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Topic

daydreamer Moderator

Posted - 30/03/2007 : 21:14:56



You know when you're surfing around looking for something and you find something else even better, well this was one of those times. It's an excerpt from the story of someone called Christine, written after her death by her son. It's quite likely that Dusty is somewhere amongst those children in the bottom picture. Who can find her?

Christine: "[Here is a] letter from my headmistress at St Anne's Convent, Sister Mary Stanislaus, [which] refers to my 'O' level results":

United Kingdom 5404 Posts

'My dear Christine... You have very good credit marks in French, almost a distinction, & have missed your English & History by 3 marks in each. The marks of the Literature and Mathematics were not so good. I know you have done your best dear Christine, the marking has been very stiff this year. I do hope your mummy will not be too disappointed. Many thanks dear Christine for that lovely pencil & especially for your kind little thought. If at any time I can help you, you can always come up to see me. You have always been an exemplary pupil & have never given any anxiety to any member of the staff. God bless you dear Christine. Be very faithful to your mass & the sacraments as well as to all your other religious duties, & you can be sure of God's blessing. My kind remembrance to your mummy. Affection to you, Sister.'

Christine: "This photograph was taken in 2A's classroom - it was taken when I was in 2B."



An intriguing classroom photo from 1948 showing Christine's class at St Anne's Convent, Ealing. Christine appears to be the girl sitting to the extreme left of the picture next to the bookcase. It certainly looks all very prim and proper - as you'd expect from a post-war convent school.



Christine: "I'm in the group under the Portico. St Anne's Convent [was] in Little Ealing Lane, Northfields, opposite a pub - I think it was called the 'Dick Turpin'. There was a tunnel from the school (previously a private house) to the pub which Dick Turpin was said to have used."

Celia: "[Christine's] expertise on the piano increased & increased, & once a year on the occasion of the headmistress's (Sr Stanislaus) feast day, she would play for all the school - probably much appreciated by the nuns & teachers, as she would have been preceded by Dusty Springfield & her guitar - who was in the class below!"

I always remember my mother mentioning that she was at school with the great Dusty Springfield - who at that time of course was still plain Mary O'Brien. This interesting revelation from Margaret about the annual concert gives rise to my mother having a kind of 'claim to fame'... she being 'top of the bill', with Dusty as her support act!

In 1986 this school undertook a radical change - becoming the 'King Fahad Academy', which itself relocated in 2005. The buildings sadly now stand empty... behind heavy security gates, as I found when I paid a little visit in 2006!

Carole x

Edited by - daydreamer on 30/03/2007 21:16:26

**Corinna**  
Forum Admin  
★★★★★

Posted - 30/03/2007 : 21:27:14

What a funny story! Christine supported by Dusty... wow.

Great you found this, Carole! 😊

Cor xx



Sweden  
6080 Posts

**mssdusty**  
I've got a good thing  
★★★★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 02:25:49

YES CAROLE THANK YOU FOR THIS AND I FOUND DUSTY IN THE BACK TOO.  
BY THE BOOKCASE  
MARY

I only think of the day I Met Dusty and MY pains go away.IT's Great!



USA  
5821 Posts

**Kathy**  
Wasn't born to follow  
★★★★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 03:12:20

Thanks for this Carole, it's a great story. Hmm must get my magnifying glass out to look at



the second photo. Has anyone been able to spot Dusty yet in the second photo. Mary, I am not sure that Dusty is in the first photo as from what is said, she was in a different class to Christine. However, the second photo looks like some kind of prize giving where all the students are assembled.

xx  
Kathy

Australia  
6508 Posts



**allherfaces**  
Administrator  
★★★★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 05:09:51

Aren't the empty buildings a not too far walk from the Dusty Day pub? Might be an interesting photo opportunity.

Thanks for another great bit of Dustyness, Carole.

xo Bosseh/allherfaces/Nadja



I wanna be a moo vie stah!

USA  
14235 Posts

We're here for Dusty...  
<http://www.dustyspringfield.info>



**Mads**  
Where am I going?  
★★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 06:27:42

Great story Carole

Judging on hairstyles and face shape and stuff...?

DID I FIND HER?

Only problem: MARY WHERE ARE YOUR GLASSES????



Australia  
3323 Posts





Whaddya reckon??

**GREEN TEAM MADS.**



**daydreamer**  
Moderator  
★★★★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 07:53:25



As Kathy says Mads, I don't think Dusty is in that class photo as she was the year below Christine....nice try though 😊 She'll be somewhere in that mass of children on the lawn I would think. It's like "Where's Wally"!

Carole x



United Kingdom  
5404 Posts

**DivineDusty**  
I'll try anything  
★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 14:25:24



Make me go cross eyed! haha.  
Aww that was interesting!

.Divine.Dusty.

\*\*\* I just decided I wanted to become someone else... So I became someone else. \*\*\*



Australia  
1066 Posts

**Corinna**  
Forum Admin  
★★★★★

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 15:30:20



I'm sure Mads will find her in the second picture for us.

Cor xx



Sweden  
6080 Posts

**Kathy**

Wasn't born to follow  
★★★★★



Australia  
6508 Posts

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 15:46:33

Yeah Mads, you are looking for a kid with red hair, probably in ringlets, with or without glasses, probably sitting up the back and probably wishing she was somewhere else! What's the hold up!

xx  
Kathy



**mssdusty**

I've got a good thing  
★★★★★



USA  
5821 Posts

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 18:37:05

WELL THAT PIC LOOKS LIKE THE SAME GIRL NEXT TO THE BOOKCASE TO ME, AT THE BEACH PIC. STILL LOOKING AT THE 2ND PIC MARY

I only think of the day I Met Dusty and MY pains go away. IT's Great!



**Cas19**

Wasn't born to follow  
★★★★★



8313 Posts

Posted - 31/03/2007 : 19:14:30

I think Dusty was off school that day, I cant see her

Casxxx



**Isparks18**

Little by little  
★



USA  
132 Posts

Posted - 05/04/2007 : 10:16:58

I should think Dusty would be wearing glasses as in the other school photos we have seen.

Great pictures from another place in time. And to think, down the road at the Ealing Studios they were making all the wonderful pictures that would become classics.

Nancy--Hope you can get over and get a picture and show us what it looks like now.

Linda

Edited by - Isparks18 on 05/04/2007 12:37:48



**MattMidd1**

I've got a good thing  
★★★★★

United Kingdom  
4270 Posts

Posted - 05/04/2007 : 12:35:22

OMG! yes! - I didn't think of that.

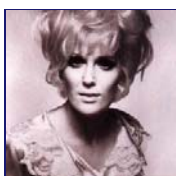
Matt.

16 weeks; then a different country, here I come!!



**Mads**

Where am I going?  
★★★



Australia  
3323 Posts

Posted - 07/04/2007 : 02:00:46

Ok we have seen school photos of Dusty wearing glasses, but she was older...she looked about 15....maybe her eyes got worse and then she got glasses?

Because I reckon the girl in the classroom and the girl at the beach look seriously similar and even if they arent the same person I want to believe they are

In the big photo; we're looking for a **13yr old, chubby**(says Dusty - do we trust her?), **redhead** with *glasses* and *ringlets*

**GREEN TEAM MADS.**



**dusty\_freak**  
I've got a good thing  
★★★★★

Posted - 07/04/2007 : 16:08:29

Pressure's on Mads, pressure is on

Clare xoxo

"It's marvellous to be popular, but foolish to think it will last..."



Australia  
5805 Posts

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