FOR Mrs Veronica Goodban, this month sees the end of an association with the Tanglin Schools which goes back some 27 years.

She and her husband arrived in Singapore in August 1966, just two weeks after their wedding, having endured a bumpy journey in an Eagle Airways turbo-prop plane, which took 35 hours and included three stops along the way - in Kuwait, Bahrain and Sri Lanka (still Ceylon at that time).

Her first full-time teaching post here, after a few months of supply work with several of the British Army schools, was with Tanglin Preparatory School in Tanglin Road. By 1971 the waiting list for the school had become so great that Tanglin Trust felt the need to open a second school, in ex-British Army premises which now form the south wing of Tanglin Infant School. Veronica was appointed Head and had about eight weeks to get it fully operational which included recruiting ten teachers and organising furniture and resources.

In 1974, Raeburn Park School, also operated by Tanglin Trust, moved in to occupy the present north wing of Tanglin Infant School. For a time the two schools operated side by side, enjoying friendly competition in football matches and other sports. (The fence which originally separated the two schools was soon dispensed with!)

In 1981, Tanglin Preparatory, Raeburn Park and Weyhill amalgamated to form Tanglin Infant and Junior School. Despite the Governors' intention to name it The British International School, the tradition of Tanglin proved too popular to drop.

Veronica was appointed Head of the Junior School in its newly-built premises. She was fully involved in its development and watched with interest the progress of the building from Weyhill School next door. When it was eventually ready she took delivery of 28 lorry loads of books and equipment from the "old" Tanglin School, and had to have curtains put up to allay the staff's fears of teaching in classrooms with no doors. The curtains soon became redundant, however, as the new layout quickly became familiar. In 1987, the Infant and Junior Schools were combined, with Veronica as overall Head.

In the 23 years that she has been Headteacher, Veronica's guiding principle has been: "To teach children to become independent people," by giving them the best environment in which to develop their individual skills and acquire knowledge appropriate to their capabilities, in the belief that "no child is going to learn unless he or she is happy, settled, secure and comfortable." She regards the strong community spirit in the school as one of her major achievements.

Looking back, she sees the setting up of Weyhill School, the amalgamation of the three Tanglin Trust schools and the combining of Tanglin Infant and Junior Schools as the principal landmarks in her career. She is looking forward now to "life outside Tanglin", though admits she will miss the children dreadfully, one of the things which has given her most pleasure being following the progress of children who have been through the school. When the daughter of a girl she had taught at the same age came into the Recep- tion class recently, Veronica felt it might be time to move on.

She has no immediate plans to leave Singapore, though might consider doing an MBA back in the UK at some point. She is keen to become "computer literate" and to rediscover the arts she has had too little time for of late, pottery and calligraphy being two favourites. Whatever she chooses to do, we wish her well.

Hazel McLoughlin

---

The End of an Era

---

The Main Event - Fair '94

Saturday, October 8, 1994
at Eden Hall

We need your help and support for our main charity event of the year!

General Enquiries:
Estelle Au: 472 8069
Attic Treasures
‘White elephant’
Nan Sanford: 732 7333

Home-made Produce:
Sue Hubber: 733 3619
Books & Magazines:
Pat Hallam: 3396379
or Yan Yee:
Handcrafts:
Doris Frost: 777 0192

General Interest Groups

Acte & Post-natal exercise
Helen Binge: 466 7940
Elizabeth Smith: 462 8386
Helen Crewdson: 472 6774
Libby Stewart: 287 2550

Badminton
Hazel McLoughlin: 462 8655

Boarding School Children
Nan Sanford: 732 7333

Book Group
Sue Davison: 474 5257
Gill Guy: 281 7574

Bridge Lessons
Kirsten Brandz: 467 7236

Brownies & Guides
Doris Frost: 777 0192

Computer Courses
Peer Stead: 466 4463

French, German, Latin
Bernadette Yearley: 274 8500

Handicrafts Group
Anne Wilson: 735 8269

International Festival Chorus
Margaret Richardson: 462 4239

Mums with Twins
Joyce Mason: 466 5414

Patchwork & Quilting
Sue Hubber: 733 3619

Porcelain & china painting
Helen Binge: 466 7940

The Stage Club
Quinine Tao: 235 6288

Tennis

Water Babies

Yoga

---

THE BEAM JULY 1994