

martlet

MAGAZINE



ISSUE 64
Spring 2018
The magazine
for Old Millhillians
www.omclub.co.uk



Old Millhillians
Where Are They Now?

The Annual Dinner
in photos

The
'Belmontian'

All Change in
The Club Office



CONTENTS

Club News & Views

From the new Chair	4
AGM	6
Club Office	7
Upper 6th Leavers Reception	8

Presidents in Action

President's Year 2016-17	10
President's Award	11
President's Comments 2017-18	12
President's World Tour 2017-18	13

Pro Bono

Lodge	20
Liverymans	20
Alford House	21

Careering Ahead

Professional Networking	24
-------------------------	----

Friends Reunited

OMs Day	34
Summer Cocktail Party	38

Welsh Dinner	40
Northern Dinner	40
Past President's Lunch	41
Scottish Dinner	41
East Anglia Dinner	41
School Reunions	42
Oakers	44
Malta	44
Annual Dinner	46



Mill Hill School, early 20th Century, with the Headmaster Sir John McClure

Sport

Rugby Chairman's Letter	50
Past Player's Lunch	52
VP's Lunch	52
Cricket	53
Rugby Dinner	56
Golf	60
Fives	61

Foundation News & Views

Non Nobis sed Scholae	64
Armistice Day	65
Collinson Garden	66
Sixth Form Centre	67
Development Office	68
Sponsor a Hymn Book	69
Archive	71

In Memoriam

76

Old Belmontian

83

From the New Chair

2017 was definitely a year of change: a former Club President, Terry Allan, passed away; Roger Chapman stepped down from his role of Chairman of the Court of Governors; and Andy Mortimer stepped down as Chairman of the Old Millhillians Club.



Peter Wakeham (*Burton Bank 60-64*)

Initial thoughts on the Club's future.

Many of you will recall that I have likened the Club to M&S! We face the twin challenges of constantly needing to renew ourselves in order to stay relevant to our younger members, while at the same time serving and not alienating our loyal older membership base.

Unlike M&S, we do not have a share price to worry about so we can afford to take risks and experiment with renewal

and re-invention. After all, the Club is not alone as an organisation that needs to keep re-inventing itself to stay apace with member needs, especially those of younger members. Probably our greatest risk is that we take no risk. Here is my early thinking:

1. Just about everyone is time poor! The Club needs to be administered by more OMs, committed to doing bite size but important activities. Sub Committees will become the norm. We already have a Finance

Committee led by Abhijit Gupta, and a Careers Committee led by Dick Lidwell. A Member Relations Committee will follow.

2. Communications need to be more frequent and of course take more advantage of electronic media opportunities, such as our newsletters, website and social media. We will set out to produce an electronic version of Martlet that is so attractive that OMs prefer it to a hard copy version. As with public company annual reports,

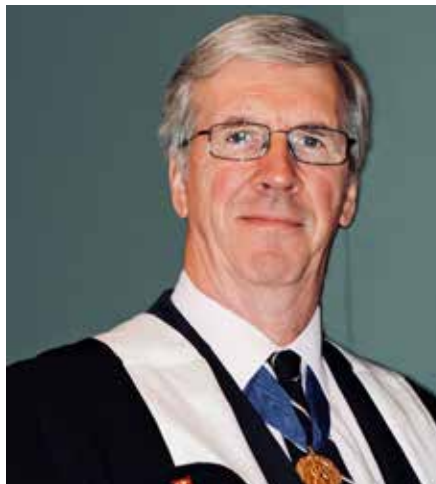
Dr Roger Chapman BSc MB BS FRCGP

(*Collinson 1960 – 1965*)

Roger Chapman and I were contemporaries at Mill Hill and it has been an enormous pleasure for me to work alongside him over the past several years.

He joined the Court of Governors in 1998 and gave a massive 19 years of service to the Mill Hill School Foundation, the last 5 of which as Chairman or Acting Chairman. He is one of an elite and rare breed of OMs to have served as Chairman of the Court: Hon Mr Justice Kempster who served from 1979 - 81; Nathaniel Micklem (1922 - 1944); Sir Albert Spicer, MP (1911-1922); and Lord Winterstoke (W H Wills) (1896 to 1911).

In her report to the Life Guardians Annual Meeting, Dr Amanda Craig, Roger's successor as Chair of the Court, paid tribute to Roger's immense contribution to the whole Foundation over many years. "He has often said that without Mill Hill he would not have achieved



what he has in life, I would like to say that, without Roger, Mill Hill would not have achieved the growth and success it has!

His contribution has enriched all aspects of the Foundation and during his chairmanship we went from strength to strength. He will be sorely missed on the Court and I shall miss his mentorship and guidance, but am sure he will continue to support the Foundation in other ways and be active in Foundation life."

Without Roger's support, I doubt the Club would have succeeded in introducing our parent funded Life Membership initiative. He saw immediately the mutual benefits to both Club and Foundation from the Club having a strong and growing membership base. From June 2019, this programme will generate annually at least 130 new OM members with a healthily balanced gender mix.

I cannot thank him enough for his commitment to the Club and also to the Life Guardians.

P. R. WAKEHAM (1960-64)

Burton Bank; Upper Modern Language Sixth; Monitor; Head of House; Games Committee; Editorial Committee (Editor, July 1964); Food Committee; Lower Modern Language VI Form Prize 1963; Van Moppes Travel Award 1964; 1st XV 1963-64 (Hon. Sec. 1964); 1st XI Cricket 1963-64; 2nd XI Hockey 1964; Athletics Team 1961-62; Middlesex Schoolboys' Hockey XI 1963; Middlesex Schoolboys' Rugby XV Reserve 1963; Interim (Chairman); Phoebe Group; Playreading Society; Modern Language Society; Ancients Anonymous; Operatic Society; Music Club; Koinonia; Assistant Librarian; Entering Unilever Ltd. before possible entrance to Brasenose College, Oxford; 33, Barn Way, Wembley Park, Middlesex.

the hard copy version of Martlet will remain until such time as it is financially infeasible due to low member demand.

3. Data protection regulations will become stricter but not in ways that should worry us. We will need to regulate ourselves and control the use of data as we do now, but it is difficult to imagine any OM becoming a member of the Club and not wanting us to communicate with him or her. As now, we will not share your personal data outside the Club or the Foundation. Why would we?

4. Safeguarding of pupils will become as important for the Club as it is for the Foundation. Society norms evolved rapidly during 2017. Not just for the BBC or Hollywood or for football coaches. In Florence, Bizet's 140 year old opera "Carmen" was recently performed with a new finale in which

Carmen shoots her thwarted admirer Don José with a pistol that she grabs off him, rather than being stabbed to death by him. This dramatic departure from operatic orthodoxy was a further attempt to shine the spotlight on the modern-day abuse and mistreatment of women. The Club will also have to evolve. Club events with pupil attendance such as Networking evenings, the Upper Sixth Leavers Reception and the Annual Dinner will need to reflect new social norms as well as Foundation pupil safeguarding policies.

5. Life membership will become the norm. We will continue to emphasise the benefits of life membership to members who currently pay by annual subscription.

6. Female engagement in Club activities will increase. We are nearing a point

in time when the pioneering female pupils will reach a stage in their careers and lives when they will hopefully have time to participate pro-actively in and organise Club events. We will need to put resources behind initiatives that ensure that the Club is relevant to female members. We will review how best to engage former Mount and existing Mount Mill Hill International pupils with the Club.

7. Career support will be pivotal to our future. The Club's commitment to providing career guidance and support to alumni and school pupils is relevant to parents who choose to pay for their children to become Life Members. Our Professional Networking events are equally attractive to male and female OMs and play a very important role in the Club's calendar.

Ultimately, the Club's current future strengths hinge on our mutually beneficial relationship with the Foundation and the voluntary initiatives of Committee and Sub Committee members, event organisers, pupil work experience supporters, many more and of course Laura Turner, Ann Bunyard and Katie Peters in the office. My thanks to all involved.



Terry Allan BA
(Weymouth 1945 – 1949)

We have paid tribute to Terry Allan in a comprehensive obituary on the Club's website.

I would like to add some personal memories of Terry with particular emphasis on his contribution towards the Foundation.

Terry and I were in regular touch and he and I lunched together with our wives when I lived in Switzerland. He was a charming person with a truly positive outlook on life. He gave generously to ABC bursaries and to the McClure Scholarship Award funded by Life Guardians and the Club.

As President of the Club, he gave his time tirelessly and actively attended several of the meetings and events despite the journey from Frauenfeld (near Zurich) where he and Marianne lived.

The Club's thoughts are with his widow, Marianne, and children, Colin and Susan.

CLUB NEWS & VIEWS



Andrew Mortimer (*Burton Bank 56 – 61*)

Andrew Mortimer wears size 49 shoes. Following in his footsteps has not been easy! I did it as Club President in 2014 and also way back in the late 60s when I ended up switching from second row to No. 8 for OMRFC after Andy transferred to Wasps. Taking on the Chair role from him will also be tough.

Andy gave 10 years of service as Club Chairman. I can confidently say that, with my vast experience from ten months as his successor, very few OMs realise just how much time and energy he committed to the role. During his period of tenure, the Foundation grew in scale and complexity and

the connected world saw explosive expansion, placing new and sometimes challenging demands on the Club in terms of how it communicates and engages with its members. Andy oversaw many changes in the way the Club operates and he gave his time tirelessly and with great humanity.

On behalf of all OMs, I thank him for his massive contribution to the Club's progress and also for his willingness to continue as Club Committee member, thereby lending me support and guidance.

A. S. MORTIMER (1956-61); Burton Bank; Economics VI; Monitor; Junior Tennis, 1958; Singlehanded, 1960; 3rd XI Cricket, 1960; Interim; 33 Lower Kenwood Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.

AGM 2017

The Club AGM and cocktail party took place on 27th June at the National Liberal Club.

After 10 years as chairman of the committee Andy Mortimer decided it was time to step down. Peter Wakeham was elected as the new Chairman. The Club thanked Andy for his immense contribution and dedication to the club.

The AGM confirmed four new Honorary Old Millhillians: Christopher Funnell and Mrs Heather Baim were proposed for their many years of service in the Old Belmontians Association; Roger Axworthy was nominated for his many years of service

as Clerk of the Governors and as Clerk of the Life Guardians; Shalaka Karleker, having served as Club secretary for over 10 years, was an obvious candidate.

Heather, Roger and Shalaka attended the cocktail party which, for the first time in many years had to be held inside due to the inclement weather. Nevertheless, it was a lively and enjoyable party.

The Club were delighted to welcome the Head, Frances King, and several past and present members of staff, Chris Kelly, Robert Clark and David Woodrow. Also present were David Brown and Richard Llewelyn, who were subsequently inaugurated at the annual Club dinner on 6th October as the Club's next President and Vice President.



OLD MILLHILLIAN CLUB OFFICERS & MANAGEMENT 2018

COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT 2017-2018

David A B Brown(56-61)

VICE PRESIDENT 2016-2017

Richard Llewellyn (62-66)

OFFICERS

Chair – Peter Wakeham (60-64)

Honorary Secretary – Stewart Wernham (74-79)

Honorary Treasurer – Abhijit Gupta (89-94)

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Careers – Richard Lidwell (59-64)

Martlet – Roger Streeten (81-86)

Clubland – Andrew Mortimer (57-61)

Old Belmontians – Adrian Jordan

Anthony Ward (82-87), Mitesh Bhimjiyani (93-98), Tim Corbett

Ex Officio: MHS Head – Mrs Frances King (HM)

Common Room Liaison – John Barron, Assistant Head Sixth Form

Alford House & Sponsorship Fund – Nigel Baker (55-61)

OFFICE STAFF

Alumni Relations Officer – Laura Turner

Club Administration Officer – Katie Peters

Bookkeeper – Ann Bunyard

The Club Office

The Club Office is now fully staffed. We have taken time to think through how best to assign office responsibilities to best serve member needs.

Laura has been with us for over a year now and is known to most of you. She will spearhead our plans to upgrade the content of our communications with members in order to increase member engagement and attract new members.

Welcome to Katie Peters who joined us in February. Katie will be responsible for making sure that office systems function to a high standard, with particular emphasis on the accuracy, control and security of member data in the forthcoming new data protection environment.

Finally, Ann will continue to balance our books each month and ensure we are on top of our finances.



Laura Turner

omc@millhill.org.uk
020 8906 7948

Ann Bunyard

ann.bunyard@millhill.org.uk
020 8906 7949

Katie Peters

katie.peters@millhill.org.uk
020 8906 7949

CLUB NEWS & VIEWS



Upper 6th Leavers Reception

As is customary, the Club entertained the 2017 leavers to a reception at the National Liberal Club on April 26th.

Given that the leavers are automatically members of OMC and, consequently, Associate members of NLC itself, this is a great opportunity for the students to have a look at and hear about the benefits of membership.

The Club also encourages a number of OM's who have left in recent years to attend this gathering and provide a bridge between the generations. It was wonderful to see so many of them mixing with the Leavers and their past Housemasters/ Mistresses. There is no doubt that the Old Millhillians use the NLC extensively, it is a terrific facility and a very welcoming one too.

Another addition to the evening was the Jazz band led by Head of Music Kevin Kyle on piano accompanied by the dulcet tones of Connie Greaves, and the musical talents of Daniel Stern and Johnny Wanders of Weymouth.

This year's event was not helped by the weather so the proposed balcony reception had to be confined to the internal spaces. We would like to thank both Jo Batty (*Atkinson 06-11*) and Austin Vince (*Collinson 78-83*) who addressed the leavers and both spoke so passionately about the possibilities that are available to you as a member of The Club.





PRESIDENTS IN ACTION



The President's Year 2016 – 2017

R. J. D. BOON (1954-60); Murray; Upper Modern Subjects VI; School Prefect; Head of House; Games Committee; Executive Committee; Y Gymdeithas Gymraeg; Geographical Society; Welsh Schoolboys Hockey; 1st XV 1959 (Vice-Captain 1960); Sevens; 1st XI Hockey 1959-60; 2nd XI 1959-60; Athletics Team 1959-60; Fives Team 1958; Under-Officer in Army/C.C.F.; Agricultural Student; 19 Parkside, Mill Hill, London.

Following the Annual Dinner in the Merchant Taylors Hall my year started in earnest with the Armistice Day Ceremony at the School Gate of Honour, followed by the Service of Remembrance in the Mill Hill School Chapel. The Ceremony was a very moving tribute by the School to those Old Millhillians who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and it was an honour on behalf of the Club to lay the Wreath.

This was soon followed by travelling to Manchester for the North of England OM Dinner at the St James's Club. Peter Belshaw produced a great evening and it was extremely pleasant to meet some of my old contemporaries who I had not seen for a very long time.

Travelling in the totally opposite direction to the Northern Dinner I then attended the West of England Dinner in Taunton at Somerset County Cricket Club. Robert Priestley organised a splendid occasion and had invited John Gallagher, Chairman of OMRFC and son of former teacher Norman "Willie" Gallagher as a guest speaker.

The run up to Christmas included trips to London to attend the OM Golf Society AGM and Dinner at the National Liberal Club which was a first for me as I had never been a President of a Golfing Society before but it was excellent evening.

I also attended the Old Millhillian Lodge and the Installation of Chris Maunder Taylor as its' Worshipful Master at the Inn Holders Hall. This was followed by two other events organised by Old Millhillians, Gerry Westoby and Vik Gudenian, these being the Oakers lunch held in Sarratt and the Dinner on the Thames for the Young at Heart OM's. In the New Year following the OM Medical Professions meeting I attended the OM'S Eton Fives Dinner at the Bleeding Heart Restaurant and Wine Cellar in London. Oli Sander made it a great event which was also attended by pupils from the school supervised by the master in charge of fives.

My next visit was to Headstone Lane for the VP's and former Players lunch ably presided over by John Gallagher. I am pleased to report that the first XV had

a totally convincing win. My next visit to London was for the Past Presidents Lunch which was in the safe hands of Tim Corbett and Stuart Hibberdine and held at the Athenaeum Club. It was a very enjoyable lunch and with complete wisdom I travelled home to Wales by train. Unfortunately I was unable to attend the OM's Liverymen's Association lunch but was soon back at the Bleeding Heart Restaurant for the Engineers Dinner which again was a splendid event organised by Gordon Mizner.

From London the next event was the East Anglian Dinner held at Trinity Hall, Cambridge where old friends David Short and Russell Cowan were in attendance. A splendid evening with pupils and Frances King present. Old Millhillians Day and Foundation day were attended and I again met Old Millhillians whom I had not seen for many years which made it a most enjoyable day.

Finally, with the assistance of Laura and Ann in the office, guidance from Bruce Maunder Taylor and Peter Wakeham the Annual Dinner was organised. May I thank everybody who has made it a memorable year for me.

Ronnie Boon (Murray 54-60)

President's Award 2017

Last year's President, Ronnie Boon, announced at the Annual Dinner that the recipient of the President's Award for 2017 was **Roddy Braithwaite** MA, FRHistS (*Winterstoke 1945-50*).

Unfortunately, Roddy could not be present in person to receive his award and he feels the passing years will make it difficult for him to attend this year's dinner.

The Club's Chairman, Peter Wakeham, felt it appropriate to meet Roddy close to his home in Suffolk for a private presentation of the award, accompanied by Russell Cowan, the originator of this award when he was President.

Roddy's many contributions and his unerring support and affection for the Club and the School made him a worthy recipient of the President's Award and Roddy has been flattered and delighted by this recognition.

His greatest contribution is his history of Mill Hill School, *Strikingly Alive*, published in 2007 to coincide with the 200th anniversary of the founding of the School.

R. C. BRAITHWAITE (1945-50); *Winterstoke*; *Monitor*, July 1950; *Modern Language Vith*; 2nd XI (Hockey), 1950; *Squash V*, 1950-51; *Games Committee*; *Magazine Committee* (Sub-Editor 1950); *Playreading Society* (Hon. Sec. 1948-50); *Geographical Society* (Committee 1948-49, Hon. Sec. 1950); *Interim Society* (Hon. Sec. 1950); *Modern Language Society* (Hon. Sec. 1950); *Dramatic Society*; C.S.M. in *Army/C.C.F.*; Part II, 1948; *David Needham Memorial Prize for Modern Languages*, 1947-48-49-50; *Reading and Speech Prize*, 1949; *School Certificate*, 1947; *Higher Certificate*, 1949-50 (*Distinction in French 1949*, *Distinctions in French and German 1950*); *State Scholarship*, 1950. Entering *Queen's College, Cambridge*, 9, Oakroyd Avenue, Potter's Bar, Middlesex.

It was the culmination of his role as School Historian from 1996 to 2007 during which time he published the *History of Mill Hill School Chapel* in 2006. These literary works were preceded by more than fifty years of services to the School and the Club, starting in 1953 when he was Secretary of the OMs Cambridge University Club while an undergraduate at Queen's College to be followed by the post of Hon. Secretary to the Old Millhillians Club from 1986 to 1989 and several other functions at different times.

Roddy's most recent contribution has been as the originator, in 2008, of the idea of establishing the Mill Hill Peter Collinson Heritage Garden, a project which will soon reach fruition with the Official Opening of the Garden on 21st June 2018.

An most enjoyable lunch with Roddy was followed by the presentation of the badge.

Dr Russell Cowan (*Weymouth 58-63*)



L-R: Dr Russell Cowan, Roddy Braithwaite, Peter Wakeham

PRESIDENTS IN ACTION



L-R: Peter Wakeham (Club Chair)
David A B Brown (President)
Andy Mortimer (Past Chairman)

President's Comments

It is a real honour for me to spend this year as your President. The Old Millhillians Club has accomplished many great things over the years: in sports, social and professional endeavours and I'm proud to be part of it.

As many of you know, I am based in the USA and I have taken advantage of this by organising many events there. In January, Karin and I visited OMs in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland Oregon, Vancouver and Victoria BC. These followed visits to Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Australia and Capetown in October. The support I have had from the OMs is incredible. I visited Australia after a magnificent OM lunch in Cape Town. Karin and I also attended OM events in Melbourne, and Sydney, with USA East Coast gatherings in March, including Montreal, New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC and Florida.

My overseas travels have sadly meant that I have been unable to attend some UK events. My thanks to Richard Llewellyn, our Vice President, for standing in for me at the Cardiff and Golf Society dinners. He tells me it was no great hardship.

Regional dinners have always been marvellous events. Unfortunately, attendance at some of these gatherings has been steadily declining, forcing a major re-think by the Club. Locations, venues, event formulae are all up for discussion. The South West event in 2018/19 is likely to be a Sunday lunch rather than a Friday dinner. Also, the Club is undertaking a comprehensive assessment of where OM students are attending University. There may be a case for organising regional events in towns where we have significant numbers of OM students.

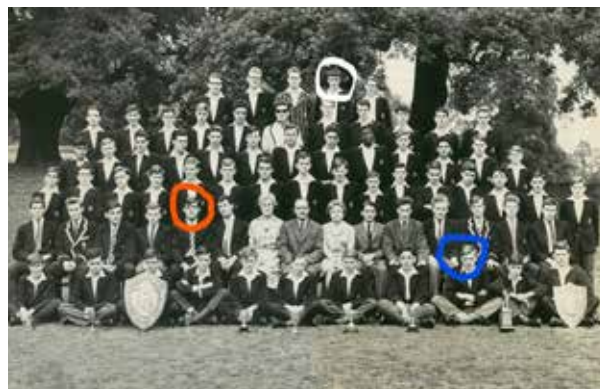
This year the Club will be holding two new events in London: a dinner for OM Chinese alumni which Zuoxin Klaus Wang

is organising this. Later this year, Kate Korshunova will be organising an event for OM Russian alumni. Richard Llewellyn is the driving force behind these gatherings on behalf of the Club. It is a matter of time before one of my successors as President attends OM gatherings in Beijing, Shanghai and Moscow. The Club believes that seeds for these future events need to be sown now.

My appreciation to all of you who work so hard to make the Old Millhillians Club and Mill Hill School great institutions. A final thank you to Laura Turner and Ann Bunyard who run the Club Office on the Ridgeway! And welcome Katie Peters. You are joining a great team.

David A B Brown (*Burton Bank 56-61*)

D. A. B. BROWN (1956-61); Burton Bank; Upper Science VI; Hobbies Committee; Form Prize, 1958; Boxing Team, 1956-57-58-59-60-61; 4th XV Rugby, 1960; Sailing Team; Science Society; Troop leader of Scout troop, Queen's Scout; Studying Engineering at Manchester University or McGill University as preparation for qualifying as a Chartered Accountant; Address as yet unknown.



L-R: Andy Mortimer, David A B Brown, Peter Wakeham
(*Burton Bank 1961*)



Vancouver

L-R: Bob Angel (Winterstoke 55-60) Sebastian Elliott (Collinson 02-07), DABB, Anthony Smith (Weymouth 50-55), Doug Hugill (Winterstoke 57-62)

Our President's World Tour 2017-18

January – March 2018

I flew into San Francisco from Boston, and Nick Priestnall flew in from London, Monday January 15th.

I arrived in time for lunch and went straight to visit a restaurant called the Seven Hills which is owned and managed by OM Alex Solomou. A charming Italian restaurant, it is

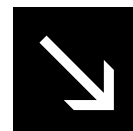
frequented by OMs as we learnt that evening. A must visit if you are in SFO.

That evening we met at La Capital Le Colonial, a S E Asia restaurant where we were joined by Karen and Donald Haigh, Laurie Johnson and his bride of three months Christine, and Charles Roberts, son of the Belmont Headmaster (AJRR) when Donald Haigh was a pupil.

We had a lot of fun looking at old house photos which Nick had brought and catching up on MHS and other OMs. The Haighs kindly drove us back to the hotel. A great evening.

Tuesday morning we flew to Portland Oregon where we had lunch with Daniel Gee, who is in the cannabis business. Yes that's right. He lives in Seattle where it is legal to grow and retail cannabis products. Needless to say most of the lunch was an education for Nick and I with a good dose of Mill Hill thrown in. Fascinating lunch.

That evening was spent



PRESIDENTS IN ACTION



Dinner at La Capital Le Colonial, San Francisco

with the only born American we met on the trip, Ken Rifkin. Again fascinating, Ken has spent his career in naturopathic medicines, as a practitioner himself and creating two separate companies that he eventually sold. As well as continuing his advisory work, he is developing a process to identify and target rogue genes in the human body so they can be neutralized. He is working with a fellow scientist in Devon. Again, way above my pay grade, but we did learn something of immeasurable value.

Remember those rumours of a Ridgeway boy who hid a car at the bottom of Wills Grove? It was Ken! As explained, it was an old Simca that was donated by his older brother who had also gone to school in England and was returning to the States. Included in the package was a bottle of Chivas and a carton of cigarettes! There were two other participants in this scene; they all arrived back at the house “way under the weather”.

The Housemaster of Winterstoke was Allan Phimester; no one was expelled! Ken took us out to dinner at a friend’s restaurant where the stories continued.

Wednesday on to Vancouver where we had a fine dinner at the Pan Pacific Hotel overlooking the Harbour watching the seaplanes land and take off. We were joined by Bob Angel, Anthony Smith (the most senior OM that we met), Sebastian Elliott (the youngest) an Architect who has been in Vancouver just four months and Doug Hugill who arrived with a bag of photos and other memorabilia. That got us started and then Nick brought out house photos and then Doug brought out one of those school panoramic photos that was the source of endless discussions. It turned out that Doug and Bob overlapped for four of their five years at Mill Hill and were both in Winterstoke; what a coincidence.

At each stop on the way, Nick gave out Mill Hill School Magazines, house histories etc. And we talked about the excitement that the new Head has brought to the School. Co-education was a hot topic as was Saturday Classes (or rather the lack of them). We talked about the OMs Club, Saracens and the ABC bursary programmes.

We headed to Cape Town in late January, from where we drove to Nysa for a great dinner with Stuart Hiberdine and his wife, that was hosted by John Parrott. The following day Tony Weaver hosted a great lunch in his new home. Present were the Hibberdines, John Parrott, Tim Sobie and his wife, and Nicholas Edwards who had driven up from Cape Town .

We then spent four days R&R at the Shamwari game reserve, sixty miles north of Port Elizabeth, on the recommendation of Peter Wakeham. This was one of the most exciting experiences of our lives. Thank you Peter.

Off to Australia arriving in Melbourne via Johannesburg and Sydney. On our first day there, Justin Wernham look us out to



Washington

L-R: Nick Priestnall, Frances King and Dave Bruss (Ridgeway 68-70).

Attended but not in photo: Andrew Apostolou (Murray 79-83)

Snow frustrated the attendance of Richard Shin (Ridgeway 90-94),

Chris Bartrop (Scrutton 59-63) and Jim Bowen (Burton Bank 47-52)



L-R: Roger Chapman, Paul Sanett (School House 94-99) who flew from Chicago for the dinner, Spencer Baim (Priestley 88-93), Nick Priestnall, DABB, Ariel Grunberg (Collinson 68-71), Jonathan Bertulis-Fernandes (Priestley 08-10)

Also attended: Phil Amlot (Winterstoke 81-86), Sebastian Lighvani (School House 84-89), Edward Newmark (Scrutton 63-66), Marcus Weston (McClure 85-90), Michael Grunberg (Belmont 68-71) & fiancée Tanya

lunch on the boardwalk of the river. Absolutely wonderful. We had a great Sunday lunch at the RAC Club hosted by Alistair MacLennan. Great company made up of Judy and Robin Tillyard, and Angela and Roy Hanson. The following day, Robin took us out to dinner at the Australian Club in Melbourne. It was a memorable evening Justin and his wife Emma took us out to the country for the day, which was exceptionally good of them to both take a day off. They drove us to Flinders on the ocean. A quaint village with lots of character. We had lunch in a very picturesque vineyard. On to Sydney. What a magnificent city! Mike Hailey and his wife Linda arranged a marvelous lunch at Ripples, a restaurant on the Harbour, under the iconic bridge. We also were joined by Alan and Dawn Mills, and Guy and Annette. Great time. We were also honored to celebrate Michael Bishop's (aka Lord Glendonbrook) 76th birthday at the Australian Club. What a magnificent affair to be remembered.

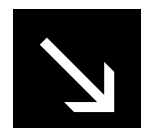
From the West Coast of North America in January via the warmth and sunshine of South Africa and Australia to the cold of North America's North East Coast in March. I live in Boston and am well used to heavy snow and the cold as is most of the NE Coast but this amount of snow and these low temperatures were pretty rare for March. Landing in Boston from sunny Florida on the morning of Saturday 17th March I collected my car and drove the five hours to Montreal through snow covered New England and Canada. I always enjoy visiting Montreal as that was my first destination after leaving Mill Hill to attend McGill University.

That evening I arrived at the fantastic, albeit a little eccentric, venue for the Montreal dinner (The Algonquin Room at Le Munt Stephen Hotel) to be met by Nick Priestnall and Frances King. Unfortunately Mohammad Rahbary (Priestley 00-04), who with Nick, had organised the event sadly could not be there due to family illness; nor could other Montreal local Mazi Rajae (Winterstoke 77-82). This left only one Montreal

resident Robin Ball (Weymouth 53-58) who was joined by those on road-trips from Michigan (Roger Holliday, Winterstoke 53-58, and his wife Claudia, and Randal Charlton, Collinson 53-58 and his wife Lee) and Toronto (John Henley, School House 53-57, and John Vincett, Collinson 60-66, and Pam). We had a great evening and left quite late to head into the Montreal night and -10C.

While Nick and Frances flew to New York I drove! Another full day in the car saw me reach our NY hotel mid-afternoon on 19th just in time to change and head out with Nick and Frances to see Albert Naggar (Winterstoke 80-85) at his lovely NY home (because he couldn't make the dinner in the evening) before walking a couple of blocks to Sidecar at PJ Clarke's, a well-known eatery at 3rd and East 55th. We had a private area screened off so Old Millhillians with lots to say to each other did not distract other diners! There was a great mixture of first time attendees at Mill Hill reunions and regulars and we were delighted to see Roger Chapman (Weymouth 60-65) who flew from UK to be with us here and in Philly.

The day before Washington DC lunch the Government had announced closure of all Government buildings and offices for the next day. The weather beat me as my flight could not land in Washington DC where there was some 10 inches of snow and they are not good at coping with it. So I had to leave this leg of the journey to Nick and Frances who had travelled from New York by train! They were able to share a great lunch with Dave Bruss (Ridgeway 68-70) and Andrew Apostolou (Murray 79-83) but snow frustrated the attendance of Richard Shin (Ridgeway 90-94), Chris Bartrop (Scrutton 59-63) and Jim Bowen (Burton Bank 47-52). I look forward





The photo shows (from right)

Peter Hunt (Weymouth 60-65), David A B Brown (BB 56-61), Henry Goldsmith (Collinson 54-458) and Roger Chapman.

Interspersed between them (again working from the right) are representatives of our hosts at Bartram's Garden – the President of the Board or Trustees, the Archivist, the Executive Director and the Marketing & Communications Director



to seeing Jim at the Cocktail Party in June and Dave on Old Millhillians Day in September.

The final stop on the tour was Philadelphia where we met at Bartram's Garden. John Bartram, founder of the Garden, was Peter Collinson's primary contact in the USA. The School had arranged the meeting with the Garden in order to develop a relationship as it marks the 250th anniversary of the death of Collinson with the creation of the memorial garden (described elsewhere in this magazine). It proved a delightful day

and hopefully the basis of a long-term relationship.

On all my travels it has been my pleasure to talk about the Old Millhillians community and especially the pro-active work in careers in which so many Old Millhillians are involved. As I have visited School regularly during my year I was able to tell people about some recent developments although I left this up to Nick and Frances at the events they attended. In North America I was also pleased to remind event attendees of the A Better Chance bursary which is

funded by alumni on the continent, of the fantastic opportunity it has provided and our plans to sustain it into the future.

Wherever I have been it has been wonderful to meet fellow alumni with over 60 years spanning the ages of the oldest to the youngest! My wife and I think them all for their hospitality and friendship and urge them, wherever they are to stay in touch with London NW7!

David A B Brown (*Burton Bank 56-61*)



Class of '52

The informal photo of the 1st XV Leavers,
December 1952.

L-R Top:

Tony Humphries (*Ridgeway 47-52*)

Alastair Breeze (*Scrutton 47-53*)

Mark Fielden (*Winterstoke 48-52*)

Malcolm Johnson (*Winterstoke 48-52*)

Peter Cheshire (*Ridgeway 48-53*)

L-R Middle:

Brian Jarman (*Collinson 49-53*)

Nigel White (*Burton Bank 47-52*)

David Quilley (*Winterstoke 47-52*)

Vince Pippet (*Murray 48-54*)

John Roberts (*Collinson 48-53*)

Kneeling:

John Hillier (*Winterstoke 48-53*)

1. Your favourite memory of playing in that First 1V team? Or any memory, of a match, team spirit, anything?
2. Your favourite memory of your time at Mill Hill School?
3. Your worst memory of Mill Hill School?
4. What did you do once you left school?

John Roberts

1. My best memory of playing for the 1st XV was when I was lucky enough to score the winning try against Harrow on Top Field with my parents watching. There was a lot of mutual respect among the players.
2. Life for me at Mill Hill was wonderful in every way and I really appreciated the great Donald Hall who was House Master of Collinson. It is difficult to give a favourite time at Mill Hill since they were five extremely happy years both in the class room and on the sports field. I was Captain of hockey and Hon. Sec. of athletics.
3. The worst moments would have been receiving a beating and fine for leaving clothes in the changing room only to discover subsequently that they were not mine but belonged to one of the other five Roberts in the school at that time.
4. After Mill Hill I went into the army on National Service and then to Cambridge University to read Natural Sciences. I then moved to Newcastle to learn about marine paint with International Paints Ltd. From there I began work for Burmah Oil Ltd which lasted 18 years where I finished up running the World-wide non-oil activities, comprising 44 small companies in 23 countries. For a further 11 years I worked as CEO of Runeroid plc and finally 19 years working for myself to turn around troubled companies for Banks, Private Investors and Venture Capitalists.



Vincent Pippet

1. Favourite Memory: Playing The St Mary's Hospital Schools XV, Captained TA Kemp, an ex England fly half, The St Marys team were forbidden to kick the ball! They ran MHS off the ground. Following the match TA Kemp asked what I was going to do when I left MHS? I said I was hoping to study Medicine. He invited me to apply to St Mary's Hospital Medical School.
2. Being taught biology by Donald Hall and getting top marks for my Dissection of the Dogfish Cranial Nerves!
3. Being Beaten by Alec Ramsey for some misdemeanour, and Writing out 'History Repeats itself' 10,000 times for highlighting the Roman Province of Narbonensis on a wall map in red Chalk! 'Narbo' was the Nickname of one of our Latin Teachers!
4. Studied Medicine at St Marys Hospital, subsequently Worked with John Talbot FRCS, and P Hamilton MRCP at Harold Wood Hospital in Essex. Then worked in The Rotunda Hospital in Dublin from 1961-64, then worked in General Practice in Wicklow Town from 1964 -2005 and Retirement age 70!

Memories of Mill Hill School

I think I attended Belmont for two years post war c1946-48.

On the first day of my first term at Mill Hill School, I was to be a day boy in Murray House with Bertie Ricks as House Master. His opening remark to me was 'Meet me on the Squash Court at 4 o'clock', to which I replied 'Yes Sir'. It took me until 4pm to find the Squash Courts, behind the Gym and the Rifle Range.

Mr Ricks appeared on the Squash Court at 4pm in his normal day dress, a full Morning suit and bow tie. He took off his jacket as we went on to the Squash Court, and showed me how to hit the ball. He then handed me the racquet and said 'Come and tell me when you can hit it 100 times.' Just like the punishment of 100 lines! I was hooked, the ball could not get out and kept coming back and asking to be hit again! No more

having to go round to neighbours' gardens to ask for my ball back and being warned about walking on flower beds.

In January 1949 I became a Boarder in Winterstoke House with Mr McAllister as my House Master. All school leavers at this time had to do National Service for two years. I was due to leave MHS in July 1953. I passed 'A' Level Biology and Chemistry, but failed Physics.

At a subsequent meeting with my parents and Don Hall, in the grounds of MHS at the back of The Science Building, Don said to my parents 'If you leave him with me for another year I think I will be able to do something with him!' My father took the change in his pocket out and started counting. I recall my relief when he reluctantly agreed. I cried out 'I will be Captain of Rugby and I won't have to do my National Service!'

My father had served in Gallipoli. He landed on April 30th and sat in a trench for 3 months before being taken to Egypt with Hepatitis.

Something my father often reminded me of whenever I did anything wrong . . . 'You wait until you go in the Army, my boy! They will straighten you out!'

During the following year Don Hall taught me and I passed 'A' Level Botany, Zoology, Chemistry, and Physics. I now had a total of 5 'A' Levels (and Biology). I gained entrance to the 2nd MB Course in St Mary's Hospital Paddington (skipping the First MB Course).

A few months prior to the 2nd MB Exam 18 months later, it was discovered that I had not passed a Foreign Language at 'O' Level. I was forced to change course for a few weeks and exclusively study French. I returned to MHS for the Oral French 'O' Level exam. Mr McGecheran met me for this 10 minute exam - we discussed Rugby and Squash for 9 minutes in English, before he asked me a question in French. I can only



remember my reply 'Un petit peu'. With that the bell rang! And he said 'Oh your French has improved!' with a slight flicker in his left eyelid! (I subsequently discovered that the French Oral Exam carried over 50% of the marks. I never had the opportunity of meeting Mr McGecheran again in order to say a thank you.)

I was due to qualify as a Doctor in October 1960, National Service was due to finish on January 7th 1961. I only made a token effort in my Final Surgery Exam in October 1960 and failed, as planned. I had succeeded in avoiding doing my National Service and being 'straightened out!'. Again!

I had also discovered that in 1915 that the then British Government had seriously thought about introducing conscription in Ireland. This never happened. This is a large part of the reason why I moved to Ireland and have enjoyed my career here as a GP until retirement in 2005.

I live in Wicklow Town, the centre of my Practice 30 miles south of Dublin (commuting country) we have the sea, mountains and are within easy reach of Dublin Airport, London, and the rest of the world. I live on a hill, with views of the sea and mountains, with my wife. My children and grandchildren all live nearby. I play golf weather permitting at least twice a week.

Alastair Breeze

After leaving Mill Hill I attended Cambridge University with John Roberts, Christs College. Also attending Cambridge from Mill Hill in my time was Philip King who played centre three-quarter in the first XV with me in 1952. Later he became a famous sculptor and President of the Royal Academy.

I grew up in Finchley, married in 1960 and had two sons and one daughter. One son attended Cambridge, one son at Oxford and my daughter studied at Durham. One son had two grandchildren who also attended Cambridge!

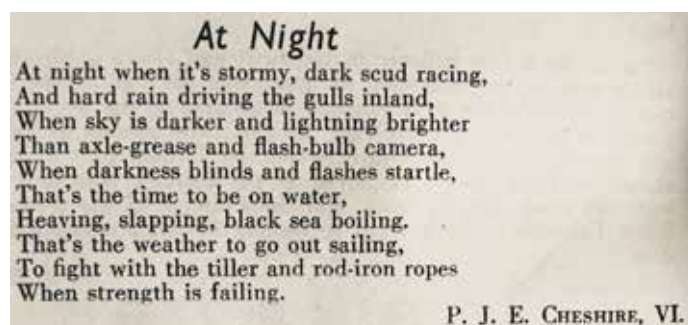
From university I then went into the Royal Marines, all paid for by the Queen, my first weeks' pay was one pound eight shillings and six pence.

I was the only National Servicemen Officer to ever have carried the Colour.

Following the Royal Marines in 1958 I started work in the Foreign Office. Through the F.O I travelled extensively. I spent,

six months in Cyprus, Jakarta in Indonesia for two years, then went to George Town, capital of British Guiana for another two years. Next was four years in Tehran, four years in Pakistan, four years in Nigeria and finally, New York for four years.

In April 1960 my honeymoon with my new wife was paid for by the Government on a MV Victoria ship from the port of Genoa to Singapore, then on to Jakarta. From 1983-1987 I was in the UK missions to the United Nations in New York. I retired in 1994 aged 60.



Poem found in 1952 Mill Hill School Magazine by Peter Cheshire (1st XV second row forward)



Old Millhillian Lodge

The OM's Lodge was founded in 1938 and celebrates its 300th meeting in April which will be celebrated on a special occasion at the Innholders Hall (for those who do not know a small but charming livery company hall).

Since initiating our "come and meet us" evening at the Adam and Eve on the Ridgeway, Mill Hill (of which I am sure many of you will have fond memories) Lodge membership has truly blossomed.

10 new members in the last 2 years, many who left Mill Hill in the 1995-2005 decade, some later. Our oldest members were at the school in the 1950s and 1960s, the youngest left in 2009.

As word spreads we also find that OMs who are masons elsewhere hear about us, come to one of our meetings as a visitor, find that they like the Lodge and join. We meet in Central London on 5 or 6 nights a year, we are a vibrant Lodge

and highly respected in Masonic circles. The evenings start with a formal lodge meeting followed by dinner. It's a great way to keep in touch with friends made at school and since.

Contact **David Roe** (Weymouth 60-65) our *Secretary* by email polo@felixr.com for further details.

Bruce Maunder Taylor
(Weymouth 59-64)

Liverymans

10 MAY 2017 – GUILDHALL

Seventeen of us assembled at Guildhall on Wednesday 10th May 2017 for our annual Luncheon with Alan Bonner in the chair as Master. We had hoped to welcome the Head to her first visit but North America displaced us in her diary.

However, we were delighted to welcome the return of Deputy Head Jane Sanchez. She was last with us in 2012 as Acting Head. She gave us a colourful resume of events at NW7. Our President was unable to attend and our third 'absentee' was our

master's Badge. It is usually accessible from storage there but Guildhall Club couldn't find it in time. A note on 26th May told me that they had found it, after much encouragement from the Hon.Clerk in the preceding fortnight!

We renewed our history prizes to the School again. The date for our lunch this year is Wednesday 9th May when it is hoped that many more members can join us. I had 8 emails, etc apologising last time so do expect to see an increase.

Our first item when we meet is to install our new Master, Michael Phillips, with his badge which we could not do last time.

Archie Galloway *Hon.Clerk* (Weymouth 51-56)



Alford House

Since the last article a year ago the development plans have undergone a change of direction.

Our developer decided to reduce the price offered to a level that is not acceptable to the governors. By way of compensation they have agreed to proceed with the planning application in Alford House's name rather than a joint exercise. If we receive planning permission we will then have to find a contractor to build the new club and the block of flats. We had hoped to have planning by the beginning of 2018 so we will have to continue to be patient.

I am very pleased to say that the Club has taken the lead role in setting up a consortium of youth organisations to successfully secure funding from the local authority for two years.

The Club has been running numerous activities. There have been workshops for dance, fitness, music technology and art. Amongst this, the usual football, table tennis, basketball and snooker, etc takes place.

Something our readers might not be aware of is the support the Club gives to some Lambeth Schools. Throughout the academic year, our Targeted Youth Support Worker provides independent support to young people and their parents/carers to make full use of the education on offer to improve their life chances by supporting them to avoid temporary and permanent exclusion through one to one and group work in schools and through family support, representation and advocacy. Further information please visit www.alfordhouse.org.uk



Nigel Baker (Burton Bank 51-61)



CAREERING AHEAD

Careers Committee News

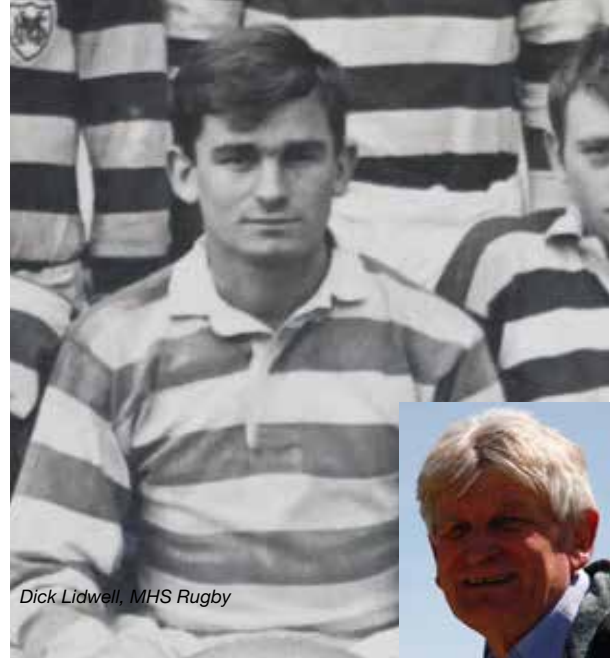
Without sounding trite, what we do in our working lives is key to our happiness. During a typical 50 years of working, we spend some 35% of our waking hours in work (assuming eight hours of sleep, though many have to manage with less!), often far more time than we spend with our partners! Getting the best out of that time is critical to our well-being.

We all need to constantly evaluate where we are going, and recognising this, many change direction during their working lives, often undertaking fundamental re-training.

Recent reports have indicated that new graduates are having an increasingly hard time in finding employment with large organisations cutting recruitment targets by 2%. Of course many students seek work in the growing market of small and medium sized employers (SMEs), and in the creative industries, but recruitment procedures are tightening all the time increasing the pressure on applicants to demonstrate they have the right skills and motivation to succeed in their chosen field. Other reports suggest that new entrants don't 'sell' themselves well, and underestimate the desire for employers to recruit them.

On the bright side, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) graduates are increasingly in demand, and another international report shows that both female and male graduates of these subjects achieve a higher salary. The number of 'New Apprenticeship' schemes are growing fast creating yet another factor to be evaluated by students.

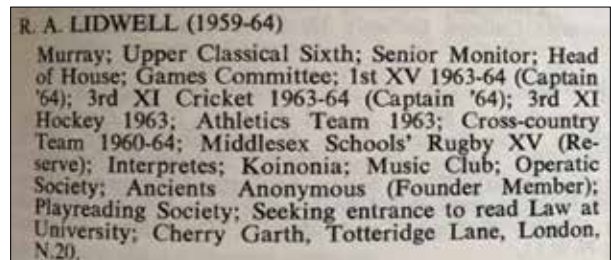
Many students, with evolving self-awareness and limited work experience, are understandably unsure of their first steps into employment. Young OM's may be unhappy in their work, but are unsure of where to turn for assistance. This is where OM's can be a great source of help to solve these dilemmas for Mill Hill students, and young OM's. The careers committee is about to survey OM's asking them how they might be prepared to help, for example by being a member of the careers network so being available to give students insights into their work and organisations, maybe, where possible, offering work experience or internships, and attending networking and careers events. Ps: A survey of 2,000 working people in 2015 found that a lifetime of work may involve: six different job roles and employers, two 'bad' bosses, three heavy bust-ups, 705



Dick Lidwell, MHS Rugby

minor disagreements, 9,024 hours of overtime, one office romance, and 29,328 cups of tea!

The Committee has acquired a new Chairman, Dick Lidwell, succeeding Peter Wakeham who will be a hard act to follow given Peter's enthusiasm and hard word work in establishing the committee. The other OM members of the committee are Ted Ivens, Mitesh Bhimjiyani, Gordon Mizner, Andrew Welch, and Peter. In addition, the careers team at the school and Laura Turner of the OM's office, are members.



By way of background, Dick was a contemporary of Peter's, but attended Mill Hill as a day boy in Murray House from 1959-1964; was a member of the classical sixth, and senior monitor. However, as the photograph below from 1964 shows, rugby was of equal interest. He graduated in Social Sciences (law, economics and sociology) from Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, and subsequently obtained a Dip Ed in Vocational Guidance at Reading University.

He has pursued a professional career in Careers Guidance initially in Local Authority Careers Services in Norfolk, London Borough of Hounslow, and Somerset, where he worked in both maintained and independent schools, and FE colleges, before moving into the University sector in Hull and Oxford. Although working with students of all disciplines and ages, he specialised in advising on careers in the legal sector, representing AGCAS (Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services), and establishing a Law Careers Advice Network (LCAN) with the professional bodies, schools, and universities. His general interests include archaeology and history (all periods but especially classical Greece), Beverley's Civic Society, d-i-y, architecture, mountain walking (photo from a pass in the Swiss Alps!), and, of course, family including four grandchildren.

Dick Lidwell (Murray 59-64)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Ben Corrigan

I studied English, Economics, Art and History at Mill Hill for A Levels. Since leaving Mill Hill in 2009, I went on to study Law at Leeds University and then a post-graduate LPC at BPP University before realising his true calling in the world of technology start-ups. After joining a small company called Yieldify as the fifth employee, it went on to become the fastest growing technology business in Europe. Following a brief stint working in Digital marketing in Singapore and then as Senior Vice President for Nordic Markets for a tech firm

called SaleCycle, myself and co-founders Vikram Simha and Jonny Plein (Mill Hill Alumni) founded Pouch. Pouch is a free shopping tool that automatically finds and displays the best valid voucher codes as you shop on over 3000 UK websites. Last year we became only the 3rd company ever to receive 5 offers on Dragons' Den. Since the show we have hired 10 people, raised 7 figures of investment and are looking to expand to Germany, France and Australia. Currently over 100,000 people use Pouch when shopping online.

What were you like at school?

I was a bit of a class clown, but always got good grades. I had a lot of fun at school. I wasn't really into sports but I loved Drama and Art classes.

The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

Last week I spent about 10 minutes talking to a woman who I thought was Emma Watson.... I asked her about Harry Potter.... it wasn't Emma Watson. Awks.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

I don't make a lot of money anyways! We put virtually everything that the company makes back into the company. So I would stay in my job for the same reasons that I currently stay: I love building something incredible, and I love the people that work with me.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

That being 'smart' is a good thing. I know many people from different educational backgrounds who were embarrassed of academic success. Mill Hill encouraged excellence. Mill Hill was also a great advocate for creative experimentation.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I got 5 offers on dragons den!!

What is your proudest moment and why?

Proudest moment was having a 'Dragons' Den viewing party' at my parents house. All of my family, friends and co-workers were with us watching the episode where we got offers from every single Dragon. It was incredibly exciting.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Yes. Whilst people's lives change very quickly after school officially ends (University, travel, work, families etc), I have managed to keep in touch with some great people including my co-founder Jonny Plein. I keep in touch with about 15 OMs regularly.

What's your driving force?

I drive a Fiat 500 ;) (bad joke) - it is so much easier to fail when you can take risks and afford to fail. So take risks early, and often. Steve Jobs said "Those who are crazy enough to think they can change the world usually do". History is littered with unfulfilled ambition. If you can afford to take a risk, take it.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

Mr Farquar. He unfortunately passed away in 2015.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Elon Musk, David Attenborough, Sheryl Sandberg, Karl Pilkington

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

I co-wrote and co-directed the McClure House play. It was so much fun. Such amazing memories.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Getting caught smoking behind the swimming pool by Mr Bingham!

In the news story of your life, what would the headline say?

I wouldn't want a news story about me. Any problem worth solving requires a huge amount of people and effort. I would want a headline about something I helped solve. Eventually I aim to be involved in innovations concerning either Space Travel, Healthcare or Education (broad mix!). So if there was a headline about solving a big problem in any of those aforementioned fields, I would be ecstatic.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Give my parents £1m, give my wider family £1m, give myself £1m, and give the rest away to CALM (a male suicide prevention charity).

CAREERING AHEAD

The Medical Professions Meeting



7 MARCH 2017 – ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

The venue for this year's meeting was the Royal College of Physicians and the format was, as in previous years, a Scientific Programme followed by a hot buffet supper and socialising. Turn-out from Old Millhillians was worryingly and embarrassingly disappointing such that 24 hours before the meeting our numbers were 14 of which five were the Faculty of speakers. To our great relief and pleasure the viability of the event was rescued by a contingent of 25 budding scientists and aspiring medical and dental professionals and members of the teaching staff from the School.



We were treated to a wide-ranging and high quality symposium of short papers followed by a keynote talk delivered by Professor Nick Franks FRS (1963-68) who was able, with apparent ease, to make an erudite talk accessible to a wide range of ages and experiences. It was particularly



pleasing that two of the short papers were delivered by young OM medical students (Stas Makaranka and Oliver Galgut) while the remaining two papers were presented by OMs who are rising stars in the medical world (Dr Marc Dweck and Dr Matthew Frise).

It is necessary to reassess the format and venue locations for future events as the Club cannot be expected to underwrite so substantially in the future the finances of these meetings. Their purpose is not only to entertain and educate OMs in the medical professions but for those same OMs to provide encouragement and wise words to the pupils attending the meeting as they consider following in their foot steps. We are likely to be canvassing the views of the OM medical community in the foreseeable future.

Dr Russell Cowan (*Weymouth 58-63*)

Dr Mathew Frise (*McClure 92-97*)

Mr James Berwin (*Weymouth 99-04*)

Accountancy

28 SEPTEMBER 2017 – LOCALIST BAR, LONDON

On 28th September, a reception for OM Accountants and other professionals was held in a private area at the Localist Bar in Farringdon. There was plenty of drinks and food and an encouraging number of YOMS were also in attendance. We managed to keep the drinks flowing until late!

This year the Accountancy drinks will be on 7th November it is hoped that more YOMS will continue to attend as it is a great opportunity to learn from the experiences of the mature OMs in an informal environment.

Mike Solomons (*Murray 79-84*)



City Dinner



The Lansdowne Club

25 MAY 2017 – LANSDOWNE CLUB

A new format was invoked for this the ninth annual OM's City event (previously seated dinners). This was drinks followed by an excellent expose from Peter Wakeham of a business mistake he made and the lesson from it followed by Q & A. This was to avoid the situation of being wedged between two people at the dinner table who may or may not be appropriate for your networking and, in any event, limiting overall networking opportunities.

Peter is highly experienced and has held senior positions at several major world companies. This includes Unilever, Mars, McKinsey and Pepsico – been part of the lead team in what was at the time the UK's second largest MBO, been subject to a hostile takeover, founded his own company which was floated on AIM and now chairs a FinTech startup.

An interesting exchange followed Peter's succinct talk. Indeed, much can be learnt from business mistakes and I was

once told that if you are winning more than fifty percent of the time you are winning.

We also had the benefit of Michael Phillips interrupting Peter to take centre stage. Peter was initially thinking we might be about to receive a sermon (Michael being a man of the cloth) but Michael regaled us with a couple of his mistakes, leading to him becoming left handed and a horse riding accident which affected the alignment of his eyes. We are grateful to him.

It was ably hosted by Solon Satanas (who has a slight resemblance to Jimmy Carr) who, indeed, tried a couple of jokes which were well received.

The Head, Mrs Frances King, was welcomed and she is clearly very supportive of OMs alumni events worldwide. There were also a handful of sixth formers, who, it is hoped, were encouraged to participate further.

There were approximately 40 attendees including Andy Mortimer and Nick Priestnall. The latter being one of the co inaugurators along with Solon and myself over pints of Old Hookey at The Hollybush, Hampstead. Overall, the new format was deemed a success. The only thing slightly lacking in supply was food. Accordingly, Solon has decided to do a buffet next time.

Alistair Marsella (*Ridgeway 65-70*)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Dr James Berwin

World Orthopaedic Concern-UK (WOC-UK) Representative,
British Orthopaedic Trainees' Association, Specialist Registrar
Trauma & Orthopaedics, Severn Deanery.

James qualified from St Barts & The Royal London in 2011. He completed his early training in London, with placements at the Royal Free, Chelsea & Westminster, The Royal Brompton and Guy's & St Thomas', where he received regional awards for Leadership and Excellence in Teaching.

James is currently a specialist registrar in Trauma & Orthopaedic surgery in the Severn Deanery. He has published and presented internationally on the subject. James has an interest in Global Surgery and overseas Orthopaedics.

He lives in Bristol with his fiancé Susan, a Plastic Surgery registrar.

What were you like at school?

My academic performance was by no means stellar and I was certainly not cool. I played rugby badly and was a massive CCF geek.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

I still can't believe I get paid to do my job. I work with an amazing group of people, who believe in delivering the best form of healthcare they can with what we have.

My work is incredibly varied. I get to meet people from all walks of life. We operate on every bone and joint below the neck and deal with a wide range of pathology including trauma, tumours, infection, congenital abnormalities and degenerative pain; 9 times out of 10, we can fix them. I get instant feedback on the work I do as an x-ray never lies.

I get to teach, and be taught. More recently I had the opportunity to share what I've learnt with Orthopaedic colleagues in the developing world, which was immensely rewarding.

I love what I do, and no money in the world would stop me doing it.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

I learnt how come back from failure. It should happen to everyone at some point in life, and I'm really grateful it happened to me when it did.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I have a strong interest in Global surgery, and have been involved with projects in Southeast Asia, and parts of Africa including the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Ethiopia. I first went to Ethiopia on a Mill Hill partnership project in 2004, I think it was clear to me then that I wanted to make that sort of work a part of my life.

I currently sit on the committee of the British Orthopaedic Trainee's Association (BOTA) as the representative for World Orthopaedic Concern-UK (WOC-UK), the charitable arm of the British Orthopaedic Association (BOA), committed to improving the state of Orthopaedic care in the developing world.

What is your proudest moment and why?

I've been fortunate enough to have had a few in my life so far.

I am proud of what I achieved at Mill Hill. Being given the opportunity to be Head Boy and Head of the CCF was a great honour, but more importantly I gained a wealth of transferrable skills which have become invaluable working as a doctor.





Weymouth 99 – 04

Communicating well, and working well within teams whilst also learning when and how to step back and take charge are two examples.

Graduating from medical school with a 1st in my intercalated BSc and a distinction in my finals, were tangible achievements that helped me to draw a line under my past failures. It gave me the self-belief to know I could put my mind to anything.

Surviving cancer has to be another. It taught me too many things to list here, but amongst them, the understanding that there is so much more to life than work, and that balance is key.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Duncan Beckman, Tom Fisher and Henry Galbraith. Two of them will be usher's at my wedding in May.

What's your driving force?

If you'd asked me that 5 years ago, I'd have told you I want to be the best version of myself in every aspect of my life.

If the last 5 years have taught me anything, it's that if you enjoy what you're doing and you are happy, you become the best version of yourself. That applies to life at work, but it also applies to life at home.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

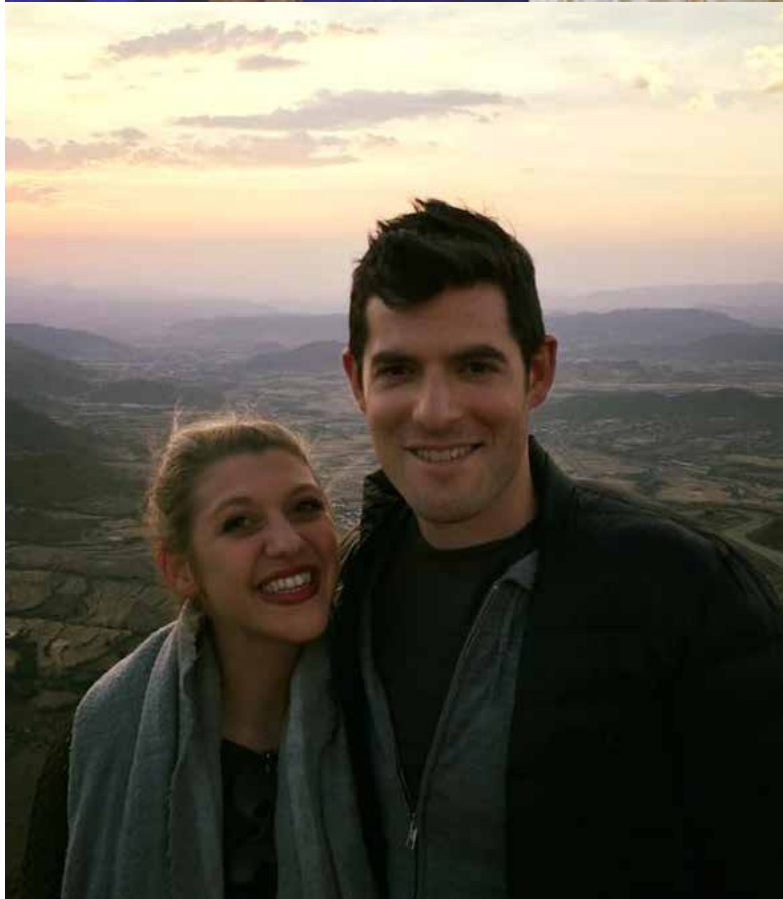
It has to be between Mr Chiltern and Mr Armstrong. I remember asking Mr Chiltern for his definition of the meaning of life. His answer has stuck with me ever since.

Mr Armstrong was my housemaster, and never stopped believing I'd turn out ok. I was gutted not to have been made head of house, only to find myself in Mr Winfield's office being invited to be head boy!

Special mention also has to go to Ms Sanchez and Ms Sharples, for being absolute legends.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Has to be walking into school to find the dining hall benches had been artfully stacked on Top Field to form a 10 storey tower.



It was even funnier watching the groundsmen trying to figure out how to deconstruct it.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

A rather disappointing results day. All worked out in the end of course!

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Invest a chunk of it, use a significant chunk to build a hospital in a part of rural Africa that needs it, and use the rest to open a proper deli in Bristol.

CAREERING AHEAD



OLD MILLHILLIAN LAWYERS' DINNER held on 28th March, 1958, at Gray's Inn Hall, to mark the elevation of Mr. Justice Salmon (1917-22) to the High Court Bench in 1957.

Legal Event

13 SEPTEMBER 2017 – WEDLAKE BELL OFFICES

In September both OM lawyers, and aspiring lawyers met at Wedlake Bell's glorious offices in the City. There were some 25 attendees who enjoyed drinks, buffet and (demonstrating the lighter side of the law) table tennis. Clive Weber comments: "It is particularly pleasing



that so many young OM's attended, including Sixth Formers and those at University considering a legal career.

This was a good opportunity to discuss pathways into the law and for existing OM lawyers to pass on their experience. We intend to repeat the event next year."

Clive Webber (Ridgeway 65-70)



Property Drinks

22 NOVEMBER 2017 – FINOS, LONDON

The Annual informal OM's in Property Drinks was held on 22nd November at Finos in Mount St, W1, and was attended by c30 people.

The main topic for discussion focused on the uncertainties within the Property Industry moving forward, due to Brexit. Uncharted waters for us all, but the general consensus was we are all in the same boat, so best to focus on the positives and opportunities that will arise, rather than the negatives.



Image shows the Property Dinner at the National Liberal Club, London.

Our Industry is pretty resilient and whilst there are clearly some stormy waters ahead, we have recovered from worse downturns previously.

The Annual OM's in Property Dinner is due to be held on Monday 30th April at the National Liberal Club, 1 Whitehall Place, SW1. If you would like to attend this, please contact

Mike Peskin (Burton Bank 80-84) mike.peskin@osborne.co.uk



Media & Communications



3 FEBRUARY 2018 – AVIARY, MONTCALM HOTEL

Caroline Hepker's Media & Communications Networking event at the Aviary Rooftop Bar at Montcalm Royal London was blessed with splendid weather and a great turn-out of YOMs and OM's from a wide range of media-related professions and university courses.

It was followed by an ad hoc dinner at The Modern Pantry. This was an experimental format which seems to have worked and which we will repeat, interspersed with more formal events with entertaining speakers. Anyone who is interested in communications in the broadest sense is always welcome at these networking occasions.



Engineers Dinner

12 MAY 2017 – BLEEDING HEART RESTAURANT

The 2017 OM's Engineers Dinner was held on 12th May at The Bleeding Heart Wine Cellar in London. As in previous years we were delighted to welcome OM's who had or are following an engineering career, or indeed have some association or interest in the profession. We also welcomed a number of partners.

OM Club President Ronnie Boon was a guest at the dinner and addressed us on his year and his hope for the Club,

followed by a toast to the school. On this occasion Gordon Mizner made a short response in his professional capacity about the environment for engineering in the UK and the attraction of the profession as a career at this time particularly given the well documented shortage of engineering skills and the various challenges facing industry – energy, infrastructure, new technology developments, and an ageing workforce.

We were delighted that the school was represented by Lucy Fox who was accompanied by two students interested

in pursuing engineering studies – Renua Ikibe and Harry Dawood. We were also happy to welcome Vinay Patel who is now studying engineering at university attended this event two years ago as a school sixth former.

Those attending this year were: Ronnie Boon, Gordon and Angela Mizner, Richard Amunugama, Jan and Sally Prout, Peter Wakeham, Graeme Roberts, Clive Mence, Simon Moir, Panos Yianni, Bob Hudgell, Bob branch, Paul Winter, Vinay Patel, Tim Poole, Lucy Fox, Harry Dawood, Renua Ikibe.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Weymouth
06 – 11

Georgina Wickman



I left Mill Hill in 2011 with an offer to The University of Manchester. To be honest, I finished lower sixth thinking that there was no hope for me and I questioned what my options were. University is not for everyone and I truly believe you need to weigh up all your options before making a decision. Just because it feels like the 'right thing' to do, it does not mean that it is right for you. However, once I visited the campus I knew it was right for me and that was it.

My grades were not ideal, my family life was not perfect and there was a lot to deal with at 17 years old. Yet, Mill Hill

provided me with the support I needed to get myself on track and finish with As and A*s at A level.

Currently I am a management consultant at PwC focusing on coaching and driving productivity. I have led a number of projects within the private sector and have also worked in a hospital (which was definitely the toughest role!) I love my job as we are able to get the most out of the people we work with and make them love their jobs! It's a very rewarding role to have and I enjoy working with a variety of clients from all different backgrounds and demographics.

What were you like at school?

I am naturally an introverted person and every school report told me I needed to raise my hand more. However, I was very proactive and did a lot of extracurricular activities. Mill Hill provides you with a lot of opportunities and if there isn't a club that currently interests you- make one! I am sure you will have people back you up. From astronomy to gardening club, take advantage of everything that is available to you.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

I was never cool at school or naturally clever but I worked hard. Do not peak at school, learn from it and absorb as much as you can because there is so much more out there. Once leaving, I went to my first choice university, got the only place for a year abroad at NYU, travelled, volunteered and worked in a range of internships across the globe. I graduated university with a first and got

an offer for the only job I applied to as a management consultant. The truth is, sometimes life can be really tough but do not be afraid of wanting more and working your tail off to get it.

Do you keep in touch with OMs?

Some of my best friends to this day are from Mill Hill and I still speak to them daily. Even though we all went our different ways, from being a Head Pharmacist to Political Campaign Manager we still have a lot in common and have shared a lot together. My father went to Mill Hill too and even his best friend to this day is someone he boarded with. Although you will always make new friends who really get to know you, your school friends know how you became you.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

When I moved to Mill Hill from Belmont I was put in set 6 English. This was a shock for me as I had never been lower than set 2 and it knocked my confidence

completely. However, I had the greatest English teachers and if it was not for them, I think I would have lost the passion for something I care so deeply about. Ms Owen brought back my love for the subject and made me want to work hard by believing in me. Mr Searby carried me through to A levels and continued to challenge me and push me to achieve an A* at A level. I love my job and the work that I do but my dream still is to write a book.

Favourite memory of Mill Hill School?

Thinking back, it is hard to remember anything bad...even Saturday school does not seem so terrible anymore. From the House Hogs, getting through numerous CCF camps, a controversial school play, going to unplugged, Saturday antique fairs to Mr Bulman's patience with Emily and I...there are so many experiences I will always treasure and laugh back on. These lessons and memories are the foundation of who I am today.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Collinson
01 – 06

Flora Lai



I left Mill Hill in 2006 and started my degree in Natural Sciences at University of Cambridge that year. After graduating in 2010, I went back to Hong Kong (where I am from) and did a post-graduate teacher training diploma at a university in Hong Kong. I joined the school I am working at now (International College Hong Kong) as a Science teacher in 2012 and have since taken up the roles of Head of Science and International Baccalaureate Coordinator at the school. On a more personal level, my husband and I got married in 2012 and our son Calum is now 3 years old.

What were you like at school?

My teachers might say otherwise, but I think I was a pretty studious student who would ask questions when I needed to find out more about things, especially in Science classes. I was also very much willing to give everything a go. I was definitely not very good at sports but I remember I would play in hockey matches not really having a chance to touch the ball, and when I did, I managed to tear a tendon in my wrist which put me off games for six weeks.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

I absolutely love being a Science teacher. I always think that being a teacher is as much a learning experience as it is being a student. Recently I did a lesson on biodiversity where I turned my classroom into a jungle and gave my students an augmented reality learning experience which they really enjoyed. I have also recently taken on a new role as the International Baccalaureate Coordinator at my school which has made me developed as a leader as well as a teacher. Witnessing the growth (both physically and metaphorically) in my students throughout the years and seeing students in Year 13 graduate and go onto whatever next steps they have ahead makes everything that I do as both a teacher and an administrator at the school more than worthwhile. So money really isn't the reason why I do what I do – being an educator is something I will never lose passion and enthusiasm for (I hope!).

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Definitely the interpersonal skills which I think I largely gained and developed at Mill Hill. We live in a world with people and it is vital that we are able to communicate with one another in a positive and effective way.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I am a Cantonese Opera performer; I speak 4 languages fluently and I love Science! And I love teaching Science!

What is your proudest moment and why? Can I have two? –

- Receiving a card from a student to say that I was the reason they became interested in a career in Science and thanking me.
- Seeing my 3 year old play rugby for the first time – I wouldn't exchange the smile he had on his little face for anything!

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Yes, some of whom are based in Hong Kong like I am.

What's your driving force?

My passion for teaching and learning and my family!

Most inspiring teacher at school?

I had quite a few teachers at Mill Hill who were very inspiring:

- Mr. Trevor Chilton – my Biology teacher for many years who inspired

me to study Science at university. His passion for Science is second to none!

- Mr. Graeme Turner – Mr. T was the very first Physics teacher I had at Mill Hill in Year 9 and he definitely inspired me to become very inquisitive in my approach to learning Science.
- Mr. William Hughes – another inspirational Biology teacher who encouraged me to apply to Cambridge!
- Mrs. Valarie Miner – She never taught me as a subject teacher but being a boarder at Mill Hill, Mrs Miner was the Housemistress of my boarding house for many years. She was always ever so caring, kind and I wouldn't have loved my experience at Mill Hill so much without her!

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

David Attenborough, Marie Curie, Stephen Hawking, Barack Obama

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Where do I start?! Being elected as Head Girl; giving a speech on Foundation Day; playing the bassoon at school concerts and events; volunteering in Nicaragua were definitely some of the highlights of my time at Mill Hill.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

I would open a nature school – one where students could learn about themselves and also the environment around them by being in it!



Priestley
01 – 06

Stephanie Miller
(nee Jones)

After leaving Mill Hill, I went to Manchester University to study Russian and Soviet Studies. Following graduation and a year of travelling, I was very fortunate to join De Beers on the graduate training scheme and spent the next four years going to and from Moscow purchasing shipments of rough diamonds from the Russian government. A brief stint in the city followed which again kept me going to Russia and then a job with the

British Luxury Council where as Director of Operations, I took a number of luxury British brands to the Russian market.

After getting married and having a son, I decided my travelling days were over and I am now the Head of External Relations at an independent school in St John's Wood in charge of marketing, communications and fundraising.

What were you like at school?

Shy, scared of boys and keen to impress!

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

The daily sense of achievement, meeting interesting people and working for a not-for-profit organisation.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Confidence, attention to detail and a desire to succeed.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I have had some interesting jobs in unusual places from Siberia to Buckingham Palace.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Many things: first job, having my son, meeting Nelson Mandela...

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

I have kept in touch with a number of OMs and as many of my peers remain in NW London we frequently bump into each other. Wherever I have been in the world I have often met people with an OM link. Recently I met a head of a charity and soon discovered that he was an Old Belmontian forging an immediate bond.

What's your driving force?

The determination to succeed and the fear of failing.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

Most memorable were Geography teacher Mr Prosser-Harries who used to throw rocks at us if we weren't listening and English teacher Mr McKie who gave me my first taste of marketing by allowing me to design and edit the School Magazine.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

In the current climate it would have to be Putin, Obama, Trump and Clinton.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Too many to pick just one but Saturday afternoons playing sport, taking part in some great drama productions, a hockey tour to France and the tuck shop!

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Exams!

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

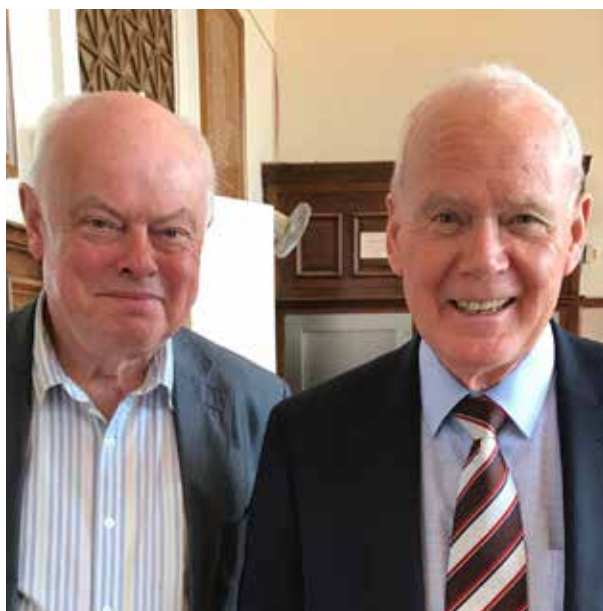
Pay my son's school fees, set up a bursary award programme and donate to a number of charities close to my heart.

FRIENDS REUNITED



OMs Day & Foundation Day





24 SEPTEMBER 2017 – MILL HILL SCHOOL

How once again we managed to get away with no rain on a pretty awful week leading up to Foundation day, I have no idea! But we did, and the sun shined.

Fantastic to see so many OMs join us at the school for OMs Day where they all were able to enjoy a lovely lunch in the Dining Room with wine. There was a truly lovely atmosphere and buzz in the air.

The core of drums marched on Top Field before our 1st XV played Haberdasher Aske's in a hard-fought match.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Murray
06 – 11



Ryan Maria Yasin

I took a really systematic approach to choosing my university degree. I loved finding out how things worked, I enjoyed the complexities of the maths equations and it was incredible to see how these equations could translate to a 300,000+ kg machine that could gracefully stay afloat in the air. I was completely mesmerised by aeroplanes, especially having flown with the RAF cadets. This directed me towards studying aeronautical engineering. As I was approaching the end of my masters, I specialised in deployable structures and co-published a conference paper. I realised that although I loved it, it didn't quite fulfil me, there was a missing element, creativity. I missed those Mill Hill art classes so much.

So I began looking across the road from Imperial, at the Royal College of Art. I joined Global Innovation Design, it was the perfect environment for fusing engineering and design. I looked into fashion when I was on an exchange in Tokyo; I loved how clothing could facilitate communities, notably the Harajuku style. But the more I looked into the fashion industry,

the more disheartened I became about the way it operates – how unethical and wasteful it could be. I decided to focus my attention on trying to solve the problems arising from “fast fashion”. My sister was having a child at the time and inspired me to look at children as extreme users of fashion – I thought, their anatomy is changing so rapidly so should their clothes. So I looked into designing childrenswear from the ground up.

Since releasing the concept of Petit Pli – Clothes that grow to the world, it's been unbelievable to see it so well received. It's been featured in press worldwide, exhibited in 6 exhibitions, and won the UK James Dyson Award. I was determined to build a business prior to finishing at the RCA, and it's been such a fantastic experience so far – days range from worldwide interviews to product development in the factories, sorting out contracts to patents and finances and best of all chatting face to face with some of the greatest founders & CEO's in fashion.



If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

Well, money shouldn't be on the top of your list when considering what job you want. Success is quite an arbitrary word, and its definition will vary from person to person – it's important that you define what success means to yourself. You should ask yourself why you do what you do, and ask why again and again. With each 'why?' you'll uncover a bit more information about what truly interests, drives and inspires you – and knowing that will help you uncover the direction you should be going in, it'll also give you the resilience and confidence to keep pushing through when it gets tough. I personally love being creative, technical, and understanding how businesses work, so I made a job for myself that allows me to dabble in a bit of everything.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Definitely the idea of being an all rounder – had I not had that idea reinforced in my mind at Mill Hill, I feel as though it would have been easy to fall into the trap of being really specialised at one thing, being an all rounder helped give me the confidence to jump from engineering to design. That's not to say being specialised is bad, it's just not for me.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Of course, there were so many incredible characters at school – and I'm proud to say that a couple of them are my best mates.

What's your driving force?

The backing of my parents, family and friends and loved ones. The incredibly fortunate position I'm in of building my idea into a business from scratch. My desire to want to make an impact through combining art & engineering.



FRIENDS REUNITED



Summer Cocktail Party

22 JUNE 2017 – THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB,
LONDON





**NATIONAL
LIBERAL CLUB
MEMBERS
ONLY**



FRIENDS REUNITED

Welsh Dinner

3 NOVEMBER 2017 – CARDIFF & COUNTY CLUB

The biennial dinner for the Welsh Old Millhillians was held on Friday 3rd November, 2017 at the Cardiff and County Club, Cardiff. Some thirty OMs, their partners and guests attended, not least the legendary Wales and British Lions captain, John Dawes. Following the Loyal Toast the Chairman for the evening, Ronnie Boon, the immediate Past President of the Club, welcomed everyone to the dinner.

The Old Millhillians Club was represented by **Richard Llewellyn** (62 – 66) the Vice President who explained

how Welsh he was and then proposed the Toast to the Mill Hill School Foundation. Frances King then suitably responded and explained how close she was to Wales. She also brought OMs up to date on how the school was meeting today's modern challenges, and proposed the Toast to the Old Millhillians Club.

Geraint Dynallt (1955 – 60) then regaled everybody with a few anecdotes of his time at the school, which, at the very least, surprised some of his contemporaries!

Ronnie brought the evening to a close by thanking everyone for attending, especially Frances King and Richard Llewellyn, and it was decided that a similar dinner would be held in the Principality in two years' time.

Special thanks must go to David Paddison (1958-62) who was able to facilitate the dinner being held at this most prestigious venue and for arranging an excellent meal.

Ronnie Boon (*Burton Bank 54-60*)

Northern Dinner

This year's annual Northern Dinner has unfortunately been postponed due to there having been a large number of regulars who were unable to attend, including David Franklin, Stan Whyte, Roger Evans, John and Grahame Elliott and several others. The predicted number went so low that it was expedient to cancel the booking at the St James's Club and re-group.

There was a small rear guard action enjoined by self, Peter Huston, parachuted in from his base in Italy, and Mike Solomons. We had a very select dinner at Sam's Chophouse, one of Manchester's oldest eateries (and drinkeries) and we had a most enjoyable evening, putting the world to rights.

Thanks, gentlemen for your great company.

One of the topics unsurprisingly discussed was how we might change the way we stage our Northern reunion, it having been unanimously

agreed that the format of a dinner with speeches on a cold November Friday night in a gentlemen's club, has had its day.

We also agreed that if anything is to successfully replace the Dinner with a new event, it must be devised with the help and approval of the OM's who will want to attend it. Ideas that were chucked about included :

- 1) Moving the timing to early Summer – warmer weather, not too close to exams (school or university).
- 2) Moving to a Saturday lunchtime – more relaxing, not at the end of a working day, more time to get to the bash. Possibly also more time to spend at the event.
- 3) Venue? St James's Club could still accommodate us, subject to numbers, or we could change to a restaurant. Some good places would give us a private room at low cost, or we just go for a restaurant and get rid of formal speeches. An idea floated last year by Nick Priestnall was for us to convene in a

hospitality suite at AJ Bell stadium when there is a match on between Saracens and Sale Sharks. Both teams have links with the school, and this may appeal to younger OM's as well as older. A variation on this theme might be to hold the event at Lancs Cricket ground at Old Trafford. Lunch, a few pints, the company of old mates, and cricket thrown in. Or how about lunch on a Manchester Canal, starting off at Bridgewater Lock. Some boats are diners, or good food can be had at a range of waterside restaurants?

I would be very grateful for some blue sky, out of the box, original thought from OM's out there, including the many of you who are or will be in or near Manchester either studying or carving out your careers, who would like to be getting together.

Non nobis, boys and girls, sed scholae.

Peter Belshaw (*Ridgeway 69-74*)

Past Presidents Lunch

APRIL 2017 – THE ATHENEUM CLUB

Fourteen Past Presidents sat down to the Annual Past Presidents' Lunch at the Athenaeum Club in April 2017; the event, which on this occasion was coordinated by the immediate past president, Tim Corbett, continues to be well supported and several attendees travel some distance to be there. Many thanks to Stuart Hibberdine for hosting the lunch again and for organising the excellent menu and fine wines.

The current President, Ronnie Boon, made a lively speech and nostalgia was again very much to the fore. Sadly one of our number, Terry Allan passed away during the last year. He will be fondly remembered.

Stewart Hibberdine (*Scrutton 50-55*)



Scottish Dinner

23 FEBRUARY 2017 – ROXBURGHE HOTEL, EDINBURGH

The group enjoyed pre dinner drinks followed by a three course meal plus cheese. The wine flowed and speeches were given by Christopher Maunder Taylor on behalf of the Club, Andrew Fisher as Scottish representative of the OM club, and as is the tradition of the Scottish dinner, the youngest member of the party was asked to speak and so Atai Otorbaev delivered a short speech commenting on the evenings events and his time at Mill Hill. Everybody then made their way to the bar leaving between midnight and 1am.

Andrew Fisher (*Murray 77-83*)

East Anglia Dinner

8 SEPTEMBER 2017 – TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

It was generally felt that the conviviality of this dinner was even more pronounced than usual this year. This owes much to the venue and the excellent food and wine provided by the College but the 29 Old Millhillians and our guests created the atmosphere that in many ways typifies the particular chemistry of which OM events are renowned.

The Head and her husband and the President, Ronnie Boon, were our guests and, in return, Mrs King and Ronnie gave useful and reassuring reports on the Foundation and the Club respectively. We were also addressed by two students from the Sixth Form with aspirations to come up to Cambridge. Reuben Brown, Senior Monitor, and Seraphina de Rougemont, Vllth Form

Monitor, both spoke confidently and articulately on the influence Mill Hill has had upon them and what they have tried to give in return. We can be greatly reassured by the contribution the Foundation is making to the development of these young people and their peers.

Proceedings were chaired with his usual light touch and charm by David Short who brought the evening to a close around 10.30pm only for many to linger for a further hour in the elegant Allhusen Room, establishing or renewing acquaintances.

While this was a successful event David and I have been concerned that the move of this dinner from May to September on the last two years has prevented Cambridge under-graduates and a number of loyal supporters of this dinner from attending because, for the former, the academic year has not started and many of the latter are on holiday in September. We have decided therefore to hold an informal drinks and canapés reception at Trinity College on Saturday 2nd June 2018 at 6.30pm when we shall discuss with those present the format and timing of future East Anglia dinners. More details of this event will be circulated nearer the time but please note the date in your diaries now.

Dr Russell Cowan (*Weymouth 58-63*)

FRIENDS REUNITED



1988

School Reunions

At the heart of the Old Millhillian and Old Belmontian community is the School; the Old Millhillians Club motto says exactly that.

So it was fitting when in 2017 the School initiated the programme of year group reunions last year for 1967 and 1977 Leavers and for those who were at the School when the Queen visited in 1957. The leavers of 1987 were not forgotten: they were welcomed back together with the 1988 Leavers on Saturday 27th January 2018. Alumni Relations are important to the Foundation and Mrs King wanted to take the chance to welcome Old Millhillians, show them the School as it is today and tell them



1967



1977



1957
Queen's visit



about her vision for its future and how they could be involved. The events were greatly enjoyed by all who attended. On Saturday 10th March all alumnae were invited to visit to tie in with International Women's Day on 8th and the centenary of women having the vote this year.

On that day visitors attended the official opening of New House, the new girls boarding house and heard an inspirational speech by **Leanne Armitage** (Ridgeway 11-13).

For more information about these events and the upcoming reunions for 1968 and 1978 leavers on 12th May 2018 contact reunions@millhill.org.uk



FRIENDS REUNITED

The Oakers

The Oakers is the name of the group of ageing juveniles, who meet on the first Tuesday of every month for lunch at The Boot, Sarratt. Most of the 'members' are Old Millhillians, but some are 'Honorary', such as long serving retired teachers, fund-raisers and bottle-washers. Once an Oaker, always an Oaker. There are those who have been to lunch just once, and those who attend regularly. Many of us live moderately close to The Boot, but some live 'up north', 'down south', Wales, Manchester, Lincoln, Turkey, South Africa, U.S.A, Australia and Italyand Sarratt!



It started years ago, when four chaps had lunch at a pub in Chipperfield, but then decided to go to another pub called the Royal Oak. That's how the name of the Oakers was born. We have had a few sad times when an Oaker has passed away, but the present total is now 110. Fortunately they don't all appear at once, but the Christmas Lunch is always well-attended, usually over 40. The monthly meetings range from a dozen to a score. At present, the cost is an all-in £25, which covers the first drink at the bar, a two course meal, the coffee and the wine. The lunches are



Gerry Westoby and Richard Milnes (Ridgeway 56-61)

full of memories, bonhomie, and some outrageous jokes usually told by the rapporteur.

The attendees range from: Past Presidents of the Club, the present Chair and past Chairmen of the club, an array of former Rugby, Cricket, Hockey, Squash, Golf and Tennis players (some are still playing), giants of industry, lawyers, doctors, teachers and the odd thespian.

So, if you wish to join this motley crew on the first Tuesday of the month, contact the rapporteur and thespian: Gerry Westoby on wescam21@aol.com Happy days!

Gerry Westoby (Ridgeway 56-61)



Junior Squash 1959

Malta Trip 2018

The biannual European trip will take place from 17-20 May to the beautiful island of Malta. The provisional itinerary will take in a tour of Valletta visiting Upper Barakka Gardens, St. John's Cathedral and Museum, including Caravaggio paintings, and the Archaeological Museum. We will also take the short ferry ride across to the beautiful island of Gozo, visiting the Ggantija Temples, Ta' Pinu Church, Dwejra Bay, Xlendi and the stunning

Citadel at Rabat, and enjoy some delicious meals at several excellent restaurants in Valletta, Gozo and St.. We are aiming for a tour party of up to 30. Anyone interested in joining the group should contact me by email: s.f.wernham@gmail.com.

Stewart Wernham (Collinson 74-79)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Rosie Lewis



Murray
06 – 08



After Mill Hill, I went to the University of Birmingham to read Classics. An internship led to a role in advertising and post university I won a place at the London School of Communication Arts. I cut my teeth in agencies such as Grey/Possible and OgilvyOne before making a move to media as one of the founding members of OMD's inaugural creative team. I have always enjoyed thinking about the bigger creative picture and the strategy behind the idea.

This led to a role as Metro's first Creative Strategist, looking after the newspapers commercial creative output and creating new opportunities for brands, clients and agencies in the paper and beyond. In late 2017 I joined Hearst as the International Creative and Marketing Head. I am now responsible for all integrated international brand partnerships, an exciting move that has so far taken me to Paris and New York.

What were you like at school?

Happy-go-lucky and always late.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

If money was no issue I would still work in one form or another. I love being creative and coming up with ideas, which luckily my job allows me to do!

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Mill Hill instilled me with a confidence in myself that has been invaluable. I left school with a self-belief that has stood me in good stead in my career to date.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Two years ago in a previous role I created an awareness campaign for

the NSPCC which involved them sponsoring the Oxford Street Christmas Lights – a first for a charity – being at the official switch on and seeing the campaign come to life was nothing short of magical.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

I joined Mill Hill in lower sixth, and knew no one when I started, but I was lucky enough to be welcomed in to the fold and I met friends for life. We still meet up regularly and always have a Christmas dinner together. They're great!

What's your driving force?

My mum set the best possible example for me, she has always worked hard to achieve her goals and she taught me that you can do anything you put your mind to.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

Mr Slade and Mr Monaghan were both endlessly patient with me, something I will always appreciate.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

I have so many lovely memories it's hard to pick one, my favourite time of day was at lunchtime running up to School House where most of my friends were and catching up on everyone's day – that and once we could all drive sneaking off to TGI Fridays for lunch (ssh).





Annual Dinner 2017

The Annual Dinner of the Old Millhillians Club was held on Friday, 6th October, 2017 at the Stationers' Hall in the City of London.

Proceedings kicked off with a drinks reception where Kevin Kyle, Master in Charge of Music, entertained the guests with some very lively jazz music.

Once the guests had assembled for dinner Peter Wakeham, Chairman, said Grace which was followed by a very enjoyable meal in the convivial surroundings of the Stationers Hall. Andy Mortimer, Immediate Past Chairman of the Club, proposed the Loyal Toast and then Ronnie Boon,

President of the Club, gave a very interesting resume of the many events which he had attended throughout the year and also thanked the organisers of all the events, including the Annual Dinner, for all their hard work and making him feel so welcome.

The President then announced the recipient of the President's Award for 2017 which was to be awarded to Roddy Braithwaite (1945/50), MA, FrhistS, for his many contributions and unerring support and affection for the Club and the School.

In response Frances King brought members up-to-date with how the school was achieving excellence

in these challenging times before proposing the Toast of the Old Millhillians Club.

At this juncture the President introduced David A.B. Brown (1956-61) as the incoming President. David was then duly inducted as the new President of the Club and invested with his chain office whereupon he responded animatedly before presenting Ronnie with the Past President Badge. David then introduced Richard Llewellyn (1962-66) as the Vice President of the Club before concluding the formal part of the dinner.

Annual Dinner 2017



STATIONERS HALL



SPORT

OMRFC Chairman's Letter 2017-18

OLD MILLHILLIANS
RUGBY FOOTBALL
CLUB

The early season, as most of you will already know, has been blighted by the sad news of the death of David Webster. Doc as he was universally known, was one of that small group of club members who have devoted years of their lives to service to the OMRFC. He was, like Headstone Lane itself, always there, and seemingly unchanging. Whether on the touch line or behind the bar, or offering wise words of advice, he was a welcome presence and appreciated and loved by all who knew him.

He had had a distinguished professional career. After MHS he went up to Cambridge, and then St Mary's Hospital; he was the first specialist registrar in immunology in the country; and went on to be a senior Consultant at the Royal Free Hospital. He was involved there, and in his charitable work until shortly before his death. He was in the 1XV at school and also captained the hockey XI, much to the chagrin of one Mike Corby! As I have said elsewhere, my father described him at school as a; "raw-boned forward, all boot and elbow." I think Doc quite liked the description! He captained the OMRFC in the 1975-1976 season, and, so he told me, played his last game aged 48. He then went on to be club Chairman for some 14 years, from 2000-2001 to 2013-2014, and at a very difficult time for the club. Put simply, it is likely that without his input the club would have ceased to exist. We were down to one

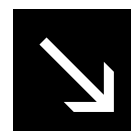
team, and rarely if ever had reserves available. On many occasions we had to play league matches with only 14 men. I remember one lamentable time when we turned up at Finchley with only 12 players. Happily under his leadership we pulled through, and are now in a state of comparative safety. However, what I have said only partly describes Doc; he was in truth a man with a deep and genuine interest in youth. Undoubtedly he loved rugby as a sport, and the club as an entity, but his real interest was in people, and he had a lasting impact and influence on many who got to know him. From personal experience I can say that he took a very genuine interest in my son, Will, when he decided to go on to do Medicine after having done History and English at University. Doc advised him, and whenever we met wanted a detailed update on progress. That was typical of the man.

The reaction of the playing membership to his death was thus predictable; disbelief, followed by dismay, followed by a determination that we should properly commemorate him, and all that he did for the club. Doc was a family man, returning to live with his wife Lindsay, in the home where he was brought up, conveniently close to Headstone Lane. He and Lindsay enjoyed their bi-annual trip to Dublin with the late Alan Kidd and his wife, with whom they shared a love of music. He was immensely proud, in

an undemonstrative way, of his son, another medic, in the RAMC, who also played for the club.

As for this year, we have two teams competing in their respective leagues, and some prospect of getting the OOMs functioning again in the not too distant future. The 1XV are in the Herts-Middlesex Division 2 League. They were relegated the season before last after a valiant effort to stay up. In 2016-17 they played some very good rugby, and were excellent in attack, but, at times, their defence was too weak. Had we been able to put our best team out each week we would have won the league, but we didn't, and if wishes were horses....! At Christmas we were at the top of the league, but then suffered a harsh points deduction.

As it happened, come the last game of the season, mathematically we could still have gone up, had we won, and Watford lost. Of all the times when we needed a full team we found ourselves away to Thamesians with only 14 men. In the first minute of the match we were reduced to 13 because of an injury. Did that get us down? Far from it; the team scored three unanswered tries, but the opposition then got their act together, and after we were down to 12 men because of a sin binning the lead changed hands several times, until with two





minutes, or so, to go we were losing 41-36. At that juncture, the pack, steaming and snorting rose to the occasion, battered the other side's line, and after going through multiple phases well after the 80 minute mark, scored the equalising try, which Oli Avent converted to give us the match. A huge effort, and a famous victory. Sadly, promotion was not to be as Watford won their game.

The team spirit never flagged, and the lads are well worthy of the club, and as nice a group as you could wish to meet. Sam Askham was a fine captain and is performing that task again this season; Ralph "Mouse" Murduck and the evergreen Nashy performed nobly, and never gave up; James Roycroft-Davis, as a sniping scrum half, was a perpetual thorn in the side of the opposition, Nick Schild developed into a fine prop, lending his not inconsiderable bulk to shore up our scrummage, Greg Walsh and Oli Avent when we had him, gave us go forward power in the back line, whilst Will Wheeler, and Will Obree made notable contributions, and Joe Fitzpatrick was a regular performer.

We will miss the two Wills; Will Wheeler has moved to another school further away from London, whilst Will Obree has been sent by his employers to Moscow. Hopefully they will still turn out for us on occasions. We would have liked to see more of Joe Wray, but unfortunately he was injured. The season was celebrated with a first rate team supper, organised by Nick Schild, at an Italian restaurant in the middle of nowhere. For all I know several missing players may still be there. If we can ever find it again, we will go there again at the end of this season.

This year, pre-season training at Allianz Park has been well attended and gone well. We have been fortunate to have Jason Billows, a master at Belmont and who plays for Old Albanian's, a National 1 side, has been coaching us. The 1XV recorded a fine away win of 68-5 against Hillingdon, in the first league match they played this season. Let's hope for more of the same!

Gideon Felton, as well as being club secretary, continues to run a happy and successful 2XV, most of whom go under code names that I cannot recall, understand, or repeat in print! Ever presents like Fraser Wood, whom I have seen playing hooker, back-row, and fly half, continues to turn out, though James Steele's presence and bulk has been missed. Phillipe Raphael Hadji has been an inspirational skipper on the field, whilst an Aussie who answers only to Seb has distinguished himself, not always or only on the playing field, and a large prop called Brammers has done much to provide some grunt in the front row. Pride of place, though goes to Alex Merody, who has played the most games.

Most encouragingly, we have in the club a young group of OMs who are getting involved and getting their mates involved. That can only be to the good of the club. That they are such a nice group is an added bonus. Andy Mortimer, Noyan Nihat, James Mason, John Tucker, and Max Mortimer continue to do much of the hard yards work behind the scenes, and I am most grateful to them for all their efforts. George Sezer remains behind the bar, and organising match suppers and does a series of jobs

without ever making a fuss about it. He loyally stepped into the breach when Doc became ill, and thoroughly deserves our gratitude and thanks.

Keeping the club going does come at cost. Clubland, through Ronnie Cohn and Andy Mortimer, have loyally supported the club, whilst Mike Leon over the years has raised for us through pontoon over £65,000.00. Please do keep buying tickets; you know he won't give up on you, so just do it the easy way i.e. pay up early! Thank you Mike. We have sought and obtained some sponsorship, but that only partly covers our overheads, and we are very much dependent on your generosity; so please, if you are able, do pay a sub or make a donation to the club. I can assure you anything will be gratefully received, and put to good effect. The subscription payment forms accompany this letter.

Most of all though, the boys would love to see, and hear you on the touch-line. It is a subject that gets mentioned over and over again. Why I don't know, but the fact is that they play better when the golden oldies are there, and they appreciate you telling them when they have won, that they have done well, and when they have lost, that you recall a few beatings in your time as well.

John Gallagher *Chairman OMRFC*
(Ridgeway 63-69)

SPORT

Dr David (Doc) Webster
O.M.R.F.C. Captain 1975-1976

A. D. B. WEBSTER (1933-58); Burton Bank; Upper Medical VI; Monitor, July 1957; Executive Committee, Games Committee, Chapel Committee; 1st M.B. Cambridge, Biology; 1st XV 1956-7 (Hon. Sec. 1957), 1st XI Hockey 1957-8 (Capt. 1958), 3rd XI Cricket 1956-7, Athletics Team 1954-5-6-7-8, Boxing Team 1954; Phoenix Group, Interim, Natural History Society, Science Society; Sgt. in Army/C.C.F.; Reading Natural Sciences at Queens' College, Cambridge and St. Mary's Hospital; Old Lodge, 14, Uxbridge Road, Stanmore, Middlesex.



THE MONITORS, JULY 1958

R. A. Hudgell, G. L. Browder, S. W. Bennett, P. J. Huston, R. H. Gonde, M. A. L. Holmes.



R. E. R. Holliday, J. R. Griffith, K. L. Hinkley-Smith, Headmaster, A. D. B. Webster, T. C. Davis, P. R. Armitage.

Past Players Lunch

Following the very sad news on 17.8.17. of the death of David 'Doc' Webster, OMRFC organised a VPs and past players lunch in his honour at Headstone Lane on 24.11.17. when both the 1st and 2nd XVs were playing matches at home. Club chairman, John Gallagher, warmly welcomed David's widow, Lindsay, to the lunch, along with David's daughter, Bonnie and her family.

John paid tribute to David's many years of devotion to OMRFC and just before kick-off he invited Lindsay and the family to 'unveil' a memorial bench in his honour. A 'Doc Webster' annual award was also announced, to the person who has given 'outstanding service' to the club. The first recipient of the award, who was also present at the lunch, is Mike Leon, another great rugby club stalwart who amongst other contributions has single handedly raised over £65,000 via the pontoon competition.

In honour of David 'Doc' Webster held at Headstone Lane on Saturday 25th November 2017



Following the lunch (kindly catered for by OM, Nic Leon) and unveiling the 1st XV put on a scintillating display of rugby against a very tough opponent in Harlequin Amateurs. The 2nd XV played against Amersham & Chalfont.

OMs in attendance at the lunch were Jim Roberts, Peter Wakeham, Richard Llewellyn, Andy Mortimer, Alan Toulson, Jim Kent, Tom Oxenham, Clive Mence, Mike Peterson, David Kelly, Noyan Nihat, Barry Calvert and James Carson, with a later appearance by Simon Bunyard and son Finn.

VPs Lunch

OMRFC Vice Presidents lunch

On a beautiful Saturday morning Headstone Lane hosted once again the OMRFC AGM followed by the Vice Presidents lunch with Past Players invited as well. Our President Ronnie Boon was invited by our Chairman John Gallagher to say a few words which ended with a wonderful story of Andy Mortimer in his playing days not mastering the calls on the pitch! With over 30 supporters to watch both our 1st and AXV play some wonderful rugby. The day ended on a high note with our 1st XV beating old rivals Haringey Rhinos 38 to 10 points.





Mill Hill 1st XI Cricket 1900's

Cricket

Totteridge Millhillians CC Cricket Report 2017

TMCC continued its upward spiral in 2017, with its highest placed finish in its history in the Hertfordshire league structure, a second promotion in two years for the 2nd XI and 4th XI and continued production of high achieving junior players.

Juniors & Women

In 2017 we coached over 150 young players on a weekly basis at TMCC and have around 100 full junior members. We coached in local schools, and ran and ECB backed programme, 'All Stars', for children new to the game on Saturday mornings. All age groups bar one progressed from their area group league into play-off finals, and we produced our 4th junior county player. The women's team enjoyed a successful season, bringing on several young players, mainly from MHS Foundation, including Maya Shah who is trialling with Middlesex.

Men

The 1st XI finished 2nd in the Hertfordshire Premier League, and narrowly missed out on the Premiership, going down by 1 wicket in the Grand Final against league winners, Welwyn Garden City. With promotions for 2's and 4's, the club goes from strength to strength, but good recruitment and good



junior players will need to be brought on to continue to compete at ever improving standards. TMCC runs five men's teams, including for 2018, an u21 side in the Middlesex Development League.

Stewart Wernham (*Colinson 74-79*)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Cedars
11 – 16



Sophia Dunkley



I first got selected on an England Cricket programme when I was U15, and since then I have progressed onto the England Women's Senior Academy, and I am in my 3rd year on this programme. Throughout my time on the EWSA, I have toured to Sri Lanka, Abu Dhabi, India and Spain on competitive and training tours. My experience so far has taught me that what

you put into things you get out of them, and that resilience is a key part to the sporting world as it doesn't always go well. I have also been part of the Surrey Stars, one of the six Kia Super League teams in which 3 games of our campaign were broadcasted live on TV, something I will never forget and hopefully will be able to experience again in the future

What were you like at school?

At school I was definitely known as one of the sporty ones. I tried my best to put all my effort into my studies, but at times sport got the better of me!

The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

My card getting declined when I wanted to buy a crème egg! Wasn't funny at the time mind!

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

The main thing would be that I was enjoying it and so were the people around me, as an enjoyable environment is one of the most important things to me.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Making the most of all the opportunities you get, and not forgetting to enjoy yourself and have fun!

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I was once part of the world record for the most people singing at the same time.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Representing the England Academy in Sri Lanka in 2016, my first cricket tour abroad in which I learnt loads and thoroughly enjoyed every moment.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Yes! My friendship group at school I very much keep in contact with and we all try to meet up when we are back in London, and visit each others universities.

What's your driving force?

Wanting the hours of hard work I have put into things to pay off

Most inspiring teacher at school?

My GCSE English Teacher Miss Kaplan would be my most inspiring teacher, I used to love going to her lessons.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Would have to be Holly Willoughby, Phillip Schofield, Ant and Dec, a dinner party full of laughter!

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

The 2 sports tours I went on to Madrid and Malta

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Definitely would have to be the run up to A-level exams!

In the news story of your life, what would the headline say?

If she's not playing cricket, she's laughing at something that's probably not even that funny!

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Lots of trainers, a nice car, a house and then probably save the rest!

Burton Bank
14 – 16



Will Kaye

Since leaving Mill Hill and Burton Bank I have moved to Loughborough University where I study Economics with Geography. I spend most of my time playing rugby for Loughborough Students who are fortunate to play in the National League 1 which is the third tier of English Rugby. Earlier this year I was selected to captain the side. I was lucky enough to be selected for England Students last year where I played all 160 minutes across the two games against Ireland and France which is my target again for this year especially as it involves a week away in France; but before that we need to make sure we don't get relegated from the National League 1.

In July 2017 I played for Leicester Tigers in the Premiership sevens tournament, sadly I tore my MCL in the second game which cut it short for me. I'm hopeful that by the end of my time at Loughborough, I will be able to get myself a pro contract and continue on my rugby path post Uni.

What were you like at school?

'The rugby player' but other than that I spent a lot of time sleeping in BB and finding places to sit at lunch before being kicked out of all the house common rooms!

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

The move from living at home in Jersey to boarding at Mill Hill has been invaluable especially with the transition to university it really helped my ability to live and work independently.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Playing for England Students rugby in April last year was amazing experience.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Absolutely! We all still have a Whatsapp group from our friendship group so keep in touch regularly. There's a few OMs at Loughborough University that I often see as well.

What's your driving force?

My driving force is always wanting to improve and succeed in everything that I do. I'm extremely competitive and as a result I can't deal with not getting the best out of myself.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

Graeme Turner of course! Firstly he was the one who persuaded me to come to the school which turned out to be a great decision and then through everything I did inside and out of school. I think still to this day he may be the most positive man I have ever met.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

In lower sixth at Allianz Park against UCS team mate Ali Dabaiba scored with two minutes to go to win the game by two points I believe which was amazing especially with the crowd that backed us on the night.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Luxury travelling and see the world and then definitely learn my trade in property investment or something of the sort.



Celebration Rugby Dinner

Whilst not officially an OM's function, few events will capture the spirit of the club like the dinner held at the East India Club to recognise the contributions made to the School (and rugby especially) by David Woodrow and Tony Slade, both recently retired. The attendees covered the breadth of their time at the School with, amongst others, Austin Vince representing the early 80's and Jeremy Akhavi, from the class of 2017 at the other end of the spectrum. The former pupils were joined by current and former colleagues including Christopher Dean, Judith Herbertson, Berinda Banks and Nick Hodgson as well as friends and parents including Andy Mortimer and Ann Bunyard.

Graeme Turner (current Housemaster of Burton Bank) and Chris Kelly (currently in strict training for his year of presidency of the RFU) spoke with great affection and humour with Chris entertaining the older ones there with

tales of the Maths, Economics and Geography departments under Peter Spiers, Robert Clark and Alan Prosser-Harries as well as breaking the tradition of "what goes on tour stays on tour"! But how could they fail? Put this group of people together in that room and you cannot fail to have a wonderful evening.

Sadly, the inclement weather meant that around a dozen failed to make it into central London that evening. The most notable and regretted absentee was Alastair Graham, I know he would have loved the occasion and he was greatly missed.





Our thanks go to Chris who's idea this was and, particularly, to Laura Turner, your Member Relations Officer, who did so much work in the organisation.

A wonderful evening enjoyed by all present.

David Woodrow 1981 - 2017 (36 years)

Tony Slade 1984 - 2017 (33 years)



WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Ridgeway
09 – 11

Mason Caton-Brown

What were you like at school?

Similar to how I am now, quite laid back, motivated and happy!

The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

I'm at a warm weather training camp in Lanzarote as I'm writing this and there's a diving board by the swimming pool. Earlier I gave it a go and pulled off a front flip but it ended with a belly flop so that was pretty funny for the people watching but mostly painful for me.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

My job is what I enjoy doing most at the moment. It involves a lot of physical

training and exercise which is one of my biggest passions.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Being a boarder I got to live with people from all over the world which opened my mind to a lot of different cultures. This has probably fuelled all the travelling I try to do now. It's been cool to visit some old school mates whilst travelling too.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I know some magic tricks, can read tarot cards and can blow smoke from thin air.

What is your proudest moment and why?

I felt really proud playing in my debut Super League game. It was a childhood dream to become a professional sportsman and play in front of thousands of people. So when it first happened it was a proud moment for me.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Yes, I still speak to and see quite a few Mill Hillians. Especially when I'm in London and some come to visit me in Manchester.

What's your driving force?

My driving force is my family because of the continued support they've given



me throughout my career and growing up. I'm also quite good at motivating myself. When I have something in my head to achieve, it normally stays there until it gets done.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

Graeme Turner had the most impact on me whilst I was at Mill Hill. He helped welcome me into the school really well. He is a good representation of the family feel the school has.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Tim Ferriss, Mike Tyson, Kanye West and Richard Branson.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Saturdays on Top Field, Dinner time with the boarders.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

No bad memories have stayed with me from Mill Hill School. I had an awesome time.

In the news story of your life, what would the headline say?

This is a hard question, probably something along the lines of "living the dream" I hope.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Try and double it with a few holidays in between.





OM Golfing Society

At the start of another golfing season, I'm happy to report that the Golfing Society is thriving.

We have 130 members of all golfing abilities, from plus one to novices. We are always looking for new members, especially younger ones (to whom we provide very generous subsidies at all of our events). We have no lady members and would really like to have a ladies' section.

We have many matches throughout the year against other school teams, at excellent venues such as Royal St Georges, Moor Park, West Hill and New Zealand.

Our scratch team has done well in recent times and we have high hopes for 2018. Our best two golfers are James Ellis, who is a stalwart of the Middlesex scratch team, and Jeremy Bohn, secretary at Hartsbourne golf club. It was great to welcome

Sam Sherwood a 2016 school leaver to our team last year.

Our Spring Tour this year is to Dublin 20th - 22nd May, playing Druids Glen, Wicklow and the European Club. All OMs are welcome.

We also have two annual matchplay competitions; a great way to meet other OMs and play different courses. Our members play at most of the finest courses in the South East.

Our annual autumn meeting weekend at Royal Cinque Ports is held in mid-September. We are very privileged to have a match against the club, and also to have Public School Membership rights (very reduced green fees) at one of the UK's greatest courses.

Colin Nunn (*Burton Bank 75-81*)



Fives

The club remains in good shape overall, being able to field a league side in both divisions 1 and 2 but there were too many dropped pairs for either of the league teams to ever mount a challenge at the top of the table.

In terms of individual successes, Sunil Tailor (the new club captain) and Vishal Bhimjiyani again reached the quarterfinals of both the London and Kinnaird tournaments. Recent leaver Hal Gibson-Leitao, playing with school coach Andrew Rennie, became the first OM to have ever won the Midlands Championship winning a close 5 set final that took over three hours. Recently, while playing for the Oxford University team, Hal has also won the EFA Trophy, a 3 pair team competition, another fantastic achievement having left only last year. The club has recruited some players who we hope will be at home in both division 1 and division 2 and is also hoping to introduce the game to some talented sportsmen who have shown an interest. These recruits, along with the university returners will hopefully



Andrew Summers OM donating the Summers Cup to me (tournament where OM plays with a schoolboy)

bolster the squad to allow the section of strong teams and also to reduce the number of penalty points incurred. The inaugural 'Summers Club' competition took place where an OM played alongside a schoolboy, with the trophy kindly donated by Andrew Summers, the tournament was a great success being won by Henry Webster OM.

The annual dinner took place in February and was a great evening at the Bleeding Heart, and a fine way to celebrate Steve Plummers 25th year as Master in Charge at the school. At the time of writing, the OM's division 1 team currently, having



Henry Webster OM and Charlie Plummer winning the first Summers Cup competition



Whole group of OM's and schoolboys at first summers cup

had a great season so far, sit in 1st place in the national league with only 4 matches to play. The division 2 side, also having had a great season, sit in 2nd place with one match to play.

Finally, the club needs to put on record its thanks to Ian Hutchinson, who has now left our playing ranks. Ian has led our division 1 side for the last few years as well as James Hutcheson and Sunil Tailor for their excellent running of the club.

Andrew Rennie (MHS Master in charge of Fives)

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Weymouth
04 – 09

James Ellis



Since leaving school, I have continued to enjoy playing competitive golf and currently hold a handicap of +1. I played for the Loughborough University team during my time there, and then spent a year living in Phoenix, Arizona where I interned in the engineering department for renowned golf club manufacturer PING. Since my return to the UK I've been working for a global golf PR, marketing and social media agency called GMS (Golf Marketing Services) where I'm

currently the Content Manager. In terms of recent on-course achievements, I currently captain the Middlesex County first team and the Old Millhillian's Halford Hewitt team, and my most notable personal successes in recent years include winning back-to-back Middlesex Order of Merits in 2015 and 2016. As I still live in Mill Hill, I'm a member at Hendon Golf Club which is located less than a mile from the school.

What were you like at school?

Worked as hard as I played, and I'd like to think I made the most of as many of the opportunities that Mill Hill School had to offer for the time I was there.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

I genuinely love working in the sport's industry, so it wouldn't be hard for me to continue to do so if money wasn't an issue. I'd probably cut it down to a three-day week though!

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

My friends for life have turned out to be school friends rather than university friends, and that's something I'll always be grateful for.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

I can't roll my r's. Trust me, I've tried. A lot.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Hard not to give a cringe answer to this one, but as an only child, making my parents proud at my Loughborough University graduation ceremony would probably have to top the list.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

I am still close with several OMs who left the school in 2009 when I did, but I've also been a member of the OMs Golf Society since leaving and playing in various matches and going on tours has enabled me to get to know Old Millhillians of all different ages, and from all different industries and professions, which has been really nice.

What's your driving force?

It sounds pretty cliché, but I'd say my driving force is just to keep getting better and improving in every aspect of what I do on a daily basis, whether it's at work, on the golf course or just generally striving to be a generally better person around my friends and family.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

I'm not sure I'd say any teacher at school necessarily inspired me, but there were certainly several who helped guide me through those important years and that I learned a tremendous amount from. I spent a lot of time with Dean Halford during my 6th Form years, and we developed a great friendship that we still share to this day. I always had a tremendous amount of respect for Tony Armstrong who was Housemaster of Weymouth during my first few years at the school, and Graeme Turner was another teacher who I particularly enjoyed being around.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Joe Rogan, Margot Robbie, Amber Heard and Johnny Manziel.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Hard to narrow it down to just one memory, but certainly several of the sports tours I was fortunate enough to go on would be at the top of the list. Golf in South Africa, hockey in Spain, and cricket in Jersey and Guernsey spring to mind.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

In hindsight, some of the pranks during leaver's week were probably a little bit over the top and our year left with a bit of a sour taste in the mouth which was a shame!

In the news story of your life, what would the headline say?

'Was here for a good time, not a long time.'

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

The first thing I'd do is take my closest friends to Vegas for a week, obviously. Then, after making sure my parents were comfortable, I'd make some smart investments, move to somewhere with a more desirable climate than north-west London, and play golf every day.

Murray
12 – 17

Ethan Bamber



Cricket is an integral part of me and of my life. I was privileged to play for a number of years for the 1st team at school at the beautiful Parks, and this winter, was lucky enough to be selected to represent England U19s at the U19 World Cup in New Zealand, a huge honour and a surreal, incredible

experience! I am hoping to play professionally, and am currently waiting to hear from Middlesex CCC about the future. I began playing cricket thanks to my big brother Theo, and we both still play at our local club, North Middlesex CC, which is about 500 meters from our house.

What were you like at school?

Hmmm, I would say hard working, hopefully good value humour wise and involved in all sorts of things sport wise. Probably, because I am like this as a person, quite quiet and apologetic at times, but I hope I contributed some kind of positive energy to Mill Hill.

The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

We were on a cricket tour and one of the lads walked out to the middle to bat, got there, and realised his bat was still perched by his bag in the changing room...classic.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

A job which had a positive effect on people, be that explicitly or just through lifting their spirits.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Probably that each person, whoever or whatever they may be, has something unique to offer and must be appreciated and listened to. That sense of inclusivity, of openness, was something instilled deeply in me at MH.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

Good question...probably that my mum, dad and brother (and two of my grandparents) are all actors.

What is your proudest moment and why?

My proudest moment was probably receiving my England U19s cap, it was something I could never have imagined and, I hope, a reflection of the work I have put in. Whatever happens now, I have been lucky enough to achieve this and am incredibly grateful.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Yes! I did only leave in 2017, but in touch with loads of mates from school and, naturally, my girlfriend Gia who I met at MH.

What's your driving force?

The need to know that I have done absolutely everything I could have done to achieve my dreams, and that, in doing that, I have left a positive impression on people and places.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

I was fortunate to have lots of incredible teachers, but, in no particular order Mr Dickinson, Mr Hodgson, Ms Miller, Rev Dr Warden and Mr Bingham. All played

an integral part. It was an amazing experience at Mill Hill.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Peter Kay, Alistair Cook

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

The last summer of Cricket – had a great season playing at a beautiful ground with 5 or 6 of my absolute best mates... very special.

In the news story of your life, what would the headline say?

'He did the right things, in the right ways, at the right times, for the right people'.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

I would give a large proportion to my brother and parents, buy a cottage on the Cornish coast, and the rest would be split between the Alzheimer's Trust and the National Theatre.

Non Nobis sed Scholae



Speech to OMs at
the 2017 Annual Dinner

I am delighted to be present at the gathering of OMs, teachers and current pupils, all of whom have the Mill Hill Foundation close to their hearts. In contrast to when I spoke this time last year, I have a much greater understanding of the nature of the School, the interests of the OMs and the aspirations of the parents of current pupils on how to take the School forward.

We can feel proud of achievements in a variety of areas over this last year which we had a chance to celebrate at this year's Foundation Day. After a positive and energetic year of activities in a variety of forms, our public examination results were very pleasing. We gained our best results on record for the GCSEs and some very good A level results leading to a high percentage of acceptances at good universities. Amongst the top university places this year were five to Oxford and Cambridge, four to Kings London, four to Imperial, and a host to other excellent destinations.

Whilst academic excellence is part of what we strive for, we also work hard to ensure that our pupils gain the necessary skills for life. This is something that the School has been

doing well for many years, as evidenced from those of you here tonight. Today it is helpful to set the skills acquired from participation in sports, school council, music and drama into the wider context of the changing world. With a global awareness of the march of technology and its impact on employment we feel confident at Mill Hill that we encourage those skills identified by the CBI and other groups – confidence, curiosity, independent thinking, creativity, leadership and team work, resilience, emotional intelligence and adaptability. We have developed our sixth form offer this year to ensure that all our pupils at this level take part in activities that develop such skills and that they are able to track these so that they can discuss their own profile in an objective and structured way at interview and within their university applications. In addition to the changes to the sixth form programme, we have enhanced the estate with a number of buildings.

- **The Sixth Form Centre:** The sixth formers have been very positive about how this building has helped them find a place where they can both relax and study with their peers. They like the coffee machine too!
- **Girls' Boarding House:** Our other major change on the Mill Hill School site was to convert the building that started off as the San, then a girls'

boarding house, then Cedars and Priestley Day Houses. It is now the very fresh and attractive new boarding house for girls, currently going by the name of New House. This building has made clear the School's ongoing commitment to boarding here.

- **Belmont** has enjoyed the addition of the Chapman Building which houses the upgraded DT and IT equipment and has given our younger pupils a chance to acquire skills for the future through this fresh facility.
- **Innovation Hub:** And looking to the future, and weaving in the thoughts expressed already about preparation for the new way of working, we hope to open our own Innovation Hub in September 2018 where we would hope to encourage pupils to engage in ideas and projects associated with enterprise and innovation. Do let me know your thoughts on such an idea as it is still work in progress.

With these thoughts in mind, I am sure you recognize the School remains in good spirits. We welcome the support and encouragement of the Old Millhillians and I would therefore ask you to raise your glass to toast the Old Millhillian Club.

Frances King

Head of Mill Hill School
CEO of the Mill Hill School Foundation

Armistice Day Service

On a particularly still morning, with the sun breaking through the clouds, a large number of OMs and healthy number of YOMs turned out to pay their respects at the Armistice Day Service.

The OMs, The Head, the Chair of Governors and CCF representatives, with the entire school, lined up in front of the Gate of Honour. The OMs new President, David A B Brown, had flown over especially from the USA to attend the Service before doing a reading in The Chapel. It is always very special to see Old Millhillians return for this occasion, and there is a lovely opportunity for them to socialise before and after the Service in the school.

It was also moving to see a group of YOMs who had only left this September return so soon.



In Memory of Those Who Have Died

Ecclesiasticus Ch 44 v 1 15

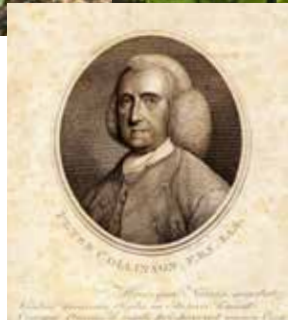
Let us now sing the praises of famous men, our ancestors in their generations.

The Lord apportioned to them great glory, his majesty from the beginning.

There were those who ruled in their kingdoms, and made a name for themselves by their valour; those who gave counsel because they were intelligent; those who spoke in prophetic oracles; those who led the people by their counsels and by their knowledge of the people's lore; they were wise in their words of instruction; those who composed musical tunes, or put verses in writing; rich men endowed with resources, living peacefully in their homes- all these were honoured in their generations, and were the pride of their times. Some of them have left behind a name, so that others declare their praise.

But of others there is no memory; they have perished as though they had never existed; they have become as though they had never been born, they and their children after them. But these also were godly men, whose righteous deeds have not been forgotten; their wealth will remain with their descendants, and their inheritance with their children's children. Their descendants stand by the covenants; their children also, for their sake. Their offspring will continue forever, and their glory will never be blotted out. Their bodies are buried in peace, but their name lives on generation after generation. The assembly declares their wisdom, and the congregation proclaims their praise. Thanks be to God

Read by the President of the Old Millhillians' Club,
David A B Brown (Burton Bank 56-61)



The Mill Hill Peter Collinson Heritage Garden

OPENING
CEREMONY
**Thursday 21st
June 2018**
(by invitation)

Work towards making this project a reality moved steadily forward throughout 2017, spurred on by the long standing plan that the Garden should be officially opened in the summer of 2018.

This is to coincide with the 250th year of Collinson's death in 1768 when he was living in the original Ridge Way House, the foot print of which was on what is now the south-east end of the main school building.

Progress has been made possible by the support and encouragement of the Head, the Finance Director, Rebecca Starling, Nick Priestnall and other members of the Foundation, including the Estate Management team. Financial support has been an essential facilitator and for this we are grateful to the Old Millhillians Club, the Support our Schools Fund, the Linnean Society of London and several individuals.

Much hard work has been expended by our Historic Plants expert, Karen Bridgman, from Painshill Nursery in Surrey.

She has carried out the planting and is scheduled to do a great deal more during this spring in preparation for the official opening. Literature has been prepared by which to inform visitors to the Garden of the relevance of Collinson to the development of botany and horticulture both in this country and widely across the world while also providing detailed information on the plants included in the Garden, chosen as far as possible from the 146 species of plants introduced into this country by Collinson.

He enjoyed a special relationship with John Bartram, a farmer from Philadelphia with whom he developed a plant exchange. Like Collinson, Bartram was an amateur botanist and horticulturalist whose contribution has been recognised by the Bartram Botanical Garden in South Philadelphia. We are delighted therefore to announce that senior figures from the Bartram Garden have accepted the invitation from the Foundation to attend and to play a central role in the opening ceremony.

It is intended that the opening ceremony

will bring to Mill Hill dignitaries and senior representatives from the world of horticulture and gardening and the historical connections with Collinson, such as the Royal Society. Those who were involved in the inception of this project ten years ago and those who have been important to its progress in recent years also will be invited.

Old Millhillians wishing to visit the Garden, outside the formal school events such as OMs Day, Reunions and Receptions, will be able to do so by prior appointment through the offices of Sam Baldock, Assistant Head (sb@millhill.org.uk), and via the Main Reception on the day. This is a necessary requirement and will allow the visitor to receive the appropriate literature and, whenever possible, be accompanied to the Garden. It is hoped the Collinson Garden will form an attractive and interesting back drop to social events involving Old Millhillians that are held in that space and that the OM community will acknowledge the relevance of this piece of Mill Hill's heritage.

Dr Russell Cowan (Weymouth 58-63)



*Sixth Form Centre,
Mill Hill School 1970's*

The Sixth Form Centre

The new Sixth Form Centre opened at the start of this academic year, in September 2017, after a year-long refurbishment of Murray House.

The conversion project was architecturally designed and was carried out to an extremely high specification by the architect Wendy Mason and her team at Rivington Street Studios. The project was implemented in order to offer the Sixth Form pupils a different experience to their time in the Lower School, and has since proved to be a welcome addition to the life of the Sixth Former at Mill Hill. The Centre provides a necessary transition between School and University and helps to promote both independent and collaborative study, as well as becoming an important

tool for retention of fifth form pupils. The open planned space is partially divided up into four smaller areas. The conference area offers a boardroom feel with several computers and a presentation area for collaborative work.

The squiggle glass offers an opportunity for the pupils to revise together when preparing for tests and examinations and a regular supply of board pens is required to keep up with their healthy desire to share their knowledge with each other. This section also doubles up as both a tutor room and the creative hub of the pupil led school newspaper 'The Millhillian' at different times of the week.

The area opposite has further computers, and as well as being used by the pupils to study, it transforms into our presentation area for Further Education and 'Into the Sixth Form' taster talks which we conduct by House. The social area boasts both Sky Sports and Sky Movies which can be watched on a large drop down screen, outside of study periods, and the pupils are able to relax with a 'Bean to Cup' quality coffee or a hot chocolate, as well as have lunch upstairs in the Sixth Form Cafe.

The cafe area offers smaller tables, as well as high bench laptop areas which are also very popular, and are well kitted out with electrical connections and USB ports for all of their technology. This area is complemented with three sets of double glass doors which can

be opened when the sun is shining to take in the stunning view of the newly refurbished 'Stoa' area. Overall there are three different presentation areas for the pupils to hone their presentation and public speaking skills; and in addition they have access to colour printing and photocopying to help with their studies.

The pupils have direct access to advice on Higher Education and the UCAS application process; as well as being able to explore the growing opportunities for apprenticeships. The fact that the Centre acts as a social hub before school, at break and at lunchtime is an important and essential part of the pupils' well-being and the Sixth Form breakfasts have proved to be a popular way to start the day, once every half-term.

The pupils still have plenty of opportunities to maintain strong links with their house and both leadership opportunities and Sixth Form duties remain an essential part of the traditional Mill Hill House system.

In addition to our vast array of activities and sports offered through the co-curricular programme the pupils are enthusiastically involved in our community action projects and enrichment programme.

Whether it is taking part in the Leith's introductory certificate in food and wine, presenting a TEDx talk to their peers, coaching rugby at Allianz park to young adults with Autism or writing and editing articles for the 'Millhillian' or the '1807' History magazine; the pupils at Mill Hill have unrivalled access to a plethora of experiences that build character and resilience; whilst helping to prepare them for the world beyond the school gates.

John Barron (*Assistant Head, Director of Sixth Form*)



The Development Office

During 2017 the Development Office raised just shy of £500,000 for the A Better Chance (ABC) bursary campaign and its Unfolding Spaces initiative around the Roger Chapman Building at Belmont and the Sixth Form Centre and New House at Mill Hill.

Many Old Millhillians and Old Belmontians contributed to this; the Mill Hill School Foundation is very grateful to them.

The A Better Chance bursary scheme continues to offer opportunities for talented young people to attend our Schools who could not possibly consider it without financial help. You would probably have seen the announcement in December of former ABC beneficiary Leanne Armitage being awarded a Queen's Young Leaders Award for Leanne's Amazing Medics initiative. Other beneficiaries have spoken powerfully about the opportunity which their bursary has given them. There are 19 ABC beneficiaries in our schools this academic year, most benefitting from 100% fee support; the Schools want to be able to make further

awards for September 2018. We raised over £50,000 at the second ABC Ball in October with parents from across all our schools but 88% of the funding for bursaries comes from alumni. A small number provide amazingly generous support by funding individual pupils but we couldn't achieve what we do without the regular donations of £20 per month and upwards made by alumni. For more information about this please visit the website (www.millhill.org.uk/support-us); you can make a gift through the Foundation's secure online site here.

Alumni in the medical, dental and veterinary professions fund a 6th Form place for a pupil wanting to go into these areas after school. We currently have two such pupils in the 6th Form. In a similar way alumni in North America fund a pupil; it is hoped that this group will continue to do so and we can make another award after the current beneficiary leaves. In this context I am delighted and grateful for the fantastic leadership which Old Millhillians Club President David A B Brown continues to give to the ABC fundraising in North America. By the time you read this David and I will have visited alumni in

California, Portland, Vancouver, San Francisco, New York City, Washington DC and Philadelphia in the USA, Vancouver and Montreal in Canada.

During the first half of 2018 it is planned to start the long-term process of creating a digital archive through which alumni will be able to delve remotely into the amazing archives we have here. The Development Office is working on this with the School Archivist, Peter Elliott. More about this as it progresses. If you have a particular interest in this, do contact me. During the first half of this year the Foundation is implementing its plans to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations. At the heart of this is a new piece of bespoke communications software which will enable the Development Office to reach and interact with the largest possible number of alumni.

The Mill Hill School Foundation will shortly launch its Twitter account and Facebook page. Look out for these exciting developments

Nick Priestnall *Director of Development*



L-R: Nick Priestnall, Ken Rifkin, David A B Brown in Portland



Sponsor a Hymn Book in Chapel

Thanks to our inspirational Director of Performance Music, Mr Kevin Kyle, and being ably led by our magnificent Foundation Chapel Choir, Mill Hill pupils of 'all faiths and none' sing in Chapel on a weekly basis with tremendous enthusiasm. They almost literally raise the roof, especially when singing "Jerusalem" or "I vow to thee my country"!

Sadly our hymn books are on their last legs and as such the school is commissioning its own bespoke hymn

book. Each hymn book will bear the school crest on the front and will contain up to 100 of the most popular hymns with full music harmonies, for use at all our weekly services and special occasions, such as our Foundation Day, Remembrance Service, Valedictory Leavers' Service and Carol Services. In addition, there will be a short selection of well-known readings and prayers in order to guide and inspire, as well as a mini-history of the school and the chapel.

We believe that learning to sing hymns is not only a joyous experience in its own right (and is known to release happiness endorphins!) but has tremendous educational benefits. In addition, singing generates a unique 'spirit' that binds the Mill Hill school community together as we gather in Chapel on a weekly basis.

This commission of these beautiful and hard wearing books will cost £8,000 and we would be delighted to receive any gifts towards the project. Donors will not only be able to come and see the benefits of their gifts, with 400 very smart hymn books placed in our school Chapel, they will be also able to come and hear the results! Any donor giving £50 or more will have a book dedicated to them (or, indeed, in memory of a loved-one). Thank you to all the OMs who have already supported this project. I am delighted to say we have already raised £7,000!

Any support you are able to give will be most welcome. Contact development@millhill.org.uk to make your gift and to discuss your dedication.

Richard Warden *Foundation Chaplain*

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Weymouth
08 – 11



Emily Maister

After joining Belmont in Year 7, I left Upper Sixth in 2011 and went on to achieve a First in Modern History from the University of Manchester. I now work as a Borough Campaign Manager for the Conservative Party.

After leaving school, I took a gap year, where I worked running a chalet with my best friend in the Italian Dolomites. I have gone back to Italy regularly since, working as an au pair in Tuscany a couple of years later.

While at the University of Manchester, I

directed two sell-out plays ('Playhouse Creatures', 'A Clockwork Orange'). I took 'Playhouse Creatures' to the Edinburgh Fringe, and 'A Clockwork Orange' won over half of all available university 'MIFTA' awards.

I spent a semester abroad at Trinity College Dublin during the second year of my Manchester degree, where I studied Theology, Politics and History.

After I graduated in 2015, I worked as a Campaign Assistant on Zac Goldsmith's mayoral campaign. Having been

volunteering for Zac since pre-selection in September, I became an employed member of the campaign, predominantly managing the campaign bus.

Following the mayoral election, I worked on the EU referendum campaign, and then at the think tank Policy Exchange as the events manager for six months. Last January I started working for the Conservative Campaign Department, starting on Andy Street's Mayoral Campaign, then the General Election and now I'm working towards the local elections in May.

What were you like at school?

I was generally quite well behaved, but definitely liked to push the boundaries a bit. Some teachers appreciated it and were very indulgent and others were rather exasperated I think.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

Doing something that I feel is important and having moments where I can see the difference that I am making is what motivates me. It's the only way I could carry on campaigning even after we lose or work silly hours as it gets close to polling day!

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

I loved the freedom at Mill Hill. I really appreciated the support to pursue what interested you, and I think I was in a lovely year of people. Everyone got on pretty well, which allowed people to relax and be themselves.

What is your proudest moment and why?

In sixth form, I performed 'Two Ladies' from the musical Cabaret with my friends Ekin and Mark in the talent show. We all dressed up in costume and painted our faces to perform it. It's one of my proudest moments because even though it possibly wasn't appreciated by the audience, it was such a fun and eccentric thing to just perform for our own pleasure. I think we were pretty brave to do it.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Absolutely - the friends who know you when you're a teenager have seen you at your best and worst!

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

I assume dead or alive? Fyodor Dostoevsky, Lucrezia Borgia, Cleopatra and Ghengis Khan.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

I performed 'The Cry- A Requiem for a Lost Child' with the choir at St Paul's Cathedral, which was very special. And joining every club in the school with Georgie Wickman, just to mess about in different settings.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

When I wasn't made a prefect. It still hurts. After the Head Boy and Girl and existing prefects petitioned the Headmaster on how unreasonable it was, the oversight was corrected. Maybe a bit of a hollow victory, but a victory nonetheless.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Well, everyone who wins the lottery seems to get depressed and destitute pretty quickly, so I'd share it around with my friends so that we were all in it together. Then I'd give a load to Great Ormond Street Hospital, and spend the rest on a house? That seems sensible.

Back Row:

A.P. Falconer E.H. Clarkson Mr. W.R. Rayner S. Oston N.M. Walker

The Colts XI

Bottom Row
kins M.E. Edgar



Mill Hill School Foundation Archive

W. Edgar W.C.R. Reid

Middle Row
M.L. Jacks

I have been invited to introduce myself, and the School Archives, to you. I took up the post of Foundation Archivist nearly two years ago, following the retirement of Kate Thompson, and my own retirement from the RAF Museum, where I was Head of Archives.

My role centres on collecting and preserving material relating to the four schools in the Foundation, although I mostly deal with the MHS archive. I'm employed on the basis of 75 hours per term, which works out at one day a week – normally Fridays, but this is flexible. I've met a few of you at various events, and look forward to making further new acquaintances.

The archive contains a wide range of material, from the minutes of the committee that set up the school in 1807 to works of art, papers of a few members of staff and OMs, architects' drawings, sound recordings, and blazers, ties and other items of

uniform. There are thousands of photographs – of the whole School, formal House photographs, sports teams, buildings and grounds. Notable acquisitions last year include a chess set carved by an OM, the School's stamp collection (with large numbers of "spares" which were apparently sold to members of the MHS Philatelic Society) and a manuscript book of prayers by M L Jacks. These items and others are used to answer enquiries from OMs and their families, authors and the media, and selections from the archive are often displayed at reunions and Foundation Day. We are also working to create an Oral History archive, comprising recorded interviews with OMs: the Club has provided a state-of-the-art digital recorder for this project.

How can you help? If you have material that you think may be of interest, please contact me via p.elliott@millhill.org.uk – there are a number of gaps in the collection,

particularly in terms of photographs from the last 30 years, as copies of the formal photographs have not always been saved for the archive. Your own photographs will give a different slant on life at Mill Hill. It's particularly helpful if you can put names to faces. If you have documents from your time at School, they too will be of interest: diaries and letters throw light onto what might be termed "the Mill Hill experience". You may have written something about your time here – for your grandchildren, perhaps; I'd be very interested to receive a copy. If you'd be willing to spend an hour or so talking about your reminiscences, we can arrange an oral history interview.

I've met a few of you at various events, and look forward to making further new acquaintances. If I can help you, or if you can help build the archive, do make contact.

Peter Elliot

Mill Hill School Foundation Archivist

Left to Right
P.O. Walker
S. Walker
D.A. Catesby
A. Macbeth
M. Thomas

A.E. Vowsey J. Higgs W.R. Rayner Esq. F.R. Goodwin & Mann.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



L-R Tom Lindsey and George Kruis (England & Saracens Lock)

Tom Lindsay

Since leaving Mill Hill I have been full time with rugby having the opportunity to play all over the world including New Zealand, USA and Abu Dhabi. I have over 100 caps for Wasps, played for Saracens, Gloucester and Bedford Blues where I am currently. Outside of rugby I have had the chance to dip my toe in a few industries including construction management, project management and coaching. At the moment alongside rugby, I am pursuing a volunteer role at Mill Hill School with the Director of Sport and rugby department.

What were you like at school?

Apart from being extremely heavy and out of shape due to the fact I ran my house tuck shop and also I would venture to school tuck shop and the lunch hall for free bread and jam at break. Apart from that I think I was a popular guy amongst the rugby boys and had close friends in my house Priestley.

The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

Sitting at a family party I started to laugh at a joke and fell back, as I was falling I reached out to grab something just as my mum walked in with a tray of party food. The next thing you know, my mum is standing there in front of all our family and friends with her skirt pulled down, thankfully she was wearing tights as well.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

I enjoy the camaraderie in team sport but as long as I am fit I think I will try and play/ coach. The game is built and developed by people who play and go on to coach and give back to the sport.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

Awareness of others around you and putting others before yourself. Everyone is a little selfish when they are younger but playing sport and being head of house helped me manage and understand how to get the best out of people around me and also understanding what helps motivate people because everyone is different.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

Caribbean heritage, played rugby in front of a Sheik in Abu Dhabi.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Think my proudest moment was pulling on the national jersey and singing the national anthem while playing for the England Saxons against the USA in Denver Colorado.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Funnily enough my close friends are all OMs. James Beynon, Ashley Wogman, Thomas Schilling, Michael Berwin, Michael Lam, Robert Hime and Peter Jenkins were all in my Year and we all played rugby together. I count myself very lucky to still have them as friends especially for as long as we have been. 17 years is a long time and despite some boys emigrating to other countries, when we catch up it's like nothing had changed.

What's your driving force?

My driving force is making my wife to be, family and friends proud of me. On the pitch it's leaving the shirt on my back in a better place every time I come off the pitch.



Most inspiring teacher at school?

I am very fortunate to be in touch with quite a few staff from when I was at school. To be honest most are still teaching at Mill Hill now. There a few I would like to mention. Andy Luke was a very good physics teacher who also happened to be my house master and he had a very open door policy and would make all the time in the world for you. We still keep in contact now. Steve Plummer was an incredible and interesting teacher. He was also my house master at one point and classics teacher. Slightly eccentric but I had the ultimate respect for him because he would talk to you and treat you like an adult if you respected him. He had a dry sense of humour



which I really liked. But out of all the teachers the one who inspired me the most happens to be one of my groomsman for my wedding, Graeme Turner. He coached and taught me, he was my physics and chemistry teacher. He would turn up to lessons with a bit of entrance, or he would pause during lessons for an inordinate amount of time and just start talking about something else. Apart from this he was full of energy and passion for everything he did and was part of. He helped me massively when it came to academics and organising my week, helping me balance rugby and academics. On the pitch

as a coach he took me to France and Canada as a coach from U15 level to U18. It must have been hard for him as he was under pressure from my academy coaches to play me in different positions but he managed it well to get the best out of me and the team. Graeme Turner influenced me with his charisma, positivity and life management. We are still good friends today and want to thank him for everything he has done.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Bruce Lee, Robin Williams, Freddie Mercury and Jennifer Aniston.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

The annual leaver's pranks were quite a big event when I was at school. Many were foiled or never came to fruition however the one that stood out for me was the lunch benches on top field. Someone, who will remain anonymous had snuck into the school refectory at night and taken out all the old wooden benches, there must been 20 or so, and they were not light. He or she then manages to stack them 4x4 about 12 foot up in the middle of the pitch which is a feat in itself when you have someone to help but they did it themselves. The groundsmen the next day were stunned, it took them until lunch time to work out how to tackle it. They had to get a cherry picker in if I remember rightly.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

I think every summer from remove onwards because of exams but that came with the territory of school life. One memory of school was going to Garelochhead on a CCF trip and knocking myself out on an assault course.

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Firstly I think I would clear my Fiancée's student loan. Pay off our wedding in full. Take both our families away on an amazing holiday then put some money away. Boring I know.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW

Dr Paul Ivey

Atkinson
05 – 10



I knew from an early age that I wanted to be a doctor and thus I researched what I needed to do in order to be able to pursue this career. Mill Hill school were aware of my aspirations and supported me in achieving my dream. I choose the 3 'seperate' sciences at GCSE and then A Level. I also did several work experience placements, including spending a week in St Marys hospital in London, a week in the Hospital Clinico San Carlos in Madrid and spending an afternoon a week helping out at a local junior school for children with disabilities close to Mill Hill School.

In terms of my time since leaving Mill Hill in 2010, I went to the University of Manchester to study Medicine and graduated in 2015. I was followed by one of my close OM friends who initially took a gap year before starting the

same course the year after. During my time in University I was also enrolled on the 'European Option' of the medical course which provided language lessons throughout my studies and culminated in a placement in Spain in my 5th year. I also presented several posters including one at the RCGP Annual conference and another at during a meeting of North West Faculty for sexual and reproductive health.

After graduating, I subsequently did my Foundation years, rotating through several specialties including general surgery, general medicine, psychiatry and general practice. The foundation programme is the first 2 years of further training you complete after qualifying as a doctor. I completed mine in a small district general hospital in Lancaster. It was a great experience and gave me the

skills and knowledge I needed to I am currently working as a locum senior house officer in Salford Royal Hospital in central Manchester. Working as a locum has highlighted how short of staff the NHS is and how desperate hospitals are in need of staff to cover gaps. While there was also gaps when I worked in Lancaster, I never expected a central city hospital to also suffer from the same problems. Unfortunately, staff shortages are only one of the big issues facing the NHS currently and I completely agree that the Health service is in a crisis. Sadly I don't see how it can continue as it is for much longer unless there is a significant increase in funding. I have applied for GP training back in London which will start in August this year. I am also getting married in June to my partner of 7 years. She is also a GP and we met at University.

What were you like at school?

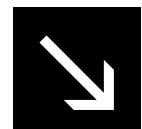
I was quiet and reserved but would speak up when I needed to. I was logical but compassionate and thought carefully about what to say or what actions to take. I enjoyed playing team sports and had a close group of friends who I spent most of my time with. I was good academically, hard-working and focused on what I needed to do to achieve my aim of becoming a doctor. I wasn't the most popular guy in school but neither was I unpopular. I did however lack confidence in myself and my abilities. When I started school, I was content to sit back and not get too involved with extra-curricular activities, though this changed as I got older. When my time at Mill Hill came to an end, I left a more confident and well-rounded individual. Whilst my friends would likely say there are still aspects of the above that apply, they would all agree that I am now more confident, open and adventurous and I believe the support and guidance I received at Mill Hill played a large part in shaping who I am today.

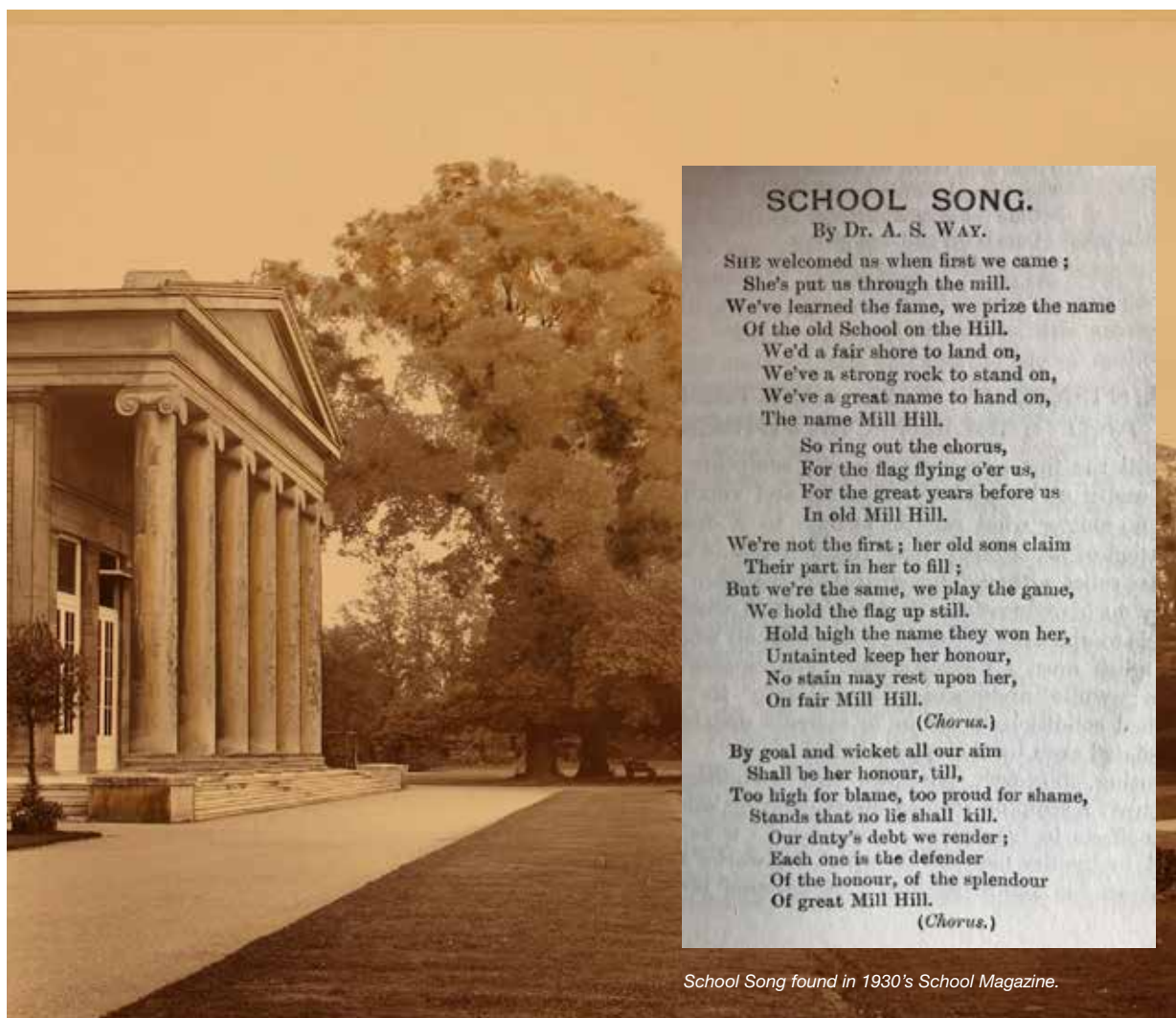
The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

While not something that happened to me personally, I recently read a very entertaining book called 'This is going to hurt' by Dr Adam Kay. It's based on the authors diary entries whilst he trained as a junior doctor and recounts some of the very funny events that happened during his time. This reminded me of the many similarly humorous stories that I have had whilst I've been training and highlighted how similar the experience is for all junior doctors. Though very entertaining, the book is also the closest thing you will get to experiencing what life is like for a junior doctor in the NHS and I would recommend anyone aspiring to be a doctor to read it.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

The fact that on some days I come home at the end of the day feeling like I have saved a life/made a difference in someone's life.





School Song found in 1930's School Magazine.

There is also the special bonds that form between doctor and patient in special moments. These are sometimes in shared sadness, such as when informing them about a particularly bad diagnosis or happy one's like when a lonely elderly patient is delighted when you are the first person to listen to and spend time with them after having been on their own for many years. These special moments I have shared with patients will stay with me forever and have shaped the kind of doctor I am and aspire to be.

What has been the most positive thing you have taken from your school days into your adult life?

The lifelong friends I made during my time at school who I still regularly see and keep in contact with.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

Although I don't look it, I am actually half English, quarter Spanish and quarter Portuguese. I am also fluent in Spanish and it was in fact my first language.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Getting into and subsequently graduating from medical school, fulfilling my childhood dream of becoming a doctor.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

My core group of friends who I regularly see and keep in contact with are all OM's.

What's your driving force?

My driving force is and has always been to help people. My

main reason for becoming a doctor was because my dad was an investment banker, who, whilst during very well for himself, did not enjoy his job nor help people other than to make richer people even more so. He also had to travel a large amount and lived abroad until I was around 9 years old. I was and will always be grateful for the upbringing I had thanks to the sacrifices that my father made. However, it also made me realise from a young age that what I really wanted was to make a difference in the world and to come home at the end of the day feeling like I had done so. Whilst I am now in a position where this does occasionally occur, I am always striving to be better, so that I can continue to help others.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

My favourite and also most inspiring teacher was Mr Baker, who was my chemistry teacher for A Level. He was very intelligent and an excellent teacher but also always able to make the class laugh with his jokes/stories which almost always involved events that happened to him and his wife.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Winning the Rugby Middlesex cup in 5th form at Headstone Lane with our friends and family supporting us.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Finding out that we were nearly entered for the National Daily Mail school rugby cup and having beaten the team that won it on the way to winning the Middlesex cup!

IN MEMORIAM

Allan	Terry	09/11/2017	Weymouth	1945 - 1949
Apostolou	George	29/12/2015	Murray	1981 - 1983
Armistead	Keith	22/03/2017	Scrutton	1950 - 1956
Augur	Frank	01/06/2017	Scrutton	1946 - 1951
Burgoyne	Keith	14/03/2017	Murray	1948 - 1952
Butcher	Andrew	25/07/2017	Murray	1960 - 1966
Douglas	Ling Ling	01/01/2018	Weymouth	2012 - 2013
Elliott	Alan	17/10/2014	Winterstoke	1937 - 1942
Fielden	Mark	01/01/2017	Winterstoke	1948 - 1952
Gilchrist	Roderick	Mar 2017	Burton Bank	1950 - 1953
Grimberg	Joe	17/08/2017	Weymouth	1946 - 1951
Gunning	Arthur	25/12/2017	Ridgeway	1945 - 1949
Hastilow	Michael	06/05/2016	School House	1936 - 1940
Hobbs	Keith	08/03/2018	Winterstoke	1947 - 1952
Howell	Gareth	04/01/2018	Collinson	1955 - 1960
Hunt	Robert, OBE	01/01/2007	School House	1927 - 1930
Huston	Peter	10/02/2018	Ridgeway	1953 - 1958
Ibbotson	William	30/01/2017	Murray	1947 - 1950
Jarman	Brian	01/12/2016	Collinson	1949 - 1953
Johnson	Oliver	12/03/2018	Winterstoke	1953 - 1957
Lilley	Fred	01/03/2017	Ridgeway	1941 - 1945
Ousey	Christopher	17/03/2017	Winterstoke	1942 - 1947
Pelham	David	05/10/2017	Murray	1960 - 1965
Rees	Leslie	07/01/2017	Winterstoke	1944 - 1946
Reffell	Peter	Feb 2018	Ridgeway	1946 - 1951
Rochester	Foster, Rt Hon Lord	06/02/2017	Winterstoke	1930 - 1934
Ruthven-Murray	Paul	01/03/2017	Murray	1974 - 1979
Sellers	Mark	17/01/2017	Murray	1936 - 1941
Snow	Alan	01/01/2018	Murray	1953 - 1958
Stephenson	Desmond	01/07/2017	Collinson	1945 - 1950
Stonebanks	David	2017	Weymouth	1947 - 1952
Toulson	Roger, Lord	27/06/2017	Weymouth	1959 - 1964
Webster	Anthony, Dr	20/08/2017	Burton Bank	1953 - 1958
Williamson	Ian	05/05/2017	Winterstoke	1968 - 1971





Lord Toulson

Weymouth (59-64)

Roger Toulson was the first OM to serve as a Justice of the UK's ultimate court of appeal, now called "the Supreme Court", since Cyril Salmon retired in 1980.

Last year, he hosted a party of OMs and School members at the Court. He observed that until 2007 the building had been the location of the Middlesex County Council, and that at Mill Hill he was a beneficiary of the Middlesex Scheme, and now worked at the Court, which completed the circle.

He was the Guest of Honour at Speech Day on 24th September 2016, the first day of his retirement, having retired as a Justice of the Supreme Court on his 70th birthday on 23rd September.

At Mill Hill, Roger started in the 5th Form and spent four years in the Classical Sixth. He was Head of Weymouth and captain of the Athletics Team. He won a scholarship to Jesus College, Cambridge where he achieved first class honours.

For some time after leaving university, he played rugby for the Club as a wing three-quarter, briefly reaching the 1st XV, and regularly presenting himself in court on Monday morning bearing the scars of the weekend's rugby.

R. G. TOULSON (1959-64)
Weymouth; Modern Subjects/Classical VI; Monitor; Head of House; Games Committee; Entrance Scholarship 1959; Upper Classical VI Form Prize 1963; Cross-Country Team 1960-3; Athletics Team 1961-4 (Capt. '64); 4th XV 1963; Roger Spong Sports Cup 1962; Interim (Chairman); Koinonia (Secretary); Ancients Anonymous (Committee); Operatic Society (Hon. Sec.); Interpretes (ex-Hegemon); Christian Fellowship; Witan; Science Society; Playreading Society; Choral Society; Staff Sergeant in C.C.F.; Demonstration Drill Squad 1963-4; Reading Law at Jesus College, Cambridge; '11A Richmond Road, Ealing, London, W.5.

He was never in doubt about his career. He always aspired to be a barrister. He was called to the bar in 1969 and built a wide-ranging practice. He became a QC in 1986 and a judge of the High Court in 1996. From 2002 to 2006, he was Chairman of the Law Commission, the body which recommends law reform on specified subjects, which brought him into contact with the political classes. He was promoted to the Court of Appeal in 2007 and to the Supreme Court in 2013. Along the way, he co-authored a text book on Confidentiality.

In 1973, he married Elizabeth Chimes (now Lady Toulson CBE or Lizzie) who also qualified as a barrister, but chose to pursue a career in the voluntary sector, including serving as Chair of the WRVS (now RVS), Chair of the Children's Society, High Sheriff of Surrey for 2009-10, and member of the Guildford Cathedral Council and the governing body of Charterhouse School. Roger and Lizzie have 2 daughters, Susanna

and Rachel, and 2 sons, Henry and Thomas, and 7 grandchildren. Roger was devoted to his family.

He died in surgery on 27th June 2017 undergoing an operation for replacement of a heart valve which he was confident would enhance his ability to enjoy his years of retirement.

The vast swathe of letters from judges, barristers, court staff and many others pay tribute to his outstanding qualities as a judge, and previously as a barrister, and as a man of compassion, integrity, and complete lack of grandeur. Many people wrote to say how his guidance and support had helped them with their careers. He was always approachable and found time to help anyone seeking his advice. And he had an undying sense of humour.

In court, he was able to make complicated matters clear and comprehensible. His judgments were succinct.



In retirement, he hoped to enjoy walking, gardening, learning to speak German, and learning to cook. He liked to be busy and in his brief retirement he had already delivered lectures in Rwanda, was booked to undertake a lecture tour in New Zealand, was a member of the Supreme Court's Supplementary Panel covering the vacancy created by his retirement, was planning to become an arbitrator based at his old Chambers, was to be resident at Jesus College, Cambridge as the Goodhart Professor of Law for 2018-9, was to be a visiting fellow at Harris Manchester College, Oxford, and was in discussion with Surrey University over proposals to deliver lectures there.

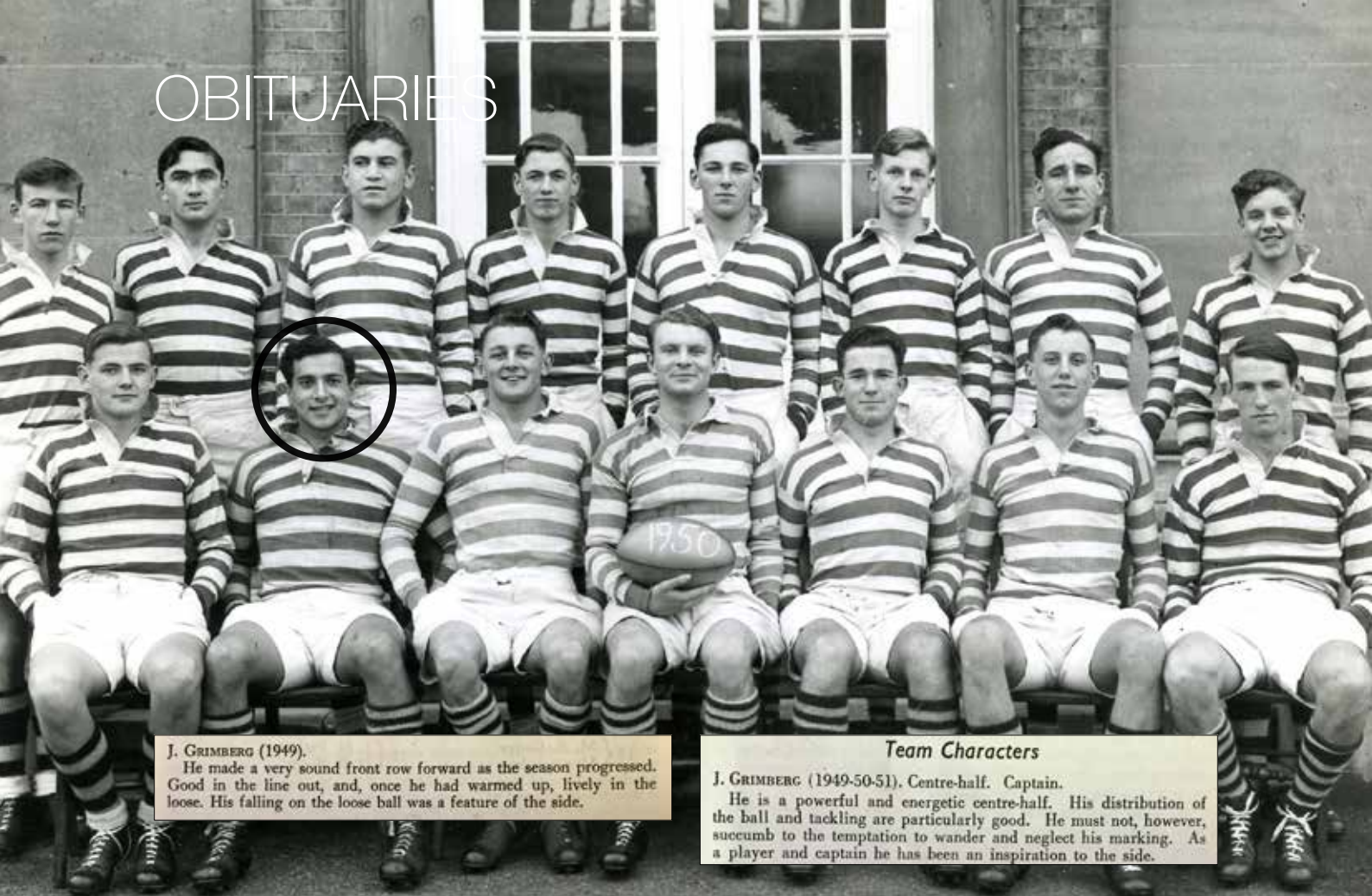
Lord Neuberger, President of the Supreme Court wrote: "He made great contributions to the law and to the administration of justice. He will never know the full extent of the impact that his considerate, thoughtful and encouraging nature had on the Court, the wider profession and the society we serve, but it is a legacy that we will all treasure."

Another colleague wrote: "He combined constant cheerfulness and good humour with an intense concentration, a determination to get to the bottom of any problems, and an endearing and completely misplaced modesty." Another wrote: "His death has grieved the profession in a way I've never seen. That speaks volumes, and in one clause reflects his humanity, wisdom, scholarship, and profound sense of public duty." A barrister wrote: "He was a delight to appear before. He had such a charming and courteous manner and always brought out the best in an advocate. His grasp of cases seemed effortless."

Alan Toulson (*Weymouth 55-60*)



OBITUARIES



J. GRIMBERG (1949).

He made a very sound front row forward as the season progressed. Good in the line out, and, once he had warmed up, lively in the loose. His falling on the loose ball was a feature of the side.

Team Characters

J. GRIMBERG (1949-50-51). Centre-half. Captain.

He is a powerful and energetic centre-half. His distribution of the ball and tackling are particularly good. He must not, however, succumb to the temptation to wander and neglect his marking. As a player and captain he has been an inspiration to the side.

Joe Grimberg

Scrutton (47-51)

Joe Grimberg died in Singapore on 17th August, 2017. He was 84 and his death was unexpected. He leaves behind five children and about 500,000 friends. He was a staunch Old Millhillian.

Joe and I met aged 13 and for the next 70 years we were close friends. We were in different houses at Mill Hill but we bonded on the playing fields of Mill Hill and on long coach journeys on away fixtures. Joe had a powerful (and tuneful) baritone voice and, in the team coach, he would lead our raucous singing.

Joe was an outstanding sportsman. He became captain of both cricket and hockey at Mill Hill and was a driving and courageous force in the first fifteen rugby side. At Cambridge he played

the occasional rugby game for the University but he should perhaps have concentrated on hockey, his best game. As a hockey centre half he would not be passed.

At Mill Hill he became Head of House and a senior monitor. He was a respected and hugely popular boy without enemies. His characteristics of charm and good grace never changed throughout his life.

Joe went to Magdalene College, Cambridge, there to read law and to earn a 2:1. He qualified in England at the Bar and then returned to Singapore to practice law at Drew & Napier where he became senior partner. Subsequently he was appointed a High Court Judge in Singapore.



Joe was a pillar of society in Singapore, a rock of the legal system. He became Chairman of the Tanglin Club, the premier social club in Singapore. He held the senior position in Singapore Government cricket administration and played regularly for the Singapore Cricket Club. His last cricket game was in July 2017 (aged 84) in which, batting at No. 10 and following a failed and ambitious hook to the square leg boundary, he fell to the ground. He had to be carted back to the pavilion – incapacitated but “not out”. Happy days Joe, and grateful memories too.

J. G. Dean, August 2017

J. GRIMBERG (1946-51), Weymouth; U. Mod. Lang. VI; Monitor July 1950; 1st XV 1949-50; 1st XI Hockey 1949-50-51 (Capt. 1951); 1st XI Cricket 1950-51 (Capt. 1951); Senior Athletics Team 1951; Squash V 1950-51; 1st IX 1948-49-50-51 (Hon. Sec. 1950-51); Games Committee; Executive Committee (Hon. Sec. 1951); Geographical, Playreading, Interim and Choral Societies; Sgt. in Army/C.C.F.; Cert. A 1949; School Cert. 1949; Headmaster's Prize for Scripture Reading in Chapel 1951; Entering Magdalene College, Cambridge; 31, Amber Road, Tanjong Katong, Singapore, Malaya.



Peter Huston

Ridgeway (53-58)

It is with great sadness that I have to report the death of Peter Huston, a stalwart Old Millhillian. We wish to send our deepest sympathy to Jan, his wife, and to Jennie, his daughter. He came to the school in 1953, and like many boys at that time, was a beneficiary of the Middlesex Scheme.

He considered that his greatest achievement was 'actually getting into Mill Hill, which was something of a miracle, after which it was downhill all the way.' He felt very strongly that he failed to reach his potential, having just failed to get into St. Catherine's College, Cambridge and turned down a second chance as he had been offered a job with Bovis. That lasted a year and he then joined Guardian Assurance.

During that time, apart from playing regularly for the Old Millhillians 1st XV, he was Captain and Secretary of the Combined Insurance Offices XV and played midweek against various

institutional sides and the Public School Wanderers (who he also played for).

He suffered the embarrassment of being picked for both sides at the same time, when they were due to play each other. He couldn't remember who he played for. By now he was working for IBM in London and then was transferred to Manchester in 1971. He played for Sale 1st XV, but only when their top players were on county duty.

Most importantly, from 1974 to 2006, he was the Local Secretary and Manchester Dinner Organiser for the North West area of the Old Millhillians Club, re-establishing it as an annual event.

He worked for various financial institutions in the area, but after he retired in 2004, he and his wife Jan went

to live near Bologna, in Italy to be close to their daughter, Jennie. He completed a few London Marathons, but he said that he could not have played for the Public School Wanderers had he not gone to Mill Hill.

He was an outstanding OM, an Oaker, and a great friend to many.

Quotes: "He was one of the good guys." "What a trooper and fine gentleman."

Gerry Westoby (56 - 61)



P. J. HUSTON (1953 - 58); Ridgeway; Upper Mathematical VI; Monitor, June 1958; Magazine Committee; Pearse Prize for Art 1955; 2nd XV 1956; Junior Athletics Team 1955, Junior Boxing Team 1954, Hammer Hounds 1958; Pythagoreans, Science Society, Playreading Society, Phoebean Group, School Orchestra; First Class Scout 1954, Corporal in Army/C.C.F.; Civil Engineering; 34, Old Kenton Lane, Kingsbury, N.W.9.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW



Weymouth
94 – 99

Alex Warnakulasuriya

I started at Grimsdell in 1996 and left Mill Hill in 2011. Over 15 years, I received a great education, every conceivable opportunity and friends for life. I went on to the University of Exeter, then Imperial College Business School. I started at the

Financial Times in 2016, and have been a staff writer in the FT Specialist group for nearly a year and a half. I have carried Mill Hill in my mind and in my heart since leaving the school, and look back fondly on my time there.

What were you like at school?

Jack of all trades. Master of nothing, really.

The funniest thing that has happened to you recently?

I regularly receive phone calls from a passionate reader, who likes to point out my weaknesses as a journalist. I don't always disagree with him.

If money wasn't an issue, what would inspire you to stay in your job?

I've always wanted to write about pensions.

What's the most interesting thing about you?

My friends.

What is your proudest moment and why?

Watching my best friend from school,

Will Magee, get married, with myself and another dear school friend Jack Weller looking on as his best men.

Do you keep in touch with any OMs?

Yes, though rarely beyond my close friends. I think it's healthy to branch out socially.

What's your driving force?

Repaying the faith of others.

Most inspiring teacher at school?

Peter McDonough, who was the first person in my life to give me confidence.

Which four famous people would you invite to a dinner party?

Donald Trump, Nigel Farage, Katie Hopkins and Boris Johnson. The food would be dreadful.

Favourite memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

After spending a season disgracing the 2nd XV wing without a try to my name, crossing the line twice in my final game for Mill Hill to win the match.

Worst memory from your time at Mill Hill School?

Finding out the day after I left Mill Hill that Saturday lessons were to be scrapped.

In the news story of your life, what would the headline say?

"Man drives to Dundee in bare feet, gorges on Toblerone"

If you won £10 million in the lottery, what would you do with the money?

Sponsor an athletics track at Mill Hill, and condemn generations of pupils to the misery of having to pronounce my name.



Old Belmontian



BELMONT

The Belmontian

Newsletter 2017

Dear all

It has been another very busy year at Belmont and when I reflect on Year 2 of Headship I feel like I need to lie down. We have new buildings being constructed, a new timetable, an exciting revamped curriculum, we've improved our admissions procedures, had great success on stage and on the sports fields and we also had a Regulatory Compliance Inspection in March! I am pleased to report that we met all the standards required by the Independent Schools Inspectorate and we are already starting to get ready for the next one!

I hope you will be pleased to hear about all the exciting developments that are taking place at your former school. Belmont is in a good place and demand for places from Grimsdell, Mill Hill Pre-prep, families has never been greater and this is also reflected in demand from external candidates for 7+ and 11+ entry. We have changed our admissions procedures this academic year by introducing team building and problem solving exercises and digital testing. We are trying to take the stress out of the assessments for the children, reduce the impact of tutoring and most importantly get a more rounded picture of the whole child. We currently have a pupil population of 490 and by September we will be over 500.

We continue to invest in our facilities and I am pleased to report that the Court of Governors approved the construction of two new buildings for Belmont. Our wonderful Science and classroom block, The Michael Proctor Building, is now joined by The Roger Chapman Building that provides brand new Computing facilities, a state of the art Design and Technology room and three spacious classrooms, all with stunning views of the grounds. At the bottom car park, the site of the old outdoor swimming pool, we have also started work on a new changing block for the boys. Just as exciting is the prospect of having the temporary huts removed from the Master's Lawn and the aesthetics at the front of the school being restored to their former beauty.

In addition there will be further work throughout the summer to enhance the offer for Belmont children including a spacious new Music Technology Room, enhanced provision for Food Technology and a revamped library. The new Library has a very modern feel and is equipped with 20 computers and lots of books! We have named the library the Lynda Mason Library after Belmont's first ever librarian who retired last year. Lynda set up the first library in 1989 and we were honoured that she returned to open the modernised version last September. Lynda sadly lost Rodney her husband last year. Rodney was a

huge supporter of the school and he helped out regularly with the French Exchange and played for the staff cricket team. We will continue to honour him in our annual Belmont staff cricket match where we compete against Mill Hill Staff for the Rodney Mason Cup.

These exciting new developments will enable us to start preparing Belmontians for the next exciting stage of their education; getting them 21st century ready for an uncertain world. The World Economic Forum predicts that 7 out of 10 children of primary school age will be entering into the world of work in professions that don't currently exist. So, as well as preparing children with the most up to date facilities and resources to help them become engineers, computer programmers and architects of the future just as important are the soft skills that we equip them with. The ability to work as part of a team, to have empathy, to problem solve, to be resilient and cope under pressure and to be adaptable are going to be vital skills in an uncertain world. The introduction of the Belmont House Carousel where children spend 1 or 2 lessons a week with either the Angles, Danes, Jutes or Saxons taking part in a range of activities that aim to develop these soft skills. Activities included in the Carousel are Forest Schools, Yoga and Mindfulness, Chess, Cooking and working in the Eco-Garden. This new initiative has enhanced the wellbeing of Belmontian children and has proved very popular with the children.

We have had considerable success on stage this year. Mr Warren and Mrs Russo composed the astonishing Year 8 musical 'David' We have had one Y7 girl gain a major part in Andrew Lloyd Webber's 'School of Rock' and she has gained some wonderful reviews from the critics. We also have a Year 3 pupil and one of our peripatetic music teachers, both gaining roles in 'Les Miserables'. Most recently, one of our Year 6 boys has gained a part in Eastenders,

On the sporting front our 6 A Side football team came 3rd in the National IAPS Football festival and both our Under 11



Old Belmontians' Day

July 5th 2018

and Under 13 Netball teams qualified for the IAPS Nationals. We introduced girls cricket as part of the curriculum replacing rounders as a major sport for girls. For the first time OBs attending Old Belmontians' Day were able to see the boys and girls playing cricket competitively at our festival. The introduction of girls' cricket has coincided with enhanced links with Middlesex Cricket and we are in the final stages of formalising a partnership that will make Mill Hill and Belmont the Home of Middlesex Girls and Women's Cricket.

As you can see, it has been an action packed year. Despite all these changes and initiatives we remain true to the core Belmontian values set out by Arthur Rooker Roberts in his often quoted letter written in 1923 to a pupil. Our Founder states that: 'No pupil is too young or too small to do a great deal and I want you to give your best.'

He goes on to say:

'I want you to remember that, however unimportant you may think yourself in the school, you can always do some little act of kindness to some other pupil – there is always someone whom you can help, and as the terms go by your power of helping will grow, and you will become a person of the kind that our country so badly needs'

The three things we ask of Belmontians today are to be kind, to try their best and to embrace challenge. I am sure that Arthur Rooker Roberts would be pleased with what Belmont looks like and stands for in 2017.

Last summer we said goodbye to some long serving members of staff including Sarah Roberts, my wife, who after 15 years at Belmont is going to work at a school closer to our home in Hertfordshire to avoid both of us doing the commute into North London. After 36 years of loyal service to Belmont as a Science Teacher, Head of Jutes and also Director of Studies, Mr Aubrey Haigh is going to hang up his goggles and lab coat. I know that many of you will have been taught by Mr Haigh, who is one of the kindest, modest and intelligent teachers you are likely to meet. I am sure you will join me in wishing Aubrey a long and happy retirement.

With all the new developments in place I hope that many of you will be able to join me for Old Belmontians' Day in 2018. I look forward to seeing many of you next year and showing off our new facilities.

Leon Roberts
Belmont Headmaster

BELMONT

When I took over from John Hawkins in 2004, I was the first female head in the School's history. The first question was what to be called! 'The Master' wasn't very appropriate, nor its female equivalent, so we settled on 'The Head'.

One of my first tasks was to appoint my replacement as Deputy and I was confident that the successful applicant, Leon Roberts, would soon make his mark in the School. Following on from John Hawkins' hard work, Belmont's good name and fairly recent move to co-education made it a popular choice for parents, but we were not to sit on our laurels as other local schools began to copy the successful Foundation co-education format, putting increasing pressure on recruitment. Revamps to the curriculum, structure of the day, and an even stronger focus on a broad education through an extended activity programme enabled us to meet the academic, social and emotional needs of the children without becoming the hot house that other schools had come to be. As parents came to realise that high academic standards and happy, fulfilled children are not mutually exclusive, applications to Belmont rose strongly. They doubled again when Governors dropped Saturday school at Mill Hill.

With pupil numbers rising and, in particular, the numbers of girls increasing, it was imperative that further investment in the School's accommodation was put into the strategic plan, especially as the old huts were long past their sell by date! Plans for the demolition of the huts and the erection of a large new building housing changing rooms, eight new classrooms and two laboratories were well under way when the financial crisis of 2008 hit and the plans were put on hold. Despite the general financial turmoil, numbers at Belmont continued to rise, breaking through the 410 mark, so Governors decided to split the building project into two phases. I was able to see the first phase completed, the Michael Proctor Building, with a hall, six classrooms and two laboratories opened by Professor Robert Winston in July 2014. I shared the pleasure of the staff and children who used the building, through to my retirement in July 2015.

I was delighted when the Governors appointed Leon Roberts as the new Headmaster, rather confirming my prediction! Leon kindly invited me back to Belmont to see the opening of the



second phase in September 2017. The new Roger Chapman Building, so appropriately named after Roger Chapman, Chair of Governors until recently and Belmont's link Governor with whom I worked closely for a number of years, looked fantastic. It was great to see the final piece of the building jigsaw in place and it sits perfectly in the space, making a second quad opposite the Jubilee Building.

Along the way in eleven years as Head, I was delighted to meet many Old Belmontians, especially Bernie Queneau who was as old as the School and had school reports written by its Founder Rooker Roberts! He visited us in his nineties but was just too frail to travel from his home in the USA to join us for our Centenary celebrations (and his hundredth birthday) in 2012.

That was a momentous year full of joyful occasions to commemorate the founding of the School. A joint concert with Mill Hill, a sports tour of the Caribbean, a magnificent service at the Methodist Central Hall in Westminster followed by a reception at the National Liberal Club, just a few of the wonderful occasions that children, parents and staff enjoyed.

What I like to remember about Belmont away from strategic development, meetings and inspections is the mist over the fields early in the morning, the sun setting over the cricket pitch, the hubbub of lunch as the children catch up on news with their friends, deadly rivalry between staff and parent teams on Quiz night, the lovely day that is the Old Belmontians' get-together and, of course, the occasional staff social in the Hammers!

Lynn Duncan *The Head (2004-2015), Belmont School*





Looking back twenty plus years the mid-nineties was quite a heady time in the development of Belmont. Since my arrival as Master in 1991 we had been looking to expand the school.

The Governors had asked me to investigate the possibility of opening a Pre Prep and, in addition, there was talk of introducing coeducation at Belmont, so that when I returned from a scholarship tour of schools in the States in 1993 full of new ideas the staff and Governors were supportive of a string of new initiatives.

Those years were something of a "roller coaster"; Grandparents Day, School Breakfast and "Whos who at Belmont" were all ideas resulting from my trip across the Pond. The introduction of an "Alumni Association", well established in many American schools, seemed the inevitable next step for Belmont. 1994 saw the start of the Old Belmontians and it was a particular joy for me when my predecessor, Gordon Smith, agreed to write a "History of Belmont" which enabled him to become fully involved at the birth of our new Association.

Launching Grimsdell, a year before the building opened, was quite an achievement. With the able assistance of Carole Adler, Heather Baim and Jill Clarke (our first Pre Prep staff appointment) we began recruiting in what is now the Belmont School Office so that by the time Pauline Bennett-Mills arrived



early in 1995 to be the first head we had secured 80 plus pupils using architects drawings and the school's good name! The formal opening of Grimsdell coincided with the beginning of coeducation at Belmont and in September 1995 twelve Year 3 girls began their Mill Hill career. The rest as they say is history with the introduction of eleven year old girls at Belmont a year later and by 2004 we were well on target for 50/50 coeducation.

The growth at Belmont and Grimsdell swelled the Foundation numbers beyond a thousand and much needed revenue was brought in at a difficult time for Independent Schools. I feel that I must pay tribute to the staff, who had to deal with so many major changes in such a short period. Their generosity of time and their care and understanding were hugely instrumental in the success of these developments.

John Hawkins (*Master of Belmont 1991-2004*)

Gordon Smith – Head 80-91

Recollections of specific occasions during my time at Belmont are legion, but my over arching memory is not of one isolated event but of a process.

The period of my régime as Master of Belmont saw a number of changes at the school, of which perhaps the most obvious were the cessation of boarding and the school's transformation into a five-day-week day-school.

However, a more significant change was one that would not have been apparent to the outside world or indeed to many of those at the two schools – for Grimsdell had not yet been founded – as staff or pupils; I refer to the position of the Master of Belmont in relation to the Court of Governors and his colleague at Mill Hill. (I say “his”, for it was assumed that the Master would be male!) When I first arrived at Belmont, the Master was frankly no more than a head of department rather than a headmaster.

For my first report to the Court, I was kept waiting outside the meeting until I was summoned; I made my report and then was expected to leave.

The possibility of business concerning the main school being of significance to the head of the junior school did not seem to be apparent, nor was it considered important for the Master to be present when Belmont matters were discussed and decided.

I made it my business to have Belmont recognised as a school and treated as a separate but integral part of the foundation; sympathetic governors helped in this quest, and by the time of my retirement, the Master attended all meetings of the Court and its sub-committees so that he was able to see how Belmont could affect or be affected by any policy under consideration.

Gordon Smith (*Master of Belmont 1980-1991*)

Reflections – Jon Bennett

This is a ‘second helping’ from the memories of John Bennett, who attended Belmont from 1947-1952. I don't know whether it was Dinky Toys which made us aware of cars. We used to run them along the low wall below the chapel which bounded the quadrangle. Super Toys – always Foden lorries in different guises – were the most sought after.

My letters home frequently began with, “Please would you send me?”, this request was always for a Foden of some description. But at 12s 6d they were very expensive and, as such, mother refused my weekly pleadings, leaving me to play with a tatty selection of well-worn vehicles. (Today, boxed and in pristine condition, these lorries can fetch more than £1000!)

Dispirited and unable to face the boys with the ‘super toys’, I turned my hand to marbles which could be won or lost, playing single games or by means of shies. While the latter gave one the opportunity for a big win, it was the uneven run of the quadrangle which limited my success in this respect. I did, however, have one triumph! It was a long distance shot at a lone shy with my most treasured marble, it was a gamble which I didn't really want to take. Standing almost outside the limits of the quadrangle, it was a lucky strike which, having avoided all the pitfalls and opposing gradients, hit home, taking with it Fatty Weissberger's much

admired and sought after blockbuster. Delirious with delight, I grabbed my coveted prize and stalked off before he had time to ask for a replay

About the size of a couple of tennis courts, the quadrangle was a roller skater's paradise. Here we could let off steam on eight wheels, as long as the skates remained attached to one's shoes. The secret was to ensure that the clips which gripped either side of the shoe were key-tightened securely. Unfortunately, shoes varied in size, width and sole thickness. It was a Cinderella syndrome. For no matter how tight the clips were, skates and owners often parted company at high speed, pitching the unfortunate wearer, with arms and legs flying in all directions, headlong onto the tarmac. The problem was eventually solved by the application of two straps which cut the injury rate immediately and saved the school a fortune in Elastoplast.

There were other forms of entertainment. Providing us with hordes of conkers, a large horse chestnut tree near the outdoor swimming pool was stripped naked in less than a couple of days. Playing the game was serious and sometimes painful business. Putting a skewer through a conker and then attaching it to a length of string was an art. With a hole too large, the conker would not only be structurally unsound but could also fly off at the first strike.

Thing string broke and cut into your hands while the thicker ‘hairy’ variety was less pliable and more difficult to aim with.

With string preferences sorted a large, finely skewered conker, correctly strung, would surely be a winner? No! And it was here that ‘science’ came into play. The secret was to harden them. Some were baked, while others were pickled in vinegar in the hope that such treatment would improve their longevity. Despite these treatments and many more, the usual winners were those that had been pocketed for a week or so. Dried out and shrivelled, they not only posed a more difficult target but also possessed a hardness which turned many of them into match winners.

Who could have been at school during those days without playing Cowboys and Indians? A cap pistol, tow if you were lucky, was the first essential. But these games were played out in darkness, with both sides armed with a torch. It was usually the team holding the most candle power that scored the most kills and won the day. The most sought after ‘weapon’ was a Pifco torch. Chrome plated and made in Hong Kong, they had a two-way ratchet twist which allowed their beams to be adjusted from wide down to almost a pinpoint in less than a second. Armed with such a light, adversaries were blinded and gunned down in the laurel bushes before they could return fire.

Belmont's Fighter Ace

John 'Bob' Braham (*Belmont* -36)

Over the century that Belmont has been a school hundreds of boys, and now girls, have passed through and gone on to a huge variety of careers.

Occasionally some of them have been thrust into the limelight by events beyond their control. One such boy was John Braham, who was at Belmont in the late 1920s and early 1930s. As he wrote in his autobiography 'Scramble', (1961, published by Hunt, Barnard & Co.)

My parents, after spending large sums of money on my education, hoped that I should adopt one of the more serious professions, such as the Ministry (father was a Church of England vicar) or perhaps medicine. Neither of these callings interested me, so soon after getting the School Certificate at Taunton, I left school in late 1936 and took a job as a boy clerk...

Soon bored of this routine, John applied for and was accepted into the R.A.F. and began to learn to fly in 1938. At the outbreak of World War Two he was serving in the 29th Squadron, equipped with Hurricanes, only for the squadron to be retrained as night fighters, using Blenheims, then Beaufighters. There was little success at first as pilots tried to find enemy aircraft in the dark skies by the use of flares and searchlights from the ground. Only when the development of early aircraft borne radar, AI, improved did the night fighters



become more effective. Braham first victory on 24 August, 1940 was because searchlights had pinpointed a German bomber which he and his gunner managed to shoot down.

After destroying 29 German aircraft as a night fighter pilot, Braham was shot down while flying a Mosquito fighter bomber over Denmark. He spent the remainder of the war as a POW.

After the war Braham emigrated with his family to Canada to serve in the Royal Canadian Air Force. In 1974 he died of a brain tumour at the age of 53.

However, his story isn't quite finished. As reported in The Mail on Sunday, "Antiques collector Jose Fernandez was trawling through a market on the Costa del Sol when a friend snapped up [a] helmet for 15 euros... Recognizing it as an authentic Second World War relic, Mr Fernandez persuaded his friend to part with it... But it was only when he got home and found an original document listing campaign medals with the initials of Group Captain Braham tucked inside the helmet that he realised who its original owner could be." When contacted, his eldest son Mike, a retired Canadian naval officer, said "I'd love to know the helmet's story. Obviously it's impossible to know if it was his, but it's certainly the right vintage."

Quite a few of us had hobbies. While I was an avid stamp collector, the most popular past time was aero modelling.

This was an all year-round hobby as there was more than enough space to get the model off the ground. Frog kits of all shapes and sizes abounded. Some were propelled by means of an elastic band, whilst the more expensive kits were powered by either 1cc or 2cc ED Bee or Mills engines.

The latter gave a new, dangerous dimension to the hobby. Mounted on a piece of wood and clamped securely to a desktop, they were not only notoriously difficult to start but were also responsible for some very sore fingers. No respecters of dawdling digits, they were high revving and had a tendency to suddenly burst into life. Lightening reflexes were essential and the ability to adjust the throttle, a tiny lever positioned on top of the cylinder head that was less than a quarter of an inch aft of a propeller turning at high speed, required nerve and considerable dexterity.

Model making sessions had an unforgettable aroma which hung in the nostrils. The smell of high octane engine fuel dispensed from oil cans with fine metal spouts, balsa cement and aero dope combined to such an extent it was a wonder that the occupants remained conscious. Any master entering with a cigarette or a pipe could have set off a chain reaction which would have blown the place to pieces! Just how any models managed to take to the air was a miracle.

It was Belmont which gave me my first introduction to banking, an opening with which, with a little application, I could have possibly have made success of in later life. Sadly, this was not to be. A pound was paid into your account at the beginning of term. Exeats were frequent. On each Saturday afternoon we were allowed to stroll down to Mill Hill Broadway. The young ones were always accompanied by a teacher while the ore senior boys went out unaccompanied. These trips had, of course, to be funded.

In order to do so a cheque for six pence – signed by Arthur Roberts – was made out and cashed. Armed with this princely sum, we were let loose to take the Broadway by storm. Just what could one buy for a tanner; Lemonade powder, liquorice root, sherbert fountains, packets of Symingtons's soup - always consumer raw - and, of course comics such as The Hotspur, The Dandy or the Beano. Foul-breathed and with our lips and mouths bright yellow we used to chew the liquorice root until it was in tatters and then wipe our faces with saffron-coloured hankerchiefs.

Many thanks to John for sharing his vivid memories of a long past Belmont School.



BELMONT



The “Lost Years” of Belmont

‘Is a school building still a school when it has no pupils?’ Other than an interesting philosophical question to ponder, this was a real issue for Belmont School at one point in its history. From its start in 1912 as a boarding house for the youngest boys at Mill Hill to the building of its own set of classrooms, chapel, extra boarding space and even a swimming pool, Belmont saw a steady increase in its pupil population. A J Rooker Roberts, its founder and first headmaster, successfully oversaw this development. When he decided to retire in 1937 his obvious successor was his son and fellow teacher, Arthur Rooker Roberts. Arthur had little time to make his mark on the school because events were about to force a major changes.

Increasing tensions with Nazi Germany caused many in Britain to make plans in case of war. There was a strong belief that war would bring mass bombing of military and civilian targets. Plans were made by Arthur Rooker Roberts to move his charges from their vulnerable site on the outskirts of London to Cumbria. There was even a practice trip with boys to the proposed site in Cockermouth in 1938. When war was declared in September 1939 Belmont School took quick action and the boys and some staff headed north. The school was established in the building used by a former girl's school, St. Helens, and the adjustments to war-time life began.

Belmont boys would have had a relatively easy transition to their new school life, compared to the trauma suffered by evacuated children from Britain's inner cities. Most were boarders used to being away from home and if the countryside was alien to many, the opportunities it presented to them soon outweighed the disadvantages. The war was to be a constant, but distant backdrop to their life, with rationing being the most persistent reminder. The difficulties of travelling to Cockermouth did lead to an interesting dynamic, a growing proportion of the pupils during the war years did not hail from London and the south but were more local boys from the northwest of England. As the school stayed in Cumbria from 1939 until 1946 this means that a good number of boys could claim to be Belmontians without ever setting foot in the school grounds in Mill Hill.

Wartime Belmontians seemed to have thrived in their surroundings. They were surrounded by the beauty of the Lake District and many took advantage of their chance to roam almost at will

on their bicycles. Because of petrol rationing the roads were almost empty and therefore safe for exploration. David Aston remembers:

We were all encouraged to bring bicycles to school and we were allowed out of the school bounds on bicycles provided we were accompanied by at least one other boy. More popular, however, were the organized rides which took place on nearly every Saturday and on some Wednesday afternoons as well.

The real highlight of the year was the four day tour when Arthur (Rooker Roberts) and Bob Chatterton would take a party of 8 senior boys on a cycle tour round the lakes with overnight accommodation in Youth Hostels. I went on two of these tours and I remember them with great pleasure. On both occasions we went over Wrynose and Hardknott Passes which at that time were not properly surfaced. . . .

Not everything was bucolic. Pupils had to wear their coats in the classrooms because the building used by the school was impossible to heat in the winter, Arthur Rooker Roberts found it difficult to keep his school staffed as the demands of war service and problems with housing played hob with his arrangements.

As for the school campus in Mill Hill, the buildings did not remain empty for long. The threat of bombing meant that a number of businesses and industries moved out of London and one, ICI, took over Belmont on the Ridgeway. Its employees enjoyed the use of the swimming pool and the tennis courts at first, but as the years passed little or no maintenance was carried out and the structure of the school suffered. Every part of the school was used, so that even the chapel served as a stationary store. Fortunately the school site was spared any bombing damage, although incendiary bombs did set local wooden fences alight and one incendiary device became lodged in the roof space of Mill Hill School, leaving scorch marks still visible today.

It was not until 1946 that the school could reclaim its buildings at Mill Hill. The years of neglect meant that it took some time for life at Belmont on the Ridgeway could begin to return to something like normal.





MERCHANDISE

Silk Ties

Country & Town	£35.00
Extra long	£41.00
Non crease	£35.00
Silk untied bow ties	£17.00
Cufflinks - Enamel	£16.00
Hat Band	£5.00

Golf Umbrella	£35.00
Blazer Badges	£12.00
Pashmina	£25.00
Silk Square	£25.00
Mens Scarf	£25.00

Does not include Postage & Packing.

Available to collect from the Club office.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS 2018

26th April	OM Lodge Meeting Innholders Hall, London EC4	21st June	Grand opening of the Collinson Memorial Garden
26th April	Upper Sixth Leavers Event National Liberal Club	5th July	Old Belmontians' Day 2018 Belmont School
30th April	Property Dinner National Liberal Club	4th September	Property Drinks Fino's Wine Bar
11th May	Engineer's Dinner Bleeding Heart, London	12th September	Legal Networking Event Wedlake Bell Offices
9th May	Liveryman's Luncheon Guildhall, London	22nd September	OMs Day 2018 Mill Hill School
24th May	OM Lodge Meeting Freemasons Hall	5th October	OMC Annual Dinner Chartered Accountants Hall
2nd June	East Anglia Drinks Reception Trinity College, Cambridge	7th November	OM Accountancy Drinks The Localist, Farringdon
14th June	Combined City & Entrepreneurs Event Lansdowne Club, London W1	8th November	OM Lodge Meeting Innholders Hall, London EC4
20th June	OMC AGM & Cocktail Party National Liberal Club	16th November	OMGS Annual Dinner & AGM East India Club, London SW1Y
		22nd November	OMRFC Dinner Merchant Taylors Hall