India, where he is Deputy High Commissioner. Don has provided the names and addresses of several contemporaries, and we have already received replies from some of them.

**Ian WELFARE** [FCO late 70s] is working at the British Trade Commission in Hong Kong, which will become the British Consulate General after 1st July, 1997. Ian is one of a small number of students who studied at both Lyemun and Osborn Barracks.

**Kim WINFIELD** [Cantonese late 70s] has been promoted to Colonel and is currently Defence Attaché at the British Embassy in Beijing. Kim served as Chief Instructor and Commandant at MODCLS during the 1980s, and after this had various staff appointments in UK and in Europe.

**Chris WOOD** [FCO Mid 80s] has written with several more names of ex-students known to him. Many have been contacted and have 'enrolled', but others are to be found in the 'WATN?' section. Chris can be contacted on E-Mail at 101462.1277@compuserve.com if you have this facility.

**Steve WOOLLEY** is remembered as one of the most gifted students seen at the School [Mandarin 82/83, Cantonese 83/84 as well as, concurrently, FCO 83/84], obtaining first class results in all examinations. Steve left the Royal Navy in 1994 and has just started working as a solicitor for an international law firm in London, having completed a two-year postgraduate course in legal studies. Steve generously gave of his time and effort in helping **Mrs. Chen Shu Fong** on a personal matter during her visit to England this year. We are in no doubt that Steve's law firm has obtained the services of an outstanding talent, and that his firm's gain is definitely the Royal Navy's loss.

We record with sadness the deaths of **Bob VARKER** and **Tom WILLOWS** [Cantonese late 60s], both of whom have died in recent years. We are grateful to **Dave Kitching** for reporting this information, but do not have any further details. Older members may also recall **John MILLS**, who died in tragic circumstances in Hong Kong during the 1970s. It is believed that John died from the toxic fumes given off by the gas water heater in his bathroom, a danger familiar to all who served in Hong Kong during those years.

## THOUGHTS IN THE COLD

You are gone. The river is high at my door.  
Cicadas are mute on dew-laden boughs.  
This is a moment when thoughts enter deep.  
I stand alone for a long while.  
. . . The North Star is nearer to me now than spring,  
And couriers from your southland never arrive —  
Yet I doubt my dream on the far horizon  
That you have found another friend.

## 凉思

客 去 波 平 檻  
蟬 休 露 滿 枝  
永 懷 當 此 節  
倚 立 自 移 時  
倚 斗 兼 春 遠  
南 陵 寓 使 迟  
天 涯 占 夢 數  
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TRANSLATION CENTRE**

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Issue 1

# Language LINE

LANGUAGE LINE is the official newsletter of the New Zealand Translation Centre Ltd, 68 Dixon Street, Wellington, New Zealand.

## *Tips for the Perfect Translation*

Chinese and Russian language expert—and NZTC Sales and Marketing Director Alastair McLean—



says the perfect translation should read like an original text. He advises clients that they can reduce translation costs by:

- ♦ Timing: Give the translator adequate time. Producing a good translation often takes longer than writing the original text.
- ♦ Simplicity: Keep the language as clear and concise as possible. In texts which may later be

*Alastair McLean*

translated into Asian languages, it helps to avoid long sentences with strings of sub-clauses. These often cause structural difficulties, especially when translating into languages such as Chinese and Japanese.

*Call Alastair McLean on 4-384 5047 for more information on how he can help you with Asian language translations.*

## *Pushing to the Pacific Rim*

This year the New Zealand Translation Centre Ltd celebrates its tenth year in business as the largest translation company in New Zealand.

With agencies now in Auckland, Sydney, San Francisco and London, NZTC has grown from a small office with four people to a busy three floors packed with staff in Wellington's central business district. NZTC has the capability to translate over 80 languages, and has a fully equipped art department operating Macintosh computers.

According to founding directors Paul Sulzberger and Patrick King, New Zealand's ongoing economic growth—particularly in the Pacific Rim—means the company will continue its rapid expansion.

**68 DIXON STREET  
WELLINGTON  
NEW ZEALAND**

## HONG KONG/CHINA TOPICS

Jim Chilton [United States] and Bob Tyne [Australia] have both written to suggest that while the current format of the newsletter is appropriate for letting everybody know where everybody is and what they are doing, this may not be enough in itself to sustain long-term interest in the publication. Bob has offered to contribute an article on the opportunities available to linguists, while Jim recommends initiating a dialogue on Hong Kong/China related questions. This can include reports at some length from those still working or travelling in the region, which will be of great interest to those of us who, unfortunately, no longer have any dealings with the area. Dave Kitching [now living in Hong Kong] will not mind the publication of the following extracts from a recent letter, which perhaps illustrate the type of thing Jim Chilton has in mind:

"Walking around Wanchai and elsewhere I've been mildly surprised at how very few old faces I've run into. Time was when you were always bumping into somebody you knew, well or vaguely ....." and ".....I think most of the locals are cautiously optimistic about the future, although I've always said that it is press freedom which may provide the catalyst for conflict."

We believe that fundamentally these ideas are good ones, and we will do our best to include any articles you care to submit. However, we are always conscious of the fact that our readership is dispersed worldwide, with some of our readers living in China, Taiwan or Hong Kong; for this reason we will take care to avoid publishing anything which may cause embarrassment, annoyance or discomfort to anybody, and reserve the right to cut or amend articles as we see fit. Don't forget, our aim is to provide a simple newsletter, not an international forum for radical thought. Let us know what you think about this.