

Honorary Chairman  
Old Camdenians Club  
Holloway School  
Hilldrop Road  
London N7 OJ9

October 1986

Dear Old Camdenian,

The changing colours of summer into autumn, dahlias drooping after a sharp frost the previous evening, a glance at the calendar to ask yourself "what happened to the summer?". All this by way of a prelude to remind you its time to make your arrangements for attending the Old Boys dinner this year. When? As usual, it is on the last Friday of November (28th). Where? The Gatehouse (upstairs please), Highgate Village. (Cost £10.50) Time: (Bar open 6 pm).

This letter will also serve as formal notice for the AGM which will start at 6.30 and be over, hopefully, not many minutes later.

I will be delighted to learn that our guest of honour this year is that stalwart of the Cricket Club, true Old Camdenian, founder member of the Playing Field Trust - DENIS STEEL.

To match the esteem in which we hold our principal guest you will be pleased to learn that the toast for the guests will be proposed by an equally prominent member of the main club, previous captain of the Cricket Club, also not unknown for his football prowess - George Robb.

What more can I say. I am certain we shall exceed last year's attendance of 63 persons (in itself a record for quite a few years). So your committee looks forward to welcoming you to a happy friendly occasion.

May I take this opportunity to publicly thank your Committee for their conscientious efforts during the year and for the polite, patient, pushing they have applied to your chairman.

During the year I have received a very nice letter from Ian Clarke, who was the young man we sponsored to tour with the London Schools Symphony Orchestra: On 27th July the Cricket Club Chairman's XI played a representative side from the current playing strength of the Club. The Chairman's XI were Averill, Bailey, Bowen, Brown, Cowley, French, Palmer, Scott, Spaul, Weedall and Chris Hamer (Stuart's son). Yours truly, preceding the roller and opening time enabled a draw to be judged a fair conclusion to the afternoon's proceedings. Among those watching we were very pleased to see Mr/s (Ron) Wilby, Mr/s Pearce, Mr/s Robb, Mr/s Jones, Mr/s Sumpter, Bob Pearson, Mr/s Haines, Mr/s Wraight. (Jack Crook was playing for THEM!!).

I am sure the sub section reports at the AGM will contain news of how the pavilion has been redecorated. The Fred Wilby portrait has been hung in the lounge section. I was very pleased to share a few beers with Bill Rogers during the year; to learn that Cliff Broad, Bill Blunden, and Joe Adams are still "knocking about". Paul Scott has a new supply of Old Boys ties and will bring them to the dinner; Alan Cornelius recently celebrated 25 years of marriage.

Over the last few years many of you have been kind enough to send donations to allow 6th formers and recent school leavers to attend our dinner. I would be obliged for similar help this year - we do not want a lot of money - just a small donation to allow us to extend our invitations so that the dinner remains self supporting. Mike Walker of the school staff has been especially helpful in bringing along 6th formers and on your behalf, I thank him.

I have had a letter from Theo Crabtree, who sounds fit and well and is living in Sidmouth. I cannot find reference in the records I hold that the Old Boys have honoured Theo's service to the school. I may be wrong on this - but to put matters straight I am recommending that he be made an honorary Life Vice President.

I will be pleased to receive news of any Old Boys of the school - either through the school or my home address, 10 Westward Road, Wokingham, Berks RG11 2UR.



Richard Brown  
Hon chairman.

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