

# Bushy Tales

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



Issue #5

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Visit the Bushy Park Website 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 – Volunteer Requested**



**1956 – Edie (Williams) Wingate**  
[WingW@aol.com](mailto:WingW@aol.com)



**1957 – Shirley (Huff) Dulski**  
[sedulski@gmail.com](mailto:sedulski@gmail.com)



**1958 – Pat (Terpening) Owen**  
[nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net)



**1959 – John ‘Mike’ Hall**  
[MGHall@Q.com](mailto:MGHall@Q.com)



**1960 – Ren Briggs**  
[rpbjr@frontier.net](mailto:rpbjr@frontier.net)



**1961 – Betsy (Schley) Slepetz**  
[bslepetz@comcast.net](mailto:bslepetz@comcast.net)



**1962 – Dona (Hale) Ritchie**  
[DonaRitchie@aol.com](mailto:DonaRitchie@aol.com)

## **ROSTER CHANGES**



**From: Pat Terpening (58) Owen**

**Bill - here goes on trying to update by class. Starting with Class of 1953:**

**There were 41 members of the Class of 1953 (students who attended and were, or could have been, 1953 graduates, but didn't necessarily graduate from Bushy Park).**

**Of these 8 have never been located:**

**Eugene Clifford Cain - have written several times but never gotten a reply.**

**Richard Carver - too many to even try to locate.**

**Sarah Grantham**

**Ann Hern**

**Henry Sage Mason - lives in FL, but has never responded to letters.**

**Mitzi Jo McCurdy**

**Kay Owen**

**Patricia Alice Piety - Lives in MN per her brother, but never did have an address or other info for her.**

**16 have been located and are still living:**

**Rosa Therese "Buddy" Arns Pollock - OK**

**Jacqueline Grace Brown Kenny - FL**

**Marcia Craver Thomas - TX**

**Harold P. Granata - FL**

**Sherry Porter Gregory Carson - FL**

**Barbara Ann Hiers Snipes - SC**

**Edna Hunt Ossa - WY**

**Anne Marie Jones Weber - OR**

**Richard H. Leavell - TX**

**Robert W. "Budge" Lynn Hedman - IL**

**Samuel Rodman Neves - WA**

**Sandra Pirie Abel - VA**

**Atha Alene "Robbie" Robinson - TX**

**Lola Irene Sersain Biegler - AZ**

**Georgia Sue Talbot Cameron - GA**

**Mariann Walton McCornack - MI**

**17 are deceased:**

**Ray Allen Algren - 2004**

**Arden A. Atkinson Sederholm - March 15, 2015**

**Harold "H" Baldwin - April 2012**

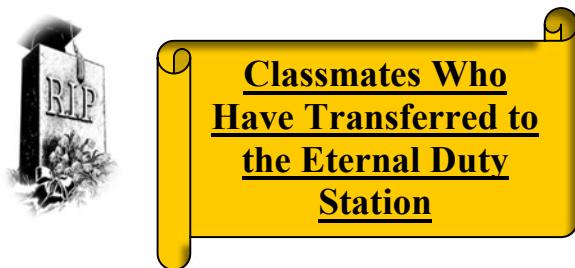
**Barbara Bowman**

**Bobbie Nelle Brewer - Sep 2004**

**Carroll Kevin Edward - October 6, 2008**

Constance Lee Carpenter Golden - 2012  
Patricia Anne D'Arcy Horen  
Ruth Rosalind Davis Zabel  
Cecile Erichs Warshaw - 2004  
Lois Alma Fontaine Pinkney - Dec 2014  
Flint "Pete" Garrison - June 24, 2001  
Celia Aileen Johnson  
Harper Keeler - Vietnam  
Henry Reed Muller - March 21, 2011  
Richard L. D. Musgrave - SSDI records  
Pauline Rex Nieman Burnside - May 13, 2003

A little reminder to all –if/when you change your email address, please let Pat Terpening [nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nemoamasa@sbcglobal.net) or me know, if you want to continue to receive the newsletter. Too many times we only find out when you send us an email saying you haven't received the newsletter in few months. Thanks, guys.



Frank G. Embree (54) 80, of Kailua, Hawaii, died in Kailua on Tuesday, November 29, 2016. He was born in Honolulu. Visitation: 9:30a.m.; Services: 10:00a.m. on Friday, January 6, 2017 at St. Andrew's Cathedral. Inurnment: 3:00p.m. at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific at Punchbowl.

Posted On December 30th, 2016 - [Honolulu Star-Advertiser Obituaries](#)

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Helen Kathryn Speed (54) Harris, of Owasso, passed away on Thursday June 30, 2011, at the home of her daughter, at the age of 74. Helen was born on Aug. 12, 1936 at Sayre, Okla., as the daughter of Henry Kirven and Ruth (Armstrong) Speed, Jr. As a daughter of an Air Force colonel, she traveled throughout her high school years, graduating in England.

Helen later attended Oklahoma Women's College, which is now a part of the University of Oklahoma; however, she graduated from the University of Alaska, where she met her husband.

On May 23, 1959, Helen and Robert W. Harris Sr. were united in marriage in Fairbanks, Ala. To this union, three children were born.

Helen and Robert lived their retirement years in Mesa, Ariz. He preceded her in death on March 14, 2004, and for the past eight months, Helen has resided in Owasso with her daughter.

Helen was preceded in death by her parents, one brother and her husband, Robert. Those that survive and hold many cherished memories are her children, Debbie Diskerud and husband, Robert, of Owasso, Becky Gerlach and husband, Chris, of Miamisburg, Ohio, and Robert W. Harris, Jr and wife, Robin, of Olathe, Kan.; grandchildren, Samuel, Kathryn, Zane, Riley, Conner, Claire and Megan; and siblings, Gordon Speed, of North Carolina, and Margaret McConnell, of Georgia.

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**Kevin Edward Carroll (53)**

**Kevin Edward Carroll, 72, the former executive director of the State Department's bureau overseeing U.S. policy at the United Nations, died October 6 [2008] of lung cancer at his home in Silver Spring [Maryland].**

**Mr. Carroll joined the State Department in 1961 and held administrative and management and analysis positions in his career. In 1980, he became director of the Bureau of International Organization Affairs, which is responsible for developing U.S. policy at the United Nations and other international organizations. He retired in 1993.**

**Mr. Carroll was born in Washington [DC] and, as the son of a Foreign Service officer, spent much of his childhood overseas, mostly in Italy, Great Britain and Canada. He graduated from the University of Ottawa in 1958 and served in the Army before joining the State Department.**

**After retiring from the State Department, he lived in Tempe, Arizona, from 1993 to 2001, then moved to Leisure World in Silver Spring. He was known for his vegetable garden at Leisure World and for his Saturday jaunts to garage sales.**

**Survivors include his wife of 46 years, Constance A. Carroll of Silver Spring; three children, Kevin E. Carroll II of Pleasant Hill, California, Maureen Carroll Martin of Rockville [Maryland] and Patricia McGarry-Carroll Supernor of Dunn Loring [Virginia]; a sister, Garry Clifford, and two brothers, Thomas Carroll and Gerard Carroll, all of Washington [DC]; and seven granddaughters.**

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## Memories of Bushy Park



**From Sally Goldenberg (61) Entlich**

I want to thank John Hoberg for his article in the March 19 newsletter confirming the existence of the cinder track during our time at Central High. I have vague memories of either walking on the track or merely standing there, either of which could have been during Miss Parrot's gym class. We tended to avoid actual exercise in those days.



I was a daily bus (coach) rider from Ruislip. I think our driver's name was John and the woman who tried to "keep us in line" was Rosie. She might have topped out at 5'2" both up and sideways, and always wore a head scarf and woolen coat. Often, she sported a "fag" from the corner of her mouth. Why was Rosie really on that bus? My theory is that the US government was simply employing the Brits in any way possible to bolster their economy. I'm sure we were not particularly nice to her, but she called us "love" and "ducks" anyway.

How about this--why did the British cars that Americans purchased have left-hand drive? Some I know would be taken back to the US, like our Austin Healy Sprite. Regardless, it was very useful in the fog to open the driver's door and see the road edge! Other than that, a bit confusing to drive, although, typically, we took it in stride as "the norm" for us Yanks. Other memories--remember wrapping scotch tape around the spindle of the phonograph to play our American produced 45 rpm records? Remember being absurdly popular upon first arriving in the UK because you had the latest American hit tunes? Indeed, a magical and unique High School experience!

Sally

PS: Speaking of a magical time—Is it possible that we all rode the American version of the Hogwarts Express (from the Harry Potter series) to the Bushy Park School of Witchcraft and Wizardry?

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**From: Judith Samms (59) Stanford**

Hi Bill

You do a great job on the Bushy Tales and I enjoy very much. I wanted to follow up with Mercedes (Mercy) Kelly Murphy (60) about Mynaikai Brown. I was also very fond of Mynai and she did come home one weekend for a visit to my parent home and we had a good time (in England). She also visited me in the states after she was married. I miss her and have many fond memories of her. Thanks for sharing in the newsletter.

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**From: Beverly Schroeder (56) Smith**

I do have one question--Is it true: If a guy and gal were holding hands walking down the hall and were seen by the Principal he would say "son, get your hands in your pockets"?

Bev

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## **Letters to the Editor**

**Ron Crowe (64)**

Wanted to let you know that I was also able to attend Bill Cooper's funeral. I flew in from California and went to the mass, but did not attend the reception after the service. After asking permission from



his oldest son, Bill, I inserted a spoon in Bill's casket, which he will need to show everyone in heaven exactly how to hang spoons. Also, I wrote to Fr. Aaron "Pete" Peters, class of '57, and asked him to say a mass in Bill's honor and Pete will say the mass on March 25th at St. Benedict's Abbey in Atchison, Kansas.



Bill and I became close friends following the '64 & More 50th reunion in London in 2000. While he was on his epic road trip in August 2016 across the U.S. to see former classmates and friends he stopped by our home in Burbank and we had lunch at a restaurant at the Van Nuys airport, where we watched vintage planes take off and land. We even hung a spoon, which surprised the waitress so much she dropped a

glass of water on the tray she was carrying.

Here's a picture of Bill hanging two spoons, which got him initiated into the '64 & More group while we were in London. This was taken at a Greek restaurant down the mews from Mrs. Francis "Gail" Kelly, one of the finest teachers at LCHS.

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**From: Craig Sams (61)**

Do you guys have any contact with Bushey Hall students or do they have a separate website?

My English teacher in 12th grade was Edna Leigh. They are doing a residential development at Bushey Hall and 5 of the streets are named after teachers, including Edna, who moved there when Bushy Park closed down.



**That's all I know, can find out more, but wonder if you're already fully briefed.**

**Edna Leigh**

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**Hello, Marguerite Froscher Drew:**

**Do you recall a teacher at Bushey Hall named Edna Leigh?**

**Regards,  
Bill Rumble  
Editor, "Bushy Tales"**

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**Hi Bill,**

**Yes, I certainly do remember her [Edna Leigh]! She was quite a character, for instance, used to cover up the “naughty bits” on pictures of classical art/sculpture like Michelangelo’s David. Nevertheless, I think she was a wonderful, old school, English teacher. She made us memorize reams of quotations from the classic texts such as the introduction to Canterbury Tales and many passages and sonnets from Shakespeare.**

**It’s odd that you ask about Mrs. Leigh because I thought we had established that you and I weren’t talking about the same institution. Or was it the same institution in different periods of time? I know the school I went to for one year only (66-67) was called Central High School.**

**Best wishes,  
Marguerite Froscher Drew**

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**Hi, Marguerite:**

**Thanks for your response. London Central High School was originally at Bushy Park near Teddington. It then was moved to Bushey Hall in High Wycombe, but still called London Central High School, though it was never actually in London.**

**I received the below email from a graduate of Bushy Park, hence my question to you. I appreciate your responding.**

**Kind regards,  
Bill**

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**Ah, that’s so interesting! I wonder who the other 4 are? I must say Edna Leigh deserves it and I think it’s lovely that she’s being remembered in that way. BTW I called her Mrs. Leigh above, but I bet she was Miss Leigh.**

**If you get any more information I’d be really interested.**

**Kind regards,  
Marguerite Froscher Drew**

BTW, when I attended Central my classmates called me Min Froscher and my English friends called me Margo. My English friends were competitive divers and I was given the name Margo by a fellow diver because his girlfriend at the time was also called Min. He is now my husband.

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### “Daws Hill

#### KEY HISTORICAL AND EDUCATOR NAMES TO BE HONOURED AT RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ON FORMER USAF/US NAVY BASE IN ENGLAND

##### High Wycombe, England

RAF Daws Hill in High Wycombe was a former United States Air Force and latterly a United States Navy base until its closure as part of a Cold War drawdown in 2007. The base was also home to the London Central High School (LCHS) that operated there from 1971 until the base closed. The school was established for the education of both military dependents and American civilian students living overseas.

To commemorate the relationship between the US Military and the town of High Wycombe, key historical United States and British military names – together with select names of the teaching faculty associated with the LCHS school – have been incorporated into the street naming for a new British residential housing development now emerging on the site.

Taylor Wimpey, the developer of the former High Wycombe Air Station USAF/RAF Daws Hill site located 34 miles to the west of London and bordering the M40 motorway (freeway), submitted and has had approved 17 street names, one building name and one park name—all of which are designed to reflect the history of the area both as a key WWII and Cold War base and also reflect the presence of London Central High School. These will complement the Penn Window in High Wycombe Parish Church in the center of the town sponsored by the pupils of LCHS.

Taylor Wimpey has already completed the first tranche of approximately 50 of the 444 homes that will cover much of the 60-acre base site, which was established as the Headquarters for the US Army Air Force 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force Bomber Command in April 1942, and went on to become an important Cold War base in the 1950s right through until the mid-1990s. The base was handed over to US Navy in the mid-1990s as a support base for the US Navy Headquarters on Grosvenor Square in London but was closed in 2007 with the general drawdown of the US military presence in the UK.

During WWII, the base occupied the entire hillside to the south of the town including a famous girls school—Wycombe Abbey. A secret underground bunker, codenamed “Pinetree”, was where USAAF WWII bombing missions over Europe were planned. The bunker remains in place today, though it is privately owned after the land on which it was built was returned to Wycombe Abbey school which had owned it prior to WWII. The bunker has been recognized as an important historical structure and is protected by being designated as a listed building. In latter years the base, which also had two housing areas, was solely accessed from Daws Hill Lane.

The new names of streets for the “Pine Trees” development being delivered by Taylor Wimpey include:

1. KENNEDY AVENUE
2. ARIZONA WAY

- 3. CALIFORNIA WAY**
- 4. UTAH WAY**
- 5. LEIGH PLACE**
- 6. DEYOUNG WAY**
- 7. EAKER STREET**
- 8. DOOLITTLE AVENUE**
- 9. ROBERTSON PLACE**
- 10. MANSFIELD CLOSE**
- 11. TRINITY CIRCLE**
- 12. KELLY ROAD**
- 13. THRELKELD CLOSE**
- 14. KILTY PLACE**
- 15. WERNETTE WAY**
- 16. EISENHOWER LOWER CLOSE**
- 17. BEECH STREET**
- 18. BOBCAT PARK**

The latter, a large green open space in the middle of the site, will be named Bobcat Park after the London Central High School's mascot for 56 years since the school's inception in 1951.

Of the street names, Kennedy Avenue, Arizona Way, California Way, Utah Way, and Beech Street existed on the former base and have been retained to maintain the link with the former US Base.

It's interesting to note that Kennedy Avenue, once the main 'spine' road for the base, was not named after US President John F. Kennedy but was named for Royal Navy Captain Edward Coverley Kennedy, the father of the late broadcaster Ludovic Kennedy. Kennedy Sr. was a WWI veteran who had been recalled at the age of 60 to captain a converted P&O steamship HMS Rawalpindi. The Armed Merchant Cruiser was sunk on 23 November 1939 after an encounter with two German cruisers while patrolling the southeast of Iceland. Kennedy opted to signal his position and fight on rather than surrender to the German battlecruiser Scharnhorst in the one-sided sea battle which saw 275 of the 312 crew of HMW Rawalpindi killed. Captain Kennedy was posthumously 'mentioned in dispatches'.

Arizona Way, California Way and Utah Way were named after US Navy battleships lost on Dec. 7 1941 during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor which effectively brought the US into WWII. Some 1,177 men were lost on the USS Arizona, 105 on the USS California, and 58 on the USS Utah. All three names were roads in the former housing areas of the base.

Eaker Street and Doolittle Avenue will be two new road names that reflect the WWII commands under of USAAF Generals Ira Eaker and James Doolittle. Both were among key commanders during WWII and subsequently the two former main housing areas of the base were given eponymous names in their honour.

Adding to that heritage recognition will be Eisenhower Lower Close, named after the Supreme Allied Commander General (and later US President) Dwight D. Eisenhower who was a frequent visitor to the base during WWII from his headquarters at RAF Station Bushy Park, near Teddington.

Additional new names are related to the educators who taught at the school and were suggested following an effort to commemorate the site led by former student Tamara Palmer, who attended London Central High School in 1971 when it first opened at the High Wycombe location. The school had previously operated at the aforementioned AF

**Station Bushy Park (1951-1962), then Bushey Hall in Watford (1962-1971) before the final relocation to High Wycombe.**

**A proposed set of names was shortlisted and submitted by Taylor Wimpey to High Wycombe's planning team for approval.**

**Though she was only at LCHS for one year, Tamara Palmer, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia, had lasting memories of her school and managed to contact High Wycombe Councillor Lesley Clarke OBE who put her in touch with the relevant developer and town officials."**

**Comments Palmer:**

**"I'm delighted to see that the development is recognizing the legacy of the site through its road-naming programme. The base had a distinguished military history stretching back to WWII, but additionally, thousands of American youngsters attended school and lived on the campus for over 35 years in what was a unique educational institution with some remarkable educators. We only wish we could honor many more of them to create a place that has a significant heritage. Not only was the road-naming process about recognizing the educators, but also our way of leaving our legacy forever tied to the community of High Wycombe and England. It is our way of saying 'Thank You' to them and to the little piece of England that was to us a remarkable experience. We cherished being there and have fond memories of what will now be the future homes for so many people."**

**Comments Cllr Clarke OBE:**

**"It has been an honour to have been involved with assisting our American friends and Allies with maintaining their links with the Daws Hill base. I am particularly pleased we have been able to acknowledge those people who were influential during their time on the base. We do so need to ensure we observe the very special historical links this base serves to everyone."**

**Among the new street names, Leigh Place was named after Edna Johnston Leigh, a teacher born in 1916 in McCune, Kansas, who married an RAF pilot she met when he was training in the US during WWII. Leigh became famous after her death in 1991 when, during her 23-year tenure working at the school, she researched Homer's classic Greek poems, "The Iliad" and "The Odyssey", and had developed the theory that the acclaimed works were actually poetic guides to astronomy in the ancient world. Subsequently the books, Homer's Secret Iliad (1999) and Homer's Secret Odyssey (2011), based on her research, were published by her daughter and son-in-law to wide acclaim.**

**Mansfield Close and Trinity Circle were named after the two former halls of residence (Mansfield & Trinity Halls) at the school which accommodated students from around the world. Prior to the students moving in to the two three-story buildings, both had been barracks for up to 900 Cold War personnel who worked round-the-clock on the base and in the underground bunker before being turned over for student halls in 1971. The buildings were the stuff of lore—with some nearby High Wycombe residents wrongly believing they were really just giant covers for missile silos and would slide down the hillside towards High Wycombe so that missiles could launch in the event of WWIII!**

**Robertson Place was named after Iowa-born guidance counsellor Gordon Robertson, who taught World Regions and Geography from 1962 to 1986 and met his wife, Lois, an elementary school principal, in 1964 while working in the school system. Robertson had arrived at High Wycombe from Chico State College in California via Ramstein AFB in Germany, a US base in France, and another at Sculthorpe in Norfolk, England. For many years he sponsored the students creating the school's annual yearbook The Londoner. Robertson died aged 86 in 2012 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.**

**Threlkeld Close** is named after teachers, Wallace and Rosemary Threlkeld (née Hynes), who met and married in 1957 in London while teaching at Bushy Park. Rose Threlkeld, as she was known, taught English and a very popular Shakespeare course in the school for 32 years. She passed away in 1986 in England and her ashes lie under a willow tree behind the Shakespeare Memorial Theater in Stratford-Upon-Avon. Wallace Threlkeld, who conducted Band classes and taught Music and Guitar at LCHS for 29 years, passed away in June 2004 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**DeYoung Way** is named after Mary Pauline (“Polly”) DeYoung, who taught at the school from 1971 to 2005. DeYoung came from Macon, Georgia, and returned to live in the United States after her retirement in 2005. She returned to High Wycombe in 2007 to be the VIP speaker at the closing ceremony for the base. DeYoung, who taught Mathematics and Physical Education, was also a cheerleading coach and had involvement in choreographing a number of the school plays. She additionally worked with students who participated in the popular Model United Nations programme.

**Wernette Way** is named after husband and wife team Jack and Peg Wernette, who met in 1960 when LCHS was located at Bushy Park. Jack taught English and Drama from 1958 to 1993; Peg (née Hebert) taught Mathematics and French from 1960 to 1993.

Jack Wernette’s drama courses and theatre productions —from Arsenic and Old Lace to Inherit the Wind, as well as a gamut of musicals and Shakespearian plays—were the stuff of legend. A number of his students went on to professional acting, directing, and producing. The Wernes now spend most of their time in Texas, but return to England several months each year to visit London theatres as well as attend concerts and visit art galleries.

**Kilty Place** is named after Dr. William J. Kilty, who was principal at the school from 1975 to 1987 but had involvement with the school from 1971 as a coordinator. During his time at the school he had the opportunity to meet both Sir Arthur ‘Bomber’ Harris, Air Chief Marshall of the RAF during WWII, and USAAF WWII counterpart General James Doolittle who served on the former base. After retiring, Kilty remained in London with his wife and today they continue to split their time between the UK and Turkey.

**Kelly Road** is named after Martha Gail Kelly, who graduated from the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), and came to France in 1951 and then a few years later, moved to England. At LCHS she taught English and Art from 1955-1986 as well as coached Volleyball and Athletics. She was instrumental in helping the school implement Title IX—a US public law enacted in 1972 that offered equal rights to women in accessing education and sports programmes that had US federal funding. Kelly, who still resides in London, was married to the late American artist, art restorer and author Francis Robert Kelly.

The “Pine Trees” site will have a new community building named after another of the school’s coaches. Madison Taylor Lewis Hall has been eponymously named after the school’s popular American football and athletics coach who taught there from 1958 to 1987. Lewis also attended UCLA where he played basketball and was a world-rated discus thrower (he narrowly missed qualifying for the 1948 Olympics) and went on to teach at schools in Los Angeles and San Diego before joining the dependent schools system and being sent to Libya in 1956 and then to Burtonwood (near Manchester) in England shortly thereafter.

Lewis was known fondly by students as “Big Coach” or “Papa Bear” thanks to his 6’4” stature. After his teaching career, Lewis and his wife, Anne, moved to Grants Pass, Oregon. They were both tragically killed in an automobile accident in February 1996 when their car slid off an icy highway and down an embankment some 25 miles from Kalmuth, Oregon.

**The base site has now been demolished bar the former bunker owned by Wycombe Abbey School. In addition to homes on the main site, there will be light industrial units, a small elementary school, a community shop, and other community buildings.”**



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**Bill,**

**Let me introduce myself. I am Florence Wood, elder daughter of Edna Florence Leigh.**

**Craig Sams (61) suggested I contact you about the following production of “Watchers of the Skies” at Henley-on-Thames March 23rd at 7:30.**

**I hope the following will go some way to explaining why I have written to you.**

**Watchers of the Skies-- Carol Florence (Graham)**

**The production tells the remarkable story of Edna Leigh who, with her two young daughters, travelled from the wide-open plains and starry skies of Kansas and sailed on a dramatic voyage across the Atlantic to England in one of the last convoys of World War 2.**

**Once settled in England with her husband, whom she met while he was training as an RAF pilot in the US, Edna lived in England for the rest of her life ... and went on to make**

**remarkable discoveries about the astronomers and calendar-makers of Ancient Greece during times when there was no writing system.**

**After many years of study Edna found substantial evidence that Homer's Iliad and Odyssey, were not only profound works of literature but also preserved the extensive knowledge of astronomy and calendar-making that would have been essential for the organisation of life in pre-literate Greece.**

**Ill health in later life prevented Edna from publishing her findings and on her death in 1991, she left her research papers to her daughter, Florence, who, together with husband Kenneth have edited and expanded her research.**

**In 1999, Homer's Secret Iliad (John Murray) was published, followed in 2011 by Homer's Secret Odyssey (The History Press).**

**In her performance of Watchers of the Sky, storyteller Carol Graham recalls her grandmother's long journey through time and space.**

#### **Edna in High Wycombe**

**Edna Leigh began her 33-year teaching career with the USAF Dependent Schools at Burtonwood, Warrington, a key distribution point during the Berlin Airlift.**

**My mother Edna Leigh was transferred to Bushy Park, when Burtonwood High School closed in 1959. During the next few years Marjorie (my sister) and I stayed several times in a guest house very near to the school...where we saw Eisenhower's Headquarters of course.**

**My everlasting memory of Bushy Park was the library..part of the University of Maryland which gave her access to the most up-to-date books of the day, one was the Harper's Classical Dictionary about 18 inches long and at least 5 inches deep, which was invaluable to her studies.**

**Somewhere in my mother's papers, I am sure there are copies of (or a copy) of the Inkling and when the production of "Watchers of the Skies" is finished, I'll see if I can root it out.**

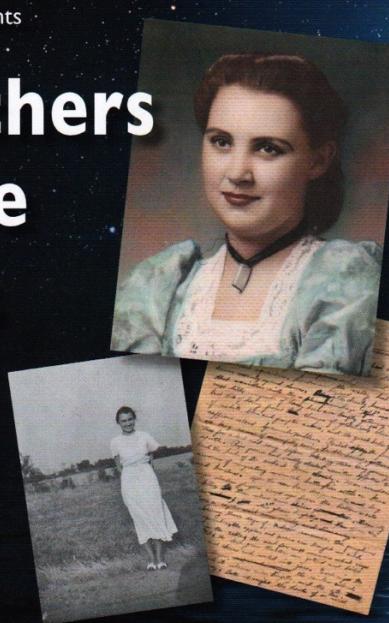
**From 1959 she taught Literature at high schools in London and latterly at Daws Hill, High Wycombe, where she helped to pioneer studies of world myths, and in particular Homer's Iliad and Odyssey.**

**The Daws Hill site closed some years ago and is now being developed for housing. Several street names on the development have been named after teachers who taught at London Central High – welcome to Leigh Place, Kelly Road, Kilty Place, Robertson Place, Threlkeld Close, De Young Way, and Wernette Way.**

**Regards, Florence**

Story Space presents

# Watchers of the Skies



An ordinary woman who made an extraordinary discovery  
A secret and an odyssey  
told through story, music, astronomy and myth

"A totally immersive experience... I was enchanted"

Story Space presents  
**Watchers of the Skies**

A compelling storytelling theatre show with live music.

Edna Leigh was born in Kansas in 1916. Her story takes us from the Dust Bowl and the American Depression of the 1930s and a dramatic wartime voyage across the Atlantic, to her new home in England.

This ordinary woman made extraordinary discoveries. Edna came across a mystery in Homer's epic poems and decoded a hidden meaning which had been lost to the world for centuries.

Edna kept her findings a secret throughout her life. Now her granddaughter, Carol Florence Graham shares this fascinating journey and her family's discoveries, combining storytelling with poetry, myth, astronomy and a cello soundscape by Simon McCorry.

[watchersoftheskies.co.uk](http://watchersoftheskies.co.uk)

"A totally immersive experience... I was enchanted and immersed in a journey of the imagination which drew together story, myth, music and the heavens - it left me utterly transformed."

Phillipa Slinger - Manager, Ledbury Poetry Festival

The Globe	The Bacon Theatre	The Kenton Theatre	HAC
Bay-on-Wye 2 March 2017 globeathay.org 01497 821 762	Cheltenham 4 March 2017 bacontheatre.co.uk 01242 258 002	Bentley-on-Thames 23 March 2017 kentontheatre.co.uk 01491 575 698	Birmingham 26 March 2017 mcbirmingham.co.uk 0121 446 3232

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## From Ron Crowe (64)

Several classmates have asked how can they donate to help with Jerry Donahue's medical expenses through a donation. His daughter has arranged that checks be made out to Jerry Donahue and on the memo/for line at the bottom left of your check indicate "Medical Gift." Doing this will allow you to deduct the amount from your income tax.

Checks should be mailed to:

Jerry Donahue, c/o Kristina Donahue Daly  
3548 35th Street, #3g  
Astoria, NY 11106

He's doing great and appreciates all the cards and good thoughts that have been sent his way. If you want to send a card you can send it to me and I will get it to Jerry. I currently see him 3 days a week:

Jerry Donahue, c/o Ron Crowe  
237 N. Niagara St  
Burbank, CA 91505

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## From: Ron Crowe (64)

"We are in the downsizing mode and the '63 yearbook didn't make the cut. Would you put out a message to your extensive email list and ask if anyone would like this? No cost...just happy for it to find a forever home if it can.

George Cornwell"

--FINIS--