



# Bishops' High School Old Students' Association

Senior Class Notes

Vol. 3 No. 2 Jul. 2009

## Spanning the Ages by Waveney (Jackson) Lee

Six seniors — Greta (Perreira) Fletcher, Holly Morgan, Joy O'Jon, Magda Pollard, Eileen (Griffith) Robinson and I — met with five groups of second and fourth form students in their classrooms on Wednesday, June 24, after traversing the hallowed corridors of the BHS. We spent between 1½ hours to 2 hours with the students, sharing something of life at BHS in our time.

Greta Fletcher and I partnered for what turned out to be a pleasant experience with the students of Form 2C. The students were neatly dressed, mannerly and, for the most part, chatty. We circulated a copy of the BHSOSA Directory. While being attentive and involved, the students took the opportunity to identify us therein.

I had not given much thought to what I would say but we broke the ice by telling them who we were, what years we had been at BHS and how we had enjoyed our years there. I compared their current uniform with the last one I had worn at BHS (the one with the tiny purse slung over the shoulder). I mentioned that I disliked the first one — with the yoke and set-in waist band — as I thought it was not suited to the fuller figure.

We shared what happened if we did not turn up in our Phys Ed uniform for the PE period and the emphasis Miss Drill King placed on walking the bar to improve our posture. We described our games uniform with its green blazer and crest and noted that going home after school and returning for games was as much a part of the curriculum as Maths and English.

In response to their query, we pointed out that BHS offered the opportunity to play netball, hockey and lawn tennis and organized competitions between houses in netball. From their comments, it is evident that the students would like to have more emphasis on games.

We talked about studying Latin and how this helped with other languages, how our French teacher spoke to us in French from the time she entered the classroom, and how Mrs. Beatty made us do exercises in the classroom, the commands being given in French.

The students talked about themselves, what they studied in school and after school. A few are taking music seriously. One wants to be a part of a band later. Many were outgoing and talked freely about their hopes for the future. We ensured that the shy ones had their say by encouraging them and waiting for their input.

At the end, the students asked us about our lives as retirees. Greta said that she was not retired at all but was still very involved in the family engineering business. I mentioned that my work life had prepared me for my 'retirement', pointing out that I worked more now than when I was employed, the only difference being that currently I am not paid but my life is very exciting.

The session could have gone on and on but the bell and moreso the voices and the footsteps in the corridor outside told us that it was time to go. After we bid the students farewell, some of them joined the group of seniors and members of the senior committee to continue the interaction. One student told me that I reminded her of a relative of hers.

It is obvious that the students are interested in learning more about life in the days gone by.



## English Language

What are the rules of English Language? Who made them? Can you figure them out?

- There is no egg in eggplant, nor ham in hamburger; neither apple nor pine in pineapple.
- English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France.
- Sweetmeats are candies while sweetbreads, which aren't sweet, are meat.
- Quicksand can work slowly, boxing rings are square and a guinea pig is neither from Guinea nor is it a pig.
- Why is it that writers write but fingers don't fing, grocers don't groce and hammers don't ham?
- If the plural of tooth is teeth, why isn't the plural of booth, beeth?
- One goose, 2 geese. So, one moose, 2 meese? One index, 2 indices?
- Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make amends but not one amend? If you have a bunch of odds and ends and get rid of all but one of them, what do you call it?
- If teachers taught, why didn't preachers praught? If a vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a humanitarian eat?
- In what language do people recite at a play and play at a recital? Ship by truck and send cargo by ship? Have noses that run and feet that smell?
- How can a slim chance and a fat chance be the same, while a wise man and a wise guy are opposites?
- You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your house can burn up as it burns down, in which you fill in a form by filling it out and in which, an alarm goes off by going on.
- People, not computers, invented English and it reflects the creativity of the human race, which, of course, is not a race at all. That is why, when the stars are out, they are visible, but when the lights are out, they are invisible.



## Let's Celebrate

Aug 16 Florizel Matthews  
Aug 18 Elsa Charles  
Aug 24 Joy O'Jon  
Aug 26 Jean Sankies  
Aug 28 Leila Too Kong  
Sep 9 Joyce Joao  
Oct 10 Audrey Odle

Oct 12 Margarita Harewood



Oct 15 Ethyl Wilson

Oct 17 Marlene Crawford  
Oct 19 Yvonne Benn  
Oct 21 Urma Fordyce  
Oct 24 Margery Kirkpatrick  
Oct 26 Lucille Cholmondeley  
Oct 29 Holly Morgan  
Oct 30 Eileen Robinson

## Save the Dates

- September is the month when seniors gather around the table to sip and chat. This year, the September Affair will be held on Saturday, September 19 at 4 pm at the home of Derry Harry, 217 Cedar Court, Lamaha Gardens.
- The Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, October 24 in the Oswald Parry Hall.
- Carol singing is an integral part of the BHSOSA calendar. This year, the event will held on Friday, December 18 at the usual venue. Stay tuned for more details.

## Do You Know?

1. How long did the Hundred Years War last?
2. Which country makes Panama hats?
3. From which animal do we get cat gut?
4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
1. 116 years
2. Ecuador
3. Sheep and horses
4. November
5. Squirrel fur

## Let Us Know

Are you interested in:

- Interacting with current students more frequently?
- Taking an overland trip to Lethem or visiting a resort or another country as a group?
- Playing scrabble, exchanging books, learning a craft?

