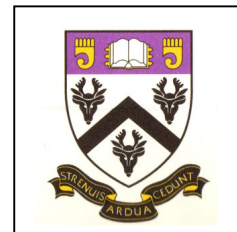




O.M.A.

Newsletter No. 73 February 2007

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



The Newsletter of the Old Maidonians' Association

Association News

This Newsletter is appearing several months later than intended, for which we apologise. We are aware that news of Old Maidonians is appreciated by our readers, so we ask you to respond to the card sent with this Newsletter; if you are receiving the Newsletter by email, please email with your news.

As you will be receiving this Newsletter barely a month before our Annual Dinner, please reserve the date in your diary, contact any others who would be interested in attending, and make your booking.

Readers will have noted that the line drawings previously heading this page, of the School entrance and the School badge, have been replaced by photographs. That of the School is a view from Shoppenhangers Road. Those receiving their copy by email will have these photographs in colour.

Committee membership

The composition of the Committee is shown at the bottom of this page. The Committee welcomes Dayne Ferrar, Head Boy, replacing James Clarke, and Mark Howells, Deputy Head Boy, has replaced Nick Lamb and Andrew Mackie. The Committee thanks James, Nick and Andrew for their contributions to the work of the Committee, recognising that particularly in the last two terms of the School year, the A-level exams are a major preoccupation. The Committee congratulates James on gaining straight As in his A-levels.

The Committee is keen to attract new members to its ranks and invites any Old Maidonians able to attend three short meetings a year at the School to contact our Chairman or Secretary. A warm welcome is assured. The purpose of the Association is to provide a link with, and between, former pupils of the School and to

further the interests of the School and its past and present members.

Overdue subscriptions

If you have received a polite reminder from the Treasurer with this Newsletter that your subscription is in arrears *please give it your urgent attention* before the matter slips your mind. Subscriptions represent an important element in covering our running costs.

If a reminder has been sent to you, please reply with a cheque *now*.

Changes of address/email address

After each issue of the OMA Newsletter a significant number of envelopes are returned to us as the addressee has gone away. The same applies to emails that are not able to be delivered.

If you are changing your address or email address please make sure that you include the OMA among those you notify. In particular we ask our student members, who have a university email address, to let us have their new email address when they leave university.

Annual Dinner - 31st March 2006

This event was held for the second year running at Maidenhead Golf Club, following favourable reactions

Annual Dinner

Will take place on

Friday 30th March 2007

At 6.30pm for 7.45pm

At Maidenhead Golf Club

Booking form on page 12

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: Colin Cutler, David Eyre (President), Dayne Ferrar (Head Boy), Mark Howell (Deputy Head Boy), Michael Hudson, Malcolm Kempton, Tony Lehain, Andrew Linnell (Headteacher), Paul Malpass, Christopher Nunn, Robert Weston.

from those who attended the previous year's Dinner at the Club. Those present at the Dinner are listed on page 11. Presiding over the Dinner was OMA Chairman Grahame Fisher. The Immediate Past Mayor, Cllr Emrys Richards, proposed the toast to the Association and to the School. Our President, David Eyre responded on behalf of the Association, with the Head Boy, James Clarke, responding for the School. The Headteacher, Andrew Linnell, spoke of his pride at having the opportunity to lead the School and affirmed his support of the Association.

Those present were entertained, as last year, by a professional speaker. It seems unlikely that the Association will repeat this experiment, both on cost grounds and questions of taste.

The Chairman announced that the Wilfred Upson Prize for 2005, for the Old Maidonian who had brought most repute to the School during the year, had been awarded to **Squadron Leader R (Dicky) Patounas (1981/88)**, leader of the world-renowned RAF Red Arrows. Dicky Patounas was not able to be present to receive the award but had indicated that he would be donating the money to a cancer charity, in memory of a member of the Red Arrows who had recently died of cancer.

The Chairman made a surprise presentation to Colin Cutler, organiser of the OMA golf matches since their inception over 30 years ago, in recognition of his recently celebrated 80th birthday. Appropriately the item presented was a rescue golf club, for which Colin was grateful and which he tells us has benefited his game.

Christmas Reunion - 14th December 2006

This event took place at Maidenhead Rugby Club after the OMA v School Rugby match which the School won for the first time in 5 years. Some 45 players, friends, members of Staff and Old Maidonians sat down to a two-course meal. Members of Staff expressed their thanks to the OMA and to Malcolm Kempton for providing the funds for the purchase of rugby shirts of a new design and with modern styling.

News of the School

Members seeking up to date news of the School are advised to visit the School's website

www.desborough.org.uk.

The David Roberts Memorial Concert

This concert, the 27th since the series began, was held on 22nd March 2006 and achieved the high standards associated with these concerts. Of particular note this year were the compositions by Sean Bui, a Year 12 student, A Baroque Miniature and Mass for the Fallen for Orchestra and Choir. His Mass was

remarkably mature and moving. It received a well-deserved standing ovation from the audience.

This year's David Roberts Memorial concert is to be held on Wednesday, 21st March.

Speech Day

In his report, the Head Teacher, Andrew Linnell, referred to the gratifying report from the Ofsted inspectors in April 2006. The School had received an International School Award for the breadth of subjects offered reflecting the international dimension. Among the subjects taught were 3 separate sciences and 8 modern languages. In addition, Urdu, Arabic and Russian were taught as extra-curricular languages. He expressed concern that only a quarter of state schools were offering any language options at GCSE, particularly as 56% of people on the Continent speak two languages competently.

The Guest Speaker was Professor Sir Roger Williams, former Vice-Chancellor of Reading University and now Chair of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales said that teaching was an underrated profession. He urged students to keep up to date and to remember that they were capable of more than they realised.

Hockey

We congratulate the members of the School's Under 16 hockey team which won the U16 county championships, held at Wellington College in January 2007. They will now represent the county at the southern region heat of the national hockey competition. In the series, the team drew 0-0 with Eton College but then went on to beat Bradfield College 2-0, Pangbourne College 3-1 and Wellington College 3-2.

This is the first time that the school have won an 11-a-side county title, although they have achieved many successes in indoor hockey at county, regional and national level.

In Indoor Hockey, the School has a very high reputation and is considered among the six best schools in the country.

Stop Press The School's 1st XI Hockey team have just won the County Championship, having been runners-up last year. Congratulations to the team and to the coaching staff.

Old Maidonian's Sport

Golf

33rd Annual Match v School - April 3rd 2006

The School won this event by 6 matches to 4. The OMA team was Mike Clyde (1955/61), Andy Cooper (1974/81), Colin Cutler (1936/43), Grahame Fisher

(1952/59), John Keys(1944/45), Roger Keys (1974/77), Geoff Ponter (1974/81), Ian Short (1988/2003), Nick Snell (1974/79), Roy Squire (1945/50).

The cumulative position over the past 33 years is that the School have won 18 matches, the OMA 11 matches and 4 matches have been drawn.

32nd Competition for the Brooks Cup - Wednesday 26th July 2006

Although the numbers able to attend this event were lower than in previous years, the event produced some memorable results. For the first time in the history of this event it was not possible to separate the scores of the two leading scorers and hence joint winners were declared, Mike Clyde and Nick Scrutton, both with 38 points.

Nick Scrutton, with a handicap of 1, had a round of 69 gross, one under the par for the course - the first time this feat has been done in the history of the competition. We congratulate him on such an excellent round.

The leading results were:

		Handicap	Points
Joint winner	Nick Scrutton	1	38
Joint winner	Mike Clyde	9	38
3 rd	Roger Keys	17	36
4 th	David Langley	24	33
5 th	Grahame Fisher	17	32
6 th	Sean McIntyre	22	26

Nearest to the pin on 13th Nick Scrutton

Longest Drive on 18th David Langley

Fixtures for 2007

Match v School - Monday 2nd April

Competition for the Brooks Cup - Monday 23rd July

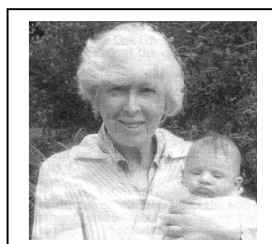
Both events will take place at Maidenhead Golf Club. If you are interested in taking part in these matches please contact Colin Cutler (01628 629130), email colinarcutler@aol.com.

In Memoriam

Members/Former Members of Staff

Mrs Anthea (Anne) Galitzine (1991-2006)

was a secretary in the General Office, responsible for the administration of Years 10 and 11. She died in February 2006 at the age of 58 of cancer. Anne had met her future husband, Nicholas, while working as a secretary in Vancouver. They came to the area in 1973



and lived in Oakley Court while Nicholas oversaw its conversion to a hotel. After her three children were of school age Anne founded the Rainbow pack of the Foxley Girl Guides. She led the pack for 10 years and continued to support the pack after her retirement. The funeral was attended by senior staff of the School, colleagues, Governors and former Governors.

Einhardt Robertson (2001/03), a former member of the Chemistry Department, died at the age of 30, in 2006 of a brain tumour. During his time at Desborough he was an effective teacher and left to take up an appointment as head of Chemistry in the North East.

Eleanor (Pip) Shelley (1973/94) died in 2006 at the age of 75. In her later years, Mrs Shelley suffered from motor neurone disease. Throughout her long career at Desborough she was a valued member of the 22Art Department, specialising in pottery and sculpture. She had trained in sculpture at Chelsea Art School where she met her husband, Tim Shelley, a painter. Before coming to Desborough, Mrs Shelley had taught at Lynton House, Castle Hill, and also at the Canadian Red Cross Hospital, Cliveden, where she taught children with special needs. Throughout her life she continued to produce a range of work, including many portraits of family, friends and boys from Desborough.

Mrs Shelley organised many trips for the boys throughout the School to the National Gallery in London. She was involved in the staging of the School's dramatic productions, notably masks for the production of *Animal Farm* directed by Miss Katie Hotchkiss [now Mrs Turner, married to Head of PE **Mark Turner (1967/74)** and back in the Drama Department once again] in the nineties. Mrs Shelley prepared many students for studying Art in further education and beginning their careers in the Arts. Mr and Mrs Shelley had 2 sons, 2 daughters and grandchildren and we extend our condolences to the family.

Her daughter, **Phyllida**, also an artist, spent two terms at Desborough in 1988/9, after completing her degree in Theatre Design, assisting in the Art Department. She is married to Old Maidonian **Adrian Smith (1977/84)**, see below in *News of Old Maidonians*.

David Thrussell (1987/2003), a former member of the Maths Department, died in February 2006 at the age of 61. Before starting teacher training, David had served 4 years in the army in the Royal Engineers, and then worked in engineering in Australia for some years. On his return to the UK he undertook teacher training and joined St Crispins School, Wokingham, becoming Head of PE. After 10 years there he retrained as a Maths teacher and came to Desborough in 1987/9.

In 2001 David suffered kidney failure following a virus infection and after some years of dialysis had a kidney transplant, which enabled him to lead a more active life, playing badminton and serving as a voluntary helper in Royal Berks Hospital, Reading.

Throughout his life David was interested in sport. In his youth he was a skilled soccer player and had a trial for Crystal Palace. He was a keen supporter of Reading Football Club. We extend our condolences to his widow, Stephanie, and their three children, Helen, Claire and Simon.

Old Maidonians

C Leslie Boyd (1937/42), died in February 2006 at the age of 79. At School he was known as Dilly. While still at School he served in the Home Guard and on leaving School he worked as a laboratory assistant at High Duty Alloys, Langley. He then served in the Fleet Air Arm, undergoing pilot training that was cut short by the war ending. While at the Fleet Air Arm station at Crail, Scotland, Leslie acted as DJ on the base. The Glen Miller tunes with which he started and ended his shows were played at his funeral service. On being demobbed he joined the Maidenhead Laundry, later known as Clean Linen Services, where he stayed until his retirement.



Leslie was a founder member of the Maidenhead Air Modellers Club and was presented with a scale model of an aircraft propellor in recognition of 50 years service to the Club. Leslie is survived by his wife, Thomasina and by their daughter, Karen.

Patrick J Higgins (1939/44) died in April 2005 at the age of 77. On leaving School, Pat spent a year at Maidenhead Police station on the telephone switchboard, before joining the Army where he served in the Intelligence Corps. He then joined the Metropolitan Police, serving for 27 years before retiring on medical grounds after an injury suffered during a public demonstration. A strong swimmer, he used to swim for the Met. In retirement he became involved with bird watching, nature studies and archaeological digs.

Pat and his wife, Connie, took part in a number of the OMA river cruises. At her request, Connie will continue to receive copies of OMA Newsletters. They have a son in Australia who runs his own stonemasonry business and a daughter living in Pinner. Connie lives in Bushey, Herts

Alan W J Kempton (1932/36) died in February 2006 of pneumonia at the age of 85. He was a leading light in a number of Maidenhead institutions. He was

Secretary of the Maidenhead Building Society, later the Anglia Building Society. His principal interests outside his work were the theatre and the church. He was founder member of the Maidenhead Players, which in 1976 won the final of the British Final drama competition. He was a very successful director and inspired his sons, **Martin (1964/71)** and **Christopher (1967/74)** to follow in his footsteps. He was closely involved with the High Street Methodist Church and was a lay preacher for many years. He was the first lay President of the Maidenhead Christian Council.

Alan also helped to found Maidenhead Arts, which campaigned for the establishment of the successful Norden Farm Centre for the Arts. After he retired he became a youth counsellor and helped at No 22, the centre for the youth counselling service in Maidenhead. Alan is survived by his wife, Pam and by his sons, Martin and Chris.

G R (Bob) F Murray (1918/26), who for

some years before his death was proud to be the oldest member of our Association, died in January 2007 at the age of 97. His earliest recollection of the School was that within a few weeks of joining, all Staff and pupils were assembled in the School Hall to be told that the Great War had ended.

At School Bob excelled both academically and on the sports field. At Reading University, having won a scholarship, he gained two First Class Honours degrees, one in Maths and the other in Chemistry. He helped to maintain himself by playing the piano in various bars in Maidenhead and Bray, earning per night the equivalent of half the average weekly wage.

Bob then obtained a Colonial Office Bursary to study Tropical Agriculture at Cambridge, following which he went to Trinidad as a sugar planter for a probationary two years. However, in view of the economic depression in the early 1930s, the Colonial Service were not able to offer him employment so he returned to the UK and taught at various private schools. He then took up the job of running a sugar refinery in the Bihar region of what is now Pakistan. His fiancée, Joan, came out to India and they were married there.

On the outbreak of World War II Bob volunteered for the Indian Army and trained new recruits for which his fluency of the local language made him invaluable. He rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel. After the war he took over an ailing sugar cane business and refinery which he turned into a success in spite of the difficulties that arose after the separation of India and Pakistan, with the plant being in Pakistan and the Head Office being in India.

In 1954, when his wife's father became ill they decided to return to the UK. Bob took up teaching



again, becoming Physics teacher at a newly opened Comprehensive school in Crawley New Town and was soon made a Housemaster. He coached the school's hockey teams and played in the Staff team until well into his 60's. He founded the school choir, which later became Concordia, now independent of the school and enjoying an international reputation. He retired from the School in 1974 at the age of 70 but continued to do some teaching at a preparatory school and some examination invigilating for a further 5 years. Joan died in 1992 soon after they had moved into a retirement complex in Maidstone.

Bob's father came from the north coast of Scotland. Bob was proud of his Scottish heritage. The photograph shows Bob, with his sister, on his 90th birthday, in the Highland Dress he had bought when he was 21.

[We are indebted to Bob's cousin, Alec Jones (1933/42,) for providing the above information. Editor]

Dr Brian Ruddy 1965/72, twin brother of **Alan** (see *news of Old Maidonians*), died in December 2006 of a brain tumour. Brian had been in charge of the Asian and Pacific operations of Federal Mogul, a US company based in Detroit manufacturing automotive components. Until his health deteriorated he had been living in Japan, setting up a manufacturing operation. Brian is survived by his wife, Sandra, their two sons and a daughter.

News of Old Maidonians

The Association is always pleased to hear from Old Maidonians and 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, as without this information, individuals are sometimes difficult to identify.

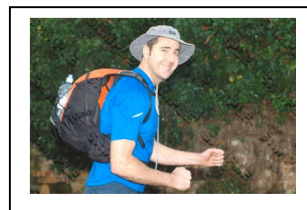
W (Bill) G J Aylward (1943/48), a summary of whose very interesting career was published in our last issue, has changed his email address.

Toby Anstis (1980/87) who found fame in the media as a presenter on BBC TV's Blue Peter had his celebrity status confirmed by being invited to take part in ITV's I'm A Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here in June 2006. While there seemed to be good possibilities that Toby would be crowned King of the Jungle he was the first to be ejected, many thought quite unfairly. Toby is now a DJ with Heart FM. Previously he has presented a French language instructional TV programme, and has had his flat featured in David Frost's Through the Keyhole

programme.

David Blogg (1975/82), who gained a Masters degree in Defence Systems Engineering from University College, London, has moved from BAE to the Bristol office of W S Atkins, consulting engineers. David, a keen rower for many years has now turned to sailing and helps with the Ocean Youth Trust, a charity providing sailing experiences for young people with special needs. We congratulate David on his recent engagement. He lives in Bursley, Glos.

Marc Boden (1977/82) has begun to train for the Marathon Des Sables, which is held in the Sahara and has the reputation of being the toughest footrace in the world. The race lasts



for six days, over 145 miles in temperatures of up to 120 degrees F. Competitors have to carry all the supplies they need on their back. The race begins at the end of March and Marc's training consists of 25-mile runs, with a full pack, in all weathers. He has previously run the London marathon. Joining him in the Sahara run, and on his training runs, is fellow Old Maidonian and marathon-runner **Jim Ewan (1953/57)**, see below. The race is in aid of the charity, Facing Africa, dedicated to combating noma, a highly disfiguring and painful disease affecting young people in Africa. Any of our readers interested in sponsoring these two Old Maidonians should contact them direct or visit the website www.facingafrica.org.

After leaving School Marc trained as an electrician. He then spent 2 years in Israel in a kibbutz. On his return to the UK, and with a taste for travel, Marc joined a company specialising in marketing a printing drying system and travelled the world providing technical assistance. In 1991 he set up a company with a partner marketing a drying system for printing inks and varnishes using UV light.

Marc is married to Marianne. They two children, Sasha aged 5 and Joel aged 2. They live in Taplow, Maidenhead.

Christopher J Cox (1982/89) has moved within Chichester.

Jim Ewan (1953/57), who, at the age of 66 is taking part in the Sahara Marathon at the end of March with **Marc Boden (1977/82)**, see above, was the Guest Speaker at our 2004 Annual Dinner. Jim completed the

London Marathons in 1998, 2001 and 2003. He tells us that during his training for the Sahara Marathon he has lost 2 stones in weight, without sacrificing any food intake. We wish both Jim and Marc well in their endeavours to raise funds for a deserving charity.

Jim has been involved in management since the 1960s. He has worked with and for many blue-chip organisations including ICL, BEA, Brook-Bond Oxo, Rolls Royce and the European Space Research Organisation. Jim has set up and trained sales teams and has been running open training courses for many years. Organisations attending have included AA, DTI, Smith Kline Beecham, Brann International and Intel Systems.

A founder member of the Professional Speakers Association and finalist in Toastmasters International Humorous Speaking Contests, Jim is also a gold medal speaker and holds the prestigious LAMDA Diploma for public speaking.

Jim, who has published books on aspects of management and public speaking, is a Liveryman of the Company of Wheelwrights and a Freeman of the City of London. He is a keen sailor. He lives in Twyford

David Feldstein (1977/84) will be joining the Daily Mail at the end of March 2007 as News Sub-editor and we wish him well in his new appointment. He started his career in journalism as a reporter with the Bucks Free Press before moving to the Birmingham Daily News in 1988. From there he moved to the Portsmouth News, an evening paper, initially as Assistant News Editor and later as Deputy News Editor. His next move was as Deputy Editor of the Banbury Guardian, a weekly paper. In 1998 he joined the Bucks Herald as Deputy Editor, later becoming Acting Editor. In 2001 he became Editor of the Hemel Hempstead Gazette. David started rowing at School and now rows at Maidenhead Rowing Club in veterans squads.

Christopher Green (2000/06) is now an undergraduate at The University of Exeter and part of a group of students preparing for a volunteer conservation trip to Indonesia. He and two other members of the group will be working on Hoga Island Research Station in the Wakatobi National Park region. They will be based there for a period of six weeks at a cost of some £3500. The trip is being arranged through Operation Wallacea (www.opwall.com), and will take place in the summer 2007. They will work as Research Assistants, working with specialists to produce the raw data necessary for research projects, such as the extent of coral bleaching and bomb damage (as a result of unmanaged fishing) as well as population studies in both fish, crustaceans and sea mammals, some of which are endangered or very rare.

He will be taught about the ecology of Indo-Pacific coral reefs, the organisms that inhabit them and ecological surveying techniques. He will also be advancing his diving knowledge with a PADI Advanced Open Water course. Additionally he will be spending a week on a research ship working on reef checks and sea mammal surveying. This will be on the most biodiverse reefs in the world and will be a once in a lifetime experience.

Chris says that he has always had an interest in the field of marine biology and has been transfixed with coral reef ecology ever since he first dived in the Caribbean. He hopes to work in the field in the future and this opportunity would give him the training and contacts to do so. He believes that the project will positively affect the conservation effort in the Wakatobi region. The data collected will go towards research into coral reef dynamics and diversity and any changes that occur, as well as furthering the understanding of the marine ecosystem. Chris is currently applying for grants and is seeking sponsorship.

Frederick G Hearman (1953/57) has moved within Maidenhead. He is on the point of retiring as a self-employed metal fabricator and welder. Always a keen sportsman, Fred played for Maidenhead United Minors in 1958/9 and later with Maidenhead Wanderers, which he ran during 1967/71 when not able to play due to a knee injury. In cricket he played for Metal Vents in an evening league. For some years he opened the bowling and the batting for Pinkneys Green. Fred is a regular supporter of our Annual Dinner.

Gary Heelas (1980/87) took an HND in Electronics at what is now the Thames Valley University before gaining a degree at Reading University in the same subject. He spent 7 years with a company in Newbury working on onboard computers for satellites. In 2002 he moved to a company in Reading where he designs routers and master control systems for studios and outside broadcasting. Gary has always had a strong interest in trains and currently runs a group of some 220 enthusiasts concentrating on Intercity 125s. He lives in Reading.

Gary's brother, **Darren (1982/87)** is sales manager for Toys R' Us.

David Miller (1975/82) is Principal Partner of Everystone, WPP's marketing strategy consultancy and is based in London, though work often takes him overseas. In addition he holds non-executive positions within the Midland News Association group and for Debrett's. He is always pleased to read about and hear

of the successes of his peers.
David lives in London.

Luke Over MBE (1944/48) was a founder member of the Grimm Players, a Maidenhead amateur dramatic company which celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2006. Luke and his wife, Maureen, have been enthusiastic supporters throughout the history of the company, which has specialised in musicals. Luke lives in Maidenhead.

Adrian Palmer (1969/75) has changed his email address.

Philip Palmer (1957/62) We welcome Philip as a new Life Member. After leaving School he had a number of jobs before setting up his own company in the healthcare logistics sector. The company was based in Maidenhead for 3 years before becoming nationwide and moving to High Wycombe. After 21 years, Philip sold the company to a German enterprise and is now concerned with the buying and development of businesses.. Philip lives in London

The Pope family

Michael Pope (1947/54) is leading an active retired life. He is currently Captain of Wargrave Bowls Club. In December 2006 he was the awarded the Evening Post Shield by Wokingham District Council for Services to Sport in the Community. Michael is married to Marion (nee Stacey), who went to Maidenhead County Girls' School, is the sister of **Terence Stacey (1957/64)**, recently retired as a Professor of Paediatrics, and **Stewart Stacey (1964/71)**, a Birmingham City Councillor.

Colonel Christopher Pope OBE (1971/78), late of the. Royal Engineers, retired from the army in January 2006 after 27 years service, having received the O.B.E. for services in Iraq. Prior to his retirement he worked for the Secretary of State for Defence on the Strategic Defence Review and lectured at the Royal Military College of Science, Cranfield. Following his retirement he has joined Tribal Group as Group Projects Director and is living with his family in their own home in Fittleworth, West Sussex..

Brigadier Nicholas Pope (1973/80) is at present based at Rheindahlen, Germany, as Brigadier of 1st. Signal Brigade and has just returned from a 9 months posting in Afghanistan. Nicholas and his wife have four

children. His eldest daughter is studying at Newcastle University and his son is a boarder at Stonehouse.

Nicholas is also Colonel in Chief of the Queens Ghurka Signals which is based at Bramcoat, Nuneaton. He is due to return to the Ministry of Defence later this year.

Len C Reynolds OBE DSC DL JP (Headmaster 1965/71) In our issue No 67 we recorded the completion of Len's completion of the trilogy of books describing the contribution of motor gunboats and torpedo boats in the Second World War. In issue No 69 we reported the publication of a revised version of Len's book Motor Gunboat 658, describing his experiences from being the most junior officer on board to becoming the Commanding Officer. During actions in the Mediterranean and the Adriatic MGB 658 was hit 30 times and five members of the crew were killed.

Len has now handed over to the Imperial War Museum 13 boxes of his researches that had taken 12 years to amass. He is President of the Coastal Forces Veterans' Association.

We congratulate Len and his wife, Win, on celebrating their Diamond wedding in 2006. During the year they moved within Maidenhead .

Dr Alan Ruddy (1965/72), whose twin brother Brian died in December 2006 as reported above, is now Operations Director of Federal Mogul, overseeing operations in the UK, France, Brazil and Canada. He lives in High Wycombe, Bucks.

Roy Thomas (1936/38) We congratulate Roy and his wife, Joy, on celebrating their Diamond wedding in December 2006. They received a congratulatory telegram from the Queen. Roy was Mayor of Maidenhead in 1966 and a magistrate for 26 years. A keen bowler, Roy was President of the Berkshire Bowling Association in 1988 and became the National President in 1991. After service in the RAF Roy set up Cordwallis Commercials, the largest distributor of Volkswagon vans and MAN trucks in the south of England. The business is now run by his sons **Ian (1960/68)** and **Simon (1971/74)**. Roy and his wife live in Mill Lane, Taplow.

Dennis Tomlinson (1943/47) The fourth edition of Dennis's book, A Village at War - White Waltham 1939-45, is now available from the author , price £8.50 plus £1.25 postage and packaging (£2.50 for overseas addresses). The book is also available from Maidenhead Heritage Centre. Dennis was born

in White Waltham and after leaving School joined the Maidenheads Advertiser as a trainee reporter. Further details of Dennis's career were given in our last issue.

Adrian Smith (1977/84) is married to Phyllida, daughter of Mrs Pip Shelley, a member of the Schools Art Department for many years. Adrian read Business Studies at South Bank and now runs his own IT consultancy business. He still rows (gently, he says) at Maidenhead Rowing Club with fellow Old Maidonian **David Feldstein (1977/84)** *see above*. Adrian and Phyllida have two daughters and live in Cookham.

Will Torrent (1999/2004), son of Peter Torrent, Director of Music at School, is making a name for himself in two very different fields, in both of which he showed great promise while at School.

The fields are jazz singing and as a prize-winning pastry chef. He has recently become the vocalist with a professional big band in Hayes and Hillingdon. He is an executive of the Montgomery Holloway Music Trust and is regularly accompanied by Laurie Holloway, the musical director of the Parkinson TV show.

Will is currently doing a culinary arts management degree at Thames Valley University in Ealing. While on work experience at School he worked at the world-renowned Fat Duck in Bray and has since worked at the Dorchester Hotel, London, with TV chef Brian Turner, and with chocolatier and patissier William Curley.

In September 2006 Will won the UK heat of the World Skills Challenge, which will lead to his representing the UK in Japan later this year. In January 2007 he won a gold medal and best in class for his Afternoon Tea pastries at the Hospitality Show at Birmingham NEC. In April 2007 he will be appearing in a new cookery series on BBC2, in prime time, as assistant to the presenter James Martin.

Simon Ward (1988/95) read Law at St Catharine's College, Cambridge and worked initially for Wedlake Bell in London where he qualified as a solicitor. He then moved to Berwin Leighton Paisner (BLP) also in London, his specialism being corporate law and finance. Somewhat disenchanted with commuting on the Northern Line, he moved to Australia in October 2006 to work for one of the largest corporate law firms in Australia, Mallesons Stephen Jaques, just in time to witness the Ashes whitewash. Simon's commuting time is now 20 minutes, including the ferry journey across Sydney Harbour.

The Webster brothers

John Webster (1972/79) read Law at Manchester, and subsequently at the College of Law, London. He took his Articles as a solicitor in Reading and then joined Veale Wasbrough, Bristol, where he is now a senior partner, dealing with personal injury and product liability cases and running the specialist division Augustines Injury Law. He is a Fellow of the College of Personal Injury Lawyers and a member of the Law Society's Specialist Personal Injury Panel. He chairs the Bristol Civil Courts Committee and was the first Regional Co-ordinator of the Association of Personal Injury Lawyers for the South West.

John is married to Karen, who also lived in Maidenhead at the time they met while they were both at Manchester University. Karen is a biology teacher in Bath. They live at Alderton in north Wiltshire and have one daughter, Eleanor. J

Michael Webster (1974/82) read Law at Jesus College, Cambridge, and then at the College of Law, Guildford. He is now an international partner with Baker and McKenzie LLP, London, the world's leading global law firm. Michael deals with major construction projects around the world in the power, oil and gas, petrochemicals and transport sectors. In this connection he took an MSc in Construction at Kings College, London.

Michael is married to Simone who read Linguistics at Cambridge. They live in Kew and have two sons and a daughter, aged 11, 10 and 7.

Neil Woodford (1967/75) is the manager of Invesco Perpetual's top-performing Income and High Income funds. In an article in the Sunday Times of 10 September 2006 he described his approach on which investments to make. He is described as one of the contrarian investors as he is prepared to take views that are out of line with the rest of the market on the basis that he will be proved right in the long term. He tends to look for stable, predictable companies not favoured by the rest of the industry and believes that cashflow is key in deciding whether companies can sustain growth. Neil lives in Henley-on-Thames.

Tom Yearley (1993/2000) who read Economics at Southampton University is now an environmental consultant for Enviros, working in Fareham.

Tom lives in Maidenhead.

Reunion of the June 1939 3rd Form of Maidenhead County Boys' School



Late in 2005, some 66 years after the above photograph was taken, one of the Form members, John Burge (second row, far right), thought it would be interesting to try to contact the others in the photo and to arrange a reunion. All would be 80 in 2006 and most would not have met one another since leaving School in 1942, more than 60 years previously. All would have joined the school just before World War II and all would have been at School during wartime and would have gone into one of the armed services.

John, assisted by class mates, Geoff Catliffe and Victor Kemp, and by publicity in the Maidenhead Advertiser, managed to locate 14 of the original 32 boys. A further 12 had sadly died. There were also some who missed being in the original photograph but were of the same vintage, who were invited to the reunion

In the event, the reunion lunch took place at Maidenhead Golf Club on 20th June 2006, with 14 present. A number of items of memorabilia had been collected which served to stimulate memories. John revealed that he had written to the Queen, on behalf of the group, explaining that those present at the reunion had the privilege of sharing their 80th birthday year with the Queen and would be drinking a toast to her.

After the reunion, John received the following reply from the Lady in Waiting:-

The Queen wishes me to write and thank you for the letter which you sent on the occasion of her eightieth birthday.

Her Majesty has been so touched by the wonderful response to her special birthday and hopes that you, and all those who joined you on the 20th June for a school reunion, had an enjoyable and memorable time. I am to thank you for your loyalty, support and good wishes which the Queen warmly appreciates.

The following photograph was taken immediately after the lunch.



Front row: Bob Rance, John Burge, Rod Coles, Peter Edwards, David Robinson, Peter Lowe

Back row: Peter Groves, Victor Kemp, Roger Hill, Tony Care, Geoff Catliffe, Peter Bishop, Jeff Brill

Brief details of some of those in the photograph are:-

Bob Rance served in Civil Defence and in the RAF. He worked in the motor industry. He is a bell-ringer at St Michael's Church, Bray, and plays bowls.

John Burge served in the Home Guard and then in the army in Palestine before becoming a trainee laboratory technician at the Canadian Red Cross hospital. He then joined Glaxo and eventually was in charge of the production of polio vaccine, with a staff of 80, before leaving to set up his own vaccine laboratory. He now lives in Folkestone, Kent

Peter Edwards served in the RAF in Karachi and then in the aircraft industry. He lives in Waltham St Lawrence.

Peter Groves served in the Royal Army Medical Corps in India, Iraq and Egypt. He then read Chemistry at Reading University and taught the subject at Birmingham College of Technology. He lives in Oldbury.

Victor Kemp became an architect and later, as a director of Ove Arup and Partners Ltd, helped to build several of the London skyscrapers. He lives in Maidenhead.

Peter Bishop served in the Royal Engineers and then worked in the aircraft industry. He lives in Beaconsfield.

Jeff Brill was in farming. He lives in Aylesbury.

Hockey Match

OMA v School - 2007

During week commencing 25th 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

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. 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 Maidoniansí Association,
The Haven, Harts Lane, Burghfield, Newbury
RG20 9JT

Please make your cheque payable to
Old Maidoniansí Association

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Table Plan for Annual Dinner 31st March 2006

Table 1

Barry Cheese
Betty Collin
Roger Coombs
David Eyre
Graham Fisher
Stephen Gleed
Anne Hewitt
Maureen Kenney
Len Reynolds OBE
Caroline Richards
Cllr Emrys Richards

Table 2

Andy Bond
James Clarke
David Evans
Nick Lamb
Nicholas Lee
Tony Lehain
Andrew Linnell
Andrew Mackie
Chris Nunn
George Scott
Michael Vaughan
James Ward

Table 3

Graham Bridges
Michael Clyde
Derek Harris
Mike Lofting
Chris Maltin
Philip Palmer
Richard Pearce
David Revell
John Smith
Mike Willoughby
Steve Wray

Table 4

Ray Clark
Geoff Clarke
Tony Grant
Peter Harries
Fred Hearman
John Moses
John Nash
John Powell
Bart Sams
John Stacey
Barrie Woolford

Table 5

Roger Brooker
Robert Clark
Richard Crockford
John Doe
John Keys
Laurie Keys
Roger Keys
John Pickett
David Swaffield
Ron Walker
David Wheeler

Table 6

Bob Allan
Geoff Barnes
Ken Grace-Dutton
Barry Hatch
Colin Hatch
Keith Hatch
Derek Mayell
Mike Page
Roy Squire
Mike Wilkey

Table 7

Bert Bellworthy
Peter Bush OBE
Colin Cutler
Malcolm Cutler
Colin Edwards
John Field
Tony Johnson
Alec Jones
Luke Over MBE
Derek Woolford

Annual Dinner

Friday 30th March 2007

Our Annual Dinner this year 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 28th March 2007.**

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

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

.....Tel.....

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

I wish to attend the Annual Dinner on Friday, 30th March 2007 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.....		
.....		

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

Continue on a separate sheet, if necessary