

As we prepare this edition of the newsletter we have come to the end of official British Summer Time. The clocks have gone back and the weather has turned colder. Those of you not living in Western Europe may or may not have heard that we have enjoyed wonderful weather for most of the summer and that this good weather extended into much of the early autumn. Co-incidentally, at least one British newspaper today carried a picture of the first snowfall of winter in Beijing.

As always, we thank those of you who have sent in contributions and we know that these will be of interest to all our readers. Don't miss Mrs. Zhong's account of her South Sea travels last year.

Sadly, we have four deaths to report in this edition. On a happier note, there seems to be considerable interest in the idea of an 2007 reunion in Hong Kong. During the next year or two we can perhaps start putting some form of programme into shape. In this connection, all ideas and suggestions will be welcome. At present over 20 people have said that they would like to see a reunion come about. We shall keep you updated.

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL OUR READERS

NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

It is with great sadness that we report the death of **Warwick ACKLAND** (Mandarin early 70s) in August 2003, after a short illness. We are grateful to Martin BURD (Cantonese early 80s) who passed this information to us and we thank him for representing CLS at Warwick's funeral. Martin recalls a number of amusing incidents from the time he worked with Warwick in Headquarters British Forces Hong Kong in the mid 80s.

Mrs. Lisa AHNERT (Staff) has written from her home in Dallas, Texas, with greetings to all readers of our newsletter.

Jay ALLEN (FAO mid 80s) has been in touch to provide his new e-mail address, which is allenj01@hotmail.com if you want to contact him.

Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan (Mrs. Zhong) (Staff) has completed her move from Rexburg, Idaho to Provo, Utah in order to be nearer her family. She is already becoming involved in the local community but found the summer heat very tiring. Elsewhere in this issue we feature her report on her South Sea cruise in 2002. Don't miss it. If you would like Mrs. Zhong's new address, please let us know.

Jim CHILTON (FAO mid 80s) and wife Susan enjoyed a wonderful vacation in July 2003 driving from their home in Missouri through Tennessee then up the Shenandoah Valley to Washington D.C. where they visited monuments, museums, etc. During the trip they saw Colonel (Retired) Tom WASHBURN (FAO late 70s) and Colonel (Retired) Ed O'DOWD, who did his FAO training in Singapore but was later assigned to the US DLO in Hong Kong, from where he will be remembered by many of our readers.

Vicky CHU Wai Chin (Staff) has worked for many years as a lecturer in the Department of East Asian Studies at Durham University in UK. Vicky has written with the sad news that the department is to close on completion of the 4-year course which started in October this year. Let us hope that a way can be found to keep the department open; it is one of the very oldest in Britain providing Chinese at this level.

Brian CONNOR (Mandarin late 80s) is still working in Nottingham, England with Kevin DOYLE (Mandarin late 70s). Unfortunately, his company's office in Shanghai closed down at the end of 2002 so he no longer has an excuse to get to the Far East. However, he and his wife Debbie are hoping to travel to Australia early in 2004 and anticipate stopping over in Hong Kong.

It was a great pleasure to meet **Ian CORSIE** (Mandarin late 60s) and his wife Joy during their brief visit to Guernsey in August 2003, where they were attending a wedding. The weather was sunny and hot, so they were able to spend some time relaxing on the beach as well as being involved with family affairs.

Robin CROSLEGH (Mandarin early 80s) has e-mailed from the South of England expressing support for the idea of a Hong Kong reunion, but would prefer that it did not take the form of a jiaozi fest! We do agree with his suggestion that it should be in the cooler months, perhaps in November 2007.

John DENNIS (FCO mid 80s) returned to Beijing in October 2003 as Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy. He has responsibility for co-ordinating the overall British diplomatic effort in China, reporting to the Ambassador. Before taking up his post John undertook some refresher training in order to revive his Chinese language skills. Sons Charlie (9) and Harry (4) are seeing the city where their parents first met and John, Jill and the whole family would be delighted to see any CLS alumni who happen to be in the capital between 2003 and 2006.

Anthony GAYNOR (Mandarin early 70s) has written to provide a new address and to support the idea of a reunion in Hong Kong in 2007. His e-mail address remains unchanged if you are in contact with him in this way.

We are pleased to report that **Bill GUEST** (Cantonese early 70s and Mandarin mid 70s) is now at home in London following a successful operation earlier this year. We hope that he continues to make progress.

Jane HIATT (Mandarin early 90s) has recently taken over a Kumon Study Centre franchise with 65 maths and english students at an established centre in Canberra, Australia. Leaving the Royal Australian Navy after 8 years service, Jane had run a dental laboratory from home, coupled with a bookkeeping and budgeting consultancy for small businesses. All this while bringing up three boys and a girl aged 5-10 years! She is very excited about the Kumon opportunity and we wish her every success in the new venture.

Dave KITCHING (Cantonese late 60s and Mandarin late 80s) is still living in Spain but spent some time in England during the summer on a whistle-stop tour of family and friends. We thank Dave for alerting us to the news of Dave SLOUGH's death in Hong Kong (see elsewhere in this issue).

Miss Marie LAM Fuk Kuen (Staff) has e-mailed with support for the proposed reunion in Hong Kong in 2007, on behalf of herself, as well as former members of staff Mrs. WONG Leung Ling Hsiao, Mrs. KOT Mei Yuk (Ah Mei) and Mrs. HAU Mei Ling (Ah Ling).

Bob LAWSON (Cantonese early 80s) has changed jobs but is still working with British forces in Germany. His previous job is being done by Ian BARROW (Cantonese late 70s). Bob also supports the idea of a Hong Kong reunion in 2007.

Shaun LEWIS (Mandarin late 80s) has moved house but is still living in the north of England. His e-mail address is shaun@hilaryclare.com if you wish to contact him this way.

Normand MAELHOT (Mandarin late 60s) has written supporting the idea of a HK reunion in 2007. He is also looking to make contact with Beth BLUEMAN, Daniel DHAVERNAS, David KRUGER and John WALKER, all students of the late 1960s. If anyone can provide an address for any of these, please let us know.

Caroline MATTHEWS (MASON) (Mandarin mid 70s) is still teaching at Durham University and recently married Michael MATTHEWS, a retired local government officer. It was a great pleasure to visit them at home near Durham during September. Our picture shows Caroline and Michael with your unworthy editor. Like Vicky CHU, Caroline is at a loss to understand why the successful Department of East Asian Studies at Durham University is to close.



With great sadness we report the death of **Alastair McLEAN** (Mandarin early 70s) of cancer, in June 2003. We are grateful to Tony BROWNE (also Mandarin early 70s) who attended Alastair's funeral, for passing on the news. Tony says that the eulogies at the funeral dwelt extensively on Alastair's ongoing love affair with Chinese, and the use to which he had put the language in the translation company for which he had worked for the last fifteen years of his life. His contempt of simplified characters never left him and it was said that he still knew several thousand in their full form. He died a few weeks short of the thirtieth anniversary of he and Tony BROWNE arriving at Lyemun, as the first New Zealand students at the school, we believe, in 1973.

Jim MORRIS (Mandarin early 70s) has written to support the proposed reunion in Hong Kong in 2007. Jim is still living in the southwest of England.

Jumbo PARTRIDGE (FCO Admin Officer mid 80s) has again been in touch from Queensland, Australia where he now lives. The Iraq war prompted him to recall his time with the Royal Air Force at Habbaniyah near Baghdad in 1949 and 1950 when the RAF station there was the largest in the world.

Mel PETRIE (Mandarin early 80s) has been kept busy travelling between UK and China on business. He also supports the idea of a Hong Kong reunion in 2007.

James RAND (Cantonese and Mandarin late 60s), who now lives in Thailand, is also in favour of a reunion in Hong Kong in 2007.

Kevin RICE (FAO mid 80s) has now left the US Army and is living in sunny California, next to the ocean and with some 40 vineries in the vicinity. Kevin is also keen on the idea of a CLS reunion in Hong Kong in 2007.

Alan ROBERTSON (Mandarin late 60s and Cantonese mid 70s) has been a regular contributor to this newsletter over many years and it was a great pleasure to visit him Scotland in September. Our picture shows Alan (right) with your unworthy editor after a lunch in an hotel overlooking the old course at St. Andrew's.



We are grateful to Alan for reporting the death of Charles GATELY (see elsewhere in this issue) and for his amusing report of a visit to Dubrovnik in Croatia in April, if only for the advice that readers should avoid the Shanghai Fan Dian on Dr. Ante Starcevic, which is sadly the only Chinese restaurant in the city. Alan was fascinated by Croatia, however, and intends to go again.

Neal SEALOCK (FAO mid 80s) is now in Norfolk, Virginia. He and Donna have regular contact with Arthur and Gillie AINSLIE; Arthur was the UK Naval Attaché in Beijing when Neal was assigned to the US Embassy in China, and is now the UK flag officer at NATO's Atlantic Command.

David SYME (Mandarin late 70s) is still serving in the Territorial Army **in** UK and spends **much time in** Eastern Europe. During **our** visit to Scotland in September we managed to find him at home, so took the opportunity to photograph his car's number plate, which he once offered to sell to the Chinese Ambassador to UK! From left to right: David Syme, car, your unworthy editor.



Cyril THOMAS (Cantonese early 70s) and Gabrielle returned from China in late March after spending eight months there in connection with their work in education, childcare and healthcare. Their organisation continues to grow and they continue to be very busy; sadly, there are still many abandoned babies in China, many of whom have special needs. We admire the work Cyril and Gabrielle are doing.

Mr. James WONG Kwok Wei (Staff) visited Hong Kong during the summer and took note of the large number of individual tourists from the Chinese mainland buying jewellery in Nathan Road using renminbi, which is now accepted in Hong Kong. James was planning a trip to Shanghai later in the year. He has had problems with his computer but is back on line at kwong5435@earthlink.net and would be pleased to hear from you.

Chris WOOD (FCO mid 80s) has now taken up his post as UK Consul in Guangzhou (Canton) and his e-mail address is christopherwood@hotmail.com if you wish to contact him. We wish him every success in his new job.

OTHER NEWS

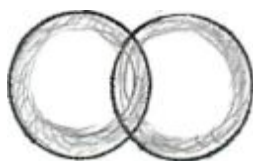
We have received news of the passing of two Chinese linguists who both served in Hong Kong with the British Army, but who completed their language studies before the school opened in 1967.

Charles GATELY died suddenly at home in Fulham, London on 22nd August, 2003, aged 71. After studying Chinese at London University, Charles worked in Hong Kong during his army service and then after leaving the forces, with the Hong Kong government. We thank Alan Robertson for drawing our attention to the notice of Charles' passing in the Deaths column of the UK Daily Telegraph. Alan met him on a couple of occasions and his name may be known to some of our readers.

David SLOUGH will be remembered by many British military students of the 1960s and thereafter. David left the Army in the 1970s and continued to live and work in Hong Kong until his death in an accident on Lamma Island on 9th September, 2003. We are grateful to Dave Kitching for telling us this.

STOP PRESS

Just as we go to press we have received the wonderful news from **Claire MILNES** that on 1st November, 2003 she married Mark SIMPSON, who formerly worked at Police Headquarters in Hong Kong. We offer Claire and Mark our heartfelt congratulations and wish them every happiness in their life together.



OF ONE IN THE FORBIDDEN CITY

Zhang Hu

When the moonlight, reaching a tree by the gate,
Shows her a quiet bird on its nest,
She removes her jade hairpins and sits in the shadow
And puts out a flame where a moth was flying.

贈內人

張祜

禁門宮樹月痕過，媚眼惟看宿鸞窠。

斜拔玉釵燈影畔，剔開紅焰救飛蛾。

2002 : A SOUTH SEA ODYSSEY

12 Days on Board Regal Princess Cruise to Australia and New Zealand

by

Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan (Mrs. Zhong)

11 December 2002 - four old ladies - Lois, Deri, Jolene and Ya Lan. We are in the same ward of the church; the "Gang of Four". Caught the flight to Sydney (we skipped over December 12). On 13 morning we arrived at Sydney Airport then to the Radisson Hotel - we had reservations. As soon as I called Mrs. Chen she and her friends came to pick me up and driving along Bondi Beach we stopped there. I took some pictures, but was careful where I pointed the camera as there were some nude sunbathers (women). Then we had *dim sum* in a Cantonese Restaurant. Mrs. Chen's friends were very kind and insisted on taking me to see more places of Sydney. Mr. Chen and their two daughters were waiting for me at home. When we were in Hong Kong the elder one had just completed university - now both are Mums. When we were in CLS Mrs. Chen and I were close friends. Since then we hadn't seen each other for more than 20 years. When we arrived at Mrs. Chen's house, after I said "Hi" to Mr. Chen and the two girls, we went into the kitchen, shut the door, and were chatting, chatting, non-stop until dinner time. We went to a Beijing Restaurant and had Beijing food with Mrs. Chen's family. When we said goodbye it was quite late; although we hated to part, there is no party without ending.



December 14 in Sydney - early in the morning we got ready, walked all around the Opera House, it is so unbelievable. We got tickets for Christmas Pops Show at Opera House. The performance was superb with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra and Sydney children's choir. I just could not believe that I was sitting in the Sydney Opera House watching a performance. It was over all too soon. I took the tram to China Town and shopped for a lot of things.

December 15 - The ship was docked at Darling Harbour. Those first days on the ship you always eat too much. About 6 o'clock the ship started to make its way out of Darling Harbour. I went up on the deck and watched as the ship went slowly under the bridge, past the Opera House. It was really amazing.

December 16 - at sea - we went to the cruise lecture by Dr. David Rogne on 'Abel Tasman Explores the Southern Sea'. The next few days his lectures were 'Captain James Cook Explores the Pacific' and 'The Voyages of Captain Bligh', then on 'Robert Menzies tells the story of Australia'. Dr. Rogne said that after World War 2 New Zealand and Australia helped all the destroyed islands of the Pacific get back on their feet by supplying them with food. I am glad that I went to the lecture room every time to gain more knowledge.

December 17 - we were into Melbourne Harbour, then a long ride on a bus to an open range reservation for kangaroos and koalas. When we got back to the ship I took the tram to downtown. Walked around, bought some souvenirs.

December 18 - at sea-December 19 - we were at Hobart, Tasmania. Jolene and I decided to go sightseeing in town. There are two big parks. Everything was green on the shore, the city is very clean with fresh air and most buildings are European style - remind one of Peninsula Hotel in Hong Kong.

December 20 - this was another day at sea - we were crossing the Tasman Sea.

December 21 - Another day at sea - we are still crossing the Tasman Sea over to New Zealand. Lois and I went to the vegetable carving demonstration; very interesting how they make those vegetables come to life.

December 22 - this morning we started to cruise through Fjordland National Park. The park is along the lower west end of the south end of New Zealand. We cruised through Milford Sound and then entered Thompson Sound. The ship rounded the southern tip of New Zealand in the late evening.

December 23 - we had been at sea for three days. So it was good to get our feet on the ground once again. We were into the port of Dunedin. Our tour was to Lanark Castle. It is nothing special to me. (I have visited many beautiful castles in England.) This was only a half-day tour so we took the tram into the city of Dunedin. This city is proud of its Scottish heritage and has a statue of Robert Burns (the statue is very much like the one I saw in Edinburgh). Dunedin is known as the Edinburgh of the south. It is a beautiful city. We had a very enjoyable day - our first day in New Zealand.

December 24 - the day before Christmas. We were going into Christchurch Harbour in the morning. Jolene and I decided to take the Princess shuttle bus into the city. I spent some time looking at the shops then we walked in to the Church. It was a Catholic Church but the priest said welcome everybody no matter one is Catholic or not. So I donated 1 dollar, lit a candle and made a wish. There is an open market near the Church - many stalls sell handicrafts. We spent a long time over there. This has been a different Christmas Eve.

December 25 - Christmas Day on the ship. We were at sea headed for Tauranga. It seemed different to wake up and not have gifts to open. Lois and I went to the nondenominational Christmas church service - only a few people went - you could have probably found more people in the bars than at the Church service. It was a formal night and the Captain's party honoured all those who had cruised with Princess more than one time. Christmas dinner was really delicious, but I always chose sea food.

December 26 - our last day. At breakfast time we docked at Tauranga Harbour. We had scheduled a great tour for this day, although it cost \$100 each person. It was called the Rotorua Maori Experience and Thermal Reserve. First we went to a place called the Agrodome where we saw a programme involving many different of kinds of sheep. The fellow on the platform giving the demonstration was a true New Zealand sheepshearer, we then saw a demonstration with the sheepdogs. They are trained very well and do a good job of rounding up the sheep. From there we went to an hotel where we had lunch and watched a Maori programme with singing

and dancing, then we went to the Maori Arts and Crafts Institute. We saw them weaving and carving. We went on a train ride through the Rotorua Thermal Reserve where we saw boiling mud pots and spouting geysers. It was interesting but did not seem very spectacular to us since we had all been to Yellowstone Park. I was happy to take this tour, it is a scenic wonderland, rich in a heritage of culture from the Maori people. Most of Maori culture has been retained as these people were accepted by the New Zealand people and they lived together in harmony.

December 27 - I think everyone was excited about going home. It is always nice to go on vacation, but also nice to go home. The ship was docked at Auckland Harbour. We had signed up for a city tour of Auckland. It is beautiful progressive city with many attractive homes and buildings. This is where the Americas Cup yacht races were to be held on New Year's Day. We went to the Museum. We stayed an hour but a person needed a whole day to go through the museum; we hurried along as the Chinese saying goes "admiring the flowers while galloping past on a horse". Auckland has two harbours - one on the west side from the Tasman Sea and the other on the east side from the Pacific Ocean.

We got to the airport about 1 o'clock and our 'plane did not leave until 4.00 p.m. It was just a 10 hour flight to L.A. We waited nearly 4 hours before we got the plane to Salt Lake City. We arrived about 3.30 p.m. Nina (my daughter), Tom her husband and their son Dered were there to greet me.

I stayed with them until after New Year (2003) then went back to Rexburg. Home sweet Home, but during Chinese New Year I went to Salt Lake City and stayed with them for two weeks.



THE UNICORN

That the unicorn is a spiritual being is beyond all doubt. Hymned in the Odes, immortalised in the Springs and Autumns, it has found a place in the writings of all ages. Women and children alike know that it is a portent of good.

Yet it is reared in no farmyard: it is rarely ever seen throughout the empire's breadth. It is classed under no species. It is not of normal growth like a horse, ox, dog, pig, panther, wolf, or deer. Even were one to appear now, it would not be recognised for what it is.

We see horns, and say, "That is an ox." We see a mane, and say, "That is a horse". And by a similar process we know dogs, pigs, panthers, and deer to be what they are. But the unicorn cannot be known. For the general public to regard it as inauspicious is therefore reasonable enough. On the other hand, for the unicorn to appear, there should be an All-wise in power: it is in token thereof that the unicorn does appear. Then the All-wise recognises the unicorn, and its manifestation comes in due season.

獲麟解

韓愈

峰之為筌陌昭也。時帥於詩。書於春秋。殺出於侮記
百家之脅。雖如人小子。皆知其為群也。然歸之第
物。京高Hr訣。不懂有於天下。其為形也未額。非若
馬牛犬豕豺狼麋鹿然。然則雖有戲。不可知其為戲
也。角者。吾知其為牛。紈看。吾知其為鴛鴦。犬豕甜
的混血禪度。吾知夫家紛摸摸益。權跨也不可。不
可知。則其謂之不祥也亦宜。雖然。鼓之惱。必有當
人在乎位。峰為聖人也位。盤人者必知餒。峰之間咱
不為不解也。又目。揖恥之所以為傷者。以館不以形
若戲之出。不符聖人。則詞之不群也亦宜。

Again, it is said that the unicorn is a unicorn by virtue not of shape, but of Truth, of which it is the material embodiment. But if the unicorn appears before the All-wise is in power, then, to regard its manifestation as inauspicious is all the more reasonable enough.