

LOUGHBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL OLD GIRLS' ASSOCIATION
Newsletter – June 2001

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Dear Members

Greetings to all and best wishes for the coming holiday season. We look forward to receiving news of your examination successes or of your families or any of your recent experiences in this country or abroad.

STOP PRESS: New email Opportunity

Mr Alan Mercer will be pleased to accept your email correspondence at his address: ASMercer@AOL.com

We are delighted that Mr Mercer has made this offer, as some of you may well find it an easier way of keeping in touch.

Death:

Our sincere sympathy goes to friends and relatives of **Mrs Betty North** who died on April 23rd 2001. She had been a valued member of the OGA Committee for some years and was always interested in LHS affairs. She will be sadly missed.

General News:

After leaving school in 1982 **Josslyn Audas** spent three years at Cambridge College of Arts and Technology thereby gaining an HND in Business Studies (BTech), later adding Principles of Marketing from the Chartered Institute of Marketing UK. She has held responsible and prestigious positions working for AT & T Communications (UK) Ltd., World Telecom UK, Brightpoint UK etc. but left work in 1999 to await the birth of her daughter Elina in September 1999.

Sheila Brewer (nee Felthouse) was happy to meet former LHS members of her peer group when visiting friends in Loughborough recently, and says there are a number of her contemporaries with whom she is in touch. Those of her age group include **Josephone Cowley (Allen) ?**, **Ava Sherriff (Gray)**, **Margaret Holmes (Durrad)**, **Jean Start**, **Joan Granger**, **Norma Vernon (Spencer)**, **Bobs Johnson (Roffe)**, **Doreen Edwards (Brookman)** and **Margery Schepens (Pilgrim)**. If anyone knows of others of their age group who would like to contact Sheila, they can do so at Flat 21, Gunters Mead, 37 Copsem Lane, Esher, Surrey KT10 9HJ or telephone 01372 843316.

Rhiannon Dart is now in her 4th year at Leeds University Medical School and has had Medical and Surgical attachments lasting 6 weeks each and taking her to a number of hospitals in Leeds and elsewhere in Yorkshire during the last two years. The course offers experience of different specialties eg GP attachments, Psychiatry, Accident and Emergency and Orthopaedics. When she wrote she still had Dermatology, Anaesthetics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology to look forward to! There has nevertheless been time to enjoy skiing and white-water canoeing trips with the RAMC. Rhiannon expects to be commissioned as a full Lieutenant when she qualifies, and then serve in the Army for 6 years. Her 3-month elective from August this year will be in a hospital in Mysore, South India, where she will study General Medicine and visit village clinics to gain experience in the treatment of Tropical Diseases. She hopes this will enable her to work on Army Expeditions in the future.

Katie Gauntley at 30B Kelvin Road, Highbury, London N5 2PG, telephone 07966 540352, has written to tell us that she did an Art Foundation course at Loughborough College after leaving school, then followed a

Fashion Marketing course at the University of Northumbria in Newcastle, graduating in June 2000 with a 2(1) degree. She is now working for 'Freemans' in London, training to be a buyer in the jewellery department, which she is enjoying very much. She lives in London with **Laura Bessell** whose house it is, and with **Gemma Watson** who is working as an assistant TV producer with 'Zig Zag' B Productions. They plan to organise a reunion party in London, possibly on Saturday September 29th this year when they hope to see any old friends who can attend. Anyone interested is asked to get in touch with Katie at the above address or email on: lar_kat@hotmail.com when more details can be given.

Carrie Lewis (1988-95) greatly enjoys her job in the Conference and Incentive Travel department of a Leicester-based Marketing Communications agency and has been lucky enough to travel to Barbados, New York and Lapland in the past year. Carrie became engaged to Andy Cameron-Smith on New Year's Eve. We offer our best wishes to her and to her fiancé who plan to marry in June 2002. She is now living in Barrow-on-Soar.

Hannah Lott reported on her very interesting year off before the start of her Pharmacy degree at Cardiff University. After school she worked for 6 months to raise the funds for her travels and then she flew off on a fantastic 7-month round-the-world adventure, spending 4 months in New Zealand on organic farms, and also visiting Hong Kong (which she loved) and the East Coast of Australia. On the way home she visited Fiji and the Cook Islands, finally meeting up with her parents in the USA for a holiday. Hannah passed the 1st year examinations in Pharmacy at Cardiff but decided during the 2nd year to change to Computer Science. She is in year 2 of the Computer Science degree and is obviously enjoying the course very much.

Katharine Silk (Palin) wrote from her home in Oxford, where her husband Jon (Old Loughburian), is now teaching, and she herself is adjusting to her new job. Their son, Oliver (now 5½) is enjoying being at Christ Church Cathedral School, and their move from the North East has also meant that they are nearer to her mother (**Mrs Margaret Palin**, ex LHS staff) and father, who live in Stratford, and are finding retirement there most enjoyable. Katharine's sister **Judith** has just qualified as a CIMA accountant and works for Interbrew at their brewery in Lancashire. She and her husband live in Clitheroe (for the walking!)

Lora Starkings (Class of '99) transferred to the 2nd year of an Education Studies degree following a period of illness last year. She still wishes to become a teacher and can take a PGCE in the 4th year. The current semester has proved challenging, involving as it does 2 days a week in a nursery in Bradford, also 2 elective modules and a Research Methods module. Her particular interests in the electives have been the Early Years ones – curriculum and play. Sharing a student house near college with 4 others (2 males, 3 females) has proved quite successful, though the group will part company when their courses take them to foreign parts.

Reunion After 51 Years

On Wednesday, 2nd May 2001, just over 51 years since leaving LHS, 31 of us and Miss Peggy Potts gathered together, from all over the country, at the CarillonRooms for a buffet lunch, organised by Lesley Banyard (Pickard) and also a lot of hard work by Margaret Cobb (Arnold) who took on the hard task of tracing everyone. Most people had started at the school in 1943 (in Upper III) but a few had started at Fairfield way back in 1937! What memories everyone had. There were many photos produced which were taken during the years spent at the school – sometimes not even recognising ourselves. Fortunately we were given name tags which helped us to recognise everyone; many had not seen each other since leaving school. The Echo and Leicester Mercury were there to take photos.

After lunch a large group went on to the school to be welcomed by the headmistress, Miss Harvatt. They were then taken on a tour of the school in small groups with 6th form girls as guides. After the tour tea and biscuits were waiting for them, to be served by Miss Steel, deputy headmistress.

A very memorable day for everyone, including 12 brave husbands who had accompanied their wives. It is suggested that this becomes a biennial event!

Pamela Rushforth (Barker)

With best wishes

pp. Betty Mackley
Ruth Lin Potts