martlet

www.omclub.co.uk

Summer 2009 Issue 49

magazine



Dave Kelly first played for the 1st XV in 1981 aged 18, alongside the likes of Coakley, Calvert, the Allens, Leach and Rosenkranz.



is debut try is scored against Taunton on the Easter Tour of 1981. His first dance is with Richard Horton. Vik Gudenian ensures he undertakes the infamous One-Man Lift.

Kelly escapes Horton's clutches to university, hockey and football during the 1980s and re-emerges in 1989 after receiving several unsolicited phone calls from a Christopher Liddington. He returns to join the generation of Mensah, Akpofure, Peskin and Roberts. Bill and Gwen Ashworth smoke heavily in the bar.

Windsor Roberts brands Kelly the oldest winger in the club - aged 28.

In 1990, Kelly writes the first Down Your Lane – the first of over 100 issues of slanderous and libellous truths about the club. The launch issue covers the 1st XV, including the likes of J-B Darchy, Tim Jones, Gudenian, Robin Leach and Steve Robertson, beating Feltham 32-3, whilst Rogan Corbridge inspires the A's to a magnificent 3-3 draw.

Kelly spends the 1990s scoring tries and missing tackles. A quality team threatens to achieve greatness, as the likes of Adamson, Keller, Green and Leslie make their mark.

As his pace evaporates, the new millennium sees a move to inside-centre that proves that you can squeeze blood out of a stone. Alongside the likes of Nash, Goldberg and Leslie, Kelly enjoys a nine-year Indian summer in a formidable centre partnership with Jamie Adler.



Kelly scores his 100th try for the 1st XV on February 23rd 2002 at Headstone Lane, and announces the first of his seven retirements.

He finally hangs up his boots in April 2009, aged 47, having made more than 500 1st XV appearances and scoring over 125 tries in the process.



President's Update

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I have not worn a chain of office before.

This splendid decoration expresses strongly both the honour and the duty of the Presidency. It also conveys a sense of history and continuity because on the back of the links are engraved the names of all my predecessors commencing with the first President, Henry Spicer, appointed in 1879.

n addition to the honour and the duty, the Presidency is also immensely enjoyable and sociable. I have attended regional dinners in Manchester, Taunton and Cambridge, sporting lunches at Headstone Lane and Totteridge, professional dinners with engineers and scientists and men of property, drinks with the YOMS in the Three Hammers, and lunches with Past Presidents and Liverymen. I have also had plenty of opportunities to visit the School and have recently enjoyed attending the Leavers' Reception. I attended the Armistice Day ceremony and service and could not believe that I had not been in the Chapel for nearly 50 years. It was so familiar. On another visit, I was part of a large group of OMs, governors, parents and staff who saw the 1st XV beat Merchant Taylors to complete their season undefeated.

If the Chapel, the Gate of Honour, the Portico and the slope on Topfield remain unchanged, there is so much that is new. It is a pleasure to admire all the developments at the School and to observe the energy and enthusiasm of the School community.

The biggest event of my first half-year was the Golf Society's Centenary Dinner held at Lord's in December when I drew great encouragement from the strength of the Society and of the current success of the School team.

In February, Andy Mortimer, Jim Kent and I with our wives visited Tony and Lucy Fitzjohn in Mkomazi and held the first recorded OM Tanzania Dinner.

The highlights of the second half-year were the inaugural Swiss dinner, the Australasian weekend in Melbourne and the North America dinner in New York.

I would like to pay tribute to all the OMs who organise these events and to those who manage our sports teams and other activities. I also pay tribute to Andy Mortimer, Tim Corbett and Shalaka Karlekar who are central to all our activities.

Alan Toulson President

Deaths		
NAME	TITLE	DATE OF DEATH
DODDS John	Mr	11.06.2009
GRIFFITHS Graham	Mr	03.05.2009
HAMILTON-GRAY Peter *	Mr	27.04.2009
KEEN Donald	Mr	21.02.2009
LAING Kirby	Sir	12.04.2009
RUHEMANN Stephen	Mr	11.02.2009
SIGLEY Derek	Mr	07.07.2009
STRINGER Richard *	Lietenant Colonel	04.03.2009
TREWIN Richard *	Mr	07.07.2009

* Old Millhillian Club Member

Honorary Secretary's Report

Members should have received in June the detailed Chairman's report which Andy Mortimer and I put together and gives a detailed review of key issues. But here are some brief comments for those who have not read that report.

First of all many thanks to Andy for taking over the Chairmanship of the Club from John Watkiss, a role Andy has flung himself into with vigour and enthusiasm. Importantly he and Ronny Cohn appear to have almost resolved the problems of Headstone Lane, whereby we will be able to protect the long term freehold without incurring the short term and unsustainable drain on Club finances. The Cricket Club playing their second season as Totteridge Millhillians and with former player lan Hutchinson running the School cricket, links between Club and School should remain strong.

The final meeting and dinner of the St Bees Association was held on Saturday 4 April. With increasingly fewer members being able to attend events it was reluctantly decided to bring the formal meetings of the Association to an end. A full report appears elsewhere in the magazine but congratulations to all those who did so much in the organisation over the years, particularly the founders, David Smith and Michael Berry.

Although we are still looking for a Treasurer, we have been very grateful to Ann Bunyard, who does two hours book-keeping each week. The credit card payment system for event tickets and merchandise is working well and we are also intending to complete the setting up of a direct debiting system this autumn when we shall encourage members to transfer from standing orders to direct debit when paying their membership.

With generous support from the School, we are investing in a new website. The site should look very good and will have the mechanism to enable us to be much more proactive in keeping members updated with news etc. Many thanks to Roger Streeten, who ran the original site, and we hope he will continue with his excellent design work of Martlet and other publications. New and fuller information will be available on the website, such as extended obituaries, which we have not been able to include in the magazine.

We have emailed all Club members about the necessity of producing the School magazine on-line. We successfully trialled the 'turn a page/online' publication with younger and overseas members last year and hope to introduce the facility generally this year. This has to be done because of the cost of postage, the size of the magazine and 'green' issues but we shall endeavour to accommodate those who wish to continue with their collection of hard copies. We are also exploring the possibility of putting the magazine on a CD rom.

We are now running a careers service from the office, both to offer guidance to present pupils and to support younger Old Millhillians at and after university. Many thanks to all those who have offered their help (over 50 members responded to the initial email) and the service is now in operation. It is a facility such as this that will enable us to offer more to younger members and we hope that many will take advantage of it. If you would like to help, please get in touch with Shalaka in the office.

Our links with the School are very strong and we welcome Berinda Banks as a new staff liaison member of the Committee. We urgently need to find ways of attracting participation from the younger generations of both sexes. Obviously the Club was founded on its sporting traditions but other opportunities and areas of interest need to be developed: careers support is clearly an area where we can make an impact and it was also good to see so many younger attendees at the highly successful Property Dinner and the recent inaugural City dinner organised by Solon Satanas.

Finally, this is a members' club: it can only thrive and develop if membership is strong and if individuals feel willing and able to contribute with their views and suggestions. We want to hear from you so please feel free to let us have your thoughts; they are most welcome.

Tim Corbett Honorary Secretary

OM Club www.omclub.co.uk

Nobis et Scholae

been easy ones for the country as economic recession, political turmoil and the threat of pandemic illness have combined to create a national mood of uncertainty and pessimism. Fortunately, Mill Hill has so far managed to buck the trend of despondency as our pupils have continued to achieve further great successes in many fields of endeavour.

At the heart of the work of each of the three Foundation schools is, of course, the pursuit of academic excellence. The summer of 2008 saw the senior School's best ever results at GCSE, AS and A level and excellent SATs results from Belmont and Grimsdell. We are now working hard to make still further strides and thus ensure that each of our pupils obtains the very best academic results of which they are capable.

For me, one of the most pleasing aspects of the past year has been the fact that academic success has been achieved alongside some

extraordinary extra-curricular achievements proving, if proof were needed, that the two things are far from mutually exclusive. Perhaps the most obvious success of the year was the 1st XV's unbeaten season and it was wonderful to see so many OMs on the touchline supporting the boys in their last fixture against old rivals Merchant Taylors'. At the same time, many of our other teams have also enjoyed wonderfully successful seasons. At all levels, our hockey players have showed great class, especially the girls' 1st XI who retained the county championship, finished joint second out of eight schools at the South East regional finals and came third at the St George's six-a-side tournament. Our cricketers have picked up where the rugby and hockey players left off and, at the time of writing, the 1st XI have scored six straight victories in highly competitive matches. There have also been very good performances in netball, swimming, fives, athletics and tennis whilst our golf team recently qualified for the

National Finals of the Independent Golf Association tournament at St Andrew's.

There have also been many other achievements, ranging from a wonderfully vibrant performance of Sandy Wilson's musical The Boyfriend to some outstanding vocal and instrumental performances by our musicians. The CCF has maintained its high standards, engaging in a wide range of military and adventurous training, and the Corps of Drums has continued to flourish, being once more invited to perform at a wide range of ceremonial events outside the School. Meanwhile, our partnership projects in Nicaragua and Tamil Nadu have gone from strength to strength, to the benefit of both our project partners and the many Millhillians who actively support them.

At the end of the summer term, we said farewell to two very great and long-standing servants of Mill Hill, both of whom will be well known to generations of Old Millhillians. Mr Trevor Chilton leaves after a highly successful career as Head of Biology, the Housemaster of Collinson House and the architect of the Nicaragua partnership project. Dr Tony Armstrong, meanwhile, embarks upon a very well-deserved following retirement conspicuously successful career as a member of the Modern Foreign Languages department and as a former housemaster Weymouth House. Both will be greatly missed.

These are only a few of the highlights and headlines from what has been another busy, productive and successful year for the School. It has been a great pleasure to the continued witness achievements of our pupils, just as it has been to experience once more the huge support that the Old Millhillians afford us. I look forward to working closely with the Club over the next year as we seek to achieve still greater successes for the School that we all hold so dear.

Dominic Luckett 2.vii.08

YOMS

Are you needing career advice?

The Old Millhillian Club is always looking for ways in which it can support the younger members.

We now offer a career service so that YOMs (either at university or looking for a job) can get advice or possibly even help from an older Old Millhillian. We have a growing database of over 50 OMs who would be happy to be contacted or to help in some way. But all enquiries need to be made through the Club office. So you will need to ring Shalaka Karlekar on 020 8906 7949 if you wish to use this service.



Financial Help for YOMS in further education



Are you a University student looking for an academic grant or bursary?

If you are in further education and a former pupil of Mill Hill you should be entitled to apply for a bursary or an award from the Schools Competition Act Settlement Trust if you would like some financial support for a course. If you go to the website www.scast.org.uk you will find an explanation and details of the awards available.

Provided you are 18 and under 30 and it is more than six years since you first attended Mill Hill School you are eligible.

The objects of the Trust are to:

- ♦ Make awards or bursaries to beneficiaries which can be used in pursuit of higher or further education;
- Provision of financial assistance, including equipment and travel, to beneficiaries in the pursuit of their studies or research;
- Otherwise furthering the education of the beneficiaries.

As you will see from the website, the awards are not insubstantial and since there are only 50 contributing schools, it is well worth investigation: as



well as General Bursaries there are awards for Post Graduate education and research and you can get support for a particular educational project such as a medical elective.

YOMS

do you need support for a particular project or activity?

Remember that the Old Millhillian Club also offers sponsorship if you are undertaking an unusual or special activity (charity bike ride, working on a project abroad, whatever).

The amount is limited but a number of previous recipients have found the support most helpful.

Again you can apply and get details through the office.

Past Events

Australian National Weekend in Melbourne



Winter arrived just ahead of the President's touchdown from London on very much a "fly in / fly out" visit to Australia for the annual weekend celebrations held this year in Melbourne. Fortunately our greetings and celebrations were warmer than the weather!

riday night was once again an informal party, which kicked off the weekend at the EQ Café Bar on Melbourne's Southbank underneath the spire of the Arts Centre directly looking across the Yarra River at Flinders Street Station. In addition to our President, we were able to welcome Aruna Buchanan Brown (née Sicka) and her husband Richard who are



undertaking their "round the world honeymoon" and who drove from Sydney in a camper van specially to join us. Thank you for such a superb effort - we very much enjoyed your company plus you reduced the average age by several years in the process!!



The venue for this year's National dinner was the RACV Club in Melbourne CBD and we were spoilt. A picture perfect table for 26 awaited us with some of the best food, wine and service Melbourne has to offer. Everyone will remember the dinner as a memorable event.

For our interstate travellers, the final celebration was

a superb Sunday lunch (again) in the home of Robin and Judy Tillyard in their beautiful farm home on the Mornington Peninsula an hour and a half SE of the City. A roaring log fire, beautiful home cooking, excellent wine, warm

hospitality and Old Millhillians together creates a special atmosphere which is hard to find anywhere else.

The Australian National Committee met by telephone conference 3 times during the year. Minutes of meetings and other progress updates continue to be emailed to OMs across the region. As a result of the partnership



between the OMC Office in NW7, our own ears and eyes as well as Maureen Hatcher's tireless efforts from all corners of the globe to interrogate web sites and find new "lost OMs", we now have some 70 OMs on our Australasian list. Mike Hailey has compiled a new database giving us the capability to also sort and analyse our membership base. Guy Pollock is assessing alternate electronic media ways of reaching out to the membership in the region. Justin Wernham brings unstoppable enthusiasm and support to the team. My thanks to the Committee for their time and support. We hope to welcome back Ross Stephens in 2010 from a boat trip round the planet. Following the successful launch of the Victorian BBQ event last November, we intend to repeat this function in 2009 and hopefully extend the concept north to NSW in and around the same time of the year. Our main social focus remains the National celebrations which will take place in Sydney in 2010 in / around Saturday 12th June 2010. We look forward to seeing as many OMs with us as possible and hopefully many of the new contacts found in and around Sydney over the last couple of years.

Attending across the weekend were:- The President, Roy and Angela Hanson, Mike and Linda Hailey, Justin and Emma Wernham, John and Margaret Fereday, Robin and Judy Tillyard, Aruna and Richard Buchanan Brown, John Ousey, Dan and Bernie Penson, Gary and Julie Yorke, Alistair and Jenny MacLennan, Randy and Kerryn Marshall, Jo and Peter Smith, David and Maggie Stannard. What a great way to spend a weekend!! **David Stannard**

The Old Millhillians City Dinner



There are a number of Old Millhillians dinners that are well established - including the Property Dinner; the Lawyers Dinner; regional dinners as well as the main dinner. So, is there a place for another dinner ?!

Well, it evolved rather than being planned by a marketing

department. A City drinks party to promote the Mill Hill Foundation Appeal was initiated by Nick Priestnall (Director of the Appeal) and several have now been held with good numbers attending. Following one of these last year Nick Priestnall, Solon Satanas and Alistair Marsella met

in The Holly Bush Hampstead to discuss the idea of holding a City Dinner. This was with a view to build networking and aid the MHS Foundation and above all to have an enjoyable dinner. Subsequently, Mortimer suggested Andrew organising a 'pie and mash' at a private room in a pub within the



Square Mile. Accordingly, reconnaissance was undertaken and a room in The Counting House, Cornhill was discovered and in due course the 3rd June was set. The consideration arose of how to interpret The City, since its activities have spread both east and west. Hence, the term was interpreted as descriptive regarding the type of activity as opposed to strictly geographical. Approximately two dozen attended including Dominic Luckett. Solon set the scene. Dominic Luckett provided an update on MHS. Paul Bickerdike (former master) spoke about the Indian Tamil Nadu project and Nick Priestnall spoke about the Foundation Appeal. There was an excellent spread of ages present, including leavers from 1957 through to 2004. The food and wine were thoroughly up to par and new contacts were made in thoroughly convivial surrounds. Hence, it can be reported that the aims were realised of enjoyment while raising awareness of the ongoing appeals. A date will be set for another next year and an outside speaker might be invited to cover a relevant city topic.

Alistair Marsella

The Old Millhillians East Anglian Dinner Friday 24th April 2009

This year we again resumed our peregrinations and dined at Trinity College by the kind invitation of Mike Proctor. The Reception was held in the beautiful surroundings of the Old Combination Room overlooking Great Court and the dinner next door in the Allhusen Room. As an experiment the reception was extended to an hour to enable more time to be spent socialising and enjoying the excellent sparkling wine, an experiment which will be repeated in future.

The guests were the Club President Alan Toulson, the Headmaster Dominic Luckett and the Chairman of the Court of Governors, Mike Proctor. It was a delight to welcome among the thirty six people present William and Margaret Winfield and their son and daughter Edward and Frances, both OMs up at Cambridge, and another undergraduate OM Flora Lai.

To perpetuate the memory of the founder of the dinner Tony Bell, the loyal toast was followed by a new toast to his memory. David Short then welcomed all OMs and their guests, especially those who had travelled long distances to be present, and then proposed a toast to the President and the Old Millhillians Club. Alan Toulson replied and spoke about his hopes for more involvement in the Club by younger OMs and how heartened he was by the presence of the three undergraduates. He then proposed a toast to the Headmaster and the School.

In his reply, Dominic Luckett gave a resumé of the School's strong progress on both the academic and sporting fronts, but warned of the problems that any prolonged recession might bring to public schools.

After the speeches the usual lively question and answer session ensued becoming more animated as the port and wine circulated. Finally at 11.30pm the dinner ended although rumour has it that a few members who shall be nameless were still celebrating well into the early hours of the morning.

David M.V. Short

Engineers & Scientist's Dinner



The Engineers' & Scientists' Dinner was held at the St Ermin's Hotel in London on 22nd April and 26 OMs and guests attended a very pleasant and sociable evening along with an excellent meal. For the first time we extended the invitation to all OMs who have a career, academic or other interest or connection with science as well as engineering to better reflect the modern development and application of technology.

We were delighted to be joined by the President Alan Toulson, who proposed the toast to the School, and by Deputy Head Andrew Gaylor who gave us an interesting update on school developments and activities and proposed the toast to the Club.We were also pleased that Harry Barnes, Head of Design and Technology at School could join us, and as has become tradition, brought along 3 future OMs with interests in Technology. We were also joined by Professor Mike Proctor, Chair of the Court of Governors and himself a distinguished science/mathematics don at Cambridge.

This was the first dinner under "new management"; David Rodda received a vote of thanks from all those present for having organised the dinner so successfully for so many years. We were delighted to see David and Marjorie at the dinner and hope that they will attend many more.

I believe there are many more OMs with interests and connections to engineering and science, and I hope that more will join us in future. In 2010 the dinner will be on Friday 21st May and will be held at the School where we shall have the opportunity to visit the latest science & technology facilities and see some of the students' work.

List of attendees: Alan Toulson (55-60 OMC President); Andrew Gaylor (Deputy Head); Harry Barnes (Master); Michael Proctor (Chair of Governors); Fred Daemache Marshall; James Ellis; Samantha Cailler; Richard Amunugama (88-93); Ronnie Aye Maung (45-50); Joan Aye Maung; David Harrison (65-70); Ray Hubbard (46-51); Dorothy Hubbard; Clive Mence (53-57); Kurt Metzer (46-50); Sylvia Metzer Anton; Angela Mizner; Gordon Mizner (65-69); Mark Morter (68-73); Tim Poole (73-78); Graeme Roberts (65-70); David Rodda (45-50); Marjorie Rodda; Nigel Ward (63-67); Alan Woollaston (45-50); Unfortunately Brian Woolf (37-39) and Vera Woolf couldn't attend at the last minute.

St Bees Association

The weekend of Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th April saw the final formal gathering and meeting of the St Bees Association. The occasion was inevitably one of mixed emotions, both of sadness and celebration: the Association was started by CDL David Smith and Michael Berry in 1988 to celebrate the Schools remove to St Bees during the Second World War but



The members stayed at Low Wood Hotel on Lake Windemere and some arrived on the Friday evening, Formalities began with the AGM on the Saturday at 5.30 pm with 15 members in attendance and presided over by Peter Hamilton-Gray. Thanks were made to everyone who had worked so hard for the Association including the two founders, and the previous secretary, Gordon Wren: Jean Clarkson, who lives in St Bees and helped with events over many years, was unanimously voted an Honorary Member.

The AGM was followed by a dinner, generously provided by Michael Berry's sons, Simon and Tim. A number of informal speeches included an entertaining contribution by Katherine Whitehorn, daughter of 'The Baron'. One of the first recorded events at St Bees supposedly was the young Katherine playing chopsticks on a recently downloaded piano at St Bees Station. Former pupil Roy Mills remembered bringing his bicycle as a boy and the freedom that had given him.

The following day's coach tour included a visit to St Bees School and the party were shown round by Jeff Evans, former Mill Hill master and now Head of English, at St Bees. Jeff will always be willing to show round any OM visitors, who just have to contact him at the School .The day concluded with an informal buffet lunch at the Masters Common Room, Queens Hotel, in the High Street.

So the Association has sadly come to a formal closure but there will be some informal get-togethers and anyone who has been connected with St Bees is welcome to meet at Mill Hill School from 12.00 pm on Old Millhillians/ Foundation day on Saturday 26th September, in the Waiting Room to the right of the Main School entrance.

Sadly we have to report that Peter Hamilton-Gray (Collinson 42-46) died only a fortnight later on Monday 27 April, having stoically braved illness both to attend and chair the reunion.

Finally a big thank you to David Petrie for all his hard work in administrating the winding up of the St. Bees Association.



SWISS OMs INAUGURAL DINNER MAY 29TH

The Swiss OMs inaugural dinner took place at Villa Sassa against the backdrop of mountains and Lake Lugano. The President, Alan Toulson, and his wife Sarah



joined locals Peter and Anita Wakeham along with Arthur Ferryman, Graham and June Fear, Ronny and Denise Boon and Marcel and Cherill Mann. Terry Allan was unable to attend due to grandparenting duties in the USA. The group made a weekend of the occasion and also attended a concert in a mountain village given by the leading Swiss soprano, Noemi Nadelman. It is intended to make this dinner an annual event and to rotate venues so that OMs get to meet up in different parts of Switzerland.

OMREC VICE PRESIDENTS' REUNION & LUNCHEON

The Rugby Club Vice Presidents' Reunion and luncheon was held before the 1st XV league match against Old Actonians on 7 March 2009. This was not the original plan as the Reunion had been proposed for January when a friendly had been scheduled against one of our oldest rivals, Old Merchant Taylors'. Unfortunately OMTs' had to back out due to an unexpectedly good run in the Middlesex Cup.

Perhaps this disappointment affected the numbers attending, but in any event 42 OM's and their guests sat down to a most enjoyable luncheon provided by OM caterer, Nick Leon. Amongst those present was our current President, Alan Toulson and his wife Sarah, and 4 former Presidents. On the pitch, the OMs started poorly and were soon trailing. A second half fightback, cheered on by the crowd on the touchline got the OMs within striking range. However, it was not to be their day when a late try by Actonians settled the result. Final score, 36 - 49. Once again it was remarkable how the XV raised their game to match the support on the

We do not have a date yet for next season as the fixture list has not been issued, but it should be available in time for the 2010 OM Calendar. Please watch out and put the date in your diaries.

TANZANIAN DINNER

On Monday 9th February 2009, in the heart of the Tanzanian bush, in Mkomazi, we celebrated the achievements of one of the Club's great adventurers, Tony Fitzjohn and



his wife Lucy, our hosts. Tony has been working in Mkomazi, an area of 1,600 square miles, for 20 years restoring the fauna and flora. He also manages black rhino and wild dog breeding programmes and an outreach programme supporting local villages. As the reward for his efforts, Tony was awarded the OBE in 2006 and Mkomazi gained National Park status in 2007.



In the afternoon, we went on a drive and enjoyed sundowners in wonderfully warm February weather. Then we returned to camp for dinner looking out over the Reserve

towards Kilimanjaro. Tony proposed the loyal toast and speeches followed. Those attending were Tony and Lucy, Gordon Bird, Jim and Gill Kent, Andy and Georgina Mortimer, Alan and Sarah Toulson.

PAST PRESIDENTS LUNCH Eleven past Presidents and guests Club Chairman, Andy Mortimer and Club President Alan Toulson, gathered for the annual Past Presidents lunch which was held at the Army and Navy Club on April 16th, Past President Gowan Bewsher was the senior member there (President 1992/3) and as is tradition, the immediate Past President organised the event. After P/P Stuart Hibberdine nearly choked on his red wine it was clear that the wine was past its best and the Club arranged for new bottles which was appreciated. It was great to see P/P Ronnie Samuels in attendance after a long illness and he has suggested that the lunch be held at the National Liberal Club in future which is the home of the OMs Club.

LIVERYMAN'S LUNCHEON 6th May, Guildhall, London

The Liverymen's annual lunch was held at Guildhall on 6th May with 27 attendees and our Club President, Alan Toulson, was guest of honour. We were entertained to three excellent speeches and many thanks again to Archie Galloway for his organisation.

PROPERTY DINNER 23RD APRIL

This was an excellent occasion with over 60 people attending, and most importantly a wide range of ages, with a number of younger members enjoying their first OM event.

The Cavalry and Guards Club provided a stylish venue with good food and wines. The Headmaster was Guest of Honour with Stuart Hibberdine in the Chair. A superbly organised event by Mike Peskin.

AGM & COCKTAIL PARTY

The AGM was held on Thursday 25 June at 6.30pm at the National Liberal Club.



THURSDAY 25TH JUNE 2009



Future Events

The Annual Dinner

Friday 16th October 2009

We are delighted to have been successful in booking the Nash Room at the Institute of Directors, 119 Pall Mall, for the Annual Dinner. This elegant room accommodates 250 diners on round tables of 10 persons.

Following last year's successful dinner at Lord's, we hope to have another excellent turn-out. Husbands, wives and partners are most welcome. As usual, we will entertain representatives of the Common Room and the School Monitors. The Head Master will report on the School year and we will induct our new President, David Short. The ticket price includes pre-dinner and table wines. From 10.30 pm until midnight, there will be a cash bar.

Enclosed you will find a ticket application form. We will be grateful if you would seize the moment to fill it in and return it promptly to Shalaka at the Club Office.

Alan Toulson



European Weekend May 2010

The next weekend will involve a visit to Berlin – a venue requested by several of you who have been on the previous weekends.

Planning for the weekend is proceeding well with help from Christian Maisz and Kristof Kleemann in Germany and David Rodda in the UK. These former pupils, who attended Mill Hill in the late 1980s, volunteered to provide the German input and good communication has been set up with them. A weekend in May will probably be selected in line with previous weekends.

If you are interested in attending, please contact David Rodda, email **chestnuts0439@hotmail.com** as soon as possible.

OMs USA Dinner in New York

DATE Saturday 3rd October 2009 **TIME** 7pm Cocktails, Dinner at 8pm **VENUE** Cellini's Restaurant,
65 E 54th St, New York NY



CONTACT
Donald Haigh
EMAIL
haighsf@comcast.net

This years dinner is being held in New York and invitations are being sent out to resident OMs in North America, but others from overseas are very welcome.

Saturday 28th November 2009

Hong Kong

Dinner

There will be a dinner for Old Millhillians and other members of the Mill Hill community in Hong Kong.

The Headmaster, Dr Dominic Luckett and Foundation Appeal Director, Nick Priestnall will be there.

For further information or to book your place, contact Sanjay Mahtani on 852 98312717 or sanjay@mantraintl.com

School Choir

Old Millhillians, friends and parents are warmly invited to come and sing choruses from Handel's glorious oratorio Messiah on December 3rd 2009.

The second half of the School concert will take place in the Chapel where the combined guest performers will join forces with the main school choir to perform Part I and the Hallelujah chorus.

There will be dedicated rehearsals on the three Monday evenings prior to the event between 7-9pm for all who wish to sing.

If you would like to be involved in any way, please contact the music office on 0208 906 7927 for further details.

I look forward to seeing (and hearing) you later in the year.

Richard Allain Director of Music, MHS

BIENNIAL RUGBY DINNER 2009

Friday 4th September
Marriott Grosvenor Square, London W1

TICKETS: Members £80.00 Students £60.00

CONTACT

Noyan Nihat 07764 222007 nnihat@evolutiondm.com

Chit Chat

(Feel free to contact the Club Office with news and photos about your achievements, interesting stories and anecdotes)

Australian Wildfires

David Stannard sent us this report about the recent devastating Australian Wildfires in February

'We have an ever increasing number of OMs in and around Melbourne these days; my family live right on the NE fringe of Melbourne and the main centre of horror took place about 20km to the north. The event was caused by freak conditions: the temperature went up to 47C, there had been no rain since December and the wind was a very hot and gusting northerly. Consequently the fire pattern that emerged was more like a firestorm or fireball than a "normal" Aussie slow moving bush fire. The speed at which it travelled was much faster than one could run or even drive, covering one km every minute. Nothing could stop the fire

John Lennon also writes from Australia

'Donald Trounson (Collinson '23) passed away on the morning of the 30th January. He was comfortable and with all his things around him and his beloved Bach which we had playing. His funeral was held on the 6th February, a sad day. He was 103 years old.'

until it reached a point where it ran out of fuel. With temperatures in excess of 1000C, everything in its path was either burnt, killed or melted. It was very ugly. We could see flames on a ridge some 10km away one night but happily the wind was blowing the other way. Pictures suggested a war zone. These situations do bring out the best in Australia and the response here has been quite David Stannard unbelievable.'

Hong Kong The Old Millhillians Club

coordinator in HK, Sanjay Mahtani (School House '88) with a little help from Shalaka in the Old Millhillians Club office had worked really hard to get a group of Old Millhillians together for an evening. In addition to those in the picture, Graham Harris (Winterstoke '69) attended but had to leave prior to the photo being taken. It was a great evening not least because many of those who attended had not met the

others. New friendships were formed and a great networking opportunity created. Nick Priestnall also met Lou Dapeng (Winterstoke 1952), described by his contemporaries as an outstanding rugby player who, had he stayed into the sixth form, would have been a 1st XV player. He went back to Beijing where he was a successful athlete and later sports administrator. He created the Chinese Rugby Federation, became a Vice-President of the IAAF and ultimately Chairman of the successful bid committee for the Beijing Olympics.

Iron Man

Congratulations to Colin Nunn, Secretary of the Old Millhillian Golf Club, on recently taking part in and completing an Ironman competition in Nice, France. This endurance race consisted of a 2.4 mile sea swim, a 12 mile bike ride with 6,000 feet of climbs, and a full marathon. Colin took just over 15 hours and though he was towards the back of the field there were 200 who failed to finish (some 2500 took part). Colin's post-race comments echoed those of Sir Steve Redgrave, after an exhausting Olympic race, about not letting him near a boat again.

Outstanding Service

John Cranwell (Winterstoke 48-53) reports that he has been awarded a Paul Harris medal by his Rotary club for outstanding service to the Club and community

Congratulations

to RCA FitzGerald (Murray 37-39) who has been awarded a MBE. He was a past Master of the Honorable Company of Gold and Silver Wyre Drawers.

COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS 2ND NOVEMBER 2009

North American Old Millhillian Dinner 2008

On September 20th 2008 The North American OMs held a lively event at the Royal Canadian Yacht Club on Centre Island, City of Toronto. They came from near and far and, for a small group of 24 there was a wide representation of



ages, from a recent graduate Mr. Ollie Ringguth studying in Toronto, to our senior OM Dr. Rick Rickards, a veterinary from Cleveland Ohio, (who was evacuated to St. Bees) with his wife Jane. Bob and Carmen Angel secured a smart spot for the dinner at RCYC. The ferry took us from the city to the prestigious club on a beautiful clear evening. Chicken or salmon was served with an assortment of Canadian wines (they are good nowadays). As usual the dinner was spiced with a good helping of reverence and irreverence. On the return ferry-ride we had the view of the twinking lights of the Toronto skyline.... just to top it off.

John Oldroyd (Scrutton 58-63)

This photo above was taken at the dinner in Toronto when three former 1960's classmates at Collinson reunited together for the first time in 45 years! Pictured from left-right are Donald Haigh (San Francisco), John Vincett (Toronto) and Dr. Chris Ellis (Kansas City).

John Parrott (School House 50-55) from South Africa writes

'My wife, Angela, and I were very pleased to welcome Roy and Pamela Mills and Derrick Delson at our home in Darling on Tuesday 10th February. Stuart Hibberdine, who was my exact contemporary at School and subsequently my best man in 1964, and his wife, Christine happened to stay with us the next night. John extends an invitation to any OMs visiting South Africa on business or pleasure, to contact him and to visit him in the Western Cape.

In The Name of Love

Michael Henderson's wife Erica aged 74 was in the national press in May as she is the oldest person to give stem cells, which saved her brother's life. A search of family members and databases in the UK and USA could not find a match. Erica was tested despite being over the age that is normally permitted and found to be a 100% match. Erica's brother Paul was suffering from leukaemia and has been officially told by doctors that he is now in remission.

No Enemy to Conquer

Michael Henderson's (Weymouth '50) most recent book is 'No Enemy to Conquer' complete with a foreward from the Dalai Lama covering matters such as the power of forgiveness. Email sales@ albanbooks.com or tel: 0131 226 2217 if you would like to purchase a copy.

Honorary Fellowships

Gerald Henderson (Weymouth '52) and his wife Judith were given honorary fellowships at Liverpool Hope University in recognition of the long standing work they do on behalf of the socially disadvantaged members of the community in the UK and abroad



Alford House Sport



Life is as busy as ever at Alford House.

A highlight was an exhibition of the artwork that Alford House members had done with the staff from the Dulwich Picture Gallery.

ntitled, 'Kennington Kids: Raw Urban', the display was held at the Greater London Assembly, City Hall, and was opened by Tessa Jowell, MP, on 13th January. This display of paintings and photographs served as a fund raiser for Dulwich Picture Gallery as an example of the work that they do in the community.

There have been two recent residential weekends: with a total of 14 members taking part in sports and outdoor activities. The Members Fund is thriving and one of the club members, Sammy, age 15, organised a paint-balling trip for our teenagers using the money from his award. The Members Fund has also recruited two new members and made a contribution of £600 towards the redecoration of the Lower Hall. The Youth Achievements Awards scheme is also proving extremely popular at Alford House, with 18 young people currently undertaking the various levels from Bronze to Platinum. In addition, 3 members have completed their Youth Challenge Awards and there are 12 Youth Achievement Awards waiting to be presented with 8 more due for moderation.

Figures presented in February 2009 indicated that attendance was up overall for the first 9 months of 2008/2009 as against the same period last year, (3520 attendances as against 2812). Although this is encouraging news it has to be seen against the continuing background of gang-related violence in Lambeth and London generally which could well affect attendance at the club later on into 2009.

The Alford House Estates & Redevelopment Sub-Committee has continued to meet and it is likely that we will have to extend our planning permission, as the original consent was only valid for 3 years. In the light of the current financial circumstances we may now have to carry out the work in a planned series of elements that can be achieved as and when funding becomes available. The first of these would be the new roofs. In addition, a bid has been submitted to the National Lottery Young Peoples' Fund to build a fitness suite using some of the

I would like to thank, as ever, the Club Manager, Tim Saunders, Senior Youth Worker, Jo Dempster and all their staff for their continuing efforts and the Alford House Governors, Mill Hill School and the Old Millhillians Club for their support.

Andrew Welch (75-80)

Golfing Society

The long anticipated OMGS centenary dinner was held in the Long Room at Lords on Friday 5th September 2008. With 136 attendees, including 30 guests from a wide range of golf from the Royal & Ancient Captain representatives from The Halford Hewitt and Mellin & Senior Mellin, Captain of the Old Boys Golfing society, and all match organisers for our society events throughout our busy calendar.

The dinner was a huge success and as many who wrote, emailed and texted me to confirm that this was one of the finest Golfing dinners they had ever attended.

At the beginning of April our opponents in the Halford Hewitt were the Watsons who as Colin Nunn our secretary said, quote, this is like "David & Goliath" with us being David.

The match was actually closer than we all thought and we lost 4-1 and would have lost 3-2 but for a long difficult missed putt on the 18th. The standard of play from the Watsons was such that they had a 63 year old debutante who played off one handicap! On one of the greens I watched a Watsons player lying on the green itself lining up his 40 foot put to eventually sink it and I approached him afterwards and said that it was quite remarkable to which he replied that he had used the same technique at the Scottish Open Championship at Carnoustie last year!!

We lost the first round of the Grafton Morrish against Uppingham. We then lost to the school who now field an extremely strong side (future Halford Hewitt players!) We also failed to qualify for the finals of the Grafton Morrish.

Our spring meeting was held at Huntercombe in Oxfordshire with 31 playing. Bacon butties greeted us and 18 holes later David Harrison had won Marnham with 42 points, his best gross score ever. Beej Chandaria came second with a very commendable 39 points. A fine lunch was had by all. Then in the foursomes in the afternoon the Kentish Cup was won by Anthony Ward & Nigel Maile with 32 points and Paul Nicholas and Graham Hamilton Andrews came second with 30 points. The prizes of wine were greatly appreciated with the tea and cake at the end of the day.

The next few matches that followed were rather less fun as we lost against the Masters, the School and the Old Oundelians and against Haberdashers and Lyonians. However victory was sweet as your Captain led the side against the OMT's at Moor Park (in it's 82nd year) and we won 3-2.

The Centenary match against the Old Cholmeleians will take place on the 13th June and a further Centenary match will take place at Sunningdale on the 15th October.

Tim John, Captain OMGS





CRICKET

On Sunday 21st June, an Old Millhillian cricket XI played the School on Park to celebrate the opening of the new electronic scoreboard which was paid for by donations made to the Foundation Appeal.

irector of Cricket, Ian Hutchinson, and Director of the Foundation Appeal, Nick Priestnall, welcomed everybody and a celebratory plaque was unveiled. Fred Daeche Marshall, captaining the School XI, made a vote of thanks on behalf of the pupils. It was a glorious sunny afternoon and the guests enjoyed not only the cricket but also an excellent tea.





The School, who have been having a very successful season, gained yet another victory by defeating the OMs, who were captained by James Hutcheson. Stewart Wernham was in sparkling form behind the stumps but the OM batting lacked purpose until Shia Mohammed came to the wicket.

OM Eton Fives Club

This has been another encouraging season for the club with a growing base of young and enthusiastic players who narrowly missed out on winning the League 2 title as a result of the continued excellent form of Vishal Bhimjiyani, the return from abroad for the whole season of Justin Lefort and Oliver Sander and the reclamation from the Fives wilderness of two talented



young players, Sunil Tailor and Jitesh Patel. The arrival of Sunil and Jitesh significantly strengthened the top of the order and, after a couple of early losses, the club was undefeated in competitive fixtures for the last five months of the season giving us high hopes for next year. Disappointingly, the Captain has been unable to justify his own selection on a number of occasions this year.

Over the last ten years, the average age of active players has fallen from late 30s to mid 20s suggesting an encouraging future. We have a number of good players who will become full time players for the club over the next couple of years as they leave University. This is entirely as a result of the sterling work of Steve Plummer who ensures that the schoolboys are involved with the club before they leave school and subsequently throughout their University careers.

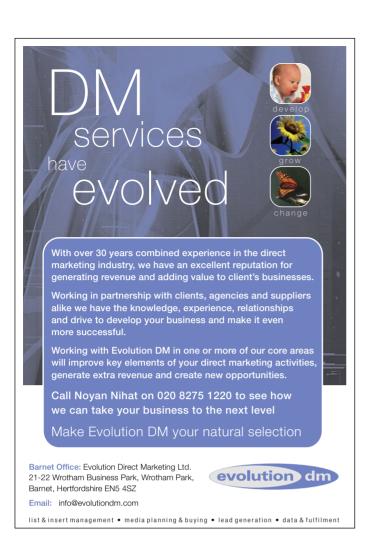
Chris Vincent

Totteridge Millhillians CC

The merger of OMCC with Totteridge CC last season has proved a great success both on and off the field. Although Headstone Lane will be missed as a playing venue, the picturesque setting at Totteridge Green is hard to beat. The club is delighted to have signed this season the former Essex and England off spinner Peter Such to assist with coaching and to play for the 1st XI. Peter's experience and professionalism is widely acknowledged; just as important, he is a thoroughly nice, down-to-earth guy. We are also fortunate to have as assistant coach and 1st XI player Chris Mason from Western Australia. Chris has been helping Ian Hutchinson with coaching up at the School. Since our first overseas' player in 1988, Justin Langer, who went on to play for Australia, the club has been lucky to have had the services of a number of excellent pros'. In the last couple of season's we have had appearances from Will Porterfield [Gloucester and current Ireland skipper], Eoin Morgan [England], Darren Sammy [W.Indies]. TMCC runs 4 mens' teams who play in the Saracens Hertfordshire Cricket League, and a ladies' Sunday side. Former Middlesex Academy player, Sean O'Brien, skippers the 1st XI. There is a good mix of OMs and Totteridge players making up the mens' sides. It would be great to attract some OM ladies to the club! The colts section is thriving with sessions taking place on Monday nights from April throughout the season.

On Sunday 2nd August the club will be hosting David English's Bunbury XI with a line up of internationals and celebrities. It's always a great day so do put the date in your diary. Check out the club's excellent website at 'totteridgemillhillians.com' for all club details. The friendly club house at TMCC is open 365 days of the year and is a great meeting place during match days and on cold winter evenings.

On Friday evenings the club chef prepares excellent meals at very reasonable prices. TMCC would very much like to see more OMs visit the club. All OMs are welcome to just come along, have a drink and watch a good standard of cricket. S. Wernham [MHS: 1974-79] stewartwernham@fsmail.net







facilities of the Foundation when they are not being used by the schools. The stunning buildings, rooms and other facilities,

We provide a fully catered service for conferences, weddings, Christenings, Barmitvahs, parties, sports events, filming in fact many special occasions!

plus 150 acres of beautiful grounds are available for hire.*

We have preferential rates for 'OMC' members and parents of children in the Foundation.

Please contact us and we will help you re-live your school memories by visiting us and seeing what we have to offer!

a.greaves@mhsenterprises.org.uk

call: 020 8959 8131 / 07941 587 412

*subject to school requirements & building work programmes.

THE FOUNDATION APPEAL

continues to fundraise for People and Places.

It is not the money raised itself which is significant but rather what this money makes possible. A great deal has been achieved; here are a few highlights:



The first ABC (A Better Chance) Bursary beneficiaries are making the most of the chance a Mill Hill education is offering them; these are 100% bursaries. Other current pupils benefit from partial fee support, as will new ones in future years. Very generous donations have enabled the refurbishment of School House and Murray House. The 2008/9 Annual Fund has fulfilled all its projects; the 2009/10 Annual Fund will be launched in September to both current parents and Old Millhillians. The 1807 Society (for those who have committed a legacy to the Foundation) has increased its membership and held its annual lunch in London in May. I would like to highlight the Top Terracers, donors who have pledged £5,000 or more. Later this year there will be a permanent board in the main building to honour the Founder Top Terracers, those whose donations have been received by Old Millhillians Day 2009. Grateful thanks to those Old Millhillians who have already given and continue to give. Whether you have made your gift to People or to Places (or left it unrestricted) it really is benefitting the Foundation and its pupils. If you wish to become a Founder Top Terracer (and have your name on the board), to make a small regular gift, to leave a legacy or have any other question about the Foundation Appeal, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Old Millhillian Lodge

The Lodge members were heartened by the response to the article in Martlet.

We are still however seeking new members (anyone over the age of 21 is eligible) and who has an interest in Masonary (and those already in Masonary).

The Lodge was founded in 1938 by 32 Old Millhillians.

At present we meet 3 times a year (3rd Tuesday in February, 4th Thursday in April and the 4th Thursday in October) at the City University Club EC3.

Please contact Ray Hubbard for further information.

Tel 020 8959 4454 or email Raymond@rhubbard.orange-home.co.uk