



THE EAGLE

(A NEWSLETTER OF ONA)

ISSUE NO. 18

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January, 2004

ROUSER

The Old Nabhaites Association was christened in the sixties but was really organized in the eighties. 'The Eagle' was born during this phase. Then followed a period (in late eighties and early nineties) of semi activity and later almost of hibernation of the ONA as an organization. It was revived in the late nineties. The last phase is still continuing. The ONs behind the Association have been mostly those who left PPS in the Sixties or early Seventies. The prolonged involvement of this generation of Old Nabhaites has been instrumental in setting the traditions and values of the ONA. There have also been differences in the ONA as it happens in any democratic set up. Sometimes the vibes amongst members have been excellent but there have also been times of despair.

For any Organization like ONA to remain vibrant and active there has to be an inflow of new ideas, and new people with fresh dynamism. Change is the buzzword of Time. The ONA too has to change and fresh and younger blood has to be brought in to keep the ONA alive. We have attempted to bring changes in the ONA this year, which should keep it going in the near future. Firstly **Harpartap (B-45)** though of 67 batch, who has not been associated with ONA before has, at the request of the Executive Committee, consented to be the President and provide new leadership and vigour. He belongs to the Amritsar Chapter, which too has not been actively involved in the past. Harpartap is an Ex-Headboy and President's Gold Medal winner apart from being an important public figure in his area. The second big effort has been to slowly blood in younger Old Nabhaites who passed out from PPS in the eighties or later.

The ONA Day this year was totally organized by youngsters. **Major Gurjinder Benepal (S-420, 1981)** was the main coordinator for the event. He was ably assisted by **Harvinder Dhaliwal (B-627, 1988)** who managed things sitting in Sangrur. He even got his batchmates **Yadvinder Sidhu (R-674, 1988)**, **Capt. Harjinder Singh Sohal (R-566, 1988)**, and **Sukhbir Grewal** to take up different responsibilities. **Captain IS Dhami (R-257, 1976)** led the young boys from Fatehgarh Sahib Chapter in managing the registration on the Batch reunion and the ONA Day. In the process we also discovered the talents of a very calm **Ms Gagandeep (B-678, 1987)** in helping with the Registration, a tough job to handle. She was also very dignified in her conduct of the ONA Meeting and deserves special appreciation.

With these youngsters practically doing all the groundwork of ONA Day function under the guidance of seniors, the continuity in running of ONA is ensured for the near future. Mention must be made here of the stellar role played by **Dr Rupinder Brar (S-291, 1976)** and **Satvinder Singh Saini (J-452, 1982)** for taking a lead and sparing no efforts, time and money to get the International ONA going(at least in USA). **Satvinder** also looks after the ONA website. Their role in furthering the cause of ONA deserves accolades.

The day is not far when the young ONs will, on their own be able to manage the ONA Day and the ONA. Old Generation make way, the new order cometh, ---- and the show must go on.

A HAPPY 2004!

The Eagle would like to wish all Old Nabhaites a Happy New year and let an ON say it in her words what each ON would like to say.....

May the New Year bring you all great happiness, good health and good friends... there really isn't much else one could ask for. I, for one, am very grateful to have such a caring

set of friends..... friends who care so much that one really is more than family to them... I hope all of you have at least one such friend who can do all that for you... I am so thankful I have so many.... just by the virtue of being part of this wonderful family of ONA.

Amita Tandon Kumar(J-360,1981)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The students who passed out in the year 1971-72-73 have their reunion this year in PPS a few days before Diwali and next to Founders' Day of PPS. They are requested to start planning to attend this once in life time gathering from now to make the reunion a success!All ONs belonging to these batches may contact their respective Reunion organizers given below:-

1971

Mahesh Munjal(S-183) ,Majestic AutoLtd.

C-48,Focal Point

Ludhiana, Punjab

Tel:0161-2670233-7(O), 2550222, -225 (R)

Email:mcmunjal@heromajestic.com

1972

Dr Ranjit Singh Dhaliwal(S-153)

Eye infirmiry,opposite PPS staff colony Hira Mahal

Nabha-147201

Tel:01765-220209, Mobile:98141-20209

Email:eyeinfirmary@hotmail.com

1973

Kulwaran Athwal(S-178)

155, Lajpat Nagar
 Jalandhar ,Punjab
 Tel:0181-2221303, M:98140-65500
 Email:atwal@jla.vsnl.net.in

PERSONAL FILE

Lt Col Paramdeep Singh Bajwa(J-361)PPS 1974-1982,MSc(Def.studies). Address (Present): GSO 1,Army Training Command,Shimla -171003 .Address(Permanent) ,Press Road, Nilokheri ,Distt Karnal,Haryana-132117, Phone(O):0177-2872652,(R) 2657778.Email:parambajwa@hotmail.com Married Deepa who teaches in Jesus and Mary ,Shimla ,on 30 September1990.Has a son Angad (11).

Dr Jatinder Singh (B-876) PPS 1986-1993, MDS (Dental Surgeon).Address: 19286,Street no 4, Bibiwala Road,Bhatinda-151005.Tel:0164-2240957,Mobile:94170-41854.Email:sardjeet@yahoo.com

Jyoti Mahajan(nee Kate) (R-52)PPS 1961-67, MA(Eng) B.Ed., Teacher. Address:E-6,Clarion Park, Pune. Email: jyoti_mahajan@rediffmail.com, Married Rajiv Mahajan, an Executive, on 17 December 1973.Has a daughter, Priya Luther(28) in Business and son Aditya Mahajan(24), student in USA.

Captain HS Sohal (R-566) PPS 1981-1988, Flt Cmdr Air Sqn, NGc Ludhiana. Address (Present) 224, Narottam Nagar, Khanna. (Permanent)Vill Laut,PO Allowal,Tehsil:Nabha Distt Patiala. Tel:(O)0161-2455005, (R)01628-226407 Mobile:98141-71801 Email:sohalha@hotmail.com Married Puneet on 30th December 1995.Has a daughter Ekamjot(5) and son Alamjot(1).

Col Manbir Hundal (S-113) PPS 1964-1970.Address(Present):CVRDE TECH SP CELL, Tibba Colony,Suratgarh-335804 (Permanent): 466,Sector-7 Panchkula, Haryana.

Email:manbir@vsnl.in. Married Kanwalinder on 5th April 1981.Has two sons Japji Hundal(20) BE(4th year) and Angad Hundal(17) BE(1st yr)..

DR Jaspal Singh Sarao (S-882) PPS 1987-1994 ,BDS(Dentist).Address(Present):80,Naagar Enclave, New Offr. Colony, Patiala. (Permanent):VPO Bhemna,Teh: Samana,Distt Patiala.Phone (O)0175-2305494@01764-261092.Mobile:9815820696.Email:jaspal_sarao@rediffmail.com

Manjeet Singh Grewal (R-4) PPS(1960-1963). MSc Master Mariner, Master Pilot. Won Open Sea Yatching race 1981.Port Gallantry award 1991.Address(Present):No1 Jackson House Dumaniya Road Colaba,Mumbai-400005 (Permanent):764,aamjit Road, Gurdev Nagar, Ludhiana. Tel (O) 022-22614594 (R)22184346.Mobile:9821208586.Married Satwant on 15th Oct 1972. Has two daughters Riga Mandair(29), housewife in London and Ravina Rajpal(25), housewife in Mumbai.

ONA NEWS

General BPS Mander (J-38) lost his father. The Eagle shares the grief of the family

LtCol JS Soharu's(B-30) daughter Sargam got married at Gurgaon on 17th November

Ms Gurpreet (R-775) daughter of ON IS **Koonar** married Rupinder on 4th Jan at Chandigarh. We wish them the best in life

Brig Gurjit Dhillon(B-69)'s daughter got married in December in Delhi.

Ranjit Dhillon (B- 839, 1992) and his wife have been blessed with a BABY GIRL on the 8th of November 2003. "It is a very special day in our life as it was also Gurburab day (Guru Nanak Dev's Birthday)" writes Ranjit.

Maj Mangat Saini (B-506) has been nominated for Defence Services Staff College, Wellington for the 60th course starting June 04. The Eagle congratulates him for the success.

Fourteen year old Adhiraj Thind, son of ON **Bhupinder Singh Thind, IPS (R-112)** became Golf Champion of Simla at the Golf tournament organized by ARMTRAC at Naldhera Golf Course beating many army stars.

PCS selections

The following Old Nabhaites have made it to the merit list for selection to PCS and allied services.

Major Gurjinder Singh Benepal(S-420) and **Major Harpreet Mansahia(R-507)**,
Amandeep Bansal, Jagwinderjit Singh Grewal

Eagle's pride

Punjab Ophthalmological Society has come out with the Inaugural issue of the 'Video Journal of POS'. The theme of this issue was 'Manual SICS'. Work is progressing on the second issue - the theme of which is 'Keratoplasty'. **Dr. Ranjit S. Dhaliwal MD (S-153)** is the Editor of this Video Journal.

Gurmeet Kanwal (J-68, 1968) has put up his papers for voluntary retirement from the army and should be a free bird soon. His aim is to do his own thing and settle full time into writing, strategic analysis and the media. He plans to join a *Delhi-based think tank* to begin with. He also has a good offer from the *Institute of Strategic Studies* at the newly established Observer Research Foundation.

Change of address

YP Bhardwaj (Ex-History), I/1757 Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi-110014. Tel:
262275808

KN Dhar (Ex-Teacher), Principal, Apollo International School, Sher Shah Suri Marg,
Sonepat, Haryana Tel: 475704

Rajinder Sibal(Ex-English), C-9/9681, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110007. Tel: 26135899

Brig HPS Bedi (R-58) Commander HQ 102 Inf Bde c/o 56APO

Lt Col PS Bajwa (J-361, 1982), GSO 1, HQ, Armtrac, Shimla, HP-171003

Sqn Ldr Amritpal Singh Sidhu (S-11), Q-11, Anupam Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-
492007

Navdeep Gill (R-722, ISC 1990) 34447 Helston Place, Fremont, CA 94555 (U.S.)
Phone - 510-745-0653(R)

Lt Col Hardeep Dutta (Retd) (J-64, 1967) shifted to 122/73, Silver Oaks Apartments,
DLF Phase I, Guragon, Haryana. Mobile: 9810700258

Brig YPS Samyal (S-43), Cdr 8 Inf Bde C/O 56 APO,
P2 A025 Princeton Estate DLF Phase V, Gurgaon, Haryana

Lt Col RS Dahiya, JalVayu Vihar, Sector-56, Gurgaon

Gurmeet Kanwal(J-68,1968), H-6/2, Shankar Vihar, Airport Road, Delhi Cantt. --
110010, India 91-11-26154196
91-9811318132

Satinder Singh Walia (J-19), #302, Mansa Devi Complex, Mani Majra, Chandigarh.
M: 98151-30305

Dr Trilochan Bhamrah (B-90, 1968) 50 Aldridge Ct. Potomac Falls, Virginia 21065
USA.

e-mail

Dr Balinder Chahal (Ex Jumna, 1970) drchahlsclinic@aol.com

Gurmeet Kanwal (J-68, 1968) gurmeetkanwal@hotmail.com

Gurpreet Singh (R-973) singh_micky@hotmail.com

RD Chandola (Ex-Teacher) (1) chandolard2000@yahoo.com (2)
davhaldwani@yahoo.co.uk

Asha Tankha (w/o MN Tankha, Ex Geography) atankha@cogeco.ca

REUNION 68, 69 & 70 BATCHES

Cancellation of Founder's Day at short notice coupled with middle of the week and too close to Diwali possibly resulted in a lower attendance than expected at the class reunions of 68, 69 and 1970 batches. However, it did nothing to dampen the spirits of those made it from taking a wonderful trip down memory lane. The get-together began with observing two minutes silence for those batchmates who have departed from this world. **Tarif Singh(J-53)** was fondly remembered for his physical prowess and athletic skills. **Dig Vijay Bedi's(ex Beas)** rare talent for music and pleasant demeanor was recalled with love and affection. **Jasbir Gill's(J-43)** simplicity, sobriety and his ever smiling face brought back memories of brotherly camaraderie of a by-gone era. Those present felt grateful to the Almighty for having bestowed upon them the company of these friends and prayed to Him to rest their souls in peace.

It was indeed the proud privilege of these batches to have amongst them **Jyoti Kate (R-52, 1967)**, now **Jyoti Mahajan**, who could not make it last year for her own batch get together due to unavoidable reasons. She attended the get-together along with her husband Rajiv. She recalled vividly the details of PPS as it existed then, and acquainted

those present with many details unknown to them hitherto. Later in the evening she could recollect with rare clarity the long forgotten names of teachers and students who were part of the school then but whose names had been forgotten due to vicissitudes of time and fading memories. On being asked how she felt on being one of the two girls in a school consisting of five hundred boys and whether she was troubled by them, she stated that she not only felt wonderful and one of the crowd/class but such was the harmonious camaraderie that existed that though privy to many a mischief of the boys she never revealed anything to her father even when asked.

Jatinder Randhawa (J-60), Shreesh Kathavate (S-159), Ved Prakash (R-60) and SureshGarg (R-64) recounted episodes of a forgotten era and introduced their spouses and some of the children who were present. The Junior School, the middle houses and the Kairon Block were re-visited flooding the visitors with memories of playing with bows and arrows, French cricket, table tennis and the long gone portrait of Gandhiji in the Junior School staring at you no matter from which direction you approached it. **Sukhpal Shoker (S-117), Lt Col Karan Thandi (S-86) and Manbir Hundal (S-113)** recounted many episodes of generosity and immense affection of **Miss Malkani, Miss Lamba, Miss Leela Kak, Mr PN Mathu** and many others. The evening culminated with dinner in the ONA Complex. It was organized by the School and graced by **Mr Bhupinder Singh Thind, IPS (R-112), ADGP, Himachal Pradesh, Mr MS Bedi (J-82), and Kanwar Sandhu (J-106)** member Executive Committee, PPS Nabha. The Executive Committee members of ONA were also present.

A slide show prepared very painstakingly by **Dr Jashanjot** and **Jyoti Kate** of the photographs of the period from the time of the inception of the school through the sixties, seventies and eighties helped to rejuvenate fading memories and reminded one of having lived a wonderful life in PPS through one's formative years. It was one of the most memorable parts of the evening. All those present felt as if they had been catapulted by a Time machine to their school days in PPS.

Ultimately, well past midnight, the ONs who were meeting after decades, reluctantly made their way to their lodgings so that they could get back to their mundane worldly routine next morning. The Reunion, would remain imprinted pleasantly in their hearts and minds --- forever!

Col Tejinder Singh(S-70,1968)

ONA MEETING

ONA General Body Meeting is a customary part of the ONA Day celebrations. It is an occasion for the Executive Committee and Office Bearers to inform members of the work done during the year and of any problems they face. It is also an opportunity for the members to know about the functioning of ONA. The Meeting was held in the Pavate(Hall) Auditorium, PPS, Nabha. **Miss Gagandeep** conducted the proceedings for the evening.

A two minute silence was observed for those who departed from this world in the past year namely

**Harpal Singh Gill (B-440), Baljit Uppal (S-300), Shamsheer Singh (Jumna,1960),
Jasbir Singh Sirohi (S-108) and Karamjit Singh Bedi (R-301).**

On behalf of the Executive Committee **Ms Gagandeep** welcomed all the members in attendance. Mr **GS Punia** the Ex-Headmaster and Bursar conducted the Assembly and read out the prayer. All the Old Nabhaites present recited “The School Song” without any accompanying music.

The Secretary, **Lt Col BS Grewal** read out his report for the year. The Treasurer, **Major GS Benepal** read out the latest financial position of ONA. He then asked for any queries. There being none, **Col NS Saini** as a member signed the books of Accounts.

Dr Jashanjot informed the audience about the working and progress of The Eagle.

Mr MS Bedi, Headmaster PPS addressing the gathering, enumerated the advances PPS is making and the cooperation between the ONA and PPS. He thanked **Dr Rupinder Brar**

and **Dr Preetam Singh** and the **Katyal** children for their contribution towards Scholarships and Awards in the School.

Finally, the President of ONA, **Harpatap Singh Ajnala (B-45, 1967)** presented the Vote of Thanks not only to **Mr Punia, Mr MS Bedi** and the members but also to all those ONs who were behind the organization of the ONA Day.

The formal part over, there were some lighter moments provided by a discussion on the mention of Old Boys in the meeting as the school is now coeducational and many girls are also ONs. **Dr Jashanjot** commented that the ONA is free from gender problem as we always address our members as Old Nabhaites and not Boys. He also said something should be done about the School Song. The words “while we are *boys* in school” should be changed to *students* or *studying*. Maybe a poet should be consulted for this. **Jyoti Kate** felt that this women empowerment was there is her time too when she was one of the two girls in School. The girls would always sing, “While we are *here* in school” and not say the word *Boys*. She suggested replacing the word *Boys* with *here*.

Jyoti stole the show that evening by recounting her childhood in PPS and many incidents from a different angle which students like us did not get to hear as she was the daughter of the Headmaster. Being one of the few girls in her time she never squealed on the boys and their pranks despite being probed by her father and staff.

Jyoti also recounted the many changes and improvements she had noted in the School after a gap of almost thirty years. The School had made great strides in many fields and she ended emotionally “*if my father had been alive today he would have been very proud of PPS*”.

Harvinder Singh Dhaliwal,(B-627,1988)

Secretary’s Report

This year, as in previous years the ONA continued to progress further apart from consolidating its previous achievements.

1. We had almost 5-6 meetings of the ONA Executive, instead of the minimum four as required under the Constitution. These were held at Ludhiana, Jalandhar,

- Amritsar, Nabha in keeping with the goal of taking ONA to different parts of the State.
2. New Chapters of Fatehgarh Sahib and Sangrur were floated. We welcome **Harvinder Dhaliwal (B-627)** & **Munit (R-915)** from Sangrur and **Amrinder Singh Tiwana (J-936)** & **Gurpreet Singh Gill (J-851)** from Fatehgarh Sahib to the Executive Committee.
 3. We floated a help line, as published in January 2003 issue of The Eagle, for young students to seek guidance and help in their career search.
 4. Thanks to **Satvinder Singh (J-452)**, we have floated a new website www.ppsona.com. I request you all to register yourselves there if you have not already done so. The Eagle issues will be posted there regularly.
 5. We have started scholarships worth thirty thousand rupees in PPS, thanks to two ONs, **Dr Preetam Singh (J-242)** and **Dr Rupinder Brar (S-291)**.
 6. This year we have also started a cash prize for deserving Class IV employees of PPS worth a total of Rs 10000/ in memory of late **Mr KK Katyal**, Biology teacher. It has been made possible courtesy ONs **Vandana(R-344)**, **Archana(R-307)** and **Puneet(R-425)**, children of **Mr Katyal**.
 7. A unique achievement this year has been the first ever Exchange visit organized by ONA amongst student of PPS and students of Derby County, UK. The return visit by Derby students was totally looked after by **Capt IS Dhami (R-257)** with the help of Old Nabhaites like **Navin Talwar(S-71)**, **Suman(S-165)** and **Umesh Munjal(S-166)** in Ludhiana, the **Jalandhar Chapter** in Jalandhar and **Kanwar Sandhu(J-106)** in Chandigarh. We now plan to extend this to Teacher Exchange between PPS and UK School Teachers.

However one area where I must say we are disappointed is with the number of Life members ONA has. The ONA came into existence more than two decades ago but we

have today only about 600 Life Members. This is just not enough to run an Association efficiently. I request all those who are not Life members to become so today by paying a special concessional rate fixed only for today at the reception counter. We would also like to come out with a souvenir this year to increase the ONA Funds. So please be prepared to contribute something when the time comes.

I would like to thank all of you for having come to attend this meeting in spite of the ONA Day being in the middle of the week.

Lt Col BS Grewal(S-50,1967)

Secretary, ONA

The Eagle Report

With this ONA Day we complete six years of running of 'The Eagle'. It was revived in 1997 to rejuvenate the ONA, which had almost been finished as an organization during the previous decade or so. It was started as a reaction to a negative trend that was creeping into the ONA. Looking back I feel a sense of fulfillment as the The Eagle has achieved most of its goals if not all.

The October issue this year was the 17th and with your help we will continue to bring out more.

The Eagle is not run out of the Life Membership money given to ONA All the issues of The Eagle have been made possible with the help of contributions to the Eagle or sponsorships by devoted ONs. Each issue costs almost Rs 25000. We are grateful to many Old Nabhaites who have come forward to help its cause voluntarily. I do not know what phenomenon it is but the maximum contributions to The Eagle have come from those who are farther away from School than those who are nearer it. I can only say that *distance makes the heart grow fonder.*

This year the January issue was sponsored by **Dr Rupinder Brar (S-297, 1976)**, the May issue by **Harwinder Daliwal (B-627, 1988)** and batchmates, the October issue by **CONA Chapter**. It is thanks to the magnanimity of the select few that The Eagle is sent to every one regardless of the ONA membership.

I will request Old Nabhaites to contribute to The Eagle either by sponsorship or by donation. Send a draft or cheque payable to ONA A/c The Eagle as in the past.

Lastly I want to request all the ONs to please contribute material to this Newsletter by sending us news of yourself or of other ONs, whether it is success, posting, change of address, marriage, a birth, an achievement or even a tragedy. We want the ONA fraternity to share each other's joys as well as sorrows. I would like you all to send any news of meetings of Old Nabhaites anywhere in the world. It would be very nice if you could write about interesting incidents from your school days for others to enjoy and share as they too went along the same path, maybe at a different point of time.

Time has also come now for fresh blood to take over The Eagle. I will welcome anyone who is willing to put in the effort. I will personally guide the volunteers through the unwritten rules and policies we have tried to follow in running The Eagle. I will request anyone who is willing to share this responsibility to meet me, write to me, email me or phone me.

The Eagle should be a continuous process and not limited to time or individuals.

Dr Jashanjot Singh Bhangu(S-52)

In charge 'The Eagle' and Life Member, Executive Committee of ONA.

Executive Member ,ONA

ONA DAY

The ONA Day this year was not expected to be great shakes. Firstly, it was bang in the middle of the week making it difficult to attend. Secondly, the Founder's Day (fixed for the morning of ONA Day) got cancelled just one week before, throwing all plans of the organizers haywire. Thirdly, it was too close to Diwali and many ONs complained of unavoidable reasons for not attending (read personal and business compulsions). Finally, the school was closed for Diwali break and there were no students in the school.

The young organizers kept their fingers crossed, as the things got off to a cool start with the Horse Show in full swing and half the seats in the audience vacant. We were thinking of moving to the Junior School Lawns for High Tea as the show was drawing to a close. Suddenly there were ONs all over the place. Many insisted on the Customary Past Vs Present Football Match. The match was quickly arranged on the football grounds with the sun having its last glimpses of the day. Since the School was closed there was no present team. The Old Nabhaites divided themselves into two teams, Ravi & Beas on one side and Jumna & Sutlej on the other. What followed was an absorbing match. While winning was not so important, the spirit in which the match was played was worth coming to Nabha for. It was interesting to see that the talent was there but the body was weak, especially when players like **Jeevan Oberoi (J-58)**, an ex-JCT player had the ball. The match was followed by High Tea in the Junior School Lawns with the staff and the riding team, which had stayed back to put up a show for the benefit of ONs.

Because of the delays the ONA Meeting scheduled for 6pm got delayed to 7pm, by which time many ONs after waiting, felt uneasy and drifted away to Headmaster's Green and elsewhere for an early start to their sundowners and Patialas. The net result was that at the ONA Meeting there were fewer ONs than expected. (Details of meeting in separate article)

After the meeting it was party time at the ONA Complex. The entrance was strictly managed, thanks to some very young ONs from Fatehgarh Sahib Chapter who took their job very seriously. This year we had a record attendance (excluding 'rendezvous 2000').

Ninety-eight ONs registered for the ONA Day and it was heartening to see many Girl ONs coming to the party. Normally the attendance hovers around fifty to sixty ONs. The venue was beautifully decorated and the quality of food was excellent. The service was perfect. Drinks were well controlled and the DJ played its heart out to the youngsters till after 10.30pm. So much so that closing down the DJ's music took more than one hour with all the youngsters very reluctant and a little mischievous about leaving the floor. On the whole, the organization was highly commendable. Even the funds seem to have been managed superbly, as for the first time the deficit incurred was the least over the last few years, though there was no sponsorship this time. As this news trickled in from the registration/reception counter, it cheered the organizers so that after 10.30pm, even they started to relax and unwind.

The star guest of the evening was however **Jyoti Kate (now Mahajan)(R-52)**, daughter of Founder Headmaster, **Mr JK Kate**, and her husband Rajiv who had come all the way from Poona. Giving them company were **Shreesh Kathavate (S-119)** and his wife from Bombay. Many of the ONs of the sixties batches felt that meeting **Jyoti** had been the ultimate experience that day as she represented the First Family of PPS. **Jyoti** remembered her interaction with Wg Cmdr **Charanjeev Aulakh's** father while she was a small girl in PPS. **Lt Col BS Grewal** recounted how he was a frequent visitor to her house for Sunday breakfast as he was very friendly with late Jeevan Kate, her brother. She too was thrilled to meet at least four of her batchmates, President ONA **Harpartap (B-45)**, Secretary **Lt Col BS Grewal (S-50)** and Life Member Executive **Dr Jashanjot (S-52)** while Lt Col **Hardev Bajwa (S-25)**, **Haramol (J-106)**, **Charanjeev Aulakh (R-108)** and **ParamPal Coonar (S-22)** were just one year her seniors.

The music, drinks, company and lively conversation were a heady mix and it was well past midnight before ONs started thinking of calling it a day. Like all good things the ONA Day this year too had to come to an end.

Kanwar Gurpreet Singh Gill (R-0095,1998)

Executive member, ONA

Life Members

The Eagle welcomes the following Old Nabhaites who have shown great motivation in becoming Life Members of the ONA.

- 1. Suresh Garg (R-64)**
- 2. Yadvinder Sidhu (B-674)**
- 3. Capt HS Sohal (R-566)**
- 4. Jyoti Kate (R-52)**
- 5. Ved Parkash Beniwal (R-60)**
- 6. Bhupinder Singh Thind (R-112)**
- 7. Swaran Danewalia (R-399)**
- 8. Harinder (J-597)**
- 9. Dr Jaspal Singh (S-882)**
- 10. Dr Jatinder Singh (B-876)**
- 11. Bhupinder Singh (S-450)**
- 12. Ajitpal Singh (S-505)**
- 13. Hardeep Singh (B-745)**
- 14. Devinder Singh (R-0119)**
- 15. Pardeep Singh Bains (B-644)**
- 16. Suba Singh (B-675)**
- 17. Nikhil Gupta (R-925)**

All of them became members at this ONA Day. It is hoped you will become a Life Member soon if you are not one already.

Harpartap Singh Ajnala(B-45,1967)

President, ONA

YOURS NABHAITELY

The ONA Day was great. It was a nice evening. Had fruitful meetings with some of my old friends after a long period

Swaran Danewalia (R-399, 1981)

Thanks! for updating my membership. Please send me The Eagle whenever it is printed. We really enjoyed the ONA gathering.

Dr Jaspal Singh Sarao (S-882, 1994)

Hi,

I think you all did a wonderful job taking care of us all, and organizing all the functions. The food too was excellent. **Shreesh** too enjoyed himself thoroughly. The best part is Rajiv and Sandhya were thoroughly impressed with PPS!

Once again I thank you for making our trip to Nabha so meaningful. It was really heartening to see the amount of effort you are putting in for the ONA ...and nice to see Bhupi and Harpratap on the ONA too. Batch of 67 keep it up. That's all for now, do keep in touch.

Jyoti(R-52, 1967)

Thanks for your mail, which I have seen today. I am at Q-11, Anupam Nagar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492007. I am Sr Helicopter Pilot, Govt of Chhattisgarh, since Jan 2003. I am flying the CM. Nice place. Please come any time you feel like.

Best regards

Sqn Ldr Amritpal Singh Sidhu (S-11, 1963)

Thank you sir for sending me the confirmation of life membership of the ONA family. The ONA day was organized in a beautiful way. It was nice to go around the school after almost 10 years and see so such improvement in the school. Would have been happier if

the school was on and one had a chance to interact with the present students of PPS. Even all the teachers were not available due to Diwali break. But it was very nice to be a part of such a large family and to share our present station in life after the base was prepared at PPS. We shall always be proud of the family. I shall suggest that this function be organized when the school is on and not near any festival. I shall be happy if I could help anyway to contribute to the ONA family. I shall happily try to fulfill my duty if given any... With this, I thank *you, sir*, for taking so much pain and knocking all over to motivate ONs to join this family. Thank you once again.

Sincerely Yours,

Dr Jatinder Singh (B-876, 1993) MDS

How are you all doing? I want to give my Information in the Eagle. I am residing at 34447 Helston Place, Fremont , CA 94555 (U.S.) Phone no. 510-745-0653(R) . Anybody who wants to contact please feel free to contact me. I want this to be notified in this Issue if it is possible. I really appreciate you for taking all these pains and giving shade to all the Nabhaites after they pass out from the school. Thanks!

Navdeep Gill (R-722, ISC 1990)

Fascinated to read Eagle. I am presently Principal, DAV Centenary Public School, Haldwani (Naini Tal), Ex-teacher PPS (1967-1987). Was Managing Editor of *The Chronicle* for many years. My son, Lt Col **Dheeraj (S-375)** - '82 is presently at Sagar. Daughter **Himanee (S-475)** is PGT Chem. in this school. **Subhash Sharma** (Ex-Teacher Chem.) is Principal S.O.S. Hermann Gmeiner School, Bhim Tal.

R.D.Chandola,(Ex-Teacher)

Thanks a lot for sending me the October issue of The Eagle. It's really a shocking news regarding Baljit Uppal Sir. Even though I had never met him personally but I read his article in one of the earlier issues of The Eagle under the heading, something called Nostalgic moments (Sorry I don't remember the exact heading). That made me so nostalgic at that moment, I wish that I could meet this person in future but God had something else in his mind. May be I am not so lucky, that's why I didn't meet him. I pray to God to rest his soul in peace.

Javesh Jindal (S-945, 1994)

First of all let me congratulate you and thank you on the fine job you are doing with The Eagle. It has helped me to be in touch with old friends (including you) and teachers. I would like to point out my name is Kiran Pal Singh and there is no Pasricha in it, as has gone out on the Eagle. Please correct this in your database.

Thank you

Kiranpal Singh (Ex-Ravi,1968)

You are doing a wonderful job with the Eagle. Keep up the good work. I really regret that I could not stop over in Jullunder during my visit to India during the last December/January. This of course means that coming for the ONA day on 23rd Oct would be difficult. I do however look forward to seeing you all during my next trip.

Dr Trilochan Bhamrah (B-90, 1968)

HI ---Went thru 'The EAGLE-Oct' in one go. Nostalgic as usual. Baljit must have been a great guy. Can't make it this ONA. Will miss the regulars who attend.

Lt Col Hardeep Dutta (J-64, 1967)

Thanks for forwarding the Eagle link. I think you did a great job with everything but especially with the introduction about Baljit. I was sad to read about Karamjit Bedi's demise, another of my classmates. Service that all the staff of the Eagle provides is priceless. Keep up the good job.

Dr Rupinder S. Brar, MD (S-291, 1976)

Hi! this is Balinder Chahal, Orlando, Florida. Thanks! for the newsletter, reminds me of old times. So how are you all doing? Sorry can't make it to the Reunion. But I will be in India from Dec. 17 to Jan 1st. Hopefully get together!! Keep up the good work and hello to everyone.

Dr Balinder Chahal (Ex Jumna, 1970)

Thanks a lot for your invitation to Old Nabhaites Reunion. I am sorry, I will not be able to attend, as I do not have any plan to go to India during that time. I wish all the best for PPS as I have sweet & lovely memories of Nabha, where I went as a bride & lived for 10 yrs.

With best wishes

Asha Tankha (w/o MN Tankha, Ex Geography)

How are you? First of all, I am sorry that I was unable to come to Jalandhar because of my very busy schedule as it was my first visit and for a short span. I shall be thankful to you, if you could supply me the addresses or contacts of Nabhaites in UK. I am doing fine here.

Gurmeet Sidhu (R-827, ICSE 91)

It is indeed a pleasure to get in touch with The Eagle. I must complement you for the marvelous job you are doing in expanding the 'Old Nabhaites Fraternity'. It is helping in rekindling our ties with other Old Nabhaites. It was nice to read about the Founders' Day which went off so well and read about it in the newspapers also. Hope to visit PPS soon.

Lt Col PS Bajwa (J-361, 1982)

You are doing a wonderful job with The Eagle. Make sure it keeps its wings spread onwards. I had a talk with Pushap Raj (PA to Mr Kate) in USA. He was delighted to hear about PPS Reunions. He may attend next year.

Rajinder Sibal (Ex-English)

Hi PPS! I am Gurpreet and also called as *Body*. I am an ex-student living in Canada. Presently I am an engineer. I miss my school very much. So please send me the latest news about my school. Please pay my regards to all the staff and the Headmaster Sir and also great regards to Mr Rotori who was my house master. Thanks,

Gurpreet Singh(R-973)

A VISIT TO PPS

Visiting PPS with my family, was something I had only dreamt of doing for a long, long time. So when our trip to Nabha materialized, all thanks to **Shreesh Kathavate**, I was overjoyed and eagerly looked forward to visiting Nabha after a period of 30 years!

As we drove into Nabha on that warm October afternoon of the 23rd, I caught a glimpse of the Senior School building (Kairon Block). It looked as majestic as ever.

For 30 years, my husband Rajiv had been hearing about PPS from all us **Kates**. Finally he was going to meet the big PPS family! We were warmly received by **Mr and Mrs Punia**, their daughter, our Headmaster **Mr Manjitinder Bedi**, his charming wife, and my classmates **Harpartap and Jashanjot**. It was really lovely meeting everyone after so

long. I felt I was back in school. Thirty years had just melted away. There was so much to talk about and share.

That evening, at 5 O'clock, the official ONA events began in the Junior School building. I stepped into Junior school (also my home), and memories of **Miss Malkani, Balbir Singh(school driver)** and scores of others flooded my mind. It was great to meet **Ved Prakash, Manbir Singh, Tejinder, Jatinder Randhawa** and other ONs and their wives and remember all our school days.

We ONs then gathered in the Assembly Hall and observed a two- minute silence in the memory of all those ONs of the 1968 batch who were no more with us. Introductions also took place .We appreciated the portrait of **Miss Malkani** which adorned the Assembly Hall - a befitting tribute to a teacher who shaped our lives. She lives in our memories, our actions and of course in our handwriting too.

At 7.00 pm the Senior School put up a variety entertainment programme at Pavate Hall. I couldn't conceal my pride and joy when I saw so many girls walking up smartly to receive their prizes from the Chief Guest, **Bhupinder Singh Thind**, IPS, also an Old Nabhaite!

For the Reunion Dinner that night **Jashanjot** (where would we be without him?) had organized a slide-show of 'old' PPS snaps. His perseverance and dedication have kept the ON flagship flying- or shall I say the "eagle" soaring high!

The following day, i.e. the 24th, was not such a busy one as the Founders' Day had been postponed. However the PPS students had put up a splendid Equestrian Show for the ONs. It was an amazing feat of skill and courage. It felt really good to see that the School was doing so well in so many fields.

Having Lunch with the Headmaster and his wife(who both looked after us so well), in my old home, was like taking a trip down memory lane. It reminded me of the many happy days I spent there. I remember almost every Saturday afternoon , when our tests were over , I would go over to **Mr Mallon's**, pick up a lovely thick book from his large collection and then curl up in some remote corner and read to my heart's content-only to be disturbed by Ian, Mr Mallon's 4 year old who would come and say "Goody, let's have a party". Obviously the party consisted of only the two of us and all the possible nice things he loved to eat!

Before the final programme of the evening, which was the grand ON dinner, we ONs had Assembly. It was conducted by Mr. Punia. It was indeed a touching event. I was so moved to see **Harpartap, Bhupinder and Jashanjot** all from my class (1967 batch) holding the flag of PPS ever so high and performing their jobs to perfection.

The ON Dinner was a delightful event and the highlight of our visit. But all good things must come to an end and we had to say good-bye to Nabha and everyone who gave us so much love and affection and looked after us with so much care and attention. Rajiv and I came back with so many fond memories- to recount to the Kates! Life had come back a full circle. Thank you PPS for being there. You will always go 'onwards and upwards.' And I know it!

Jyoti Kate Mahajan(R-52,1967)

Sponsor's Message

It gives me great pleasure to be associated with The Eagle-**Vimal Mahendru (J-344, 1978)**

Eagle's Support

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