



*SPRING 2004*

*No. 17*

Welcome to this edition of the newsletter, particularly to those who have just joined us - Mick HUGHES, Patrick HYLAND, Jon LAMB and Graham PHILLIPS. We have also been pleased to hear from a number of people who have not been in contact for some time.

Sadly, we have the death of Mike JENKINS to report in this issue. We also have to say that we have had a number of newsletters returned recently. We repeat our call to keep us in mind when you move house and let us know your new address.

There has been an enthusiastic response to the suggestion of a reunion in Hong Kong in 2007. We have had at least 60 positive replies from various parts of the world, so it looks like a definite starter. Please see inside the back cover for further information.

## NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

**Jay ALLEN** (FAO mid 80s) has changed jobs and is now teaching at St. John's Literary Institution at Prospect Hall in Frederick, Maryland, not too far from his home.

**Geoff BABB** (FAO mid 80s) is still teaching at the US Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Geoff and Melissa celebrated 30 years of marriage at the end of last year and this summer son Nathaniel is to be married to Erin. We wish them every happiness.

**Martin BURD** (Cantonese early 80s) has changed his contact details so please let us know if you wish to communicate with him.

**Geoff BURDEN** (Cantonese late 60s) has retired but is still living in the Midlands of England. We are sorry to have to report the death of son James at the end of last year, after a lengthy illness. We represent all our readers in sending our condolences to Geoff and Mary.

**Geoff CHADWICK** (Mandarin late 60s) has written following our reports of the passing of Warwick ACKLAND and Alastair MACLEAN. Geoff was Commandant at CLS when both joined their courses and remembers them as enthusiastic and hardworking students.

**Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan (Mrs. Zhong)** (Staff) keeps in touch with a number of former staff and students including Mr. James WONG Kwok Wei, Joe NORTHROP (FAO late 80s) and Alan ROBERTSON (Mandarin late 60s and Cantonese mid 70s). She is still in good health and enjoys travelling.

**Jim CHILTON** (FAO mid 80s) is still working in the State Child Support Agency in Missouri, but as a change from portrait painting he recently completed the painting of his house, restoring the exterior to its Victorian glory.

**Kevin DOYLE** (Mandarin late 70s) is keeping his language skills sharp at Capital One, where he works, by discussing on the telephone with Chinese customers their credit card matters. His vocabulary now includes 'over limit', 'arrear', 'charges', 'post code', etc.

**Dave ELLIS** (Cantonese early 70s) still lives in Lansing, Michigan where he is editor and publisher of the Health Futures Digest. He also publishes an online newsletter (<http://www.healthfuturesdigest.com>) that basically says not to worry about your health, medical technology will come to the rescue, and another site aimed at improvements to the US healthcare system (<http://www.memri.us>). Dave reckons the former is much more likely to happen than the latter.

**Brian FINCH** (Mandarin late 60s) continues to provide consultancy services through his company, Eastbridge Associates, to companies and individuals doing business with China. He recently collaborated with the Institute of Linguists in organising a one day conference at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London, entitled "Doing Business with China". Brian has also been appointed Chief Executive of a London based charity called the Chinese Information and Advice Centre - you can find its website at <http://www.ciac.co.uk> for more details. Brian and Gillian were recently in Hong Kong for the marriage of their son and they have since been in touch in London with the daughter of Mr. TSANG Chi Fan (Mr. Zeng) and her husband.

**Brian GOPSILL** (Mandarin mid 80s) is still with the Royal Navy in Naples, Italy and has enjoyed trips to other parts of the country during the past year. He and Sophie particularly enjoy the cultural delights Italy has to offer.

**Bill GRAHAM** (Mandarin late 70s) is still serving in the British Army and is stationed in the South of England. Bill is coming up for his last 2 years of service with his next posting.

**John GROVES** (Cantonese early 70s) is now in his last year with the UK Directorate of Civil Nuclear Security before retiring. With the current world situation, he has been extremely busy of late.

**Bill GUEST** (Cantonese early 70s and Mandarin late 70s) has undergone a number of surgical operations during the past year but remains undaunted and in good spirits. His daughter Janet was married at the end of last year.

**Mr. HUANG Yao Ping** (Staff) has written from Hong Kong with a CD, news releases and books concerning Falun Gong. It was a great pleasure to hear from him after many years. He is now 78 years old and still working full time for the same company he joined when he left CLS eighteen years ago. Mr. Huang has been a Falun Gong practitioner for over 5 years and says that it has made an incredible difference to his life. The CD is certainly very inspiring and uplifting, detailing the way that Falun Gong practitioners in China are treated by a totalitarian government which perceives the movement as a threat. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Huang at [yphuang@hkbn.net](mailto:yphuang@hkbn.net) and he will be happy to give you more information.

**Mick HUGHES** (Cantonese early 80s) has joined us from Malaysia, where he now lives. Mick left the British Army in 1985 and after reading for a Masters Degree in Linguistics, went to China for 12 years teaching linguistics at post-graduate level in several universities, before establishing his own language school in Kunming. He now works as a consultant in education to the Malaysian government and organises teacher training in schools near Kuala Lumpur. He is in contact with Frank GRANT and Bill GRAHAM and met Brett RAYNOR while in Beijing.

**Patrick HYLAND** (FCO/DA early 90s) did a tour at the British Embassy in Beijing following his course at CLS. He and Orla are now living in Scotland where Patrick works as a Retired Officer in the Army Personnel Centre in Glasgow. It was a pleasure to hear from him after many years; contact was re-established through Alan ROBERTSON who sat next to him at a Royal Highland Fusiliers lunch in December last year.

With great sadness we report the death of **Mike JENKINS**, late Royal Engineers, who studied Mandarin at the school in the mid 70s. Following his language course, Mike went on to the British Embassy in Beijing where Bill GUEST worked as his assistant and we thank Bill for letting us know of Mike's passing.

**Dave KITCHING** (Cantonese late 60s and Mandarin late 80s) is still living in Spain. During the Christmas period he and Joanne visited Prague in the Czech Republic. Although the weather was very cold they enjoyed the city very much.

**Miss Marie LAM Fuk Kuen** (Staff) has been in touch from Hong Kong. She has regular contact with former members of staff and last year saw Bob LAU and his family when they visited Hong Kong.

**Jon LAMB** (Mandarin late 80s) is still serving in the British Army. Commissioned in 1997, he is currently serving as a Major at the Defence Intelligence Centre in England.

**Mr. LEE Mein Ven** (Staff) has been in contact from Hong Kong, He enjoys the newsletter and sends greetings to all our readers.

**Mrs. Sara LEE (Miss Siu)** (Staff) has again been in touch from Texas and has sent this delightful picture of Jimmy and herself with Grace and Michelle.



**Caroline MATTHEWS (MASON)** (Mandarin mid 70s) has confirmed the sad news that the Department of East Asian Studies at Durham University in UK is to be closed in 2007. This will affect Miss Vicky CHU as well as all the other members of the Department's staff, including Caroline herself, who still teaches there.

**Mrs. Teresa MEI (Miss Ip)** (Staff) has obtained ten copies of the 'Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village' pamphlet featured in No. 13 of this newsletter in Spring 2002. Teresa says that the picture of the former barracks makes her feel nostalgic and it is certainly a beautiful scene; our poor black and white photocopy could not do it justice. Teresa will be happy to send a copy on a first come first served basis to any reader who wants one. Please contact her on [tkm2@cornell.edu](mailto:tkm2@cornell.edu) if you'd like a copy.

**Jim MORRIS** (Mandarin early 70s) has written from the Southwest of England where he now lives.

**Alan NASH** (Mandarin early 70s) and wife Janet are both still heavily involved in walking the beautiful hills in Cumbria, where they live. Not only do they do a great deal of walking themselves, but Alan is Countryside Officer for the local Ramblers' Association so is kept very busy on the administrative side, representing the Association on various local committees and other groups.

**Jumbo PARTRIDGE** (FCO Admin Officer mid 80s) and wife Paula still live in Queensland, Australia, but last year spent several weeks in Britain, the main focus being the graduation from Sunderland University of their son Tom (see photo).



**Andrew PEARSON** (Mandarin early 70s) is soon to retire from his job as Secretary to the UK Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and take up a third career, that of an artist. He and Joyce keep in touch with affairs in China through one of their children who has her own company in Beijing and has just bought a flat there. We wish Andrew well in his new endeavour.

**Graham PHILLIPS** was a private student of Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan (Mrs. ZHONG) in the early 1990s when he worked at Chung Hom Kok on Hong Kong Island. Graham lives near Jeremy SADLER; he also knows Alan ROBERTSON and a number of other former members of CLS. We are pleased to welcome him on our distribution list.

**Ken PICKLES** (Mandarin late 80s) is coming to the end of his time doing contract work with weapons inspection teams in the former Soviet Union, and looks forward to spending more time with Jill at their home in Bavaria, southern Germany.

**John PRINCE** (Cantonese late 60s) has been in touch from France, where he now lives.

**Mick ROBERTS** (Cantonese mid 70s) celebrated Liberation Day on 9<sup>th</sup> May by hanging out the flags (see photo). This date every year is a public holiday in the Channel Islands, celebrating the liberation from German occupation in 1945.



**Alan ROBERTSON** (Mandarin late 60s and Cantonese mid 70s) recently had a very amusing letter published in the UK Daily Telegraph concerning the bandmaster of his old regiment, the Royal Highland Fusiliers. Alan is again visiting Croatia and we hope to publish a report of his trip in a future issue of this newsletter.

**John SHANNON** (Cantonese late 60s) is continuing to work on his PhD at Hong Kong University.

**Don STEVENS** (Mandarin early 80s) is still with the National Security Agency in Bahrain and has been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. We can imagine that his job is of great significance in the present situation.

**Paul STOKES** (Mandarin mid 80s) is still living in the Midlands of England but works as a barrister for a law firm in London, commuting daily. We congratulate him on his recent engagement.

**David SYME** (Mandarin late 70s) is still in uniform with the Specialist Linguist Unit of the Territorial Army in Britain. A recent officer recruit to the Unit is Avery TONG, who will be well known to many of our readers both as a colleague in Hong Kong and as an officer in The Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers).

**Mr. TSANG Chi Fan (Mr. Zeng)** (Staff) has been in contact on a number of occasions recently. His daughter and her husband have recently moved to London and have been in touch with Brian FINCH.

**Anne WEIR** (Cantonese early 90s) is now studying Classics at Leeds University.

**Steve WHITE** (Mandarin late 80s) is still serving in the Royal Navy; he has changed jobs but has remained in London. He attends classes in Chinese at a private language school in London, but sadly reports that a posting to Beijing as DA/NA seems less and less likely. Steve is therefore actively considering retiring from the service.



**Mr. James WONG Kwok Wei** (Staff) has continued to remain in touch from Los Angeles, California. His general health is good but he now needs to use a cane when walking; he still goes swimming four or five times per week and enjoys playing mahjong.

**Chris WOOD** (FCO mid 80s) has now completed several months of duty as UK Consul General in Canton. After some refresher training, Chris found that his spoken Mandarin returned to a reasonable standard fairly quickly. He now speaks Chinese daily and has even made a few short speeches with confidence.

### OTHER NEWS

We have had no direct reports from the following, but we thank those of you who have provided this information:

**Richard BOOKER** is still living in Hong Kong, and is on the staff of Hong Kong University.

**Andy DAVIS** has left the UK Atomic Energy Authority and is rumoured to have moved to South Africa.

**Joe NORTHROP** (FAO late 80s) has moved address so please let us know if you would like to communicate with him.

**Bill WARREN**, a teacher at St. George's School in Kowloon Tong in the late 80s/early 90s was a keen part-time student of Mandarin at CLS who also introduced Chinese classes into the curriculum at St. George's. We are sorry to have to report Bill's death, in Yorkshire, in 2003. He will be known to a number of our readers.



## RELEASING PRISONERS

SINCERITY and a sense of duty,—these are the attributes of the virtuous. Punishment and death,—these are the portion of the depraved. To deserve death in the iniquity of guilt,—this is the climax of crime. To die without regret at the call of duty,—this is the acme of heroism.

When the second Emperor of the late Tang Dynasty had just been six years upon the throne, he released more than 300 condemned criminals, and sent them to their homes on condition that within a certain period they should return to meet the penalty of death. This was simply to bid those unprincipled wretches play the difficult role of heroes.

At the expiry of the time, they all returned to the prison without one exception. No true hero could have acted thus: those men found it easy enough. It was, to say the least of it, unnatural.

A friend has suggested that in spite of their deep-dyed guilt and unqualified want of principle, the Emperor's act of grace might possibly have converted them from their evil ways; such a marvellous and speedy conversion not being without precedent. But I say that his Majesty did this thing solely with a view to gain for himself a good report. We may rest assured that when he released these men he knew full well they would come back in the hope of a pardon; and that therefore he released them. We may rest assured that the return of the prisoners was based upon the certainty of receiving a pardon, and that therefore they came back. And if his Majesty only released them because he felt they would return, he was simply discounting the impulses of his subjects; while if the prisoners only returned because they felt they would be pardoned, they were likewise discounting the mercy of their ruler. As far as I can see, the credit of the whole affair was a product of mutual spoliation. Where indeed was the magnanimity of the one or the heroism of the other?

## X囚諭

## XX修

信X行X君子。而到XXX小人。刑X死者。乃罪犬 not checked beyond here

惡蟹。此文小入之克當者也。帶以游死。不苟書生。而視死如歸。此主君子之克難者也。+n唐太{京之六年。錄夫峰回三百饒人。紋館還竄。約其自甜即以戰死。是以平之難糙。期小人之尤者以必能也。其囚耳潮。而平自蝮無後品。。nz君子之所難。而小人今』所品也。此宣近於人俏旋。或自持大惡恆。跟小人矣。耳捲堅信以臨之。可使變而寫君Za。窒息德入人之深。-m替人之遠。有如甚者矣。目。太葉之寫缸。所以求此名也。然安知央牌恥之去也。不意其忠來以其免。所以縱之平。且安知夫的從而告也。不管其自錯而必接免。所以在來乎。夫習英必來而獄之。是土眩下之情也。管其必免而位來。是下賠上之心也。吾兒上下交相賊以成此名也。烏有所劉雄巴蝕與夫知信義者殼。不然。太宗施德於天下。於茲咒年矣。不捷連小人不S趨惡犬罪。而一日之恩。當使詞組宛如帶荷荐信義。拉且不過之紛也。然則何露而可。目。縱而來的。度之租一…赦。而且縱之。而且來。則可知恩德之設濁。Mm社必黨之事也。扭扭夫從而來祖師而殺之可師們-

S之商。著最昂之。划投入者皆不亮。是可露天下之常注乎。不可每話者。其亞人之法乎。是以堯舜三ZZ泊。必本是人稽。不立異以為高。不逆借以干譽

Let us consider. The Emperor had then been graciously reigning over the land for the space of six years. If during that time he had been unable to prevent evil men

from doing evil deeds, it is absurd to suppose that he could suddenly, by a single act of grace, convert them into heroic and dutiful subjects. What, it may be asked, was the proper course to pursue ? I reply that those prisoners who returned should have been put to death; and then, on any future occasion of the kind, it would be fairly established that returning prisoners were influenced by a sincere sense of duty. But under those circumstances, there would of course be no prisoners forthcoming.

To release in that way and to pardon on return, might be all very well in an individual case. But to apply the principle repeatedly, would be equivalent to pardoning murderers in general, directly contrary to all laws human and divine. Thus it was that the wise rulers of old based their administration upon the normal workings of the human heart. They sought no extraordinary standard of conduct with a view of exalting themselves; neither did they act in opposition to the natural instincts of man in order to secure the approbation of the public.

## HK REUNION : 2007

Following the suggestion from Kim CHAN a year or so ago, it has become apparent from contributors to recent newsletters that there is great support for the idea of a reunion of former staff and students in Hong Kong in 2007. Our initial thoughts are as follows:

- That the reunion takes place in November 2007. This is closer to the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening date of the school in 1967 and is far enough away from the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the handover in 1997, which is likely to put a strain on accommodation, etc.
- Travel will be by individual arrangement. We have had from John Prince a kind offer of help with group discount for accommodation in Hong Kong and many may wish to avail themselves of this. More details later.
- There will be one gala event as the focus for the reunion. We envisage that this will be a banquet at a Chinese restaurant on the second Saturday in November 2007 and we have had from John Shannon a kind offer of help in arranging this. More details later.
- Many people from many nations attended different courses at CLS at different times. For this reason we envisage that small groups will get together for other activities during the reunion, which will not be organised centrally.
- Those taking part will therefore be able to spend as much or as little time in Hong Kong as they choose. We would hope that many will make new friends as well as renew old friendships and would be pleased to see maximum attendance at the gala dinner.

These are initial thoughts. We welcome your comments. We shall provide more details in future newsletters and to aid planning we hope to include a return slip (in English and Chinese) with the Spring 2005 newsletter.



