

Christmas 2009

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PPU GOLF OUTING

Welcome from PPU President

Only months before I left the school in 1973, the College moved from Clyde Road to Booterstown and it has since grown in both size and stature. As President of the Past Pupils' Union I very much look forward to the opening of the new East Wing building and to attending a variety of events in the College.

Membership of the PPU provides many opportunities for pupils and teachers, both past and present, to keep in contact with each other and the College. St Andrew's College PPU is a very active member of the Association of Schools' Unions (ASU) and this also helps renew friendships and re-live old rivalries with past pupils of other schools.

For everyone involved with St Andrew's College the coming year promises to be a very busy and exciting time. Your PPU is always looking for fresh ideas and opinions so should you wish to become involved or put forward any suggestions please make contact with me or any member of the committee through our Secretary, Sally Walker, in the Alumni Relations Office at the College.

I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and look forward to meeting and staying in touch with many of you in 2010.

Nigel Meredith
PPU President 2009/'10

This year's PPU golf outing was held in Rathfarnham Golf Club on 5th June. We had an excellent turn-out of 39 players (32 past pupils and 7 guests) who played for a large selection of prizes and cups.

The top four Past Pupil winners were as follows:-

- 1st Nigel Meredith, (h'cap 11) with 37 points
- 2nd David Burnett (h'cap 20) 36 points (on back 9)
- 3rd Bernie Wojnar (h'cap 12) 36 points
- 4th Chris Wojnar (jnr.), (h'cap 12) 35 points

The cups which were played for were as follows:

The **Heney Cup** (handicaps 0 -12), was won by our President – Nigel Meredith.

The **Leslie Cup** (handicaps 13 +), was retained, for yet a further year by David Burnett.

The **Taylor Cup** (for ladies - past pupils or those who work in the College), was won by Joan Kirby, Vice Principal in St. Andrew's College.

Congratulations to all of the above and to the many other prize winners. The players were joined at dinner after the golf by our PPU President at the time, Bob Tweedy, who presented the prizes, and by Arthur Godsil, Headmaster.

Keep in touch with the College by searching for the 'St Andrew's College Dublin Alumni' group on [FACEBOOK](#).



ASU GOLF OUTING:

St Andrew's College PPU golfers have retained the Association of Schools' Unions (ASU) Cup at the annual inter-school past pupils' golf competition, held this year on 10 July in Beech Park GC. Having won the competition in 2008, the win this year means that the PPU has now won this trophy on 14 occasions since the 1940's. An interesting fact is that in 1958 St Andrew's won the trophy for the third year in a row. Hopefully we can mirror that achievement in 2010!

This year past pupils from 9 schools competed for the cup. In this competition, any number of past pupils from each of the competing schools can enter and play. This year, as a result of a lot of hard work by our PPU golf secretary/manager, David Burnett, St Andrew's College PPU had 20 players representing the school. The competition is singles stableford format. Then the best 4 individual scores from each PPU team are aggregated and the Union with the highest aggregate score wins the cup.

This year the best St Andrew's scores were returned by:

David Burnett (handicap 20) with 39 points (also received 1st prize in class 2);
Bernard White (18) with 36 points (also received 4th prize in class 2);
Graham Hohn (8) with 35 points (also received 4th prize in class 1); and
Neville Hohn (12) with 33 points, giving St Andrew's PPU an aggregate score of 143 points.

The top four teams scored as follows:

1 st	St Andrews College	143 points
2 nd	Masonic	140 points
3 rd	Middleton College	139 points
4 th	High School	139 points

Bob Tweedy, PPU President 2008/'09, was in attendance at the dinner to receive the cup on behalf of the PPU and thanked all the PPU golfers who had participated and indicated that he was delighted that the PPU had retained the trophy.

David Burnett said that he is hopeful that St Andrew's PPU can field an equally strong team in 2010 with an even greater number of "recent" school leavers in order to seek to "make it three wins in a row" for the second time in history.

ANNUAL DINNER:

A very successful Annual Dinner was held on 9th October in the Royal St George Yacht Club in Dun Laoghaire. It was a great night with over 100 attending, and in particular for the classes of 59, 69 and 79 who held their 50, 40 and 30 year reunions. The guest speaker was Roly Meates who gave a very humorous and well received speech.

If you are the class of 1960, 70 or 80 please get in touch with Carole or Sally in the Alumni office so that we can get the ball rolling for your reunions.

2010 Dates for Diaries

Friday 12 March: Clyde Road Lunch in the Royal St George YC. Extend the rugby weekend (Ireland v Wales, Saturday 13 March) and attend the lunch for those who left St Andrew's College prior to 1965.

Friday 11 June: PPU Golf Outing in Edmondstown Golf Club. For more information contact Terry Forsyth on terryforsyth@eircom.net

Friday 8 October: PPU Dinner in the Royal St George YC. If you are from the Classes of 1980, 1970, 1960, 1950, keep the date free and start making arrangements to meet for your reunions!

As well as Facebook and Friends Reunited St Andrew's College is now on Twitter.

<http://twitter.com/standrewsdublin>

FOLLOW ME ON 

Retirements from St Andrew's College

We had a number of retirements in 2009, namely Ronnie Hay, Barbara Duff, Billy Ellis, Una Brangan and Christine Ward. A party was held in October to celebrate their retirements and acknowledge their hard work over the many years they spent in St Andrew's College. Good wishes to them all for the next phase of their lives.



Excerpts from memories of Steven Ahern's (Class of 1977) first day in Clyde Road and meeting Ronnie Hay for the first time!

"I was one of those precocious little brats that arrived at St Andrew's in Clyde Road in September 1971. I luckily avoided shorts on the first day, John Horsfield did not. I wore the quartered school cap - an error that was clawed back by using it as a class Frisbee.

Ronnie Hay and David Boyd were the new boys and didn't look much older than us. If my memory is right they, at the bottom of the land grab pecking order, got the stable block classrooms at the end of the playground just beside Speedy Wilson's chalk dust filled room. Newly white washed the "converted" stables were minimalist.

Mr Hay wore his gown with a certain confidence; I got the feeling that Mr Boyd wore his to differentiate him from the sixth formers. Hair was worn long in those days. Farah perma-pressed trousers and the obligatory Donegal Tweed jacket hid under their cloaks of authority. My recollection was that Mr Boyd's was neutral blue and grey and Mr Hay was neutral brown and green. Speedy was neutral chalk dust.

Messrs Hay and Boyd were full of enthusiasm for education, marred only by 1A's complete lack of connection to their new world of big school. We had one or two junior borders that arrived with us and they knew the ropes - tuck shop, fag supply, vitriolic sixth formers and other essential guide notes to survival of the first week in Clyde Road.

Mr Hay took no insubordination. He had certain intransigence about him and he seemed to keep emotion out of the teacher/pupil game. Compromise was not a place for Mr Hay. He was cool and consistent. At first glance he looked stern - his heavy brow exaggerated his authority. He taught me History. He did a great job."



10 and 20 year Reunion held on 7th November

Approximately 100 past pupils from the Classes of 1989 and 1999 attended their joint reunion recently. Arthur Godsfil hosted a reception in the school after which they went to the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel in Golden Lane for dinner. People came from all over the world - from Japan to Tipperary - a great effort and by all accounts a good time was had by all! See the photos on Facebook and in the PPU page of the College website. Here are some of the reactions to their night:

"Awesome party with awesome friends. A tribute to the west US guys and Kate coming from Japan for the effort.

Great to see everyone, class of 89! See you at the 25th!!

Great night last night. So good to see everyone again!

What a great night last night.....my head hurts real bad.....

So good to see everyone and all in such good shape, even after 20 years!

Thanks gang, had a great night!

Thank you for such a great night. It was fantastic to meet up with a lot of people I haven't seen in 10 years! And also some people I lost contact with. I think we all had a great night and can't wait for the 20 years!



Just to say a huge thank you for organising the night which I really enjoyed enormously. My wife had a similar reunion for a different school which was not organised centrally and as a result was useless, so I am completely aware that the reason why the reunion was such fun was because of the effort that you put in and thank you very much - well done guys." (Take a bow Sally and Carole)!

As you can see it was a thoroughly enjoyable night and if you are the class of 1990 or 2000 next year is a big year for you! So, take out your 2010 diaries and make a note of your Class Reunions which will take place in November. Make sure to receive an invitation by remembering to let the Alumni Relations Office have your up-to-date contact details and those of your classmates.

Voluntary Work – Can you make a difference?

A report from Stuart Garrett (Class of 2007)

To be honest what I have come to understand is that, No, despite our best efforts, you cannot make a difference for all but you can make a difference for some.

When I was in 4th year in St Andrew's College, I was lucky enough to be selected to travel on the first Transition Year trip to Uganda. In my naivety I thought what we were doing was changing the world. We raised our money and travelled out to see the difference our money was making to Kisiizi Hospital, Rubirizi Secondary school and Jinja orphanage.

In 5th Year, I travelled with a group of students and teachers from St Andrew's to Zambia, where we worked with 'Habitat for Humanity' and assisted a local community to construct a house. In my first year in college, I travelled with UCD Volunteers Overseas to Haiti in 2008 and worked alongside local construction workers building 9 houses and worked with local teachers to run three summer camps. St. Andrew's left me with the desire to go and help any people in the world who needed it, wherever they are.

The second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere is Nicaragua and that is where I ventured this year, also with UCDVO.

For all of the projects I have been involved in I have had to fundraise and Nicaragua was no exception. As you can imagine, having been fortunate enough to travel on three volunteer trips my fundraising resources were slowly

diminishing. I decided I would have to branch out a little. I held a charity dinner and raffle in my house, I did Sports massage in my Hockey club and I wrote to the PPU. The PPU were kind enough to give me a generous donation towards my trip to Nicaragua and thanks to all of the support plus the PPU's donation I managed to raise €3,000.

The projects that UCDVO undertook in Nicaragua this year were to build a basketball court, a tree house and a sewerage system at a school called 'Los Quinchos' for disadvantaged children at higher social risk. While there, we also painted a mural of a map of the world for the children. We landscaped the grounds at a Health Centre, which had been built last year by UCDVO, and constructed stoves in local houses.

I am especially thankful to the PPU for their support but I owe even more thanks and gratitude to St Andrew's and the teachers and staff that encouraged me and introduced me to volunteer work. I am now in my 3rd Year of college in UCD studying Physiotherapy and I hope to travel and work as a Physiotherapist voluntarily in Africa or anywhere else I may be needed when I qualify. I would also like to take this opportunity to encourage all Past Pupils of St Andrew's or current students to volunteer with any organisation at some point or to even make a donation. It is a great experience and no matter how young or old or how qualified or unqualified you are, you always have something to offer the people you will be working with and helping. These people will likewise have some great things to offer to you and may help to change your life and who you are.



Development at St. Andrew's College:

Ever since its doors were first opened on St. Stephen's Green in 1894, St. Andrew's College has been on a constant journey of development, much of which is due to the many acts of kindness of generations of past pupils. A new East Wing building comprising classrooms, gym, changing rooms, art & design centre and numerous multi-purpose areas will be opened in the spring.

If you would like to support the Development Fund to enable the College continue to provide the best of facilities for future generations of St Andrew's College students please contact Sally Walker in the Development & Alumni Relations Office E: swalker@st-andrews.ie or T: (01) 288 2785. Methods by which you can help include a pledged gift, an outright gift or a legacy in your will.



Past Pupil News

- Congratulations to **Dr Aoife McLysaght (Class of 1994)** and her colleague, Dr David F Knowles, of TCD's Smurfit Institute of Genetics, who, in a remarkable piece of detective work have made the first discovery of genes that are completely unique to humans.
- Congratulations to **Danielle MacInnes (Class of 1995)** who has been invited onto the board of the Interiors Association of Ireland and has picked up the title Best Newcomer at the Interior Design Awards for her brand-new company – Fuse Interiors.
- **Katie McGrath (Class of 2000)** is in the news for her role in the BBC's production of Merlin which has turned her into an international star. The BBC show has been a global hit, airing in 180 countries. Katie also starred in Channel 4's recent production of The Queen alongside Emilia Fox.
- Congratulations to **Felix Jones (Class of 2005 – Munster)** who played Full Back on the winning Ireland A team against Argentina recently. The final score was **Ireland A 31 : Argentina 0**.
- Well done to sisters **Leigh Arnold (Class of 1997)** and **Chloe Arnold (Class of 2002)** who are part of a group of well known Irish women who are helping a Mongolian charity – Made in Mongolia (MIM) by modelling the fashion accessories made by local women in Mongolia. The charity was set up to enable female heads of impoverished Mongolian households to become self-sufficient by using their traditional skills in new ways. 50 Mongolian women are employed in four centres producing a range of handcrafted items. These items can be purchased in Avoca and Kilkenny stores and gift shops throughout the country. See www.madeinmongolia.net for more information.
- **Ruth Gilligan (Class of 2006)** who has already achieved much in her young life, having written 2 books, has been awarded a scholarship from the O'Reilly Foundation and is about to begin a masters at Yale. Best wishes to her in the next phase of her life.

Deaths:

Our sympathies go to the family of Wesley Earl (Class of 1997) whose untimely death occurred recently. Wesley loved golf and cricket and was part of the victorious schools Seconds XI cricket team that won the cup in 1996. He was a very popular classmate. We send our sympathy to Wesley's wife Joanne and their son Patrick who are in our thoughts at this time.

Engagement:

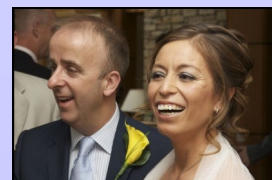
- Eilish Murphy (1995) to Alan Synnott.

Births:

- To: Judy Craddock (née Cobbe –Class of 1989) and Shane, a son Sam.
- To: Andrew Groves (Class of 1994) and Ailish a son Evan.
- To: Jonathan Whisker (Class of 1991) and Michelle, twins Damian and Cameron.
- To: Alan Cox (Class of 1987) and Jenny, a son Tom.

Weddings:

- Congratulations to Andrew Walker (**Class of 1987**) and Susana Marambio who were married in Wicklow during the summer. Now living life to the full in Eindhoven.



Sport in St Andrew's continues from strength to strength particularly in hockey.

All the best to the St Andrew's College Senior Boys and Senior Girls Hockey Teams who are involved in the John Waring All Ireland Schoolboys Championship 2009 and The ESB Kate Russell Cup which bring together the top school talent in a play-off tournament to decide the All-Ireland Schools Champions of the year. These events will be held in the New Year. The College continues to have participation from our pupils on the National Hockey Squads, representing Ireland at U18 and U16 Boys and Girls.



*HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
ST ANDREW'S COLLEGE PAST PUPILS
REMEMBER TO STAY IN TOUCH IN 2010.*

