

Edlines

the newsletter of **Stourbridge Old Edwardian Club**
No. 14 Spring 2015

Here's the latest issue of **Edlines** with Club news and the latest information about social events for 2015. For the very latest information, the best course is to call in and check the notice board and monthly calendar but for those of you who don't get into Stourbridge on a regular basis the Club's website is updated almost daily and is a rich source of information on upcoming events and other news. Go to www.oldedclub.org

2015 is a significant anniversary year for many events in our national history and we plan to celebrate Magna Carta (800yrs), Agincourt (600yrs) and Waterloo (200yrs), in addition to the regular programme. Menus and costings are in progress but if you are interested in attending any or all of them it is important to let us know as soon as possible, without obligation at this stage and we will send further details when available.

Unfortunately several occur close to one another or to other annual events which is why we need **your expression of interest** to help planning. Generally the special events will be run on similar lines to our regular St George's Day or Trafalgar celebrations.

The calendar is far from complete and further events will be added in due course but it was felt important to let you have what details are available as soon as possible, see page 2.

On a different note, it's pleasing to note that the Club is enjoying something of a snooker renaissance with team and individual successes in the local leagues, so well done to all participants - see page 3 for details.

The Fifty Club

Many thanks to all members who responded to the appeal for new contributors to the Club's lottery and not forgetting those who already contribute. It plays an important roll in the financial health of the Club which we all love.

Clive Bowen-Davies who organises the monthly draw, says there are still a few places available so why not increase your chances with an extra number. The standard monthly stake is £5 which brings the chance of prizes of £100, £50 or £30 each month. Doubling the monthly stake to £10 is still a modest outlay, equivalent to less than the cost of a pint of beer per week, but to the Club the support is invaluable.

Clive's ambition ultimately, if there's a good response to the appeal, is to be able to increase the value of the prizes. This will hopefully create more excitement and anticipation at the monthly draws which normally take place on the penultimate Thursday each month.

Your support is really appreciated and long may it continue. To join the Fifty Club or to increase your stake please contact Clive (01562 886207) and ask for a standing order form.

2015 Special Events and other dates for the diary

All events will be in-house unless stated otherwise. Additional events are expected in July-September.

June

- Monday 15th - Magna Carta lunch (12.30 for 13.00)
- Thursday 18th - Ascot Ladies Day Lunch
 - *Charter Day Service, 19.00, St Mary's Old Swinford
- Friday 19th - Waterloo200 bi-centenary Dinner (19.00 for 19.30)
- Saturday 20th - Charter Day Lunch (12.30 for 13.00)
- Monday 29th - Centenary Founders & Appeals Dinner (19.00 for 19.30), **DJ**

August

- Saturday 15th - President's (Ladies') Night

October

- Friday 2nd - SOEC Annual Dinner (**DJ**)
- Wednesday 21st - Trafalgar Dinner (**DJ**)
- Monday 26th - The Glory of Agincourt, Dinner (19.00 for 19.30)

November

- Monday 9th - Past Presidents' Annual Dinner (**DJ**) *Note revised date*
- Wednesday 11th - *Remembrance observance at College (all welcome at 10.45)
- Monday 16th - Committee Annual Dinner (**DJ**)

December

- Monday 7th - AGM
- Wednesday 9th - Turkey Snooker Handicap
- Wednesday 23rd - Boar's Head Supper
- Thursday 24th - Christmas Eve Breakfast

Your early expressions of interest will be much appreciated. Please contact the Stewards, Tim and Tracey. Also see the Club website www.olderclub.org.uk

*Owing to demand, College events need to be booked direct (01384 398100 option 4).

A few events are formal dress as indicated (**DJ** = Dinner Jackets)

SOEC progresses in Stourbridge & District Snooker League

As reported in the last issue of ~~Edlines~~ SOEC entered a team in the league being put into division 2 starting September 2013. At the time a total of 16 members put their names forward for registration, and of these 11 actually played during the season. Chris Cowley skippered the team, and had the highest break in the Division with a 56. The standard of play overall was high and very competitive especially for a relatively inexperienced team and they ended the season in a creditable 8th place out of 11 with 60 points.

For the 2014-15 season the standard of play was just as high but the team, comprising Ed Davies, Chris Cowley, Gavin Dunn, Harry Hall and Jamie McDonald, finished 5th out of 12 teams, just one point behind the 4th placed team, showing steady improvement.

Special congratulations to SOEC snooker captain Chris Cowley who won the individual League Division 2 trophy after beating David Woodall of Kingswinford British Legion on 21st April 2015.

The scores (best of 5 games) were: 63-14, 32- 57, 57- 5, 60-48

This concludes a remarkable year for Chris which saw him score highest breaks of one 83 and two of 67 during the season - as well as steering our team proficiently in his role as captain.

The result can only enhance the reputation of our team as were guaranteed a finalist since Chris's semi-final involved him playing our own Ed Davies who should also be congratulated for getting that far.

You can keep up with the team's progress on the Club website, or on www.leaguesnooker.co.uk

The First World War

As was to be expected interest in the media in all things connected with the First World War has continued.

No less than 526 Old Edwardians served in HM Forces during the First World War, 57 making the supreme sacrifice and 116 being wounded. The names of the fallen, listed in the last issue, are enshrined in the School Memorial Hall, built in 1931, when a stained glass window and commemorative tablets were erected to their memory.

We were hoping to hear from some of you who may have been related not just to the fallen but those who survived the conflict. The Club would very much like to know the individual histories of all Old Edwardians who served in the war so if you can help with stories or memorabilia please get in contact.

Memorial to Pilot Officer Ernest George Boucher (KE 1933-39)

George Boucher who was born in Enville, would undoubtedly be a contemporary of many members who will be interested to know that an appeal has been launched to produce a memorial plaque to keep his memory alive and the link with the Normandy village of Caligny where he his buried. To donate, make cheques payable to "Boucher Memorial (Caligny) Appeal" and send to Colin Mowl, Boucher Appeal, 4 St Denys Close, Purley, CR8 2NU

A few leaflets with donation pro-formas have been left on the hallway table at the Club. Full details are available on the appeal website <https://sites.google.com/site/poboucherandcalignynormandy>

If you've not been before you may like to consider attending the short remembrance observance at King Edward's on 11th November (10.45 onwards). Light refreshments served afterwards.

Wining and Dining

The catering offer at the Club is now a significant component of our income and has also been instrumental in increasing the use of the facilities by members and partners.

The introduction, three years ago, of Fish & Steak nights has been particularly successful. These no frills two course dinners with a main course of either Fish or Steak for around £12/head are held on selected Friday nights throughout the year. Casual dress is fine and separate tables add to the informality.

At these prices bookings in advance only - check the noticeboard or speak to Tim or Tracey, 01384 395635 for dates and availability.

We would like to see more lunchtime diners. A simple standard menu has been available for a couple of years which offers a good selection of sandwiches, soup, toasties, omelettes etc. to walk-in members and guests. Occasionally "Moules et Frites" lunches are held on selected Fridays when the Club takes on the bustling atmosphere of a French Bistro !

The website and Club noticeboards advertise these upcoming specials.

Remember that Self-service Coffee and Tea is available throughout the day, even outside bar opening hours if you are in need of refreshment.

SOEC Website – www.olderclub.org

Remember that the SOEC website contains a wealth of information for you to browse including news and details of past events and those to come. There are a number of downloadable items including membership application forms. This and future editions of ~~Edlines~~ *Edlines* will also be included together with an archive of (electronically produced) past issues, all of which are available as pdf downloads.

The Club has had open **wifi** for some time now and although mostly used for business meetings is also free to members with laptops/ipads/iphones etc., who can access the internet when at the Club.

Post Scriptum

If you are one of those members we haven't seen for some time, we hope the list of special events might tempt you to re-discover the Club. Why not call in when next in town or on an evening. Bring friends, bring your wife (or partner – we don't mind), just sign them in as a guest and enjoy a relaxing drink in our unique surroundings.

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Contact details

General enquiries and bookings: the Stewards, Tim and Tracey

Club Telephone: 01384 395635 (11.30 - 14.30, 17.30 - 11.00) Outside these hours there is a message facility.

Email: info@olderclub.org

Hon Secretary: Steve Branson

Tel: 01384 390744

email: steve.branson123@btinternet.com

Fifty Club: Clive Bowen-Davies (01562 886207)