

# THE QUAD



Old Roedeanians' Association Newsletter

Issue 1 - Autumn 2009



## *Roedean receives a face-lift, painted a new shade of magnolia*

Welcome to the first edition of our ORA Newsletter – The **QUAD**! After considering a number of names, it was decided that this was the most fitting. Whether it be for arriving at School for the first time for your interview, gathering for fire drills, important announcements or end of term high jinx, The Quad was a focal centre for many of us during our days at Roedean. As School has always been very international in its spirit, we also wanted to reflect the fact that there are ORs in the four corners of the world.

I sincerely hope you enjoy reading it and please do get in touch if you have any ideas for the next issue. We would love to receive your images of The Quad and what it means to you so please send your entries to me. “Who knows – your idea might be on the cover of the next issue”? A huge “thank you” to Phoebe Daws who originally came up with the idea.

**Katya Borowski (No.4, 1982–87) [editoratlarge@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:editoratlarge@oldroedeanians.co.uk)**

## President's Message

Now The **QUAD** is here, I hope that this will encourage you to get in touch. The ORA is your organisation and we love hearing from you whatever you are up to. We cannot all be beauty queens, famous actresses, award winners, captains of industry or world record holders like me. My daughter and I were invited by an OR (Sara Dawson, No.3, 1980–1985) to take part in a World Record Breaking event this July. 1,252 of us established a new Guinness World Records achievement for the largest game of Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes ever – not such an amazing feat but amusing in itself. I am convinced you all have some news, messages, skills and/or experience to share with the Roedean Community – so please do not hesitate to contribute.

The ORA has far too many lost addresses and the ORA Committee all feel sad that the requests we receive from ORs looking for their old friends generally seem to be the ones listed in the “lost address” section of the ORA Directory. You may know one or two of those “lost” ORs and if you do, please encourage them to contact us with their updated details. Alternatively, arrange a reunion and the ORA will do its best to help you make the most of it.

Due to increased postage costs and with a view to the ORA becoming more environmentally friendly, we are moving towards electronic communication where possible. We hope to continue to be able to publish one paper version of The **QUAD** a year so please try to register your preferred address as well as your email address with us. Please, don't worry if you are not on email, you can still contact the ORA Committee members and you will find all our contact details on the back of the calendar. We can arrange for hard copies of emails to be sent out if you specifically request these from us.

The **QUAD** is not intended to replace the ORA Magazine. Last year's Magazine was packed with interesting news and features – all 60 pages of it! I am immensely grateful to Zeba Clarke (Magazine Editor) and Nicky Orlebar (Membership Secretary) who worked so hard to put such a wonderful edition together and to all the ORs who took the time to contribute. We have had some really encouraging feedback and I am confident that next year's Magazine will be just as enthralling. Would you like to find an old friend? Have you got an idea for a story? Please contact Zeba or Nicky with your ideas.

The ORA is starting a Hong Kong Chapter and we already have some fantastic ORs who have volunteered to help with this, so watch this space! If you live in Hong Kong and have some spare time then please contact me. This is a new venture so it will be whatever the new Hong Kong team make of it. We are hoping to have the official launch of the HKORA next year.

A warm welcome to Amanda Ali (No.2, 1987–1991) – the founder of the official ORA Facebook Group and the new ORA Representative for Florida to South America and to Frances Hillier (Nimmy, No.1, 1958–1964 and Staff, 1990–2002) and Dr Anjali Bailin (Staff 1980–1997) our new Staff ORA Reps. The ORA is made up of a wonderful team of volunteers from all generations. If you would like to get involved wherever you are in the world please contact me. If all of you manage to complete the checklist on the back page, I am certain that the ORA will improve for all of us.

**Sasha Glynn (No.1, 1980–87) [president@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:president@oldroedeanians.co.uk)**

## School Report by Frances King, Headmistress

One of the delights of my role as headmistress of Roedean is the chance to meet a wide range of women from many walks in life who have attended the school.

By talking to former students, my understanding of the school's history grows and I can put the present community of the school into a wider context. It was therefore a real privilege this summer to meet the Tanner sisters, nieces of one of our most famous headmistresses, Dame Emmeline Tanner. Given their ages now, ranging from 85 to 92, they had between them a wealth of memories to share about both the school and their aunt which helped me feel much more closely connected to the earlier days of Roedean.



### *Frances King meets the nieces of Dame Emmeline Tanner*

Listening to stories about the school in former years reminded me that the school is no stranger to change. This year, however, we took a significant step forward in the school's development as we put into action the practical application of our merger with St Mary's Hall, Brighton (formally announced in February 2009).

The Senior School at Roedean has increased in size as we have taken on girls from St Mary's Hall into each year group. The largest group have joined U5 (Year 11) as we have made special provision for them to complete their GCSE courses.

I have been impressed by both the warm welcome that the Roedean girls have extended to their new classmates; and also by the mature approach of the St Mary's Hall girls, who have been determined to make the most of this unexpected change to their education. In addition to the new girls at the Senior School, we are now working closely with the younger students at our Junior School on the Eastern Road site. It has been a treat to visit this school and experience life from the perspective of much younger children.

Balancing out the experiences of our oldest members of the ORA with these very young children gives me a great sense of both the history and heritage of this school, but also the tremendous responsibility that we have to educate today's young people for a fast-changing world. I hope that in this task we can continue to preserve the essence of a Roedean education, encouraging a love for learning and an independence of spirit, which will set up our new recruits for a full and rewarding life ahead.

## **ORA and School Events**

### **Wine Tasting and Dinner for Old Roedeanians and St Mary's Hall Old Girls and Staff – Saturday 21 November 2009**

All ORs are invited to join us for a Wine Tasting from 5 to 7pm to meet old girls and teachers from both schools over a glass of wine and delicious canapés in a French restaurant in central Brighton overlooking the Palace Pier. Quaff (a local wine merchant) will be in attendance to give us an excellent introduction to wine. We will learn about the theory of wine tasting, and we will taste six major grape varieties, three white and three red, all of which can be found on any restaurant list or in any shop. The tasting will be light-hearted, fun, and informative.

There will be a delicious three-course dinner afterwards from 7pm for those of you wishing to carry on catching up and reminiscing! Wine tasting is £20pp and the dinner is £25pp. You are most welcome to register for either the tasting or the dinner or both! Partners and friends are as always most welcome.

Please RSVP to Adela, Social Secretary by Thursday 12 November to reserve your place at the Wine Tasting and/or Dinner.

### **Gala Night at the Opera – Friday 27 November 2009 Roedean Chapel, 7.30pm and Carol Service – Sunday 6 December 2009 Roedean Chapel, 5pm**

For more details about both the above events at School please, contact Ms Helen Denman (Performing Arts' Secretary) at Roedean: [hj@roedean.co.uk](mailto:hj@roedean.co.uk)

### **ORA and Governors' AGM – Monday, 8 February 2010 at The Lansdowne Club, Fitzmaurice Place, Mayfair, London, 6pm**

We are delighted to welcome Tatiana Macaire as this year's speaker at the AGM dinner. Tatiana (Miller, No.3, 1944–51) was born in 1933 in the Isle of Wight. Her doctor father was married to a White Russian who escaped from Russia at the time of the Revolution.

After school at Roedean and a Classics degree at Oxford, Tatiana taught in various schools, state and independent, until meeting her husband, James, with whom she went to Nigeria, Bavaria, and Denmark before they settled in England. Returning to work after having two sons, Tatiana became Head of Channing School in North London, and finally of Ashford School in Kent, where she had one year as president of the Girls' Schools Association (GSA). She is also the author of the books "Unexpected Rewards of Authorship" and "My Entertaining Book" – a collection of favourite recipes and memories from over 40 years of entertaining and cooking.

The ORA AGM starts at 6pm with the Governors' AGM at 6.30pm followed by the Headmistress's Report at 6.45pm. Drinks will be served at 7pm followed by dinner at 7.30pm. Dinner is £27.50pp to include a glass of wine. Kindly let Adela know before 29 January 2010 if you would like to attend.

## Reunion and Roedean Day 2010 – Saturday 26 June 2010

We will be welcoming all ORs but especially the 40, 30 and 20 Years On group (1970, 1980 and 1990 Leavers). Always a great day out for ORs and their families, this year should be even more special as it is the 125th anniversary of the foundation of the School. Every year there are a number of impromptu reunion groups that join in the fun. If you would like some help from the ORA to gather a group of your peers then please contact Nicky Orlebar. The school archivists would be pleased to put together an exhibition of your era if you let us know a group of you plan to attend.

Reunion Day for ORs will start at 10am with coffee followed by a dance and drama showcase by the students. Lunch will followed by the fun of Sports Day at which ORs are invited to show their sporting prowess in the Golden Mile! We would be delighted to see you there – lunch is £10 per adult and £6 for children under 12. We are looking for game entrants for next year's Golden Mile – if would like to take part please contact Mariam, [sports-captain@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:sports-captain@oldroedeanians.co.uk)



*This year's Golden Milers including Mariam Moazed (third from left) and Kirsten Cropper (GS bib) and Caroline Edey (far right) a member of the SAORA*

For more details about OR events please contact Adela at: Miss Adela Hussain (ORA), 27 Shirland Mews, London W9 3DY or [social-secretary@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:social-secretary@oldroedeanians.co.uk)

## ORA Sports

Mariam Moazed (No.1, 1980–87) would be interested in hearing any ideas for ORA sporting events. Please email her at: [sports-captain@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:sports-captain@oldroedeanians.co.uk). Don't worry, no lacrosse in the freezing rain will be involved (unless you really want it to)!

## Golf Update – Victory for Roedean

The Roedean golf team won The Tassie competition held at St. George's Hill Golf Club in June. The team comprised Sarah Waugh (No.4, 1969–1973), Vicky Costain (Pope, No.4, 1953–1959), Wanda Lloyd (Davidson, No.4, 1951–1958) and Phoebe Daws (Hughes, No.3, 1971–1973). The competition is medal foursomes over 27 holes and this year there were 34 teams of 'old girls' taking part. Wanda and Phoebe also won the prize for the lowest nett team score.

Roedean first won this trophy in 1976 and since has had a run of success, winning in 2000, 2001, 2006 and again in 2009 – making us the most successful school in the competition. The team has also been helped to these victories by Liz Watson (Pope, No.4, 1950–1956).

Next year The Tassie event is being held at The Berkshire Golf Club. The Old Roedeanians also hold an annual golf day at Sunningdale Ladies' Golf Club. It is intended to be a fun day, all standards of golfers are most welcome – just an opportunity to meet other ORs and enjoy some golf. If you would like details of this, please contact Phoebe Daws, [golf@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:golf@oldroedeanians.co.uk)



*The victorious golfers (from left to right) Sarah, Wanda, Phoebe and Vicky*

## ORA Scholarship Fund

We are delighted to announce that we have a most distinguished Sixth Form Scholar who is Chinese and has lived in the UK since she was 5 years old. Her father is a full-time Missionary for the Luton Chinese Church. The School commented on her commitment to her studies, her diligence and the strength of her Christian faith. She is a talented pianist. She hopes to become an Architect and is currently studying AS in Design Technology, Art, Physics, Maths and Business Studies. Her Design Technology project on a multi-functional chair won an Arkwright Scholarship. Her design was an elegant concept, involving a chair doubling as a storage unit and table, with a clean, circular design. Last year's School Christmas card was designed by her.

Currently, the ORA Scholarship Fund contributes £3,000 per year for each of the two years.

**All profits from the sale of OR Merchandise support the ORA Scholarship Fund. If you would like to order any OR Merchandise please use the enclosed form or visit [www.oldroedeanians.co.uk](http://www.oldroedeanians.co.uk). For more details about the ORA Scholarship Fund, please contact Mrs Erica Faircloth (*Rhodes, No.4, 1958-64*), The Old Oast, Stream Lane, Hawkhurst, Kent TN18 4RD; [treasurer@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@oldroedeanians.co.uk) or 01580 752566.**

## Three generations of ORs celebrate together

A platinum wedding is a comparatively rare milestone. Congratulations are due to Old Roedeanian Irene Chaundler (Phoenix, No.2, 1929 –1935) who recently celebrated 70 years of marriage to Bob on 7 September 2009. With her in the photo are two other ORs: daughter-in-law Margot, (Wilkin, No.4, 1962 –1967), and Margot's mother, Renee-Jean Wilkin (Garrett, No.4, 1939 –1942). Irene and Bob brought forward their wedding because of the outbreak of war and 10 days later, she waved Bob off as his regiment embarked for France. The marriage could easily have lasted seven months – not 70 years. Bob was one of the last men to escape from Dunkirk, and had to swim to one of the rapidly departing warships.



## ORA moving into the 21st Century

As School has a great new website ([www.roedean.co.uk](http://www.roedean.co.uk)), the ORA site is also changing and will soon be incorporated within the Roedean site ([www.oldroedeanians.co.uk](http://www.oldroedeanians.co.uk) will still be our active link). This will mean that the ORA web pages will be sleeker and easier to navigate. The most exciting news is that we are investing in some new Alumni software for launch in February 2010.

This will enable ORs to login and update all of their personal details. It is hoped this will allow us to communicate more effectively, find old friends more easily and organise better reunions and events. Most importantly, it will facilitate getting feedback from ORA members, so the ORA Committee can do its best to ensure it is reaching all its members in a relevant way.

We are also updating and improving our official Facebook Group – Old Roedeanians' Association. Please do register on it if you haven't already done so – with more than 200 members we are doing quite well, but we would love to see more of you Facebook addicts join it and make the most of it. We would encourage you to initiate your own discussion groups.

To receive your free electronic copies of the **QUAD**, please register your contact details with Nicky, [membership-secretary@oldroedeanians.co.uk](mailto:membership-secretary@oldroedeanians.co.uk)

## Things to do now I have read the 1st edition of The QUAD:

I will tick at least 2 of the actions below in addition to the last box (The QUAD editorial team hope you will all be able to achieve this without too much effort):

- Contact some OR friends and reminisce, if their details are out of date, ask the Membership secretary if she can help
- Think about my life and consider any tidbits including photos for submission to the next ORA Magazine. Contact Zeba Clarke
- Contribute and/or subscribe to the ORA Magazine by contacting Nicky Orlebar
- Try to persuade my OR friends to attend one or all of the ORA Events in this edition of The QUAD
- Register for at least one ORA Event and if none of them interests me let Adela Hussain know what would
- Ask myself if I feel sporty: If I do, I should contact Mariam Moazed and/or Phoebe Daws and if not, I promise to be sporting and support the OR team in the Golden Mile 2010
- Contact Sasha Glynn with anything else including any feedback on the ORA
- Put my feet up, relax and smile!

### ORA Contacts:

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