



# THE EAGLE

(A NEWSLETTER OF ONA)

**ISSUE NO. 14**

**(For Private Circulation)**

**AUGUST, 2002**

**The Independence Day Issue**

## **Eaglenomics**

“The Eagle” has become the lifeline of ONA. Its success is very important for the survival of ONA. For almost five years now we have been bringing out “The Eagle” with the help of donations from a few large-hearted and generous Old Nabhaites.

The revived “The Eagle” from its humble beginning of a few hundred copies costing Rs 5,000/- has grown to a mammoth circulation of three thousand copies costing Rs 23, 000/- per issue. Since the last issue the postage has gone up by Re 1/-, adding a cool Rs 3,000/- extra to the bill.

To balance the inflow of the funds and the expenditure has been tightrope walking in the last few issues. The Executive Committee of ONA, in a meeting in January, decided to reduce the number of issues per year, reduce the number of pages and finally if the expenditure still outstrips the inflow of funds, then to send “The Eagle” only to Life Members (only six hundred at present).

The last action, if taken, would be counter-productive to the Association as communication and the flow of information amongst Old Nabhaites will come to a stop, which I am sure no true Old Nabhaite will like.

In order to keep “The Eagle” going, we need regular inflow of funds as donations (any amount), sponsorships, and more Life Members. The Executive Committee appeals to all Old Nabhaites to come forward and infuse funds into the lifeline of ONA - “The Eagle”. You can send a Demand Draft for any amount payable at Nabha, to ONA A/c “The Eagle” to The Eagle ,50 Mahavir Marg , Jalandhar-144001.

***Lt Col Bhupinder Singh Grewal (Retd) (S-50), General Secretary, ONA***

## **ONA News**

**Sandeep Garg (R-027)**, PPS 1998. Doing graduation and preparing for LL.B. Address: C/o Sh. Hari Dayal Garg, Preet Vihar Colony, House No. 12, Backside of Dhir Hospital,

Nabha (Patiala). Tel: (R) 521561. Email: [sandeepkumar83@hotmail.com](mailto:sandeepkumar83@hotmail.com), [sandeepgarg017@yahoo.co.in](mailto:sandeepgarg017@yahoo.co.in).

**RK Sharma (Ex-Geography)** has joined Dalhousie Hilltop School, Dalhousie as Educatoin Counsellor. Tel: 01899-40621 / 42512.

**Dr Amish S/o Dr Anil Choudhary (J-20)** married Dr Ekta of Ludhiana on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2002.

**Kajal**, daughter of **Dr Rajan Soni (S-69)**, got married to Ajay on 28 Feb 2002 at Rajpura.

**Mohit S/o Sqn Ldr Kedar Nath Bansal (J-4)** got married to Charu on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2002.

Daughter of **Late Maj RS Cheema, VrC (R-8)** got married on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2002.

**Ishita Sharma**, daughter of **Mr SC Sharma (Ex-Chemistry)**, married Rajesh on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2002 at Chandigarh.

**Lt Col SK Garg (J-342)** promoted to the rank of Colonel wef 1 December 2001.

**Lt Col Harjit Singh Bhagat (R-318)** promoted to the rank of Colonel CO JAKRIF.

**Col Jagdeep Singh Virk (Pinka Virk)** has taken over as Commandant of the 61<sup>st</sup> Cav., the only cavalry unit in the Indian Army.

The Nabha Chapter of ONA has come out with a Directory of its Members. It was released by **Mr MS Bedi (J-82)**, Headmaster, PPS on 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2002.

**Rajdeep Singh Cheema (S-303)** (1976 Batch) and **GS Bhandari (Ex-Beas)** (1976 ISC Batch) as Assistant Advocate Generals, Punjab. **Rajdeep** incidently was Joint Secretary, ONA Chandigarh for almost a decade.

**Cdr Mitinder Singh Sethi (J-76)** has taken over as Chief General Manager with ABG Shipyard Ltd in Surat, the largest private sector shipyard in India.

**Dr Rupinder S Boparai (B-325)**, General Surgeon (UK), paid a visit to “The Eagle” office on his recent trip to India in July.

### Grieved

**Mr Katyal (Ex Biology)** expired on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2002. We share the grief of **Katyal** family.

**Mr MN Tankha (Ex Geography)** another stalwart of founding years of PPS passed away in Lucknow. He leaves behind wife Asha and sons Rajeev and Sanjeev. Mrs Asha Tankha is now living in Toronto with Rajeev’s family. The ONA fraternity shares the grief of **Tankha** family.

Col JS Dhillon (Retd), father of **Maj Bhupinder Dhillon (J-437)** and **Ranjit Dhillon**, Sys. Engineer (**Ex B-839**), father -in - law of **Rajpreet Dhillon (Ex- Jumna)** and Grandfather of **Manmeet Dhillon (J-207)**, passed away on 7th April 2002 due to his illness. He was President of Ex-Servicemen League, Nabha. He was a good friend of our Headmasters **Gp Capt AJS Grewal & Col DS Khera**, besides being a wellwisher of PPS. The ONA fraternity shares the **Dhillon family's** grief.

Mother of **Dr Shivinder Sandhu (Willy)** expired on 20 August 2002. She was Principal-cum-Owner of the famous Spring Dale School, Amritsar.

### Payback Time

The Punjab Public School, Nabha owes its origin to the post-war reconstruction fund left by the British for rehabilitation of ex-servicemen because of their contribution in the Second World War. When the School started many scholarships were provided from this fund. This was responsible for the unique character of PPS where the son of a soldier, a farmer or a small businessman rubbed shoulder with the sons of rich and Generals. Over the last few decades the School fee has risen to more than twenty times. The funds available with the Punjab Government are depleted. The School is gradually losing its unique character.

We would like to appeal to all Old Nabhaites who have benefited from education in PPS and established themselves in life to come forward and pay back to their Alma Mater. Who knows a brilliant student helped by funds provided by you may tomorrow turn out to be a genius.

Keeping the above in mind the ONA and "The Eagle" applauds the offer made by **Dr Preetam Singh (J-242)** to help a worthy but needy child of an ex-serviceman studying in School. He has offered a sum of Rs 10,000 at the beginning of every academic year for such a student as long as he is working.

We would like to see more Old Nabhaites showing the same spirit.

### Personal File

**Manoranjan Singh Sidhu (B-117)** PPS 1965-71. Business. Address: Kothi No. 2362, Phase 10, Mohali (Pb). Tel: 233335. Email: [cadcam\\_in@yahoo.com](mailto:cadcam_in@yahoo.com). Married Harbir who is a Banker, on 26.12.1982 and has a son Jujhar Singh (18yr).

**Dilip Bedekar (S-67)** B.Sc., M.Sc. (Food Tech.), MBA. Managing Director and Country Manager, Sensient Technologies Corporation of USA's Indian operation. Worked for Britannia Biscuits for around 5 years. Email: [dilip.bedekar@sensient-tech.com](mailto:dilip.bedekar@sensient-tech.com). Married

Neelima who does social work by Teaching Mentally Retarded Children in Spastic Society of India. Has a daughter Leena who is just appearing for her final MBA exams and son Mayuresh is in XI class.

**Maj Charanjev Manju (R-455)** PPS 1977-83. Passed 10<sup>th</sup> in Mar 1983. Address (Present): DQ, 114 Inf Bde, C/o 56 APO. Address (Permanent): 78-A, Shastri Nagar, Model Town, Ludhiana (Pb). Tel: 0161-458385. Married Sweety on 28.01.1993. Has a daughter Pramita (7yr).

**Col Anupinder Singh Jassar (B-210)** PPS 1968-72. MSc (Defence Studies). Address (Present): Commanding Officer, 26 RAJPUT, C/o 56 APO. Married Pammi on 20.01.1984. Has a daughter Jaismin (17yr) and a son Harpuneet (13yr).

**Sukhpal Singh Shoker (S-117)** PPS 1964-71. Passed 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> in 1971. Address: C/o 10 SIKH LI, C/o 56 APO. Married Patwinder Kaur on 19.03.1978. Has daughters Preeti (21yr) and Puneet (18yr).

**Lt Col Irvinder Pal Singh (R-236)** PPS 1969-75. Address (Present) 146 GL Sec, C/o Stn HQ, Dhana (MP). Address (Permanent): House No 3288, Sector – 23D, Chandigarh. Married Padamdeep. Has a son Amanpreet and a daughter Jasleen.

## ONA Day 2002

**This is to inform all Old Nabhaites that “ONA Day 2002” will be celebrated on 2<sup>nd</sup> of November this year. In order to give the Old Nabhaites the maximum exposure to the School, the ONA Day this year is being clubbed with the Founders’ Day. The Founders’ Day celebrations will be held before Lunch and the ONA Day will be celebrated in the post-Lunch period culminating at the grand Dinner in the evening. Make sure that you are present at PPS Nabha on 2<sup>nd</sup> of November with your family. Accommodation will be provided if you inform the undersigned in advance.**

*Naveen Talwar (S-71), President, ONA  
Talwar Gas, 33 College Road, Civil Lines, Ludhiana.  
Mobile: 98140-34034, Tel: 0161-428433, (R) 410634. Email: talwargas@vsnl.com.*

## Eagle’s Pride

A true son of the soil, **Rear Admiral Jagjit Singh Bedi (J-3)**’s, association with Nabha dates back to over four generations. His great grandfather served as the Revenue Minister of the State and his father was commissioned in the Nabha Akal Regiment of the Maharaja’s forces and saw military actions during World War II and Jammu & Kashmir Liberation. Born at Nabha on 25 April 1949, **Jagjit** had his early schooling in different schools at various places in India where his father, who was serving in the Army, was

posted. He left Delhi Public School, New Delhi in 1960 and became amongst the first few to join Punjab Public School, Nabha on its inception. In fact, he was the third student to enroll and walk through the portico of the Secretariat Building on the morning of April 6, 1960.

At school he excelled in sports and studies and was the Jamuna House Prefect till his passing out in May 1964. He has the distinction of captaining the School Cricket team during his entire stay at school.

He joined the National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla in January 1965 and on completion of his training, was commissioned in the Navy on July 1, 1969. He specialized in Signal Communication and Electronic Warfare. During his 33 years of commissioned service he has held various operational, staff and training assignments. He has served as the Executive Officer of a Missile Frigate, Staff Officer to the Deputy and Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, Deputy Director (Electronic Warfare), Chief Instructor and Officer-in-Charge of Naval Signal School at Kochi, Commanding Officer of the prestigious Naval Academy at Mandovi, Goa, Director of Naval Plans and Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Policy & Plans) at Naval Headquarters and Chief of Staff of Western Naval Command, Mumbai.

His sea commands include Indian Naval Ships ATUL (Seaward Defence Boat), BEDI (Ocean Going Minesweeper), UDAYGIRI (an indigenously built Leander class frigate), RANVIR (A Soviet Union acquired Guided Missile Destroyer) and the Command of India's only Aircraft Carrier VIRAAAT.

He is a graduate of the Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich, UK and a Post Graduate of the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island, USA. He has travelled extensively and visited a large number of countries on board the various ships that he has served on.

He is currently serving as the Flag Officer Commanding, Western Fleet, which is the sword arm of the Indian Navy. The Western Fleet comprises various frontline ships and aircraft in the inventory of the Indian Navy. He is presently stationed at Mumbai and spends most of his time at sea with the Fleet.

In June 1975, **Jagjit** married Kanwal, who is a Science graduate and has worked in various welfare organizations of the Navy. She is presently the Editor of the Naval Wives Welfare Association Magazine Varuni at Mumbai.

**Jagjit** and Kanwal are blessed with two daughters. Their elder daughter is married and settled in Mumbai while the younger one is studying at St. Xavier's College.

For rendering distinguished service **Rear Admiral Jagjit Singh Bedi** was awarded *Vishisht Seva* and *Ati Vishisht Seva* Medals.

*Naveen Talwar (S-71), President, ONA*

**Pratap Bajwa** has been appointed as a Cabinet Minister for PWD in the new Punjab Government. The ONA is proud of his achievements and congratulates him. The first action he took after taking over as minister was to get all the PPS roads carpeted.

*Sandeep Singh Sandhu (R-512)*

## Updates

### Change of Address

1. **Lt Col TS Dhillon (B-35)**  
 “22” G.L. Section  
 Type ‘C’  
 C/o 56 APO
2. **Col Narinder Singh Saini (R-57)**  
 B-47  
 I.N.A. Colony (B-Pocket)  
 New Delhi – 110023  
 Tel: (R) 4620672
3. **Harsimer Singh Tiwana (J-0829)**  
 #3007, Urban Estate II  
 Patiala – 147002 (Pb)  
 Tel: 0175-282753
4. **Lt Col Dinesh Gupta (B-274)**  
 House No 939, Sector 6  
 Karnal – 132001 (Haryana)  
 Tel: 284822
5. **Wg Cdr Jatinder Pal Singh (J-81)**  
 First Floor, Old 16/New  
 29 Arundale Beach Road  
 Kalakshetra  
 Chennai – 600090 (TN)
6. **Col TPS Waraich (J-155)**  
 Col A  
 HQ 14 Corps  
 C/o 56 APO
7. **Jagraj Jeet Singh Sandhu**  
 H No 2534, Sector 47-C  
 Chandigarh  
 Tel: 0172-632892, Mobile: 98141-23319
8. **RK Sharma (Ex-Geography)**  
 Education Counsellor  
 Dalhousie Hilltop School  
 Upper Bakrota  
 Dalhousie (HP)
9. **Maj Bhudeo Kumar (B-484)**

Instr Class "B"  
 Sig Trg Coy  
 CMP Centre & School  
 Bangalore - 560025

**10. Maj SS Johal (J-367)**

MGO Branch (PPO-1)  
 Army Headquarters  
 South Block  
 New Delhi – 110011  
 Tel: (R) 120-4451731, (O) 011-3012686

**11. Lt Col BS Laungia (J-122)**

NCC Group HQs  
 Vallabh Vidyanagar  
 Via Anand  
 Pin 388120  
 Tel: VV Nagar 02692-30362 (O), 38329 (R)

**Change of Email ID**

**1. Ashwani Kumar Aggarwal (J-188)**

Email: [ashwani1035@hotmail.com](mailto:ashwani1035@hotmail.com)

**2. Mr KC Tandon (Ex-Teacher)**

Email: [kctandon50@yahoo.co.in](mailto:kctandon50@yahoo.co.in)

**Change Of Telephone No.**

- Bal Kishan Garg (R-63)** Jalandhar. Tel: 892356.
- Mr KC Tandon (Ex-Teacher)** Tel: (School) 0164-300853, (Res) 0164-301017.

**Independence Day Wishes**

TONA (Toronto Old Nabhaites Association) Chapter wishes "The Eagle", PPS and all Old Nabhaites a happy Independence Day.

B 451 Mack Dhindsa  
 B 492 Pardeep Dhindsa  
 B 542 Gurvinder Uppal  
 B 564 Harmohinder Kandhola  
 B 603 Paramjeet Kalar  
 B 657 Rajwinder Dhaliwal  
 B 660 Rashpinder Pandher  
 B 699 Loveljit Pandher  
 B 839 Ranjit Dhillon  
 B 889 Dilraj Jhajj  
 J 192 Jasvir Bahra

J 511 Kanwarinder Dhaliwal  
 J 529 Jagmohan Kabuli  
 J 702 KamalPreet Khaira  
 J 805 Rupinder Dhaliwal  
 R 523 Yadwinder Toor  
 R 725 Khushwant Toor  
 R 623 Harcharan Bhinder  
 R 689 Sajjan Mahal  
 R 756 Jaswant Sahi  
 S 623 Harjit Thind  
 S 856 Harvinder Thind



## Get Togethers

### An Evening with the Headmaster and Bursar

The Headmaster **Mr MS Bedi (J-82)** and Bursar **Lt Col TS Dhindsa (B-167)** hosted an evening for the ONs at Nabha on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2002 at ONA Complex. The evening was well attended by the ONs of Nabha with their families. A few Old Nabhaites from outstation were also invited. These included **Mr Naveen Talwar (S-71)** (President, ONA), **Lt Col Bhupinder Gerwal (S-50)** (Secretary, ONA), **Dr JS Bhangu (S-52)** (Jalandhar), **Dr Kooner (S-22)** and **Col Laungia (J-122)** from Patiala. It was a very cold evening, which was warmed up by the hospitality of the hosts. Everybody enjoyed the evening.

### An evening with the IPSC Champions

The ONA Nabha Chapter hosted a high Tea for the School Teams that had won the championships in which they participated.

The evening was organized on Monday, the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2002. The Junior Hockey team won a championship held at Sapatu. The Senior Hockey team had won the IPSC Hockey championship held at Shri Anandpur Sahib. The third team was the Boys Athletics, which had won the IPSC Athletics championship held at PPS Nabha and the Athletics Medal winner Girls.

The teams were accompanied by their coaches and team managers. Apart from these, our worthy Headmaster, Deputy HM, Head of the Junior Wing and ONs of Nabha Chapter and their families, attended the evening.

*Sanjay Mittal (S-609), Secretary, ONA, Nabha*

### Nabha

The ONA Nabha Chapter had its 57<sup>th</sup> bimonthly get together on 10<sup>th</sup> of April 2002. **Mr Vishawdeep Singh (S-521)** and **Mr Vishal Gupta (J-940)** hosted this meeting. It was well attended by the members of Nabha Chapter.

It was also a very proud moment for all of us, as we completed 10 years of successful and smooth running of Nabha Chapter. The Nabha Chapter was started in April 1992 when **Sqn Ldr Kedar Nath Bansal** hosted the first get together and in April 2002 we completed 10 years.

*Sanjay Mittal (S-609)*

### CONA (California ONA)

Thanks a lot to all the 22 families who could make to CONA Night. It was a great night but we all missed **Billa**. The party was hosted at **Gursharan's** place on 13<sup>th</sup> of July.



**Inderjeet Khela** introduced all the ONs present there. In the party following things were discussed:

1. We would be having one CONA night every year, the date for which would be decided later.
2. **Dr Rupinder Brar** is hosting another party on 24<sup>th</sup> August at his place. This would be the last ONA party at someone's house. The date for the annual party would also be decided. The details of the party will be sent to you soon.
3. We would have a small annual subscription fee. The amount will be decided once we get the response from all of you. All the ONs attending the party would be contributing towards the expenses.
4. Following have been elected. President **Dr Rupinder S Brar**, V. President **Shavinder, Deepinder, Navdeep**, Secretary **Seepja**, Treasurer **Gursharan**. Since we had nobody from South California, we would be having some ONs in this team later on.

**Dr Brar** made a special mention of **Mr Katyal** who recently passed away.

**Rupinder** also suggested to have one get together on National level once in 2 or maybe 3yrs. This should include USA and Canada. I know we all will be able to do this.

Thanks a lot to **Gursharan** and his wife for being such nice hosts. Also thanks a lot to **Navdeep S. Gill** for organizing all this. Keep it up.

Once again thanks a lot.

*Seepja Khurana (J-388)*

### Ropar

A Ropar Chapter of the ONA has been floated in Mohali. The following were present:

1. **Abninder Singh Grewal (J-5)** (First Batch)
2. **Sandeep Singh Sandhu (R-512)** (1986 ISC)
3. **Puneeta Sandhu (J-540)** (1987 ISC) (Member Executive Committee ONA)
4. **Maj GS Benipal (S-420)** (1981 ICSE)
5. **Prof MS Sekhon (B-418)** (1980 ISC)
6. **Inderjit Singh Sidhu (J-319)** (1978 ICSE)
7. **Neelinderjit Kaur Sandhu** (1988 ISC)
8. **Mehardeep Singh (R-743)** (1990 ISC)
9. **Amandeep Singh Kaler (R-708)** (1990 ISC)
10. **Capt Navjeet Sandhu (R-353)** (1980 ISC)
11. **Abjinder Singh Grewal (J-583)** (1987 ICSE)

It was decided that the chapter would work under the aegis of parent body ONA as per the relevant clauses of the constitution of ONA.

It was also unanimously decided to convene a meeting of Ropar chapter where all Old Nabhaites of Ropar would be invited. We request the Eagle to kindly ask all Old Nabhaites of Ropar district to contact: -

- a) **Abninder Singh Grewal (J-5)** 0172-390770
- b) **Sandeep Singh Sandhu (R-512)** 0172-273811
- c) **Maj GS Benipal (S-420)** 0172-271273

*Sandeep Sandhu (R-512)*

### Jalandhar

**Jaspal Singh Chatha (R-89)**, a diehard Old Nabhaite of 1966 ISC Batch vintage, was in town during July and August. He is Professor of Economics at Lehman College, New York. He threw an impromptu bash one evening for some Jalandhar Old Nabhaites at his residence. It was attended by ONs from different years right up to 2000. Many junior Old Nabhaites enjoyed interaction with the Professor from the USA. All in all it was a wonderful evening. The hottest topic of discussion was obviously PPS.

*Capt IS Dhani (R-257)*

### Invitation (California ONA Chapter)

Hi everybody, Hope everybody is fine and enjoying summer with kids and remembering their summer holidays. Its again time to have a fun together. As decided earlier, we are going to have a get together at **Dr Rupinder Brar's** house in Yuba city on 24th of August.

The agenda is as follows:

Kids Pool Party	4:00-6:00pm (parents are welcome)
CONA Official Meeting	6:00-7:00pm
Talent Show by kids	7:00-8:00pm
Dinner	8:00pm onwards

We would like all the kids to participate in the talent show. Also if you have any ideas let me know. I would like all the CONA families to enjoy the same way the ONA guys enjoy. Any suggestion is welcome. Please send in your responses and also forward this mail to all the ONs. I'll be sending you address in a day or so. Thanks a lot. Bye

*Seepja Khurana (J-388)*

*(Tel: 510 790 8995)*

### **M.O.D.**

### TALL IN DEEDS; TALL INDEED

**(A tribute to Mr MN Tankha)**

**Mr MN Tankha(MNT)**, may his soul rest in peace, was the first teacher who arrived in the then Sainik School, Nabha; rechristened as Punjab Public School, Nabha in 1961. The pioneer Principal, **Padmashri JK Kate** and **MNT** prepared the blueprint of the new school while sitting on the majestic marble staircase of Junior School building, which was

the erstwhile Maharaja's guesthouse. There were no students, no staff members, and no offices, not even a chair to sit on. Gradually furniture arrived, office started, classrooms and dormitories were fitted up, playgrounds were made and staff residences were furnished. Beds with extra length were ordered for MNT because of his very long legs. On 14<sup>th</sup> April 1960 the new school started with a bang. The sleepy Nabha town woke up to the towering presence of a new school with an all India character. Within 3 years PPS was shining brightly on the Public School map of India. Public Schools were amazed. Pioneer staff brought laurels. **MNT** was our spearhead. Tall, versatile and highly committed, **MNT** was a pacesetter. He made Geography Deptt. a fine show window decorated with charts and teaching aids. He himself made charts and got many made by me in the Art room. He made maps, models, and relief maps and even produced a "World on a pitcher". During the Annual Function, Geography Deptt. had a pride of place. We worked by nights for exhibitions.

**MNT** was a keen mountaineer trained by HMI Darjeeling. He organized the first trekking expedition of the school. I was with him in the first two expeditions. I took over this activity from him while he was away to England and to USA. We were surprised by his stamina and sure-footedness. He would never sit down during a trek. He took rest while standing. Every evening during campfire, he gave useful tips. He was always helpful and cheerful. His jokes and anecdotes kept everyone happy. It was a joy to be with him on expeditions.

**MNT** was an athletics coach trained by NIS, Patiala. He used to put his heart and soul into planning and organizing athletics. He told us how to coach uninitiated students. He told us about exercises and lead up games. He single-handedly maintained records in every detail. Annual athletics was nearly as big a function as Founder's day. It was all because of **MNT**'s imagination and efficiency that the whole school community was proud of the show that we were able to put up.

**MNT** gave the first house show, the Ravi House show. Other Housemasters followed the pattern. **MNT** had played Basketball and Badminton for Allahabad University during his university days. He taught Hindi assembly songs before the first music teacher **Mr SR Chatterjee** joined PPS (**Mr SC Cowell** taught English songs). He taught drawing before I joined. He became one with students. He played with them, danced with them, sang with them and laughed with them. He was loved and revered.

**MNT** became Vice Principal of St Paul's School, Darjeeling and worked there as acting rector when the rector left. He later took over Assam Rifles Public School, which flourished under his stewardship. This tall man with tall deeds is no longer with us. But he will endlessly live in the memory of his colleagues and his pupils. This tall man is unforgettable. I pray to God to grant eternal peace to his soul and give sufficient strength to the bereaved family to bear this loss.

***OP Bhatnagar (Ex-Hindi & Art), Principal, Indian School, Nizwa, Sultanate of Oman***

**To Sir with Love**

The year-1967, the month-**May**. It was time to fill the examination forms along with subjects for each student appearing in ISC (Senior Cambridge), in **December**. The newspapers were full of strikes and riots by engineers due to unemployment. Five of us (Additional Math students, worried about our future as engineers), **Bhupinder Grewal (S-50)**, **Shivinder Athwal (B-108)**, **Inderbir Khokha (ex Ravi)**, **Gurjit Dhillon (B-69)**, and I, approached the senior master, the great **Mr SC Cowell**, to allow us to take up Biology as an additional subject. **Mr Cowell** put up the matter to **Mr JK Kate**, the Headmaster. **Mr Kate** agreed but let the final word rest with the Biology teacher whose job it would be to take extra classes for only five of us and prepare us for the Biology exam in 5 months. With apprehension, we approached the Biology teacher. To our amazement, he readily agreed. He was none other than **Mr KK Katyal**. Popularly known as K<sup>3</sup> or 3Ks - medium built, obese and balding, he had the finesse of drilling into his students the subject he taught so well. Then began a period of hectic classes in the afternoon. The extra class at times lasted more than an hour. We would be sleepy after a heavy lunch but K<sup>3</sup>'s energy kept us awake. We could see beads of sweat on his forehead. He taught us so well that two out of the five topped our class in Biology in ISC exam.

Three of us, **Shivinder (USA)**, **Inderbir Khokha** and I became doctors later in life. **Bhupinder** became an Engineer in the Army and **Gurjit** (now a Brigadier) is heading for great heights, having successfully attended National Defence College.

Many years later I visited Mussoorie with my family. I knew sir (**KKK**) was there as Headmaster of Mussoorie Public School. We all went to meet him. I was proud to be able to introduce my kids to the sir who changed the course of my life. We had a wonderful lunch with him and his family. Few years earlier he had been troubled by a growth in the neck and had been successfully treated at AIIMS, courtesy **Dr Satish Jain (R-107)**, another of his students from PPS. Now his weight was significantly reduced, movements were slowed and even a little exertion made him breathless. His once forceful voice became subdued. When things became difficult for him in the hills at Mussoorie, where he was continuing to serve at the insistence of the management, he decided to come down to his native Hoshiarpur to settle down.

Last year I got a phone call from him that he was very unwell. I immediately asked him to come to Jalandhar and got him admitted with a physician friend. My friend Dr Kapil would joke with sir and say to him, "I have to make you fit again because I want you to teach my son Biology the way you taught **Jashanjot**." He recovered to a large extent and went back to Hoshiarpur. But as doctors we knew his failing lungs could not support him for long. When he was better he even went to see the 'ONA Equestrian Show' in Chandigarh with his son but thereafter he went downhill. During his time of illness, Mrs Katyal was always by his side – a picture of Indian womanhood. His children – all Old Nabhaites, were however far away and could be with him only in patches. Puneet, his son, was on the high seas in Merchant Navy and his daughters, Archana and Vandana, flew in and out of India to see him, having settled in USA. In the last few days, he was again admitted in my friend's hospital – this time a little more serious. On the morning of 25<sup>th</sup> May, I got a call from Dr Kapil Gupta that your sir passed away this morning. When I reached the hospital I went to the bed, where his body (it had been curtained off) lay. I

had to say good-bye. I picked up his limp hand and kissed it with a prayer for his soul in my heart.

*Dr Jashanjot (S-52)*

## Questionnaire

As the ONA Day had been given a theme name “Interaction 2001”, an Inter House contest of Old Nabhaites was conducted by **Dr Jashanjot Singh (S-52)**. A Questionnaire had been prepared which was distributed to the four Houses - Sutlej, Ravi, Beas and Jumna. The team or House, which submitted the maximum number of correct answers by dinnertime, was to win the contest.

For all those who could not make it to “Interaction 2001” can now have a go at the Questionnaire given below.

The answers are given at the end of the Questionnaire in jumbled form. Good luck!

1. The Punjab Public School, Nabha was started in the year .....
2. First Founders’ Day was held on ....., in the year ..... and the Chief Guest was .....
3. The Founder Headmaster of PPS was .....
4. The original name of PPS was .....
5. The Senior School & Administrative Block is located in the .....  
..... building of the erstwhile Nabha State and was named as ..... in the year .....
6. Middle House is located in the ..... building of the erstwhile Nabha State.
7. The Junior School is housed in the ..... building of the erstwhile Nabha State.
8. The School was started with funds from a grant from Punjab Government and ..... fund.
9. PPS is a brainchild of ....., Ex-Chief Minister of Punjab.
10. The Ex-Officio Chairman of the Board of Governors is .....

11. The Auditorium also called as ....., is named after .....  
..... and was inaugurated on .....  
by .....
12. The Dining Hall is named after ..... as .....
13. The Senior School Boys' Hostels are named as ..... after .....
14. The Junior School Assembly Hall is named after .....
15. First Head Boy of the School was .....
16. 1<sup>st</sup> President's Gold Medal Winner was .....
17. The First Girl to be admitted in PPS was .....
18. The oldest School Athletics Record is held by ..... in the event .....
19. The Swimming Pool was inaugurated in the year ..... by .....  
....., a founder Board Member of PPS.
20. In the floods of 1960 ..... building was spared.
21. The First Old Nabhaite to become a General in the Army .....
22. The First Old Nabhaite to become Rear Admiral in the Navy .....
23. The First and only Old Nabhaite so far to win a Veer Chakra for Bravery .....
24. .... on board the INS Kukri (the only Indian Naval Ship to have  
been sunk in a war), was awarded Nausena Medal for Bravery.
25. The School Song is written by .....
26. The First Arts student to have topped the ISC exam (Senior Cambridge) is .....
27. The School Library is named after .....
28. .... joined the school as a teacher in 1960 and retired  
in the year 1999.

29. The First regular teacher of PPS is ..... who is also an Old Nabhaite.
30. Name two Old Nabhaite who are National Polo Players ..... and .....
31. Name the Old Nabhaite who has won the Best Horse Rider of India award .....
32. The Foundation Stone for the Science Block was laid by ..... on .....
33. What is the name of the new School Computer Centre? ..... It was started in the year .....
34. Who has been the School Hockey Captain for more than 2 years? ..... in the years .....
35. The only shared price for Best Riders in School was shared by ..... and .....
36. Who won the President's Gold Medal? ..... And in which year? ..... And does not mind mention on the School Honour Board.
37. What special teak wood has been used in the Junior and Senior School Buildings? .....
38. Who was the First Band Leader of the School? .....
39. The year in which the first school pipe band display was held in PPS .....
40. The first Biology teacher .....
41. Name the successors of Mr. J.K. Kate .....
42. The Duke of Edinburgh Adventure Scheme was introduced in school under the headmastership of .....
43. The last year when PPS sub juniors won the Inter Public School Hockey tournament. ....
44. The direction of the flight of the eagle in the School Emblem was temporarily changed during the Headmastership of ..... and reverted back



to the original in the year ..... under the Headmastership of  
 .....

*(Jaisukh Lal Hathi, Ex-Governor of Punjab; Sainik School, Nabha; New Secretariat; 1972; 11<sup>th</sup> April; Kairon Block; Old Secretariat; 1961; Late Mr. J.K. Kate, Padamshree; Dr. Rajendra Prasad, President of India; Guest House; S. Partap Singh Kairon; M.S. Bedi ; His Excellency The Governor of Punjab; PWSR (Post War Services Reconstruction); Pavate Hall; D.C. Pavate, Ex-Governor of Punjab; Mr. J.K. Kate; Kate Hall; Dharamveera Park; 1960; Mr. Dharamveera, Ex-Governor of Punjab; 16<sup>th</sup> March 1973; S. Parkash Singh Badal; Ex-incharge, Junior School; Narender Nath Dogra; Indira Ahluwalia (S-33); Tarif Singh (J-53); 1964; The Junior School; Lt. Gen. Kulwant Singh; Ms G.B. Malkani; Pritpal Singh (R-1); 110m Hurdles; O.P. Nandrajog (B-1); Jagjeet Singh Bedi (J-3); Maj. Rajvinder Singh Cheema (R-8); Madanjit Singh Ahluwalia (S-32); Michael Vodden; Ashwani Kumar Aggarwal (J-188); Mrs. K.Tandon; Iqbal Kooner (R-18); Lt.Col Ajay Ahlawat (S-546); Col. Pinka Virk; Capt. Manjinder Singh Bhinder; 2000; Mr. G.S. Dhillon, Speaker, Lok Sabha; Jacob Computer Centre; 19<sup>th</sup> March 1972; 2001; Ranjit Pal Mann (R-14); Abjinder Singh Grewal (J-503); 64-65-66; Amit Pruthi; Burma Teak; 1987-88; Bikram Dev Grewal (B-677); Hardev Bajwa (S-25); 1966; M.S. Bhatnagar; Punia; Grp. Capt. A.J.S. Grewal; 2001; Grp.Capt. A.J.S. Grewal)*

## Bio-Data

If you have not sent your personal details to the ONA in the recent past please fill out the following form and mail it to “The Eagle”.

Name ..... Date of Birth .....

Years in School (from) Year ..... to ..... H.No. ....

Qualifications & Achievements .....

.....

Profession .....

Address (Present) .....

..... Pin .....

(Permanent) .....

..... Pin .....

Phones (O) ..... (R) ..... Fax .....

Email ..... Mobile .....

Spouse’s Name ..... Date of Marriage .....

.....

House Wife / Profession .....

Children (Name) ..... Age Sex Doing

1. ....

2. ....

3. ....

## PPS Watches

Designer Watches with School Crest on them are available as follows:

**HMT Watch** Rs 525/- each                      **Citizen Watch** Rs 1,500/- each

Order may be placed with **Lt Col TS Dhindsa**, Bursar, PPS by sending a DD for cost price plus Rs 50/- for postage within India.

## dONors

**Col Narinder Singh Saini (R-57)**

## SpONsor

The ONA and “The Eagle” are grateful to the Toronto Chapter of ONA for sponsoring the Independence Day (August) Issue of “The Eagle”.

## Eagle’s Support

**Chief Patron: Mr MS Bedi (J-82)**, Headmaster, PPS, Nabha.

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**Patron: Navin Talwar (S-71)**, President, ONA.

**Editorial Help: Ashwani Aggarwal (J-188)**, Co-Editor: **Col. H.S. Bajwa (S-25)**.

**Computer:** Manmanak Singh Sohal, Office Manager, ONA Secretariat.

**Printer:** Rajinder Kapoor, Lotus Computer Graphics, Jalandhar.

Tel: 235608/53728

**Payments:** A/c payee favouring “ONA A/c The Eagle”, payable at Nabha.

**Replies & Responses:** “The Eagle”, 50, Mahavir Marg, Jalandhar – 144001.

Email: [bhangu@jla.vsnl.net.in](mailto:bhangu@jla.vsnl.net.in).

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