



# Bushy Tales

Dedicated to all who attended London Central  
High School in Bushy Park, London England from  
1952 to 1962



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Visit the Bushy Park Web Site at <http://www.bushypark.org/>

## Class Representatives

1953 - Jackie (Brown) Kenny

[JKYKNY@aol.com](mailto:JKYKNY@aol.com)

1954 - Betsy (Neff) Cote

[betsycote@atlanticbb.net](mailto:betsycote@atlanticbb.net)

1955 - Nancie (Anderson) Weber

[nancieT@verizon.net](mailto:nancieT@verizon.net)

1956 - Glenda F. Drake

[gfdrake@swbell.net](mailto:gfdrake@swbell.net)

1957 - Celeste (Plitouke) Brodigan

[Mbrodi1939@aol.com](mailto:Mbrodi1939@aol.com)

1958 - Pat (Terpening) Owen

[nemoamasa@worldnet.att.net](mailto:nemoamasa@worldnet.att.net)

1959 - Jerry Sandham

[Jsandham@quixnet.net](mailto:Jsandham@quixnet.net)

1960 - Ren Briggs

[renpat1671@unedspeed.net](mailto:renpat1671@unedspeed.net)

1961 - Betsy (Schley) Slepetz

[sbslepetz@erols.com](mailto:sbslepetz@erols.com)

1962 - Dona (Hale) Ritchie

[DonaRitchi@aol.com](mailto:DonaRitchi@aol.com)

## Roster Changes

### New email addresses:

**Diane Zumwalt (56)**

Hi - Just wanted to let you all know we have moved and that I have a new email address [dhzumwalt@comcast.net](mailto:dhzumwalt@comcast.net) Also have a new phone number (520) 219-7138

**Ann Brooks Gavin (62)**

I will be retiring from my job on Feb 3 after 32 years, hooray!! Please use the following email address from now on: [edmond64@comcast.net](mailto:edmond64@comcast.net)

**New Address and email:**

**Lori Hall Mayberry (61)**

[mayberry@gci.net](mailto:mayberry@gci.net)

**Pat Hooper Selsor (61)**

[patpmblox@ywave.com](mailto:patpmblox@ywave.com)

## Look Who We Found

**Robert H. Curtin, Jr. (60)**

[rcurtin@hawkhurst.com](mailto:rcurtin@hawkhurst.com)

43 Harbor Ridge Drive

Newport Beach, Ca 92660

## Classmates Who Have Transferred To The Eternal Duty Station

Our love and prayers go out to the family and friends of our classmates who have gone on before us. We will miss them, yet we can find comfort in knowing that one-day we will all join them for the greatest of all reunions

**Danna K. Gettings (61)**

Deceased November 17, 1986

**From Ed Brown (58)**  
[Easyed598@aol.com](mailto:Easyed598@aol.com)

Just received an email from Pat Anderson. She informed me that Dave Anderson (59), who attended Bushy Park in 1954 and 1955 passed away December 2nd, 2004. He would have been in the class of 1959. He was my roommate at Bushy Park and was looking forward to seeing him at the Washington DC reunion next year for the first time in over 50 years. Pat said he passed away suddenly and unexpectedly so thankfully he didn't suffer.

### Mini Bios.

**From Frank Schrieber (60)**  
[Spike88@attbi.com](mailto:Spike88@attbi.com)

Thanks for the great effort all year.. I thought I would update my bio with a note or two.

I have not explained my life in England as it was. Maybe I should shed light on a few things. I came to RAF Sculthorpe with my stepfather (Air Force) around 1958. We came on the S.S. America (boring trip). I lost weight in the shower puking. I was registered and was shipped to Bushy Park, in London. Keep in mind I lived with my grandmother until we shipped out. That was in Galveston, Texas. I was devastated by new sites and strangers. My mother did little to help. She was seldom seen.

Now for the important part. When I settled in at Bushy everyone was nice. This was very important to the rest of my life. My study skills did not exist. Roommates were very helpful to keep me going. After England we moved to Utah. I remembered how hard everyone worked to be successful at Bushy and I dug in and passed my high school tests and went to college barely.

Viet Nam started and my step-dad left me with my mom and two kids to care for while full time in college. It was a challenge. I completed

six years of college and became a professional Artist, and finally a teacher for 27 years. This would not be the case without friends like Ren Briggs, Doss Harsch and the Rugby team etc.. at Bushy. Thank you all for the fun times. And I hope you see why I was a little wild at Bushy. I was hiding the fact that I had poor student skills. I made up for it. I worked to help students(college) that had similar problems and I coached them into reaching higher goals. That's it. Merry Christmas to All. Then there was the wonderful dances on Saturdays.

### Memories of Bushy

**From your editor**

Anyone know what bridge this is? Where is it from and where is it located now? Do any of you have stories about this bridge?



**From Susan (Miller) Dalberg (62)**  
[Wolfpaw81@aol.com](mailto:Wolfpaw81@aol.com)

Memories of being a Bushy'ite:

Thanksgiving allows us to be thankful for not just current things and times, but sometimes causes us to reflect on things waaaayyy in the past that we are thankful for.

Memories may have dimmed for all of us, but the clearest memory is that there were no "close out cliques" at Bushy. We were all there together and while there were groups that hung out together, townies vs. dormies, etc. I can never remember being snubbed or shut out by anyone! I am going through this with my grandchildren and amazed at the invisible "do not cross" lines drawn in the sand. We were all a family-various groups, various backgrounds, but as evidenced by the rallying around the newsletter, reunions, and contacts we have, we "belonged" to each other.

The hurtful gossip that goes on with these kids just shocks the pants off me. Did we gossip? (talking trash as the kids call it now). I don't remember that if we did--we were all too busy studying, dodging evil eyes from good teachers and for those of us that were townies, spending half our life on the bus. Much kinder times then I think.

I remember my first experience at Bushy--I was a new kid but by noon had a ton of new friends. If anyone ever talked unkindly of me, at least it never got back to me! So, for all of you making my life as a teen so much kinder and gentler than my granddaughter's, I am very Thankful!

Still trying to find Peggy Thomas (61) and Sharon Stevens (62). We were cheerleaders for the High Wycomb football team with a couple of other gals from Bushy--names are evading me, but I have the photo!

### **This and That**

**From Gail Kelly (Faculty)**  
[martha.kelly@virgin.net](mailto:martha.kelly@virgin.net)

Hello Gary - You can mention this announcement in the Newsletter, if you like -

Please visit the Francis Kelly website - [www.franciskelly.com](http://www.franciskelly.com) - and see the new Floral Gallery - many new paintings, inspired by this past summer.  
Cheerio, Gail

**(Editors Note: Below is a copy of an email Walt Hunt sent to Dave McManigal (56) and Daves answer to it. Printed with their permission.)**

**From Walt ("Curly") Hunt (56)**  
[Walt6238@aol.com](mailto:Walt6238@aol.com)

David:

Weren't you and I instrumental in getting the BP soccer team up and running? I forget who the faculty sponsor was, and who the other players were, but I distinctly remember being smoked by the one or two English teams we went against, in spite of the cheerleaders exhorting us on. I think Bitsy Drake was one of the cheerleaders. ("Yoo, hoo, Curly. We love your legs!")

Did you go to the Sunday afternoon Teen Club events? Did you and I go to Speaker's Corner to heckle the Communists, or leer at the hookers on Bayswater Road?

Your name is in my memory bank, but the recollections of events after all these years are more of places and things, less of the kids at school. I thought the conductor walking in front of our bus, guiding the driver through the fog, was swinging a lantern. Lantern or torch, the memories are good. What boat did you go over on? The Gen. Darby? Maybe we sailed as roommates on that voyage.

I left London not long after the Killer Fog, went on to graduate from Frankfurt. It was nice to hear about you in the newsletter.

**(Now Daves reply)**

**From David McManigal (56)**  
[dmcmanigal@cablone.net](mailto:dmcmanigal@cablone.net)

No, I wasn't a soccer player. I was a nerd, not an athlete -- good at math and science, but too light for football, too short for basketball, and too slow for soccer. I had a growth spurt in my junior year, but that was no help at CHS.

Nor was I a regular at the teen club, which was aimed more at the dorm-resident students, or at those who lived in central London. I was a bus-riding day student, distant from both BP and central London, so I visited TAC only twice.

At times, I envied those who did participate in TAC and other school-related activities. On the other hand, spending all of my before- and after-school time with English friends gave me a perspective that I might have missed otherwise (not to mention a couple of rather cute English girlfriends and learning the workings of the blacksmith shop in which I waited for the school bus). In fact, when I entered Tucson High School for my junior year, it took several months to make myself easily understood. Schoolmates and teachers complained that I had an English accent. I was both amused and frustrated for a while.

That international perspective served me well in my engineering career with IBM, which is, well international. And, as I mentioned in my e-mail, I wouldn't have missed that summer working at Kew Gardens for the world! When I visited Kew many years later with my wife it was almost spooky. Very little had changed, so I was able to show her around like an expert.

Regarding ships, that's another miss. I traveled to (and from) England on the Goethals. I had good and bad fortune. The North Atlantic was behaving as one would expect in January, and I wasn't seasick. On the other hand, most of

my cabin mates were. Being well while wading through vomit seemed to me to be almost worse than being sick -- all the disgust while enduring resentment instead of commiseration. I never got seasick in the Navy, either, despite two passages aboard a destroyer escort through the Formosa Strait (which is normally rough and treacherous) in typhoon seas. That also was a mixed blessing - - extra duty to cover seasick shipmates.

Despite misses on the ships and the soccer connection, I'm enjoying all the BP reminiscences. It was a memorable time in my life, and probably in the lives of all of us who were post-war American dependents on the eastern side of The Pond.

**From Wanda (Castor) DeVary (58)**  
[mumszie@earthlink.net](mailto:mumszie@earthlink.net)

Thought you guys might be interested in the results of Lyn's hunt for an Ankara student.  
Wanda

From: Lyn Viles  
To: Wanda  
Sent: Wednesday, December 01, 2004 2:58 AM  
Subject: Thank You!

Wanda -

Thank you so very much for all you've done, I really do appreciate your help. And please thank all the folks who helped out by perusing their yearbooks. So far, nobody has been able to locate Farris - so I'm going to have to assume she was never in Ankara, until there's proof.

It's a sad, but interesting, story - one of our alum said that a Sue Farris who attended Ankara and was his sister's friend, was the same Suzanne Farris murdered by Richard

Speck in Chicago in 1966. (The student nurses) The timeline is right if she was class of '64 or '65 - they were nursing students, not full-blown RNs. The sister remembers having a friend named Sue Farris - but apparently there's no hard evidence she ever attended the school in Ankara. And no photographs of the "Ankara" Farris to compare with the "Chicago" Farris. No evidence that there were even any Farris siblings who attended Ankara. Perhaps the sister did confuse her friend with the Sue Harris that was class of '62. Biographical info on Speck's victims is almost nonexistent on the Internet - but I'm not sure the story is worth chasing any further. Anyway, it's one of those stories you want to thoroughly research before repeating.

I once "killed" an alum and placed him on the "In Memoriam" list -- based on a conversation with his brother. Ten years later, he turned up very much alive. Seems the bother I spoke with really disliked his sibling and just preferred he not be "found." Once bitten, I'm now much more careful about "killing off" alumni.

BTW, one of your folks ask if there were many people who attended multiple DOD schools - the answer is yes, most definitely. Particularly those of us whose parents were not military. My father was Embassy - and I attended 14 schools (including college) in 16 years. Didn't live in the US until after completing my college education. Same with many other "brats" I've run across. And not just the DOD schools - but in countries where the US military did not have a major presence, we were in the "International Schools." I've located some of Ankara's missing alum by perusing the various International School websites -- <http://www.florin.com/wwalumni/index.html>

Thank you again. If I can ever help you guys out - please don't hesitate to ask.

**From Cris "Penny" Ohrman Bernstein (61)**  
[premierevent@charleston.net](mailto:premierevent@charleston.net)

Thanks again for the newsletter. Two things, I just sent a note to the person about Sue Farris (query in last issue of newsletter)- I have a 59 Vapor Trails and didn't see anyone by the name of Sue Farris in it.

Also, had a great time - but EXPENSIVE - in Paris and London. Got home the 12th of November. I have a picture of Central High School - I was shocked that when I went onto the old High Wycombe AFB - now an RAF base - that that's the location of the school. (Note from Pat Terpening Owen: Cris is sending me the picture and if it can be scanned small enough, we'll get it into a future newsletter.) Visited Stonehenge - terrific and contrary to public relations, it is not covered by a Plexiglas wall...you can't get within 25 yards or so of it but it's only got a walkway and rope around it. I walked and took pictures all the way around. Went to the Salisbury Cathedral where one of four remaining copies of the Magna Carta are now kept. Also walked the streets of Oxford and High Wycombe - a trip down memory lane. Was only in London one day with my daughter so we hit Buckingham Palace, went by Westminster and Parliament for photos, toured Tower Hill, St. Paul's Cathedral and the fabulous State Rooms and gowns of Diana's at Kensington Palace and had tea there with one of my clients then on to Harrods for a quick run through. Danielle's first trip so we hit only the high points.

**From Deborah Alden Terry (62)**  
[Acedebterry@aol.com](mailto:Acedebterry@aol.com)

Thanks so much for the Newsletter and all the hard work you and Gary have done to keep it going. I need to add to the input, but I can't seem to find too many graduates from 1962!

Since I only went to Bushy Park for two years (1960-1962), most of the people who are contributing are from earlier graduation dates and I do not know most of them (with the exception of Dona Hale Ritchie). Dona, I remember quite well.

The only thing I could add would be to encourage those out there who graduated in 1962 OR were juniors during that year. Getting in touch with them is nearly impossible unless they are associated with Classmates.com. So, if any of you out there would like to communicate with me, I'd love to hear from you. Maybe we could get something going in order to assist in keep the Newsletter alive.

Again, thanks Pat and Gary for doing such a super job in keeping us all informed.

NOTE from Pat Terpening Owen - after the holidays, I'll be sending Deborah the listing of classmates from 60-62, so be prepared to hear from her!!!!