

# Martlet

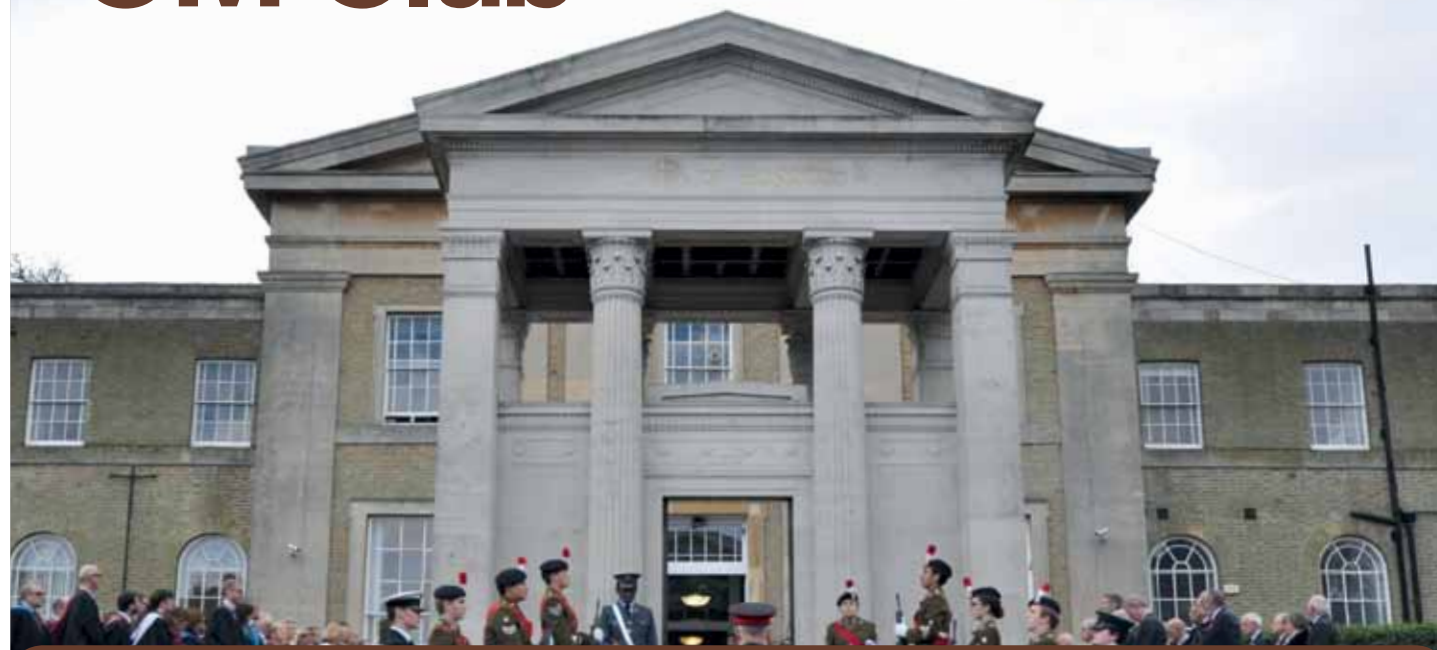
## MAGAZINE

## Mrs King Begins her Reign at Mill Hill School



*Read more about this on page 7*





## Nobis et Scholae

Thanks to the hard work of our pupils and staff, we have become quite used to the steady improvement in our examination results. I am delighted to say that this year was no exception with August bringing news of some outstanding achievements including over 48% A\* and A grades at A level, a new School record. Since then, I have been equally pleased by the continuing evidence of the breadth and depth of our extra-curricular life. Our rugby and hockey players are on top form and already this year, aside from weekly fixtures, we have seen a successful rugby tour to Italy and a tournament trip to Glasgow for the formidably talented girls' 1st XI hockey team. Other highlights of the term have included the golf team's victory over Harrow in the HMC National Championships and our under-15 netballers' triumph in the Barnet Championships. Among individual honours, Sam Sherwood led the Middlesex golf team in their match against Surrey whilst Renat Samur and Kimberley Balcombe qualified for the National Schools Biathlon Championships. I think it fair to say that Mill Hill sport continues to be in very fine fettle.

Not to be outdone, the Music and Drama Departments have been equally busy. As well as gracing our morning services, the Chapel Choir gave polished and moving performances on Foundation Day and at the Call to Remembrance. Over half term, the Choir and the Jazz Band embarked upon a highly successful tour of the Netherlands and we are all very much looking forward to December's Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. Meanwhile, November saw the biennial House Drama Competition in which over one hundred pupils participated and which produced some fine ensemble pieces.

In other activities, October's CCF cadre camp was highly successful; the Corps of Drums gave rousing performances at various School events; and we provided a much-praised Guard of Honour for the Barnet Remembrance Sunday parade.

Elsewhere, this term saw the opening of our fourth School, The Mount, Mill Hill International. The School's first term has gone

remarkably smoothly and the advent of the first MMHI pupils heralds an exciting new chapter in the Foundation's history. September also allowed us to welcome Leon Roberts to his new role as Headmaster of Belmont. He has made an impressive start and it is clear that the School is in very capable hands.

This is, of course, my last term as Headmaster of Mill Hill and Chief Executive of the Foundation. It is with mixed feelings that I contemplate my final days here. I shall miss Mill Hill very much. It is a beautiful place to live and to work and one that attracts interesting, engaging and fundamentally decent people. The pupils have been a source of pride, inspiration and fun. Many past and current parents have become friends. I have greatly enjoyed working with the Bursar, my fellow Heads and so many other colleagues throughout the Foundation. The Governors have been simply outstanding, tirelessly supporting, guiding and encouraging. For Dr Chapman and his fellow members of the Court, I feel the utmost respect, the greatest affection and the sincerest gratitude.

Finally, there are the members of the Old Millhillians' Club. In the years since I arrived in 2007, I like to think that relations between the School and the OMC have been both warm and mutually supportive. The Club is one of Mill Hill's greatest assets. It has deep roots and the vision of the Chairman, successive Presidents and the Management Committee has seen it become ever stronger in recent years. The excellent life membership scheme, allied to initiatives designed to make it of ever greater relevance to current and former pupils, betokens a strong, thriving and dynamic organisation. It is also an immensely friendly and welcoming one. Alongside my professional appreciation for all that the Club has done for the School sits my personal gratitude for the friendship that so many of its members have shown to me. Please accept my thanks and my very best wishes. I shall miss being Mill Hill's Headmaster, but am looking forward very much to continuing as an honorary member of this finest of Clubs!

**Dr Dominic Luckett, Headmaster**



## Armistice Day

**The Armistice Day ceremony at the School was once again a moving occasion. OM AJ (Sandy) Macfarlane (Scrutton 1948-52) shared a memory of Armistice Day from his time at School:**

Although I am unable to come to the Armistice Day Service your message reminded me of the day in 1947 when, aged 12 and at Belmont, I was told by Harold Alston "Some are born great, some achieve greatness and some have greatness thrust upon them. You are to read a lesson at the Dedication of the new War Memorial at Mill Hill."

My two older brothers, Maxwell and Charles, were both at Mill Hill and I was presumably chosen as the youngest son of our father, William Alston Macfarlane, who is named on it from the Second World War together with his older brother Ian Cameron Macfarlane from the First World War.

Although my father was killed in 1942 it was not until 1946 that my mother received confirmation of that and I have the eloquent letter of condolence sent to her by Rev. Dr. J. S. Whale.

A. J. (Sandy) Macfarlane

## Hon Sec Report

The Club office has been busier than ever this year and it has therefore been decided that an extra pair of hands is needed to assist Shalaka. The past President, Russell Cowan, capped a frenetic year with a superb dinner at the Royal College of Physicians when even the speeches ran to time! Sadly, it was Dr Luckett's last Club dinner as Headmaster and CEO of the Foundation but we look forward to welcoming him back in the future as an Honorary OM. Dominic's support and encouragement during his tenure has been a very important factor in terms of development of the relationship between Club and alumni. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Frances King to the foundation and to working with her to further the links between the Club and both current and past pupils. Fortunately, the weather on Foundation Day was perfect enabling many OMs to enjoy a splendid lunch on the Headmaster's lawn, to watch some rugby and to stroll around the beautiful grounds. The Collinson House reunion was

well attended and it was interesting to take a tour of the place. In fact, the Housemaster, Peter Lawson, very kindly agreed to I and 6 contemporaries (messrs Abdoo, Rothwell, Wakefield, Wasani, S.Burns and Tray) having a 'sleep over' during the School half term; it was a real blast playing our old vinyl records at full blast accompanied by 7 air guitars! The only slightly disappointing thing was the dormitories have gone so there was no opportunity to perform a 'yockon drop'. It's always very nice to talk to the current pupils and recent leavers. I almost always ask them if they are or were happy at the School and without exception they all say they were, which I think is a great advert for the School. I'm delighted that Tim Corbett, my former English master, is our President. Tim is hugely popular and one of the longest serving members of the common room so I do hope you will be able to get to at least one of the many Club events he will be attending during 2016. Finally, congratulations to Ronnie Boon, our new VP.

**Stewart Wernham, Hon Sec (1974-79)**





# New President

## Tim Corbett

Our new President, Tim Corbett, will be the third member of the teaching staff at Mill Hill School to serve as President of the Old Millhillian Club, the precedent being set by James Murray and more recently by David Franklin in 1993 - 94.

Tim arrived at Mill Hill in January 1970 and taught there for over 40 years, although he had a year's exchange to a school in Sydney in 1990. His academic subject was English but his wider involvement at Mill Hill included sport, the Art Society, drama and the CCF – and he was housemaster of Winterstoke House for twelve years.

Tim has also been very involved with the Old Millhillian Club; he was the OM School liaison officer for a number of years and Honorary Secretary of the Club for nearly ten. He played rugby and cricket for the Club in the early 70's (in every position apart from second row for the 1st XV) and he is a member of the golf society. He also produced several plays for the Old Millhillian Amateur Dramatic society. Consequently he is well known to a large number of former pupils.

Tim was born and brought up in Kenya before moving to this country at the age of 14. He was educated at Brighton College before going up to Nottingham University to read English. He taught briefly in south London before being appointed temporarily for two terms by Michael Hart in 1970....43 years later he taught

his last lesson at the School! In 1975 he married his wife Robin, who for 13 years was the nursing sister ('matron') at Belmont, and much involved in looking after the boys in Winterstoke. Their two sons, Richard and William, were educated at Belmont and Mill Hill and were members of McClure and Priestley Houses respectively.

Tim considers it an enormous honour to serve as Old Millhillian President and greatly looks forward to catching up with as many former pupils of the School as possible during his year and his travels. He hopes to continue forging the strong links between Club and School and hopes that with the advent of inclusive membership many more former pupils, whatever their age or gender, will be encouraged to become involved with the Club.

Save The Date

## Old Millhillians Annual Dinner 2016

Friday 14th October

Merchant Taylor Hall, London EC2

Were you taught English by **Tim Corbett**? Were you in **Winterstoke House**? Why not organise a table with your contemporaries?

Please come and support Tim's dinner at Merchant Taylor Hall. It promises to be an excellent occasion and we are hoping for a big turnout. It will also be an opportunity to meet Mrs Frances King at her first OM dinner as Head of the Mill Hill School Foundation.

Shalaka in the Club office can help if you would like to contact friends who you've lost touch with.

E: [sk@millhill.org.uk](mailto:sk@millhill.org.uk) t: 0208 906 7949



## President's Report

I have already attended a number of events and it has been both rewarding and enjoyable to meet up with Old Millhillians, both young and old! I have on my travels tried to encourage OMs to sign up to life membership, I have drawn attention to the lively programme of careers and professional events that are being held by the Club and I have emphasised the need to encourage further involvement of the lady members. Below is a brief summary of the various events I've attended so far.

### Entertainment Drinks: Thursday 29th October

The downstairs bar of the Royal Court Theatre provided a most appropriate setting for a lively gathering of about 25 Old Millhillians in the entertainment industry. Attendees came from a wide variety of media activities and it was good to see a range of ages there. It was certainly an event well worth repeating and expanding further – and congratulations to Tom Lincoln on his initiative.

### Visit to the Supreme Court: Wednesday 4th November

A large gathering of OMs and their partners together with a contingent from the School enjoyed a private reception at the Supreme Court in Parliament Square. Lord Roger Toulson gave an interesting introduction to the workings of the Court; his brother Alan then asked some questions before the group were shown round the courtrooms. A canapé reception concluded what was a very informative and pleasant evening. Many thanks to Alan for his organisation of the evening.

### Northern Dinner: Friday 6th November

The St James's Club again proved to be a perfect venue for the dinner attended by some 27 guests, though sadly one or two regulars such as Bill Skinner and Graham Elliott were unable to be there owing to illness or other commitments. Many thanks to Peter Belshaw for all his work in organising and co-ordinating the event and for hosting the evening.

### Remembrance Day at the School: Wed 11th November

I attended what was again a most moving and impressive parade and chapel service at the School to remember those who had died during the two World Wars and the Falklands campaign.

### Farewell Dinner for the Headmaster: 12th November

The Management Committee entertained Dr Dominic Luckett to an informal farewell dinner at a Greek restaurant near the Post Office tower. Thank you to Andy Mortimer for his organisation of an excellent evening where the quantity of food was matched only by quantity of wine drunk.

### Welsh Dinner in Cardiff: Friday 13th November

My first attendance at this excellent evening held at the Cardiff and County Club, which is set in the shadow of the Millennium Stadium. A black tie event with about 30 attending, including partners and an excellent meal. Nostalgic anecdotes about Mill Hill flowed freely. Many thanks to Ronnie Boon for the organisation.

## Life Membership

The Life membership scheme (LM) was introduced in phases during 2015 and has now reached a point where an offer will be made to our non-member database during 2016.

We thought members would like to be aware of the results.

**JOINERS:** Thanks to the support and help of the School and the Court, we were able to introduce LM to pupils joining in the 2014/15 school year. Parents had the opportunity of opting out and the numbers who did were pretty well in line with our expectations. If that pattern is sustained in coming years, we will receive circa £45,000 pa from joiners which will enable us to do a great deal more on the career front and at an earlier stage. We have already seen positive signs of more pupils attending the professional event programme which, under the guidance of Peter Wakeham has seen considerable expansion.

**LEAVERS:** Life Membership was also offered to upper sixth leavers in 2014 & 2015 and this will continue going forward. There is a steady take up and the signs are encouraging. The more the Club engages with pupils during their years at School through careers initiatives as mentioned above, the more likely their parents will feel that life membership to the OM Club is a definite bonus for their son or daughter.

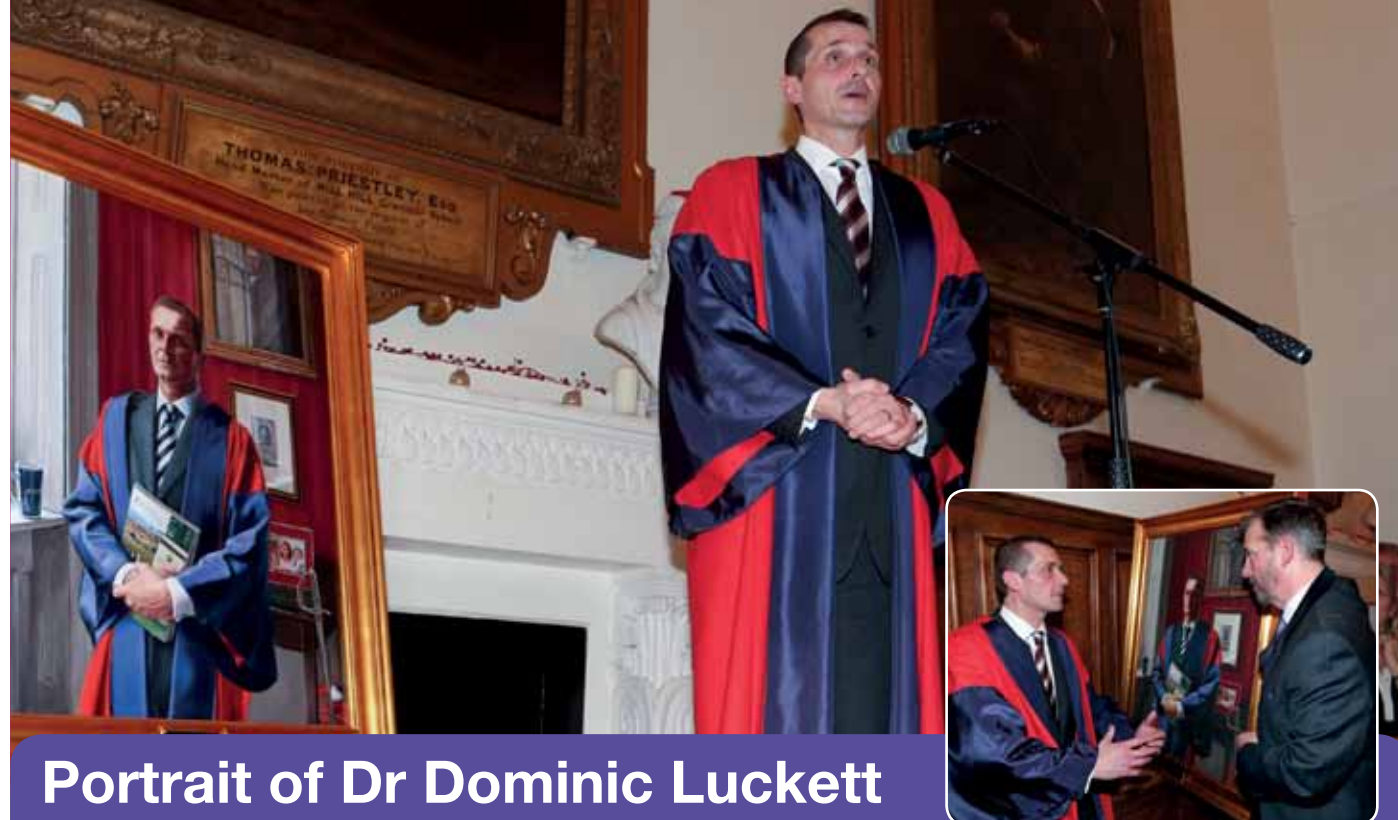
**28 to 45 Age Group:** The LM offer was mailed to 1528 members in April 2015. It was attractively priced and by the end of 2015 45 had taken it up. This is lower than our estimates and perhaps reflects the age group – a younger set with career and business building a preoccupation.

**45+ Group:** It took us some time to decide how best to structure this offer and, in the end, decided on the matrix you see alongside. It may seem detailed to do it on a year by year by age basis but we felt that was appropriate. We expected a strong response and have been pleased with the outcome. Members were sent the offer by post and followed up by email. The offer expired at the end of the year and will be replaced by an upwardly modified price matrix. As at December 31st, over 100 members had taken the LM opportunity.

If you have taken up LM, it is very important that you cancel your standing order for the annual sub. OMs are awful at doing this and it creates a lot of admin work in the Office.

For those who have not taken LM, the annual sub will rise to £40pa commencing July 2016. This has been trailed several times and was agreed by the committee in November. We will be writing with appropriate forms.





## Portrait of Dr Dominic Luckett

Local Barnet artist Richard Greaves, whose two children attended Mill Hill School and whose wife is Director Mill Hill School Enterprises, specialises in Portraits in Oil.

Richard has painted the portrait of Dominic Luckett presented to the School at a special ceremony after the Carol service on 10th December. The presentation was made by the OM Club President Tim Corbett at a reception in the Dining Hall. A print

of the portrait with the names of the donors on the back, was given to Dominic.

Richard who famously painted a portrait of Frank Gardner OBE the BBC security correspondent, also painted portraits of Lynn Duncan and Pauline Bennett – Mills to mark their respective retirements. The portrait of Dominic has been funded by donations from the School, generous Old Millhillians and past parents.

## Farewell Dinner for the Headmaster

The Management Committee entertained Dr Dominic Luckett to an informal farewell dinner at a Greek restaurant near the Post Office tower on the 12th November. Thank you to Chairman, Andy Mortimer for his organisation of an excellent evening.

After eight and a half years of loyal service to The Mill Hill School Foundation, Dr Luckett's departure was always likely to be a moving occasion. As Dr Luckett entered the Chapel for what he thought was a regular Upper School Service, he found himself unaware of the true purpose of the occasion. Led by the Rev Dr Warden, what followed was an emotionally charged tribute to his great contribution as Headmaster of Mill Hill School and Chief Executive of The Mill Hill School Foundation.

The pupils were able to add their own appreciation in the form of addresses by Senior Monitors, Alice Lloyd-Davies, Ted Macdonald and Joshua Jackson, followed by the presentation of a leather-bound album containing photographs covering key moments in Dr Luckett's tenure.

The following day, the Nine Lessons and Carols Service was a further opportunity to say farewell to Dr Luckett and his family, which culminated in the presentation by Dr Chapman, Chair of Governors, of a portrait commissioned by the Old Millhillians' Club which now hangs in the Octagon. We wish Dr Luckett and his family all the very best for the future.



## Frances King Head of Mill Hill School

*Excerpt from a letter from the Mill Hill School Governors:*

Following a rigorous selection process, the Governors have appointed Mrs Frances King to be the next Chief Executive of the Mill Hill School Foundation and Head of Mill Hill School from January 2016.

Mrs King is the first woman in the 200 year history of Mill Hill to lead the School. Her appointment thus marks another significant moment in the development of the Foundation.

Mrs King was Principal of Collège Alpin Beau Soleil, a coeducational school in Switzerland. She began her career in 1984 and has taught at a number of schools, becoming Deputy Head of

St Mary's School, Ascot in 2000 and Head of Heathfield School in 2003. She joined Roedean School as Head in 2008. Mrs King holds a BA (Hons) in Theology from the University of Oxford, a PGCE from the Institute of Education, an MA in Philosophy and Religion from Heythrop College, University of London and an MBA in School Management from the University of Hull.

To find a worthy successor to Dominic Luckett, who has led the Foundation through a most exciting period in its history, was a daunting task. We will be very sorry to say goodbye to Dr Luckett and his family at the end of the Autumn term but are confident that we have found an exceptionally experienced and capable successor.

**Mrs King has attended the first OMC committee meeting in January. We look forward to working with her.**

## 'Letters to the Editor...'

**NEW FEATURE**

If you live abroad, we would love to hear from you, anything from what a typical day is like, why you moved to the country you live in, what you miss about the UK, what you don't miss....

**Mehr Husain** (Weymouth 1999-2003) moved to Pakistan in December 2006 where she has been working in the media as a journalist. She's written on a variety of topics and until recently had a column which appeared in The Daily Mail. She's a published short story writer currently working on her first novel. 'I moved back because I found a career in banking (in London) boring? What I miss most about the UK are my friends, the feeling of non-ending hope and of course, the humour'.

### Letter from Lahore, Pakistan

"Why don't you return to London?" "Why do you risk your life living and working there?" These are just two of the many questions that my friends outside of Pakistan ask me constantly. My answers vary from issue to issue but they all have the same undertone: Pakistan is worth saving.

In February, a fantastic literary festival – the Lahore Literary Festival (LLF) - was pulled off with great success. The festival was a celebration of what already existed in the country and defined it linguistically, culturally, spiritually, ethnically and politically.

Consequently LLF boasted of an impressive panel of writers and intellectuals from all over the globe, and it was most heartening to see the broken and bruised people of Pakistan turn out in full force.

There was plenty of cultural activity in Pakistan pre-Taliban, and so LLF was a continuation of retaining some sense of normalcy. The Pakistan that my generation and those before it grew up in had theatre, music and dance. Lahore, where I live, in particular was once the cultural and intellectual heart of the subcontinent; it deserves to be preserved as such today.



At a time when Pakistan's culture is slowly being chipped away in the search for an identity that encompasses the mosaic that forms the country, it is natural for people to want something that reminds them of a country that was once coloured by literature, songs, poetry – instead of blood.

The importance of the literary expression and debate in defining and protecting the Pakistani consciousness cannot be stressed enough. There is nothing better than the written word to capture the spirit of a nation and prompt debates to examine how the country has landed up where it has today.

Besides, any form of progress is severely undermined when women of that land are cast aside. And that is why I am in Pakistan – to play a progressive part as a female for humanity's sake.





*Christopher & Christine Sutcliffe pictured at the OM Garden party in 1990. Chris was second master at the time.*

## Christopher Sutcliffe, MHS 1958 – 1993

There seem to be two breeds of teachers; those who move from school to school pursuing a ladder of personal ambition while others spend all or most of their professional life dedicated to one school, offering their skills in a wide variety of areas and touching the lives of several generations of pupils: the latter indeed was Christopher's special contribution to Mill Hill School where he worked for thirty-five years from 1958 to 1993.

Chris's contribution was indeed huge, both inside and outside the classroom. He taught Maths throughout his time at the School: for 10 years he was housemaster of Winterstoke boarding house: and then, as a highly organised administrator and wise counsellor, he spent his final 10 years as Second Master. Outside the classroom he coached and refereed rugby; he helped set up golf as a serious alternative to traditional sports and was much involved in establishing the Middlesex Schools golf association; and for eleven years he was in charge of liaison with Alford House, the boy's club in Lambeth sponsored by Mill Hill.

But Chris had two special areas of interest: a swimming blue himself, he was an inspiring coach of a highly successful swimming team despite the handicap of an antiquated, unfiltered pool where the water became so green and murky that negotiating a turn became extremely tricky. Nevertheless the team was highly successful, and notably in the Public Schools relay competitions, often against schools with greater reputations such as Millfield. And swimming tours to Belfast and Edinburgh were further groundbreaking initiatives.

But Chris was perhaps happiest when introducing pupils to his love of hill walking and sharing the experience of glorious locations stretching from Scotland to the Lake District, to North Wales to the Pyrenees. And of course he was much involved with Dent, the outdoor activity centre that the School owned in his beloved Yorkshire.

I have only had time to list the barebones of his contribution – and these are only the facts. What was most memorable was the genuine affection and respect he earned from the pupils. His children, Sheila and Neil, have been overwhelmed by the number of letters and emails they have received from former pupils – even parents – expressing not only a real warmth of feeling for Chris but also a deep regard for his exceptional teaching. Again and again the correspondence speaks of a Maths teacher who was always encouraging, often inspiring and always getting the

best out of his pupils. A typical comment from a former pupil was: I read maths at university and was indebted to his help in getting me there.

It is often said that anyone can teach a bright student but it is with the weaker candidates that Chris's special talents of patience and encouragement emerge, as revealed in the following sample of the emails received:

I was utterly hopeless at Maths but somehow Chris managed in his gentle way to make me believe I could pass my O level – and I did and I was a mathematical dunce until we crossed paths and he made the subject come alive, not easy.

Chris genuinely cared for those in his charge and this quality was also reflected in his pastoral role as housemaster. As with all teachers the boys had jokey nicknames for him, particularly when referring to his slick, immaculately-combed and supposedly brill-creamed hair. But he was undoubtedly viewed with great affection and respect. Firm but kind and always fair, and with a dry sense of humour, he ensured that those in his charge developed not only core values but that their individual talents flowered. His own children were partly raised while living in Winterstoke house and he was ably supported in his housemaster's responsibilities by his wife, Christine, who was always cheerful and positive, often offering the boys a cup of tea or an encouraging word – her infectious laugh was often to be heard echoing round the building. Chris and Christine were very much a team, whether running the boarding house or taking their relaxation on the badminton court.

So our final abiding memory is of a man who took a deep seated and personal interest in the pupils he taught – and not only when they were at school but also in later life. He was always a stalwart of the Old Millhillian Club, regularly attending dinners or playing for the golf society and of course organising an annual Old Millhillian match against the Old Oundelians, his own alma mata. But nothing gave him greater pleasure than meeting up with a past pupil and learning about what he or she had done – and the pleasure of the meeting was always reciprocal.

Yes, Mill Hill School – its pupil, staff and parents – will always be deeply grateful to Chris for his selfless dedication, his generosity of spirit and above all his humanity – his memory will be greatly cherished. **Tim Corbett**



## Reflections by Russell Cowan

The Custodianship of the Presidential Chain of Office started with a busy November highlighted by representing the Club at the Remembrance Day parade and service at the School on the 100th anniversary of the start of World War I. Standing on the steps of the Gate of Honour allowed me to appreciate the size of the school and the kaleidoscopic ethnic mix compared with the days when I walked through the gate over 50 years ago.

In the new year I was heading for the Middle East to be welcomed by an increasing number of OM's in the United Arab Emirates. The warmth of the welcome was a feature of my experience there and elsewhere on my travels not least in Australia where I arrived in February with a short stay in Hong Kong on the way. Sailing under Sydney Harbour Bridge towards the Opera House under the helmsmanship of Guy Pollack will linger long in my memory. Trying to make the case for England to win the Ashes series in the Sandringham Club in Melbourne to a group of patriotic Aussies was a challenge, but my optimism was justified.

By March the sequence of lunches, dinners and social gatherings was well underway expanded this year by the introduction of career based meetings including amongst others accountants, journalists, engineers, financiers and young entrepreneurs. Personally, I was pleased to resuscitate the Medical Professions Meeting and proud of the depth of talent within the alumni.



A central aim at the Club is to engage the interest and involvement of young OM's so it was a real pleasure to see them



well represented at the cocktail party in June. The terrace at the National Liberal Club was the venue for one of the largest gatherings I have seen and with the popular retired master Tim Corbett as President I expect to see even more young OM's in 2016.

It was a privilege to be part of the Foundation Day activities in September before joining a lively gathering of old friends and other well known faces on the Headmasters lawn.

With the final lap of my year in sight, North America beckoned. I was welcomed in Toronto and a few days later in New York. The club is fortunate that wherever they are in the world, OM's are generous in welcoming the President and interested in what is happening to the Foundation and to the Club.



About a week after returning from New York I was wearing the Presidential Chain for the last time. 182 members and guests, staff and monitors gathered for the annual dinner at the Royal College of Physicians drawing my year to a satisfying close. I have been rewarded by the welcome and friendship of OM's throughout the year: thank you to you all.





# Annual Dinner 2015

9th October 2015



**The Royal College of Physicians in Regent's Park provided a suitable and well received venue for the 182 OMs, guests, common room staff and monitors at this year's dinner.**

I was pleased to welcome as the Club's special guests Lord Roger Toulson QC and his wife, Elizabeth, in recognition of his membership of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom.

I welcomed also my personal guests, Lord Glendonbrook CBE, Tony Fitzjohn OBE and the two tutors in School House during my time, Tim Stringer and Christopher Dean.



It gave me great pleasure to make the first presentations of the newly introduced President's Awards to Dr David Webster, Michael Leon and John King. At various times throughout the evening we were entertained by a small choir and a string quartet from the School who performed beautifully under the enthusiastic supervision of Kevin Kyle. There was an extra poignancy to this dinner, it being the last that Dr Luckett will attend with his wife, Cara, as Head of the Foundation.

I was at pains to acknowledge in my speech the invaluable support Dominic has given to the Club and the OM community as a whole, while wishing him and his family success and happiness at Sherborne from January next. After the Headmaster replied and toasted the health and success of the Old Millhillians Club, I undertook the task, tinged with sadness after a most enjoyable year in office, of inducting my successor, Tim Corbett, as President. Tim accepted the presidency with eloquence and gratitude, after which the formal part of the evening closed then to be followed by conversation, laughter and more imbibing as many lingered and mingled.

My wife, Gillian, and I retired to our College room relieved that the evening had passed off uneventfully and apparently much enjoyed by most. It proved to be a fitting finale to my presidential year which I have enjoyed and have endeavoured to describe in these reports. Thank you to all those who have supported and encouraged me, exemplified by the those who so generously contributed to me President's Appeal.

**Dr Russell Cowan**



Thank you to OM Stephanie Kalber for taking pictures at this event.



# Achievements

**Benjamin Footitt**  
(School House 1996-2001)

Ben has recently produced a feature film 'North v South – Long Time Coming', starring Steven Berkoff, Bernard Hill, Freema Agyeman, Keith Allen, Charlotte Hope, Geoff Bell, Greta Scacchi, Brad Moore and Elliott Tittensor.

The film is a tale of star-crossed lovers from rival crime families, whose illicit affair plays out against a backdrop of war between the North and South criminal underworlds in the UK.

It was nominated for the prestigious Michael Powell award, in the best of British category at the Edinburgh International Film Festival, and won best feature film at the Marbella International Film Festival. It also screened at the East End Film Festival in London, and was the opening film at the Nantes Film Festival in France. The UK cinema release was in September 2015, and it's now available to buy on home entertainment.

Benjamin produced the film alongside Mark Foligno, whose credits include 'The Kings Speech' and 'Moon'. They are now collaborating on a second feature film 'Inside', a prison drama with a twist.

*Benjamin and Mark accepting their award in Marbella.*

**Christos Charalambous**  
(Murray 2007-12)

Christos left school with 10 A\* GCSE's and 5 A\* A levels and was awarded on leaving Mill Hill School in 2012, The Anant Parekh Prize for Academic Achievement (the pupil with the best academic achievement in A levels) and the Economics Prize.

Christos graduated from University College London (UCL) in BSc Economics with a First Class Honours degree and has been awarded a place on the University's Deans List. He has also been successful in gaining a place at the LSE to commence a Masters course (MSc in Finance). Congratulations Christos!

**Martin Hirsch**  
(School House 1997-02)

## Music before morphine?

Can music really replace morphine? The answer is not entirely but research has showed that it can have a significant impact on reducing pain, anxiety and increasing satisfaction levels after surgery<sup>1</sup>. As a doctor, both looking after patients and conducting research is equally important. The research helps develop guidelines which modern day practice is built on. We call it Evidence Based Medicine.



results as they were taken from previously published high quality studies examining all operations from caesarean section to knee replacement. We were both surprised and pleased with the results we found. Listening to music reduced pain, anxiety and improved satisfaction after surgery.

While this research has light-hearted edge to it, the impact of reducing the use of pain killers by even a fraction for every patient undergoing an operation could have a huge impact on safety and cost. Avoiding

drowsiness in a patient through lowering their codeine dose, or reducing the risk of a stomach ulcer by stopping the use of ibuprofen sooner, the use of music could have a huge impact on post operative care. This simple, cheap, and readily accessible resource is available on most smart phones and improves the recovery of patients. Give it a go next time you have a procedure. 1 Hole J, Hirsch M, Ball E, Meads C. Music as an aid for postoperative recovery in adults: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Lancet. 2015 Aug 12. pii: S0140-6736(15)60169-6. No conflicts of interest.

I'm pleased and proud to say that an article I co-wrote was published in one of the leading medical journals, The Lancet, in August 2015. We wanted to explore the theory that pleasurable music will improve patients' experience of pain? We conducted a review of all the previously published studies on this topic and combined their results. We found 73 studies where they had randomly assigned patients to either music or no music before, during or after surgery and looked at its impact on pain, satisfaction and anxiety in the post operative period. We had absolutely no influence on the





**Ashik Patel**  
(School House 2007-2012)

Ashik graduated with 1st Class Honours in Biomedical Sciences at Queen Mary University of London.

In the 3rd year of his course he conducted a research project entitled 'An Investigation into Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress Induced Autophagy'. The research was conducted in the Blizzard Institute at Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry, Queen Mary University of London, where only 1 place was available to over 200 undergraduates.

The data he obtained was presented at the International Meeting for the field which took place in Glasgow 2015 and his data is in the process of being published in a scientific journal. Ashik is now reading Medicine at the University of Leicester.

## Robin Green (McClure 1999-2004)

Robin is a concert pianist, and former head of McClure House will be performing 6 concerts as part of a St John Smith Square residency. The residency is entitled the Viennese Salon and includes: the complete Mozart piano sonatas for piano duet, a selection of four hands masterworks by Schubert, together with arrangements of the iconic orchestral pieces of the Second Viennese School: Schoenberg's two Chamber Symphonies, the orchestral interludes from Berg's Wozzeck, a new arrangement of the Lulu Suite, as well as Zemlinsky's epic arrangement of Mahler's sixth symphony.

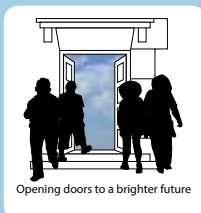
To complete this residency, each concert will feature a new addition to the repertoire by young composers Vlad Maistorovici, Christian Elliott, Colin Alexander, Christian Mason and Alissa Firsova.

This is an extremely ambitious project and he is currently looking for as much support for this project from all my European patrons/friends/colleagues. The Headmaster encouraged Robin to contact the OM Club as he would be grateful to hear of any support OMs may be able to offer.

Details of how to support the residency at:  
[www.francoise-green.com/index.php/the-viennese-salon/](http://www.francoise-green.com/index.php/the-viennese-salon/)  
[www.Robingreenpiano.com](http://www.Robingreenpiano.com)  
Robin's CD will be released in 2016 under the Claves label.

## Alford House

Membership of the Club remains at a good level and we have continued to provide a mixture of sport, artistic and social activity.



The summer brought about another trip to the Ashdown Forest for an outdoor pursuits weekend. Young people relish these weekends away and, as they say themselves, gain a great deal of self-confidence from taking part.

Our workshop night has brought about a purposeful atmosphere whereby members can pursue activity in a less distracting environment than they might on a youth club night. The timetable so far includes Health and Fitness, Music Production and Table Tennis. The activities are led by appropriately qualified and experienced staff to ensure that young people can develop their skills and abilities.

Recent developments include becoming part of the iDream alliance with six other organisations. The alliance has been commissioned by Lambeth Council to deliver their Youth Drugs and Alcohol programme.

Using an asset based model the programme aims to build on young



people's strengths rather than categorising them according to their deficits. The programme consists of building blocks of positive activities including group work and creative workshops, allowing participants to gain skills in design, graphics, t-shirt making and clothing retail, photography, moving image, rap, lyricism, spoken word, music and sound recording.

The programme is being independently evaluated by the University of Brighton.

Our redevelopment plans have, at last, gathered some momentum and, at the time of writing in November, we are in the process of concluding contracts with our solicitors. By the time you read this the contract should have been signed. In that case the first action will be to seek planning permission. The whole deal depends on a successful planning application which may take twelve months. Our annual report for 2014-2015 is available from the club. If you would like more information or to donate, please visit our website: [www.alfordhouse.org.uk](http://www.alfordhouse.org.uk) or contact me.

**Nigel Baker** (55-61) [nigel@alfordhouse.org.uk](mailto:nigel@alfordhouse.org.uk)



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## OMs Calling - right on the money!

We would like to thank all of you who so warmly received telephone calls from recent leavers and sixth formers during July's telephone campaign in aid of the A Better Chance Bursary Scheme. The response was fantastic. It helped to reaffirm the great affection that most OMs, particularly OMC members, hold for their School and their willingness to contribute financially to provide talented children with the same educational opportunities that they themselves enjoyed. In a two week period we attempted to call over 2000 Old Millhillians (of which 645 were Old Millhillian Club members) and here are the results:

- Over 600 OMs (252 OMC members) had conversations with our callers
- Over £110,000 raised for the A Better Chance Bursary Scheme (over £70,000 from OMC members)
- Over 150 OMs (84 OMC) made pledges - mostly through affordable monthly donations
- Over 40 pledges made by OMs under 40 years old

For the first time we decided to list donors to the campaign in their respective houses. Since publishing this list we have had even more OMs wanting to add to their house's total (so far Collinson is in the lead!)

### Telephone Campaign YOMS

Back LR: Jake Sachdev 08-13, Sebastian Balcombe 06-11, Joshua Jackson 11 - Present, Kiran Chaudhuri 08-13.

Middle LR: Nick Hughes 04-09, Mark Howe 08-13, Zara Prodromou 10 - 15, Bhakti Shah 09-14, Lauren Abrahams 09-14, Georgina Cotton 08-13, Nick Priestnall, Noni Bryson.

Bottom LR: Melissa Levy 08-13, Charley Jacobs 08-13, Naomi Kendal 08-13.

However, the campaign was not just about raising money. The conversations allowed us to engage with OMs who had not been very connected with the School before. We asked people what they had been doing since leaving and asked them to consider coming back to OMC and School events. In addition we were able to update hundreds of contact details and career information. Of course we couldn't get through to everyone this time around but if you'd like to get involved you can always call us!

### Crick's 100th Birthday!

We are looking forward to celebrating the Centenary of the birth of Francis Crick (Ridgeway 1930-34) co-discoverer of the structure of DNA. We will be marking this occasion with a black tie dinner. We hope you are able to join us at the School on June 11th 2016 for this special event. Please save the date. Remember, we are still selling elements to support science at Mill Hill and Belmont

**Nick Priestnall**, Director of Development Mill Hill School Foundation ([np@millhill.org.uk](mailto:np@millhill.org.uk))

[www.supportmillhill.org.uk](http://www.supportmillhill.org.uk) t: 020 8906 7962

## Ridgeway 1980 Leavers Reunion

A recent reunion of Ridgeway boys and girls circa 1980. Also in attendance was Tony Armstrong, our all-time favourite teacher.

The last time we were all together would have been our last day at MHS, some 35 years ago. John Moody was visiting with his wife Clare from New Zealand, so Dave Turchi travelled with his family from Rome, Gus Drew flew from Zurich and Buggsi Patel from the US, whilst Corinne Cassidy travelled from Wales to attend. Needless to say, it was a fantastic evening.

Back row (L to R): John Moody, Dave Kelly. Second row (L to R): Dave Turchi, Corinne Cassidy (nee Mellor), Beth Talbot (nee Morgan), Buggsi Patel, Tony Armstrong. Front row: Gus Drew







The party consisted of Peter McDonough, Richard Harris, Edward Colquoun, Stewart and Gina Wernham, Nigel and Lynn Baker, Frederick and Lorraine Higgs.

## Flanders

In July 2015 nine of us went to Flanders with Peter McDonough, retired MHS master to look at some of the First World War sites. We had very much in mind the 193 Old Millhillians who died in the Great War.

We stayed in Diksmuide, a Flemish town which had been completely rebuilt in the 1920's after being reduced to rubble in World War 1.

First we visited the Bayernwald Trenches at Kemmel. This is a carefully restored section of an original German trench system dating from 1916. From here there was a commanding view right across to Ypres. Thence to the Passchendaele 1917 Memorial Museum at Zonnebeke Chateau which proved to be a remarkable place – probably the biggest public collection of the First World War in West Flanders.

At the massive Tyne Cot Cemetery and Memorial we left a wreath in memory of OM Captain Charles Town, MC, a Leeds Pal who had survived the first day of the Somme and subsequent battle only to die in the equally awful 3rd Battle of Ypres.

In the evening we gathered at the Menin Gate for the sounding of the Last Post and layed our wreath in memory of another OM, 18 year old pilot, Lt Noel Bishop.

At Essex Farm Cemetery we found the graves of two more OMs, Lt Frederick Pusch and 2nd Lt Charles Batty.

Thank you to Peter McDonough for an excellent trip. Dr Fred Higgs' full article can be found on the OM Club website under 'news'.

## Life Guardians Annual Meeting

The Life Guardians held their Annual Meeting on Old Millhillians Day on 19th September at the School. The meeting was well attended and members received reports on the progress of the Foundation from the Chairman of the Court of Governors, Dr. Roger Chapman and the Headmaster, Dr. Dominic Luckett. Members also received in advance of the meeting reports from the Life Guardians Committee and the Trustees of the McClure Memorial Trust.

There was the customary lively and instructive Q & A session between attendees and the Chairman and the Headmaster. This year in particular discussion centred primarily on the progress of The Mount, Mill Hill International and its future prospects. The Headmaster gave Life Guardians details about the long term financial prospects for the Foundation once The Mount, Mill Hill International is fully subscribed and also outlined some of the policies for the international school in terms of curriculum, English as the teaching language, ethnic balance and pastoral care. Attendees were pleased to learn that the high level of integration between The Mount, Mill Hill International and Mill Hill in terms of facilities and cultural activities is viewed positively by prospective parents of The Mount, Mill Hill International.

The Life Guardians Annual Meeting also has the important duty to elect members of the Court of Governors and on this occasion the meeting elected a new Governor and confirmed the re-election of another Governor.

The Chairman of the Life Guardian Committee thanked Dr. Chapman and Dr. Luckett for their candour and insightfulness with regard to the Foundation's plans and thanked Dr. Luckett in particular for his outstanding contribution to the progress of the Foundation during his tenure as Headmaster and wished him well in his move to Headmaster of Sherborne.

At next year's Annual Meeting (provisional date 24th September 2016) we look forward to receiving the first report to the Life Guardians from the new Head, Mrs. Frances King.

The Life Guardians welcome new members. If any OM is interested in becoming a Life Guardian, please check out [www.lifeguardians.org.uk](http://www.lifeguardians.org.uk) and feel free to chat with any member of the Committee whose names are on our website.



Visit [www.austinvince.com](http://www.austinvince.com) for more details.

## Austin Vince presents Mondo Enduro – How a bunch of Old Millhillians changed motorcycling forever

**Thursday 3 March 2016, 6:30pm**  
The Large, Mill Hill School

Old Millhillian and former Mill Hill School teacher, Austin Vince, is best known for his long distance adventure motorcycle expeditions: twice round the world as part of the Mondo Enduro and Terra Circa trips, both of which were produced as TV documentaries.

As well as presenting the Mondo Enduro and co-presenting the Terra Circa TV programmes, Austin has also written and presented the Routes series on Discovery Channel. Latterly he played the maths teacher in Channel 4's That'll Teach 'Em, currently teaches maths at St John's Northwood and has also served in the Royal Engineers.

So whether you were a contemporary of his, taught by him, interested in travel or simply want an entertaining evening, reserve your tickets for this lecture and join us in hearing about his adventures with fellow Old Millhillians.



## Richard Gerver presents Change: Learn to Love it!

**Thursday 5 May 2016, 6:30pm** (doors open 6:00pm)  
The Large, Mill Hill School

Based on his number one best-selling book, Richard will share his insights into change; why so many people fear it and what we can do to embrace it.

He will share stories and insights from his own extraordinary journey; a life which has seen him go from Old Millhillian to struggling actor, copywriter and estate agent eventually becoming a National Teaching Award winning Headteacher, author and globally renowned speaker.

He will reflect on what he continues to learn about change, human potential and creativity from many of the organisations and people he works with including; Apple, Google and the world of professional sport.

Tickets to all lectures are free of charge and can be reserved by emailing Karen Willetts [kw@millhill.org.uk](mailto:kw@millhill.org.uk)

## OM Entertainment Drinks



The first ever Entertainment Industry Meetup was held at The Royal Court Theatre Bar on 29th October. Over 20 OMs were in attendance, from a broad range of disciplines; photographers, actors, producers, directors and musicians to name but a few.

It was an informal affair, hosted by Tom Lincoln who reports that it was a tremendous success. With the drinks flowing, all present had the opportunity to mingle and make new friends with professionally like-minded OMs.

It was especially useful for the younger OMs to learn a little



knowledge and insight from those with more experience and success. In an industry famous for hinging on "who you know" it was a great opportunity to make some new connections!

Due to the success and demand of this first event, more are sure to follow. Look out for details of the next Meetup in 2016!

**Tom Lincoln** (School House)  
*Attendees: Stephanie Kalber, Liana Telvi, Ben Hirsch, Tal Geron, Tim Corbett, Austin Vince, Nelson Whaley, Jack Corrie, Abhijit Gupta, Rick Senat, Gerry Westoby, Camilla Collins, Peter Wakeham, Alex Woolnough, Matt Bentley*





## 1955 Leavers' Reunion

An enthusiastic group of 1955 leavers thoroughly enjoyed their reunion at the School on Saturday 3rd October. 23 attendees sat down to a delicious lunch in the Crick Room. This was followed by informative talks on the changes in the School by Jane Sanchez Principal Deputy Head, Peter Lawson Housemaster of Collinson and Joshua Jackson Senior Boarding Monitor. After the talks the OMs had the opportunity to visit their former Houses and a small group visited the new Mount Mill Hill International School where they met Sarah Bellotti the Head of the new School. The afternoon ended with tea in the Old Millhillians Room.

*Keith Armistead, John Barlow & guest, Alan Bonner, Roy Constantine, Michael Cuming, Robert Davison, Peter Duffy, John Elliott, Edward Goolnik, Graham Hamilton Andrews, Stuart Hibberdine, Anthony Leon, Jim Needham, Adrian Padfield, Geoffrey Payne, John Rogers, David Short, Bill Skinner, John Watkiss, David Wickenden & wife, Bill Yates*

## OM Deaths

This list consists of information notified to the Club office. The asterisked dates are estimated as exact date of death is unknown. Sometimes, the office receives returned mail with no date of death given.

Name	Date of Death	House	School Years
Simon Allen		Ridgeway	1969 1973
John Anderson	06/10/2015	Ridgeway	1961 1966
Jeremy Beck		Burton Bank	1974 1979
John Campsie	09/09/2015	School House	1935 1939
Michael Elles-Hill	28/08/2015	Weymouth	1946 1951
Robert Fox	01/01/1987*	McClure	1973 1979
Bryan Goulstone	09/06/2015	Scrutton	1954 1958
Allan Greenslade	01/01/1972	Ridgeway	1946 1951
Ajul Gudka	01/01/2014*	Winterstoke	1982 1987
Douglas Ismay	21/05/2014	School House	1934 1936
Peter Kino	22/08/2013	Burton Bank	1965 1970
Ian Morrison	12/04/2015	Ridgeway	1963 1967
Robert Sadler	03/11/2015	Scrutton	1955 1960
Nicholas Theocharopoulos	01/11/2015*	Ridgeway	1981 1986
Philip Walker	06/04/2015	Burton Bank	1956 1961
Alan Kidd	02/05/2015	Weymouth	1960 1965
David Morris	27/04/2015*	Burton Bank	1933 1939
Black Alastair	31/01/2016	Winterstoke	1962 1965
Campsie John	09/09/2015	School House	1935 1939
Elles-Hill Michael	28/08/2015	Weymouth	1946 1951
Johns Philip	08/01/2016	School House	1933 1937
King Lancelot	02/01/2016*	Weymouth	1940 1944
Lovett John	02/01/2016	Collinson	1956 1961
Marnham Nicholas	01/01/1984*	Scrutton	1960 1965
Ahern Terence	16/08/2014	School House	2005 2009
Armitage Peter	24/12/2015	Collinson	1952 1958
Phillips Jeffrey Glyn	28/01/2016	Weymouth	1951 1956
Skinner Bill	31/01/2016	Murray	1949 1955
Twogood Dennis	02/12/2015	Burton Bank	1936 1939

\* exact date of death not known

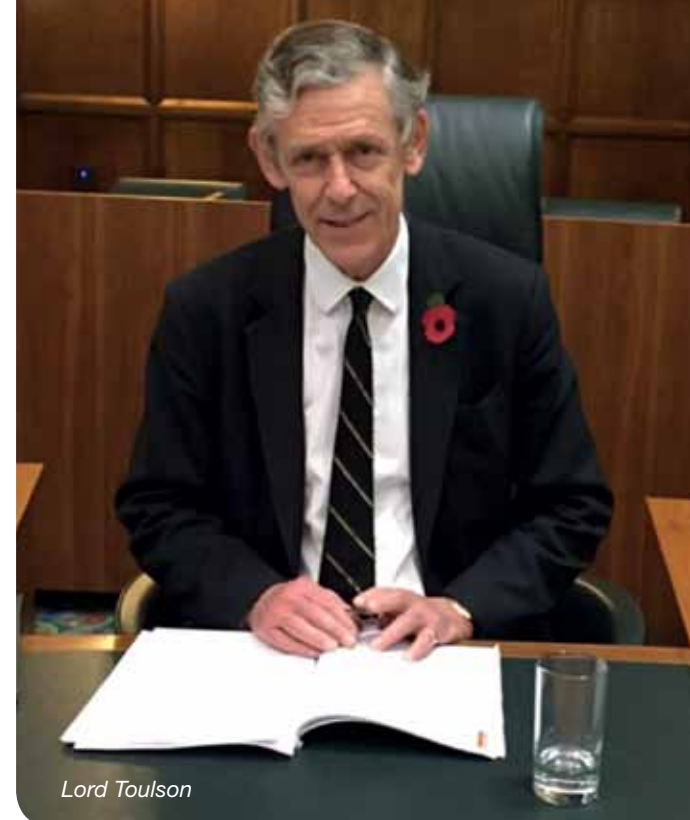


## OMs regional representatives meet in Far East

Raj Achan, OMs Middle East representative has recently returned from a trip to the Far East where he met with OMs Far East representatives John and Steven in Hong Kong. He was joined by Prim Achan from the UK.

Photo taken in Honk Kong (L to R): John Hellinikakis, Steven Y Chan, Raj Achan & Prim Achan.

**Please send us information on Births, Deaths and Marriages as well as any general news, views and achievements. We would like to hear from OMs far and wide.**



Lord Toulson



Tim & Robin Corbett with Alex Burt

## Visit to the Supreme Court

4th November 2015

A large gathering of OMs and their partners together with a contingent from the School enjoyed a private reception at the Supreme Court in Parliament Square. The event was organised following the appointment of Lord Roger Toulson as a Justice of the Supreme Court.

After a welcome drink, the group was given an informative and fascinating account of the history and the workings of the Court by Lord Toulson. He explained how the Court had succeeded the Appellate Committee of the House of Lords in 2009 as the ultimate appeal court in the UK thereby separating the judiciary from the legislature. In its twin role as Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, it acts as the ultimate appeal court for a variety of Commonwealth countries.

After the opportunity to ask questions of Lord Toulson, tours of the building, which formerly was the Middlesex Guildhall, followed. The group visited the three main chambers and the impressive library.

The evening concluded with drinks and canapes. Everyone was surprised by the 'openness' of the Court, both physically and conceptually, and to learn that anyone can attend a case in progress. Many thanks to Roger Toulson and his brother Alan for hosting and organising the event.

## OMs in Property

Around 25 OM's gathered at Finos Wine Bar, 123 Mount St, W1 on 16th Sept 2015 for the Annual Informal Property Drinks. Numbers were disappointingly rather down on previous years, not helped by the inclement weather on the evening.

Anthony Lyons made a rare appearance and will hopefully not leave it another 20+ years until he attends another OM's function! Next year's OM's in Property Dinner will be on 18th April 2016 at The National Liberal Club and the Informal Drinks will be on 21st Sept 2016, again at Finos. Please note both these dates in your respective diaries. If you are not already involved in the OM's in Property bunch and are interested in joining, please contact at mike.peskin@osborne.co.uk or on 07801 194467.

## OM Lodge

The members of the lodge are holding an open evening at the Adam & Eve (NW7 1RL) on **Wednesday 16th March 2016** at 7:30 pm.

It is a social evening for local members of the lodge and any other old Millhillian who would like to attend. For those interested in finding out more about Old Millhillians and Masonry information sheets will be available. For those who just want to enjoy some good company for the evening buffet food will be laid on. Catering will be assisted by knowing how many might attend so please notify brmt@maundertaylor.co.uk and I look forward to seeing you there. **Bruce Maunder Taylor**, 020 8492 5507

## Careers

OMC members represent an enormous resource not only to other OMs who may need mentoring about careers but also to pupils at the School.

We wish to reach out to anybody who feels that they would like to be involved in supporting this concept so that you in turn can reach out to those who need advice, support or help.

**With this Martlet is an insert highlighting the professional events taking place in 2016.**





## OM Golfing Society

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

Our scratch team had a very exciting time at the Halford Hewitt, winning the first round against Eastbourne at the 20th, in the deciding match, but then losing at the 20th in the deciding match vs Kings Canterbury, who went on to reach the final. It was great to see some of our younger members: Will Cheng, James Ellis and Alex Quin.

We had our Spring Meeting at Ashridge. Much fun was had by all, even though the weather was far from perfect. The scoring was bizarrely good with Frank Ward winning the singles and James Ellis and Peter Tafler winning the foursomes.

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

We also have two annual matchplay competitions; a great way to meet other OMs and play different courses.

We had a fine win over seven other schools in the first round the Putting

Competition at Royal Wimbledon. Our first ever win; we came a very creditable fifth in the finals.

Our annual autumn meeting weekend at Royal Cinque Ports is held in mid-September. We are 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. Frank Ward was the stand-out performer at this year's event.

We await our 2016 Scottish tour to Scotland with much anticipation. Royal Dornoch, Skibo, Nairn and Castle Stuart are an unbeatable combination of four of the top courses in the UK.

Whilst we have 130 members, an increasing number are not too active. We vary in handicap ability and all but two of our matches are off handicap. 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.

**Colin Nunn (Burton Bank 1975-81)**



## OM Golf AGM & Dinner

Home House, Portman Square, was the venue for the Old Millhillian Golf Society Dinner on Friday 26th November. Enjoyable evening with some 50 guests. For the first time ladies (Mrs Chandaria, Mrs Bunyard and Mrs Rudd) were present. Jane Rees, wife of former master, Dai Rees, was not present but will be the first lady to play in an OM golf competition – from acorns etc... The AGM was followed by an excellent meal and hosted by Anthony Ward, as Captain who outlined plans for his Spring Tour to Scotland. Dr Dominic Luckett was present. Many thanks to the Golf society for its hospitality.

**Tim Corbett**

## OMRFC Biennial Dinner

**Wednesday 16th March 2016**  
Pewterers Hall, Oat Lane, London EC2  
Black tie. Price **£75.00** per ticket.  
Contact - James Mason 9 Cowley Road, London, SW14 8QD  
E: mason5477@hotmail.com

## OM Fives

As we approach the festive season, I thought it would be useful to highlight a few things coming up in the next month or so:

### Division One

Great start so far with just over half the games played – top of the league with all to play for. Key match vs Olavians is being rescheduled – expect to see a doodlepoll from James H soon (whatever that is). Please, please, please put Sunday March 6th at 14:30 at Aldenham in your diaries – it is the last fixture vs North Oxford and the table suggests we should pick up three points so could be critical.

### Division Two

Season starts in earnest in the New Year but our next match is on Tuesday December 1st at Westminster – I will be in touch about this later this week.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES** – Saturday January 9th at Aldenham at 10:30 – I will be playing and will be looking for five other willing recruits...

### Club Nights and Social

At both the next club nights, we will have some promising new players and some parents watching so would be good to get a good turn-out – Monday December 14th and Monday January 25th.

**Christmas Drinks** – Monday December 21st – Nick Hughes has put details on something called "whatsapp" if anyone needs more. I think it is the Argyle in Farringdon near the Bleeding Heart. Annual Dinner – Thursday 5th February Bleeding Heart.

Lastly, Ollie Sander and I will be playing in the London at Harrow on Sunday December 6th – details below. Would be good if another OM pair plays and we could have a late lunch/ couple of beers afterwards? Please let me know. I know that James Hutch is keen to play with someone.

**Chris Vincent**

## Football

After a promotion winning 2014/15 season, many thought Old Millhillians FC would struggle against the more established teams within the higher leagues...this has not been the case!

After 6 matches, Mill Hill are currently sitting at the top of the table with 4 wins to their name, including a comfortable victory against league rivals Highgate School!

Vice Captain Sami Aintoui reports, 'It has been a great start to the year, we have continued to improve as a team and we believe we can achieve back to back promotions'

Team Manager Adam Shabatai Continued, 'Everyone is playing well at the moment, but it would be unfair not to mention are two star strikers, George Ghaffari and Danny Jordan who have formed a deadly goalscoring partnership...NW7's equivalent of Leicester's Jamie Vardy & Riyad Mahrez'.

The team has many fixtures planned for early 2016 so if you are interested in playing for the team please contact:

**George Collins** on 07872 605 362



## OMRFC

Thomas Lindsay (Priestley 2001-06) Since moving to Gloucester and after a long preseason I have settled in really well and the players and staff had made me feel very welcome.

The club has many true rugby traditions and their home ground Kingsholm is one of the stand out rugby venues in the premiership. The ground oozes passion and excitement which really energises you individually and as a team. I have already made 4 appearances for the club and thoroughly looking forward to pushing on and making a mark in the team



## Jonah Lomu

OM Nigel Wray recently hosted a breakfast for the legendary All Black, Jonah Lomu, to which family and friends including another OM, Simon Bunyard were invited. A huge shock to hear of his passing away. In the photo Nigel and Jonah are holding what is believed to be the oldest All Black shirt in the world.



## Old Millhillians Medical Professions Meeting

Tuesday 22nd March 2016 5.30pm - 10.00pm

The Royal College of Surgeons, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PE

The next Medical Professions Meeting will follow the same format as last year with a Scientific Symposium for two hours, followed by a hot buffet supper and time to meet, chat and network in the elegant surroundings of the Royal College of Surgeons. The symposium will comprise a Plenary Session of short papers, followed by the Keynote Talk, delivered by Professor Roger Motson MS FRCS on the development of laparoscopic surgery. It is intended that all contributors will be Old Millhillians.

The meeting is multi-disciplinary, so like the last meeting, presentations could be medical, dental or veterinary in subject matter.

Contact Dr Russell Cowan  
t: 01206 242303  
e: cowans@btinternet.com

## Old Millhillians European Weekend

### Where would you rather be on 21st May 2016?

The choice is yours: FA Cup Final at Wembley? Aviva Premiership Rugby Semi-Final? Or enjoying the beauty of Toledo, the UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its extensive cultural and monumental heritage and historical co-existence of Christian, Muslim and Jewish cultures.

The Old Millhillians European Weekend takes place between 19th and 22nd May 2016. By day, we will have our own English speaking tour guide and an air conditioned coach to take us to see the historic sights of Madrid and to visit Toledo. In the evenings we will enjoy dinners and wine tasting together. There will also be time to relax by the hotel roof-top pool or visit museums. OMs interested in the cultural and culinary delights of Madrid and Toledo should contact Peter Wakeham peter@wakeham.net for details and indicative costings.

## Forthcoming Events 2016

24th February	<b>OM Entrepreneurs Event</b> Villandry St James's, 12 Waterloo Place, London SW1. peter@wakeham.net	11th May	<b>OMC Liverymen's Assoc Lunch</b> Guildhall, London EC2, Archie Galloway archie.galloway@hotmail.com
20th February	<b>OMRFC VP lunch</b> Headstone Lane John Gallagher allgallaghers@hotmail.com	13th May	<b>Engineers' Dinner</b> Bleeding Heart Restaurant, London EC2, Gordon Mizner mizner@btinternet.com
11th – 13th March	<b>OM New York weekend.</b> Social events to coincide with Saracens vs London Irish rugby match on Saturday 12th at 3pm. np@millhill.org.uk or sk@millhill.org.uk	19-22nd May	<b>European Weekend in Madrid</b> , Peter Wakeham peter@wakeham.net
16th March	<b>OM Lodge open meeting</b> Adam & Eve pub, Mill Hill NW7. 7.00pm. Bruce Maunder Taylor brmt@maundertaylor.co.uk	10-12th June	<b>Australasian Weekend Dinner</b> , David Stannard omclubaus@gmail.com
16th March	<b>OMRFC Biennial Dinner</b> Pewterers Hall, London EC2 John Gallagher allgallaghers@hotmail.com	22nd June	<b>OMC AGM &amp; Cocktail Party</b> NLC 6.30pm, Club Office sk@millhill.org.uk
22nd March	<b>OM Medical event</b> Royal College Surgeons, London WC2, Dr Russell Cowan cowans@btinternet.com	16th September	<b>East Anglia Dinner</b> (Trinity College, Cambridge) Russell Cowan cowans@btinternet.com David Short dmvshort@googlemail.com
18th April	<b>Property Dinner</b> National Liberal Club, London Mike Peskin michaelpeskin@hotmail.com	21st September	<b>Property Drinks</b> (Finos Wine Bar, London W1) Mike Peskin michaelpeskin@hotmail.com
26th April	<b>U6 Leavers Reception</b> National Liberal Club (Club Office) sk@millhill.org.uk	24th September	<b>Old Millhillians Day/Foundation Day/Life Guardians AGM</b> Club office
5th May	<b>City Dinner</b> Lansdowne Club, London W1 6.30pm. Solon Satanas solon.satanas@tradition.com	<b>SAVE THE DATE</b> 14th October	<b>Annual Dinner</b> (Merchant Taylor Hall, London EC2) Club Office/Tim Corbett sk@millhill.org.uk