

# The Egbertian

NEWS FROM THE OLD EGBERTIAN ASSOCIATION

see our website at [www.oldegbertians.com](http://www.oldegbertians.com)



Summer 2008

## Editor's Comment

Welcome to the Summer edition of *Egbertian News*.

**Our last newsletter was very well received and was probably our biggest edition to date. As you can imagine it took a long time to put together so we return to our standard format for this edition which is quicker and easier to produce.**

**Once again the Association committee has put together a very good Social calendar and hopefully there is something for everyone. However, if there is something that you feel that the Association's members would enjoy then let us know and we will endeavour to see whether we can include it. We are here for the benefit of the membership so any input is most welcome.**

**Finally, if you have not rejoined the Association for this year then please do so.**

**Enjoy the magazine.**

## A Word from the Secretary *by Jeff Thomas*

Having been OEA Secretary since the Association reformed in 2001 I am often asked why I became involved as I did not attend St Egberts College.

At the time I was Chairman of the Egbertian Football Club (I am now Secretary and Vice Chairman) and I could see that there could be possible benefits for both organisations if I could forge a close link between the two. I had often envied the patron system that exists at many rugby clubs where former players offer financial and moral support to keep the rugby club in a stable position. Many of the Association played for the football club and have featured prominently in the club's history. I have many of the club's archives including committee letters, match reports, some accounts etc and it is remarkable how many of the current Association are mentioned. One day when I have the time I intend to write a full history of the football club and I will draw on the wealth of experience out there.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those Association members who have made donations to the football club since the reformation of the Association. Knowing that you are there for us is a big comfort.

The football club has just enjoyed one of our most successful seasons with three teams gaining promotion. You may recall that we won our first ever cup competition last season when our second team won the LOB Intermediate cup and many of the Association were there to see the victory. The decision was taken for this season to switch our

first and second around over as while the teams were not too dissimilar in standard our second team are a lot younger and the future of the club. Happily it was the correct decision as they won Intermediate North and will now be in Senior Division Three, making us a Senior Status club for the first time in many years. The prospects for them are very exciting as they are a young side who could take us to parts of the league that we have never been before.



A big bonus this season was our second team being promoted into Intermediate North (which was the same division before the switch over) and our fifth team who were promoted to Division four. The only negative aspect of the season was the disbanding of our third team mid season whose captain decided that he had

insufficient players to keep going which resulting in our fourth, fifth and sixth teams moving up a team and the withdrawal from the league of our sixth team. Unfortunately the step up for the fourth team (playing as our third team) was too much and they were relegated on the last day of the season. However, overall it has been a very pleasing season and one to remember

The Association has now been reformed for six years and we have probably reached a plateau with the number of members remaining constant at about 90. Our peak was in the early years when we had over 100 but the pattern seems to be that some members forget to rejoin and rejoin at a later date. We see the occasional new member but

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happily we have a hard core of about 60 members who religiously rejoin which makes the Association viable. The strength of the Association has always been the social side and we have been fortunate to

have had Bill Crisp and Brian Peiri as past and present Social Secretaries who have made the social programme what it is. A big thank you to both of them.

## Membership

Only two months into the year the Association already has 73 members (plus three Honourary members) which is a big improvement on this time last year. Only 18 members have failed to rejoin this year and as many of those are regular members it is probably just an oversight on their part and we would hope that they will rejoin again. In addition there are 16 members who have previously been a member of the Association as recently as a couple of years ago and should a number of those rejoin then we could be back up to the 100 member mark which would be the first time for several years.

One very positive note is that eight members have rejoined having let their membership lapse for one year or more which again is a vast improvement on last year. Overall membership is holding up well and is positive for the future.

If you received a reminder letter with this newsletter we would appreciate you rejoining - a reply envelope is enclosed.

Membership is still only £10.00 and should be sent to our membership Secretary, Mike Fitzgerald.

## AGM

The AGM was held on Friday April 25th once again at the Woodford Wells Club, Woodford Green. Numbers were slightly down on last year but all those attended seemingly enjoyed themselves. Peter Burke presided over the proceedings for the 40 minutes that the AGM lasted after which the social side of the evening took over.

Mr Burke reported on the passing of Revd Brother Fergus and Revd Brother Edmund and Gordon Spurgeon during the past year, all of whom had an obituary in the last issue of *The Egbertian*. The tradition drink from the Chairman to the person who attended the AGM from furthest away was "won" by Terry Sumner, who had travelled from Galway.

## Social events for the year

The first Social event of the year was a tour of the **House of Lords** which took place on Friday June 27th. Space restrictions prevent further comment but there will be a full report on this very successful trip in the next edition of *The Egbertian*. With the impending closure of the Walthamstow Greyhound Track, which will be a sad loss to the area **The Dogs Night** will not be taking place. Another very popular annual event is the **London Walk** which will take place on Saturday 27th September in the Greenwich Area. The **Theatre trip** will this year be at the Queens Theatre in Hornchurch, which is a better venue than the Kenneth Moore Theatre in Ilford. We await the programme from the theatre then the chosen production and date will be published in due course. **The Memorial Mass** and **Christmas Social** will be on the same day, Sunday 14th December so those traveling can attend both events. We tried this for the first time last year and it was well received.

If you wish to attend any of the above please contact Brian Pieri on 020 8524 0258.

## Snippets

The Association was sad to hear of the deaths of Paddy Duffy and Richard O'Gorman. We have had no takers for the vacant webmaster post (see last edition) so the committee will have to consider commissioning an outside contractor. If you can help please get in touch.

## The Old Egbertian Association

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