

Edlines

the newsletter of **Stourbridge Old Edwardian Club**
No.9 July 2005

Commemoration of 60th Anniversary of the Ending of World War II Monday 15th August 2005

Old Edwardians made a significant contribution to the war effort (see next page) and so it is appropriate that the Club marks the sixtieth anniversary of the ending of the second world war. A service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving will be held in the Assembly Hall at King Edward's at 11.30am on Monday 15th August.

The service will be followed by reception and lunch at "The Club", Dane Tree Court, Drury Lane, Stourbridge.

It is hoped that as many Old Edwardians as possible (including non-members) who served in the **Armed forces, Home Guard, Reserved occupations or were Pupils** during the war will attend.

Attendance is not restricted to the above categories so if other SOEC members wish to attend they may do so.

Anyone wishing to attend should complete the booking form enclosed and return it to the Hon Secretary asap with remittance if attending the lunch.

Further information from Alan Cutler, 01384 443644 (day)/07977 928493 or <alan.cutler@oldedclub.org>

Putting a Sparkle into Summer

A tasting of Sparkling wines and Champagnes

7.30pm, Saturday 30th July

A lighthearted tasting of Sparkling wines and Champagne for members, wives and guests at SOEC. About 8 or 9 different styles of fizz will be on taste for your enjoyment. Instead of the usual buffet or supper, canapés will be served between wines.

(Some members/wives have indicated that they would like to attend but they experience problems with white wines. Please contact Alan Cutler for possible alternatives).

Dress: Smart casual

Cost: £22.50 per head to include wines and canapés.

Please confirm your booking by Tuesday 26th July or sooner, by one of the methods indicated on the booking slip. If easier the booking forms may be left at SOEC.

Old Edwardians War Record

It is perhaps not widely known that 526 Old Boys served in HM Forces during the First World War, 57 making the supreme sacrifice. A stained glass window and adjoining commemorative tablets were erected to their memory when the present Hall was built in 1931. Given that the annual school roll was not much more than a hundred at the beginning of the century some measure may be gained of the terrible loss in that war.

Between 3rd September 1939 and VJ Day, 961 Old Boys served in HM Forces with many others in the Home Guard or reserved occupations. 76 old boys were killed or died on active service and their names are commemorated on the bronze tablets below the balcony in the Hall. 112 honours were won and 309 old boys were commissioned.

The tablets and the electric organ which form the war memorial were dedicated by the Bishop of Worcester in March 1948. Fifty years later the original organ had worn out and was replaced by a new electronic model which was dedicated on 11th November 1998. As in 1948 Club members contributed a significant proportion of the cost.

Many Old Edwardians actually served alongside one another in the same units; the 311 Battery (Royal Artillery) which saw action in France, North Africa, Sicily and Italy had over 40 Old Edwardians in a total strength of about 200. Circumstances such as these make for a unique brand of comradeship which in part explains why SOEC traditions have endured and remained largely unaltered since 1898.

The recent, highly commendable, booklets about the Stourbridge War Memorial, published by Stourbridge Historical Society under the editorship of Roy Peacock, feature interesting and poignant biographical notes about the fallen and are thoroughly recommended.

SOEC Website

Members may be surprised that a small subcommittee is in the process of developing an internet website for the club ! The domain name (www.olderclub.org) has been registered and a holding page put in place whilst content and design are being considered.

The site will include general information as well as details of forthcoming events. Future editions of Edlines will also be included so that members will have the option of receiving their copies electronically if preferred.

In the meantime watch this space !!

Catering Review

Gerald and Julie have been with us now for almost 18 months so we must stop calling them our "new stewards".

In that time, their contribution to club functions and activities has been tremendous. They are now providing catering of the highest quality and the attitude of them both in terms of wanting to grow that side of the club's business has been first class.

The reputation of the club has become known in and around Stourbridge for the quality of food provided. Official club functions and private parties are now catered for in increasing numbers. A professional member of the club has said in the last few weeks that "the club is the best kept secret for dining in the town" A compliment indeed to Julie !!

So come on all you members who have not yet tried it. Give our "new stewards" your support. If you have a reason coming up, to have a private dinner party, give Gerald a call on 01384 395635 and book yourself a real treat.

We promise that you won't be disappointed.

Further Dates for the Diary

With the exception of Ladies night, the functions at Dane Tree Court listed below are for members and their male guests only. Details of events marked (*) will be included in the September mailing, otherwise see the Club notice boards.

Friday 9th September	President's Ladies Night
Monday 3rd October	Breakfast Club
Friday 7th October	SOEC Annual Dinner
Thursday 13th October	Quiz Night
Friday 21st October	Trafalgar Day Dinner *
Tuesday 25th October	Agincourt Dinner
Monday 7th November	Past Presidents' Dinner
Friday 11th November	Remembrance Day (King Edward's)
Monday 21st November	Committee Dinner
Monday 5th December	Annual General Meeting
Saturday 24th December	Boar's Head Supper

Club Colours

A number of members have enquired as to the availability of ties, bow ties and cummerbunds. Currently we have only "Club" ties in stock (£8.50 each).

To obtain other items we have to order sufficient to make the cloth weaving economic although the items may be mixed. As a rough guide to costs, for items in "Club" colours (as opposed to "Old Edwardian" colours) :-

Ready tied bow ties	c. £ 8.50 each
Self tie bow ties	c. £ 9.50 each
Cummerbunds	c. £12.99 each

If this is something that interests you please inform Clive Bowen-Davies (see below). If there is sufficient demand we will order fresh supplies.

Contact Details

There is no need to pre-book at lunchtimes although a telephone call would be sensible to check availability for an evening meal.

Evening Meal Availability	The Stewards - Gerald or Julie	01384 395635
Memorial/Cooper Rooms Bookings	Hon. Sec - Clive Bowen-Davies	01384 372446

BOOKING FORMS

To: Alan Cutler, 21 Primrose Hill, Wordsley, Stourbridge, DY8 5AG

or

Tel: 07977 928493 (mob) or 01384 443644 (office)

Fax 01384 443696

<alan.cutler@oldedclub.org>

Sparkling Wines & Champagne

Please reserve places @£22.50 at *“Putting a Sparkle into Summer”*

Cheque enclosed for £.....

Names: Contact telephone no

To: Clive Bowen-Davies, Hon Secretary, Stourbridge Old Edwardian Club,
Dane Tree Court, Drury Lane, Stourbridge, DY8 1BL

Commemoration of 60th Anniversary of the Ending of World War II Monday 15th August 2005

Name: Contact telephone no

Address

.....

.....

Delete as appropriate:

I shall/shall not attend the service

I shall/shall not attend the lunch @ £12.50/head

I enclose my remittance of £12.50 (cheques payable to SOEC)

Any special considerations: