



Aldenhamiana

No 31 October 2005

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PIERS PLOWMAN - DOGGEREL



John Plowman's job was building piers (that's why they called him 'Piers')
 He started it when fairly young and carried on for years
 And every time he built a pier he'd give the thing a name
 Depending where he'd built it - it would always be the same.
 So the pier at Brighton he called the Brighton Pier
 And the Teignmouth Pier at Teignmouth, and so on. Is that clear?
 John Plowman had a little dog, his coat was white as snow
 And everywhere his master went the dog was sure to go.
 Now 'Towser' was the creature's name and he was getting old
 He couldn't dodge the waves too well and really felt the cold.
 He'd try to judge the breakers' strength and cock his head and listen
 And each new pier John Plowman built he's cock his leg and christen.
 One day he got it badly wrong and all his master saw
 As Towser sank - on Dogger Bank - was one despairing paw
 That waved a bit then disappeared amid the offshore fog
 And that was that; John had to learn to live without his dog.
 He grieved for days until a novel thought came in his head -
 He'd break his rule and name the pier after his dog instead.



On a dirty British coaster, meet the captain, Charlie Wings,
 He's strapped for cash and can't afford to purchase charts and things.
 He skimps on finance where he can, he always travels steerage
 He doesn't know the pier is there - he doesn't read Burke's Pierage.
 His radar set has long packed up, he cannot buy another
 And though the fog is very dense, he's not expecting bother;
 But then the impact happens. The pier's left at an angle;
 Girders, planks and bits of boat all in a fearful tangle.
 The ship, of course, was uninsured, but what about the pier?
 No time to put the damage right, the naming date was near,
 The ceremony all arranged. The mayor came round and said,
 'Shall we postpone it?' 'No,' said John, 'we'll have to go ahead.'
 So on the day they all turned up and John began, 'Well now, Sir,
 I name this pier ...' (You've guessed, no doubt)
 'The leaning Pier of Towser.'



Ray Foxell (S50-55)



Winning entry, Teignmouth Festival Poetry Competition 1996

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I am delighted to say that there have yet again been several events which have continued to demonstrate the strength and commitment of OAs to both the Society and the School. The very successful series of OA regional lunches has continued, smoothly organised by John McAllister and Molly Barton of the Development Office. The first of these well attended events for 2005 was held at Exeter in March and the second at the Dragon School in May. The next Regional Lunch is planned for 2nd November 2005 and will be held in Axford near Marlborough. Please contact the OA Office for further details of lunches, although these will also be shown on the Website in due course.

Although not an OA matter, April this year saw the formal opening of The Richard Platt Building, a superb new classroom block and staff Common Room facility, situated at the heart of the School where the School House "Shed" once stood. This magnificent building was opened by Field Marshal Dick Vincent, your previous President, joined by John Wells, Chairman of Governors. It was very good to see a number of OAs at this event, demonstrating not only that the School continues to go from strength to strength, but the close interest of many OAs in its progress.

As always, the major event of 2005 has been OA Day on 26th June. This was yet another great success, with over 100 OAs and their wives and partners attending, for which much credit must yet again go to the Development Team. As has now become the tradition, the day began with coffee in Houses, followed by a well attended and enjoyable Chapel Service. Afterwards, a Reception was held on Shilling Green, during which the Headmaster, Richard Harman, and your President addressed those present. This was followed by a well attended (and noisy!) Gaudy Lunch in School House Dining Hall for those who left the School in the years 1970 to 1979. During the day, OAs had free access to the old and new areas of the School, including The Richard Platt Building, where exhibitions from Visitation Day (the previous day) were on view. The weather remained excellent throughout and everyone agreed that it was a most enjoyable day.

Sadly for the OA Society, this year has brought the announcement that the Headmaster, Richard Harman, will be moving to become Headmaster of Uppingham in September 2006. Richard and Karin continue to be great supporters of the Society and we shall miss them greatly when they leave. However, there is a while to go yet and we will have a chance to express our gratitude properly before they depart. OAs will want to know that James Fowler, currently Principal Deputy Head at Highgate School, will take over as Headmaster and we will no doubt be able to welcome him and Charlotte to Aldenham at the appropriate time.

On the near horizon, we have the annual OA Dinner at the School on Friday 18th November, meeting in the Library at 7.00pm for drinks before dinner in School House Dining Hall at 7.45pm. You will find details of this event and an application form elsewhere in this edition of *Aldenhamiana* and on the OA Website. I hope that, as for OA Day earlier this year, many of you will be able to attend, together with your guests. Our principal guest and speaker this year will be **Peter Leaver QC - OA (B & K58-63)**, a Barrister

who, aside from his legal appointments, is a member of the Marylebone Cricket Club Committee and a former Chief Executive of the Football Association Premier League. I very much look forward to meeting many of you there for what promises to be a thoroughly enjoyable event.

Finally, my thanks must go yet again to all the members of the Committee for their superb assistance. In particular, I am grateful to Mark Jordan for his continuing commitment in updating, developing and overseeing the OA Website. Next, to William Rouse and Richard Peart, as Secretary and Treasurer respectively, who - with the Development Office team - keep the business of the Society moving forward. Also to Trevor Barton, who masterminds *Aldenhamiana* and maintains its excellent quality. The Society's gratitude must also extend to Richard Harman, the Headmaster, who, together with his academic and support teams, has given much invaluable advice, assistance and cooperation throughout the year.

Mike Taylor

EDITOR'S NOTES

I am indebted to Ray Foxell for the poem which we have featured on our front cover - a break from our recent tradition of having a photograph on the cover. But are traditions not to be challenged occasionally? Ray's poem has it all - humour, pathos, a gripping storyline and, important for an old sea dog like me, some splendid maritime imagery! Wonderful stuff - the judges at the Teignmouth Festival Poetry Competition were clearly men of great taste. Ray's place on our front cover is also well-deserved as he is the ONLY one of our readers to have attempted any question in the 1932 5A English Exam Paper featured in *Aldenhamiana* 30. See his letter. Its not too late to submit your script!

Another feature of this interest-packed edition is a splendid photo of Lord and Lady Vincent on their wedding day. We congratulate them on their Golden Wedding Anniversary, which occurred on 23rd August.

And there is more.....some touching tributes to members of the OA family who have passed away recently; a couple of "lost OAs" surfacing and claiming, with some justification it appears, never to have been lost at all; a rare photograph of another Field Marshal (Sir Claude Auchinleck) inspecting the CCF at Aldenham; and numerous snippets of news. Please keep them coming, however short. We are most grateful to hear from you, and appear to be gaining some impetus again in our relentless (nay, ruthless) drive to record in documentary form the thoughts and reminiscences of generations of OAs!

Enough of this.....read on! And why not come to the OA Dinner this year, to be held at the School? You will, without any doubt at all, enjoy the occasion.

I hope you enjoy this *Aldenhamiana*.

Trevor Barton



OA Day 2005



If you would like to view these or any of the other colour photographs in *Aldenhamiana*, you can see them in the website edition at www.oldaldenhamian.org

HEADMASTER'S LETTER

Dear OAs

I trust you have all had a very good summer and I am delighted to be writing to you at the start of another academic year, with the School continuing to thrive. Numbers are very healthy indeed, with over 480 in the Main School and now 115 in the growing Prep School. We have enjoyed a summer of good news on exams, with celebrations for Upper Sixth Oxbridge successes as well as a record set of GCSE results with over a third of all grades at A* or A.

We continue to enjoy sporting success also, at a level well beyond usual expectations for a small school. Ten new records were set at Sports Day this year by our athletes, and our cricketers enjoyed a very successful summer. As part of our longer term plan to enhance our sports facilities even further we want to build an indoor swimming pool, for which we will be launching an Appeal later this academic year. Provided we can raise sufficient funds we want to incorporate squash courts as well. Technical / project management expertise as well as financial support will be invaluable; please do get in touch if you feel you can help.

In March of this year we launched the Richard Platt Society for OAs committed to leaving Aldenham a legacy in their will. The launch was celebrated with a lunch at the School which will become an annual event for members. If you are interested in joining, a leaflet about the Society is available from the Development Office. Molly Barton is now in charge of managing that office and I am delighted to say that John McAllister, whilst retired from the teaching staff, will be working with us in a consultancy role, so he will continue to keep in touch.

As you will by now be aware, I will be moving from Aldenham to Uppingham at the end of this academic year, and I am delighted that the Governors have chosen James Fowler, currently Deputy Head at Highgate, to be my successor. I am sure that you will welcome him and Charlotte when they move in September 2006.

Meanwhile, there is a lot to do this year and I am looking forward to meeting many of you at various events such as regional lunches (including one in the USA in 2006), the OA Dinner in November, a Golf Day planned for the Spring, OA Day in June and many others as well. No doubt the seasons will, as ever, roll around very quickly.

With best wishes,

Richard Harman

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

If you would like to join the OA Society Committee (and volunteers would be warmly received) please contact the Honorary Secretary, William Rouse, whose details appear at the back of *Aldenhamiana*.

A LETTER FROM JOHN McALLISTER Common Room, Housemaster of Beevor s 1967-2005

Dear Editor,

May I take advantage of your columns to write a brief but nevertheless very sincere thank-you to all OAs and indeed to their School for their hospitality, their tolerance and their friendship to me over the last 38 years and indeed to my father for the five very happy years he taught at Aldenham before that.

Having belonged to a very strong Old Boys club myself, it was not an easy move to wean myself from just such in order to properly embrace Aldenham. Paul Griffin, my colleagues and all OAs whether pre 1967 or post 1967 made that transition an easy one and a very happy one. I thank you all for that. Einstein said of the atom bomb that had we known what the outcome would be, he would have become a locksmith. At Aldenham, I had no such such doubts.

John McAllister

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 2nd November 2005

Regional Lunch in Axford near Marlborough for OAs living in Hampshire, Dorset, Wiltshire & Gloucestershire

Friday 18th November 2005

OA Dinner at the School

Wednesday 15th March 2006

School Invitation Golf Day

Wednesday 15th March 2006

OA AGM

Wednesday 22nd March 2006

Richard Platt Society Lunch

Saturday 8th April 2006

OA USA Dinner - Boston

Sunday 25th June 2006

OA Day at the School including Gaudy for OAs from the 1980s

The Aldenhamian

A recent copy of *The Aldenhamian* (the School magazine) you received had inserted in it a postcard to be returned if you wished to continue receiving the magazine. If you meant to do so but forgot, please send the postcard to the OA Office in the next month or so - or, if you have lost the postcard, send a letter or email to the OA Office.

This notice in no way affects this publication *Aldenhamiana* or the arrangements for supplying it to OAs.

WEB SITE REPORT

<http://www.oldaldenhamian.org>

In addition to having sports club details, an updated list of events and main OA Society news, the web site has recently expanded to include two new sections. A photo gallery is now available and incorporates lots of photos of the School and Aldenhamians past and present and even has a chance for you to make comments! As ever we are looking for more photographs, so if you have any of the School, or old Team and House photos and can e-mail them to us, we will make sure they are included on the site.



The photo gallery is divided into various sections, each of which as a series of photos all the photos are shown as small "thumbnails" which become full screen photos when you click on them.

We have also added a discussion forum which can be updated by anyone who wants to register. Suggestions for new topics are as ever welcome. For those not familiar with web discussion forums: they provide a place where members can share messages with each other, a notice board of comments and questions. Both of these new web site sections are available as links from the home page.



In addition these new sections of the web site we will shortly begin beta testing the replacement to the members database section of the web site called In Touch -Web. It promises to permit OAs to keep in touch with each other and track down old friends in an very easy to use and secure manner. I hope to be able to give full details in the next edition of *Aldenhamiana*.

OA GOLFING SOCIETY

Halford Hewitt

7 April 1st Round v Brighton at Deal

Result: Won 4-1

Team:	J Bloomfield & SP Radin	Won	2 holes
	J Wells & S Moffat	Won	1 hole
	RA Alter & D Rawlinson	Won	8&7
	PJ Easby & G Green	Lost	3&2
	SGO Williams & N Corbett	Won	4&3

8 April 2nd Round v Stowe at Deal

Result: Lost fi - 4 fi

Team:	A Thrussell & DJ McMonagle	Lost	3&2
	J Bloomfield & SP Radin	Lost	2&1
	J Wells & S Moffat	Lost	2&1
	RA Alter & D Rawlinson	Halved	
	SGO Williams & N Corbett	Lost	3&2

Grafton Morrish

15 May (Qualifier) at Royal Ashdown Forest

Result: Qualified for Finals (82 points)

Team:	SP Radin & SGO Williams (21)
	J Bloomfield & RA Alter (32)
	N Corbett & J Wells (29)

30 September (Finals) at Hunstanton & Brancaster

Result: Watch this space!!

The Mellin Salver

8 July v Forest at West Hill

Result: Lost fi -2 fi

Team:	PJ Easby & I Wilson-Soppitt	Lost	2&1
	RFH Crabb & JJ Irwin	Lost	3&2
	PJR Marsh & IR Eggleton	Halved	

The Mellin Plate

8 July v Mill Hill at West Hill

Result: Lost 0-3

Team:	PJ Easby & I Wilson-Soppitt	Lost	4&3
	RFH Crabb & JJ Irwin	Lost	3&2
	PJR Marsh & IR Eggleton	Lost	3&2

The Peter Burles Salver

7 July at West Hill

Result: Failed to qualify for Semi-Final

Team:	RA Aram & RRWB Cooke	20 points
	MW Blake & NR Prevost	14 points

The Bunny Millard Salver

7 July at West Hill

Result: Top qualifiers with 26 points

Team:	RJ Coombes & RHG Hoff
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The Bunny Millard Salver

8 July v Oundle at West Hill (Semi-Final)

Result: RJ Coombes & RHG Hoff Won 3&2

The Bunny Millard Salver

9 July v Downside at West Hill (Final)

Result: RJ Coombes & RHG Hoff Won 5&4

Congratulations to Bob and Dick on a superb win.

Match v Old Leysians

24 May at Brookmans Park Result: Won 3-0

Team: PJR Marsh & P Bailey Won 2&1

ND Melvill & JDL Yule Won 2&1

WH Gamble & PJ Murphy Won 2&1

Match Over 30's v School/Under 30's

22 June at Porters Park

Result: Over 30s beat Under 30s 95 - 94 points

Team: **Over 30s** RD Hall & JDL Yule 73 points

ND Melvill & J Munns 66 points

RA Aram & IR Eggleton 51 points

Total team points = 190 points Average for pairs 95 points

Under 30s Daniel Andrews 28 points

Jason Harris 35 points

RA Alter 31 points

Total team points 94 points

Match v Old Millhillians

23 August at Porters Park Result: Won 4-2

Team: RD Hall & Tim Stranack Won 4&3

I Dowdeswell & H Cowtan Won 1 up

RJ Morris & M Weatherhead Won 4&2

I Wilson-Soppitt & ND Melvill Lost 2&1

JDL Yule & MW Blake Lost 2 down

IR Eggleton & A Marco Won 2&1

Spring Meeting

5 May at West Hill

Results: Spring Challenge Cup	CJ Croxton (66)
Scratch Prize	Not awarded
Stableford Prize	SP Radin (37 points)
President's Cup	RD Hall & IR Eggleton (36pts)

Summer Meeting

19 July at Ashridge

Results: Ian Greig Trophy	A Selwyn (65)
Scratch Prize	RD Hall (74)
Stableford Prize	RD Hall (41 pts)
Laurence Latter Trophy	JDL Yule & CR Brown (43 pts)

Captain's Invitation Meeting Friday 21 October at The Berkshire

We are always keen to welcome new members - ability, age and beauty are not assessed! If you are interested, contact the Hon Secretary whose details you will find at the back of Aldenhamiana.

OA FIVES CLUBThere is a new website for Fives at www.aldenhamfives.co.uk .**OA VETERANS FOOTBALL CLUB**

"The OA Veterans Football Club reached the semi-finals of the Arthurian Veterans Cup last season, losing 3-2 to the eventual winners, Salopians. Goals from Matt Wender and Phil Kerr had given Aldenham a deserved 2-0 lead at the interval, but a combination of injuries and tiredness during the second half enabled a revitalized Salopians team back into the game.

"This year we have been drawn against Ardinians in the 1st round of the competition. This match is scheduled to be played on Sunday November 20th at the School. The strength and depth of the present Aldenham squad has the potential to go all the way and win the cup this year. The majority of last seasons players remain available for selection, and additionally this year we hope to see Martin Davies, Bill Pethybridge and Chris Lewis make their competitive debuts.

"Any other OA footballers who are now 35 or over and keen to join the Veterans Club are very welcome. Please contact either of us on the email addresses below."

Fixtures 2005/6:

Sunday November 6th vs Salopians 11.00 am
Aldenham School

Sunday November 20th vs Ardinians 11.00 am
Aldenham School
(Arthurian Veterans Cup 1st round)

Sunday January 15th vs Arthurian Veterans Cup 2nd
Round or Plate 1st Round

Mark Cox

(markacox@bloomberg.net)

Alex Henchley

(ahenchley@ccnmatthews.co.uk)

EROS TO EROS RUN 2005

Sadly, the Eros Run was cancelled this year due to the London bombings - the run was scheduled for the day following the bombings and clearly taking a minibus full of pupils, staff and OAs into central London at 0400 would have been unwise and inappropriate. There is every intention to organise the event again in 2006, so any budding runners please contact the Editor.

ENGAGEMENTS

The engagement is announced between **John Turner (S&K85-90)** and Judith Limburn

The engagement is announced between **Andrew Fraser (K80-85)** and Caroline Beetham.

The engagement is announced between **Kenneth Whittaker (P85-91)** and Alison Gibson.

The engagement is announced between **Alex Hunter (M79-82)** and Diana Maclean.

RUBY WEDDING

On 16th February 1965 at Christ Church, Victoria Road, London W8, **Robin Chaventr (M49-52)** and Carolyn Hamilton.

GOLDEN WEDDING

On 23rd August 1955 at St John's Church, Princes Street, Edinburgh, **Lord Vincent (S45-50)** and Jean Stewart.

Ed: Below is a photograph of the marriage of Lieutenant Richard Vincent, Royal Artillery, and Jean Stewart on their Wedding Day.



DEATHS

J A M Baldwin S40-44 31 May 2005
B W W Barrett M40-44 10 July 2005
W D Blackburn B27-32 5 August 2005
P H Blaydes S48-53 13 August 2005
N J Davey S71-76 9 February 2005
R P Fraser S19-24 16 June 2005
A G S Grant M57-62 1 March 2005
R Grimwood P48-52 11 February 2005
I A Grover S44-47 8 June 2005
A J Harding B37-41 12 March 2005

W F W Harding B31-35 27 April 2005
J A Hawkes B44-48 14 March 2005
D O Holt B29-32 27 August 2005
R H Hooper K64-69 9 June 2005
D G Marriott P50-53 25 April 2004
A McNeil B50-54 16 Jul 2005
A P Nicholas S75-80 17 September 2005
D H F H Rees S46-50 15 November 2004
A E Risdon S39-41 27 January 2005
M C Roderick M31-35 4 September 2005
G T Rushton P49-51 July 2005
A A Savill S41-46 4 July 2005
D J W Sayer B20-23 17 April 2005
M W Sheeres P42-47 10 February 2005
G M Smith M64-67 17 April 2005
B S Thompson S35-38 18 June 2005
C M Thompson S51-54 8 December 2004
W T Tomlin B35-36 19 June 2005
J A Westcott P50-53 10 August 2005

OBITUARIES AND TRIBUTES

With regret we announce the very recent death of **Adrian Nicolas (S75-80)** on Saturday 17 September 2005. Adrian was a highly experienced British parachutist with many thousands of jumps. We are told that during his 8th jump on 17 September he performed an expert landing manoeuvre. During this correctly executed manoeuvre his AAD opened his reserve parachute at approximately 300 feet. He was pulled in a horizontal direction because both parachutes were open. Just before he hit the ground he tried to correct this by releasing his main canopy. Even so he made such a hard landing that he died on the scene because of his injuries.

Adrian was featured in *Aldenhamiana* 25 p19 and a fuller tribute to him will appear in the next edition of *Aldenhamiana*.

Tim Sheeres (P42-45), writing from Canada, sent the following tribute to his brother **Michael Sheeres (P42-47)**: "My younger brother Michael (Mike) passed away on the evening of February 10, 2005. Mike was in Paull's from September 1942 until April 1947 and excelled at cricket and hockey while he was at Aldenham. He entered the wine trade and developed an excellent nose and palate for fine wines. After his retirement from active involvement in the wine trade he was noted for his wine presentations to many interested groups.

"He was very active on the hockey and cricket fields for Beckenham Cricket Club. After retiring from active participation he continued to 'blow his whistle' until shortly before his death at age 75. During this time his calls were respected and I believe he handed out only one yellow card! He was founder of the Primary Club which over the years has raised an increasing amount of funds to support blind and partially-sighted young athletes.

"After returning from carol singing around his country community just outside Westerham last year he complained of being somewhat tired. By the time the real problem was diagnosed it was too late to take remedial action and he died on February 10th. The huge crowd, particularly the 'younger group', who joined in his Service

of Remembrance at St Mary's, Ide Hill, on February 23 was a fitting indication of the respect, admiration and affection in which he was held, and he will be remembered both on and off the playing fields."



We show two photos of Mike, one with his brother Tim taken after sports day at their prep school, Clare House in Beckenham, in 1938. Mike is on the right. All but one of the trophies belonged to him, and demonstrate Mike's lifelong prowess on the games field. The second more recent photo sent by Mike's wife, Tessa, shows Mike reading one of his favourite things - a wine list!



A REMINDER OF THE NEW SUBSCRIPTION ARRANGEMENTS FOR OA SOCIETY MEMBERS

You will already be aware that new membership subscription arrangements were unanimously approved at the Society's AGM in 2002, in order to put the finances of the Society on a sounder footing and to enable the Society to provide members with an improved service, particularly by way of an expansion of the web site.

Under the new arrangements, with effect from September 2002, pupils who wish on leaving the School to join the OA Society (or their parents) pay a lump sum which gives membership of the Society for a fixed period of 20 years. Thereafter such members will be invited to continue their membership by paying an annual subscription.

As a further part of these new arrangements, all existing Life Members of 20 years plus standing (i.e. who left the School twenty years ago or more) are invited to pay a voluntary annual subscription to the Society. Obviously this works on a rolling basis and, as the years go by, further batches of OAs will fall into this category. It is hoped that most OAs, once they pass the 20-year point, will be willing to pay the voluntary annual subscription. An appropriate sum would be £10 per annum. The Society would of course welcome larger voluntary subscriptions, particularly from those who wish to continue to receive *Aldenhamiana* in hard copy.

In conjunction with the voluntary subscription scheme we are continuing to encourage OAs to download future editions of *Aldenhamiana* from the web site in order to reduce printing and postage costs to the Society.

So, key points for existing Life Members:

- * If you left the School in the Summer of 1985 or before, you are invited to start paying a voluntary annual subscription to the Society.
- * If you left the School after Summer 1985, your 20 years is not up yet!...but as each year passes the Society will invite another year's worth of Life Members to start paying voluntary annual subscriptions.

A Standing Order form for voluntary annual subscriptions is included in this issue of *Aldenhamiana* and will also be included in future issues and will be on the website.

Donald Newton (CR62-91) also wrote about Mike Sheeres: "I suspect you may have much copy to cover the sad death of Mike Sheeres, who I remember in the 60's as one of the stalwarts of OA Hockey, but I thought you might like to have some facts about one of Mike's lesser known activities - founder and life-long worker for the Primary Club, the newsletter of which I enclose. The writer of the eulogy (copied below) clearly knew him well and his closing summary of Mike was exactly how anyone who had ever met him would recognise him."

"It is with great regret that we report the death of Mike Sheeres, a trustee and founder member of The Primary Club. He was one of the four young men who, 50 years ago, decided to form the Club after a poor performance with the bat. Typically Mike, who was primarily a bowler with few batting pretensions, realised something useful could come from his misfortune.

"When Mike retired 10 years ago, after a lifetime in the wine trade, he devoted himself to a variety of activities, all for the good of other people.

"But The Primary Club was closest to his heart. He was involved in everything, from major issues of policy to the most routine tasks.

"Recently he worked with the Royal London Society for the Blind on planning their new canal boat. During busy times, he was just as happy opening envelopes or wrapping mugs.

"Above all, he was the most wonderful friend and companion. Charm is often skin deep, but with Mike Sheeres what you saw was the man - gentle, thoughtful, always courteous and very funny. The best kind of Englishman.

"The Primary Club will miss him greatly. Our thoughts are with his wife Tessa and their family."

Geoffrey G Long (S48-51) emailed from Zimbabwe: "It is with regret that I have to advise the death of **Humphrey Rees (S46-50)**, who passed away on the 15th November 2004. Humphrey came out to the then Southern Rhodesia in 1951 and settled here for the remainder of his life. He was a long-standing friend of mine going back to our school days although he was two years my senior. Humphrey lived in Worlington, Suffolk whilst our family were farming just outside Newmarket, our respective parents being friends. I came out here in 1953 to join the BSAP (three years) and am now retired after having run my own small estate agency practice for thirty years."

We reprint, with acknowledgements, the following from the *The Independent*:

"Nick Davey (S71-76) - Neuroscientist specialising in spinal injury - Nicholas John Davey, neuroscientist: born Stoke Mandeville, Buckinghamshire 3 November 1957; Honorary Research Physiologist, National Spinal Injuries Centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital 1986-2005; Lecturer, Department of Physiology (later Department of Sensorimotor Systems), Division of Neuroscience & Psychological Medicine, Imperial College

School of Medicine, Charing Cross Hospital 1995-2002, Senior Lecturer 2002-05; married 2001 Cicely Corke (one daughter); died Quainton, Buckinghamshire 9 February 2005.



"Nick Davey was a neuroscientist who specialised in the central nervous control of movement in man. His pioneering work in transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) caught the public's imagination when, in 2000, he took part in a project with a French choreographer and dancer, Kitsou Dubois, to investigate the control of movement in weightlessness. "Dancers," reflected Davey in a BBC *Blue Sky* programme in 2001, are able to maintain their posture for long periods of time while they move their arms and while they move their limbs and nothing seems to happen to them. They maintain that verticality throughout all these complex manoeuvres that they are making with their limbs and this is due presumably to the control of the muscles in their trunk and the muscles either side of their spine keeping them upright. The really interesting thing is - why is it that they are different?

"The Wellcome Trust awarded £36,000 to the project, a collaboration between Dubois and Davey's team of scientists from Imperial College, London. The work was carried out at zero gravity aboard the Novospace A300 airbus during a "parabolic flight". As part of his general work on spinal injury, Davey wanted to find out how the back muscles work to counter arm movements on the opposite side and stop the individual falling over. The project showed that the contraction of the back muscles was a voluntary rather than an automatic, reflex one, a critical finding for rehabilitation of spinally injured patients. TMS works by using an electromagnetic coil which is placed over the head to generate brief magnetic pulses, well below the strength of an MRI scan. These pulses stimulate specific parts of the brain in the cerebral motor cortex, which in turn stimulates specific nerves to muscles. The instrument allows scientific and clinical investigation of motor function, or therapy.

"Davey - a co-editor of the Handbook of *Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation* (2002) - became interested in TMS and its use as an investigative and therapeutic technique in 1991. Over the years, he used the technique to investigate a number of disorders such as Parkinson's, schizophrenia, arthritis, back pain and chronic fatigue. It was in the use of TMS in the area of spinal injury that he became best known. Recently, he had developed a new technique involving repeated stimulation (rTMS). A pilot study had been completed on people who had suffered partial injuries to

their spinal cord, where the spinal cord was not entirely severed, but the patient had still lost the ability to move and feel properly below the injury point. Through rTMS, the patients were able to recover some of their movement and feeling. "The [electromagnet's] repeated signals," Davey told *The Independent* in January, 'may work a bit like physiotherapy, but, instead of repeating a physical task, the machine activates the surviving nerves to strengthen their connections.' A more comprehensive study to build on the pilot results has just begun at Imperial College and the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville.

"Born in 1957, Nick Davey grew up on a farm in Stoke Mandeville. His father, Albert Davey, was one of the first producers of battery farmed chickens in England. An engineer at heart, he designed many simple yet ingenious methods of automatically heating and cooling the hen-houses and feeding the hens. Nick loved to work alongside his father, and developed an early interest in the engineering and practicality of his inventions. At the age of 13 he went to Aldenham School, where his biology master, Mr Galvin, set him on the course to become a scientist. He gained a BSc in Zoology at Bedford College, London, and a PhD at Imperial College. There followed a number of post-doctoral posts at Imperial College and the Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, culminating in a senior lectureship at Imperial. In the mid-1980s, Nick Davey started to become interested in the neuroscience surrounding spinal injury. The National Spinal Injuries Centre was only a mile away from his home and he felt a particular empathy with the spinally injured. In 1986 he became an honorary research physiologist at the centre, and began the first of a series of collaborative initiatives between it and Imperial College.

"Davey wanted to see his work helping people. In 1994, Barbara Woodhouse's daughter asked him to research a plant from the Amazon rainforest which she claimed had cured her mother's diabetes. Initial investigations by Davey - himself a recently diagnosed insulin-dependent diabetic - in collaboration with Kew Gardens showed no results. Davey appeared on the television programme *Schofield's Quest* to try to source a more recent sample of the plant - sparking an interest in the media that stayed with him for the rest of his life.

"Nick Davey was passionate about teaching and inspiring a new generation of neuroscientists. He was also passionate about Tony Hancock, British sit-coms and trains (and what caused them to crash). He travelled the world to deliver lectures, but he was happiest at home with his family - he married relatively late - in their thatched cottage in Quanton, the Buckinghamshire village where he had always dreamt of living. His life was just starting to take off when he was killed in a car crash. His research had never looked more promising, and two weeks earlier he had celebrated his adored daughter's second birthday."

Roger Crabb (M57-61) sent the following letter following the death of his friend **Andrew Grant (M57-62)**: "Many of his contemporaries will be sad to learn that Andrew died in March this year. I went to his funeral in Coleshill and other OAs I saw

there were **David Nolder (M57-61)** and **Jonathan Snow (K81-86)**, who was Andrew's nephew. Andrew himself was the nephew of that most distinguished OA, **E D R Shearer (M22-26)**.

"Andrew and I both arrived at McGills in September 1957 and over the course of the following years became good friends. He had a huge zest for life and was invariably good company, even when it entailed getting into scrapes, which it often did. He threw himself into everything he tackled with great enthusiasm and he became an accomplished fencer and sailor. Many's the time we would cycle down to the Aldenham Reservoir after lunch and have a swift half and a cigarette in The Fisheries (rather different in those days) before taking to the water in his National 12.

"After Aldenham, Andrew became the Works Manager of Magdalen Engineering, a company in High Wycombe which his father owned and, in the early 70s, when I was also working in High Wycombe, we would often meet at lunchtime. About this time he bought a cottage near Amersham, which just happened to be some fifty yards from a pub.

"He continued to sail on his family's yacht, which was kept on the Hamble and also had a go at parachuting. The photograph of him [below] in parachuting gear was Andrew as we all like to remember him. With glamorous girl friends and sports cars, Andrew lived life in the fast lane. A group of us, who were all members of Moor Park Golf Club, used to head for Perthshire at Easter, where golf and silly games were played and much amber nectar was consumed.

"When my daughter was born, Andrew accepted our invitation to become her godfather and, had fate not intervened, he would have made a marvellous father himself. Tragically he contracted multiple sclerosis and it hit him particularly hard, since his pleasures and his life were essentially physical.



"Before long he was wheelchair bound and was cared for devotedly by his mother in their house at Coleshill. When she eventually died he went into the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability in Putney, where his two sisters maintained the love and devotion on a weekly basis.

"I would visit him from time to time and marvel at the way he accepted his awful fate without resentment, but his condition

gradually deteriorated and when he finally died, the sadness of all his family and friends was mixed with relief that his suffering was finally over."

Michael Ridpath (S40-44) writing from Australia sent the following tribute to his brother: "Sadly, I write to let you know of the death of my brother **Andrew Ridpath (S43-47)**. He died peacefully in early January 2005 after a few days illness, aged 74.

"The activity he enjoyed most at Aldenham was sailing, for which he had a natural talent. It was the Sea Cadets, Aldenham Res and a bit of Arthur Ransome which combined to nurture his love of anything to do with boats. A few years after leaving Aldenham it also led him into canoeing down the River Tarn and its rapids where it runs through steep gorges in the Languedoc.

"After his return from national service with the Gunners on the banks of the Suez Canal, he qualified as a chartered land agent in 1955. He managed large rural estates in the West Country and then in Yorkshire and developed a deep fascination with rural England and an intimate understanding of the complex communities that sustain it.

"At the end of his career he became bursar of Oundle School where he was closely involved in many of the challenges that public schools face in a changing world. He retired in 1987 and moved to North Norfolk where he and his wife Elizabeth became keen bird-watchers and gardeners while he mastered, with gusto, the intricacies of using a PC. Elizabeth's sudden death in 1999 after 43 years of marriage was a terrible blow for him. He is survived by their son Michael and daughter Mary and three grand-children."

Joan Fraser kindly wrote to inform the OA Office of the recent death of her husband **R P Fraser (S19-24)** and added the following note: "I just thought I would tell you that my husband Robert Phillips Fraser (known as Bill) has just died aged 99. He has been rather out of touch with the Old Aldenhamian Society, but when he went to Dorchester wearing his old school tie a few years ago he met a chap who recognised it and he arranged for him to receive your magazine which came every year and was very interesting. I do not know which years he was at the School, but it was many years ago."

ATTENTION EMAIL USERS

The School subscribes to an external company which filters out ISPs (Internet Service Providers) which carry a lot of SPAM. AOL and Tiscali in particular (and there may be others) are two ISPs which are often filtered out. OAs using these ISPs, who also correspond with the OA Office via email, may find they have difficulty either sending or receiving email. You may wish to consider changing ISP. For your information the ISP 'talk21.com' is a part of Tiscali.

STOLEN URN



The ornamental garden urn in the picture above was stolen from School House Garden on the night of Wednesday 7th September 2005. If any OA out and about spots it in their local architectural salvage yard the OA Office or the Bursar would like to know.

"Victorian moulded terracotta urn of Medici type campana shape with circular form egg and dart edge, fruiting vine decoration, twin handles of acanthus form with mask supports. The associated triform base in the form of lion's mask holding fruiting garlands on paw feet, signed by 'Joseph Cliff & Sons, Wortly'."

OA NEWS, HOME AND ABROAD

Geoffrey Furber (S70-74) sent the following excellent piece, entitled **Africa Is Our Passion!**

"I have often thought of writing something for the magazine to let people know what I've been doing, but its only now that I've actually got down to doing it - and its all because of my passion for Africa. For those of you who have been to Africa, you will know what a wonderful continent it is. More often than not, the experience takes your breath away. In 1976, I went on an overland trip from Nairobi to Bulawayo in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). I stayed on in Zimbabwe for three months and worked for Rhodesian Railways in Bulawayo.

"Well, my love for Africa was re-ignited in 2000 when my wife Liz and I took our four children to Zimbabwe and Zambia. We hired two Land Rovers, a guide and a Zimbabwean cook, and we travelled to a number of game parks, canoed on the Zambezi, and visited Victoria Falls. We had some great adventures - from tiger fishing and close encounters with elephants to tracking black rhinos on foot. In short, we all had the most fantastic holiday - it

was a tremendous experience, and it touched all of us. In 2001, Liz and I purchased a long wheelbase Land Rover, and since then we have had various holidays in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi. Munatsi, the Zimbabwean cook who accompanied us on our trip in 2000, still comes on all of our trips. He is a great character and a wonderful travelling companion.

"Because of our passion for Africa, we decided that we really wanted to buy a property there to which we could return regularly. On one of our trips through Malawi, we stayed at a beautiful, albeit dilapidated, lodge on the northern lakeshore. We were so touched by the people and the lovely location that, when we heard from the cook at the lodge that the owner, an American lady living in Edinburgh, was selling, we decided to contact her on our return to England. She had owned the lodge for eight years and ran it as a budget tourist lodge, but it had never really made any money. When we contacted her about buying the property, she told us that she had started to recruit volunteer teaching assistants and healthcare workers to help in the local primary school and health centre. She asked us to honour their placements if we were to buy the lodge, and of course we agreed and thought we'd be able to continue with this project. It would have been easy for us to have a little part of Africa and keep it all to ourselves, where we could swim in the lake and play tennis, but after a while this would seem very unfulfilling and, dare I say it, boring. So we decided to start a charity. The aim of this charity was to help the local community around Mwaya, the village in which our property is located. This was two years ago. We now have our charity established, and it is called RIPPLE Africa which stands for 'Recognising Individual Potential and Promoting Local Education in Africa'. One of the American volunteers thought of the name, and we felt it described perfectly what we do and where we are located.

"Malawi is known as the warm heart of Africa, and its people are among the friendliest you are ever likely to meet. Malawi ranks in the top ten of the poorest countries in the world and has a population of about 12 million. The majority of the population live in the rural areas, although there is an increasing number of people moving to the towns and cities to find work. In the area around our property, there is very high unemployment and most people are subsistence farmers or fishermen. We currently employ about 60 local workers which makes us one of the biggest employers in the area. The average wage in Malawi is about US\$1 per day. Primary schools are free but suffer from a drastic shortage of trained teachers, text books, exercise books, pencils, etc. Those pupils who pass their primary school leaving examination can go on to secondary education, but this is fee-paying whether they attend one of the few government-run schools or a private school. The fees for both the government-run and private secondary day schools in our area are on average US\$10 per term for each student, and the fees at private secondary boarding schools are up to US\$190 a term - a sum that is beyond the reach of most Malawians. Most secondary schools suffer from the same shortages as the primary school, despite having some income, albeit small. It is estimated that about one third of the population is suffering from HIV/AIDS, but it is a "hidden" disease that people do not talk about and very little testing is done so accurate figures are not available. However, malaria is still a big killer, especially of children under the age of five. Healthcare in Malawi is appallingly bad with enormous shortages of trained doctors, nurses, healthcare workers, medicines, equipment, etc. For example, in our district, which has an estimated population of

213,000 people, there is only one doctor (who is also the District Health Officer), 46 nurses (of whom 27 are based at the main hospital in Nkhata Bay), and 15 health centres. Subsistence farming and poor agricultural practices, like slash and burn, is putting a lot of pressure on the environment. Current estimates are that almost 60% of trees in Malawi have been destroyed in the past 20 years. There is also evidence that Lake Malawi is being massively over-fished and, with practices such as using mosquito nets to catch fish, there is much concern about the sustainability of fish stocks.

"To a certain extent, RIPPLE Africa is taking over our lives but it is one of the most rewarding things that I've ever done. I've never thought about charity work before but doing this now just seems so natural. There is a whole community depending on us for help. There are some wonderful characters in the local community, and it is one of those very rare places where you can stay and you are not a tourist - you are genuinely a part of the community. Liz and I derive tremendous satisfaction from the enthusiasm and the gratitude that is shown to us by the community. But we truly feel we are quite selfish because a lot of the reason we're doing what we're doing is because it's great fun and very rewarding.

"At the end of 2004, we spent two months in Malawi, and we were really able to get our teeth into various projects. We are not specifically targeting one area of activity, but what we are doing is benefiting a small geographical area with a local population of about 5,000 people. The main areas of activity are education, healthcare and the environment. On this recent trip, we organised the building of a tree nursery and greenhouse which will be growing 50,000 tree seedlings comprising indigenous hardwoods, quick-growing trees for firewood, furniture, building and canoes, and fruit trees. These are going to be planted out in the local community to replace the trees that have been cut down. We also organised and supervised the building of a temporary double classroom building at the primary school to replace the old permanent structure that had collapsed due to termite damage so that the children could continue their education during the rainy season. We made the funds available to refurbish the nurse's house at the health centre at Kachere as well, and we are hopeful that a permanent Malawian nurse can now be recruited.

"We are constantly recruiting overseas teaching assistants and healthcare workers, and people from all over the world apply to volunteer in this little piece of paradise. Normally, the volunteers are graduates who want to put something back into the world, and they have a wonderful life-changing experience during their stay at Mwaya. We thoroughly enjoy meeting them on our visits, and we have very lively conversations around the dinner table in the evenings. If there are any OAs who are finishing university and would be interested in volunteering in Africa, we would love to hear from you.

"There are many things that need to be done - in particular, a major project is to build, staff and manage a new secondary school at Mwaya. This is a major undertaking, and we anticipate that £250,000 will be needed over three years in order to achieve this. This school will not only be for normal education, but there will be a strong emphasis on vocational training - for example, building, plumbing, carpentry, agriculture, fishing, etc. However, we have an urgent appeal at the moment to raise £9000 to build a new double classroom building at the primary school to replace

the old building which collapsed last year. Please visit our website www.rippleafrica.org and take a look at what we're doing.

"We are dependent on donations to run all of the projects in which we are involved. If you would like to put something back, then we would welcome your donations - we are a small charity where the money really does go to the people we're helping. To make a donation, either visit our website www.rippleafrica.org and download a donation form or send a cheque, made payable to RIPPLE Africa, to 3 Waine Close, Buckingham MK18 1FF.



"I would love to hear from any OAs who remember me, and I can be contacted by e-mail at thefurbbers@powernet.com."

SOUTH WEST LUNCHEON Wednesday 30th March 2005

21 OAs including, at the age of 91, **Bill Kennedy (CR & Housemaster of McGills 34-59)** and **Judith Graham**, who many of you will remember as Mr Stott's daughter, met at The Jack in the Green Inn, Rockbeare, Nr Exeter for a memorable reunion lunch. Unfortunately we have no photographs of the luncheon but the OAs who attended are listed below. Before that we reproduce a letter from **Ronald Somerville (B43-47)**, sent before the lunch to John McAllister in the Development Office at the School. Mr Somerville was one of 7 OAs who attended the luncheon having also attended the first OA lunch organised in Exeter by **Bishop Hewlett Thompson (B42-47)** in 1997.

"Thank you for organising the Regional lunch. After a good bottle of wine my wife has provoked me to write:

"I was privileged to be a member of the great Fred English's house - he was for many of us the greatest beneficial influence on our life - 'You have to take stock of yourself - am I doing better?'. When I meet my friend Hewlett Thompson, that's the first thing we repeat.

"One of my first reports from Fred..... 'This boy is dynamic, he will go far in House and School.'

"However, I detested the Head, George Riding, and he me, and my last report from him stated - 'Aldenham rarely fails but in this case all our efforts have been without avail!'

"Despite that damning report, I feel I owe much to Aldenham and at the age of 75, my remaining voluntary work is involved in school regeneration in socially deprived areas and a new curriculum for the current century. Indeed the Tomlinson report is largely based on the experiences of the CTC Kingshurst Trust, of which I am and have been chairman since its foundation in 1988 as the first City Technology College.

"My respect for Aldenham is that with its 500 years of life, it has never strived to be in the narrow academic rat race that has limited the opportunities and perceptions for so many young people instead of widening and encouraging a broader base perhaps more in line with Howard Gardner's philosophy of Multiple Intelligences!"

The following attended the South West Luncheon on 30th March:

R G Bassett (M52-55)
A W Buchanan (B67-70)
F E Burlingham Johnson (S39-41)
P J Castell (M70-75)
D A R Cormack (B72-77)
J L Crownshaw (K64-66)
S H Gifford-Mead (M60-65)
J J H Haines (S44-49)
S N S Hitch (P54-58)
N W Jephcott (M42-46)
D H Keeling (M48-53)
W H Kennedy (CR34-59)
C J Kershaw (S48-53)
D J Meldrum (S55-59)
J E U Moxon (M42-45)
R A Rushton (P60-63)
G A Seward (S41-43)
R D N Somerville (B43-47)
R G Vos (B75-79)
R A Walters (P74-78)
J B White (P70-75)
R J M Willoughby (P47-51)



We congratulate **A C Stewart (S34-37)** who, on Easter Sunday 2005, celebrated 50 years as Lay Reader in the Scottish Episcopal Church. After he had preached the Easter sermon he was presented with an inscribed glass bowl by the congregation of St Ninian's Church, Castle Douglas.

John Parks (M39-41) writes that: "The enclosed snap depicts instruction in aircraft recognition to members of the Air Training Corps (ATC). All boys had to join the OTC (Officer Training Corps), unless excused for health reasons, but soon after the start of the war the ATC was formed to be an RAF equivalent. Thereafter, boys who decided to join the RAF when the time came, could, after 12 months in the OTC, transfer to the ATC (and say 'goodbye' to those khaki puttees!!).



Air Training Corps members during aircraft recognition training, approximately 1941.

"The model planes shown in the snap were all made by **I C Munro (M37-42)** [Ed: Ian Munro is on our lost list so if anyone has any news of him we would be grateful to hear it.], who was a leading light in the aero modelling club (in a shed behind the old Armoury, I believe) and a remarkably talented individual. I think the models were 1/144th scale, possibly smaller, but produced from balsa wood with a razor blade and piece of sandpaper! There was sometimes a rough sketch of the subject but more often just photographs from magazines from which Munro's eye and hand could produce these excellent models.

"It should perhaps be mentioned that none of that would have been achieved had it not been for **A C Webber (CR15-45)** ("Flicks") who, as well as teaching, ran the school shop, adjacent to the Tuck Shop. This dedicated man did a weekly shop in Watford for anything and everything any boy might require. His knowledge of aero-modelling must have been vast! The nickname "Flicks" arose due to his habit of walking up and down between the desks and 'flicking' the ear of anyone talking or failing to pay attention. As his approach was silent and from behind a 'flick' could be rather startling!

"I must desist from these ramblings and let you good people get on with your good work that results in the *Aldenhamiana* which is so enjoyable - thank you."

Alistair Johnson (B71-75) wrote a few months ago with some good news: "Dear Everyone, Greetings from Vancouver. I'm sorry it has been so long since I/we have been in touch. I have been waiting for something significant to say, the most important thing being our progress in successfully adopting a child or children. We have been fostering Mariam who is now 4 since she was 2 fi

and last month was the Court Case to determine whether she would become a child permanently in care which would make her available for us to adopt. This case has been adjourned pending evidence from more witnesses. We think it will be another couple of months before the judge delivers a verdict. In the meantime last year we heard about another little boy, Blu who is now 2 fi. There were a couple of legal glitches but his final hearing was 24th February and following the necessary pre-placement visits with him he came to live with us on 21st March!! WE HAVE A SON! His placement will be confirmed after six months and we need to be a bit restrained until then. Pictures enclosed. I'm sorry I look so shifty but Blu and Julie look great.



"Julie stopped working when Blu came and that is a great relief for both of us. Julie is really happy to have the chance to be a full time Mum after 28 years of working. Julie's longer term plans will be to do more fostering once we've had time to settle Blu and Mariam (we desperately hope). I on the other hand am daunted at the prospect of having to get work for the first time in 26 years! With any luck I'll be able to avoid this by dint of my efforts as a writer.

"After far too many years I finally finished my novel '*A Singing Dancing Thing*' last May. I spent time proofing it and having it critiqued and it is currently being read by a couple of agents. I am currently writing the screenplay adaptation. I'm much more of a screenplay/play/TV person, the novel was very hard for me and with both versions available I'm presenting to a much broader potential market. I am at all times realistic and will be getting on with other projects as soon as I've finished the screenplay.

"We are building a new house here. This is quite common, especially where we live between Vancouver and the border which is experiencing a big expansion. However the process has been a nightmare. I'll spare you the details except to tell you that we're 3 weeks behind and only just had the foundations approved. The BC building code was written by a certain Franz Kafka. We have a builder but I'm getting involved, much too involved.

"I've also run my first-and last Marathon, the Vancouver marathon on 1st May. I was fairly sure I wouldn't do another one because I never expected to have the time again. Having completed it there are other reasons! If you fancy making a donation to the charity I chose, World Development Movement please do but it's a bit unfair to ask without proper warning! You can find out what they do from their website www.wdm.org.uk. Their/my website for donating online is at <http://www.justgiving.com/AlistairJohnson>.

"**Kofi Appenteng (S70-75)** sends his regards from New York."

Andrew Cresswell (P61-65) makes the following confession: "Although most unfashionable to admit it amongst my contemporaries (we were, pretty revolting in the early 60s) I enjoyed my time in Paulls between 1961-64 and, like Andrew Noyes, most of my energy then seemed to revolve around the sports pitches (not to mention St Margaret's, Bushey) and, in fact, almost anything except the classroom. After an interesting and enjoyable if unspectacular career in the Army, I left in 1996 to help my wife run and develop her business importing and wholesaling sub-tropical plants. For the last 9 years I have learnt what hard work is really all about and we have done pretty well with it (so far!)."

Edward Hinds (B78-83) emailed the following: "Since leaving school I went to University in Cardiff (UWIST) where I studied for a BSc in Electronics and then an MSc in Systems Engineering. After college I finished off my education by traveling/backpacking around the world for 9 months with **John Bowyer (K78-83)**. On returning to the UK I got a job with AB Electronics in South Wales and spent 5fi years (1992 to 1996) in different factories building electronics products - many in high volumes. From 1996 to end of 2004 I spent working for Surface Technology Systems in Newport, South Wales where I was involved in designing, customising and building semiconductor manufacturing equipment. I am now having a 'career break' as I needed a rest/break/change - this is allowing me to spend some time with my family.

"I can be contacted at ehinds@compuserve.com and live just off junction 23A of the M4 (just in Wales). I am married to Joanne (nee Holloway) and have two daughters Abigail (born 1996) and Elizabeth (born in 1999).

"If anyone wants to contact me, then the above email address is the best starting point."

Jack Waterfield (M49-51) kindly emailed from Australia to tell us of a recent move, and with the following sketch of his life: "The February edition of *Aldenhamiana* reached me from my previous address. I do enjoy reading it.

"It seems an ideal time to give you a thumbnail sketch of what I have been doing since I left Aldenham.

"Mainly I have been involved in the suburban newspaper industry on the advertising side as sales representative and finally manager of individual 'mastheads'. In the early days, in addition to my sales duties I acted as motoring correspondent to the *Evesham Journal* due to my interest in the sport. However prior to this point I went into farming, then had 3 years as an Army training instructor with the Dorset Regt. On demob I went back to the land, working for a while for the tractor magnate Harry Ferguson and on a mink farm.

"In the late 50s through a friend, I was offered a post on his family's 100 year old newspaper. So began a career which was to last for over 30 years.

"During 1969 I met and married an Australian girl, and in 1971 we emigrated to Australia to enable me to take up a job with the

Dandenong Journal in Victoria. I spent many years with the Group, resigning when, due to the ill health of my wife, we moved from our home in the shadows of the Dandenong Ranges to Phillip Island. Here I started my own business as a mowing and gardening contractor. My wife died from cancer in 1997 having fought it with great strength for a number of years.

"Last year, on my 70th birthday I remarried and bought this house, moving here in December. I also play a bit of golf and go Square Dancing."

John F Webb (M41-43) wrote a very substantial contribution and all with a good old-fashioned typewriter! He gives some fascinating insights into life at Aldenham during World War II. We have space in this edition of *Aldenhamiana* to publish just a few extracts: "My arrival at Cox's House as it was then, now McGill's, co-incided with that of **Jimmy James-Crook (M41-44)** and **Michael Tubbs (M41-43)**, both of whom qualified into their respective professions, and were Ushers at my wedding to Jean, still going strong!

"In January 1941 we slept on the floor of the Houseroom (on horsehair palliasses of course) as air raids were still a possibility. My 'berth' was beside the door under which a freezing draught 'whistled' through the gap beneath it and the wooden floor worn away by countless feet since the house was built. Fortunately my parents had bought me a thick tweed dressing-gown which reached to my ankles, so I was able to pull the collar over my head. This garment is STILL IN USE believe it or not, and must be the best investment my parents made during my time at Aldenham. Watching the flickering flames and dying embers of the fire presaged sleep. Wake-up call at 6.45 am brought a rush for the wash basins and the outside loos! One didn't spend a minute longer in the latter than necessary during blizzards or howling gales and rain; probably the reason why they were sited out in the yard! Coping with starched collar and studs was soon mastered and new boys had to button-up all three buttons on their jackets throughout their first term.

"We were approaching School Certificate and were not too hopeful when along came **Mr Leslie Godfrey-Jones (CR34-44)**. He 'breezed' into the classroom with a broad smile, telling us to sit down before we had barely stood up on his entry, casually doffing his 'mortar-board' onto his desk, saying 'Now chaps, I gather you're having problems'....Groans of affirmation from us lot. 'Well, School Cert. is a 'cinch', he said. 'You're given ten questions and you only have to answer FIVE of them! Each correct answer carries 20 marks so you only have to get two right and you've got your 40% pass mark! Now, I've got some previous years' papers, so we'll go through them shall we?'. We went through them pointing out the salient factors to remember. My word, could he teach! He exuded such zest and enthusiasm for his subject which infected us all I'm sure. Unfortunately we were not to have enough of him, certainly in my case. Unbeknown to us of course, he was to leave Aldenham for Rugby in 1944. LEGJ was also the CO of the JTC in the rank of captain, and got us marching with 'swank and swagger' to quote his words. Sgt Buckingham or 'Sarge' to us all, soon smartened us up if there were any 'slouchers'.

"Open Boxing Competition. One notable match was that between **Tony Verhoeff (M40-42)**, or Hoofy as he was known to his friends and the heavyweight member of the School Eight. Tony had not had any boxing lessons, but he had put up such a gallant performance that he had been adjudged the best losing contestant by the well known boxing commentator W Barrington-Dalby. I believe Tony joined the Parachute Regiment in which he would have given a good account of himself during their 'milling' training exercise, as he would have done at Arnhem where he sadly died of his wounds. He is buried in the same cemetery in Belgium as **F/O Leslie T Manser VC (M36-38)**. The Headmaster announced the posthumous award of Leslie Manser's VC at an assembly, and added that VC also stood for Form Vc from which the brave man had left Aldenham.

"Being the first school to form a Young Farmers Club, we were honoured by a visit from the president of the National Federation of YFC's, the then Duke of Norfolk. The HM brought him down to Skinner's farm to watch us trying to extract milk from these long-suffering cows! I sent an Associated Press photo of this event way back in the 1960's I think, to the School which might still be in the archives? It shows I think young **G F Platt (S40-45)** in white coat demonstrating his skill on a three-legged stool with head pressed against the cow's flank! [Ed: A photo of the visit featured in *Aldenhamiana* 25]

"On another occasion, hay had to be brought from Porters Park, the other side of Radlett, to Skinners. Michael and I harnessed the horse to a cart and 'clip-clopped' our way down Aldenham Avenue where Michael nipped off to let his mother know that we would be back in an hour or so. We duly cut and loaded the hay and returning halfway up Aldenham Avenue, stopped outside his home, backed the cart against the kerb, and chocked the wheels. Whilst 'Dobbin' tucked into his nose-bag we tucked into a delicious tea provided by Mrs Tubbs. The Club many years later flourished under the leadership of the Haworth brothers of Battlers Green Farm."

Koranteng Ansah Ofoosu-Amaah (P86-91) spotted his name on the lost list on the OA website and sent the following. "So apparently, I'm a lost Aldenhamian. That's surprising to me, but then that would also make sense since I stopped receiving *The Aldenhamian* a few years ago when my mother moved from England to Ghana.

"After Aldenham, I decided to go to Harvard University to study Electrical, Computer and Systems Engineering - much to the disappointment of Ken Barnard, who couldn't fathom how I could turn down St John's, Cambridge University. From my perspective at the time, it was the glamour of the United States (of Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford and MIT) and the prospect of the Liberal Arts as opposed to the premature specialization of the British educational system that were the clinchers - not to mention the reduced financial burden thanks to the deep-pocketed Ivy League schools. I had a wonderful time and graduated from Harvard in 1995 with honours, for what it's worth.

"I continue to live in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and make my living working as a software engineer for Lotus/IBM - you may have heard of them.

"Please let me know what I need to do to get back in good stead as far as receiving *Aldenhamiana* [Ed: You're on the list]. Indeed there may be some US lucre that I may be able to cough up [Ed: You're top of the list], although the dollar isn't what it used to be.

"Please forward this note on to Nick Pulman and Chris Arkell who'll probably know what to do with it. In the former case, he is much missed and my silence undeserved (regards to Charlotte and the children). In the latter case, I hope there are fond memories of wine and afternoon discussions about Sartre and such with pretentious, earnest and precociously jaundiced adolescents. The life lessons learned at Aldenham have stood me in good stead and the skill that was taken in husbanding our development is fully appreciated in retrospect. I hope I left an impression.

"Reading as I did about Ken Barnard's passing a couple of years ago, I felt a blow to the heart, the way one feels about when a close relative passes. One of my biggest regrets is that I didn't continue organic chemistry and instead struck for easy engineering à la Bob Pomeroy. We all have our favourite teachers and I had many at Aldenham but his death struck close to home, but maybe that's something I'll have to express to Susan and his children. I guess though that I would feel that way about all of those who played a part in making me who I am.

"I recently dug up some meagre photos of my time at Aldenham that may be of interest to those sociologically inclined. <http://flickr.com/photos/koranteng/sets/168988/>

"The African experience of Aldenham is a somewhat peculiar one even in the context of constrained environments like boarding schools as it was then. It was full of cultural dissonance and accentuated especially if, like me, you were more inclined to matters of academia rather than robust physicality (although the sports were part-in-parcel of what I got out of it). Perhaps someone needs to write it up and maybe that could be something I take on at some point...[Ed: We would be pleased to feature it.]

"Lastly, I rant a lot on a weblog - another undoubted Americanism."

Michael Handcock (S45-49) read the last edition of *Aldenhamiana* and sent the following. "I was, as always, pleased to receive my copy of *Aldenhamiana* in February. As I have been based at this house for the last thirty years and have never missed a copy of the OA magazine I was somewhat surprised to see that I was listed as a "lost OA"! [Ed. - this is not a clever trick we use to get people to write to us, but it seems to work.....]

"My career as a Civil Engineer took me to many parts of the world. On two occasions I was resident for an extended period abroad firstly in Italy and subsequently in Iraq. (I even had a visit by Saddam Hussein complete with bodyguard to my office in Baghdad). I finally came home to roost in 1975 and took a partnership with Peter Brett who had set up a small firm of Consultants in Reading. The firm grew from twenty five staff to over two hundred and fifty during my time there and now has nearly five hundred staff and is one of the largest firms in UK.

"I was perhaps fortunate to work in civil engineering at this time,

which gave me a wonderful career with many challenges and the opportunity to meet many interesting people all over the world. I couldn't have asked for anything better. Even today I would recommend it for any young people about to embark on a career.

"I am now retired and spend my time here at Pine Lodge, where I hope to continue to receive *Aldenhamiana* for many years to come. My wife Carolyn (sister of **Richard Thwaites (S44-47)**) and I travel whenever we get the chance and have now covered most of the places I didn't get to in my working life. Any remaining time is spent playing bowls, growing orchids and working as a voluntary guide for the National Trust."

DRAGON SCHOOL LUNCH - Wednesday 18 May 2005

John Baugh (S69-74), the Headmaster of the Dragon School (back row third from right), kindly hosted a Regional Lunch at the Dragon School for OAs living in Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Berkshire. 28 OAs attended and enjoyed a drinks reception in the sunny School House garden followed by a delicious lunch. **Mark Phillips (M52-57)** (far right back row) brought his very professional camera and set up the splendid photo below - even managing to be in it. We are very grateful to John Baugh for hosting the lunch.



S T Adams (P52-56)	A S Heywood-Jones (S44-49)
J R Baugh (S69-74)	A N Hunt (B49-54)
R C Bolt (M45-48)	A J N McCagie (B63-67)
N E M Brimacombe (B70-74)	S J Murray (M51-54)
C R Brown (S46-51)	M T Phillips (M52-57)
M F Cochrane (S53-56)	H G Reading (P37-42)
R F H Crabb (M57-61)	H D Redmayne (S45-50)
R A Dendy (S51-56)	C G Sparkes (S55-60)
J R Edwards (B46-51)	J T Spurgen (M42-45)
D B A Evans (S43-48)	N A Sutherland (B66-70)
M O A Fisher (M48-51)	J M Threshie (S43-46)
W R Garwood (S57-62)	S Whitby (B69-74)
J S M Hailey (S39-43)	J P de la T Williams (S62-65)
F R Henn (S34-39)	A S Wood (S54-59)

Andrew McCagie (B63-67) attended the Dragon School Luncheon and later asked if the OA office could help him locate a film: "I spoke with Mr McAllister about a film we made and can't say much more about it than that. It was made in about 65/66 in 16mm. I suspect it was black and white and about half an hour long at most. If you can locate it I'd be most eternally in your debt!" [Ed: Tricky one this. Can anyone help?]

Keith Grassick (K71-77) wrote to the Editor, a contemporary of his in Kennedy's and many of the local pubs: "It's always nice to hear from old friends. I trust that you and the family are all well.

"Unfortunately I will not be able to make OA day in June. I moved to the US almost 18 years ago and live in Rockville, Maryland just outside Washington DC. Like any big city, there is always something happening in the area, especially with the current political climate.

"Mary and I have 2 kids, Ian aged 11 and Rachel 8. We were in the UK last year at the end of May, but do not have plans to come over this year. Please say hello to anyone who may remember me. I'm sure the Three Horseshoes will be packed."

Ray Foxell (S50-55) read the English exam paper in the last edition of *Aldenhamiana* and contributed the following: "I was fascinated and appalled by the 1932 5A English Exam Paper. I don't think I'd score very highly, even now. However, here's my answer to question two.

Archibald Nittwitt thanks Mrs Higginbottam for her kind invitation to the wedding of her daughter Agnes on the 17th of next month and to the champagne luncheon which follows it at 2 o'clock. He is delighted to learn of this happy occasion and has much pleasure in accepting.

"With regards to the Ploughman, thought you might just be interested in the enclosed which is neither elevated, atmospheric (unless you count the fog) nor prose, but it did win the Teignmouth Festival Poetry Competition in 1996 and has appeared in print a few times. [Ed: Ray's poem appears on our cover]

"As well as writing immortal verse I have been doing a bit of painting recently, sold a few, won a handful of awards, been a finalist in National Competitions three times and even appeared once briefly on the telly. We live in a fifteenth-century cottage in deepest Devon and would welcome a visit from any OAs, whether interested in art or not, and some of my stuff can be seen on www.stbonifacesstudios.co.uk/artists/artists.php.

"I recently made contact with **Robin Baxter (S50-55)**, who with his charming wife and daughter called in to see us in September. He is one of this country's top crossword setters, a fine pianist and very stimulating company. He produces crosswords (an addiction of mine) under the name NIBOR - look for the LISTENER crossword (the most fiendishly difficult of all) in The Times on Saturdays.

"Finally, and most nostalgically, someone in the SH Common Room in 1953 had a record (a 78, of course) of 'The Dance of the 7 Veils' and another of 'Smoke gets in your eyes' sung by a very high tenor. I would just love to hear these again. Can anyone help?"

Earlier this year **J R Shaw (M38-41)** visited the magnificent church of St Edmund, King and Martyr, Southwold, Suffolk and "Reading the guide I came across the following, "...at the end of the South aisle is a mural tablet of taste and charm to the infant son (ob 1804) of the Reverend Rice Hughes, a slightly 'dispreputable' curate who had been Headmaster of Aldenham ."

"Reference to the 11th Edition of the School Register shows that Rice Hughes had been the Master at Aldenham 1785-92 when he became a priest in 1787. In the light of the above quote I wonder what he might have been like as a Master? What were his interests other than Education and the Church? Perhaps those documents mentioned in the School Register would indicate his interest in social and political affairs in that rather dangerous age of revolution, interests unbecoming for a man of the cloth. As a matter of interest does the School hold these documents? They would make an interesting read."

Ed: some research in *The History of Aldenham School 1597-1997* turns up the following concerning the Revd Rice Hughes "...St John's nominated three Masters of Arts but only the Revd Rice Hughes appeared at the election. He was appointed and almost immediately informed the Governors that well to do parents were sending their children to the school. Apart from informing the Vicar of Aldenham, no action was taken. At the Visitation it was clear that good progress was being made and seven boys were dismissed for non-attendance; the next two reports were also favourable. It then appeared that he was heavily in debt, which was having an effect on his performance. At the 1788 Visitation, although there seemed to be academic progress, Hughes had kept the pensions of the almspeople for three months to the very great injury of the poor people and the Governors further discovered that the necessary belonging to the almshouses was used by the boys, greatly to the inconvenience of the poor people. A new necessary was built and the Vicar of Aldenham was made Custos of the Alms Houses. The following year however Hughes was periodically absent *from his distressed circumstances* and the parishioners were complaining of his neglect, wanton severity and drunkenness. He was severely reprimanded and threatened with dismissal. There was some improvement but an absence of three weeks when a boy of eighteen was left in charge of the school. James Drummond was appointed Usher in 1790 but before long both Master and Usher complained to the Governors about one another's behaviour. In 1791 there is record of a parental complaint, the first of its kind; Mrs Stenson disliked the way her son of six had been beaten and turned out of the school. At the Visitation Charrington reported Hughes absent, cause unknown..... *the boys seem to have made very little progress in their education, that the pieces were written very hastily and very badly, and that upon the whole the School was in the worst situation he had ever remembered it.* After further difficulties Hughes resigned and the Governors received a letter from him from the Kings Bench Prison where he was presumably incarcerated for debt. The Governors sent him £5 as a goodwill gesture.

"He recovered from his misfortunes, appears to have obtained a living in Essex and was the author of several essays which reflect the revolutionary feelings of the 1790s such as *National Danger, a Test of Virtue.*"

Giles Turner (S52-57) dug out the photo below and enclosed it with the following note: "It is a photo taken, I believe, in 1955 and is a line-up for the CCF General Inspection Day. Characters from the left are: Captain G A Fletcher, Lieut P K Harrington, Lt R J Griggs, Major G T Crawshaw, Field Marshal Sir Claude John Eyre Auchinleck, Headmaster P G Mason and CPO Williams.

"In the background I can make out H R Kirkwood, housemaster of Beevor's and further back is Donald Parren, House tutor of Evans. The Porters Lodge still seems to have building work in progress, but CPO Williams was obviously in residence as the first school porter though I think his title must have been a bit more elevated than that!

"On the left of the picture, just out of shot is Lieut W E Wightman, who was also one of the CCF Army Officers at the time.



"The Field Marshal was obviously retired by 1955, but of course had a hugely distinguished army career, particularly in the 2nd World War.

"General Inspection Day as you can see was very wet, which made an annual event which I invariably dreaded even worse, though there was some excuse if our boots didn't quite gleam as they should have done!"

The following report is from *The Aldenhamian* of September 1955:

COMBINED CADET FORCE Army Section

The term was made memorable by the visit of Field Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck for the annual inspection of June 9th. There was heavy rain before lunch which made it necessary to form up in the Shed, while the march-past was held in the open, though not as rehearsed. The marching was extremely good, and a special word is due to the band, who gave an excellent lead and performed their figure marching afterwards very competently.

P Hughes (S40-46) wrote to let us know his new address and added: "I am now semi-retired, but still keep an interest in our civil engineering consultancy that has been active here for the last forty years.

"I was one of the small band of 4 day boys at Aldenham from 1940-46. Starting with Mr Broughton in Form II I ended up in the Upper 6th with Mr Godfrey Jones and stayed on for another year with Mr Marsh. A small group of us including **J A Cockett (S41-46)**, **J A Fowler (B41-46)** and **J R Leech (P41-46)** were in the final year working at Advanced Maths and Physics.

"As dayboys our experience of Aldenham included cycling to and from school seven days a week (and twice on Sundays) in all weathers and sometimes through day and night air raids. One daylight dogfight seen on our way home resulted in my finding a crashed Spitfire at the bottom of my parents home in Elstree High Street.

"The four of us from Elstree and Borehamwood included **Fred Wilson** [Ed: we are not sure of this but he could be **B J Wilson (S44-45)** or **M A Wilson (S41-45)**, or if you know better please let us know], **Alan Skuse (S40-43)**, "**Daisy**" **Barrett (S40-44)**, and **David Ewer (S39-44)**. Fred Wilson and I both reported at the same time to Bedford Barracks to start our National Service but our ways soon parted.

"Every School History and Register I've received since leaving Aldenham has referred to an unrehearsed life saving by the Naval Section. As the one responsible for the necessity for this life saving I would be grateful if this incident can be forgotten now that I have confessed."

Matthew Hetherington (L95-99) wrote to John McAllister: "Since leaving Aldenham in 1999 I have completed a degree in Geography at Reading University, lived in South Africa, Germany and now the Netherlands and have represented England at U21 and Senior level.

"Post Aldenham I went straight to Reading where I began studying in a fairly conventional manner. Only disappearing off now and again to training camps and on tours with England U21, playing internationals against countries like Germany, Holland, South Korea, Scotland, Wales and Egypt. Half way through my second year things became slightly less conventional. I was given the opportunity to go and play and coach in Durban, South Africa. Thanks to my tutor and the Dean, I was given leave from my course and joined Durban Varsity and the coaching staff of Kwa Zulu Natal Hockey Academy. Though the playing was not challenging the coaching certainly was. In a climate where the memories of apartheid were still fresh and government policies attempted to redress the balance, being head of the Boys section had more to it than just selecting the best players and coaching them. Quotas of black and white had to be met, not to mention trying to take hockey into the townships. I was also appointed Assistant Coach to the Natal Ladies provincial team, which again opened up a whole new set of challenges. After a lot of travelling and of course hockey I returned to Reading to complete my course.

"However before I completed the course or sat my finals I was offered a contract at top German club Rot Weiss Koln (Cologne). Unfortunately it was one I really could not turn down. So I moved to Cologne and the first 2 months or so saw me flying back and forth between England and Germany. Playing in the German Bundesliga and flying back to take finals was quite challenging, not least logistically. Somehow with only one final exam missed and

no matches, I graduated from Reading with a 2:2. During the winter months I was selected for RWK's indoor team (much credit to the hockey staff!). I finished top goal scorer for the club, but the coach decided to leave the club and my services were no longer required. Back to England I thought, but thankfully I had impressed enough and was offered a contract by Frankfurt 1880.

"During my time in Germany I also did enough to impress the England coach and in February 2003 I won my first Senior England cap against Belgium.

"Frankfurt was a new challenge, a talented young team I was looked to as a senior player. I continued with my coaching after being appointed assistant coach to the Ladies 1st, helping them win the Bundesliga 2 title. I was also assistant to the U16 girls at the club and for the province (Hessen). Both teams came second in the German Championships. As time passed the pull of a return to the UK increased, as did the desire to start a career.

"However I had not contemplated a call from the Netherlands or the possibility that hockey could be a career. The call came; 'would I be interested in playing in the Hoofdklasser (the best league in the world)?' Not sure if I was up to it, I attended a trial at newly promoted EMHC Eindhoven. The club had no doubts so I signed. What followed was a very tough season and an extremely steep learning curve. Though we did not get off the foot of the table until after Christmas I held the top goal scorer spot for 4 weeks. A very strange situation to be in. Unfortunately we were eventually relegated through the playoffs but I finished 3rd top scorer with 29 goals, so not all bad. What followed was a battle between 5 clubs to secure my services for the new season. I decided to join Hockey Club s'Hertogenbosch (Den Bosch).

"Now that brings me up to the present. I am still scoring goals and coaching winning teams. Assistant trainer/coach to the U18 girls and Head Coach of Ladies 2nd (the development team for the ladies 1st). The club has made me very welcome and Den Bosch is a great city, so at last I think I have found home. I am contracted until the end of the 2005/2006 season, but who knows after that. I still hold onto the dream of the Olympics and hope to get back into the England management's plans. I have just started my Dutch Coaching Diploma (in Dutch!) and pleased to be back studying again. So while the goals keep going in and my teams keep winning, hockey is looking like it could be a career.

"I am sure I have missed much out but looking over these last few years one thing has struck me, without the education Aldenham has given none of this would have been possible. Of course the academic side has been important and I have a degree if the hockey does not continue. But it's what Aldenham has taught me outside the classroom that has been invaluable. Without the school I would dread to think where I would be today. So I want to say a special thank you to you for reading my application and accepting me all those years ago. I must say I do regret not returning to School but I will never forget the School or the people who educated me."

Roger Turner (S56-62) wrote to cancel his voluntary subscription and say: "While I am sorry to disappoint you, my admiration for the wonderful work you do is in no way diminished, but the position is simply that I am going to work in the Church of Uganda, specifically the diocese of Masindi-Kitara, the newest and materially poorest diocese in one of the poorest provinces in the Anglican Church, where I intend to channel all my resources - which will purchase 4 to 5 times as much in Ugandan shillings as they do here in sterling!"

After reading in the last edition of *Aldenhamiana* that the Editor was short of contributions **J P Perkins (P33-37)** was prompted to send the following: "I was intrigued to read the report of OA Day 1933 as I was actually present in my first term - Summer 1933. Strangely I remember it quite well in contrast to the others that followed - I can recollect clearly the hot summer day and the temperature in the tent. And for some reason Mr Herbert and Mr Beck the retiring headmaster who was rather aloof and remote and known a 'Bulgy' (for obvious reasons!) and his wife also present was known as 'Stringy' (again for obvious reasons). The beginning of the article also states that 'not surprisingly the OTC features strongly'. I imagine this refers to the coming 1939-45 war. I do not think that in my time, as early as 1933, anyone was seriously thinking about a coming war or that the OTC had very much to do with it. In agreement Riding was heard to say that he only allowed the OTC to continue as it killed any leaning towards militarism. He was a pacifist at heart! But little did I think that the occasion would be especially reported as a piece of School history while I was still alive."

Following OA Day on Sunday 26th June which included a Gaudy reunion for OAs from the 1970s **Patrick Ford (S73-76)** sent the following: "I thought I would just drop a quick email regarding the Gaudy Lunch on the 26th June. My wife and I had a super time. For my part, I caught up with several people I have not seen for more years than I care to recall, and my wife was able to get a glimpse of life during my teenage years (a rare opportunity some might say). I was almost overwhelmed to encounter Mr Peter Gough, (now 91 I believe) my old House Master and the man who hosted my, what some would argue unique, induction - a happy memory amongst some not so happy, that will always stay with me. All in all a real trip down memory highway rather than lane! Of course, a delight was the excellent food/wine and courteous service, in what I think, is still the best dining hall one could ever imagine to eat in as a teenager. I appreciate, perhaps more than some, the enormous effort and organisation that goes into serving over 100 duck breasts in such a short time frame. I was in 5 star hotel management for some years, so I know all the pitfalls and things that can make it all go horribly wrong. Well done to all the catering staff for a really sterling job."

The following OAs attended the Gaudy lunch, many accompanied by their wives [Ed: See photo montage at the beginning of *Aldenhamiana*]:

A Alikhani	S C Lewis
A J Argyle	R M Limb
J T Barton	A P Maclaurin
P R Bell	A H Marco
R V Berkeley-Dennis	N D Melvill
P N Bosdet	O B S Middleton
R C Bothams	S M Mitchell
P J Castell	R J Morris
D A R Cormack	M J P Owden
A J S Cox	R J P Owden
A C Day	H R Parnell
D P L Fitt	I R G Pearce
P E Ford	N P Perkins
M P Frey	M E Perks
G Furber	A J Plowden-Roberts
A J T Gillman	M W Powles
D J Glaser	M C Rayner
G Green	W M Rivers
J N H Gudgeon	H W M Shelton
D L J Haim	S A St Leger-Harris

R D Hall
R D Harlow
C A Harvie
R J W Hindley
D H F Ho
D R Howells
A P Laurenson
T J Leffman

S C Thomas
R P Turpin
P G Van Rooyen
C G Westbrook
R A H Wildmore
R E Wright
D A Yeomans
J D L Yule

LADY OAS REUNION RECEPTION Saturday 21 May 2005

The OAs listed below gathered, in many cases with partners and children, for the second Ladies Reunion at the School on Saturday 21 May 2005. Everyone enjoyed coffee and Danish pastries before having an opportunity to look round the School guided by girls from Martineau's House:-

Charlotte Aylwin (B86-88)
Thalia Bornefeld (B00-02)
Jan Chamberlain (CR82-00)
Michela Cogan (P86-88)
Ulrike Engelmann (B01-03)
Caroline Frith (B82-84)
Nicola Hancock (B90-92)
Masume Hidayatullah (P80-82)
Melissa James (B97-99)
Joanna Keeler-Kirby (B85-87)
Joanne Mathews (K83-85)
Clare McCarty (K88-90)
Katherine Murphy (B82-84)
Sarah O'Brien (P82-84)
Sanyade Okoli (P89-91)
Sharon Palfreman (P86-88)
Susan Raison (P84-86)
Joanna Scott (B82-84)
Louisa Teather (B97-99)
Annalee Williams (K87-89)



Although we don't have a photo of the reunion, the above picture of the 1982 Netball team includes two girls who were there:-
Back Row L-R Jo Scott née Thallon (B82-84), Sarah Mahboubian (P82-84), Sarah Jane Costello née Woodrow (B82-84), Caroline Frith née Spragg (B82-84)
Front Row L-R Nancy Jouneau née Rowe (B82-84), Susie Redstone (P82-84), Margaret Uttley (B81-83)

FREEMASONRY

The Old Aldenhamian Lodge, No. 4884 (founded 1926)

Master: **F E Burlingham Johnson**

The Old Aldenhamian Lodge, which exists primarily for past members of Aldenham School, its Governors and its teaching staff, present and past, meets at 10 Duke Street, St James's, London SW1 on the second Wednesday in January, the first Wednesday in March, and the third Wednesday in June and October.

Full particulars of the Lodge can be obtained from the Secretary:-
B S Tan, 5 Busch Close, Park Road, Isleworth, Middx TW7 6UE
Home: 020 8580 2966

SPORTS CLUB OFFICERS AND SECRETARIES**Football**

Chairman - **Paul Clemow**

4 Harris House
Himalayan Way
Watford
Herts WD18 6GS
home: 01923 240792
mobile: 07973 336073
e-mail: paulclemow@aol.com

Club Captain - **Martyn Berg**

Flat 5, 295 Ladbroke Grove
London W10 6HE
mobile: 07767 845261
e-mail: martyn.berg@emap.com

Veterans Football - see report and email addresses earlier in *Aldenhamiana*.

Golf

Hon. Secretary - **Ian Eggledden**

6 Pelican Wharf
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office: 01277 695852
mobile: 07789 030381
e-mail: ian.eggledden2@btinternet.com

Cricket

Captain and Hon. Secretary - **Hanif Moledina**
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e-mail: Hanif@moledina.freeseve.co.uk

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Hon. Treasurer: **Richard Peart**
Strathyre
Hadley Green
Barnet
Herts
EN5 4PS
Email: rwpeart@care4free.net

STANDING ORDER AUTHORITY - Old Aldenhamian Society, Voluntary Membership Subscription

Name of Person/Organisation you wish to pay.

Bank use

Name Old Aldenhamian Society
Bank National Westminster Bank Plc
Branch 72/74 High Street, Watford, Herts, WD1 2BQ
Account Number 48759414
Sort Code 60-00-08

Payment Details

Bank use

Amount of First Payment Date of first Payment/...../.....
Amount of Usual Payments
Amount of Usual Payments IN WORDS
When Paid Day/Month of usual Payment
(Monthly, Quarterly, Annually etc.)
Amount of Last Payment Date of last Payment

Your Bank Details

Bank use

Name of Account (Your names)
Bank Name
Full Postal Branch Address
Account Number
Sort Code / /

Instruction Details

Bank use

Does this Authority replace an existing Standing Order or Direct Debit? Yes/No

If yes please give details:

FOR OA OFFICE AND BANK USE ONLY

BANK PLEASE QUOTE AS REF

Customer(s) Signature

Bank use

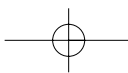
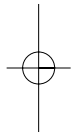
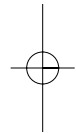
Please Debit my/our account accordingly

Signature:

Date:

Please return the completed form to:

Mrs Molly Barton, Old Aldenhamian Society, Aldenham School, Elstree, Herts WD6 3AJ



OLD ALDENHAMIAN SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER 2005

at the School on Friday 18th November, 2005
7.00pm to 11.00pm

Principal Guest and Speaker
Peter Leaver QC - OA (B & K58-63)

WIVES, HUSBANDS and PARTNERS ARE ALSO INVITED

DRESS BLACK TIE

TICKETS COST £35.00 PER PERSON

(Includes half bottle wine, 3 course dinner & coffee)

**OA DINNER - 18th November 2005
CAR PARKING**

Due to the shortage of car parking spaces at the School and the unavailability of the top field to park on in November, it would help enormously if where possible OAs attending the Dinner arranged to share cars or to arrive at the School by train and taxi. Alternatively, we suggest OAs park in Letchmore Heath and build up an appetite during the short walk up to the School.

Please complete and return this form together with your cheque made payable to "Old Aldenhamian Society" to: I G Luetchford, Esq., 41 The Rise, Elstree, Herts WD6 3JS

Name, house and dates at Aldenham:

Address:

_____ Post Code _____

Telephone No: _____ e-mail address: _____

I would like _____ tickets for the Dinner at £35.00 per ticket and enclose a cheque for
£ _____

(Please indicate if you have any special dietary requirements)
