



The Old Johannian Association

# *The Bulletin*

October 2004

\*\*\*\*\* HEADLINES \*\*\*\*\*

## ***Proposed fundamental changes to the Association***

### **CONTENTS**

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- The Association update
- Events
- The College
- Diary dates
- Contacting the OJA
- Contacting the college

Your chance to contribute  
your opinion to the way ahead.



# Where are we going?

There has been a question mark hanging over the future of the Association for some time now. As always, in a volunteer organisation it has become increasingly difficult to find members willing and able to take a share in the work of the committee. This is in part due to the inexorable increase in the demands society makes upon the personal resource of time.

In a pragmatic realisation of this trend and the associated fortunes of the Association an initiative has been launched to allow the college to use its administrative resources to take over the running of the Association.

This style of running an Old Pupil's association has been adopted and used successfully by many, if not most of the major colleges for some considerable time. It is a well tried arrangement. It does of course require a college administration that is committed long-term to the Association and in that, a certain amount of trust is also required.

The Committee feels that the advantages are considerable and here is a list of some of them :-

- A permanent presence on-site to receive visiting old pupils.
- A mechanism by which the Association does not rely on volunteers to administer it.
- The opportunity to "capture" succeeding generations into the Association by including lifetime membership subscriptions within the school fees and automatically making leavers members.
- Ensuring a stable supply of funds to allow future planning of events and developments.
- Releasing those active members who wish to concentrate on the high profile activities of the Association, such as the Annual Dinner.
- Ensuring that the age-old chestnut of not achieving a quorum to make essential decisions is avoided in the future.

In reality the Association is in danger of becoming moribund and needs to reinvent itself to accommodate our changing times. It needs to be relevant to

to the needs of the membership (318) as it stands today.

Most colleges regard an Old Pupil's Association as a valuable asset to the image and persona of the college, not to mention the potential resource provided by the "Old boy network". The current administration shares that view, and in particular the headmaster, Nigel Thorne is particularly enthusiastic. To some extent it could appear as a leap of faith, especially as there are those who regard the previous regime as still too close for comfort, and also remember her less than supportive attitude to the Association. Nevertheless it would seem that it is more appropriate to be forward looking than to dwell in the past.

This represents some of the case to be made for this initiative, however this is also your opportunity (that is you the

membership) to voice your opinions and have them considered before the constitution of the Association is fundamentally changed. It would be encouraging to imagine that many of you will find the time to e-mail, write, phone or otherwise communicate with the Committee expressing how you feel. It would also indicate that you have sufficient interest in your Association, and that its future concerns you. It is imperative that we know your opinion on this matter.

In any event the Association will endeavour to focus on enjoyable ways to bring past pupils of St. John's College together with each other and/or the College.

You can find the contact details for the Association on the back page of this bulletin. We look forward to hearing from you all.



## The 21st Annual OJA golf day Thursday 14th October



Notice of this year's annual OJA golf at the Waterlooville golf club is unfortunately too late for this year. However it may be worth making a note in

your diary, that the golf takes place at this time of the year. Bro. David organises this event and can be contacted on :- 02392820352 (fax 863036)





# College News



Talks between the college and the OJA have been on-going for some time now. They are based around the intention of the two parties to transfer the administration of the OJA to the college. Furthermore the college will have more of an input, and will provide increased support for the activities of the

OJA. The intent has been agreed and the fine detail to be decided. The time-scale is to implement any approved changes by the start of the 2005/06 academic year, (Sep 2005)

## Diary Dates

### 21st OJA Golf

Thursday 14th October  
Waterlooville golf club.

### Fireworks

Saturday 6th November 6:00pm  
College playing fields, Farlington

### College/OJA

### Remembrance service

Monday November 8th  
2:00pm College sports hall

### Carol services

St. John's cathedral, Portsmouth.  
7:00pm

Lower school Monday 6th Dec

Upper school Tues 7th Dec

### Christmas Leavers reunion

Recent leavers and upper 6th to meet in the OJA bar. Time/date TBA

### Annual Dinner

April 9th 2005

## Contacting the OJA

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