

## ■ The 2006 Whole School Reunion & AGM

By kind permission of the owners of the building, the Moseley Muslim Community Association, our 2006 Whole School Reunion and AGM will take place at the Moseley School of Art, Moseley Road, on Sunday, 21st. May. Doors open at 11.30am.

### **The 2006 Reunion will have a special theme - Romance !**

One of the more peculiar phenomena associated with our school is the high number of boys and girls who met while attending the school and who subsequently married . . . there are a large number of couples who are members of our association who fall into this category, and, whether fortune has smiled on them and they have remained married or not, we'd like to make a special feature of honouring them at our meeting. The event will inevitably draw a lot of attention from the press and, hopefully, local radio and TV, **so it's important that everyone who married another pupil be contacted so that they can attend.**

ALL ex pupils from ALL years are welcome – our website news page [www.moseley-art-school.co.uk/news.html](http://www.moseley-art-school.co.uk/news.html) will carry regular updates on the details. Our reunions are attended by past pupils from every decade back to the early 1930's . . . and we have a level playing field, with everyone from painters to pasty crimpers, from priests to plumbers . . . following careers such as designing to diesinking, fishery farming to fine art printing. If you haven't been to a reunion before, you'll be amazed that there are no barriers between people from different years, and even people from different generations. You'll find it fascinating to compare notes about the teachers former pupils and the day-to-day routine from thirty years before or after your own time at Moseley Art.

Whether your most memorable teacher was 'Pa' Jenkins, Ralph Sargison, Harry Adams, 'Ma' Scott, Ted 'Moggy' Mason, John 'Butch' Taylor, 'Ma' Squires, Ernie 'Pongo' Price, Miss Scott, Freddie Fox, Mr. Jones, 'Dickie' Davies, Truda Lane or Miss Pearson . . . or Bob Ashby, Tom 'Percy' Palmer, Reg Hartland, 'Zeke' Hardwick, . . . or whether you remember the school secretary, Mrs. Bushell (she always looked so concerned when boys faked fainting spells) . . . treat this reunion as the last – you never know . . .

We look forward to meeting, once again, former pupils from the four quarters of the globe as the doors of the old school are thrown open, reuniting old friends (and old flames) who may not have met for 30, 40, 50, 60 or even (as at our last Reunion) 70 years.

Who'll be there ? One thing's for sure - if YOU aren't, you may well miss that unique chance to meet up with old friends and teachers who have made a one-off trip from the other side of the world, hoping that YOU would be there ! We have visitors from Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, Spain, Norway and many other parts of Europe. The No. 37 tram service was removed in the early 1950's, but the no. 50 bus will still drop you near the front door . . .

Name badges will be issued to everyone attending, and we need to estimate the catering needs, so please **PRE-REGISTER** the names of everyone attending – either by completing and returning the attached form or by Emailing [pre-register@moseley-art-school.co.uk](mailto:pre-register@moseley-art-school.co.uk)

A full buffet lunch will be served to all who attend. Admission will be **FREE TO SUBSCRIBING MEMBERS** (if you aren't already a member, the annual subscription is £10 - please complete and return the enclosed Standing Order immediately) or, for non-subscribers, there will be an entrance fee of £5 per person at the door ( it pays to JOIN! )

## ■ The 2005 Spring Exhibition

The 2005 Spring Exhibition of Works for Sale by Former Pupils and Teachers was held at the Moseley School of Art between the 15th. and 21st. May. This, the second exhibition, was organised by our newly-appointed Exhibitions Secretary, Pam Headford (Gilbert), who was a pupil at the school between 1954-57, assisted by Terry Neal, a pupil between 1947-50.

### *Part of Pam's Reflections on the Exhibition -*

"Can't we do this every year?" someone was overheard to say - and why not indeed? Flattered to be asked I certainly had little concept when accepting the role of Exhibition Secretary the complexities that lay ahead.

"There had been a good response early in 2005 with more than 100 indications of interest in exhibition, so imagine our dilemma when news came that the company who had supplied the excellent 2003 exhibition stands had "gone into liquidation. The outcome was the resolve to build it ourselves. It was very much at the ninth hour that willing band of volunteer 'builders' emerged they being the cream of the 1940's and 50's leavers and together assisted by Graeme Collins and his son Richard and my long suffering husband (not M.S.A, educated in Suffolk!) the exhibition stands emerged from the 32 off 8' x 4' panels which found their way up the multitude of steps within M.S.A and after many coats of emulsion the final results were very satisfactory. Meanwhile the volume of exhibitors shrank from the early promise of high numbers to just 61 entries. The standard of work and variety of contents was excellent and high compliment paid by exhibition visitors who included Carl Chinn and his BBC team as part of the Monday Exhibition Opening. It is hard to know if the restrictions we had to observe regarding the depiction if the nude figures had a bearing on our final entry numbers. Also many comments were made regarding the complex 'conditions' and cost of entry. This is something to resolve before the next event.

"From a personal point of view I found organising the event a huge learning event and at times daunting. But in contrast the contacts made between the prospective exhibitors by various forms of correspondence were very rewarding and it was a great pleasure to be able to meet with them at the Exhibition, truly making the whole effort worthwhile.

"A huge thank you to **Terry Neal**, Assistant Exhibition Secretary and Ace Exhibition stand maker and the team - **Ivan Perkins, Robert Sedgley, Tony Light, Richard E Smith, Bryan and Matt Headford**, together with helpers **Pat Reynolds, David Smith, Mike Richardson** and **John Norton**, and grateful thanks also to **John Walters** (lighting) and **John Mackay** (for the excellent Catalogue and posters which he supplied free of charge)."

### *Pamela Headford (Gilbert)*

Exhibition Secretary

We are also indebted to **Barrie Dolphin** (1951) for his generosity in providing signs free of charge. As Pam says, we were spoilt for our first exhibition in 2003 when former pupils **Dave Drinkwater** and **Terry Savin** provided and installed a complete exhibition display system together with sophisticated lighting units, free of charge. We are indebted to them for their generosity. Pam and Terry proved to be an effective team and we were fortunate to have a number of great contributors. The result was a display which would be demountable so that it could be stored at the school for future use. Whilst it would be nice to hold an exhibition every year, the very high levels of time and energy inputs by the few who make the exhibitions possible make this an unreasonable aim. It has therefore been resolved that a Spring Exhibition will be staged every two years.

We were all very disappointed that, unfortunately only one work was sold during the 2005 exhibition, so an alternative means of making a contribution to the school is being considered.

### ■ “Memories of Moseley”

Ivan Haycock's small book 'Memories of Moseley' covers the experiences of a number of present and now deceased members of the school between the years following the First World War and the end of the Second World War - a period of depression, hardship and austerity . . . but one full of humour, lasting friendships and in many cases remarkable achievements.

Ivan says that he has received very many compliments from those who've read it, and I'd add my name to the list of those who found it an enjoyable read. A limited number of copies will be available at the reunion, or can be purchased direct at £4 including postage from:

**Ivan Haycock** - The Hornbeams, 17, Springwood Walk, ST. ALBANS, Herts. AL4 9UN

### ■ Can You Help ?

**Year Representatives** We have hundreds of contacts, and maintaining contact, taking phone calls, corresponding by post and Email etc. takes a great deal of time – especially if one person is expected to do it all. I've asked for volunteers to become year reps (being the initial point of contact for the leavers of one year) and we now have some great representatives. I'm delighted that **Roy Dalton** has just become the rep for the leavers of 1962 – all 30 of them, and Roy is going to try to make contact with as many more as he can. We still need reps for the following years: 1945, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1974 and 1975 – it really doesn't take much effort, and is a great help.

**Treasurer** Our Treasurer, John Sermon, has asked if he can stand aside from his office due to an unexpected increase in calls on his time following his election as the President of the Chartered Society of Designers. Our sincere congratulations go to him, and we are now looking for nominations for a suitably computer-literate candidate for this important role. The office primarily involves recording subscription receipts against a membership register, depositing cheques and standing orders at the bank, maintaining a simple record of receipts and expenditure and preparing an annual statement. Thanks to the introduction of the payment of subscriptions by standing order, the procedures have been greatly simplified, with most of the activity revolving around the time of the annual reunion.

### ■ Progress with the School Refurbishment

We are all anxious to know how the application for grant assistance from National Lottery resources is progressing. The façade of the building has continued to deteriorate badly while the application is being processed – it's hoped that there will be good news soon.

### ■ Annual Subscriptions

The Annual Subscription (due 1<sup>st</sup> May 2006) is currently fixed at £10. It is confirmed that the fee will **remain the same** for the ensuing year, due 1<sup>st</sup> May 2007. As already mentioned above, it saves us an enormous amount of time and work if you pay your subscription by Standing Order – completing the enclosed form is simplicity itself as all the details you need are printed in your own chequebook.

## ■ Steve Ajao Update

Steve, one of Britain's top Blues and Jazz musicians, is gradually resuming his playing career. It's now been a year since Steve (a former pupil who attended the school between 1964-70) had his serious accident in which he nearly lost his life. Steve is grateful to everyone who has supported him during his ordeal and is hoping to join us at the school for our 2006 Reunion - we're looking forward to seeing him.

## ■ Robert Sedgley – Paint in Spain

Robert (1958), who is a professional artist and retired teacher, has lived for many years in Spain, and has asked me to announce that he is organising a short painting holiday. He lives in Villalonga, a village ten kilometres from the coast in the province of Valencia. He is organising a gathering of a small group of members and partners to paint in the area for a period of a week or ten days in September and/or June/July next year. Accommodation will be in his home or in a B&B in the village, depending on the size of the group. Price to be arranged, but as economic as possible on a half board basis. He'll be at the Reunion and can be contacted at [robertsedgley@hotmail.com](mailto:robertsedgley@hotmail.com) or by phone on 00 34 96 280 5074.

## ■ Obituary

We have been notified of the passing of only two of our former pupils during the last year:

**Peter Donnelly** Peter, a prominent photographer, passed away 21st. December 2005 following a long battle with cancer. He attended MSA 1944-47.

**David Pearson** A successful businessman, David died suddenly 3rd. September 2005. A former pupil 1949-52.

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## Pre-Registration . . . Please detach, complete and return as soon as possible

Names Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Years Attended \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return** to Graeme Collins 6, Eastnor Close, Kidderminster DY10 1YE together with your completed Standing Order form or cheque for £10 made payable to "The Moseley School of Art Association", crossed "A/c Payee Only"