



# O.M.A.



Newsletter No. 72 December 2006

President: David W.D. Eyre BA (Hons)

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## *The Newsletter of the Old Maidonians' Association*

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### *OMA Committee News*

#### **Annual Dinner – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2005**

This year's Dinner broke new ground in a number of ways. Because of major building work taking place on the School site, this year's Dinner was held at Maidenhead Golf Club, immediately opposite the School. This departure from a long tradition of Annual Dinners being held in the School Hall meant that 6<sup>th</sup> Formers were not required to wait at the tables.

The attendance this year was higher than for many years, reaching the capacity of the Golf Club of 120. A very significant factor in this figure was the quite outstanding effort and persistence of **Richard Pearce (1965/71)** in getting 39 of his year group and former members of staff to the Dinner. .

A third new factor was the engagement of a professional entertainer in the place of a guest speaker. The Association was pleased to welcome sponsorship for this event by Optex (Europe) Ltd, thanks to the good offices of **Peter Harries (1967/72)**.

The Mayor of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, Cllr Emrys Richards, proposed the toast to the Association and the School, remarking on the high reputation the School enjoys in the locality.

David Eyre, responding as President of the Association, referred to the 16 years he had spent at the school, 7 years as a pupil and 9 year as Head Teacher. He was proud of everything the school stood for. At the start of his Headship the School was undersubscribed and staff felt under threat as a result of the fall in numbers. Numbers had rapidly increased

and had for some time been at the maximum for the capacity of the school.

### **Annual Dinner**

**Will take place on  
Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006  
At 6.30pm for 7.45pm  
At Maidenhead Golf Club  
Booking form on back page**

With the change from Grant Maintained status to Local Education Authority control, there was now full collaboration with other schools in the Borough, to the benefit of pupils and staff. The refurbishment of the Main Building, funded by the Local Education Authority, would produce high quality teaching areas.

The only reason for his leaving was because an opportunity had arisen in his home town of Basingstoke for him to take on a school that had been attended by his three daughters. He would miss Desborough, but not the travelling. During the summer term the School would be in the very experienced hands of Steve Reed who would be handing over to Andrew Linnell, currently Head of the prestigious Reading School.

The Head Boy, Daniel Lister, responding on behalf of the School referred to the importance of the Head Boy role, saying that he had only been absent for one day but on his return had found that the Head had handed in his notice!

### **Message from Julian Pearson**

We are pleased to publish the following message from **Julian Pearson (1974/79)** – see '*News of Old Maidonians*') and we hope that members will respond to his invitation.

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**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: william.collin@btinternet.com*

**Hon. Treas:** Andrew Bond, 71 Furrow Way, Maidenhead SL6 3NY (01628 825902)

**Committee:** James Clarke (Head Boy), David Eyre (President), Michael Hudson, Malcolm Kempton, Nick Lamb (Deputy Head Boy), Andrew Linnell (Headmaster), Colin Cutler, Tony Lehain, Andrew Mackie (Deputy Head Boy), Paul Malpass, Christopher Nunn, Mark Turner, Robert Weston.

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*Most Old School Alumni in the USA trawl their wealthier members for donations of cash. My personal belief is that this puts a high demand on a very few people, when almost all members have something they could offer... Knowledge. A few of our Old Maid members have kindly pledged a number of hours of their professional time, to provide advice and services to the school, which would otherwise have to be paid for. Some business managers, not just business owners, have volunteered to come into school and provide 'Real life' scenarios for the Business Studies classes.... from setting up a business, to Project and Programme Management, which the pupils can work with, research and provide their own Business Plans or Project documentation, which can then be assessed in a return visit, against not just the real thing, but the real outcome.*

*If you have a skill, whether Technical, Business or trade, and you are willing to donate some of your time to pass on that knowledge to the next generation, or even to provide limited free labour or services for a repair or construction project, then please e-mail Julian Pearson at [oldmaid@julianprojects.co.uk](mailto:oldmaid@julianprojects.co.uk) so that he can put together a prospective opportunity list to go to the school.*

### **River Cruise**

There has been no River Cruise this year as no viable suitable cruise could be found. The Committee will continue to monitor possibilities in case there is a change in the availability and cost of cruises.

### **Annual Dinner – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006**

There appeared to be general agreement by those attending last year's Dinner that the venue, Maidenhead Golf Club, had been a major factor contributing to its success. Next year's Dinner will therefore also be held at the Golf Club, even though the Club has substantially increased its charges. The ticket cost will therefore increase from £19.50 to £22.50. Members are assured of a high quality meal, in very comfortable surroundings and an excellent bar. We hope that you will make a special effort to attend and that you will contact your friends to make up a party for the Dinner. The application form is on page 16.

### **Wilfred Upson Prize - 2005**

This prize is awarded to the Old Maidonian who has brought most repute to the School during the year. We congratulate **Squadron Leader R (Dicky) Patounas (1981/88)** on being awarded the prize this year. He led the world-renowned RAF Red Arrows team with distinction during the past year and his appointment in that role will continue during the coming year. He

will, unfortunately, not be able to attend the 2006 Annual Dinner to be presented with the prize, as the Red Arrows will be doing three displays on that day.

### **Rugby Match v School and Christmas Get Together – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2005**

The Rugby match will take place at the School, starting at 2 pm. The reunion will take place at Maidenhead Rugby Club from 7 pm, with a two-course meal being served at 8 pm. After the meal members of the PE staff will make presentations to individuals in the School team, reflecting the contribution they have made to the team during the season. The cost of the meal will be £7.

The reunion is intended to provide an excellent opportunity for those who have left the School in recent years to get together during the Christmas break. Those interested in playing in the match and/or taking part in the reunion are asked to telephone Mrs Angie Plumer at the School (01628 634505).

### **School War Memorial Board**

This board commemorates the names of those members of the armed forces who died in the two World Wars, 4 in WW1 and 28 in WW2. We are now aware that there are at least four names missing from the board. As a result of the researches of a grandniece we now know that three of the four Scott brothers who attended Maidenhead Modern School, which became Maidenhead County Boys School in 1908, all died in WW1. The family lived in Kings Grove, Maidenhead. The three who were killed are:-

*Henry James Scott*, Sgt, the London Regiment (Prince of Wales' Own Civil Service Rifles), died of wounds after being hit by a grenade, in January 1916, aged 27. He is buried in the Communal Cemetery, Noeux-les-Mines, France. On leaving school he had gone to London University and had then joined the Civil Service. He had been a member of Maidenhead Football Club and the Norfolkians.

*Alfred Keith Scott* DCM, RSM Cameron Highlanders. He had been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal in the King's Birthday Honours for bravery in the field. He was killed by a shell in October 1916, aged 25. At the time of his promotion to Regimental Sergeant Major he was believed to be the youngest soldier in the British Army to hold the rank. He is buried in Adanac Military Cemetery, Miraumont, France. Prior to enlisting he was in the Chief Accountants Office, Paddington Station.

*Douglas John Scott*, Sgt, the London Regiment (London Scottish) in April 1918. He was a member of the Maidenhead Football Club Committee and was Deputy Captain of the Reserves for some years. He was killed in action with the Egyptian Expeditionary Force and is buried in Jerusalem War Cemetery.

The Maidenhead Modern School started in 1894 but existing admission records start from 1901. However the obituaries of the above in The Maidenhead Advertiser refer to them having been educated at the school.

In addition to the above, *Rupert Ernest Neve* (1903/09), serving as a Lieutenant in the Royal Flying Corps, died 26<sup>th</sup> January 1918. He is buried in Maidenhead Cemetery.

The names will be added to the Memorial Board.

#### OMA Website

The Committee is anxious to establish a website, linked to that of the School and will do so as soon as the necessary expertise is acquired.

### *In Memoriam*

#### **Cecil Frederick Gleed (1925/2004)**

**Cecil Gleed ('Len') (1937/41)** joined the RAF in 1943 and volunteered for air crew in Bomber Command, where he became a rear gunner and was renamed 'Len' by his crew mates. By misstating his age he joined the RAF underage and 'celebrated' his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday on a flying mission over Germany. He flew dozens of operational missions throughout the remainder of the war and survived being shot down over Belgium and a near-fatal crash-landing back in the UK. After the war, he worked for a number of companies including Massey-Ferguson (designing tractor shovels), Waterer's and Gough Cooper, a house building company, (as a regional manager).

A knee injury curtailed his football career, so he became a referee and worked his way up to Football League level before retirement. He was an active member of the Scout movement and became a Commissioner in Berkshire. He was a keen fisherman and in his latter years he was Secretary and Captain of the Twyford Bowls Club and represented Berkshire. He was a keen supporter of blind bowlers. It was during a game of his beloved bowls that he suffered a massive heart attack and died on 3rd July 2004. A much-loved family man who will be sorely missed, Cecil is survived by his wife, Eileen, two sons, Stephen (see *News of Old Maidonians*) and Gary, and daughter, Lesley.

#### **Derek Maidment (1946/2005)**

**Derek Maidment (1957/1963)** died shortly after moving to France earlier this year. We are grateful to **Graham Powell (1958/65)** (see *News of Old Maidonians*) for providing the following tribute:

*It is with deep regret that I heard of the death of Derek Maidment who was a pupil at Maidenhead Grammar School from 1957 until 1963. Derek was my next-door neighbour in Maidenhead and a great friend. We spent many hours outside of school together and I remember many evenings spent playing snooker in the hall above Burton's in the High Street as it was then. Derek was a big lad and was always there to protect me, particularly at the beginning of my school days. Although, as I moved to Austria, we began to lose touch, it was Derek who wrote at Christmas and always included a letter of the past year's activities. Derek had a great wit and this always came through in his letters.*

*In his late 50's, Derek began to suffer from heart problems and decided to do what he always wanted to do - retire early and move to France. He and his wife bought a property in south Brittany and moved there at the beginning of 2005. Sadly the pleasure of retirement was only short-lived and Derek died of a heart-attack shortly afterwards. Derek is survived by his wife Pauline, his daughter Jo and his son David. Our deepest sympathy goes to his family. Although they only moved to France at the beginning of the year, Pauline has decided to stay in the house they bought.*

Derek was apprenticed in the building trade and afterwards became a warehouseman. He married Pauline Holroyd in 1972. In 1982 they moved to Whitbourne, a village in Worcestershire. Derek became a founder member of the village cricket team and created the pitch from a farmer's field. He was a player and groundsman until the team lost its ground in 2001. He played table tennis for the local town of Bromyard, rode a motorcycle to work until he retired and had a vast stamp collection.

Pauline would be pleased to hear from anybody who knew them.

#### **John Merritt (1930/2005)**

**John Merritt (member of staff 1959/89)** died in May 2005. His funeral was attended by a number of members of staff, past and present, and by representatives of the Old Maidonians and the School Governors. He was a voracious book reader and keen stamp collector.

David Evans, in his history of the School, 'One Hundred Not Out', described John in the following words: *Mr Merritt was a strong supporter of the old academic virtues of hard work, individual research and a methodical approach to problems, all of which he skilfully adapted to any new schemes like Nuffield Science. He took great pride in the achievements of his pupils and was very supportive of his departmental colleagues. Mr Merritt was very much a member of 'the old school' and the values which he represented*

were respected by the thousands of pupils who passed through his hands.'

#### Charlie George Wilkinson 1984/2005

It is with much regret that we report the tragic death of **Charlie Wilkinson (1995/2002)**, just before his 21<sup>st</sup> birthday in February 2005. He died at Lincoln University, where he was reading History, having recently returned from an enjoyable skiing trip with friends and family. He was an expert skier, and had taken part in a number of school ski trips. Charlie was 6'3" and a larger-than-life character. His principal interests were soccer, cricket and poplar music.



**Chris Nunn (1966/73)**, Assistant Headteacher at Desborough has written as follows:- *Charlie loved skiing and both students and staff have fond memories of him from the school trips that he enjoyed so much. Anybody who knew Charlie will recall his easy-going personality and his pleasant and friendly nature that made him so popular with everyone he met. His love of football and Arsenal in particular, was shared by many. It was a great shock to the 'Desborough family' to hear the tragic news. The amazing support the family received at his funeral (over 400 attended the service at Holy Trinity Church, Cookham) was very much appreciated and his old Desborough friends were well represented at the service. We will remember Charlie with great affection.*

Charlie's football coach at Lincoln paid the following tribute to Charlie in the University magazine:- *If when you think of Charlie you do not think of something that does not make you smile then it is probably because you did not know Charlie. He was one of those people who you were always happy to see around the campus and you would always hope to bump into on a night out. He was a big likeable lump of a kid who flitted among us in an ample frame of a 20 year old from Maidenhead. Possessing a child-like innocence that would often earn him stick from his closest friends, Charlie always endeavoured to please those around him and perhaps will never have understood just how much joy he brought to the lives of others.*

*One of Charlie's main passions was his football, particularly his beloved Arsenal and throughout his all too brief time in Lincoln he was a committed and integral part of the University's 4<sup>th</sup> team. The 4<sup>th</sup>s have been built around a core of spirit and enjoyment, all of which were encapsulated best in Charlie. It is in true endearment to Charlie's character and outlook in life that his passing will have a bearing on so many other lives. All who knew Charlie and were close to*

*him have lost a very close friend and as for those who did not know him, they have lost a friend they were yet to make.*

Charlie joined Maidenhead Boys Football Club at the age of 8 and stayed with them until graduating to 5 a-side football. Given Charlie's lifelong support for Arsenal it is perhaps not surprising that his favourite book and film was 'Fever Pitch' by fellow Old Maidonian **Nick Hornby (1968/75)**. Charlie had made the same journey to Highbury many times and the Arsenal v Norwich match programme on 3<sup>rd</sup> April carried a special tribute to him.

During his gap year Charlie did a stint in the wine department at Waitrose, Maidenhead, before going to Legoland where he became a team leader. Charlie's interest in History had been inspired by his History teacher, Mr Jonathan Standen, and he planned to become a history teacher.

We extend our condolences to Charlie's parents and to his sister, Camilla, an ex-Newlands pupil.

### Old Maidonians Sport

#### Golf

##### 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Match v School – 4<sup>th</sup> April 2005

The School reversed last year's result and won this match by 5.5 to 3.5. The OMA team was Mike Clyde (1955/61), Colin Cutler (1936/43), Grahame Fisher (1952/59), Terry Gower (1955/60), Roger Keys (1974/77), Mark Salmon (1973/80), Nick Scrutton (2000/03), Nick Snell (1974/79), Roy Squire (1945/50).

##### 31<sup>st</sup> Competition for the Brooks Cup – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2005

For the past 2 years the Cup had been won by members of the School, Adam Short in 2003 and his brother, Sam, in 2004. From a field of 18 players, the winner this year was Old Maidonian Mark Salmon (1973/80).

The leading results were:

|                 |                | Handicap | Points |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|--------|
| Winner          | Mark Salmon    | 11       | 37     |
| Runner-up       | Geoff Ponter   | 18       | 34     |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Nick Scrutton  | 2        | 34     |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Roy Squire     | 14       | 33     |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> | Grahame Fisher | 18       | 32     |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> | Sam Short      | 16       | 31     |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> | Michael Jones  | 7        | 31     |

Nearest to pin on 10<sup>th</sup> green Michael Jones  
 Nearest to pin on 16<sup>th</sup> green Alan Harding  
 Longest drive on 18<sup>th</sup> Michael Jones

#### Fixtures for 2006

Match v School - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

Competition for the Brooks Cup – Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July (a change from Monday as the School term ends on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July)

Both events will take place at Maidenhead Golf Club. If you are interested in taking part in these matches please contact Colin Cutler (01628 629130); e-mail [colinarcutler@aol.com](mailto:colinarcutler@aol.com)

### Weddings

**Phil Clark (member of staff, former Head of Maths; currently Systems Manager)** was married in March to Ratchada Khamsaen at the Maidenhead Register Office. The reception was held at the Thai



Restaurant, Market Street, Maidenhead. The honeymoon was spent in the Lake District. Ratchada (known as Nida) comes from Uttaradit, a provincial city in a farming area about 300 miles north of Bangkok. The couple first met in the summer of 2003 and Ratchada first came to the UK in August last year.

Best man was **Chris Nunn (1967/73)**. Other current and former members of Staff present were Chris Duggan, Marcus Gale, Wayne Stewart and John Tucker. Phil and Nida live in Maidenhead.

### News of the School

The School has had the unusual experience of having had three Headteachers this year. The impending departure of **David Eyre (1963/70)** was reported in our last issue. He left the School at Easter after nine years as Head to take up the Headship of Brighton Hill Community School in Basingstoke. The acting Head during the Summer term was Deputy Headteacher Steve Reed. In September Andrew Linnell, formerly Headteacher of Reading School, took over the

Headship of Desborough. We wish him every success in his new role and look forward to working closely with him. Below is a photograph of the three Desborough Heads in 2005, with acknowledgement to *The Maidenhead Advertiser*.



Andrew Linnell, David Eyre, Steve Reed

#### **Andrew J Linnell BSc (Hons) ACP FCollP CGeog FRGS**

Andrew was educated at Wolstanton Grammar School, Staffordshire and gained a BSc (Hons) in Geography at the University of Salford. He took his PGCE at the University of Keele, Staffordshire. He taught at Howard School, Gillingham, Kent before joining the Kent Local Education Authority which he served for 6 years in a number of management and consultancy roles. He was then appointed Deputy Head Teacher of Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School, Rochester, Kent, a boys' selective voluntary controlled school with 1000 pupils including a sixth form of 250 pupils. After 4 years in this post, Andrew was appointed Head Teacher of Reading School in 1997. Reading is one of the most successful boys' selective schools in the country: at the last OFSTED inspection it was described as an 'outstanding' school. This year it gained Specialist Humanities Status and was made one of the 35 Microsoft Partner Schools.

Andrew has been involved in the training of Head Teachers and governors and has been a keynote speaker at national education conferences. Andrew is married, with a son and a daughter. He keeps fit by jogging regularly, swimming and cycling.

We have pleasure in publishing the following message to Old Maidonians from Andrew and welcome his sentiments.

*I have been invited to write some comments to introduce myself to your members. I am really pleased to have this opportunity to start my relationship with you. I know how important it is for you to feel that you have contact with and support from the head teacher. I am looking forward to working with you for the good of Desborough School. You are important part of the wider school community, although I shall not refer to*

you as “stakeholders” which to me sounds a term more suited to butchery!

*I have been associated with schools with strong Old Boys’ Associations for many years. I was the Head Teacher of Reading School from 1997 until this summer. The Old Boys’ Association grew very much stronger in my time there and gave the School enormous support, both financial and otherwise. There were many familiar problems, for example how to recruit students who have just left school or keep the interest of the “thirty somethings” with young families, but we had great fun with various projects to give the organisation new zest and direction.*

*I was attracted to Desborough School because of its reputation in Berkshire. I like the fact there is a uniform for all students, a wide range of extra curricular activities, as well as good teaching and learning. Since my arrival in the summer I have come to enjoy the ethos and camaraderie of the School and the friendly and supportive way in which the school community conducts itself. I have been made to feel very welcome. I did appreciate that having a new head teacher who has been in a previous headship for eight years might make some people feel I could be set in my ways, but in reality everyone has made me feel quickly at home. I am sure that we shall have the same sense of purposefulness and fun as we develop our working relationship.*

*I have been a teacher since 1978 and taught and worked in a number of different educational settings and roles. I feel that teaching is a most rewarding profession. I enjoy each day of the job, because of its variety, challenge and rewards. Teachers are developing those who are our futures and the staff of the School and its former students have a role to support and develop the School for its current and future students. What could be a greater privilege than that?*

*The Term (renamed very creatively Terms 1 & 2 instead of the Autumn Term!) has started with a new purpose and resolve. The renovations of the Main Building have really enhanced the property and the terrible temporary accommodation on the play areas has been eventually swept away. My arrival has coincided with the improved school environment and many members of staff and the student body have commented on this symbolic turning over of a new leaf in the School’s history.*

*I am particularly happy that two of my colleagues on the School’s Leadership Group, **Chris Nunn** and **Mark Turner**, are former students of Desborough School. I am grateful for their explanations about the school’s history, context and more arcane aspects. I also have some friends, even though I grew up far from Berkshire, who are former students too. They are proud of their Old School and I am beginning to see why. I am looking forward to meeting members in the near future and also to writing regularly in your magazine.*

Andrew Linnell - Headteacher

## Renovation of the Main Building

During the 2 years while the Main Building was being renovated, 10 temporary buildings were in use for teaching area and for staff accommodation. With the completion of the refurbishment all the temporary buildings have been removed. Also removed were the plastic sheeting festooning the Main Building and the security fencing, to reveal a building of much enhanced appearance.

The £2 million renovation of the Main Building has involved the replacement of all the wooden windows with UPVC windows and all the guttering has replaced. An extension has been added to the rear side of the building, which now has a ramped access. Inside, the building has been completely modernised, refurbished and carpeted to a high standard, giving a quieter and softer environment. The former main entrance, facing the New Building, now gives access to the Learning Support Centre only. The Learning Resource Centre remains in its former place but the carpeting and décor have added much to its pleasant atmosphere, conducive to quiet study.

Below are photographs of the exterior, revealing the pristine appearance of the building, in welcome contrast to the state of the building pictured in our previous issue.



Front



Entrance



Rear



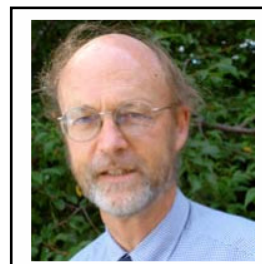
Front left



Admin Building

## Retirement of Richard Woolmer

After 35 years of teaching, Richard has now retired. He came to Desborough as Head of History in 1981, following the retirement of Ray Wilmott, and held the appointment for the



following 10 years. He was appointed Senior Teacher and later Deputy Headteacher. Among the roles he carried out were Head of Sixth Form, administering teacher cover, training of new staff and providing support to staff generally. He was involved in the organisation of a number of extra-curricular activities as well as overseas history and sports tours. For a number of years he worked closely with Reading University PGCE Department with the training of people wanting to enter the teaching profession. Richard graduated from St Peter's College, Oxford and took his PGCE at Bristol. After teaching for a year in Pakistan as voluntary service overseas, Richard taught at Watford Grammar School for Boys for 10 years where he was second in the History Department and Head of Middle School.

He is a keen sportsman, playing hockey for Maidenhead and cricket for Holyport and for staff teams. At golf he now has a handicap of 14 and has taken part in a number of the OMA v School matches as well as competing in the Brooks Trophy.

In retirement Richard has taken up the study of Spanish and Italian. We wish him and his wife Annie a long and happy retirement.

#### **Junior Presentation 13<sup>th</sup> July 2005**

The guest speaker was **David Eyre (1963/70)** who had stood down as Head Teacher at the end of the previous term. He expressed his pride in the School and in the achievements of the pupils.

#### **Speech Day – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2005**

In his Head Teacher's report, Andrew Linnell was pleased to announce that Desborough had recently been given International School status. The guest speaker was Sir Pritpal Singh, Head Teacher at Drayton Manor School, whose children had attended Desborough. Addressing the prize winners and sixth form pupils he stressed the value of self-discipline and integrity.

#### **Christmas Carol Service 2005**

This event will be held, as usual at St Luke's Church, Maidenhead, on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 7pm. Old Maidonians are welcome.

### ***Memories of the School in days gone by***

*In the previous two issues we have been pleased to publish recollections of their school days by Eric Harris covering the 1920s, John Barfoot covering the late 1930s and the early years of the World War 2, and Derek Peasey covering the mid 1940s. We are grateful to Les Lawrie (1933/36) for the following article covering the mid 1930s and his experiences with the Old Maidonians Association.*

#### ***The School in the mid 1930s***

*In 1933 entry into the School was either as a fee-paying pupil or by scholarship, of which there were 12 places for the whole of the local schools. I sat this and to my bitter disappointment came 13<sup>th</sup>. I was interviewed by the then Headmaster, Mr Arthur Brooks, and he offered to allow me to retake the exam the following year if I became a paying pupil for the next 12 months. My father agreed and I retook the exam the following year – and came 21<sup>st</sup>. I desperately wanted to stay at the County Boys School, so with considerable self-sacrifice, my father agreed to pay for my remaining education, for which I am eternally grateful.*

*Tutors at the School I fondly remember, with nicknames, were 'Sugar' Stead (Physics), 'Git' Targett (History), 'Gus' Dean Maths), 'Dickie' Richards (English), Peter Wrench (Latin – this subject being my pet hate), Nick Nicholls (Chemistry), 'Nozzle' Norman (French), and Sgt Glass (Cadet Corps, PT and Handwriting). Frank 'Hambone' Hammersley (Music) was a formidable full-back in the staff football team, and never hesitated to use his weight. I still have the bruises. Mr Nicholls was absolutely deadly with a piece of chalk which he threw at anyone not paying attention (not permitted now, I'm sure), while the redoubtable Sgt Glass' handwriting was almost copper-plate.*

*In those days, a feature of punishment for misbehaviour was the award of a 'Drill' which could be meted out by masters or by senior prefects. These were accumulated over the week over the week and consisted of assembling on the parade ground and marching for 15 minutes per drill. If you were unlucky enough to get Sgt Glass taking Drills, your drill time didn't start until you marched to his satisfaction. Persistent non-satisfaction resulted in the collection of a rifle and sometimes two, one on each shoulder, and believe me they get heavy, especially if he commanded 'Double'.*

*My introduction to the Old Maidonians' Association was playing snooker in the afternoon in the clubroom over the Edwards Tent Works in Station Approach - long gone. Then there was football at the Sandisplatt Road on the largest pitch in the League. Here it was all hands to the shovels before the game to clear the cow pats off the pitch and hope that no cows had become entangled in the goal nets during the past week. Players who come to mind are Cyril Burdett, Bev Mansbridge, Norman Brown, Ken Lewis and Dick Illsley.*

*But cricket has always been my first love and memories of the Julian Cup remain firm. It is amazing how little incidents are remembered. One in particular was a semi-final v Woburn Narkovians at Bray. Dick Wood and myself opened the batting and retired under Julian Rule after 12 overs, having put on some 80 runs. There was generous applause from the spectators, and as we neared the pavilion Dick and I*

*removed our caps, with our receding or non-existent hair lines prominent, a voice was heard to say 'blimey, look they're a couple of bloody old men'.*

*The first final where the sides were limited to 24 6-ball overs was played at Boyn Hill between the Old Maidonians and Maidenhead United Football Club. This, again, was a memorable match graphically described by David Evans in his book 'A History of the Julian Cup'. The football club needed 14 runs off the last over and what wasn't told is how I came to bowl that last over. Reg Heritage had just bowled the penultimate over so I approached Bobby Howes who said 'not me', Eric Brattle said 'don't look at me', and with no one else volunteering I was left holding the baby. We managed to restrict the scoring to 8 runs and won an exciting match by 5 runs, to take the cup for the first time since 1938. Brothers seem to have featured in Old Maidonian teams. In one final we fielded three sets of brothers, Ian and Stewart Langley, Derek and Barrie Woolford, and my brother Ken and myself. Jim and Tony Maher also played on another occasion.*

*I remain a Vice-President of the Julian Cup and long may it continue.*

*Now, I am not as energetic as in those days, but still enjoy bowling at the Desborough Bowls Club. After 38 years at Sonning Golf Club I had to resign as I found walking 18 holes was out of the question after having replacement knee and hip operations. However travel is always on the menu, thanks to concessionary tickets courtesy of BA with whom I worked for 30 years before taking early retirement in 1977. Two years later I was working again, with Gulf Air in Bahrain until finally retiring in 1984. Twenty-one years of retirement and I still don't know how I found time to go to work.*

Les joined the RAF at the age of 18 and served 4.5 years of the World War 2 in Egypt in the Intelligence Branch. During his time there he played cricket for his unit team, the area team and for the RAF which he captained, playing against a New Zealand team that included two test cricketers, opening batsman Martin Donnelly and fast bowler Tom Pritchard, who later captained Warwickshire.

Les was for some years a member of the OMA Golf team in matches against the School and competed in a number of the Brooks Trophy events, winning the Trophy in 1986.

When Les retired from football due to cartilage trouble he qualified as a First Class referee, taking charge of games in the main amateur leagues Les lives in Twyford.

**Martin Lawrie (1968/75)**, Les' son, is a talented keyboard player and works for the Berkshire Young Musicians Trust where he manages the keyboard instructors across the County.

## News of Old Maidonians

The Association is always pleased to hear from Old Maidonians and acknowledges with thanks the news that Old Maidonians have provided about themselves, and invites members to send in their news. Please give dates of joining and leaving School in all communications, as without this information, individuals are sometimes difficult to identify.

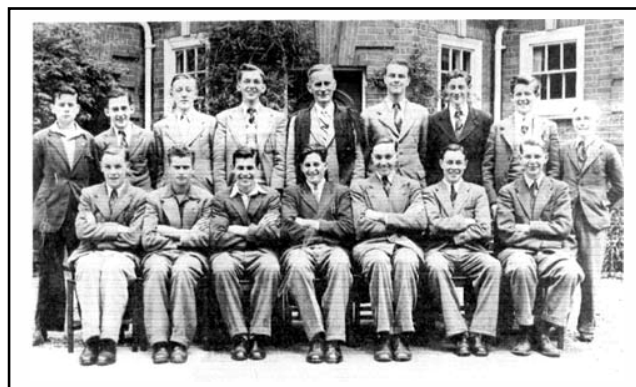
**Ajaz Ahmed (1984/89)** features in a survey by The Daily Telegraph of tycoons who made fortunes of at least £50million before the age of 40. Ajaz founded the web design and interactive marketing company, AKQA, in 1995. AKQA's clientele includes BMW, Nike and Microsoft. The company has 350 staff in London, New York, San Francisco, Washington DC and Singapore. The Daily Telegraph estimates that Ajaz, who is now 32, is worth £51m. In 1999 and in 2000 Ajaz returned to the School to present the prizes at Junior Presentation.

**W G J (Bill) Aylward (1943/48)** emigrated to the USA on leaving school, having passed the Cambridge School Certificate examination. He left the UK before the receiving the Certificate which he understood was destroyed in a fire some years later. Since then the Cambridge authorities have provided authentication but were not able to provide the certificate.

In the US, Bill served on active duty with the US Army and later with the National Guard. He retired as a Lt Colonel. Bill's career was in television where he was a news anchorman in New York and Washington. He now produces television programmes.

Below is a class photograph of Bill's class, taken in 1947 in front of what was then the Headmaster's House but is now the Administration Building. The photograph was signed by the Form Master, Mr A Richards, and by the members of the class, namely, R Asby, R W Clark, J W Deacon, R Donaghue, E F Freeman, R H Hayward, R E Hill, B J Huddart, M S Hudson, D M Marshall, D Mayell, D J Morrow, D R Over, J D Samuel and J G Scrivener. Bill is second from the right in the front row.

Bill lives in Reston, Virginia.



**A (Bert) J Bellworthy (1941/46)** and his wife, Marlene, former Mayor and Mayoress of the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead are captains of the Desborough Bowling Club for the current outdoor season. This is only the second time in the Club's 96-year history that a husband and wife team have become captains.

Bert took up bowls while he was Mayor in 1982 and took part in mayoral matches against local clubs. He has served in an administrative capacity at both club and county levels, apart from executive positions in other sports. Marlene (nee Edwards, at Maidenhead County Girls School 1946/51) has also enjoyed success at indoor and outdoor bowling. Bert and Marlene were the first to introduce coloured bowls to the club. Bert uses orange bowls, Marlene uses Chelsea Blue bowls while grandson, **Mark Clisby (1985/92)**, also a Desborough Bowls Club member, uses red bowls.

In his younger days Bert played for Maidenhead United Football Club and has since served as Chairman and, later, President of the Club. He is currently President of Maidenhead Boys Football Club. Before retiring he was Chairman and Managing Director of Lightweight Structures Ltd, Sandhurst, making radomes, etc. A former President of the Old Maidonians' Association he retired from the committee of the Association two years ago. Bert and Marlene in Maidenhead.

**Peter D Cleaver (1958/61)** trained as a Chartered Surveyor and Auctioneer and for some years worked in various European countries. On returning to the UK he joined a construction company and in 1970 set up his own transport business. When he eventually sold the business he was able to 'retire' but does consultancy work on occasions. He is married to Sandie and they have two grown-up children. He has lived in Swallowfield for the last 30 years. He lives in Reading.

**Peter Cook (1994/2000)** graduated from Kings College, London with a BSc in Physics with Management. We congratulate him on being made permanent as a Graduate Engineer at Renishaw PLC, Wotton-Under-Edge, Gloucestershire. Renishaw is an innovative, high technology and global precision engineering company. Peter is happy to give credit to his teachers at Desborough for his new position, as he believes that he would not have gained the appointment without the high standards they set and demonstrated.

Pending finding a new permanent abode, Peter's lives in West Drayton, Middx.

**Geoffrey Dark (member of staff 1956/58)** We were delighted to receive the following information from Geoffrey about his interesting and varied career. Geoffrey attended this year's Annual Dinner at the invitation of Richard Pearce:-

*Maidenhead Grammar School was my first teaching post, from January 1956 to December 1958, when I taught Maths and Physics and I was also Rowing Coach for the School. I joined the school after National Service followed by 5 years with the Scientific Civil Service on ASDIC research at Portland Naval Base. When I left Maidenhead I spent about 3 years at Aldermaston and Harwell where I was an Experimental Officer in the Technical Training schools teaching new entrants to the nuclear industry the basics of nuclear physics, electronics, photography, vacuum techniques, etc.*

*I then went on to become Head of Science at a school in East Yorkshire, followed by a Lectureship at Borough Road Teacher Training College in Isleworth, where I stayed for about 3 years. From there I was appointed an Inspector of Schools with the Leeds Education Authority for five years before taking up a similar post in Lancashire in 1974 and here I spent nearly 20 years until my retirement at the age of 65 years in 1993.*

*As a voluntary activity during my working life I spent 25 years in Civil Defence, first in the Civil Defence Corps as a Scientific Intelligence Officer, then, when that was disbanded in the late 1960's I transferred to the UK Warning and Monitoring Organisation where I became the Chief Warning Officer, until it was disbanded in the early 1990's after the nuclear threat diminished. As a result of this voluntary work I was awarded the Civil Defence Long Service Medal and also the Queen's Jubilee Medal.*

*Although I am now in the latter part of my 70's I still keep active, marking two lots of GCSE Physics papers in the summer and one lot in November. I am active as a volunteer guide for a couple of sessions each week at the Dorchester Safety Centre known as 'Streetwise', which is visited by about 15 groups of children from 5 to 15 every week. Built within a warehouse, there is a street, park, fully furnished 2-story house, electric substation, railway line, farm, beach and building site and children look for hazards associated with each of these scenarios (see [www.streetwise.org.uk](http://www.streetwise.org.uk)). Finally I am active in Neighbourhood Watch and I edit an 8-page quarterly newsletter.*

Geoff lives in Ferndown, Dorset.

**Eduardo Del Vecchio (1990/97)** graduated as BA in Italian Studies and taught English to foreign students in Tokyo and also in Huka, Taiwan. He is currently working as a technical writer in Taipei, Taiwan, responsible for ensuring that technical leaflets, instruction manuals, etc are translated into impeccable English and Italian. His girl friend, currently in

Singapore sitting exams, expects to join him in Taipei and to work in a law firm.

**Michael Devlin (1955/62)**, a Life Member of the Association and donor of the Devlin Prize for Initiative has moved to Canada. We wish him well in his new environment.

**Revd. Richard Donaghue (1958/63)** After leaving School, Richard joined Brillo in Maidenhead and was with them for some years before going to a theological college, subsequently being ordained as a Methodist minister. He has moved to various churches in the Midlands and North East at 5-year intervals and is currently the minister at Fordhouses, Wolverhampton. Richard is married with 5 children, the youngest being 13 years old.

**Revd. Edward J Furness 1952/59)** Edward recently retired from being vicar of St James, Aston. In our issue No 69, published early in 2000, Edward described his work in a very multicultural and multifaith community. He chaired a group of ten churches from all traditions. Before taking Holy Orders Edward was for ten years a Headmaster in Lambeth. We wish him and his wife Sue a long and happy retirement. They have moved within Birmingham.

**Stephen Gleed (1963/71)** retired from the Army in 2003 as a Lt Colonel and now teaches at an independent school near his home in Winchester. After leaving school he underwent teacher training at Keswick Hall College of Education, Norwich, after which he was a primary school teacher for 5 years in Gorleston-on-sea, Norfolk, during which time he played football and rugby throughout East Anglia. He then moved to West Germany, teaching British Army children at Hohne Garrison, near Celle.

Returning to the UK in 1981 Stephen went to the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, for Officer Training. During his army career Stephen spent 2 years in Dortmund, West Germany, and 2 years in Indianapolis, USA, as well service in the UK. He held a variety of appointments in the Royal Education Corps, the Royal Pay Corps and in the Adjutant General's Corps, including tours with the Royal Green Jackets, the Royal Artillery and the US Finance Corps. Stephen is married with 2 children. He is the eldest son of **Cecil Frederick Gleed (1937/41)**, who died last year and whose obituary is published above

**Nick Hornby (1968/75)** has been much in the news this year, with the publication of his fourth novel, A

*Long Way Down*. The film rights have been sold and the book has been nominated for the Whitbread Prize.

**Michael Hudson (1991/98)**, former Head Boy, who read Law at Queens College, Cambridge, is now in his probationary year as a teacher at Charters School, Sunningdale, Ascot, teaching English and PE. He is a member of the OMA Committee and plays for Phoenix Rugby Club, Slough. He helps with the coaching of Desborough's younger rugby players.

**John Keys (1944/48)**, who attended this year's Annual Dinner with his brother Laurie(1949/53) and his son Roger (see below), has provided the following information about his career.

*After leaving school and a brief sojourn to National Service in the Oxon and Bucks Light Infantry, I spent 7 years with Dynatron Radio at Ray Lea Road and later at Furze Platt. Being lured by the fascination of aircraft, I joined the Radio Section at Fairy Aviation, White Waltham in 1960, working on the Gannet Mk 3 for the Royal Navy.*

*Fairy Aviation were taken over by Westland Helicopters in 1965 which led to my transfer to Yeovil, where I took over the role of Flight Testing the Gannet in addition to technical support and flight clearance of the Radio, Radar and Navigation systems.*

*I transferred to the Flight test Dept. at Yeovil in 1968, as a Flight Test Engineer, working on the Westland range of helicopters, including Scout, Wasp, Sioux, Bell 47-G, Whirlwind, Wessex, Sea King, Puma, Gazelle, Lynx, Westland 30, and finally EH101 [Merlin], accruing over 2000 Test flying hours.*

*Ultimately I became an Assistant Chief Flight Test Engineer, with responsibilities of Helicopter Icing Trials, which took me to Norway, Denmark and Canada during winter months, testing engine and rotor blade de-icing systems on a range of helicopters.*

*Westland Helicopters had many customers from overseas, and as part of the sales package offered a Flight Training programme. I was chosen to devise a training programme and establish a Flight Training School for several customers. We had three intakes from the Indian Navy as part of the sales package for the Sea King Mk42B.*

*I retired from the Company in 1994, having completed over 33 most interesting and enjoyable working years.*

**Roger Keys FCCA (1974-1977)** writes: *I joined the school in the fifth form and left three years later with a much better set of O & A levels than I would have expected when I joined; however I did not get a place at my university of choice and so rather than settle for*

*second best, I took a job as a Trainee Accountant with a local company whilst considering my future. Needless to say I did not re-apply for University but went on to qualify as a Certified Accountant. I have remained in the area and currently work for a computer company less than a mile away from the school!*

*I met my wife Carol at work when I was a young trainee. We have now been married for over twenty years and are the proud parents of three teenage children.*

*I have recently joined Maidenhead Golf Club, which is where I like to spend much of my leisure time.*

**Adrian Lane (1975/82)** has been living in New Zealand for eight years, working for the New Zealand's second largest telecommunications company, Telstraclear, that has grown from the tiny cable company he joined when arriving in the country. He is in a department that tries to find things going wrong in their IP\* and transmission systems long before their customers or even their technicians notice. He says that this is all done from a desk and that it is great fun being paid to dig into things that are supposed to be none of his business, and to find problems that everyone was unaware of.

Adrian keeps in regular touch with **Neil Jordan, Simon Moppett and Brian Milthorp (all 1975/82)**. They all spent two weeks in New Zealand last year, celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> birthdays. [This must hold the record of the furthest Old Maids' reunion from the School! – but news of other reunions would be welcome. *Editor*]. He keeps in Christmas card contact with **David Blogg, Nigel Pearce and Dave Harris (all 1975/82)**.

Adrian has two sons and two daughters. He has custody of them on a week on/week off basis and so works from home one week in two. He lives in Kapiti Coast, New Zealand.

\*IP stands for Internet Protocol. Adrian has kindly provided the following explanation. *The digital information that travels on the Internet is packaged up into "packets" of a certain quantity of binary bits - on or off. These packets are constructed in a specific way that tells any device that they are sent to exactly where they came from and where they are supposed to go, and what the packets will be used for. All forms of phone, TV, internet, etc are now capable of being converted into IP packets so that they can all travel simultaneously on the same fibres or wires, all mixed together. Its only when the packets get to their destination equipment that they are examined to see*

*exactly what they are, and then decoded into that particular service. Increasingly popular now is VoiP (pronounced voyp) which is Voice over Internet Protocol, which is basically plugging a special telephone into the internet, and calling for free anyone else, anywhere in the world, who also has a VoiP phone. "Cable" TV over IP is now becoming popular. You plug your set top box into your broadband internet connection, and get lots of TV channels.*

**Tom Mellor (1991/98)** After taking A-levels, Tom took a commercial apprenticeship with ICI Paints before joining Covenco, a small computer company, as a commodity broker. Tom's year at school was the first to do GCSE Sport, a subject he also took at A-level. Tom has always been a keen sportsman and played cricket at Cookham Dean from the age of 12 until joining Boyn Hill Cricket Club, of which he is now captain of the 1<sup>st</sup> XI. From September 2004 to March 2005 he was in Australia where he played for Elsternwick Cricket Club as their overseas player.

**Sam Mellor (1993/2000)**, Tom's younger brother, read History at Cardiff and graduated with a 2:1 degree last year. He is currently taking a gap year.

**Dr Jonathan Mobey MRCGP DRCOG MA(Cantab) BM BCh(Oxon) (1985/92)** We were very pleased to receive the following news from Jonathan, who was Head Boy in 1991/92 and who has achieved much since leaving school.

*Leaving Desborough in 1992, I studied pre-clinical Medicine and Biological Anthropology at Pembroke College, Cambridge, before transferring to St Edmund Hall, Oxford to do my clinical studies. In 1996 I married Dawn (nee Brownsmith, who was at Newlands until 1992) and we have subsequently had three children, aged 5, 3 and 1. We have lived in Oxford for ten years and, qualifying in 1998, I have done hospital jobs in and around Oxford, as well as a short stint in research. In 2003 I took a partnership in a General Practice in Banbury, where I have also worked as a Police Surgeon. I will become a full-time student again in September when I join Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, to train for ordination in the Church of England. I am not sure whether I will be able to combine Medicine and work within the Church of England, but I hope that it will be possible – I await God's leading on this!*

We wish Jonathan every success in the new path he is following. He lives in Oxford.

**Mark Pagdin (1993/2000)** gained a BSc 2:1 in Computer Science at Brighton University in 2004 and is now Network Administrator with Record Currency

Management, Windsor. His lives in High Wycombe, Bucks.

**Julian Pearson (1974/79)**, whose plea to Old Maidonians to offer some of their time and expertise to the School for the benefit of pupils is printed on page 2, qualified to work in pharmaceuticals and afterwards achieved qualifications in IT and management. His company, Julian Projects Ltd, set up with his wife, Lesley (nee Julian), carries out programme and project management, together with book-keeping, for a number of large enterprises and also acts as business analysts and strategists. Companies with whom they have had contracts include MCI World Com, Glaxo Smithkline, BP Amoco, Reuters and DHL. Julian is currently back at Reuters.

With the profits earned from their business they have bought 50 acres of farmland in Wiltshire and are planning to set up a rare breeds farm, covering, amongst others, the Suffolk Punch, Wiltshire Horn Sheep, Belted Galloway Cattle and the Large Black Pig. A 3-page article on the project will be published in either the January or February 2006 issue of 'Self Build' magazine.

Julian has a number of interesting hobbies. He is a qualified Scuba diver and has dived in the Mediterranean for geological sites, and also in the Maldives with Whale sharks and Manta rays. He enjoys horse riding, is a talented cook, and dabbles in sugarcraft, making artificial flowers from sugar.

Julian lives in Sawston, Cambs

**Geoff Ponter (1974/81)** trained as an accountant and then joined the Post Office where he worked in various department, before retraining as a computer programmer with Nixdorf, Bracknell. He then spent 6 years with the Travel Services arm of BUNAC (British Universities North American Club), a non-profit organisation specialising in student exchange programmes. His next move was to DHL's European Data Centre, Staines, where he spent the last 8 years, before DHL was taken over by the German Post Office.

In 2003 Geoff married Annalisa and they have now set up a company, Amordivino (UK) Ltd, an on-line source of Italian wines. The company, which has just started operations, will promote and market Italian wines, believing that there is scope for a bigger market share for the wide range of excellent wines produced in Italy. The company's website is [www.amordivino.com](http://www.amordivino.com).

Geoff and Annalisa live in Staines, Middx.

**Graham Powell (1958/65)** has provided us with the following information on his life since leaving school. *I moved to Austria in 1982 and have lived in a small town just outside Salzburg ever since. Since I left Maidenhead Grammar School and except for my first year after school, I have been in the computer business.*

*In Austria I joined a small company selling systems to the hospitality business and quickly became a part owner and Managing Director. Unfortunately, after some very good years the company ran into financial troubles and in 1997 had to be sold-off. I moved to another Austrian company in the same line of business as a salesman and after a slow start am having a very good year this year*

*My family have nearly all grown up now. Nicola studies Journalism and Politics at the University in Vienna and is in her last year there. Stefanie is in her second year at Salzburg University studying Maths and English. David has just started at Salzburg University studying Geography, and Martina, at 17, has just a little way to go yet and nearly two more years at grammar school. My wife, Anneliese, who was born here in the town of Oberndorf (famous for the 'Silent Night Chapel'), went back to teaching English at a grammar school in Salzburg in 1997. Unfortunately I have very little contact with 'old mates' except through your newsletters. Very sadly my old friend Derek Maidment died shortly after retiring and moving to France earlier this year. He was my next-door neighbour in Maidenhead and a year ahead of me at school. I wanted to visit him in his new home at some stage but this will never happen. I won't forget him (see Obituaries).*

*Best regards to all who might remember me. Any emails would be very welcome.*  
Graham lives in Oberndorf, Austria.

### **The Revell brothers**

**John Revell (1957/63)** retired from the RAF as Squadron Leader in the Engineering branch and has since been a project manager in industry.

**Peter Revell (1957/63)** taught for thirteen years before setting up his own pottery business. He returned to education as a Welfare Officer in 1993 and is now Principal Education Welfare Officer for Derbyshire.

**Michael Revell (1958/64)** is a Chartered Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development. Following a number of Personnel appointments in industry, he joined the RAF in 1982, as an

Administrative Secretarial Officer. He is currently serving at RAF Brize Norton, in Oxfordshire.

**David Revell (1958/64)**, Michael's twin brother, was in IT and project management in various companies until taking early retirement in 2002. He then spent 2 years on Community, at Lee Abbey, the Christian Conference Centre in North Devon and is currently taking a course in Counselling Skills for Pastoral Care. He was, along with his brothers, a member of the 18th Maidenhead Scout Group, based at the School. He later became an Assistant Venture Scout Leader with the Group. David, who was widowed in 1999, has a daughter Caroline (Caz) who lives in Cornwall and teaches indoor and outdoor sports. Earlier this year David moved from Haywards Heath and currently lives in St Albans, Herts but is under strong pressure to return to the West Country to be nearer to his daughter. We were pleased to see both John and David at this year's Annual Dinner.

**Len C Reynolds OBE DSC DL (Headmaster 1965/81)** We congratulate Len on his appointment as President of the Coastal Forces Veterans' Association, which currently has some 1500 members. The Association holds an Annual meeting and Dinner near Chichester and a memorial service at HMS Hornet, Gosport. Len is only the third President in the Association's history.

Len served with distinction in World War 2, joining the newly commissioned HM Motor Gunboat 658 as a midshipman and rising to become its Commanding Officer. He has, within the last few years, published a trilogy of books describing the contribution of motor gunboats and motor torpedo boats during World War 2. In 1955 Len had written '*Motor Gunboat 658*', an account of his experiences in the Mediterranean. The book was recently republished by Cassell and Co with further information that had become available since the publication of the original book. Len lives in Maidenhead.

**Mark Salmon (1973/80)** was the winner of the Brooks Cup this year. We congratulate him on later winning the prestigious Captain's Prize at Maidenhead Golf in September with a score of 42 Stableford points, off a handicap of 11, since reduced to 9. Mark graduated from Portsmouth with a degree Economics and is a cash equity trader, initially with a bank and now with a stockbroker..They live in Holyport.

**Andrew Skidmore (1956/63)**, attended the Annual Dinner this year and took the opportunity to tour the School with two of his contemporaries, reviving old

memories. He tells us that he has been an Essex man for the last 27 years. After 35 years as a teacher of Sociology, he now works part-time in education/social care. He also tells us that he is the survivor of two marriages, one of which produced a daughter. He still enjoys choral singing. He lives in Chelmsford CM2 0HD

**Neil Spiers (1981/88)**, whom we reported on our last issue, has moved to Marlow, Bucks

**Dennis Tomlinson (1943/47)** is the author of '*A Village at War: White Waltham 1939-45*', now in its fourth, revised edition. Dennis did his National Service in the RAF at Coastal Command HQ, Northwood. He started his career in journalism as a reporter with The Maidenhead Advertiser, before working on agricultural magazines in London for 15 years. He then relocated to Norfolk to join *Farming World* in 1968 before moving to the *Norwich Evening News* where he was sub-editor. For the last 17 years of his career he was Training Officer of the Eastern Counties Newspapers group.

Dennis is married to Grace and they have two sons, Desmond and Graham, and two grandchildren. He lives in Sprowston, Norwich

## **"One Hundred Not Out"**

### **A History of the School**

By David Evans, former Head of Sixth Form

Copies available from the Bursar, Desborough School,  
Shoppenhangers Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 2QB

**Price: Paperback £4 including postage**

Cheques should be made payable to  
Desborough School

### **The Old School Building**

Roy Wilmott, a member of the History Department from 1955 until his retirement in 1981 (mostly as Head of Department) has kindly agreed to prints being sold of a painting he did of the Old Building, as seen from Shoppenhangers Road (same view as the drawing in our letterhead). Now that the Bell Tower has been removed (and the gate pillars are long gone) these prints are a valuable reminder of days gone by.

**The price is £25 (including posting and packaging).**

If you would like a copy please send your order to

Mr A.G. Lehain, Old Maidonians' Association,  
The Haven, Harts Lane, Burghfield, Newbury  
RG20 9JT

## **Hockey Match**

### **OMA v School - 2006**

During week commencing 26<sup>th</sup> March At 7pm at  
location to be announced (and afterwards at  
Maidenhead and Bray Sports Club)

Please contact School Office (01628 634505) for  
More information and/or if you would like to play

***Spectators welcome***

## **Rugby Match and Christmas**

**Get Together Thursday 14<sup>th</sup>  
December 2005 then at School  
at 2 pm**

Afterwards at Maidenhead Rugby Club  
for a

Meal and Presentations

**All welcome to watch the match**

*The Association gratefully acknowledges the sponsorship of the postage for this issue by*

***Parnell Fisher Child & Co., Independent Financial Advisers,  
8 Waltham Court, Milley Lane, Hare Hatch, Reading, Berks RG10 9AA  
Tel: 0118 940 5600 Email: [Graham.Fisher@pfchild.co.uk](mailto:Graham.Fisher@pfchild.co.uk)***

## *Table Plan for Annual Dinner 24<sup>th</sup> March 2005*

### **Table 1**

Bert Bellworthy  
Mrs Betty Collin  
Graham Fisher  
Alan Harding  
Peter Harris  
Cllr Emrys Richards  
Mrs Richards  
Mrs Joy Jones  
Mrs Maureen Kenney  
Len Reynolds OBE  
Tom Sutton

### **Table 4**

Brian Alner  
Michael Clyde  
Geoff Dark  
David Eld  
Edwin Jones  
Chris Maltin  
David Mather  
Richard Pearce  
Keith Whiteside

### **Table 7**

Andrew Bond  
Mike Courtney  
Doug Courtney  
Stuart Eaton  
Dave Ellis  
Derek Harris  
Malcolm Kempton  
Ian Robertson  
Bart Sams

### **Table 10**

Terry Anley  
David Bosher  
David Evans  
John Keys  
Laurie Keys  
Roger Keys  
John Picket  
Peter Taylor  
Ron Walker

### **Table 2**

Zaid Al-Chalabi  
David Evans  
David Eyre  
Sam Gregory  
Nanu Grewal  
Tony Lehain  
Daniel Lister  
Chris Nunn  
George Scott  
Michael Vaughan  
James Ward

### **Table 5**

Brian Battye  
Peter Collett  
Ian Doucet (Lee)  
Roger Field  
Neale Hatch  
Ian Lloyd  
Dave Perrem  
Brian Print  
Rod Searles  
Malcolm Tanner

### **Table 8**

Geoff Barnes  
Ken Grace-Dutton  
Colin Hatch  
Barry Hatch  
Tony Johnson  
David Morrow  
Derek Woolford  
Barrie Woolford

### **Table 11**

Graham Bridges  
Graham Dore  
Pat Folliard  
Alan Frampton  
David Horton  
Philip Palmer  
Dave Revell  
David Scott  
John Smith  
Mike Willoughby

### **Table 13**

John Stacey  
Chris Appleton  
Marcus Avery  
Tobias Bartlett  
Alex Brown  
Michael Hudson  
Jonathan Wardle

### **Table 3**

Peter Blundell  
Colin Funnell  
Robert Goode  
Ian Hammond  
Des Hele  
Derek Jewson  
Pete Lyons  
Brian Millman  
John Roylance  
Eric Wooddin

### **Table 6**

Martin Cole  
Howard Deacon  
Ian Elkington  
Ron Elston  
Alwyn Hawkes  
Ian Maxwell  
David Reed  
John Revell  
Peter Richards  
Eric Sharp  
Andrew Skidmore

### **Table 9**

Peter Bush OBE  
Colin Cutler  
Malcolm Cutler  
Colin Edwards  
John Field  
Alec Jones  
Luke Over MBE

### **Table 12**

Ray Clark  
Tony Grant Fred  
Hearman Tony  
Hearman  
Richard Hildreth  
John Moses  
John Nash  
John Powell

# Annual Dinner

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006

Our Annual Dinner in 2006 will be held at **Maidenhead Golf Club**, opposite the School, at 6.30pm for 7.45p.m.

Tickets will be available only from Mrs Betty Collin, although orders may be left at the School Office, care of Mrs Read. Ticket price will be £22.50. It is hoped that those who attend the Dinner without being paid-up members will avail themselves of the opportunity to subscribe, at the Dinner. **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 Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2006.**

To: Mrs Betty Collin, 18 Badminton Road, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 4QT. (Tel: 01628 626349: e-mail [william.collin@btinternet.com](mailto:william.collin@btinternet.com))

Name\*.....Address.....

...

.....Tel.....

...

At School from..... to.....

I wish to attend the Annual Dinner on Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006 and I shall be in a party which includes the O.Ms 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**, for tickets as follows:

.....tickets at £22.50 each. The total value of my cheque is £.....

(Signed).....

Names\* and initials of party

Address

Years at School  
from to

1.....

2.....

3.....

4.....

5.....

6.....

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

*Continue on a separate sheet, if necessary*