

Welcome to this edition of the newsletter, the first of 2007, which marks the 40th anniversary of the opening of the school in 1967. Response to the idea of a reunion in Hong Kong in November has been wonderful and to date we have around 80 people indicating that they will attend. We thank Mr. Kim Chan, who had the original idea for the reunion, and we thank him also for the beautiful commemorative postage stamps from Canada which he has supplied in celebration of the Year of the Pig. You should find one inside your copy of the newsletter.

Thank you too to those of you who have spread the word about the reunion to your former colleagues and classmates. One of the results is that we are able to welcome no fewer than ten new 'members' receiving the newsletter this time. These are Paul BEESON, Steve BOLLENS, Neil BRODIE, Geoff CARTER, Michael CLIFTON, Lewis DENT, Grant DOOLEY, Dennis EVES, Peter TUSTIN and Rod WHITTICASE. Not all of these will be able to attend the reunion but it is a pleasure to have them with us and we hope that they enjoy this edition.

Updated information on the reunion can be found inside the back cover. The names of those indicating that they will attend are shown in bold italics in the 'Contacts' list. This is the last newsletter before the event and any further updates will be sent only to those who intend to be there.

In the last issue of the newsletter (No. 22) we hastily reported the death of Mr. TANG Pong MBE, one of the original members of staff from 1967. A more comprehensive report, including a photograph, can be found in this edition. Sadly, we have three further deaths to record, that of Malcolm PHILLIPS, a Royal Hong Kong Police Force student of Mandarin at the school; David VARLEY, who was not a former student, having learnt Chinese at university before 1967, but who will be **well** known to many of our readers who worked with him in Hong Kong and Mr. LIU Ming, formerly of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, who was for many years the Chief Examiner at Mandarin oral examinations at the school. Details of all these can be found elsewhere in this edition.

NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Mrs. Lisa AHNERT (Staff) and husband Ed will be relocating to Hong Kong in July this year. Lisa is to manage Mandarin Chinese teaching at the International School and Ed has lined up some work at the City University.

Geoff BABB (FAO mid 80s) spent ten days in Beijing and Shanghai in March and had a week in Hawaii in August. He is still an instructor at the US Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Paul BEESON (Mandarin late 70s) is now on the training staff at the Queensland Police Service Academy in Australia but is still a member of the RAAF Reserve and is Base Operations Officer at RAAF Amberley.

Steve BOLLENS (FAO mid 80s), the school's one-time *jiaozifest* record holder, has been in touch from Florida where he teaches Geometry and Chinese at a new public military high school in the district. He is developing a sister-school relationship with a public high school in Shenzhen where he taught English for 5 years.

Neil BRODIE (Mandarin late 70s & mid 80s) is now Director of Asset Protection and Enterprise Security based in Shanghai and is proud to say that he continues to make a living from his language skills.

Tony BROWNE (Mandarin early 70s) has managed to track down Lewis DENT (also Mandarin early 70s) (see elsewhere in this issue). Tony also intends to be at the HK reunion in November.

Mike BYRNES (FAO mid 80s) is still in Rhode Island where he and Marie manage a Chinese antique shop (www.oldechinatrader.com). He is also involved with two China-specialist business consultancies.

Geoff CARTER (Mandarin early 80s) now works with BAE Systems as an interpreter/translator, using not only Chinese but also Indonesian, Japanese, Russian, Bislama, PNG Pidgin and Solomon Islands Pijin.

Geoff CHADWICK (Mandarin late 60s) is to combine a touring holiday in China with his visit to Hong Kong for the reunion. His e-mail address has changed to chadwickgeoff@AOL.com if you wish to contact him.

Mr. Kim CHAN Kwok-Kin (Staff) has once again provided beautiful commemorative Chinese New Year stamps from Canada at considerable expense, for inclusion with each copy of the newsletter distributed. We greatly appreciate his generosity and it should be remembered that the HK Reunion was also originally Kim's idea. Lack of space again precludes inclusion of a report on his World Vision visit to Yunnan Province in 2004, but we hope to feature it sometime in the future.

Mrs. CHEN Shu Fong (Staff) has sent greetings to everybody from Australia. She and husband Nai are not as mobile as they once were but are in good health.

Mrs. CHENG Ya Lan (Mrs. Zhong) (Staff), irrepressible as ever, visited Cape Town, Indonesia and Singapore in June last year and then in October took a cruise to the Bahamas. (See picture below). She continues to teach *taichi* twice a week at The Senior Center in Provo, Utah.



Jim CHILTON (FAO mid 80s) has recently retired and moved to Arkansas where he enjoys fishing and portrait painting.

Miss Vicky CHU Wai Chin (Staff) continues to teach Chinese at evening classes at Durham University in UK even though the Language School has downsized significantly. She hopes to be at the HK reunion.

Michael CLIFTON (Mandarin late 80s) has been in touch from Japan where he is now Consul-General and Senior Trade Commissioner at the Australian Consulate-General in Osaka.

Sheena CONNELLY (Mandarin early 90s) has e-mailed to say that she plans on being in Hong Kong for the reunion in November 2007.

Brian CONNOR (Mandarin late 80s) has moved to Qatar where he has taken up a post as Head of Security for the Qatar Museum Authority which operates five museums in the state. His e-mail address remains the same at brian.connor2@btinternet.com should you wish to get in touch.

Ian CORSIE (Mandarin late 60s) spent two weeks in China in April last year visiting UK Associates of the Jian Hua Foundation, a Hong Kong based organisation which places Christian professionals in work in China. Ian and Joy are on the UK Board and iancorsie@bigfoot.com is his e-mail address if you would like to know more about the organisation.

Lewis DENT (Mandarin early 70s) retired from the Army some time ago and is living in the south of England. It was good to make contact with him thanks to some detective work by classmate Tony BROWNE.

Grant DOOLEY (Mandarin early 90s) retired from the RAN in 1998 after spending five years in Hong Kong. He graduated from ANU with a degree in Asian Studies in 1998 and then joined the Australian Foreign Service, with postings to Beijing (2000) and Shanghai (2001). Since May 2004 he has been the Counsellor (Economic) at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, Indonesia. His e-mail address is grant.dooley@dfat.gov.au if you want to get in touch with him.

Kevin DOYLE (Mandarin late 70s) has left Capital One and is now actively seeking employment using his Chinese language skills, possibly in Hong Kong. He hopes to be at the reunion in November.

Lea DUNN (O'Reardon) (Mandarin mid 80s) is now in Canberra where husband Steve is Director General Land Development in the rank of Brigadier. He is responsible for advising on what sort of capabilities the Australian Land Forces might require in the future.

Dave ELLIS (Cantonese early 70s) was the keynote speaker at Microsoft Corporation's 'Image Awards' in New Delhi, India in August last year. Dave is the Corporate Director, Planning and Future Studies at the Detroit Medical Center (www.dmc.org) and Editor and Publisher of DMC Health Futures Digest. He is pictured delivering his address in New Delhi.



Dennis EVES (Mandarin early 70s) has been in touch from the south of England where he now lives, and hopes to be at the reunion in November. If you want to contact him dennis.evesl@tiscali.co.uk is the address.

Pat FARR (Mike was a student of Mandarin in the late 60s) is now living in Taiwan and has been in touch to say that she intends being at the reunion in November. Her e-mail address is patfarr02@hotmail.com if you would like to contact her.

Brian FINCH (Mandarin late 60s) visited Hong Kong earlier this year and has since his return to UK contacted Paddy ASHDOWN (now Lord Ashdown) (Mandarin late 60s) to let him know about the reunion. Unfortunately, Paddy will be in Australia at the time so cannot attend, but sends his best wishes for a happy and successful get-together.

Anthony GAYNOR (Mandarin early 70s) has been in touch from France, where he now lives, to say that he has already booked flights for the reunion in Hong Kong in November.

Brian GOPSILL (Mandarin mid 80s) is now settled in the south of England with his family. He travels daily to London where he is Director of Finance and Resources at the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists. Brian and Sophie are pictured taking tea at the Ritz Hotel.



John GROVES (Cantonese early 70s) is now retired but is enquiring about doing some work with the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA). He and Cindy are hoping to move house this year.

Bill GUEST (Cantonese early 70s and Mandarin mid 70s) will be at the reunion in November. His new e-mail address is bill.guest@sky.com if you would like to contact him.

Mrs. HAU Mei Ling (Ah Ling) (Staff) is also likely to be at the reunion.

Mr. HO Pui Kei (Staff) has been in touch to put his name down for the reunion.

Mr. HUANG Yao Ping (Staff) is still working for law firm Johnson Stokes & Master in Hong Kong and has been in touch by e-mail. He **will** be at the 40th Anniversary reunion in Hong Kong in November but you can reach him at yp.huang@jsm.com in the meantime.

Mrs. HUANG Leung Ling Hsiao (Staff) will also be at the November reunion in Hong Kong.

David KITCHING (Cantonese late 60s) has lived in Spain for more than five years, but is now considering a move to Thailand or Malaysia.

Miss Marie LAM Fuk-Kuen (Staff) has been in touch from Hong Kong. She regrets that she is unlikely to be able to get to the reunion dinner in November but hopes to see former students while they are in the SAR for the event. She is at kitten_neko@yahoo.com.hk (underscore between 'kitten' and 'neko') if you want to contact her.

Kevin LAU (Staff) is still living and working in the London area and sends greetings to all.

Bob LAWSON (Cantonese early 80s) is still working with the British Army in Germany and regrets that he will be unable to attend the reunion in Hong Kong this November.

Shaun LEWIS (Mandarin mid 80s) has continued to be very busy as Managing Director of Dunscair Garden Centre, his retail business in the north of England. Dunscair is a significant contributor to local charities and Shaun (centre) with Hilary (left) can be seen helping to plant a tree at a charitable institution in their area. Last year Shaun visited London where he met up with Frances ADAMSON (Mandarin mid 80s) who was then acting Australian High Commissioner in the United Kingdom.



Willy LUI (Staff) regularly sends us beautiful Chinese calendars with views of Hong Kong and this year was no exception.

Normand MAILHOT (Mandarin late 60s) had planned to attend the reunion in Hong Kong in November. Unfortunately, he has recently been in touch to say that will not be able to do so.

Caroline MATTHEWS (Mason) (Mandarin mid 70s) has just completed the translation from Chinese into English of a book on music, a task which took more than two years. She and Michael were recently visited by Rod WHITTICASE (Mandarin early 70s).

Kevin McMAHON (Cantonese mid 70s) is looking forward to the Hong Kong reunion in 2007 and is currently examining travel options.

Alan NASH (Mandarin early 70s) is still walking the hills of England and Scotland and is pictured with his dog Moss who no doubt now carries the emergency brandy when Alan and Janet are in the mountains.



Jumbo PARTRIDGE (FCO Admin Officer mid 80s) and wife Paula have been in frequent touch from their home in Australia. With his 80th birthday out of the way, he can now concentrate on the next twenty years.

Andrew PEARSON (Mandarin early 70s) has put us in touch with Peter TUSTIN (DA Course early 70s) who retired from the Army in the rank of Colonel and is now living in the south of England. Andrew intends to be at the reunion in November.

Mel PETRIE (Mandarin early 80s) will also be at the November reunion. His new e-mail address is petrie@ukasia.freemove.co.uk if you would like to get in touch with him.

Ken PICKLES (Mandarin early 80s) is still in Moldova working for the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). His team was recently joined by a Norwegian who had spent two years in Yunnan Province learning Mandarin. Good to see that the British Army tradition of posting CLS graduates to (say) Berlin after training is being carried on by Norway.

Mrs. Lorraine POON (Staff) called by telephone earlier this year and it was a pleasure to speak to her after so many years. She is busily rounding up as many former staff as she can in connection with the November reunion.

John PRINCE (Cantonese late 60s) has again been in touch from France. We are very grateful to John for his help in obtaining accommodation at reduced rates for some of those attending the reunion. Many of you will know that John's corporate rooms are no longer available but he suggests that you might try www.asiarooms.com which has a good selection.

James RAND (Mandarin late 60s) is still working in China at Shenzhen and Dongguan but his home is still in Thailand. His e-mail address has changed to jrand@truemail.co.th and he will be at the November reunion.

Kevin RICE (FAO mid 80s) continues to work as manager of Pismo Beach at San Luis Obispo on the California coast. Kitty spent some time in Shanghai last year teaching English to college/university professors and translators/interpreters.

Vaughn RIXON (Mandarin late 80s) is still serving as Defence Attaché at the Australian Embassy in Beijing, in the rank of Captain. He has visited Hong Kong on a number of occasions recently and has taken a look at the old Osborn Barracks home of the school. We thank Vaughn for his work in contacting former Australian students in connection with the reunion.

Mick ROBERTS (Cantonese mid 70s) and Kay made a short visit to Hong Kong last October when your unworthy editor acted as an unofficial ADC to Lady Peggy Cater at a memorial service for the late Sir Jack Cater at St. John's Cathedral. Rod WHITTICASE (Mandarin early 70s) sang in the choir and John SHANNON (Cantonese late 60s) was present in the congregation. The picture shows me (right) in conversation with Chief Executive Donald Tsang while leaving the cathedral building where he had given a moving tribute to Sir Jack and the work he had done in Hong Kong. Remarkably, Donald remembered me from the late 60s when I was responsible for liaising with the Islands District Office in organising Army patrols on Lantau and the other outlying islands and he was at the time District Secretary.



Alan ROBERTSON (Mandarin late 60s and Cantonese mid 70s) continues to keep in frequent touch. He intends being at the HK reunion.

Simon RODWELL (Mandarin early 70s) has been in touch to say how much he is looking forward to the 2007 reunion in Hong Kong.

Cliff ROSE (Cantonese late 70s and Mandarin early 80s) is still with the Adult Learning Inspectorate in UK, which has recently merged with Ofsted, the education watchdog organisation. Cliff hopes to be at the reunion in November.

Neal SEALOCK (FAO mid 80s) is still in post as Director of Spokane International Airport and Industrial Park in Washington State. Last year he made business trips to Hawaii and Korea.

John SHANNON (Cantonese late 60s) has done much work on our behalf in obtaining the Jockey Club as the venue for the 40th anniversary reunion and we are very grateful to him for all his efforts. It was good to have had the opportunity to have lunch with him in Hong Kong last October where some of the details could be discussed.

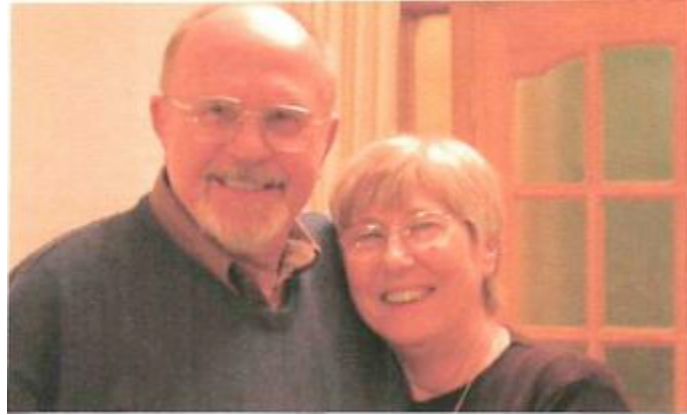
Willie St MAUR SHEIL (Cantonese mid 80s) has been in touch by telephone and e-mail recently and it was good to speak to him and Maggie after so many years.

David SYME (Mandarin late 70s) has been in contact with greetings from Scotland. During the past year he has worked in Guatemala and Germany, with holiday breaks in between to South Africa and Portugal, where David ran in the Lisbon half-marathon.

You will recall that the sad news of the death of **Mr. TANG Pong** (Staff) was recorded briefly in the last newsletter. We obtained the report from Richard BOOKER (Mandarin early 80s) who had been told by his father-in-law, CHAN Pok (Staff), who had been given the news by Mrs. Tang. For the record, our picture shows the late Mr. Tang receiving the insignia of Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) from Christopher Patten, the last British governor of Hong Kong, in December 1992.



Cyril THOMAS (Cantonese early 70s) was in touch from a very cold Xian earlier this year. He and Gabrielle now spend much of the year in China where their work continues to grow and he believes that his time at CLS was wonderful preparation for what he is doing now. The picture shows Cyril and Gabrielle in China last year.



Ron TOM (FAO late 70s) has moved house but his e-mail address is rontom1@cox.net if you want to contact him.

This time last year we reported that **Mr. TSANG Chi Fan** (Mr. Zeng) (Staff) had successfully completed all the requirements for the conferment of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from the University of Hong Kong. We are now pleased to include this picture of Mr. Zeng taken at the congregation at which he received the certificate later last year.



Peter TUSTIN (DA Course early 70s) has been put in touch with us by Andrew PEARSON (Mandarin early 70s). Peter was the British Defence Attaché in Beijing in the mid 70s, with Alan NASH (Mandarin early 70s) as his assistant. Peter retired from the Army in 1977 and is now living in the south of England, where he works occasionally as a guide at Salisbury Cathedral and is able to use his Chinese skills when speaking to visitors from China and Taiwan.

Anne WEIR (Cantonese early 90s) has written to say that she is very much looking forward to the Hong Kong reunion in 2007.

Steve WHITE (Mandarin late 80s) has now left the Royal Navy but is looking to find work with NAMSA, a NATO logistics agency.

Rod WHITTICASE (Mandarin early 70s) has joined us from Hong Kong where he is still living and working. He is in touch with Neil BRODEE (Mandarin mid-80s) and while in UK recently visited Caroline MATTHEWS (MASON) (Mandarin mid 70s).

James WONG Kwok Wei (Staff) has been in frequent touch during the past year or so and although he has some concerns relating to health and age, he is looking forward to the reunion in November. He has been in contact with Group Captain (Retd.) Alan Phillips, the father of Malcolm Phillips, a Royal Hong Kong Police student of Mandarin at CLS, who died in Hong Kong in June last year. Malcolm's death was reported in the Hong Kong Police newspaper and an extract from the report can be found elsewhere in this issue. He will be known to many of our readers.

Chris WOOD (FCO Mandarin course mid 80s) completed a tour of duty as the UK Consul-General in Guangzhou (Canton) in September last year and is now back in London, having declined the post of Deputy Head of Mission at the UK Embassy in Beijing after much thought. Chris can be found at christopherwood@hotmail.com if you would like to contact him.



REUNION
2007
HONG KONG

OTHER NEWS

Karl EIKENBERRY (FAO early 80s) has completed a successful tour of duty as the Lieutenant General in Command of Combined Forces in Afghanistan and has returned to the United States. The picture shows Karl being congratulated by US Defense Secretary Robert Gates on his departure from Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan.



Mr. LIU Ming will be remembered by many of our Mandarin students as President of their Oral Examination Board at the end of their course. We are sorry to report that his death took place in the United States some time ago and we thank Richard BOOKER for passing this information to us.

Malcolm PHILLIPS (Mandarin early 80s) died in June last year. *The following is an extract from his obituary in 'Off Beat', the HK Police newspaper:* He joined the Royal Hong Kong Police Force in February 1975 and was promoted to Chief Inspector in 1980. For most of his service he was in the Special Branch, from which he retired in 1995. He is well remembered within the Force for his contributions to sport.

David VARLEY will be well known to many of our readers, although he had studied Chinese at university before the opening of the school in 1967. David retired to South Africa some time ago, after many years working in Hong Kong, and we are sad to report that he died in Cape Town in April 2007.

40th ANNIVERSARY REUNION 2007

It is not too late to get your name down for the November reunion if you have not already done so. Please let us know the names of those in your party if you wish to book now. The contact details are on the back cover.

The main event will be a Chinese Dinner at the Jockey Club in Happy Valley, Hong Kong on Thursday 15 November 2007. There is still room for around 20-30 people. The cost will be HK\$550 per person, payable on the night.

Travel: We are arranging some form of group discount with Cathay Pacific Airways for those coming from outside Hong Kong. However, details of this offer will not be finalised until July, at which time we will inform all those attending.

In the meantime, if you would prefer to make an early booking, you may be able to get good deals for air/hotel packages by going online or visiting a travel agent.

Accommodation: Rooms at corporate rates kindly negotiated by John Prince are all now taken and he can no longer arrange any more. However, he suggests that you visit www.asiarooms.com to see what they can offer.

We hope to see you at the Jockey Club in November.