

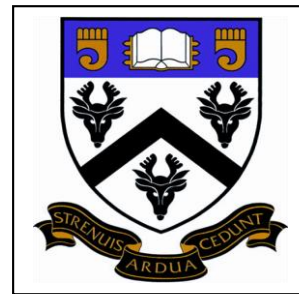


O.M.A.

Newsletter No. 82 January 2016

President: Colin A R Cutler BSc FPRI

Website: www.oldmaidonians.org.uk



The Newsletter of the Old Maidonians' Association

OMA Committee News

OMA Hon Treasurer After holding this office for more than 25 years Andy Bond will shortly begin the process of handing over to **Daniel Lister ACA (1998/2005)**, who joined the Committee in 2013. We record our gratitude to Andy for the long service he has given to the Association in this capacity. He is a **Director of Techex**.

Daniel, a former Head Boy, is a Finance Analyst with Johnson & Johnson. He works in their Consumer Healthcare division, based in Maidenhead.

OMA Hon Secretary. In our last issue we announced that Mrs Betty Collin was standing down from the Committee on health grounds but would continue to be the initial contact point for those wishing to get in touch with the Association, and would continue to deal with applications for membership and for the Annual Dinner. Betty, who joined the Committee 19 years ago, will therefore continue to be the Association's Hon Secretary and the Association is accordingly looking to recruit a Minutes Secretary. Please contact our Chairman, Grahame Fisher, if you feel you can help in any way.

War Memorial Board **Mike Willoughby (1958/64)**, whose researches had found 17 names of former pupils of the school to add to the War Memorial Board has now found the 18th, 2nd Lieutenant Charles Herbert Hudson, who was killed in action in France in 1915, and whose name has been added to the Board.

At its last AGM the Committee were pleased to invite Mike to be a Vice-President of the Association in recognition of his outstanding and painstaking efforts to bring to light the supreme sacrifice made by former pupils of the school. Mike's brother-in-law, **Colin Edwards (1946/52)** has been a Vice-President of the Association since 1999 when his sponsorship of the OMA Golf Section with the gift of golf balls for prizes for over 25 years was formally recognised.

Ian Wright CBE (1969/76) We congratulate Ian on being awarded the CBE in the Dissolution Honours List 2015, for political and public services. He is now the fifth Old Maidonian to have received this high honour, the others being **Geoffrey Cooper (1957/61)** in 2004, **Major General Nick Pope (1973/80)** in 2008, **Peter Jones (1977/82)** in 2009, and **Neil Woodford (1971/78)** in 2013.

Further information about Ian can be found in the *News of Old Maidonians* section of the Newsletter.

Annual Dinner – 20th March 2015 A total of 65 attended his event, including the Deputy Mayor, Cllr James Evans, an Old Etonian, who commented favourably on the fact that the pupils at both Eton and Desborough were benefiting from being at all-boys' schools.

Desborough's Principal, Paul Frazer, described the progress being made at the College. A further update is published on the next page.

Among those attending for the first time were two serving members of the armed forces, **Brigadier Matt Holmes RM DSO (1978/83)** and **Colonel Charlie Maconochie (1980/88)**, who were welcomed.

Changes of addresses/email address Please remember to let us know if you change your address or email address. After each issue we lose contact with a number of our members, with Newsletters and emails being returned as undeliverable.

Annual Dinner

Friday 18th March 2016

at 6.30pm for 7.30pm

At Maidenhead Golf Club

Booking form on back page

Chairman: Grahame Fisher, Bramleigh, Shoppenhangers Road, Maidenhead SL6 2PZ (01628 625555)

Hon. Sec: Mrs Betty Collin, 18 Badminton Road, Maidenhead SL6 4QT (01628 626349)

e-mail: bettycollin@oldmaidonians.org.uk

Hon. Treas: Andrew Bond, 60 Ray Park Avenue, Maidenhead SL6 8DX (07879 426442)

e-mail: andrewbond@oldmaidonians.org.uk

Committee: Colin Cutler (President), Mrs Helen Duncombe, Paul Frazer (Principal), Tony Lehain, Daniel Lister, Christopher Nunn, Robert Weston.

Overdue subscriptions If you have received notification that your subscription is due for renewal or is in arrears, we would ask you to please give this matter your attention before it slips your mind.

Email addresses If you have received this Newsletter by post and are now on email, we ask you to let us have your email address (by sending an email to omanewsletter@aol.com) so that we can send future issues by email, thereby cutting the Association's postage costs and cutting delivery time by 10 days or more.

News of the College

We thank Paul Frazer, the Principal, for contributing the following article.

When I first arrived at Desborough almost four years ago it quickly became apparent that, because of the small and steadily decreasing number of parents sending their sons to the school, it was in serious danger of becoming unviable and consequently facing closure. It is simply not possible for a secondary school with projected numbers of 300 pupils to survive.

You can imagine, then, the sense of relief and satisfaction that greeted the recent news from the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead that in September 2016 we will be over-subscribed for the first time in more than a decade with around 240 applicants for 189 places.

There are many reasons behind our school's resurgence, but the major one has to be the sheer bloody-minded determination of local governors who refused to accept what to some was the inevitable demise of a school with a proud history stretching back over a century. Led by Nigel Cook who is presently participating in a round -the -world clipper race and is speeding his way towards Vietnam as I write, and supported by Margaret Brown, the present Chair of Governors, and other local people including the late and much-missed Dan Jacoby and Colin Cox, a father of two Desborough College boys, they put in place strategies and plans that have led to our recovery.

It was they who took the decision to convert to an academy as members of The Education Fellowship and it was they who embraced the opportunity to work closely with Radley College, a partnership that is proving critical in our quest to achieve an "Outstanding" Ofsted judgement.

Through their hard work and, of course, the efforts of the Desborough College staff, the future is not merely secure but full of promise. We will maintain our improvement, further increase our popularity and grow until we have recruited the 1,200 boys that Desborough was designed to accommodate. Imagine how strong our First XV will be with 400 boys to choose from! Aside from one defeat in a national competition it has remained unbeaten all of this season with less than half that number from which to select. The honours boards in the main hall will once again celebrate a stream of Desborough boys furthering their education at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, and

the facilities and resources available to pupils through the additional funding will match those of other local schools.

When this has happened in four or five year's time and we have fully regained our reputation for excellence I shall entice Dai Evans to bring up to date his '100 Not Out' which covers the history of the school up to 1994.

Empty rhetoric? Wishful thinking? Neither! Just wait and see.

Paul Frazer

David Course Memorial match – 2015 took place in November with a win by Desborough over Claires Court School by 22 points to 10, in an entertaining game. Desborough are now leading the series by 5 games to 4. This series is in honour of **David Course (1966/73)**, who had a distinguished rugby career and was a key member of staff at Claires Court, as rugby coach and Second Master.

Old Maidonians' Sport

Golf

41st Annual Match v Desborough This match v Desborough, scheduled to take in April 2015, had to be cancelled as the College's pupil golfers were playing in other competitions and no Staff golfers were available.

41st Competition for the Brooks Cup - 2015

12 players took part in this competition which was won by **David Cooper (1972/79)**, playing in this competition for the first time. Last year's winner, 14 year-old Nadit Sondagar playing off a handicap 17, came 6th in this year's event, playing off a much reduced handicap of 6.

It was a special pleasure to welcome back two former winners of the Brooks Cup who joined the professional ranks. **Nick Scrutton (1998/2001)**, and **Will Dugdale (1987/84)**. Nick was a joint winner of the Brooks Cup in 2006 and an outright winner in 2007. He has been a professional since 2014, playing off a handicap of +2. Will is a former professional and an Oxford and Cambridge golf Blue, playing off a handicap of +1. In this competition, played off the yellow tees, he equalled the par of the course. He is now Head of German at *Dulwich College*.

	Handicap	Stableford Points	Ranking
David Cooper	28	40	Winner
Roger Keys	18	37	Runner-up
Saj Hussein	11	35	3rd
Will Dugdale	+1	35	4th
Peter McNicoll	22	33	5th
Nandit Sondagar	6	32	6 th

Rugby

The annual OMA v College took place on 16th December 2015 and the Colleges team, which, as stated in the

Principal's article above, have had a very successful season, enjoyed a convincing 47-0 win.

News of Old Maidonians

The Association is always pleased to hear from Old Maidonians, acknowledges with thanks the news they have provided about themselves and about other Old Maidonians, and invites members to send in their news. Please give dates of joining and leaving School in all communications, to assist in identification.

Robert Afia (1954-1959) writes: It was a pleasure to discover the Old Maidonians online. Having recently retired from a career as a structural engineer, I suppose reviewing one's past is a common thing to do?

After A-levels at Maidenhead Grammar and a further year at William Ellis School in North London, I did a Civil Engineering degree at Bristol University, where I was captain of golf, and president of the Jewish Society. I started golf at Maidenhead Golf Club at 15, but there was no school golf at that time. Between university and retirement, golf took a back step, but I am playing keenly again now at Highgate Golf Club, with a 9 handicap.

After a graduate year in Israel, I joined Ove Arup and Partners in London as a structural engineer, with a 2-year spell in Iran on one project from 1969 to 1971. I later worked in Arup Associates, a combined practice of architects, engineers and all the building design professionals. In 1981 I joined a small structural consulting engineering consultancy as a partner, and it grew to 90 staff by the time I left in 2000 to start my own consultancy working at home. That was when I learned to fly, bought my own single-engined aircraft, and subsequently built my own aircraft from a kit in my workshop at the bottom of the garden in NW London. I recall much plane-spotting at White Waltham in the 50's - older Old Maidonians may remember the Gannets that were stationed there with their distinctive noise. My plane resides at Elstree Aerodrome, and anyone who would like a flight should get in touch!

I'd like to contact two of my contemporaries at Maidenhead - **Mike Lucas** and **John Saxby**. If they or anyone who knows them reads this, please get in touch.

Nick Baldwin (1981-88) writes: Since my last update to the OMA Newsletter, I have got married, moved house and changed jobs so it is probably time to provide some more news.

In March of 2013, Nicola, my Zimbabwean partner and I were married in the Swedish Church in Marylebone in a very joyous Anglo-Afro-Swedish wedding and reception. This was swiftly followed by a fabulous birdwatching honeymoon to Costa Rica, and then close on the heels of that, a house move from Mile End to a lovely Victorian terrace in Streatham Common, which we are now in the process of rebuilding.

Our joint love for travel and birdwatching has continued to grow following a round the world trip in 2007-8 and since then, our passport pages have been steadily filled with stamps from much of Southern Africa, Morocco, Trinidad and Tobago, Singapore and Australia.

We were lucky enough to celebrate Christmas 2014 in Australia with some of Nicola's family, near Brisbane and whilst there, I was really pleased to be able to catch up with **Warren Sheehy (1981-86)**, who now lives there with his wife Jane and family, flying helicopters. Coincidentally **Nick Smith (1981-88)** has also recently moved to just north of Brisbane with his family, having spent a number of years in Buenos Aires.

On the work front, after having spent nearly 10 years working for IDT, an American international telecoms provider, I worked with a number of companies setting up small mobile phone networks (MVNOs) and then spent 3 ½ years working for Qustodian, a start-up in the preference-based mobile marketing sector. I am now working with my wife Nicola, supporting her in her interior design business, Nicola Holden Designs. My aim is to look after the operational elements of running the business so that she can concentrate on the creative side of things that she is very good at. So if anyone is looking for interior design services in the London area, please look us up.

I have also been visiting Maidenhead for the first time in many years, as my brother, **Peter Baldwin (1983-90)** has very recently moved back to Maidenhead, with his partner Kat and their daughter, Maya.

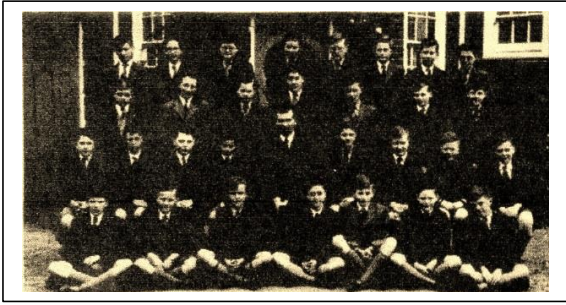
it is always good to hear from any Old Maidonians.

Philip Bass (1969-1975) writes: After leaving school and graduating from Exeter University I qualified as a solicitor specialising in aviation law. I had really wanted to be an airline pilot like my father but my eyesight was not up to standard. Luckily, being an aviation lawyer with Beaumont & Son (now merged with Clyde & Co) has been a wonderful experience and has enabled me to see the world at someone else's expense, and to get involved in a number of high profile air accident cases including recent widely publicised ones.

I spent 10 years based in Singapore but am now back in England working in the City and living in Fulham. I have 5 children who have flown the nest except for one who is starting teacher training. When I get the chance I visit my brother, **Michael (1981-1987)**, who moved to San Francisco 20 years ago and who works for Macy's. My mother still lives in Maidenhead so I still visit the town and pass by the old school.

Philip lives in Fulham

A (Tony) Dear (1958/59)



The above is a school photograph of part of the first year intake in September 1958. I am in the second row first on the left. Johnny Russel is in the row below, second from the left. He and I were pals, and both lived at RAF White Waltham in the service married quarters there. I also knew 'Bev' Beaven quite well – I think he's second from the right in the third row. The only other boy I remember positively had the surname Mann; he's in the bottom row in the light suit. I'd like to be reminded of the form master's name and any other boys that members remember.

Like many military 'brats', I'd moved around a lot before arriving at Maidenhead GS. I'd attended 5 primary schools (including one in Egypt) before White Waltham C of E School near our home.

The first year not only provided a good grounding in the 3 "Rs" etc but introduced general studies like astronomy (the planets), biology (the digestive system) and basic computers (binary maths) all of which I found intriguing and memorable.

Singing in the Madrigal Group, under the tutelage of Mr Hammersley (aka 'Hambone') was another broadening side of the curriculum. We went up to London to sing on BBC Radio at one stage. I also played rugby once or twice for one of the school's junior teams.

Unfortunately, I only spent a year at Maidenhead GS because my father was moved again in 1959. He was a technician on one of the UK's first Thor ICBM (Inter Continental Ballistic Missile) units based in North Lincolnshire. The nearest grammar school was in the market town of Brigg where I stayed until I was 16. The main challenge was learning how to kick a round ball!

Following in my father's footsteps I too joined the RAF at 16 – initially training as an aircraft technician. However, at the end of a 3 year apprenticeship I was commissioned as aircrew and became a navigator, flying the Shackleton and then the Nimrod in the maritime patrol role – monitoring and tracking soviet submarines.

I was lucky to see many parts of the world as a result – flying from bases in N. Ireland, Scotland, Cornwall and Malta; deploying to Norway, Iceland,

Gibraltar, Cyprus, Madagascar and the Persian Gulf; and visiting the USA and Canada, Hawaii, Hong Kong, Singapore and the Seychelles. As a senior officer, I worked in the MOD and in NATO headquarters in Belgium, the UK and USA, before finally retiring in 2008.

After my time in the regulars I took a civil service/reservist role helping provide the RAF element of "military assistance to the civil power". Among other things, that necessitated regular meetings with 'first responders' – Chief Constables, fire chiefs, first aid medics and representatives from the other 2 services and national governments.

In various crises we provided RAF personnel to drive fuel tankers, fire engines and ambulances when the civilian drivers/firemen were on strike; allocated others to assist in the destruction of cattle during the foot and mouth crisis; and organised RAF air assets – like the yellow, search and rescue helicopters that we used to operate and Chinook heavy lift helicopters moving sandbags, water pumps and personnel to areas under threat – to assist in floods or other emergencies.

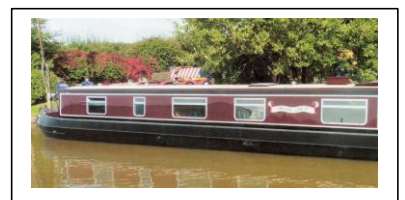
Nowadays, I live with my wife in Gloucestershire. Tony Dear – dearsrus@btinternet.com

Michael Devlin (1955/62) has been living in Nova Scotia for the last 10 years. At an earlier stage in his life he had lived for a period in Toronto. He tells us that he is living in Lunenburg, a small lobster fishing village on the south shore of Nova Scotia.

He is a member of the local church council. When ice and snow permit he enjoys walking by the sea with friends. He maintains contact with some of his contemporaries, including **Ken Charlton**, **Phil Cottrell** and **David Hight**. Some years ago, Mike set up the Devlin Prize for Initiative, awarded annually at Speech Day.

David Eyre (1963/79); Headteacher (1996/2005) In our last issue we published a photo of David's narrowboat in its embryonic state. Below is David's account of a busy 2015.

The narrowboat Ella went into the water at Rode Heath on the Trent and Mersey Canal on 28th September 2015! She is a 57 foot narrowboat, 17 tons of steel...and she is painted in Mercedes Red, black and cream.



We have already notched up 130 cruising hours, having visited Chester, Llangollen and traversed the world heritage site which is the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct.

My wife Janet maintains a blog which details our adventures...ellanbtravels.blogspot.co.uk

I made a full recovery from my fall in January 2015 and managed the trip to New Zealand in March visiting my sister and nephews and touring the South Island.

*We also made our annual trip to Paxos in September.
So our retired life is now divided between our home in
Market Drayton and the narrowboat!
I am on Facebook if any member of the OMA is
[interested in making contact.](#)*

Clive E R Hammond (1957/62) has been active in the Scout movement since the age of 7. He was a Scout and Senior Scout with the 18th Maidenhead, (based at the School), later becoming the Scout Leader of 21st Maidenhead (Cox Green) Scout Group, a position he held for some 27 years before becoming the Explorer Scout Leader (14 to 18 year olds) in 2003, a position he continues to hold. For his outstanding services to Scouting he was awarded the prestigious Silver Acorn in 2012.

After leaving school, Clive served a five years apprenticeship with the Southern Electricity Board (SEB), being trained in all departments. He then moved to a company in Windsor manufacturing X-ray equipment for metal castings, before going into partnership with two former SEB colleagues, mainly providing equipment for swimming pools. After some 12 years the partners went their separate ways. Clive worked for five years with Honeywell Control Systems on the sales side before moving to Trent Control Systems, dealing with intelligent heating controls for large office blocks. He now works on his own in the heating control field.

Clive is married to Shirley, a long-term Guide leader, Guide Commissioner and Group Scout Leader. He has three sons and three stepdaughters.

Mark S Pagdin (1993/2000) has recently changed his surname by Deed Poll to **Pinkepank-Pagdin**, following his marriage in 2015 to Svenja Pinkepank. Svenja, who is German, and Mark, decided to join their names to preserve her very rare surname for the next generation.

Mark has now become a Life Member of the OMA and recently moved from Maidenhead to the Stockwell area of Greater London. He works in the IT department of Capula Investment Management. He has a keen interest in cars, watching all forms of motorsport, including local events and Formula 1, as well as participating in track days.

The Pope family

We are indebted to Marion Pope, wife of **Michael (1947/54)** for the following information about the family. Both are still involved in Wargrave Bowls Club, where Michael is Secretary and Greenkeeper. Marion will have been on the Wargrave Parish Council for 40 years in April 2016. Both their sons have received major appointments during the year, on which we congratulate them.

Christopher Pope OBE(1971/78) is now Group Chief Communications Officer at the Department of Business and Innovation and Skills in London, having previously been Resources Director with the London Borough of Newham.

He lives with his wife and younger son Charlie at Assington in Sussex. James, his eldest is in catering, Laura is a teacher and Charlotte, in Waitrose Management, is getting married in 2016.

Lt Gen Nicholas Pope CBE (1973/80), has recently been promoted to Lieutenant General with the title of Deputy Chief of General Staff and 2nd in command of the British Army. This is the highest rank in the Armed Forces ever achieved by an Old Maidonian. He lives with his wife Joanna, a Doctor, in Salisbury and is currently in charge of bringing all the troops home from Germany.

He is now a grandfather. Their eldest daughter lives in Jersey with her husband. Their son Alex works for the Ghurkha Welfare Trust, Emily is at Sherborne in the sixth form having gained 12A* at GCSE level and Lucy has joined Godolphin School in Salisbury on a Music and Academic Scholarship. Chris' and Nick's sister is a primary school Head Teacher in Ascot.

Will Torrent (1977-2004), son of **Peter Torrent**, former Director of Music at Desborough, is now a celebrated authority in pastry culinary. He is about to publish his third book, his two previous books being 'Pâtisserie at Home', a bestseller published in 2013, and 'Chocolate at Home', published in 2014.

He is a consultant pastry chef to Waitrose and Global Ambassador for Cacao Barry. He is a member of the Craft Guild of Chefs, and the Academy of Chocolate & Guild of Food Writers. He hosts culinary presentations at major trade and public events including Cake International.

His website is www.willtorrent.com

The Warnell (formerly Crump) brothers

Graeme Warnell (formerly Graeme Crump) 1981/89 has informed us that he and his brother **Laurence (1977/84)** have changed their surnames from **Crump** to **Warnell**. At school they both represented the school in rugby, athletics, hockey and cricket, gaining full senior colours.

After graduation Graeme joined Mobil before moving to BP Oil 25 years ago. He has worked in the UK, Europe, South Africa, USA and Azerbaijan, and in a very varied career has managed Retail Engineering, Procurement, Environmental Response, Human Resources and Fraud and Misconduct. He will be leaving BP this year to set up his own Consultancy focusing more on environmental and bio remediation products.

Graeme is currently living with his family in Krakow, Poland but returns to the UK on business every 2 weeks.

Laurence Warnell runs his own legal practice in Ascot and has twin boys aged 8.

Barrie Williams (member of staff 1973/99) and his wife Diane have recently moved from Holyport to Charvil,

Reading. Barrie, a graduate of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, joined the school in its first year as a comprehensive when it was renamed as Desborough. He joined the English Department with Bob Stanley as Head of Department and succeeded him when Bob Stanley became Head of Sixth Form. Barrie, with assistance from Diane, produced a number of memorable productions including *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*, *The Long and the Short and the Tall*, *Journey's End*.

Since retiring, Barrie took up Spanish in a serious way and now teaches the subject.

Barrie would welcome contact from former pupils and members of staff. His address is 29, East Park Farm Drive, Charvil, RG10 9UG.

Ian Wright CBE (1969/76) We congratulate Ian on being awarded the CBE in the 2015 Dissolution Honours List for political and public services. He was a former Head Boy and took part in several notable school drama productions including *The Royal Hunt of the Sun*. He read History at St Catharine's College, Cambridge.

We also congratulate Ian on his appointment in May 2015 as Director General of the Food and Drink Federation, representing the interests of the UK's largest manufacturing sector, with over 400,000 employees. He is currently leading the industry's response to initiatives to reduce the level of sugar in food and drinks in the fight against the obesity.

Before joining the Food and Drink Federation he was a Director of Boots The Chemists and from 2000 to 2014 was Corporate Relations Director Of Diageo the major drinks company.

Ian has long been a supporter of the Liberal Democrats. He has been a close supporter of, and an adviser to three recent leaders of the Party - Paddy Ashdown, Ming Campbell and, most recently, Nick Clegg.

Ian has been married for 28 years to Judith Gilboy. They have two children Katie (19) and Ian (25). They live in Rutland and London, where Ian works on weekdays.

In Memorium

We regret to report the deaths of the following and extend our sympathies to the families.

Dennis John Bray (1937/40) died in January 2015 at the age of 91. We are indebted to **John M Smith (1958/65)** for the following tribute to Dennis, his brother-in-law's brother.

Dennis was born in London on 1st October 1923. He moved to Maidenhead when he was 13 and attended



Maidenhead County Boys' School, leaving in 1939 to take up an apprenticeship in the Post Office Engineers Department, where he learned to install switchboards, teleprinters and Air Raid Alarms.

At 18, he volunteered to join the RAF and was accepted for pilot training. After training on Hurricanes and Spitfires, Dennis was posted to join 225 Squadron in Naples. He flew 100 sorties over enemy territory, flying the Mk IX photo-reconnaissance Spitfire.

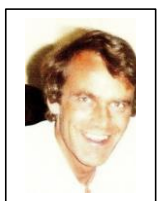
Dennis was demobbed in 1947. He qualified for a full-time Government business course and joined the Pirelli General Company in Eastleigh. There, after 2 years of training, he became an engineer and so enjoyed this work that he continued there for 37 years, finally retiring after becoming Assistant to the Managing Director.

In 1952, Dennis married his beloved Ann. After the birth of their only daughter Gillian, they settled down in a new house in West End, Southampton – which was to be their home for the rest of their lives. Their life was busy, filled with work, church and family events. Gillian went away to university in Nottingham and then stayed on in the area to work as a teacher, so Dennis and Ann would regularly visit and enjoy short breaks in the Peak District. A grandson, Ruebyn, was born in 1993. Dennis continued to follow Gillian's career with great interest and was particularly proud when she became a Professor in 2011. After Ann died in 1998, despite his devastating loss, Dennis was determined to stay independent.

He was one of the founder members of the Spitfire Society and retained strong links with his 225 Squadron friends.

Dennis always said that he'd had a great life and was ready to 'go' whenever that happened. He was loved by many people. As friends have described him, he was "a real old fashioned gent" and "a true hero – decent to all, courageous and modest". A great credit to the school.

Ivan Charles Higgins (1965/70) died at Easter 2015 of emphysema at the age of 64. His ex-wife, Fiona Stone, tells us that after leaving school, Ivan before joined Victor Value which then became Tesco. He showed great enthusiasm and aptitude for retail work that he was moved to their Head Office in Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, where, with his creative flair he made rapid progress.



Among his achievements was the co-design and production of the board game, 'Go for Gold' which came out in time for the 1988 Olympics, with a launch in Hamley's, London and sales through major outlets such as 'Toys R Us', as well as through Tesco stores.

Ivan leaves a son, Ian Higgins, aged 32, who gained a 1st at Oxford and is now a barrister working and living in London.

Revd Cyril G Payne (1937/42) died on 27th December 2014 at the age of 88 years. He had been in a nursing home

for nearly three years. We thank his widow, Shelah, for the following account of Cyril's life.

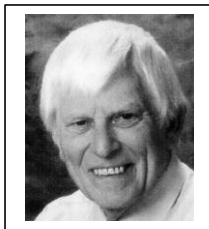
Cyril did his National Service in the Fleet Air Arm as a photographer, mostly in Malta, and this sparked a lifelong interest in photography. He then went to Bristol University, reading Greek, History and Philosophy, after which he went to Lincoln Theological College. He was ordained in St. Paul's Cathedral in 1955 and served his first curacy in Southall under the Revd. Stanley Spencer who had been Vicar of St Mary's, Maidenhead in the 1940's and early 1950's. We then moved to Hampshire and Cyril was involved in various livings here until retiring in 1990 to Lymington.

He joined the local choirs wherever we were living and there was always his model railway, stamp collection – and occasional gardening(!) to fit in. Working from home was always a full time occupation with so many people in and out but it was a very privileged vocation to which he was wholeheartedly dedicated and really loved.

Our three children were born in the 1960's and are all living within reasonable distance and visit often. In fact, with our two grandchildren and parents we were all together at a local hotel enjoying a post Christmas lunch when Cyril suddenly collapsed at the dinner table. It was a tremendous shock for us but such a wonderful way for him with his family all around him and we can only be thankful that he could have known nothing about it.

Shelah, nee Hudson, was at Maidenhead County Girls School from 1941 to 1947.

Luke J Over MBE (1943/47) died in November 2015 at the age of 84. He was a man of many parts. His career was in the Accounts Department of ICI Paints Division, Slough. However, he had studied archaeology in London and took part in a number of digs in the Maidenhead area and across Berkshire. He was a founder member, and later President of The Maidenhead Archaeological and Historical Society and for 25 years was the Secretary of Berkshire Archaeological Society. He was a prolific author, publishing 67 books as well as contributing very many articles on local history and archaeology in the *Maidenhead Advertiser*. For his distinguished services to archaeology in Berkshire he was awarded the MBE in 1995.



Luke was also a founding member of the Grimm players amateur dramatic group, later becoming a joint-president, with his wife, Maureen, for many years. The group's initial productions were all based on tales by the Grimm Brothers, with the scripts being written or co-written by Luke.

Following a visit to the Isles of Scilly many years ago, Luke and Maureen formed a close attachment to the islands, becoming frequent visitors and well-known there.

Luke had been a frequent attender of the OMA annual Dinners over the years and a number of Old Maidonians were present at the service to celebrate his life.

Kenneth R Pike (1940/43) died in June 2015 at the age of 87. We are indebted to **Peter Brown (1942/47)** for the following tribute.

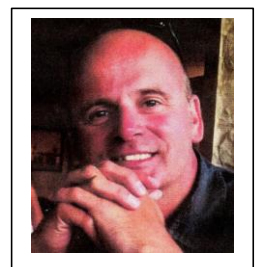
After National Service in the RAF Ken joined Cyril Jones, Auctioneers and Estate Agents in King Street, Maidenhead. In the early '50s he left to set up business in Twyford as Pike and Smith with his friend, Reg Smith. Some 5 years later the opportunity arose of acquiring the premises of Walton and Townsend in Queen Street, Maidenhead, which Ken ran very successfully, while Reg continued to run the Twyford branch. They were joined some years later by Daniel Kemp and the firm then became Pike, Smith and Kemp, a much-respected firm dealing with all aspects of property.

During this period Ken met his future wife, Elena, whilst on holiday in Spain. After the marriage in Spain they set up home in Cookham Rise where they brought up their 4 children. Prior to marriage Ken converted to Catholicism, becoming a devout, and later an important part, of St Elizabeth's Church in Cookham.

Always seeking to make use of his experience in the world of property he was one of the founder members of the Cookham Housing Aid Society. A number of other professionals joined the Committee and the Society became very successful in getting many people on the property ladder as well as giving them housing on reasonable and achievable terms. The Society later merged with the Ealing and Greater London Housing Aid Society.

Ken was always interested in the education of Children and was for many years on the Board of St Bernard's Convent, Slough, and right up to the last was a strict and fair member of the Appeals Committee. Ken will always be remembered for his commitment, his idealism, his sense of fair play and his devotion to whatever cause he supported.

Howard Vizer (1974/79) died tragically at the age of 52, in October 2015, following a motor accident. He was the youngest brother of **Nicholas (70/76)** and **Martin (70/77)**. We are indebted to Martin, Nick Snell and some of his other contemporaries for the following tribute. He is remembered by his school friends as easy-going, good company and an excellent mimic of several of the masters, including Mr Wells, Mr Lee and Mr Merritt.



Howard came to Maidenhead from Lisburn, Northern Ireland when he was 7 and went to Larchfield School before starting at Desborough. Other alumni of his Larchfield and Desborough year group include, **Quentin Manley, Tim Ashcroft, Michael Webster, Robert Woodford** and **Nick Snell**. Howard was in Spoor House (blue PE kit trim) allocated there due to the culture of the day being that you went to the house of your elder siblings (**Nicholas** and **Martin**).

After leaving Desborough in the 5th form Howard went to Windsor and Maidenhead College and subsequently completed a business degree at Newlands College, Chalfont St Giles now the University of Buckinghamshire. Howard stayed in touch **with Quentin Manley (74/81)**, (recent travels to the USA), and **Roger Craddock (74/79)**, (foreign travels and regular squash matches).

Howard spent most of his working life in the automotive industry in a sales capacity. Whilst working for automotive parts concern Saint Gobain (windcreens), he met his wife Cathy. They spent 4 years working for Saint Gobain in Breda in The Netherlands where Howard became a proficient Dutch language speaker. He also worked for DAF, Honda, Hella and Grote and recently secured a large contract for Grote with JCB resulting in a salesmanship award.

Howard and Cathy enjoyed a strong and supportive relationship, strengthened by the arrival of their daughters Ellie and Nicola, now 15 and 13 respectively. The family bond was strong and they enjoyed doing things together. An accomplished piano player in his schooldays, Howard enjoyed a recent renaissance in music due to Ellie and Nicola both learning to play the piano. Family walks around the village of Longcot near Swindon with his beloved springer spaniel Jack were one of the many activities that bound the family together. He took a great pride in all of Ellie and Nicola's many achievements. To his girls, nephews and niece he was known as "fun" Howard as he initiated many activities and games for the children on holidays with his extended family. He enjoyed travel both with his family and on business, visiting Florida and France recently with his family as well as travelling to Germany and the US with work.



Howard's work in the car industry reflected the pleasure he got from them in his free time. His much loved cars included a Triumph Vitesse, a Triumph Stag, a Smart Roadster, a Lotus Elise, an MGB GT and an MG Midget which he raced for many years

Howard was a people person, as attested to by the 200 + people who attended his funeral, with many travelling from Europe to be there. A fine friend and family man, he will be greatly missed.

Table Plan for the Annual Dinner 28th March 2014

Table 1

Bert Bellworthy
Betty Collin
Bill Collin
Colin Cutler
Colin Edwards
Cllr James Evans
Grahame Fisher
Paul Frazer
Brigadier Matt Holmes DSO
RM
Colonel Charlie Maconochie

Table 2

Andy Bond
Lisa Colley
Helen Duncombe
David Evans
Gurinder Gill
Dawn Hughes
Tony Lehain
Chris Nunn
Steve Reed
James Ward
Rob Watson

Table 3

Jackie Carr
James Cox
Myles Faulkner
Andy King
Henry King
James McGill
James McInerney
Martyn Nicholas
Simran Rai
Christina Sansom
George Weston

Table 4

Ray Barnes
Ray Clark
Steve Godfrey
Fred Hearman
Tony Hearman
Richard Hildreth
John Moses
John Nash
John Powell
Bart Sams
Barrie Woolford

Table 5

Ian Baker
Graham Bridges
Pat Folliard
Dave Horton
Philip Palmer
David Scott
John Smith

Table 6

Doug Courtney
David Revell
Geoff Strawbridge
Chris Thirkettle
Mike Willoughby

Table 7

John Caton
Tony Johnson
Tony Leaver
Jack Tomlin
Derek Woolford

Table 8

Mike Clyde
Mike Courtney
Colin Funnell
Chris Maltin

We regret that the following names were omitted from those attending – Bob Allan, Colin Hurley and Mike Wlikey, to whom we apologise.

OMA Annual Dinner – Booking Form

Friday 18th March 2016 at 6.30 pm for 7.30 pm

You are warmly invited to come to the above event in the cordial surroundings of Maidenhead Golf Club. As in recent years there will be no guest speaker and other speeches will be kept to a minimum to give those attending more opportunity to converse with other members present.

The ticket price has had to be increased to £25 for members and £27 for Old Maidonians who are not members of the Association. Those joining on the night will be refunded the £2 difference in ticket price.

For those who would like to visit the School there will be an opportunity of making a tour at 5 pm, starting at the School Reception. Please mark the form below accordingly.

If you or any members of your party require a vegetarian meal, please indicate on the form below.

The bar will close at 11.30 pm and the Club will close at 11.45 pm.

Tickets will be available only from Mrs Betty Collin, although orders may be left at the School Office, care of Mrs Read.

All orders must be accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. Tickets will be issued only for named Old Boys. Members wishing to make party bookings must name those on whose behalf they are purchasing tickets.

Please use the booking-form and complete all requested details. **Bookings cannot be accepted if they arrive after Monday 14th March 2016.**

To: Mrs Betty Collin, 18 Badminton Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4QT (tel: 01628 626349); e-mail bettybillcollin@gmail.com

Name* Address.....

..... Tel.....

Email address..... At School from t.o.....

I wish to attend the Annual Dinner on Friday 18th March 2016 and I shall be in a party which includes the Old Maidonians whose names and addresses are listed below. I enclose a cheque (endorsed a/c payee only) drawn to the Old Maidonians' Association, **together with a stamped and addressed envelope, please,** for tickets as follows:

.....tickets at £23 each, ...tickets at £25 each. The total value of my cheque is £.....

(Signed).....

Years at School

Names* and initials of party Address from..... to.....

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

5.....

6.....

*Please include first name (or name known by) and initials

Numbers of vegetarian meals required

Names of those interested in touring the school at 5 pm.....

.....

.....

Continue on a separate sheet, if necessary