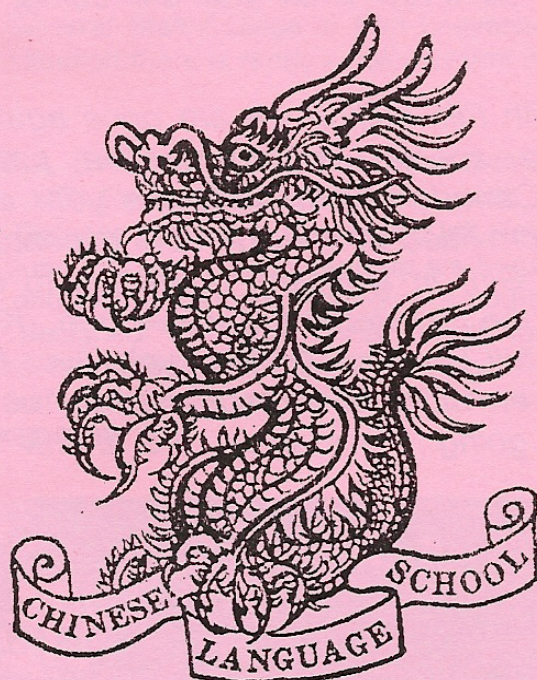


香港
中國語文學院

1967



1992

CLS INTERNATIONAL NEWSLETTER

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No. 25

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this edition of the newsletter, the first to be distributed predominantly by e-mail. This electronic version is being sent in A4 size paper format, for ease of reading on the screen, and also to facilitate printing in case you wish to have a paper copy.

For some twenty people without e-mail facilities a paper version in the traditional A5 size paper format is being sent to them by post, and a glance at the CONTACTS page will show you that we still have something like 120 “members” to whom this newsletter is being sent in one or the other format. Our former (paper only) distribution was to around 160 people. The “loss” of forty we believe is made up of those from whom we have heard nothing in response to our message that if we did not hear from you with an e-mail address we would assume that you no longer wished to receive the newsletter.

A very big “thank you” must go to Brian Finch who has taken on the task of maintaining the e-mail address database and distributing the newsletter electronically. We suspect that some of the e-mail addresses we have are out of date, so if you believe that you may have not received a newsletter you would have been expecting, please let Brian know your current e-mail address. You can get him at:

bfinch@tiscali.co.uk

Thank you to all those who have sent in contributions for this edition and please continue to let us know what you are doing. As we have often said, this is your newsletter and without contributions from you we have nothing to include.

Photographs/Images. In the past we were able to make (rather poor) photocopies of photographs sent in by contributors. In future we will not be able to use these but will welcome any images sent in electronically. We can include these as appropriate – the standard of the image you see on your screen will be as good as that sent in, which was certainly not the case in the past. Please keep them coming.

Kim Chan Kwok Kin. For many years Kim has been providing beautiful commemorative Chinese New Year postage stamps from Canada, for inclusion with the Spring edition of the newsletter. This has been a costly undertaking and we thank Kim for his generosity. Unfortunately, with the transition to e-mail distribution, it will not be possible to continue this delightful practice and on behalf of you all I take this opportunity to thank Kim publicly for his dedication. Please let me know if you would like to contact him personally and I can let you have his address.

Happy Christmas to you all

NEWS OF MEMBERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Jay ALLEN (FAO mid 80s) continues to teach US History in Baltimore, Maryland. The chair of his department is an Australian who came to the United States by way of South Africa, so Jay has been able to retain his ear for British imperial accent. Daughter Rebecca is soon to qualify as a dentist, while son David works for a publishing company in New York, writing mainly about music. See <http://www.makingmusicmag.com> for an introduction to his work.

John BORDWELL (FAO mid 80s) has been in touch to report that he has had a Civil Service job lined up in Washington D.C. and was hoping to move there from Texas.

The approaching senility of your unworthy editor had **Tony BROWNE** (Mandarin early 70s) reported as being the Australian Ambassador to China. He is, of course, the Ambassador to China of New Zealand and I sincerely hope that this gaffe does not mean that Kay and I will be declared *personae non grata* in New Zealand, which we hope to visit in 2009. I thank Greg RUMNEY (Mandarin late 80s) for pointing out my error.

In 2004 **Mr. Kim CHAN Kwok-Kin** (Staff) visited remote areas of Yunnan Province in China with a group from World Visions Canada in connection with their child sponsorship programme. Until now lack of space has precluded publication of his report on this trip, but you can now see it in full elsewhere in this issue.

Jim CHILTON (FAO mid 80s) has moved from Arkansas and is now living back in Missouri.

Sheena CONNELLY (Mandarin early 90s) visited Europe this summer and it was a great pleasure to see her here in Guernsey for part of her trip. The main focus was the Edinburgh Tattoo, where her sister was playing in a pipe band, and she also got to spend time with daughter Sara who is currently working in Scotland, as well as with other family members in and around Dundee. Sheena is now back in Melbourne.

Brian FINCH (Mandarin late 60s) will be distributing the electronic version of this newsletter and we are grateful to him for taking this on. He and Gillian have spent time in Hong Kong again this year.

Brian GOPSILL (Mandarin mid 80s) and wife Sophie have also been to China during the year, spending time in Harbin and Hong Kong.

John GROVES (Cantonese early 70s) has moved and is now living in Somerset in the west of England. His e-mail address remains as john.groves@bigfoot.com if you want to contact him.

Bill GUEST (Cantonese early 70s and Mandarin mid 70s) is now getting around by car and has visited Keith STEVENS, who continues to write on Chinese topics, despite the loss of sight in one eye. Bill is also in touch with Helga, the widow of Mike JENKINS, who was on a Mandarin course in the mid 1970s and subsequently served with distinction as the British Defence Attaché in Beijing.

It is with great sadness that we report the death in June 2008 of Orla, the wife of **Patrick HYLAND** (DA Mandarin course early 1990s). Patrick is currently living in Scotland and since retiring three years ago has spent most of his time involved in voluntary charitable work, mainly on *tsunami* reconstruction in Sri Lanka and the maintenance of an orphanage in Uganda. At home, he is also involved in work with the Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Families Association (SSAFA). I personally recall happy times with Patrick and Orla in Hong Kong and extend sincere condolences on behalf of myself as well as the school.

Shaun LEWIS (Mandarin late 80s) and wife Hilary continue to run a successful and expanding horticultural business in the North of England. In addition, Shaun is a volunteer member of the Community First Responder team for the Lancashire Ambulance Service in his local area, and is trained to respond to incidents such as chest pain, heart attacks, difficulty in breathing and loss of consciousness. In these situations First Responders administer advanced life support techniques before the arrival of the ambulance and can prevent the worsening of the patient's condition. They have saved many lives, as well as providing welcome reassurance to patients and their families that professional assistance is on the way.

Normand MAILHOT (Mandarin late 60s) now lives in Canada but has been in touch with his recollections of Bob SLOSS, the first Commandant of the school, who died in 2007 after a distinguished academic career. Normand remembers Bob in post when he arrived in Hong Kong on what was his first overseas assignment in the Canadian Foreign Service and was rather nervous about it. Bob provided much needed advice and encouragement for which Normand will be forever grateful.

We were hoping to see **Kevin McMAHON** (Cantonese mid 70s) and wife Cath at an Army dinner in Guernsey earlier this year but unfortunately they were not able to come.

Alan NASH (Mandarin early 70s) has been in touch from the beautiful Lake District of England. He continues to walk over large parts of it whenever he can.

Jumbo PARTRIDGE (FCO Admin Officer mid 80s) and wife Paula continue to be in touch from their home in Australia.

James RAND (Cantonese late 60s) has been in touch from China. Readers will recall that James fractured an ankle only days before the Hong Kong reunion last year and was thus unable to attend. He has made good progress with his recovery and is now almost 100% fit again. James is still working as General Manager of an Australian WFOE (wholly foreign owned enterprise) in Zhongshan, Guangdong Province, and now has a record of more than 16 years experience of working in China, together with more than a year in Taiwan. His home is still in Thailand, but he would welcome the opportunity to meet up with old friends in Hong Kong. His e-mail address is jrand@truemail.co.th and his mobile telephone number in China is: 138-2277-3231.

On a sombre note, James reports that things are now difficult for his company, which previously employed 3,500 people in two factories producing steel tool boxes and office filing cabinets for export to the United States, Europe, UK and Australia. With a big increase in the price of steel (from around US\$600 per ton to over US\$1,000 per ton) and a downturn in the US market (from 65% of his company's exports to just 5%), one of the factories has had to close down.

James goes on to say that most of the industrial areas and economic zones in Guangdong Province are now facing difficulties. During 2007 over 10,000 factories in the Dongguan area alone were shut down, but this was not entirely due to the general economic downturn. There are frequent power shortages and many factories have to stop production for at least one day per week, due to cuts in the electricity supply. Also, in spite of large numbers of immigrant workers from neighbouring provinces (which has co-incidentally contributed to an increase in the crime rate), many factories find it difficult to recruit the numbers they need to maximise production. In the Dongguan area alone there is a labour shortage of over two million people. This is a staggering statistic for those who may recall Dongguan as a rather languid rural area not so many years ago.

Vaughn RIXON (Mandarin late 80s) is back in Australia after a tour of duty at the Australian Embassy in Beijing. He is now based in Darwin as the Commander of the Australian Naval Patrol Boat Group. Vaughn is hoping to get to Qingdao for the PLA Navy Fleet Review in Spring 2009. He would be glad to see others who might be interested at the event and you can get him at vrixon@gmail.com for more details.

Mick ROBERTS (Cantonese mid 70s) and Kay are still living in Guernsey. We had hoped to move during the summer but in a sluggish housing market we have not yet been able to sell; there is, however some hope on the horizon. We have been visited by Steve WHITE (Mandarin late 80s) with Dani, as well as by Sheena CONNELLY (Mandarin early 90s) during the year and it was a great pleasure to see them here.

Alan ROBERTSON (Mandarin late 60s and Cantonese mid 70s) has been in touch on a number of occasions and it was from him that we received the sad news of the death of Orla, the wife of Patrick HYLAND (DA Course early 90s).

Cliff ROSE (Cantonese late 70s and Mandarin early 80s) continues to work at Ofsted (the office which monitors standards in education) in England, inspecting the provision in Further Education (FE) Colleges and adult education establishments. Cliff reports a sad decline in interest as well as in funding for adults to learn foreign languages; however, the good news is that there is growing interest in Chinese, particularly in Mandarin, within what remains of the sector.

The quality of the provision is extremely variable and in many areas there is little opportunity for progression beyond an early beginner stage. Providers are also slow to link any language to vocational requirements or qualifications. An entirely separate aspect of Cliff's work is now as part of a team inspecting Ministry of Defence training at all levels, where he can act as an 'interpreter' between the rest of Her Majesty's Inspectorate – none of whom have any military background – and the military. Cliff says that the interchange of acronyms can be amazing!

David SYME (Mandarin late 70s) has become a grandfather twice this year, so Pat has been knitting furiously. David was in Albania in April, then visited Toronto and Las Vegas with Pat in June. July and August saw him in China once again. David was to have gone to the Congo to teach military English earlier in the year.....in view of the news now coming out of there, perhaps it is as well that that this didn't come about.

Ian WELFARE (FCO Mandarin Course early 80s) has been in touch to record his personal sadness at the death of Bob SLOSS, the founder Commandant of the school. He recalls Bob as being always cheery, positive and full of laughter. Ian also has fond memories of Lyemun Barracks, particularly the curry lunches on Sundays, and says that the newsletter constantly reminds him of names from those days.

Steve WHITE (Mandarin late 80s) visited Guernsey with Dani in April 2008, shortly before their marriage. Steve is currently seeking work which involves international travel, particularly to China and Hong Kong.

Mr. James WONG Kwok Wei (Staff) has been in frequent touch during the past year or so and he has always been an enthusiastic supporter of the newsletter. James renewed his driver's licence this year, having passed the compulsory age-related test "just like a piece of cake" and is now OK to drive for another 5 years until the age of 88. His e-mail address has changed to kwokweiwong@gmail.com and he would be pleased to hear from you.

Chris WOOD (FCO Mandarin course mid 80s) is likely to be back in China by the end of this year (probably just after Christmas) to take up the post of Deputy Head of Mission at the British Embassy in Beijing. We congratulate him on this important senior appointment.

REPORT ON A VISIT TO YUNNAN PROVINCE

**by
Kim Chan Kwok Kin**

Mofanggao, Fenshuiling,....., Ah Jia, Yong Ha,.....; a collection of names normally found only in Wu Xia novels. I cannot believe that I had the chance to visit these places and meet with these people.

In March 2004, through the children sponsorship programme of World Vision Canada, I had an unforgettable trip to Yunnan, China. Departing from Edmonton, we flew first to Kunming via Hong Kong, took a transfer flight to Lijiang, then had a long drive on mountainous roads for many hours before we arrived at the World Vision field office at Yongxing County. Although we had had to endure a long trans-continental flight, an impatient wait at all transfer points, and the scary experience of the local flight, due to severe air turbulence, our eagerness to meet with our sponsored children had not been dampened.

After a good night's sleep, we took a four-wheel drive vehicle to the villages. After a bumpy ride of an hour, we arrived at Yangping. At last we had come to the home of the first child we had sponsored. Surprisingly, we did not feel any great excitement, but deep in my heart I seemed to have a strange feeling – peaceful, yet with a sense of uncertainty; something I could not really explain.

On the third day, we continued on our journey. This day, the route was more challenging. The driver told us that not too long ago there had been a fatal accident on this section of road. A jeep carrying local World Vision staff members had run off the road into a deep gorge. Immediately we could sense the tension inside our vehicle. Now, every time I think of the long-term staff of World Vision in this part of China, I feel a deep respect for them all. Finally, after more than two hours on the road, we came to the village of Mofanggao.

Here we met with three of the children we sponsored, and the same strange feeling of the day before came over me again. Now, I understood why. It was a mixed feeling: on the one hand I had been longing for the opportunity of meeting the children, yet we found each other to be strangers in our lives. We were delighted to meet them, but at the same time sad, because of what we saw in the condition of their lives. Although they were strangers to us, we were their sponsors – a kind of adopted parenthood. Seeing their melancholy appearance, we had an unspoken sadness in our hearts.

After a visit lasting two days, many of our team members were beginning to feel tired. Little did we realise that our last day of travel was to be the most dangerous one. Early in the morning, our jeep moved towards the high mountains in the direction of Fenshuiling. The road was only wide enough for one vehicle to travel, with the cliff on one side and a steep drop on the other. The driver drove with intense focus, and we kept perfectly silent. At one point, the jeep hit a big piece of rock and the vehicle almost flipped into the gorge. Fortunately our “heavy” member was sitting on the side closest to the cliff and this kept us out of trouble. The driver told us that although the road was dangerous, if a child in the village was taken sick at night, he sometimes had to drive the patient to the hospital along it. We were deeply touched by his dedicated attitude to service.

At the school in Fenshuiling, we received a warm welcome. We took the time to put temporary “tattoos” on the faces and hands of the children, and to play with them. We did not realise that such simple acts of kindness would bring such great pleasure to the village children. They appeared content and this caused us to reflect that we too should be content with what we have in our urbanised lives. Before our departure, we shared with them our vision and what we hoped to achieve with this sponsorship programme – that they might have a brighter future, with better education, so that one day they might eventually return the favour to the benefit of our country.

Looking back, many things touched me deeply on this trip:

1. One of the girls whom we sponsored got up very early in the morning and walked for two hours to the school so that she could meet us. On the road, she had picked many wild flowers and presented them to us as a gift.
2. Another child that we sponsored did something we could not forget. He saw that several children had presented gifts to their sponsors, so ran home and picked up his only toy – a broken little ball – and gave it to us.
3. When the photographer asked a little girl to have her picture taken with me, she refused to hold my hand. After a while, I began to understand the reason – she found her hands too dirty, and there was a black mole on one of them. After a long wait, she finally held my hand for the photo. At first, when I looked at her hands, I had a sense of poverty and dirtiness, but holding hands firmly with her symbolised our love and support, and a new hope for the future.
4. On our way home, we had to make a stop-over at Lijiang. We found a hotel, but Mr. Fu, one of the local World Vision staff members, preferred to stay in more of a local style hotel in order save money for the World Vision ministry. We had agreed to meet at 7 o'clock for breakfast, but at 6 o'clock I found Mr. Fu already up, with sleepy eyes. He said that so many mice had infested his room that he had hardly had any sleep. Although this seems to be funny, it gave me much cause for reflection.

Dear friends, for the needs of the children in the mountainous regions, and for the sake of those unsung heroes who work so diligently behind the scenes, and with a deep love for humanity, I pray that you and I might be able to offer our help to assist and support the ministry of World Vision in bringing love and care to so many needy people.

Fly afar to send our heartfelt support

Foster hope by fostering a child

For more details of the work of World Vision look at:

www.worldvision.com.au (Australia)
www.worldvision.ca (Canada)
www.worldvision.org.nz (New Zealand)
www.worldvision.org.uk (United Kingdom)
www.worldvision.org (United States)
or
www.wvi.org (International)

If you would like to discuss this article with Kim, e-mail him at:

killartv@telusplanet.net

CONTACTS: The following people are being sent electronic copies of this newsletter, but in some cases the addresses we have might be out of date. Let us know if you need an e-mail address. We can probably provide one. Please let us know if you have an e-mail address for someone you know who should be on this list but isn't.

AHNERT Lisa (Staff)	LAM Marie (Staff)
AICHHOLZER Michael (AUS)	LAWSON Bob (UK)
ALLEN Jay (US)	LEE Mein Ven (Staff)
ANDERSON Neal (US)	LEE (SIU) (Sara) (Staff)
	LE MAÎTRE Frank (UK)
BEESON Paul (AUS)	LEWIS Shaun (UK)
BOLLENS Steve (US)	LIVERMORE Ian (UK)
BOOKER Richard (UK)	
BORDWELL John (US)	MAILHOT Normand (CAN)
BRENT John (UK)	MAN Greg (US)
BRODIE Neil (AUS)	MASON Darrel (UK)
BROWNE Tony (NZ)	MATTHEWS (Mason) Caroline (UK)
BRUCE Ian (UK)	MATTHEWS John (AUS)
BUNKER Brian (UK)	McARTHUR John (NZ)
BURD Martin (UK)	McMAHON Kevin (UK)
BURDEN Geoff (UK)	MILLER Frank (US)
BYRNES Mike (US)	MITCHELL Tom (US)
	MORRIS Jim (UK)
	MURPHY Tom (UK)
CAMPBELL Jim (AUS)	
CARTER Geoff (AUS)	NASH Alan (UK)
CHADWICK Geoff (UK)	NEWELL Ray (UK)
CHAN Kim Kwok Kin (Staff)	NORTHROP Joe (US)
CHILTON Jim (US)	
CHU Wai Chin, Vicky (Staff)	ORME Rufus (UK)
CLIFTON, Michael (AUS)	PEARSON Andrew (UK)
CONNELLY Sheena (AUS)	PETRIE Melville (UK)
CONNOR Brian (UK)	PICKLES Ken (UK)
CORBETT John (US)	POON Lorraine (Staff)
CORSIE Ian (UK)	PRINCE John (UK)
CROSLEGH Robin (UK)	PURDY Brod (UK)
DAVIS Andy (UK)	RAND James (UK)
DOOLEY Grant (AUS)	RICE Kevin (US)
DOYLE Kevin (UK)	RIXON, Vaughn (AUS)
DUDZIAK Stan (UK)	ROBERTS Mick (UK)
DUNN (O'REARDON) Lea (AUS)	ROBERTSON Alan (UK)
	RODWELL Simon (UK)
EIKENBERRY Karl (US)	ROSE Cliff (UK)
ELLIS Dave (UK)	RUMNEY Greg (NZ)
EVES Dennis (UK)	
FARR Pat (UK)	SEALOCK Neal (US)
FINCH Brian (UK)	SHANNON John (UK)
FREEMAN Mike (UK)	SHAW Peter (UK)
	SIMPSON Claire (UK)
GAYNOR Anthony (UK)	SLADE Michelle (NZ)
GOPSILL Brian (UK)	STEVENS Don (UK)
GRAHAM Bill (UK)	ST. MAUR SHEIL Willie (UK)
GRAY David (UK)	STOKES Paul (UK)
GROVES John (UK)	SUTHERLAND Brian (UK)
GUEST Bill (UK)	SYME David (UK)
HARKER Andy (UK)	THOMAS Cyril (UK)
HENNING Stan (US)	TIPPETT Jez (UK)
HIATT Jane (AUS)	TOM Ron (US)
HIGGINBOTHAM John (CAN)	TSANG Chi Fan (Staff)
HOGAN Gary (AUS)	TYNE Bob (AUS)
HOOPER Charles (US)	
HOUSE Bill (UK)	VICTORSON Mark (US)
HUANG Yao Ping (Staff)	WELKER Richard (US)
HUGHES Mick (UK)	WELFARE Ian (UK)
	WESTGARTH Nicholas (UK)
INSALL Tony (UK)	WHITE Steve (UK)
	WHITTICASE Rod (UK)
JUDGE Tony (UK)	WILLIAMS Graeme (AUS)
	WILLNER Al (US)
KITCHING Dave (UK)	WINFIELD Kim (UK)
KLAPAKIS Terry (US)	WONG Kwok Wei (Staff)
	WOOD Chris (UK)
	WORKER Carl (NZ)

The following people are being sent copies of the newsletter by post:

ASHTON John (UK)
ASHTON Judy (Gao) (Staff)

CHEN Shu Fong (Staff)
CHENG YA LAN (Staff)

HO Pui Kei (Staff)
HYLAND Patrick (UK)

JIANG Lin Lin (Staff)
JYU Ai li (Alice) (Staff)

KOT Mei Yuk (Staff)

LAU Kevin (Staff)
LUI Derek (Staff)

MEI Teresa (Ip) (Staff)

NG Sam Yuen (Staff)

PARTRIDGE Jumbo (UK)

WONG Leung Ling Hsiao (Staff)

YANG Jenny (Staff)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW? Most of the people on this list are those for whom we have no mailing addresses or whose whereabouts are unknown. If you are able to provide an e-mail address for anyone please let us know, or ask them to contact us.

ANCHONDO Robert (US)
ARMSTRONG Allan (UK)
ARROWSMITH 'Bows' (AUS)

BARCHAM Laura (AUS)
BARKER-HARLAND Jill (UK)
BEHM Lloyd (AUS)
BLUEMAN Beth (UK)
BOWEN, Scott (US)
BROWN Bob (CAN)
BURBRIDGE Alan (UK)

CARTER Bruce (UK)
CASSERLEY Mike (UK)
CHAMPION Nigel (UK)
CLARK Dave (UK)
COOPER Cortez (US)
COWAN Tony (UK)
COX Nigel (UK)
CROSS Phil (UK)
CROSS Terry (UK)

DAVIES Peter (UK)
DAVIES Vernon (UK)
DENNIS Will (UK)

ELDRIDGE John (UK)

FORDE John (UK)

GILHEAD Geoffrey (UK)
GOLDSMITH John (UK)
GOVETT Peter (UK)
GRANT Frank (UK)
GRIEVE John (UK)
GRIFFIN Bill (UK)

HARKIN Kevin (AUS)
HARRISON Chris (UK)
HASLAM Gary (CAN)
HERDA Douglas (CAN)
HEUNG Margaret (Staff)
HICKMAN David (UK)
HICKS Kelly (US)

HOLMES Ron (CAN)
HOOK Marianne (US)
HORNE Al (UK)
HORROCKS Ian (UK)

JACKSON Mike (UK)
JOHNSTON James (US)

KRUGER David (UK)

LI Julie Ann Wong (Mrs. Blakeway) (Staff)
LINES Aidan (UK)

McCABE Bill (UK)
McKENZIE Ian (AUS)

NEWMAN John (US)
NOWELL Chris (UK)

PARRY Dave (UK)
PEARSON Tony (UK)
PEIRCE Bob (UK)
PETERMAN Tom (US)
PFENNIGWERTH Ian (AUS)
POWER Alan (UK)
PRICHARD Mark (UK)

RAYCRAFT Jim (US)
RICE Richard (US)

SALES Jonathan (UK)
SIMMONDS Tim (UK)
SIMPSON Mike (UK)
SMITH Ken (UK)
SMITH (STUBBS) Claire (UK)
SMITH Tom (UK)
SUGGS Bill (US)

TAYLERSON Roger (UK)
TRUEMAN Brian (UK)

WALKER John (UK)
WILL Peter (UK)
WOOLF Ellie (AUS)
WOOLLEY Steve (UK)
WYKES Leslie (AUS)

ZANELLI Gary (UK)

Please continue to let us know what you are doing. There is no call for modesty here – others will be interested to learn of your achievements. This is our newsletter and without your news, we have no material for inclusion. Please remember to let Brian Finch know if you change your e-mail address and if you receive a paper version please let me know if you change your postal address.

Kay and I continue to edit and prepare the newsletter. For the time being our address remains unchanged, but we are likely to be moving to mainland UK early in 2009 - so watch this space.

For sending in contributions and other editorial matters:

The address is: M.G. Roberts,
Rosslyn,
Les Merriennes,
St. Martin's,
Guernsey,
Channel Islands,
GY4 6NS (via UK)

Tel/fax: (UK) (0) 1481 234557

E-Mail: m.k.roberts@cwgsy.net

For notification of new or amended e-mail addresses:

The address is: bfinch@tiscali.co.uk

*Next edition out (probably!)
in Spring 2009*