

**The First Seventeen Years of the
Oxford University Ballroom Dance Club, later the Oxford
University Dancesport Club**

According to the papers and recollections of

Corrected and slightly
Revised Oct. 2003

R. Morrin Acheson (Queen's)

Senior Member (with breaks for sabbaticals) from 1968 - 1985

At my disposal I have the original letters from Janice A. White, many letters from Club officials and members, membership cards, programmes, copies of constitutions, and of course my memory. The original Minute Book was lost from a bicycle ridden by one Club official to a meeting, at the time it could not be found and I do not know if it subsequently turned up.

The second Minute book, from TT 1973 until November 1981, was given to me for safe keeping and I put it with the full knowledge of the Committee at that time with my OUBDC correspondence in my filing cabinet in Queen's. I forgot about it, it came with me when we moved to Switzerland and survived two further moves since. I am delighted to bring the correspondence etc. and the Minute book, and give it back to the Club when I next visit Oxford, should the Club wish (This has been done, see later). Janice White later married to become Bradshaw, they had a son Timothy Giles in late '76, the marriage broke up and subsequently she married a Jones. I have not had contact in recent years.

The start of the Club.

On April 4th. 1968, Janice A. White, a second year physicist at St. Hilda's, wrote that she was trying to found a Ballroom Dancing Club within the University, and asked if I would be interested in being Senior Member. I was surprised, and delighted with the invitation. Apparently her tutor, Dr. Rayner (mathematician) put her in touch with Dr. Muriel L. Tomlinson, Chemistry Fellow of St. Hilda's, in case she knew someone. Muriel was one of my D.Phil. examiners, later a great colleague and a personal friend of my family. She knew of my, and of my wife's, interest in dancing,

In the War Years when I was an undergraduate, and later a D.Phil. student (1942-8), undergraduates were not allowed to attend the popular Brett's Dancing School in the centre of Oxford, nor attend any public dance at the Carfax Assembly Room, Headington Hill Hall (Holyoake Hall), and a couple of other places (all now "extinct"), nor in the Town Hall for such dancing was not considered "moral" and the places were such that "undesirable acquaintances might be made." Such acquaintances could however be made at any time of the day or night in Oxford streets such as Cornmarket St, Walton St., or High St. There was no need to go dancing! The American Air Bases were in full use near Oxford, the enlisted men came into the city seeking entertainment and those providing it were glad to leave London because of the air raids and lack of customers there. Private dancing lessons were permitted! Nevertheless some of us regularly visited such places of ill repute, none of us were caught but one nearly was. When the Proctors accompanied by their "Bulldogs" raided he disappeared unseen into the Ladies toilet which the Proctors were not allowed to enter, and those coming in and out assured the Proctors that no man was inside.

I met Janice White and her friends before the coming Trinity Term, wrote out a proposed Constitution with them, and sent it to the Senior Proctor, Dr. C.G. Smith who suggested three amendments, which were clearly helpful and were incorporated. He required the assurance that no formal association with a Dancing School would be made, and on May 4th. he wrote approving the formation of the Oxford Ballroom Dancing Club. The name of the University however could not be used until the Club was up and going, and a new application made.

The first Committee consisted of: -

Janice A. White, St. Hilda's, President
Janet M. Craddock, St. Hilda's, Secretary
Hazel E. Briddon, St. Hilda's, Junior Treasurer
John M. Gaymer, Univ. Committee Member
Robert H. Williams, Exeter, Committee Member
Stephen J. Hodgson, Queen's, Committee Member
Dr. R.M. Acheson, Queen's, Senior Member

The first announcement of the Club was as follows:-

OXFORD BALLROOM DANCE CLUB

ENJOY DANCING?

WANT TO LEARN?

This ideal way to learn and enjoy dancing is by joining the new Oxford Ballroom Dance Club.

Whether you don't dance but feel it would be an asset on certain occasions, whether you dance a little and want to improve, or whether you just want an enjoyable pastime, - you'll be welcome in the Oxford Ballroom Dance Club.

FIRST MEETING - IFFLEY ROAD STADIUM,

WEDNESDAY MAY 8TH at 8.0 p m.
(2nd. week)

Refreshments available.

ENQUIRIES - JANICE WHITE (ST.HILDA'S)

It was put up on the noticeboards of all the men's Colleges.

Janice had a problem in finding a suitable venue for the Club, but eventually got a room at the University Sports Centre, Iffley Rd., by courtesy of the Secretary there, Mr. J.A.N. Railton.

Greti (my wife) and I arrived at the Iffley Road Stadium for the first meeting, to greet six ladies, all from St. Hilda's, towards 40 men from a variety of Colleges, and Anne O'Hagen the professional teacher (she and her husband Michael had been friends of mine since ca. 1945) who had in fact given us a private lesson that afternoon. Neither she, nor we, knew that we were going to meet again that evening. The room we had been given was totally unsuitable with a somewhat roughly surfaced concrete floor which was very hard on the shoes and joints. Anne brought some records and someone else a record player.

It was an unforgettable evening. Every man danced a number of times, and the girls and my wife non-stop! The turn out was totally unexpected, and the men were told that they must try to bring their lady friends along next time. They did. Both my wife and I helped with the teaching and the club slowly got established and grew.

The first Constitution of the Club read as follows:-

Constitution of the

Oxford Ballroom Dance Club

1. Name. The Club shall be known as the Oxford Ballroom Dance Club.

2. Aims.

- (i) To promote interest in dancing within the University and provide tuition in various aspects of modern dance: Ballroom, Latin American, Old Time, etc.
- (ii) To provide a stimulating social atmosphere for the practice of dancing.

3. Members.

- (i) Full Members: any member of the University may admitted to Full Membership of the Club.
- (ii) Unofficial Members: other interested persons may become Unofficial Members at the discretion of the Senior Member, subject to current Proctorial regulations.
- (iii) Membership may be terminated at the discretion of the Committee with the right of appeal to the Senior Member.
- (iv) The number of Unofficial Members shall be limited to one fifth of the total membership.

4. Subscriptions.

Full Members shall pay terminal or annual subscriptions, the amount of which shall be decided at any General Meeting of the Club.

5. General Meetings.

- (i) (a) The Club shall hold an Annual General Meeting (A.G.M.).

(b) The General Meeting shall:

- I. Receive a statement of accounts, which shall be displayed at the weekly meetings one week beforehand.
- II. Approve amendments to the Constitution for submission to the Proctors.
- III. Shape the general policy of the Club.
- IV. Elect such officials of the Club as are required by this Constitution.

- (ii) (a) Any decision of the General Meeting shall be on a majority vote of the Full Members present. The Presiding Chairman shall have a casting vote only, except that changes of the Constitution shall be made only if two thirds of the Full Members present vote in favour of such a proposed change, and provided that at least fourteen days notice shall have been given of such a proposed change.
- (b) This notice shall be in writing to the Committee.
- (iii) At his discretion the President may call an Extra-ordinary General Meeting.
- (iv) The chairman of the General Meetings shall be the Senior Member or his appointee.

6. Elections and appointments.

- (i) Election of officers shall be by secret ballot. A form for the nomination of officers for the following year shall be prepared by the Secretary, and shall be displayed at Club meetings at least two weeks before the General Meeting at which the election is to take place.
- (ii) The following shall be elected by the A.G.M.:
 - President
 - Junior Treasurer
 - Secretary
 - Three Committee Members
- (iii) A person shall not normally be elected to a post to which he has previously been elected, except with the express permission of the Senior Member.
- (iv) Members unable to attend the General Meeting may apply in advance to the Secretary for a ballot paper which must be returned to the Secretary before the beginning of the General Meeting.
- (v) In the event of an elected post being unfilled the Senior Member and the President in consultation shall make a suitable appointment until the following General Meeting, when the post shall again be subject to election.
- (vi) All posts shall be open to all Full Members of the Club, male or female.

7. Committees.

- (i) The finance and general organisation of the Club shall be controlled by the Committee, to consist of
 - The Senior Member (chairman)
 - President
 - Secretary
 - Junior Treasurer
 together with three other committee members
- (ii) Special committees for specific purposes may be formed at the discretion of the President.
- (iii) The decisions of any committee shall be on a majority vote, the Chairman having a casting vote only.
- (iv) No decision of any committee shall be valid unless there be a quorum of two thirds of the members of that committee present.

8. Guests.

Guests may be introduced by members at any meeting of the Club.

3rd. May, 1968

The M. T. 1968 Committee consisted of -

Steve J. Hodgson, Queen's, President
 Ken Parson, St. Caths, Secretary
 Ian Watson, Lincoln, Treasurer
 Peter Phillips, Pembroke, Steward
 Chris Wernham, Somerville
 Neil Craddock, New
 Chris Wright, Hertford

Janice White was now in her final year and did not want to be burdened too much by the Club. In H.T. 1969, if I recall correctly, the Proctors agreed that the Club could now be called the Oxford University Ballroom Dance Club.

The M.T. 1969 Committee consisted of -

Steve J. Hodgson, Queen's, President
 Ken Parson, St. Cath's, Secretary
 Ian Watson, Lincoln, Treasurer
 Peter Phillips, Pembroke, Steward

During T.T. 1969 I had sabbatical leave, and Dr. G.D. Meakins took over as Senior Member for that time.

The H.T. 1970 Committee consisted of-

Graham Cartmell, St. John's, President
 Keith Tolman, Keble, Secretary
 Neal Craddock, New, Treasurer
 Steve Hodgson, Queen's, ex-officio
 Ken Parsons, St. Caths., ex-officio
 Ian Watson, Lincoln, ex-officio

Anne O'Hagen continued to teach the Club for a while, and Lexa Duckett who was working hard for her Dancing Teachers Diploma with the O'Hagens, both lent the Club the use of her record player and helped Anne with the teaching. However Anne found that teaching beginners, in significant numbers, was really too much for her. Her real interest was in giving private lessons to couples dancing at a really high standard and she was very good at it. So the Club had to find someone else. Bruce Richardson was found, and as far as I recall he had taught for Bretts Dancing School in Broad St., where he was fondly known behind his back as the Sergeant Major! He was excellent with beginners there. Later on he was joined by his wife Jean in teaching for the club, and as she was best with intermediate and advanced dancers they made a good team of teachers for the Club. I insisted, following the Proctors ruling and my personal view, that no regular teaching arrangements should be made with professionals, that teaching arrangements should only be made on an ad hoc basis, and this proved very advantageous for the Club as the numbers, and needs, fluctuated considerably. Much later Jean became ill, and Bruce and Jean parted. I never heard what became of her but she rendered excellent service to the Club for a long time.

In 1970 the University decided that a scheme to make financial and other assistance to University Clubs would be started, it was, but the amount in relation to the needs was very small and there was desperate competition between Clubs.

I had sabbatical leave and was away from Oxford for TT 1971, and Dr. G.D. Meakins again agreed to replace me as Senior Member for that Term.

The M.T. 1971 Committee gave the Club a lot of impetus. It consisted of

David Normington, Corpus, President
 Alvys Weavin, St. Hilda's, Secretary
 Diana Berthoud, St. Hilda's, Treasurer
 Carol Buckland, St. Anne's
 Moira Crimp, St. Anne's
 Andrew Stefanowski., Worcester

and increased the membership of 91 to 143 over one year! The club had now printed programmes concerning its activities, and in November 1972 had a substantial number of "Unofficial Members." David Normington wrote that in fact 40% of the Club Members were "Unofficial" while the Proctors only allowed 20%. However it turned out that most of these were members of Colleges of Education, affiliated through the Department of Education to the University, and that these could be admitted to Full Membership of the Club at the discretion of the Committee. Then the number of "Unofficial Members" could be held under 20% The problem remained with "Unofficial Members" from the Oxford Polytechnic, now Brooks University. Some of these were excellent dancers, made a great contribution to the Club by providing superb refreshments at special dances, and were very frustrated that they could neither become Committee Members nor take part in competitive Team events as all members also had to be Members of Oxford University (some exceptions were allowed, such as when a couple comprised of an Oxford University Undergraduate and an Oxford Polytechnic Student). However membership of an "Advisory Committee" was not excluded.

At the beginning the Club was a purely social Club, not interested in competitions or medals but when it was really going and a few good dancers (first year undergraduates) had joined my wife and I suggested that members might consider building a Competition Team and possibly work for medals. After all there was an Inter-Varsity Dancing Competition, and Cambridge took part. The thought of beating Cambridge was of course very attractive and serious dancing really took root.

At the end of the year David Normington wrote that there were difficulties with his succession. Nobody wanted to take over his job as President, he was willing to do it again as he would then be in his second year, he did not want to "hog the position," and the Committee wanted him to continue. The Senior Member could agree to his continuing, and under the circumstances I was glad to do so. The same thing happened the following year, when I agreed at the unanimous request of the Committee and in the absence of another nomination to Christine Piniger continuing as Secretary. David and Christine were the couple (they danced together) who mainly deserve the credit for getting the Club going along the path of competitions.

The H.T. 1972 Committee consisted of:-

David Normington, CCC, President
Christine Piniger, St. Hilda's, Secretary
Richard Jackson, Exeter, Treasurer
Jane Baxendale, St. Annes, Steward
Simon Peerless, Queen's
Peter Plant, Lincoln

In M.T. 1972 Jane Baxendale was replaced by John McInnes, CCC

In Nov. 1972 the membership stood at 143.

The 1973 Committee, elected in TT, consisted of-

**[Start of Minute book in
my possession]**

Richard Jackson, Exeter, President
Christine Piniger, St. Hilda's, Secretary
Mark Coulshed, CCC, Treasurer
Keith Osborn, Keble,
Chris Smith, Keble
Sue Whittaker, Westminster

Advisory Committee Paul Glover, Oriel
David Normington, C.C.C.
Simon Peerless, Queen's

At some point an Advisory Committee was set up, consisting of ex-officers of the Club and others, and was most helpful especially in organising big functions.

The first competition in Oxford was planned in the autumn of 1973, to take place in Oxford, and the problem was the venue. I had thought that Rhodes House would be an excellent place, and had organised several Biochemistry Department Christmas Parties there. I had previously tried to get the place as a regular venue for the Club's meetings, but the Warden's Secretary told me that it was the Warden's policy that the Hall would never be available for regular meetings of any Club or suchlike, but that he would consider its availability on an ad hoc basis for occasional special functions. The Secretary was not overawed with the idea of an undergraduate Club using the Hall, but knowing that previous Biochemistry parties under my leadership gave no problems and being assured that my wife and I would be present and see that the Competition would both end on time and that the place would be well cleared up said she would recommend us to the Warden. He agreed to our request, but required that dancing should take place only between 7.30 and 11.30, that the music volume must not be too big, that professional caterers (a list for consideration was provided) be employed, and arrangements for drinks acceptable to his secretary must be made, and that we must be cleared up and out by midnight. The competition took place on March 8th., 1974, and Oxford beat Cambridge by 106 1/2 points to 106. It was very exciting and the result could not have been closer! The judges were the Tanakas, the Japanese Ballroom and Latin Professional Champions, also high up on the International scale. David Normington and Christine Piniger won the Open Competition.

The Competition against Cambridge in Rhodes House became an annual event. The OUBDC did things so well that the Secretary was eventually happy to allow the Club to organise its own catering. This was done by Steven Moulton, of the Oxford Poly, who was able to use their facilities to prepare excellent dinners at a very competitive cost and have them transported to Rhodes House. Having him as a Poly member was a great advantage to the Club at that time.

The HT 1974 Committee consisted of -

Paul Glover, Oriel, President
Mark Coulshod, C.C.C, Secretary
Jane Carrol, St. Hugh's, Treasurer
Andrew Rigby Univ. (?) replaced John Edmonson, Univ. who resigned through illness
Penny Manchester, L.M.H.
Ross Monro, S.E.H.

Advisory Committee.. -

Richard Jackson, Exeter
 Christine Piniger
 Simon Peerless, Queen's
 Stephen Moulton, Oxford Polytechnic
 Steven Bold, Exeter

Paul Glover (Oriel), up to this point at least, was the most dynamic and effective member the OUBDC had possessed. He joined early as an undergraduate doing the 4 year Chemistry course and was an effective and efficient leader. As such he could not avoid controversy which gave difficulties at times, and following the excellent progress of the Club when led by David Normington and Christine Piniger he really succeeded in giving the OUBDC so much impetus that its progress and development could not be stopped. He continued to help the Club in Oxford over 6 years until he left after his D.Phil.

Paul Glover was the driving force in getting an application in for the award of a Half Blue to Members of the Team which was going to compete against Cambridge. He discovered that the Cambridge Team was going to be awarded a Quarter Blue (!) for this event, and saw no reason why the Oxford Team should not have a Half Blue, as Quarter Blues were not known here. Mr. J.A.N. Railton, who was in charge of the Sports Centre, was also Secretary of the Blues Committee which consisted of the captains of all the "Full Blue" sports, and this was the body which decided which sports should be granted "Half Blues." A condition to the award of Half Blues was that the standard must be high enough, otherwise the Half Blue in that sport would be cancelled, So one had to persuade these Captains to let us at least try. Ballroom Dancing was not considered to be a sport by them, and initially they ruled out the possibility. I was also Senior Member of the O. U. Company of Archers, because of which I was a Member of the Sports Clubs Committee, which gave me an entree into the discussions. I was firmly told that I was present to represent the Archers and not the Dancers. So I pointed out that the Archers had won every competition they had taken part in during the past year, which was probably a record. I then brought up the question of the possibility of removing the Full Blue status of major sports if the teams did not achieve a high standard, a question which was not happily received, nor answered. The Captains of the Full Blue sports were invited to watch competitions in which the OUBDC took part, so see the physical activity involved, but none accepted at that time.

The TT 1974 Committee consisted of:-

Paul Glover, Oriel, President
 Mark Coulshed, Corpus, Secretary
 Jane Carroll, St. Hugh's, Treasurer
 Steven Bold, Exeter
 Penny Manchester, LMH
 Ross Monro, SEH

and the Club had 172 Members.

In late 1973 and 1974 a great deal of work by the Committee was put into revising the Constitution. The original Constitution was, at the wish of the Club's Founders, simple and worked well for a small social Club, but was not satisfactory for a much larger Club where widely disparate views were expressed and supported. The revised Constitution was agreed in June 1974 and sent to and accepted by the Proctors in the following MT.

On May 1st. Mr. J.A.N. Railton replied to Mr. Glover's request for Half Blue Status by inviting him to Vincents Club in London on May 7th. 1974 when the matter would be considered, and also stating that applications for women undergraduates should be made to the O.U. Women's Blues Committee. Paul and Ross Monro put the case to the Blues Committee. This Committee was "very dubious about classing Ballroom Dancing as a Sport," and Paul and Ross suggested they send a delegation to view a "training session" to decide for themselves. The Blues Committee deferred a decision until MT 1974 by which time a representative would have attended a Club evening (OUBDC Minutes, 26. May 1974). Mr. Railton wrote to the Club on 28. October 1974 stating that Messrs. Lovell and Kent (presumably of the Blues Committee) would attend a Club Evening in the Iffley Rd. Stadium Pavillion to observe a class and make recommendations,

My interpretation of events was that Mr. Railton clearly thought that the OUBDC should come under the "Clubs Committee," rather than the "Sports Clubs Committee," for he had no comprehension of competitive dancing and the physical activity it involved. The OUBDC started to obtain small grants from the Clubs Committee from about 1972, as far as I recall. I believe that another background reason was that the Sports Clubs Committee had a very great deal more money at its disposal than the Clubs Committee, and that another Club under "Sports" would compete for the money, fought over by the Boat Club etc., and with the large membership attention would have to be paid to its demands. I agreed to become Senior Member of the OU Company of Archers after one of its members, Chris Brooks if I recall correctly, who was also a member of the OUBDC, begged me to help them for they had had no Senior Member for some time and could not therefore function properly under University rules. I had no practical interest in Archery, but as my eldest daughter was at that time the Oxford County Junior Champion in that sport I had some contact with it. In my first year I persuaded the Sports Clubs Committee by clear argument on the facts of

the success of the Archers in competitions and on their needs and numbers to double the pitiful grant they had been receiving. There was fierce opposition from some of the "Full Blue" sports representatives inspite of the fact that the amount was trivial to the big budget of that Committee. So apart from prejudice there were financial reasons why the OUBDC should not be accorded "Half Blue" and consequently "Sports" status.

Nevertheless it was eventually agreed that Ballroom Dancing could be awarded a Half Blue, on a provisional basis if recall correctly. The make up of the Team was crucial, only Members of Oxford University could take part in competitions. This also gave Cambridge some problems, for their Dancers Club had a lot of outside members, and these should have been excluded from official competitions with the Oxford University Club. I believe that some small relaxation of the rule was made in this respect, but I cannot recall the details.

A big problem for the Club, with the large membership, was to find suitable accomodation for regular practice as well as for competitions. I wrote to the Registrar, and others following suggestions received, and obtained lists of mostly unsuitable places for one reason or another. For 172 members (HT 1974) constituting the largest University Club the Iffley Road Sports Centre was quite impossible. Great efforts were made by Paul Glover, and others, to find alternative larger venues with better floors.

The first Honorary Members were elected on May 26th., 1974. They were: -

David Normington
Richard Jackson
Christine Piniger
Simon Peerless

Some time in 1974 my wife and I **donated** a Cup, "The Club Trophy," to the OUBDC, to be awarded to a Full Member couple on the result of a competition, **and to remain the property of the Club**. The names of the winning couples and the year were to be engraved on the base. There was of course only space for a limited number of couples, and when the space was full the cup was to **remain in the Club's possession**. However it appeared to have been "borrowed" by someone before I left Oxford.

The MT 1974 Committee consisted of -

Paul Glover, Oriel, President
Mark Coulshed, C.C.C., Secretary
Jane Carroll, St. Hugh's, Treasurer
Ross Monro, S.E.H., Committee
Steve Bold, Exeter
Penny Manchester, L.M.H.
Helen Gaffney, St. Anne's
George Paige, Pembroke
Steve Moulton, Oxford Poly, Steward

The 7th. AGM was held on Nov. 20th., 1974. The membership stood at 250 (the largest University Society).

The 1975 Committee consisted of -

Paul Glover, Oriel, President
Judith Coomber, L.M.H., Secretary
Susan Heckford, L.M.H., Appointments Secretary
Marita Acheson, St. Hugh's, External Activities Secretary
Jane Carol, St. Hugh's, Treasurer
George Paige, Pembroke, Publicity Officer
Denise Palmer, St. Hugh's, Liaison officer
Ross Monroe, S.E.H., Competition Secretary, co-opted
Stuart Bould, St. Cath's, Steward
Steven Hoare, Univ., Steward
Penny Manchester, L.M.H. Steward, co-opted
Steve Moulton, Oxford Polytechnic, Steward, co-opted

On Jan. 18th, 1975 it was decided to try to start Medal Classes to give an incentive for improvement in the dancing standard. In February the Club heard that St. Michael's Hall, used by Michael and Anne O'Hagen's dancing school on some evenings, could be rented by the Club. In April it was agreed to hold all MT Club Meetings at this Hall. In MT 1975 the membership stood at 350.

The Club was also holding Dinner Dances, Christmas and other Party Nights, and made the occasional excursion to the Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford. Grants were being obtained from the Clubs Committee and music making equipment was being purchased. The possibility of organising a narrowboat holiday, on the Broads was being looked into. The Club had developed enormously since its inception!

In January 1975 the Half Blue application was again refused, but it was noted that if Miss Carrol were elected to the Women's Blues Committee as Badminton Captain we might have more chance.

In October 1975 the Membership stood at 270 ,120 being men. About 30 were in the Advanced Class.

In November much discussion took place concerning the Hilary Ball to take place at Rhodes House on Feb. 13th., 1976, particularly concening the Open Competition. The Samba was rejected because it is taught in Cambridge, and the Slow Foxtrot "because Bruce cannot Foxtrot (!)." Eventually competitions in Waltz, for beginners (under 18 months experience) and in Tango were agreed.

On March 7th 1976 the Inter-Varsity Dancing Competition and Ball took place in Cambridge, Helen and Richard Richey (Australian Latin American Dance Champions) being the judges. Oxford did very well, "sweeping the Cambridge Team off the floor!" It was on this occasion that the organisers of the "Open Slow Foxtrot Competiton" thought that they would not get enought competitors for a second round, and so "conscripted" couples who had no intention of entering, to accept a number including myself and my (very reluctant) wife. We had only come to cheer for Oxford. After the first round my Greti disappeared into the "powder room," our number was called, so I had to get someone to fish her out! We were amazed and with few on the floor we really enjoyed the dance, and were even more surprised when Paul Glover and Hilary Gray were first, our daughter Marita and Steve Hoare were second, and we were placed third! Not a Cambridge couple in sight.

The 1976 Committee consisted of -

Susan Heckford, L.M.H., President
 Peter Davis, Pembroke, Treasurer
 Paul Glover, Oriel, Secretary
 Alison Page, L.M.H., Appointments Secretary
 Christine Wheeler, Somerville, Publicity
 Andy Baker, Exeter, Steward
 Howard Gooder, Keble, Steward
 Harry Schroeder, New, Steward
 Sandra Matthewman, St. Hilda's, Committee
 George Paige, Pembroke, co-opted

Two floors were now being used at St. Michael's Hall, a maximum of 85 people each for beginners and intermediate classes to be held on different floors. Morden Hall (St. Hugh's) Halifax House and the Iffley Road Stadium (for Rock and Roll) were also being used. In January it was agreed to book the main hall and assembly rooms of the Town Hall for a Summer Ball. This was done but later cancelled, the deposit being refunded. In February it was agreed that the whole Committee should be re-elected in HT for a year as this would give better continuity.

The Oxbridge Ball took place again in Rhodes House on Friday, Feb. 13th, 1976, with Alan and Hazel Fletcher as Adjudicators and Demonstrators, and Steve Moulton organising the refreshments. Oxford won again. In March there were still 270 Club Members, the large number causing problems. The Club also competed in the IVDA competition at Exeter, not so successfully, but Alan Fletcher commented "What you lack in talent you make up in enthusiasm."

The Committee for TT 1976 consisted of -

Paul Glover, Oriel, President
 Christine Wheeler, Somerville, Secretary,
 Peter Davis, Pembroke, Treasurer
 Andy Baker, Exeter
 Anne Covington, St. Anne's
 Alison Page, L.M.H.
 Harry Schroeder, New
 Susan Skinner, St. Caths
 Christopher West, St. Caths
 Susan Heckford, LM.H., co-opted
 George Paige, Pembroke, co-opted
 Steven Moulton, Polytechnic, co-opted

An Extraordinary General Meeting took place on June 2nd. concerning the possibility of the Club financing entry into the Inter-Varsity Dancing Association Competition in March 1977 where little time would be available for general dancing. The function was mainly a competition. It was agreed, and that the Club's Membership fee be increased.

A punt party was organised for June 4th., and ATV were interested in televising a part of it, probably dancing on the toepath, to include in a documentary "Life in Oxford." I do not know the sequel!

The President was particularly concerned with the future of the Club, the financing of competitions which was causing disagreements, asked for ideas concerning how often the Club should meet, competitions, other activities, general policies, etc., and then he would then produce a document for discussion. On October 9th., 1976, it was agreed that Oxford should bid in a bid for the IVDA in 1978. Nottingham and Liverpool had also applied. The large number of people wishing to become members of the Club was a problem for various reasons. Membership had reached 355, of which 240 were beginners. Various problems arose concerning the financing and purchase of tape recorder.

In November 1976 after a controversy Paul Glover resigned as President and Susan Heckford, L.M.H., was appointed to succeed him for the rest of the Term. Paul continued to act as Chairman of the External Activities Committee. The Christmas Ball which took place on Dec. 3rd., again in Rhodes House, was a great success and Oxford had again won the Shield. David Douglas and Janice Barb, World Champions, gave a demonstration. Medal Tests were also held that month.

The committee at the start of HT 1977 were:-

Anne Covington, St. Annes, President
 Susan Skinner, Secretary, St. Caths
 Harry Schroeder, New, Treasurer
 John Darragh, Ch.Ch.
 Peter Davis, Pembroke
 Jane Keidan, St. Hughs and Osler House
 Ian Lofthouse, Hertford
 David Robinson, Magd

Susan Skinner soon resigned and David Robinson took over until the next election.

Two major problems confronted the Club in HT 1977. A great deal of work was done on a new Constitution to deal with the changed needs of the now large Club. One change required that notice of proposals for Club Officerships should have a closing date significantly before the AGM so that the proposals could be notified to Club Members at Meetings taking place before the AGM where voting would take place. The object was to prevent candidates being put up at the very last minute and supported by their caucus appearing also at the last minute thereby putting other candidates at a disadvantage. This was agreed, but with some dissention. The matter was precipitated by the fact that at a previous AGM, where I was Chairman, this had been attempted. I postponed the vote until all the other business had been dealt with and nominations for the Committee had closed, then I adjourned the meeting for two weeks. By that time all Members of the Club could be informed and the only business for the adjourned meeting would be to vote on the candidates! In some circles I was very unpopular but the voting took place as planned and the results accepted.

The other problem concerned the unanimous decision of the Committee to ask one member to leave because there had been too many complaints about his behaviour from female members of the Club. He also posed as a Committee Member at the door of St. Michael's Hall. I agreed to see him. Luckily I met him in the street a day later, I was as tactful as possible (he was an older mature student), offered to return his subscription which he refused, but he promised not to visit the Club again. He kept his word, soon afterwards left Oxford and sent me the occasional strange letter.

The new Constitution was agreed in March 1977 and accepted by the Senior Proctor with the comment: - "A Model Constitution, would that all Clubs had such a good one!"

The Committee elected in HT 1977 comprised:-

Ian Lofthouse, Hertford, President
 David Robinson, Magdalen, Secretary
 Harry Schroeder, New, Treasurer
 John Darragh, Ch.Ch.
 Peter Davies, Pembroke
 Trevor Jee, St. Caths
 Valeria Sackwild, Somerville
 Caroline Donald, L.M.H, Co-opted
 Yvonne Gracias, L.M.H., Co-opted

Apart from the usual things dealt with by the Committee, reserving Rhodes House for the next Ball, Theatre visits, social and other activities, the idea that Medal Classes should take place was agreed and possibly during the next Term. The inevitable running "battle" with Bruce over his fee continued! The IVDA competition took place in Hemel Hemstead in the 8th. week of Term where we won the Off Beat but did not do so well otherwise.

The Committee elected on Nov. 23rd. 1977 for the following year comprised: -

David Robinson, Magd., President
 Valerie Sackwild, Somerville, Secretary
 Ian Lofthouse, Hertford, Treasurer
 Mary Northcote, L.M.H.
 Mike Wood, Hertford
 Trevor Jee, St. Caths
 Helen Watt, Jesus
 Nick Weeden, Mansfield
 Alexandra Schaagveld, Somerville
 Katherine Taylor, Somerville

In January 1978 the External Activities Committee, which had not met for a long time, was abolished.

In February, Rhodes House was booked for the 10th. Anniversary Ball on May 10th., and the attempt to get Half Blues continued. On February 27th., 1978, David Robinson described success in this venture - it had taken a long time - but now Discretionary Half Blues were possible. He wrote "Everyones stopped laughing at the idea of Ballroom Dancing as a Sport and will make recommendations to the Blues Committe". The "Advanced Class" was renamed the "Competition Class." The Club also had news in February that St. Michael's Hall would not be available next Term, but classes were arranged again at Iffley Road and in St. Edmund Hall's Dining Room through the offices of the Senior Procter (S.E.H. member). A Party Dance was organised, also arrangements for the IVDA Ball and the 10th. Anniversary Ball,

The HT membership was about 200.

The TT 1978 Committee consisted of-

David Robinson, Magdalen, President
 Valerie Sackwild, Somerville, Treasurer
 Katherine Taylor, Somerville, Secretary
 Trevor Jee, St. Cath's
 Mary Northeote, L.M.H.
 Alexandra Schaagveld, Somerville
 Helen Watt, Jesus
 Nick Weeden, Mansfield
 Mike Wood, St. John's

The estimated Club membership was 150.

The 10th. Anniversary Ball was a great success and many old members, including the founder Janice Bradshaw (nee White) and her husband, came. Sue and Gary Richardson judged the Waltz and the Oxford v. Cambridge competitions, and gave a demonstration.

In the summer of '78 I left Oxford for a year's sabbatical and Dr. Gosling took over. The Club gave me, and my wife, a very nice silver dish which I greatly treasure,

Over the first ten years the Oxford University Ballroom Dance Club made enormous progress. It changed from being a social club to a highly competitive one with the award of discretionary Half Blues and from being a small club to the club with the largest membership in the University, The time was absolutely right for Janice White, when she started the Club, and its success is due entirely to the enthusiasm and hard work of the many Presidents, Officers, Committee Members, and both ordinary and some special Unofficial Members.

In MT 1978 it was clear that the Committee members were, on average, not as diligent as eariler in attending meetings. The Old Fire Station was booked for meetings. Dr. Gosling came to the November 12th. meeting, In March 1979 the OUBDC Ball was planned for May 11 th., the President proposed that Medal Tests for Bronze, Silver and Gold should be started and it was agreed that this should be looked into.

The HT 1979 Committee consisted of -

Valerie Sackwild, Somerville, President
 Katherine Taylor, Somerville, Secretary
 David Robinson, Magdalen, joint Treasurer
 No name Littlewood, Merton, joint Treasurer
 No name Metcalfe
 Trevor Jee, St. Cath's
 (No name) Parker
 Alexandra Schaagveld

Diane Lightawler (?), co-opted
 Evelyn Cramb, St. Anne's, co-opted
 David Howarth, Wadham, co-opted

according to the April 27th., and 29th. (1979) Minutes, and nothing else appears in the Minute Book (!) until the 25th. November when I was welcomed back as Senior Member after my leave! Katherine Taylor wrote to me in Oregon to say that the Club had a "full membership," the Old Fire Station and St. Edmund's Hall were being used for beginners, that Oxford came 4th. overall in the Southern BA but winning the Offbeat with their version of "Greece and Happy Days."

Alan and Hazel Fletcher, the current and 3 times World Professional Latin Champions, would give a demonstration and judge at the May Ball to take place at Rhodes House.

The MT 1979 Committee consisted of-

Valerie Sackwild, Somerville, President
 H.C. Jennings, S.E.H., Secretary
 David Robinson, Magdalen, Secretary
 Diane Lightawler, Somerville
 Michael Howarth, Wadham
 Gillian Schofield, St. Anne's
 Evelyn Cramb, St. Anne's
 Jane Murray, L.M.H.

Evelyn Cramb and Gillian Schofield wished to be joint Presidents, which was unconstitutional, but it was agreed that they could serve half a year each. We apparently lost against Cambridge at the Ball.

The HT 1980 Committee consisted of.. -

Evelyn Cramb, St. Anne's, President
 Gillian Schofield, St. Anne's, Vice-President
 Michael Howarth, Wadham, Treasurer
 Graham Aldridge, Queen's, Secretary
 Greta Dawson, St. Hilda's
 Leslie Green, Hertford
 Jane Murray, L.M.H.
 Peter Richardson, S.E.H.
 Sandra Terry, St. Anne's
 Howard Jennings, S.E.H., co-opted along with the following four:-
 Diane Metcalf, St. Anne's
 Catherine Morgan, College?
 David Robinson, Magd.
 Valerie Sackwild, Somerville

Iffley Road, St. Barnabas School Hall, the Old Fire Station, and the Cowley Rd. Methodist Church were used as venues. Bronze and Silver Medal Classes took at the last mentioned, The Club was very busy with arrangements for the Southern BA. The adjudicators were Mr. and Mrs. Guy Howard, Walter Laird, David Sycamore and Denise Weavers. For the first time Oxford won the Inter-Varsity Dancing Association's Competition and Cambridge was second. This was noted in the "Oxford Mail" on March 11 th., 1980.

In April Peter Buxton, Corpus, was co-opted to the Committee and David Robinson resigned. In TT the number of members was ca. 400.

In May the Blue's Committee threatened to take away the "Half Blue" status of the Club, which decided to make no representations until the situation was definitely known. Gillian Schofield was now President. A big problem, again, was the question of venues. The "Half Blue" status of the men was in fact removed by the men's Blues Committee, but not so for the women by the Women's Blues Committee, so an extraordinary anomaly arose!

Attached are copies of letters referring to the situation,

In MT 1980 the membership was around 300, and at the AGM on 30.11.80 the new

Committee for 1981 consisted of -

Michael Howarth, Wadham, President
 Greta Dawson, St. Hilda's, Secretary
 Peter Buxton, Corpus, Treasurer
 Graham Aldridge, Queen's

Warren East, Wadham
 Melanie Gudge, St. Hilda's
 Tony Croft, S.E.H.
 Richard Kendall, Wadham
 Valerie Sackwild, Somerville
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's, co-opted
 Evelyn Cramb, St. Anne's, co-opted
 Jane Murray, L.M.H., co-opted
 Gillian Schofield, St. Anne's, co-opted
 Sandra Terry, St. Anne's, co-opted

In February 1981 following a visit to the Women's Blues Committee by Greta Dawson and Michael Howarth Half Blues are now to be awarded, on a discretionary basis, to the women of the top four couples. Subsequently a visit to the Men's Blues Committee by Greta and Michael resulted in Ballroom Dancing being re-instated as a "Sport" but only two "Half Blues" allowed! [An extraordinary situation, RMA]

So Graham Aldridge with Greta Dawson, and Paul Touloumbadja with Valerie Sackwild, were all given Half Blues, and only the women in the Jane Murray - Paul Wilmot, and Evelyn Cramb - Michael Howarth pairs received Half Blues.

During HT the problems of finance, Bruce's fees, the now usual Punt Party, Summer Ball, and the resignation of Valerie Sackwild from the Club because of a dispute, took much time. The Club was dancing in S.E.H., the Old Fire Station, and in the Cowley Road Methodist Church.

The IVDA Ball was organised by the Club in the Civic Centre, Aylesbury, on March 13th. Competitions were in the waltz, quickstep, cha-cha and jive. Teams were sent from Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Hull, Imperial College, Lancaster, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham, Oxford, Sheffield, Southampton, University College London, and LTLU Universities. In the "Off Beat" section Manchester, Imperial, Oxford, Cambridge, UCL and Sheffield competed. Bruce Richardson was compere, and the judges were Alan Newcombe, Peter Eggleton, William Phillips, and Michael and Vicky Barr. We were the only University to have couples in all the final heats, Lancaster was first, we were second and Cambridge was not in the first four. The best couple of the whole competition was ours and they won the two final heats in which they competed. There was a Demonstration by Michael and Vicky Barr. In TT 1981 the membership stood at ca. 150. The Summer Ball took place in Rhodes House on May 15th., and there was a demonstration by Alan and Lynn Armsby,

The MT 1981 Committee consisted of -

Michael Howarth, St. Cross, President
 Peter Richardson, S.E.H., Secretary
 Peter Buxton, Corpus, Treasurer
 Graham Aldridge, Queen's
 Stephen Cope, St. John's
 Melanie Gudge, St. Hilda's
 Tony Graff, S.E.H.
 Richard Kendall, Wadham
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's
 Jane Murray, L.M.H., co-opted
 Stephen Mazurkiewitz, St. John's, co-opted

The membership stood at ca. 150. The St. James's Hall, Cowley was also used as a venue. Arrangements for the Varsity Match caused problems which were resolved, as did the new arrangements at the Freshers Fair which excluded all but Freshers and was thought to have reduced the intake of new members.

In HT 1982 the Committee comprised:-

Peter Richardson, S.E.H., President
 Jane Murray, L.M.H., Secretary
 Steven Cope, St. John's, Treasurer
 Michael Howarth, St. Cross, Team Captain
 Steven Mazurkiewicz, St. John's
 Kim Richards, St. Hilda's
 Spin Hindle, St. Hilda's
 Peter Sharpe, Exeter
 Graham Aldridge, Queen's, co-opted
 Melanie Gudge, St. Hilda's, co-opted
 Peter Buxton, Corpus, co-opted

The membership was about 250. The judges in the 1982 University Ball were Glyn Watkins, Bonnie Burns and Gaynor Fairweather. The last two gave a demonstration.

In TT 1982 the Committee was as in HT with the addition of Paul Wilmott (St. Cath's) and Debbie Kathage (St. John's). The Club clearly did very well during the year. Seven meetings were held in the summer of the year to review the constitution of the club.

In MT 1982 the Committee comprised of -

Steve Cope, St. John's, President
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's, Treasurer
 Deborah (Debbie) Ratlidge, St. John's, Secretary
 Alison Greenwood, St. John's
 Elizabeth Gugan, Worcester
 Malcolm Hallam, Ch.Ch.
 Michael Howarth, St. Cross
 Jane Wong, St. Hugh's
 Spin Hindle, St. Hilda's

The Freshers' Fair went a lot better than the previous year. The Club prepared a questionnaire for members to find out what was desired, and what could be improved.

On Nov, 4th. 1982 Steve Hallam reported at the Committee meeting in Worcester College that the current Minute Book, volume II, had been stolen with various papers and documents relating to the Club from outside Hall in St. John's earlier in the evening, and that every effort was being made to recover them. More thought was being given to an improved Constitution and this was agreed in March. Bruce Richardson wanted more money, and it was agreed that this would be partially granted. We had been invited to the Cambridge Christmas Ball, and they wished to host the Varsity Match on May 14th. but eventually changed it to Wednesday, the 11 th. We beat them. The method of awarding "Half Blues" was discussed, and it was agreed for this year to award them to the top 4 couples on the night as calculated from the competition results, The members of the Club reached a record level, 472, this Term. The Christmas Ball was held in Rhodes House on November 26th., and after some negotiation the (new?) Secretary agreed that we could end at midnight if one got out very promptly.

The HT 1983 Committee comprised:-

Stephen Cope, St. John's, President
 Alison Jane Wong, St. Hugh's, Secretary
 Malcolm Hallam, Ch.Ch, Treasurer
 John Bowers, Keble
 Annette Depla, Linacre
 David Fisk, St. Edmund Hall
 Alison Greenwood, St. John's
 Elisabeth Gugan, Worcester
 Susan Hindle, St. Hilda's
 David Marples, Exeter
 Deborah Ratlidge, St. John's
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's

and the membership stood at ca. 350. The President wrote a long report (attached).

The TT Committee comprised:-

Ian Braithwaite, Exeter, President (ex-Cambridge)
 Alison Jane Wong, St. Hugh's, Secretary
 David Marples, Exeter, Treasurer
 Susan Hindle, St. Hilda's
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's
 Elizabeth Gugan, Worcester
 Stephen Cope, St. John's
 Lesley Nash, Brasenose
 Claire Ozanne, St. Anne's
 David Fisk, S.E.H.

and the membership had dropped to ca. 120, In May I wrote to Dr. R.A. Fletcher, Rhodes House, asking for permission to hold the Christmas Ball in his Hall on November 26th. and he agreed. Malcomb Hallam sent me a Treasurer's Report, covering other Treasurers' as well as his own time in office, suggesting a future financial policy. Graham Aldridge's father, Mr. G.C. Aldridge, presented the Club with two shields to be used as the Club Trophy. He also acted as scrutineer in some competitions,

The MT 1983 Committee comprised:-

The same as TT, except that:-
Joanne Mosley, St. Hilda's, was Team Captain
and David Fisk was not listed as a member, possibly an error

The Club continued to be very active. Venues used in MT included the Lakeside (South Oxford) Community Centre, Lake St. off the Abingdon Rd., Cowley Parish Church Hall between Towns Rd. Cowley, Cowley Road Methodist Church Hall, Jeune St., St. Edmund Halls' Dining Hall, and the Old Fire Station. The Christmas Ball was planned for November 26th. and competitions at Sheffield, the Southern Championships at Brent Town Hall, IVDA at Warwick University in their Arts Centre Hall, and the Varsity Match at Romanway on May 11 th.

The HT 1984 Committee consisted of -

Ian J. Braithwaite, Exeter, President
Alison Jane Wong, St. Hilda's Secretary
David Marples, Exeter, Treasurer
Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's
Susan Hindle, St, Hilda's
Joanne Mosley, St. Hilda's
David Fisk, S.E.H.
Lesley Nash, B.N.C.
Clare Ozanne, St. Anne's

the estimated Club Membership being 200. The income and expenditure summary for 1983 showed an income of 2969.61 pounds with a net profit of 1311.00. According to the " Oxford Star" we won at IVDA, the third time in a row, beating Cambridge into second place and winning every dance title since the competitive year began last October.

The TT 1984 Committee consisted of:-

Malcolm Hallam, Wolfson, President
Holly Dennis, St, Hilda's, Secretary
John Rothwell, S.E.H. Treasurer
Karen Green, L.M.H.
Paul Heard, Jesus
David Marples, Exeter
Joanne Mosley, St. Hilda's, Team Captain, ex-officio member
Adrien Robinson, Queen's
Maria von Schlippe, Univ.

with an estimated Club membership of 500.

Oxford beat Cambridge again for the third successive time in the Varsity Match at the Emperor Ballroom at Romanway, Cowley on May 11th, The marks were.-

	Cambridge	Oxford
Waltz	153	279
Quickstep	141	291
Cha-cha	191	241
Jive	192	240

Malcolm Hallam wrote (17.05.84) that we have the support of the outgoing President and Secretary of the Blues Committee, and that with immediate effect Half Blues will be given to all (for the first time) 16 members (8 couples) in the Varsity Team. It had been a long fight to get so far.

The Half Blues awarded for 1983/4 were:-

Michael Howarth, St. Cross
Joanne Mosley, St. Hilda's
Malcolm Hallam, Wolfson
Maria von Schlippe, Univ.
Ian Braithwaite, Exeter
Jane Wong, St. Hugh's
John Rothwell, S.E.H.
Nik Schofield, Balliol
David Marples, Exeter
Holly Dennis, St. Hilda's
James Barron, New

Melanie Irving, L.M.H.
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's
 Karen Mason, St. Cath's
 David Holt, Magdalen
 Amanda Vokes, St. Hugh's

The MT 1984 Committee consisted of -

Malcolm Hallam, President
 Holly Dennis, St. Hilda's, Secretary
 John Rothwell, S.E.H., Treasurer
 David Marples, Team Captain
 Karen Green, L.M.H.
 Paul Heard, Jesus
 Adrien Robinson, Queen's
 Maria von Schlippe, Univ.
 Ian Braithwaite, Exeter, co-opted
 Paul Wilmott, St. Cath's, co-opted

The Club membership was 428.

A grant application was made to the Senior Treasurers Committee. The Club, among other University Dancing Clubs, was unique in that it received no grant whatever towards the cost of coaching the Competition Team nor towards hiring practice halls. I pointed out that the allocation of the Senior Treasurers' funds to Sports Clubs seemed to have little relationship to their membership figures. There was much correspondence between myself, the University Marshall Mr. East, and Mr. Railton. The total income of the OUBDC for the year ending 31 .07.04 was 6504 pounds. The Christmas Ball was held at Rhodes House on December 1st., 6.30 pm until midnight. The Radcliffe Infirmary Nurses' Recreation Hall was added to the list of venues employed.

Dr. Andrew Hamnett (wife Susan) would take over from me as Senior Member in MT 1985 because of my forthcoming sabbatical.

The Committee for HT 1985 was the same as for MT 1984 with the addition of:-
 Jackie England, St. Hilda's

The Southern Ball was held in the Emperor Ballroom, Cowley on 22nd. February, with the judges being Richard and Janet Gleave (undefeated 8 times World Professional Ballroom Champions, who also gave a Demonstration), Mark Parkin and Carol MacRaild (Latin American Professional UK Finalists, also gave a Demonstration), and Wally Laird (Chairman, 3 times World Professional Latin American Champion),

On April 22nd. 1985 I wrote to David Marples that I would no longer be able to continue as Senior Member of the OUBDC after the end of this Academic year, for after my leave in 1985-6 I would be retiring and moving to Switzerland. For me this was a very sad moment for I had very greatly enjoyed my association with the Club since its inception and had done my best to further its health and development. I was very pleased, towards the end of TT, to receive a letter from the Club stating that it had made me an Honorary Member.

My wife, Greti, and I made our last appearance together at a Club Function, the competition in Cambridge on May, 6th. 1985, and greatly enjoyed it. Being present at the Reunion Dance in 1987 gave me an enormous amount of pleasure, for I met many old friends, but alone unfortunately as my wife was by then seriously ill and died a good year later.

I was able to help for the first 17 years of the Club's life, it is hard to believe that another 17 years has almost passed, and I hope that the Club will progress from strength to strength and that others will continue with this chronicle. It depends on you, and the best of luck!

POSTSCRIPT 4.10.03

In TT 2001 George Albutt (then President) asked me to send him, at Christ Church, the Club Minute Book and the other documents concerning the Club which I possessed, to arrive before the 1st. of July when his term of office as President would end. I had previously sent him my history of the first 10 years of the Club, printed out as my word processor had no e-mail facility, and later the completed 17 years as above together with a floppy in Amipro/Lotus, Windows 3.0 format which he said he could use. In spite of sending the huge and expensive parcel to him, as he requested so that it would certainly arrive before his departure date, he never let me know that it had arrived, in spite

of e-mails and letters sent to him requesting an acknowledgement. Oh well!!! Then much later (2003), from Robin Schlinkert, I had information that it must have arrived as he managed to find (presumably) the mass of documents now in binders. Good! I was very relieved.

If someone has, or will, follow up my "First Seventeen Years," I would be extremely pleased to receive a copy either typed and posted to me at :-

Chesa Tarnuzzer,
Chaunt da San Bastiaun 7,
CH-7503 Samedan,
Switzerland

OR:- as a word document E-mail attachment at morrin_acheson@hotmail.com

Many thanks in advance!

I was told by some member of the Club, who I cannot remember, a number of years ago, that Valerie Sackwild had won, with different partners, the original Club Trophy three times and therefore considered she was entitled to keep it. I do not know if either circumstance is true, but if her whereabouts is known it might be worth asking her about the cup, and if she has it to ask her to return it.