

**Ex Members of the Shrublands Youth & Adult Centre
Where Are They Now?**

ANDREWS Carol

See BENSLEY Arthur

BALL John

NEWMAN Bettie

John and Bettie met in 1952 at Shrublands when they were partners in the chorus of the pantomime that year. In May 1953, John was enlisted in the army to do two years national service. During a long weekend leave, Bettie and John became engaged in 1954 and married in 1956.

John built their bungalow in Bradwell later the same year. Their daughter was born in 1962 and their twin sons in 1965.

They extended their bungalow, as a when required over the years and still live there today. They now have five grandchildren between 11 and 22 years of age and they are fortunate that all their family live within about eleven miles of their home. Bettie worked as a representative and merchandiser and part time secretary for several years, retiring in 1995 and three months later, John retired as Manager after 47 years in the building trade.

They enjoy their retirement travelling, gardening, crosswords, and Sudoku with John's main interests in computers.

September 2009

BALLS Edith

See entry for Jesse CARTER

BEALES Myra

CHURCH Ernie

Ernie's main interests at Shrublands were table tennis, badminton, and weight lifting. He also helped with rebuilding some of the facilities at Shrublands and remembers many happy hours with friends in the music room.

After completing his two years national service from 1951/53 he returned to Shrublands activities and girlfriends eventually marrying club member Myra Beales in 1957.

They had one son but unfortunately the marriage did not last. They finally divorced in 1975.

It is believed that Myra later remarried a businessman in Great Yarmouth but she later sadly died.

Ernie was in Australia in 1975 with his Son where they joined Ernie's mother, father, brother, and sister, who were already settled there.

In 1970 Ernie met up with a lovely Dutch lady who was in the same situation. She has two sons and they have been together this last 39 years. Corrie is a very easy going person and they enjoy their retirement together travelling, caravanning and golfing.

Ernie's son is now 45 years old and has three grown up children.

September 2009

BENSLEY Arthur

Arthur was one of the original members, joining Shrublands with his friend Frank WATSON during the summer of 1949. His future wife, Carol ANDREWS, joined during the same period, Arthur left to do his National Service 1950 to 1952. Arthur and Carol married in 1953.

They purchased and ran a small grocery shop at the bottom of White Lion Steps, Gorleston.

In 1970 they sold the business and moved to Beccles where they had two shops. They immigrated to New Zealand in 1973 but moved to Queensland, Australia in 1995.

Arthur has many memories of Gorleston. He stays in contact with friends through the internet and regularly contributes to local magazines on history of Gorleston.

May 2009

Arthur is now due to go into hospital for about two weeks to have surgery on both knees. He has requested no further e-mails until he is up and about again.

June 2009

BRADNUM Keith

GREEN Nita

Keith and Nita met at Shrublands. He was one of the original members and helped with the various building projects. They both took part in the pantos and shows. Married in 1958 and had two daughters and four grandchildren.

Because of Keith's career in the electrical industry they moved to various parts of the country.

They retired to Felixstowe and enjoy a full social life working for various charities, mainly through Round Table ((Ladies Circle), Rotary Club (Inner Wheel) 41 Club (Tangent) and Masonic.

May 2009

BROOKS John.

John was involved in several plays and revues, both acting and production. In 1964 he moved to Bromley to undertake a three year teacher training course. He obtained a post with responsibility for Drama in a large Primary School.

In 1974 he moved to Orpington and became a Deputy Head. John retired aged 63 but was asked back to do long term supply teaching – eventually retiring again at 71.

He is still in touch with friends made at Shrublands.

April, 2009.

BURRAGE Robin

Rob enjoyed the social side of Shrublands and took part in numerous plays and pantomimes. He was with his friend Tony YOUNG when he first saw his future wife, Jill GARNHAM who was playing table tennis at the Centre. At 18 Rob was called up for National Service which he served in The Royal Norfolk Regiment.

After demob he joined the Norfolk Constabulary where he served 30 years stationed at North Walsham, Harleston, Aylsham, Great Yarmouth, and Norwich. Twice he was seconded to the eastern branch of The Regional Crime Squad.

During those years, Rob and Jill raised a son and daughter, living at various places in Norfolk including Hoveton.

On retirement, hobbies developed into business when they both enjoyed several years, touring and retailing at Country Fairs, Air shows etc. A small family business, involving the four members of the family was later established, designing and casting pewter products for both retail and the promotions industry.

Rob and Jill are now both retired and enjoying the country surroundings of their home at Hemsby

March 2009

BURRAGE Winifred

See entry for Jesse CARTER

CAREY Alan

Alan joined the centre in 1953 and enjoyed being involved in working back stage and helping to build the scenery, also helping build and erect stalls for the many fetes.

He joined the army in 1956 for three years as an armoured vehicle mechanic in the REME.

In 1961 he joined Superior International alongside his father and brothers Graham and Jim, remaining there until 1976 when the fruit importing side was moved to

Huntingdon then transferred to the general shipping side known as Norfolk Line where he stayed until being made redundant in 1992 when the company moved to Felixstowe.

He finally retired in 2002 with his wife Gwen. Their three daughters live locally; they now have six grandchildren and one great grandchild with another due in October.

Their daughter Ruth was involved in many Drama Group productions in the late 70's and early 80's.

August 2009.

CARTER James

In later life, James became known locally as "The Singing Dustman" In 2001 he published a small book entitled "The Ups and Downs of my Life" in which he has a few recollections of Shrublands.

James joined the army in 1949 and trained to go to Malaya. Following his sixteen weeks of training he had two weeks leave, most of which he spent at Shrublands with a girlfriend named Betty. With other members they went on a bike ride to Oulton Broad and hired a cruiser for the day. One of his best memories was being on a hayride when there was much laughter and singing.

He also sang in one of the shows, wearing his army uniform. With a young lady he sang "Auf Weidersen Sweetheart" before actually packing his kit bag and joining the ship "Empire Ken" at Southampton.

James returned to Shrublands after he was demobbed and got a job at the Smiths Crisps Factory in Great Yarmouth. He was a keen amateur boxer.

It was some time in the 1960's that James played his guitar in a show at Shrublands called "Pot Luck" about a man who won the football pools and travelled the world. James was to play and sing in the Western Scene.

On the opening night, during the first scene, all the lights in the theatre fused and went out except for just one bulb in the audience. James grabbed his guitar and saved the day by entertaining the audience until the electricians made repairs.

James has had a most colourful life and his book, published by RDP Printers, Gorleston-on-Sea, is well worth a read.

CARTER Jesse

Jesse was the founder member of Shrublands over 60's Club which she ran for Mr Macey for a number of years.

She enjoyed the social occasions at Shrublands helping with fetes, open days, socials and dinners. She appears in a number of photographs together with her two

daughters, Winifred BURRAGE and Edith BALLS who were associated with the Centre, through TOC H.

When Jesse moved from Crab Lane, Bradwell, she retired to a bungalow at Ormesby with her husband Harold.

They were both active gardeners and Harold spent much time over the road at Ormesby Broad.

As well as a passion for their garden, in later life Jesse developed an interest in sport, particularly following the cricket.

CATON Alison

See CATON Mollie

CATON Linda

See CATON Mollie

CATON Mollie

Mollie, together with husband Ron and daughters Linda & Alison joined Shrublands in the early sixties. It was in 1967 that Mollie was asked to take over the Dressmaking group from Shirley MOLLETT until she moved to the Oxford area.

Before she moved, she took a course in dressmaking at the College of Art and Design in Great Yarmouth and gained a City and Guilds certificate.

Once settled in her new home Mollie continued to study at the Oxford College and passed A level dress and O level tailoring and the teachers certificate and did a two years course in men's tailoring. She taught several courses including Abingdon College of Further Education. After further training she taught students with learning difficulties along with adult classes in Tailoring including pattern cutting and courses in using sewing machines.

She was always grateful that her career developed from her involvement at Shrublands.

Mollie returned to her home town to retire in 1995.

March, 2009

CATON Ron

See CATON Mollie

CHURCH Ernie

Ernie's main interests at Shrublands were table tennis, badminton, and weight lifting. He also helped with rebuilding some of the facilities at Shrublands and remembers many happy hours with friends in the music room.

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They had one son but unfortunately the marriage did not last. They finally divorced in 1975.

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Ernie's son is now 45 years old and has three grown up children.

September 2009

DYE Don

Don joined Shrublands in 1949 and remained a member until he finished his dental technicians apprenticeship with R.J. Plummer and was called up for National Service in 1953.

He was demobbed from the Royal Army Dental Corps in B.A.O.R. and returned to his nest in Gorleston in 1955. The next year he was accepted as the successful candidate for the post of Deputy Warden at Shrublands Youth and Adult Centre.

In 1957 he married his sweetheart Maureen Bentley having met her at the Centre in 1953.

Don resigned as Deputy after 2 years to pursue a more technical occupation with Philip Freeman, Dental Surgeon until 1968.

Maureen and Don had three children. In 1968 he changed his occupation to television servicing with Shreeve of Gorleston.

In 1972 he left TV servicing and was employed by Pye television of Oulton Broad as a Test Engineering Development Technician until 1981 when the factory was closed down by the then owners, Philips.

From 1981 Don continued as a self-employed sub-contractor for various firms like MAFF, Argus Electronics and similar electronics business until he retired in 1998.

Don still keeps in contact with old members and is currently involved in the Shrublands Community Archive Project.

July 2009

GARNHAM Gillian

When Jill became a member of Shrublands she worked at Erie Resistor in Great Yarmouth as an invoice typist. She worked with her friends and fellow members Joan SEAKINS and Maureen BENTLEY

Jill was a member of the theatre group and danced in many of the shows and took a major role in one of the pantomimes. She also enjoyed table tennis at Shrublands with her friend Pam KING

At the club Jill met her husband Rob BURRAGE who after National Service joined the Police Force in Norfolk. They married in 1959 and moved into a Police House in Harleston where they had their Son. Their Daughter was born in 1962 when they lived in Aylsham.

Because of Rob's career, over the years they lived in Gorleston, North Walsham, Hoveton and Hemsby.

After Rob retired they worked together, developing their hobbies and travelled the country with a mobile shop retailing embossed leather belts, hand cast pewter and jewellery whilst enjoying the venues at Country Fairs, Air Shows and Rallies. She later also helped with their Son and Daughters business in manufacturing and distributing hand cast English Pewter products.

They are happily retired in Hemsby and live overlooking a large duck pond enjoying watching visiting birds, waterfowl, and animals.

June 2009

GLASHEEN Terry
GLASHEEN Joan

Terry was one of the original members and was on the new management committee under Bert Holmes. He also chaired the Shrublands House Committee.

Terry helped in the building projects and cleaned bricks for the Lewis Hall. He was a keen badminton player and partnered Mr. MACEY.

Terry and Joan supported many social functions. Joan took part in many theatre productions. She died 5/6 years ago.

During the Second World War Terry was navigator in the R.A.F. He had a career with Lacons Brewery in Great Yarmouth. He is now retired living in Great Yarmouth and suffers with poor eyesight.

June 2009

GREEN Nita
BRADNUM Keith

Keith and Nita met at Shrublands. He was one of the original members and helped with the various building projects. They both took part in the pantos and shows. Married in 1958 and had two daughters and four grandchildren. Because of Keith's career in the electrical industry they moved to various parts of the country.

They retired to Felixstowe and enjoy a full social life working for various charities, mainly through Round Table ((Ladies Circle), Rotary Club (Inner Wheel) 41 Club (Tangent) and Masonic.

May 2009

KIPPEN Audrey

For many years Audrey was very active with the drama group taking part in many shows and pantomimes. She had a lovely voice and sang in the choir at St.Nicholas Church. Audrey was also a life member of Great Yarmouth Ops and Drams.

She married Brian BREAM. They had two daughters. Audrey's sister, June Williams of Gorleston recalls that Audrey spent many happy years at Shrublands which she found to have a true community spirit.

Sadly Audrey died about 2002.

March 2009

LADBROOK David

David was a friend of Bill RAYNOR and enjoyed fencing. He was also a plane fanatic and spent much time in the cellar at Shrublands aero modelling.

He became an R.A.F. Apprentice at Halton in 1959 and later obtained a commission. David is believe to be retired and living in France.

April, 2009

LUCY Pam

Pam first joined Shrublands when she moved to the area in 1953. She recalls being asked by John Brooks if she would look after the props in a Revue which was being produced at the Centre entitled "Let's go Gay", a title which is now very misleading by today's culture. It was all good innocent fun and introduced Pam to the Drama Section in which she was a member for many years.

Pam devoted much time to Shrublands, by becoming a member of the House Committee and later the Management Committee until she resigned in 1981.

Now in 2010 she has joined the Shrublands Archive Group and attends meetings contributing to our website.

MACEY R.M.S. Julian Bernard

Born 13th April 1920 in Minehead, Somerset.

Julian attended Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover 1931 to 1939. He gained an Army Special Certificate of Education in 1938.

From 1939 to 1946 he served with the second battalion of the Essex Regiment then transferred to the Army Physical Training Corps and attained the rank of Company Sergeant Major Instructor. He served in England with the Essex Depot (Brentwood), 7th Border Regiment (Lowestoft), 2nd Battalion Seaforth Highlanders (St. Albans). Overseas invasion of Europe with the 5th Highland Division in France, Belgium, Holland, The Ardennes and then transferred to the 45 RHU Kontich (Antwerp).

Julian was awarded war service medals 1939/45 Star, War in Europe Medal, General Service Medal, Victory Medal.

In 1941 he was married to Margaret Annie Lee Brentwood. One son, Peter who died in 2005. Married Anne Brunson. One grandson Lee married Kim Franklyn. Two great grandchildren, Amber and Olivia.

Employment: Essex Education Committee as Deputy Warden at Loughton Youth Centre 1946 to 1949.

Great Yarmouth Education Committee as resident Warden of Shrublands Youth and Adult Centre 1949 to 1974.

Norfolk Youth and Community Service as Divisional Youth and Community Officer for Gorleston and warden for Shrublands Youth and Community Centre 1974 to 1980.

Leisure interests and voluntary work:-

Member of the Great Yarmouth and District Society of Artists 1961 to date having served as Chairman for 6 years and presently as president for the past 15 years.

Elected full Member of the Royal Miniature Society 1996.

Exhibitions: One man exhibition at the James Paget Hospital at the invitation of the Hospital arts, Annual Exhibitions of the Royal Miniature Society in London and with members of the Royal Miniature Society in the World exhibition of Miniature in London and Washington DC, America.

He has four miniature paintings in the RMS Centenary Book which was presented to HM Elizabeth and is held in the Queen's Library.

Voluntary Work: - JPH Arts Committee for 15 years.

Committees:

Representative member of the Gt. Yarmouth Galleries Advisory Group.

Representative Norfolk Arts Forum.

Chairman of the John Holmes Trust (Registered Charity).

Chairman of the Management Committee of the Gt. Yarmouth and District Society of Artists Permanent Collection.

Served as School Governor for three years Woodland School, Bradwell.

METCALF Malcolm

Malcolm was one of the original members of Shrublands. He is now retired and still living close to the Shrublands Centre contributing to the Shrublands Archive Group. He has had a most interesting life, told best in his own words:-

“Since my happy days spent at the Shrublands Youth and Adult Centre I have enjoyed a wonderful life. I have travelled around the world three times, visiting 45 Countries. In 1970 having given up my job as a bookmaker’s clerk I embarked on my truly memorable journey, hitch-hiking 16,000 miles overland to Australia, taking the roll on roll off ferry The Duke of Holland from Great Yarmouth to Scheveningen Holland. I then travelled on to Germany, Austria, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, India then a plane from Calcutta to Bangkok Thailand, then through Malaysia to Singapore. A ship then brought me to Perth, Australia, three months after I had left England. The cost of the whole journey was two hundred and fifty pounds of which on arrival I had just one pound left in my pocket.

Within two days I found myself a job working on a water pipe line, which in the five weeks I worked had saved enough money to put aside for a luxury liner back to England. However, I stayed on it Australia for 18 months working on various projects, including a Postman then with the Moscow State Circus and one year at Melbourne University. I have travelled all over Australia, including Alice Springs in its Centre.

On returning home I worked for Messrs Coopers Ltd. in most of its departments in both the Gorleston and Yarmouth Shops.

Having a life long interest in Natural History I joined the Great Yarmouth Naturalists Society first as a member, later becoming its secretary, programme secretary and its president having the great honor of serving twice in this capacity.

18 years ago I travelled to the U.S.A. where each time I purchased an Amtrak rail pass for 30 days, valid for anywhere in the U.S.A. for five hundred pounds. I have now travelled 175,000 miles on Amtrak trains making many friends on the way. In recognition of this, Amtrak presented me with a free 2,000 mile journey in its sleeper department complete with meals for 3 days, on my recent visit.

For the past 10 years I have given hundreds of talks on my travels and adventures both here and in the U.S.A. and have been interviewed on B.B.C. Radio Norfolk {four times} Radio Essex and Radio Oxford.

For all of this I have to thank the warden of Shrublands Youth and Adult Centre, Julian Macey for helping to give me the confidence to be able to people .

I shall be 76 years old later this year and am hoping that once again I shall be able to RIDE THE IRON HORSE ACROSS AMERICA early next year”

JULY, 2009.

MILLER Maureen “Dusty”

Dusty played a major part in the Drama Group and said she learnt much from Julian MACEY & Phil. FARROW.

On leaving Shrublands she had a very varied career – Librarian, Police Office, Social and Church Warden, Night Club Bouncer, Security Worker, Custodian, Interpreter, a period with Norfolk Museums and Principal of The Dusmagrik Young Peoples Theatre for over 21 years.

Now retired in Gorleston, Dusty is still in touch with a number of ex members and does occasional “Grapevine” Hospital Visiting and generally helping others.

April, 2009.

NEWMAN Bettie

John and Bettie met in 1952 at Shrublands when they were partners in the chorus of the pantomime that year. In May 1953, John was enlisted in the army to do two years national service. During a long weekend leave, Bettie and John became engaged in 1954 and married in 1956.

John built their bungalow in Bradwell later the same year. Their daughter was born in 1962 and their twin sons in 1965.

They extended their bungalow, as and when required over the years and still live there today. They now have five grandchildren between 11 and 22 years of age and they are fortunate that all their family live within about eleven miles of their home. Bettie worked as a representative and merchandiser and part time secretary for several years, retiring in 1995 and three months later, John retired as Manager after 47 years in the building trade.

They enjoy their retirement travelling, gardening, crosswords, and Sudoku with Johns main interests in computers.

September 2009

RAYNER Bill

Bill enjoyed fencing at Shrublands which enabled him in later life to guide youths in fencing when he was a teacher.

He recalls he was in a short lived Sunday league soccer team at the Centre. In 1960 the team lost 29 – nil to a Great Yarmouth Youth team. The Shrublands team disbanded the following week. It reinforced his inherited dislike of soccer.

His claim to fame is that after leaving Shrublands he did some amateur dramatics at college and appeared on stage as an extra with the son of Rex Harrison – Robin Ellis, who played Poldark and John Shrapnell who was one of the baddies in the film 101 Dalmatians.

It was in 1961 Bill left Shrublands when he went to Selwyn College, Cambridge, to read English. On leaving he was a reported on the eastern Daily Press for two years then a schoolmaster in Kent.

He read a Masters degree in French German and Russian at the University of East Anglia and then worked as a Russian translator for the Central Asian Research Centre in London.

After being made redundant he took a welding course and worked on the North Sea and abroad as a radiographer and welding inspector.

He lectured at The Welding Institute, Cambridge for eight years then worked in the Far East and Middle East.

Bill retired in 2006 and lives in Norwich. He is married and has two daughters and four grandchildren.

April, 2009.

SEAKINS Joan

Joan worked with her friends and fellow members Jill GARNHAM and Maureen BENTLEY, at Eire Resistor. She enjoyed social events at the Centre and took part in the shows and pantomimes.

She married, lived in Gorleston and had a son and daughter. A very private person, she loved playing the piano.

Joan subsequently divorced and later married her second husband John WALKER who formed his own resistor supply business. They worked together and moved to Essex where the business was based.

John was a qualified pilot and Joan enjoyed accompanying him on some business flights abroad. When the business was sold, they bought a derelict historic barn in Hoxne, Suffolk. They undertook a long term project to rebuild and convert the barn to a unique home. Unfortunately Joan died before their new home had been completed.

June, 2009

WATSON Frank

See BENSLEY Arthur

WILLIAMS Gillian

See Jack Williams

WILLIAMS Jack

WILLIAMS Evelyn

WILLIAMS Gillian

WILLIAMS Susan

WILLIAMS Patricia

WILLIAMS Judith

Both Jack and Evelyn loved playing in pantomimes, revues and plays. Jack had a good Welsh singing voice and Evelyn often helped in the shows by prompting. They moved from Clark's Road to Kennedy Avenue and finally to a flat in Barham Court when they were in their 70's.

Evelyn died at 85 in 2006. Jack aged 88 is now very frail and lives in a home on Lowestoft Road in Gorleston. He loves talking about the old days at Shrublands. Susan, Patricia and Judith joined in the chorus of the shows.

Susan went on to become an actress with the stage name Emma WILLIAMS, playing on TV in Minder and several Checkov plays – also on the London stage. She married Graeme Garden (one of the Goodies).

She lives in Oxfordshire and Gillian lives in March. Pat still lives locally in Bradwell and Judy in Gorleston.

April 2009

WILLIAMS Judith

See Jack Williams

WILLIAMS Evelyn

See Jack Williams

WILLIAMS Patricia

See Jack Williams

WILLIAMS Susan

See Jack Williams

YOUNG Tony

From 1953 Tony spent several years at Shrublands taking part in many activities including the drama group appearing in musicals, plays and pantomimes. He was able to continue his membership into his National Service when he joined the R.A.F. From 1958 to 61 he went to college in Pontefract and became a P.E. Teacher. He taught at a grammar school in Pontefract until 1969. He married in 1963 to Pat Noble. They had two daughters.

1969 to 74 he taught at a large comprehensive in Billericay.

1974 to 90 taught in three middle schools in Leeds, finishing as a Head teacher. Tony took early retirement in 1990 1990 onwards worked in teacher training for Leeds University and in other departments. He also works occasionally as a supply teacher.

In his retirement Tony is a school governor.

Tony is so grateful to Shrublands for teaching him how to deal and cope with people of all ages and walks of life. He is in no doubt that Shrublands helped build his character and abilities for his future career.

June 2009