



SUSCEPTUM PERFICE MUNUS

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John Roan School. Blackheath

OLD ROAN NEWSLETTER - FEBRUARY 1989

ADDRESSES

PRESIDENT:

Stephen Nelson
9 Craithie Road
Lee
London SE12
Tel: (01) 318 0685

TREASURER:

Neal Haslam
34 Heversham Road
Bexleyheath
Kent DA7 5BG
Tel: (01) 304 3053

SECRETARY:

Tony Slaney
143 Lyme Farm Road
Lee
London SE12 8JH
Tel: (01) 852 4075

'CHRONICLE' EDITOR:

David Horsburgh
32 Merlin Grove
Beckenham
Kent BR3 3HU
Tel: (01) 650 5112

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:

Kay Wilkins
9 Tile Farm Road
Orpington
Kent BR6 9RY
Tel: (0689) 52079

SOCIAL SECRETARY:

Mike Walpole
31 Pragnell Road
Lee
London SE12 0LF
Tel: (01) 857 3965

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY in 1989

- CRICKET CLUB SUPPER - Friday 24 February
School Field Pavilion
- ANNUAL DINNER & DANCE - Saturday 25 March
Harrogate Rooms
Yorkshire Grey
- ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - Friday 31 March
School Field Pavilion

FROM THE EDITOR

The Committee of the Old Roan Association are pleased to provide members with a brief Newsletter as an interim publication between the annual 'Chronicles' published each summer. This is intended as a modestly produced communication with the majority of resources retained for the more substantial 'Chronicle'. We aim nevertheless to make this publication worthwhile in terms of content, information and interest value.

We welcome contributions from Old Roan Association members for the forthcoming 'Chronicle' and future publications. The copy deadline for the 1989 'Chronicle' is Friday 12 May. The content of at least three-quarters of a magazine of this nature is predictable with the necessary reports on annual developments and club activities. These contributions are the heart of the magazine and we know from various comments their interest and value to many readers. The remaining proportion however must determine the quality of the publication and it will be a pleasure to include interesting independent articles, miscellaneous thoughts and comments, photographs and updated information on members and contemporaries. We welcome the use of these magazines as a forum for debate and discussion in the future.

This publication has five of the usable ten pages taken by reports on an undistinguished cricket summer and a half-completed football season for which we are grateful to the contributors but aware that the Newsletter is unlikely to satisfy the interests of the 92% of members not participating in Old Roan Sport and the 80% not actively involved with the Club. We cannot expand this balance without a greater contribution from the wider membership and it would be a pleasure to report news of Old Roans with interests in music, theatre, other arts and business in addition to sport. The continued use of the magazines as an archive is also supported with articles proposed dealing with the history of the Schools, Greenwich, students, staff and associates.

The sections on 'Report from the School', 'News of Old Roans', 'Births, Engagements, Marriages and Deaths', together with contributions from a number of the societies and organisation will be more substantially filled in the 'Chronicle' which is due for publication in July. I wish to express once again the gratitude of the Committee to Fritz Henning for his work as Editor and a series of quality magazines over six years.

COPY DATE FOR THE 'CHRONICLE' - FRIDAY 12 MAY, 1989

YOU HAVE BEEN INVITED TO CONTRIBUTE

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's Friday lunchtime. I'm in the Coach & Horses in Isleworth. This article is a week overdue and I'm dining with the Editor tomorrow night. So there's no escape - this report must be written.

I've another ten weeks as your President and then the Chain of Office swops necks and I can sleep on my front again. So how's it been I can hear you ask...? Not at all bad you can hear me reply.

Most of what I wanted to do has been achieved with the help of a very patient committee, although I would have liked to have arranged more social events this year than we've had. However, very soon Punch Promotions will be back in full production and so cabarets, discos, bands, horse racing nights etc. will become regular events once more.

Talking of social occasions I'd like to say how much I enjoyed the Reunion this year and to thank Ann Tonkin, Alf Knott, and Steve Rider not just for speaking but for making such a good job of it. Thank you also to those of you who came and commiserations to those who missed it.

March 25 is the next and probably most important event of the Presidential year - "The President's Grand Charity Ball" more of which you can read on the enclosed letter and return slip. The Saturday in question is Easter Saturday so cancel any holiday trips and book now and seriously consider ringing your friends and making a table up to guarantee a 'fun filled frolicsome evening'.

This year's A.G.M. will also be an important meeting as the changes thrashed out on committee this year have to be ratified so let's see more than the usual 30 odd (numerically speaking) members present. It always amazes me that so many of the regular club members (some of whom I have known on the odd occasion to have a gripe about the running of the Association / Club) don't bother to turn up and voice their opinions on the one night when they are welcome and be acted on. So make a note in your diary and come along, support the General Committee that keeps your Association going, hail the new President and have a drink with friends after the meeting (and before and during if you want).

On Christmas morning I had a phone call from Fred Fuhr all the way from New Zealand. He had only a week or two earlier received his magazine and it was obvious from our conversation that it meant a lot to him. The last 'Chronicle' marked the end of Fritz Henning's reign as Editor and our grateful thanks go out to him for the fine job he did. Our new Editor is David Horsburgh and in order for Fred, and all other Old Roans who are unable to get to the Club regularly, to really be kept in touch, it's important that David is kept fed with news of Old Roans and of everyday life at the Club. So let's give him our support.

Well that's it. I'll leave you now so that you can go and arrange your table for March 25 - see you at the Yorkshire Grey.

Steve Nelson
January 1989

Following the dismal report that was given in the July 1988 issue of the 'Chronicle' things have improved but are still a little disappointing. The Bar Executive, the Bar Stewards and the Rota Stewards have all worked with their usual enthusiasm but the general level of attendance at the Club still leaves a lot to be desired. This is particularly noticeable on Friday evenings and Sunday lunchtimes which were, once, very popular sessions, particularly with those members with young families. However despite these problems the Bar continues to open regularly, thanks to the efforts of Monty Smith, Dap Andrews and Mark Squire, and we can only hope that more members may be persuaded to 'drop in for a drink and a chat' apart from attendances at Old Roan Committee meetings and the various sporting functions.

In an effort to encourage visitors we have had both Bars re-decorated and they make quite a pleasant rendezvous for meeting friends and enjoying other social occasions. The new Pool Table, and the 'Fruit Machine' are both proving very popular and, as always, we do our best to keep our Bar prices very reasonable. Consequent to our efforts over the past year we have made an improvement in our trading figures although the provisional Bar Sales for 1988 are a little under £30,000. Whilst this figure is slightly better than that for the previous year it is still rather low and, based upon our historical record of trading, we should be reaching a turnover of £35,000 - £40,000. Fortunately it seems that the profit level for 1988 is a little better than that for 1987 and the Balance Sheet, when published in March, should reflect an improved financial position. David Andrews is organising another "Trivia Quiz" competition and the Punch Promotion team have one or two functions etc. on stream. With the forthcoming Cricket Supper, and the O.R.A. Annual General Meeting we hope that support at the Club may improve in the immediate future and give us the chance to realise our full potential in 1989.

Finally, David Andrews is anxious to obtain old School photographs, team photographs and Old Roan photographs for reproduction and possible framing. If you do have any such photos that may be of interest will you please contact David.

F.P.B.

THE "CLASS OF '65"

DID YOU START SCHOOL IN 1965 ?
WERE YOU AT ROAN FROM '65 - '72 ?

Well! We are planning to have a Reunion in 1990 so if YOU are interested in meeting old friends contact any of the following:

Laurence 'Spot' Hughes - (01) 582 6655
Alistair 'Mitch' Mitchell - (01) 318 0907
Stephen 'Mad Scientist' Swann - 0342 712239
'Uncle Al' Willson - (01) 870 8449

OLD ROAN CRICKET CLUB

1988 SEASON

1st XI

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
SATURDAY	17	1	4	12
SUNDAY	20*	7	6	6 (*one result not recorded)

Saturday cricket was again a disappointment. The playing squad lacked both quality and quantity to the extent that in the first six games we only once fielded 11 men. We did not win one league game and the only highlight was a drawn game against Bromley Town.

The pick of the batting was Graham Lawrence with an average of 41 which included two fifties. Six other players reached fifty including Keith Barron (86) against West Wickham and Andy Wren (96) at Private Banks. Graham Lawrence returned the best bowling figures with 22 wickets at an average of 20 runs. Five or more wickets in a match was achieved by only four bowlers, each on a single occasion. Chris Stanbridge's performance of 6 for 40 at West Wickham was a creditable effort considering his usual position in the 2nd and 3rd Elevens.

On Sundays we enjoyed greater availability and happily the picture was completely different. Throughout the summer a strong Old Roan side played against useful opposition and enjoyed several excellent matches. Highlights included the game against Brittanic House when Roan scored 195 - 3 chasing a total of 191 - 2 decl. (including a Naz Khan century) with a career best total of 110* from Roger Dale. Against Metrogas we were set to score 186 in just under two hours with our captain, Len Sales, striking the winning runs in the last over in noble style. In the match against Exiles, Mark Squire scored 118 very quick runs against some indifferent bowling.

At the end of the season the fixtures against Broomhills and CUACO provided some excellent cricket. Set a target of 223 by Broomhills after a sporting declaration we looked in trouble at 50 - 4 but two fine innings from John Bain (46) and Graham Lawrence (78*) gave us victory with two overs to spare. At CUACO, Mark (his friends call him 'Botham') Squire dominated the game with an outstanding individual performance. He followed a worthy tally of five wickets in the first innings with a match winning score of 64* which lacked both caution and approved technique in a chase for 100 runs from the final 15 overs.

Fifties were achieved four times each by Mark Squire and Graham Lawrence and on single occasions by John Bain, Len Sales and Dan Calnan. Peter Ellis also managed 5 wickets in a match and Graham Johnson took 5 wickets on three occasions in his season total of 23. Other bowlers among the wickets were Lawrence (25), Sales (16), Barron (15) and Bain (12). It is a great pity that Mark Squire carried a shoulder injury throughout the season which removed the benefit to the team of his potential as a 'strike bowler'.

2nd XI

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
SATURDAY	12	1	1	10
SUNDAY	17	2	9	6
3rd XI SUNDAY	11	3	2	6

There is little to say about the Saturday 2nds. The most consistent batsmen were Martin Pendergast and Terry Chance with Andy Peto ending the season with scores of 57* and 63*. The best bowlers were Chris Stanbridge with 14 wickets at an average of 19 and Martin Pendergast with 20 wickets at a cost of 20 runs.

The Sunday 2nds produced 13 fifties and an unbeaten century by Mike Baxter. Simon Perry topped the batting averages with 47 followed by Mike Baxter and Martin Hooker on 32 runs. Chris Stanbridge again led the bowling with 12 wickets at a cost of 13 runs each followed by Martin Hooker taking 22 wickets at 17 each and 'Spot' Hughes with 24 wickets at 24 each.

The Club managed to provide umpires for most of the matches thanks primarily to Geoff Sawyer and Alan Weir who took care of the Saturday 1 XI and Sunday 2 XIs respectively. Dave Andrews and occasional helpers covered the other matches. Due to a misunderstanding we managed to arrive at Brittanic House with three umpires to cover the two matches and resolved the issue by selecting Fritz Henning to play for the Firsts. The only other time we had three umpires was in the last match of the season against Graham Lawrence's village of Woodhay when Geoff Sawyer and Mike Callaghan performed the duties and Dave Andrews took out his coloured pencils to record the scores.

At this point it is disappointing to note that the Club acted as host to an AKCC organised Umpires Course with no attendance from members of the O.R.C.C. However it is hoped that the Course will be repeated next Autumn when we aim to be better represented. These Courses are equally valuable for the occasional umpire - the 'odd half hour' - as for those intending to make a greater commitment. Membership of the Association of Cricket Umpires is not a requirement and the exam at the end of the Course is also optional. Courses are also arranged for Scorers and Dave Andrews is investigating the possibility of organising one this year.

Report provided by Graham Lawrence and Dave Andrews.

The 'Chronicle' will include commercial advertising and sponsorship. This is intended as a means to improve the quality of the magazine, offer a forum for Old Roans with business interests and to involve the Club with independent commercial organisations.

If you are interested in contributing to the magazines in this manner or wish to sponsor other activities - please contact the Editor. The copy deadline for the next 'Chronicle' is Friday 12 May, 1989.

THE OLD ROAN FOOTBALL CLUB

MID-SEASON REPORT 1988-89

'...in their own words....'

1st. XI - Manager: Tim Fish

The season started with yours truly being officially voted in as 1st.XI Manager although I was later told that nobody else wanted the job.

There appeared to be a great deal of confidence for the forthcoming season, lots of young (and old) enthusiastic players turning up for pre-season training. However this confidence was jolted after the first three games when we ended with 1 point out of a possible 9.

After this sort of start the manager's head was, and has been regularly since, called for. Little did these people know that roaming Old Roans were just returning from their hols.

With strong competition in all positions throughout the team due to the re-appearance of Old Roans from the past and new young players joining the club, has led the 1st.XI to a strong position in the league.

With 2 Cups still to challenge for, let's hope the enthusiasm and success continues until the end of the season and perhaps we can supply the club with some new silverware.

2nd XI - Report by 'Ossie' Osborne

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
12	5	2	5	30	- 31	17

When I was asked to write a short account of our season so far, the first thing that came to mind was "why wasn't I asked four or five weeks back" when we were sitting pretty at the top of the league.

The season started in a positive way with an influx of new blood integrating with the dead wood - no sorry, senior players - to give us a good base for the coming season.

The first two matches played produced encouraging performances which unfortunately ended in defeat, but these were soon forgotten when we beat Crown & Manor 4-2. After this result, the team were undefeated for six games culminating in a very impressive performance against unbeaten Leyton County Reserves.

From that peak, things went drastically wrong mainly due to the unavailability of players, leaving us very short staffed. During this spell we incurred four defeats knocking us from our perch at the top to a mid-table position.

At the time of writing this article, we have played our first game of 1989 and defeated league leaders Waltham Abbey 2 - 0. Let's hope we have turned the corner!

Greene King Spartan League Division One
Including results up until 1.2.89

	P	W	D	L	F - A	Pts.
Catford Wanderers	18	12	3	3	45 19	39
Newmont Travel	13	12	1	0	52 8	37
Hackney Downs	17	10	4	3	32 19	34
Metrogas	15	11	1	3	38 19	34
Walthamstow Trojans	16	9	3	4	34 18	30
Old Roan	14	8	3	3	39 17	27
Brook House	18	7	4	7	31 24	25
Royal George	14	7	2	5	30 28	23
REWA	17	6	5	6	29 38	23
Phoenix	19	6	3	10	39 40	21
AFC Millwall	19	6	1	12	30 52	19
Swanley Town	15	6	0	9	32 45	18
Chigwell Police	17	5	3	9	27 42	18
Ilford	14	4	2	8	31 33	14
Ulysses	15	0	5	10	11 35	5
Penhill Standard	18	0	2	16	18 80	2

3rd XI - Report by Mark Squire

The mighty 3rd team march on! Following what could generously be described as an appalling start to the season the wheels are back on.,

Forwards Jimmy Smith, Ainsley Stokes, Phil Savage and Grant Pizzezy are responding the to incisive and visionary passing of midfield players Paul Smith, Charlie Hyam and Jimmy Coffey and scoring with an almost religious fervour.

Further inspiration to score must come from watching a defence that has more holes in it than a ton of Gruyere. John Leach, Dave Ellis, Ron Clark, Graham Lawrence, Matthew Podger, Jim Douglas and your correspondent have all, at times, combined to make it appear that they are facing the might of Marco Van Basten, Diego Maradona and Ruud Gullit instead of the might of the Metrogas Third Team.

Goal-keeping duties have fallen to Nicky Riley whose ability to make breath-taking saves is unfortunately combined with a talent for making the sort of school-boy howlers that would have any self-respecting 8 year old shinning up his goal post preparatory to being hung from the crossbar.

Still, everyone seems to be enjoying themselves and that's the main thing.....isn't it...?

4th XI - Report by Neville Gaunt

The new season has seen the 4th team combine consistency in results with performances and thus continue to build on the foundations laid down from its successful season last year. At the time of going to press, there has so far been only three points dropped in the league programme and the team has reached the semi-final of the Ashbourne Cup.

Whilst having the good fortune of retaining the nucleus of the same side for a couple of years, two new additions to the squad, Phil page and Paul 'Robbo' Robinson, have added greater strength and flexibility. The 4th team squad can now on some weeks boast the availability of 15-16 players and for the future it is hoped that some of them will spread their talents throughout the Club.

It is also hoped that these consistent performances will be rewarded very shortly with a few more 'home' games at the Club....!

5th XI - Report by Matthew Nelson

So far this season our league results haven't quite been up to expectations - we've only won one game. It may seem an old excuse but the facts don't really tell the whole story. The 5ths have put in some very good performances against good opposition only to be thwarted by a goal one minute from time and similar disasters.

Our most improved players are Nigel Boyce (goalkeeper), Juan Mendoza and Guy Burgin. Without doubt our most solid player has been Tom Greaves (a good footballing name!) who has kept our losing margin down on many occasions.

The good news is that the team are enjoying themselves and as our single victory was in the last match played we have obviously reached the turning point of the 5ths fortunes.

A full report on all Old Roan football teams will be included in the 'Chronicle' later this year - the majority of these reports were made before Saturday 14 January 1989. We are pleased to reflect the benefit of one development in the commercial game with business interests sponsoring the playing kit for the Firsts and Veterans.

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against	Points
8	3	1	4	12	18	7

After a temporary demise we are pleased to report on the newly formed 6th team and after a number of years when the 5th team have been short of players it is rewarding to note that the 6th team has put out a full team with substitute every game this season. Our position in the 3rd Division of the Beckenham & Catford Alliance League is currently fourth in a table of nine teams.

We are grateful to our Groundsman, Ray Keeling, for introducing half a dozen schoolboys who are capable of progressing to higher teams in future seasons and I am also noting their potential for the cricket teams. Players still in the Sixth Year at the School are Stuart Ogben, Mickey Amerstoy, Ian Walker (stand in goalkeeper), Steve Baker and Frazer Lochlie and they are quickly learning the difference of the 'grown up' game (including the usual practice of taking a shower after the match). Their willingness not only to learn but also to compete has helped us to some famous victories already this season including a thrilling cup-tie against a young and fit second division team who we beat 5-4 with Mickey Amerstoy side footing the winning goal past an advancing keeper after constant and exciting end-to-end action.

No 'Old Roan' team would be complete with a 'Very Old Roaner' and we certainly have one of those. Our goalkeeper this season as ever is our Club President, Steve Nelson. He is making yet another comeback to top level football with that instantly recognisable and irregularly-shaped body. Other 'older boys' who have helped to mould this young team are Guy Hawney and John Bain who both look like alpine skiers in a kit that must be at least six sizes too small. Our 'place kick' expert is Steve Sawyer and there are also a couple of non-Old Roans who are helping us out - one of whom justifies his place by speaking 'scouse' and thereby at least gives the impression that he can play football (keep scoring those goals Phil).

OLD ROAN VETERANS - Correspondent aged over 35

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	For	Against
21	7	4	10	44	59

The above statistics reflect a long, enjoyable and competitive season often playing at excellent facilities against strong opposition. We currently have a playing squad of approximately eighteen players necessitating a rota of enforced 'rest weeks' assisted by the inevitable business commitments and occasional injuries. The winter has been very kind providing a series of warm sunny days in January and February. The games are played either on Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning with additional evening matches from early April and we have a minimum of fifteen remaining matches including the annual Norfolk Tour on the weekend of March 12. Credit should be given to Keith Mexter for securing such an impressive fixture list.

The full report will be entered for the 'Chronicle'. The matches played since the New Year have seen improved results with three wins, one draw and one defeat. The single defeat was the subject of a video recording destined for the archives which will show that after a chill mist melted into a warm sunny morning in late January at Ivor Grove, Eltham an Old Roan Veterans team with the names of J.Stanford, R.Dale, M.Titheridge, G.Briscoe, D.Weaver, R.Hunt, Jim Hardy, B.Matthews, B.Hamer, K.Mexter, P.Edwards and R.Grimwood watched by Vic Brooker and a collection of young admiring sons lost an early two goal lead against a better footballing side in a match played throughout in fine spirit. Keith Mexter ghosted two early goals out of the mist when their defence was not watching and our finest efforts failed thereafter when they were watching all the time. The members of the squad rested, on business, injured or filming on that date included G.Townsend, P.Davies, F.Spink, D.Horsburgh, S.Nelson, R.Pepper and J.Ling.

NEWS FROM THE JOHN ROAN SCHOOL

The following article has been abridged from 'The John Roan News' - November 1988 - Issue 14.

T.V.E.I. Technology For The Future

At the start of the new academic year in September 1988 the fourth year students began their new option subjects. Two of these subjects are being funded by the Technical and Vocation Education Initiative (T.V.E.I.) with the John Roan School forming an important part of The Greenwich T.V.E.I. Consortium in partnership with Blackheath Bluecoat, Eaglesfield and Kidbrooke Schools.

The students will concentrate on four main areas of study:

Technology - current study includes problem-solving and will continue to biotechnology and electronic units

Business & Information Studies - computer literacy and business surveys

Expressive Arts - the students have a photography unit and continue to electronic music-making and a Theatre Arts module

Services to People - includes a study of Consumer Affairs, entertaining overseas visitors, making toys and a healthy diet

Following the Government's directive to make education more relevant to the needs and demands of a changing technological society the Training Commission has committed funds to selected Schools. The aim of T.V.E.I. is to make our students better equipped to enter the world of work, to acquire relevant technical and vocational skills and to be able to identify and solve problems.

Resources are also being allocated for the staff to plan and research new courses and methods for future T.V.E.I. students and the benefit of all John Roan pupils as our knowledge and expertise grows. The fourth and fifth year students on next year's course are likely to be studying Travel & Tourism, Sports Management, Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Robotics, alongside the more traditional subjects of Mathematics, English, History, Geography and Physics.

A Report from the John Roan School will be included in 'The Chronicle'

Contributions are now welcome for the sections on 'News of Old Roans, 'Births, Engagements, Marriages and Deaths' and 'Dates for the Diary'. Is anyone prepared to contribute a skill as a cartoonist or an interest in poetry..?

THE 1989 EDITION OF 'THE CHRONICLE' WILL BE PUBLISHED IN JULY

IF YOU WISH TO

CONTRIBUTE, ADVERTISE, SPONSOR , COMPLAIN, COMMENT

PLEASE REPLY BY FRIDAY 12 MAY

TO

DAVID HORSBURGH
32 MERLIN GROVE
BECKENHAM. KENT. BR3 3HU