

Martlet

MAGAZINE

Looking forward to the future

Building work for the new Sixth Form Centre has commenced!



Read more about this on page 5

OM Club



Nobis et Scholae

The Autumn term contains a number of significant whole school events for Mill Hill School, with Foundation Day and the Service of Remembrance being the most important.

These help our school community to understand more about our past, respect our traditions, but also to look towards the future with a sense of purpose.

I spoke to the whole school prior to the Service of Remembrance about the idea of identity. I had just returned from a school visit to Hong Kong where I had had to explain to a number of families with no connection with Mill Hill just what makes it so special. For those of you who have passed years here this may be represented by memories of friends, teachers or special places within the school.

Reflecting on what makes the place special to our current

students, I then asked them to think back to the young men we would be commemorating on 11th November and consider what they shared with them: a sense of place, similar activities, good times with friends and inspirational teachers, I hope. With this in mind, the school community was indeed fully engaged in the Service of Remembrance.

As a school, we recognize that we need to live out the words of Head Master, John McClure, who said "We should be thinking backwards but living forwards." One link we have with the past is that we continue to work with young people who are keen to discuss, argue and debate. Politics remains a popular subject at A level and Politics and International Relations are often selected at university. During a time when world politics has thrown out a number of challenges to the perceived world order, I have encouraged our students to keep debating in the hope that they will be a generation that tackles these issues through discussion rather than the sword.

Frances King, Head Mill Hill School Foundation



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"You make a living by what you receive, you make a life by what you give"

Like many other expressions this is sometimes attributed to Churchill but there is little evidence he said it! Nonetheless it is a good sentiment...and so true. Ask any beneficiary of our *A Better Chance* bursaries. 43 young people have now benefitted from *A Better Chance* bursaries; nine of them are still in our Schools. "I continue to be delighted by the progress with ABC Bursary programme. It is becoming what we dreamed about all those years ago. It has some sizzle and is transforming and updating what Mill Hill is and should be." were recent words of Robin Mills, who came up with the name *A Better Chance* and with Ridgeway 1962 contemporary Graham Drake co-funded the first beneficiary. Those currently in the Schools are funded by the wonderful generosity of individuals (both Old Millhillians and parents) and by groups of Old Millhillians such as those in the medical, dental and veterinary professions and those in North America; it is hoped that Old Millhillians in the property world will also be combining to make a similar contribution over the next few months.

In addition there are almost 200 Old Millhillians and Old Belmontians who support the scheme with gifts from £10 per month. At his wonderful dinner on 14th October, outgoing President Tim Corbett encouraged Old Millhillians to become involved. It is not just Old Millhillians; the week before the Old Millhillians Club Dinner saw the inaugural ABC Ball at the RAF

Museum at Colindale where 390 parents and friends dined under the wings of a Lancaster Bomber and raised an amazing £50,000. Working together parents and Old Millhillians can provide talented young people with a better chance.

A few years ago Martlet carried the story of the legacy left by Rodney FitzGerald; this has been funding a pupil through Mill Hill for three years and, from this September, is now supporting a second pupil. Other legacy gifts from Old Millhillians have made significant contributions to our ability to provide ABC places. Legacies of all sizes make a real difference so please keep the Mill Hill School Foundation in mind when writing your will.



The School is keen to increase the number of benches around its beautiful grounds. In recent years benches have been provided in memory of Old Millhillians, their relatives, former teachers and others. If you would like to provide a lasting memorial to a loved one for whom Mill Hill was a special place please contact me.

With the dissolution of the Old Belmontian Association, the Old Millhillians Club will now provide a unified alumni organisation; I look forward to working with the Club to embrace all Old Belmontians (whether they attended Mill Hill or not) in its activities.

As always, if you have any questions about any aspect of the work of the Development Office, please do not hesitate to ask.

Nick Priestnall, Director of Development Mill Hill School



Hon Sec Report

The year ended on a sad note with the announcement of the deaths of two Club stalwarts, Ronnie Aye Maung and John King. Ronnie served as Hon. Sec. and Club President and will be sorely missed by his family and many OM friends. John preferred to keep a lower profile but contributed to the Club over decades in so many ways, perhaps most notably with the superb OMRFC VP lunches he organised at Headstone Lane.

The President, Tim Corbett, rounded off his busy year with an excellent dinner at Merchant Taylors Hall; it was a testament to his popularity that so many former Winterstokians attended. As a former pupil of Tim's, I couldn't help but chuckle when, just before the evening started, he asked me to check his speech for errors. I was tempted to write at the end in red pen: 'Could do better'!

Following Bruce Fraser's retirement as bursar after many years in post, the Foundation has announced the appointment of Mrs Rebecca Starling as the new Director of Finance and Operations. We wish her well. Bruce has been made an Honorary OM in recognition of his many years of support and encouragement to the Club and so we look forward to seeing him at future events.

Changes slightly closer to the Club office have also taken place. Members will be very sorry to learn that after more than 10 years in post, Shalaka has decided the time is right for her to step away. She has really been the heart beat of the Club and it will be very difficult indeed to find a replacement with her skills, dedication and personality. We owe her a great debt of gratitude.

Evelina Miller, who hasn't been with the Club for quite as long, is also leaving, prompting us to take stock of just how best to staff the office going forward, particularly given that the workload is increasing. In the interim we are being assisted by Laura Turner, wife to Graeme [Housemaster of BB] on a part time basis.

May I take this opportunity to thank the Club's committee members for all that they do to assist with the running of the Club, in particular our hard working Chairman, Andy Mortimer.

Stewart Wernham, Hon Sec (1974-79)

New President

Ronnie Boon (Murray 1954-60)

Our new President, Ronnie Boon, was a member of Murray House and entered Mill Hill following the move of his parents to London after previously being educated at Nottingham High Preparatory School.

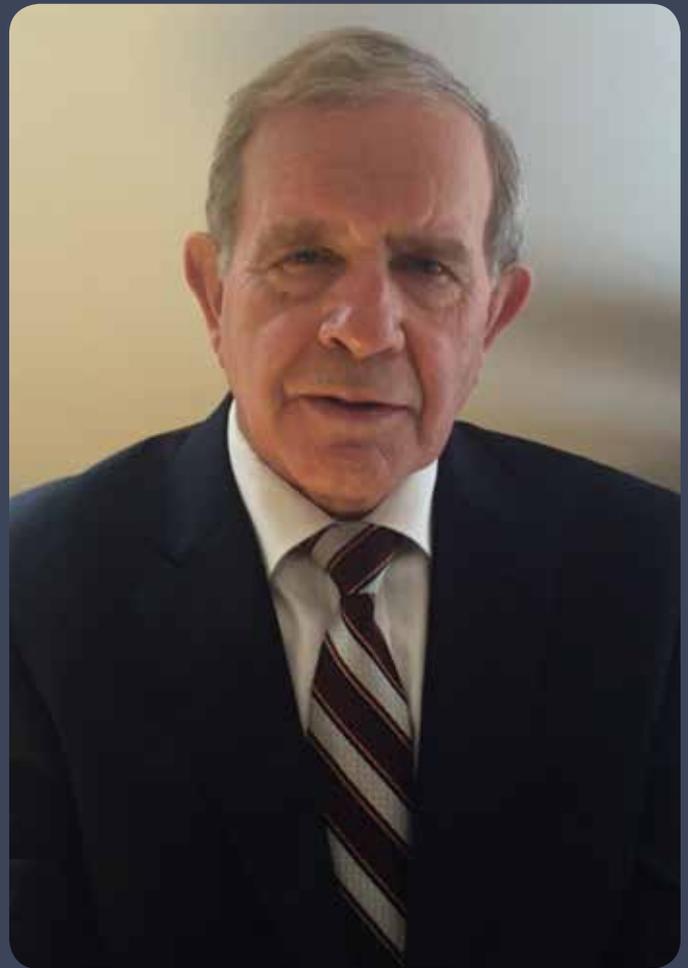
During his time at Mill Hill, Ronnie entered fully into all aspects of school life and in particular, the field of sport. He represented the School at 1st XV Rugby and 1st XI Hockey, was in the Fives and Athletic teams and played 2nd XI Cricket for fun, much to the annoyance of a certain O J Waite.

He also became one of the very few School hockey players to be capped by Wales at schoolboy level. In addition to sport, he also became head of the CCF and of Murray House.

On leaving Mill Hill he became an indentured student with Howard Farrow Construction and duly qualified as a Quantity Surveyor at the Hertfordshire College of Building.

While still living in London he became very much involved with the OM Rugby and Cricket teams during the 60s when the club had particular success in both sports and he gained rugby honours at county and regional level. He finally left London and returned to Barry in South Wales where he was born and entered the family construction company and in time became the President of the Builders Employer Confederation of Cardiff. After his retirement from business he has acted in recent years as a Cost Consultant for a Welsh Governmental Body.

Ronnie is married to Denise and has two sons and four grandchildren. In his leisure time he has been a Local Councillor and Chairman of the Local Council. He is also the current Chairman of the WRU Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan Junior Rugby Union.



Over the years Ronnie has attended many OM functions including three European weekends; he is a member of the OMs Lodge and continues to be the club area representative in Wales. He considers it an honour to be President of the Club and greatly looks forward to meeting many OMs from the past as well as meeting newer members during his travels in his year of office.

OM Northern Dinner

Once again we met for the OMs Northern Dinner at the St James's Club in Manchester, but on the early date of 4th November, which turned out to be in the school's half-term break. Sadly, the event was therefore not attended by Frances King, nor indeed any members of the Common room. Nick Priestnall made good on the Head's absence and very ably deputised on her behalf – this despite having recently returned from a trip to Hong Kong and Kuala Lumpur on behalf of the Foundation.

The St James's Club's hospitality was outstanding, especially in taking into their stride a delay in us sitting down caused by a number of stragglers who spent too long gawping at the

switching on of Manchester's Christmas Lights – shame on them – they know who they are.

We were down to 19 this year but the atmosphere was cosy and convivial. Ronnie Boon attended in his first official outing as the new President of the Club, and enjoyed meeting with a number of his contemporaries from the School, not seen by him for...well, a long time. We certainly got the impression that it will be an entertaining year for him and all whom he meets.

We will be meeting next year at the same venue on our more usual date of 10th November, and hope that young OMs in the area will put this in their diaries, as well as our regular stalwarts.

Peter Belshaw (Ridgeway 1967-69)



Cocktail Party

AGM 2016

37 OMs attended the Annual General Meeting on 22 June 2016 at the National Liberal Club. It was a particular pleasure to welcome David Brown (Burton Bank 1956-61) who was visiting from the United States. The Club was also especially pleased that the new Head of MHS, Mrs. Frances King, was able to attend the AGM and provide attendees with an update on developments within the School and her views for the future.

A lively Q and A session followed her presentation and the 'Looking Forward to the Future' brochure describing all the changes was distributed among the OMC members. This is the extract from the brochure:

"At Mill Hill we are all excited by the opportunities ahead of us and embrace the 21st century wholeheartedly. Over the next year we will be unfolding new spaces in our school. They'll be places where students can learn, think, share and be with friends, and plan for the future.

We're creating a new centre for our sixth formers, with an upgraded café and courtyard; an environment far more like the adult spaces of university and work.

Our houses are fundamental to our strong sense of family so we're making spaces to relax in, meet as a house, and talk privately with the Housemaster or Housemistress.

Mill Hill pupils have shown their entrepreneurial skills time and again so we're setting up an Innovation Hub to support this

through networking, discussion and access to the tools of the future such as 3-D printers and graphic screens.

We'll be working on the reconfiguration over the coming year and look forward to opening our new areas by September 2017."



The agenda of the AGM posed no problems, so those present were soon able to join the Cocktail Party on the Terrace of the NLC, overlooking the Embankment. This was a very enjoyable event for the 72 attendees who included a pleasing number of young OMs.

There was a delightfully lively and friendly atmosphere with a splendid mix of ages.

South West Dinner

Robert Priestley organised a thoroughly enjoyable South West Dinner on November 25th. As ever, numbers were a challenge but 21 people gathered at the Somerset County Cricket Club in Taunton. It was a particular pleasure to welcome the head, Frances King who spoke about developments at the School. We also heard from the new installed President Ronnie Boon who was accompanied by his wife Denise. The surprise package was provided by John Gallagher who had been unable to attend last time so made up for it with a typically entertaining speech.

Those that attended were: Gowen and Angela Bewsher, Ronnie and Denise Boon, John Gallagher, Robert Harley, Michael and Erica Henderson, Frances King, Richard Llewellyn, Nicholas Lowe, John and Marie-Jose Milnes, Andrew Mortimer, Richard Pine, Robert Priestley & Dagmar Von Behr, Nick Priestnall, Martin Saunders, Peter Wakeham and Stewart Wernham.

Andy Mortimer (Burton Bank 1957-61)



Innovation Hub



Leavers Reception



President's Report

In early February of 2016 I had an enjoyable trip to **Dubai**, hosted by Emmanuel Ajayi (Winterstoke 1980-85) and his partner Barbara. Raj Achan (Ridgeway 1985-91) had organised a very pleasant gathering of Old Millhillians, which included former master Jamie Monaghan, who is now a local Headmaster.

The Vice-Presidents' Lunch at Headstone lane saw good support from a sizeable gathering of ex OM rugby players and guests included Kevin Douglas (former Belmont Deputy Head) who was representing UCS Old Boys, the opposition for the day. The OM XV lost a closely contested game.

I also attended the **Oakers lunch** at the beginning of February at the Boot. Gerry Westoby (Ridgeway 1956-61) continues to do an excellent job as 'rapporteur' following in the steps of Tom Oxenham (Collinson 1954-59).

I visited **New York** from 10-12 March 2016 and had an excellent few days including an Old Millhillian reception and gathering and a Saracens versus London Irish Rugby match.

There were about 20 attendees, including partners, at the reception which was held at the Court Hotel before we moved on to a local restaurant for the dinner. Attendees included David Brown, who very generously paid for the dinner, John Vincett from Canada, Donald Haigh, and doctors Mark Dweck and Nigel Mendosa, two young students, Pam Penawou, Michael Berwin, Abhijit Gupta, Paul Bickerdike and myself. I also met other OMs from New York who were attending the rugby match.

On the 16th March I was the guest at the **Rugby Dinner** held at the Pewterers Hall. An excellent, convivial, occasion and despite initial concerns it was well supported with some 60 attendees. The ages I had taught at Mill Hill ranged from 16 to over 60! John Gallagher, President of the OMs Rugby Club, presented tankards to 10 worthy members of the Club, both old and young.

I attended two **1st XV matches** in March, one a cup game and one a league match, both of which the OMs won! And pleasingly in the second game, the conclusion of university terms meant that over half the team was made up of Millhillians.

On 7 April 2016 I watched the **Old Millhillians Golf** team lose very narrowly in the first round of the Halford Hewitt at Stoneyhurst College at Royal St Georges, Sandwich.

The Club hosted the **Leavers' Reception** on 26 April 2016 at the National Liberal Club. It proved to be a wonderful evening thoroughly enjoyed by all. Current pupils were able to mix with a variety of OMs of all ages and professional backgrounds and were taken on tours of the NLC, as they will be welcome to use these fantastic facilities as Junior Members of the OM Club. Thirteen past presidents and I gathered in the North Library of

OM Life Guardians – Stakeholders in the Foundation

Many OMs may not know about the benefits and duties of being a Life Guardian, which are laid out in the Foundation's Memorandum and Articles.

Life Guardians enjoy the privilege of receiving the Foundation accounts and annual reports on the educational and financial progress of the Foundation from the Head and Chairman of the Court of Governors. The information provided is traditionally extensive and detailed and the Life Guardians who attend the Annual Meeting have the unique opportunity to question the Head and the Chairman on any matters in their Reports or, indeed, any matters regarding the Foundation. This year the Life Guardians held their 191st Annual Meeting on OMs Day and were pleased to welcome Mrs Frances King, Head of Mill Hill School and CEO of the Foundation, to her first Annual Meeting and also

Dr. Roger Chapman, Chairman of the Court of Governors.

The Foundation's Articles also require Life Guardians to elect and re-elect Governors and to provide a minimum of five Life Guardians to be members of the Court of Governors. At this year's Annual Meeting OMs Dr Roger Chapman, Anthony Brooke, Elliot Lipton and Stephanie Miller were re-elected as Governors along with Pamela Wilkes and Rudolf Lockhart. OM Sophie Law was elected as a new Governor along with Jamie Hornshaw and Sunena Stoneham. The Life Guardians Committee maintains a list of potential candidates for appointment as Governors to the Court and will be updating this list later in 2016 by e mailing OMs to see if any are interested in being a Governor of the Foundation sometime in the future. OMs interested in becoming a Life Guardian should visit www.lifeguardians.org.uk or contact Peter Wakeham on peter@wakeham.net

Peter Wakeham (Burton Bank 1960-65)



The Athenaeum for the annual **Past Presidents' Luncheon** on 27 April 2016. A moment of silence was observed before the lunch in memory of Bill Skinner (1997-98) who left the ranks of the past presidents earlier this year.

the Sunday Mike and Linda Hailey provided a delicious lunch at their home for those who had travelled interstate, including the indomitable Margaret and John Fereday, who had driven cross-country from Adelaide in their motorhome. Distances are nothing 'down under'.



Finally I flew south to **Melbourne** where I was generously hosted by the delightful family of Justin and Emma Wernham and attended an evening dinner for twelve. The enthusiasm and interest of the antipodean OMs and their loyalty to the Club and the School is unbounded and many thanks to organisers David Stannard and Justin Wernham.

Good company was had by this special group of people of diverse interests bound by the privilege of being president of our Club. Many thanks to Russell Cowan (Weymouth 1958-63) and Stuart Hibberdine (Scrutton 1950-55) for hosting the event.

In the elegant and comfortable rooms provided by Trinity College, this year's **East Anglia Dinner** took place on 16 September 2016. In the event, 31 OMs, guests and pupils attended, including the Head, Frances King, accompanied by her husband, Tim, both of whom were warmly welcomed by the Chair of the dinner, David

Brilliant sunshine provided the backdrop to the **OM biennial European weekend** on 19th May. Madrid was this year's destination and a varied programme, both cultural and social, was much enjoyed by a group of 23 Old Millhillians and their wives. Highlights included: an excellent wine tasting (many thanks to the Spanish family of William Corbett (Priestley 1992-97) for introducing us to their own Los Aljibes wines); a stunning evening of flamenco dancing (OMs were spectating, not performing!); a tour of Madrid with a visit to the Royal Palace; and a day out to the beautiful city of Toledo (the medieval capital of Spain before it moved to Madrid).



Particular thanks to our knowledgeable and fluent guide, Maria, to Mayank Joshi at Saltours, our helpful travel agent, and most of all to Peter Wakeham (Burton Bank 1960-64) for all his hard work in driving the event and putting the weekend together.

Short. Other guests included Leon Roberts, Head of Belmont, and his wife, Sarah, and the Chair of the OMs Club, Andy Mortimer. It was a pleasure also to welcome two undergraduates and two sixth form pupils who aspire to places at the University.

I enjoyed a whistle stop tour of New Zealand and Australia in early June. In Auckland I was hosted by the ever youthful John and Mirabel Sievers while Nick Howe-Smith had arranged a dinner for twelve at a local yacht club. Impressively Peter Halstead and Bob Barton, accompanied by their wives, had flown all the way up from Wellington to be there.

After the characteristically lively reception and a delicious three course dinner, Mrs King gave an informative review of her first two terms with the Foundation, demonstrating overtly the spirit and style she will bring to her headship which is based on optimism, positivity and compassion. A few questions were taken from the floor to Mrs King, to her husband and to the Chair of the Club, before the formal part of the evening closed and further socialising ensued. Many thanks to Russell Cowan and David Short for organising such a successful event.



The **Australian contingent** held a gathering in Sydney over the Queen's birthday weekend, which included a get together in a pub on the Friday, and a formal dinner for eighteen on the Saturday. On

Tim Corbett
President 2015-2016



Mill Hill in Asia



Hong Kong

The Old Millhillians Dinner in Hong Kong took place on Monday 24th October at the Regal Palace Hotel in Causeway Bay. Head, Mrs Frances King, attending her first overseas Old Millhillians event was joined by two Mill Hill Deputy Heads, Alex Frazer (Academic) and Tony Binns (External Relations) – and Director of Development, Nick Priestnall.

Mrs King took the chance to give the group a flavour of life under her Headship at Mill Hill School and her vision for the future. She ended with highlighting the Foundation’s commitment to reaching out into the local community, something which MH not only believes it should be doing but now is, like all other independent schools, being required by Mrs Theresa May to do. For Mill Hill this means being a part of the Tottenham Hotspur Academy of Excellence and of the Saracens High School; it also means looking to increase the bursary provision. Nick Priestnall provided the latest on the *A Better Chance* bursary campaign. He spoke of the recent ABC Ball and of initiatives amongst groups of Old Millhillians and individuals through which 19 pupils are currently being funded.

OM Steven Yat Chun Chan who had recently visited the School for the first time since he left was thanked for all the work he had put in to arranging the venue and the food. He was presented with two prints of the School as a memento of his visit and in appreciation of his efforts for the night.

Kuala Lumpur

The Old Millhillians gathering in Kuala Lumpur was in fact in two parts. On the evening of Wednesday 26th October Nick hosted drinks in the Pavilions Bar of the Sheraton Imperial Hotel before the group moved into the Celestial Court restaurant, not something guaranteed to all Old Millhillians as one wit remarked! During the course of drinks and the excellent

meal, Nick brought people up to date with life in NW7. Mubin Shah (Ridgeway 2011), Asim Qureshi (Priestley 1994) and Natasha Kamaluddin (St Bees 1992) had hoped to be there but were unable to join in the end.

The second part of the reunion in KL took place the following lunchtime when Saeed Chinoy and Nick Priestnall were generously hosted at the wonderful Royal Selangor Club by brothers Zafar and Mazhar Ali Khan. The brothers who hale originally from Myanmar may be recognised by friends and contemporaries as Aye Pe Kin and Myint Pe Kin, their Burmese names by which they were known at School.



It was felt strongly that there was a real opportunity to build a stronger Mill Hill School community “in the region”. This was thought to encompass the whole SE Asia area thus giving people a feeling of belonging to a bigger group and helping local event organisers to get as many as possible to attend. It was also felt to have the potential to provide careers help to current Millhillians and recent leavers and a wonderful networking opportunity for all.

Nick Priestnall, Director of Development, Mill Hill School



Medical Event

Professional Events

The OM Club's professional events take place throughout the year. They are an opportunity for OMs to connect and socialise in a professional capacity and many are always very successful.

The Media and Journalism networking event

on 3 February 2016 entitled "VOLKSWAGEN - PEOPLE'S CAR OR PEOPLE'S CON?" was hosted by Karen Prichard (Ridgeway 1979-81), Head of Reputation Research at Ebiquity Plc and Bloomberg presenter Caroline Hepker (Weymouth 1993-95). We were delighted to have BBC Business Correspondent Theo Leggett as the speaker and the format of Caroline 'interviewing' Theo worked very well, with good audience engagement. The evening proved to be a success. This is the second consecutive year that the Media event has been organised and attendance is steadily growing.

A successful **Accountancy Gathering** organised by Andrew Millet (Ridgeway, 1981-86) and Mike Solomons (Murray 1979-84) took place on 11 February 2016, where 20 OMs enjoyed a lively evening of socialising and networking. This new event proved popular and hopefully numbers will increase further to reflect this.

An **Entrepreneurs Evening** at Villandry in St James on the 24 February 2016 was attended by around 40 OMs. A highly effective format of an informal meal accompanied by a very interesting talk given by Amit Pau about the challenges facing entrepreneurs. Many thanks to Zusanna Rafalat (Weymouth 1996-98) and Peter Wakeham (Burton Bank 1960-64) for their organisation. A pleasure to see our new Head, Mrs Frances King, attending her first OM function.

The second **Medical Event**, this year held on 22 March 2016 at the Royal College of Surgeons, was again another excellent careers networking event with 20 attendees from the School. Well done to Russell Cowan (Weymouth 1958-63) on what was a worthwhile evening for all and reflects the strong participation in the medical world of Old Millhillsans.

The **Property Dinner** held at the National Liberal Club on Monday 18 April 2016 was a most enjoyable evening. A formal



dinner in the Lloyd George room was preceded by drinks in the library, with over forty OMs of different ages attending. This section of the Club is clearly thriving, driven by the enthusiasm of organiser Mike Peskin (Burton Bank 1980-84), and guided by the wise counsel of Graham Chase (Burton Bank 1966-72), who gave a thought-provoking speech outlining the challenges that he believes lie ahead for the property market.

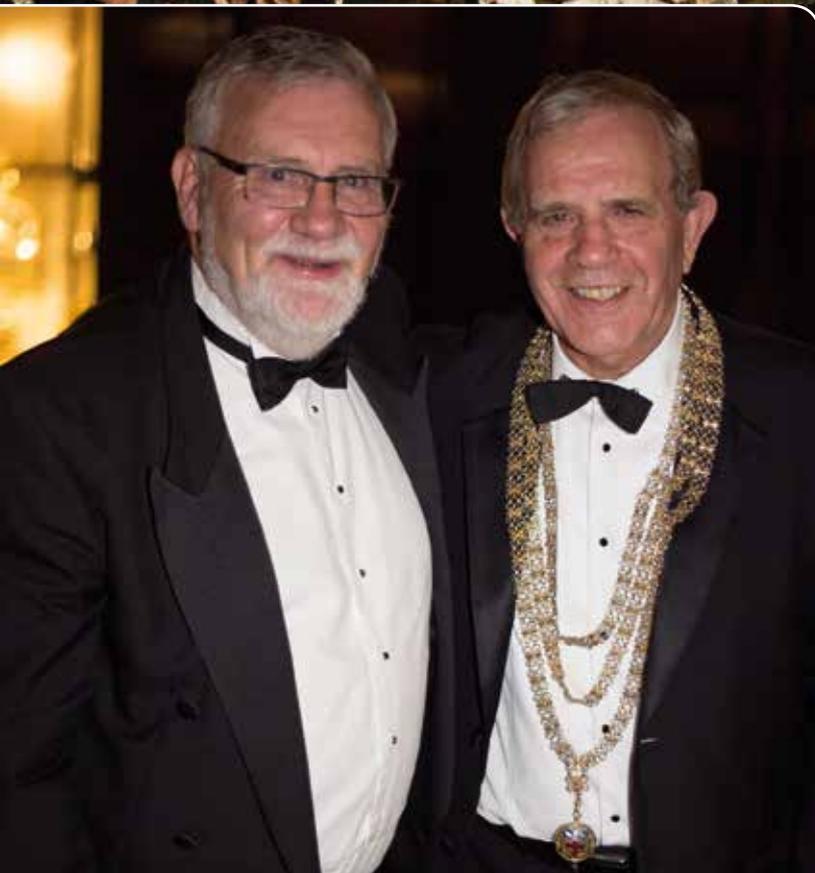
The City Dinner, held at the Lansdowne Club on Thursday 5 May 2016, was another wonderful event in a very pleasant venue and excellently organised by Solon Satanias (Murray 1990-93). Chief guests were Mr John Allan CBE Chair of Tesco and the Head of Mill Hill Foundation, Mrs Frances King. At the end of the meal Solon welcomed everyone and spoke briefly before introducing John Allan, who spoke on a number of issues including Brexit and the management issues of a large company before leading a stimulating Q and A session.

The Engineers Dinner, held at the Bleeding Heart restaurant on 13 May 2016, has been running for over 30 years. There was a good turnout and it was a most enjoyable evening. Apart from some of the regulars OMs were delighted to welcome Panos Yianni (School House 2004-09) who is currently completing a PhD in Civil Engineering.

Each year organisers invite a couple of school pupils who are studying technology and sciences and are considering a career in Engineering; this year Jessica Powell and Micah Lazarus were welcomed.

Annual Dinner 2016

14th October 2016



The Club's annual dinner took place on the 14th October at the Merchant Taylors' Hall. Tim Corbett, OMC President, welcomed the Head Mrs Frances King and her husband Tim to their first annual dinner. Over 200 guests, a near record breaking number of attendees, were hosted in the magnificent venue.

Tim taught at Mill Hill for over forty years and it was lovely to see a show of support from many of his former colleagues, some of whom have been retired for a long time and others who still teach at Mill Hill. There was also a large turnout of Tim's former students especially Winterstokians and they enjoyed meeting each other and their teachers.



Ronnie Boon was passed the Chain of Office to become the new President of the Club and David Brown was welcomed as the new Vice President. Additionally, Nigel Baker, Patrick Russell and John Watkiss were awarded President's Medals for their loyalty and hard work - Nigel for Alford House, Patrick for the OM Golf Club and John Watkiss for Chairmanship of the OM Club. John was unfortunately unable to attend the dinner.

It was a successful evening thoroughly enjoyed by all; it is testament to the inclusivity of the Club that the youngest person in the room was a seventeen year School monitor and the oldest was an Old Millhillian aged 91 years! Special thanks go to Kevin Kyle, Master in charge of music whose piano playing added to the atmosphere during the drinks reception.



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

Old Millhillians Day



Old Millhillians Day

Old Millhillians Day took place on Saturday 24th September with a full timetable of events for OMs and their families. The beautiful weather helped to make it a lovely occasion. There were two reunions of OMs who left in 1966 and 1996 with a great turn out and lots of memories shared.

OMs were able to enjoy the School grounds and visit to the Houses in order to see all the changes that have occurred during the summer. The day concluded with the MHS U16A beating Magdalen College School 7-5 on Top Field. Many thanks to the Head and the School providing such generous hospitality, including a superb hog roast lunch.



Old Millhillian Lodge

The last year has seen the Old Millhillian Lodge increase its membership by eleven new members. We have gained four existing Masons, all but one being Old Millhillians, and seven, yes seven, Old Millhillians have been Initiated into the Lodge. Our new members have been received rather like long lost relatives who are, dare I say it, Brothers, which is what they are now, having joined the Masonic family".

It is a rarity that any lodge can boast such an influx of so many in such a short time. Indeed with the school being the common denominator none have, no matter what their ages are, felt strangers. Their arrival has already stimulated an extension of the terrific and energetic character that existed within the formal lodge

meetings and they have all added to the social enjoyment that is the post meeting gathering that is known as "The Festive Board". The lively dinner which is a regular part of every meeting, and which echoes to the strong and happy Mill Hill conversation as generations of Old Millhillians reminisce and compare their days at the School and where our new members, who are beginning their Masonic careers, simply add to the strength of the Lodge and the strength of the School.

Our increase in numbers is set to continue next year and I say to all Old Millhillians, we extend the welcoming hand of masonry which coupled with all of our shared affection and memories for the school makes the Old Millhillian Lodge 5752, a unique and special lodge to join.

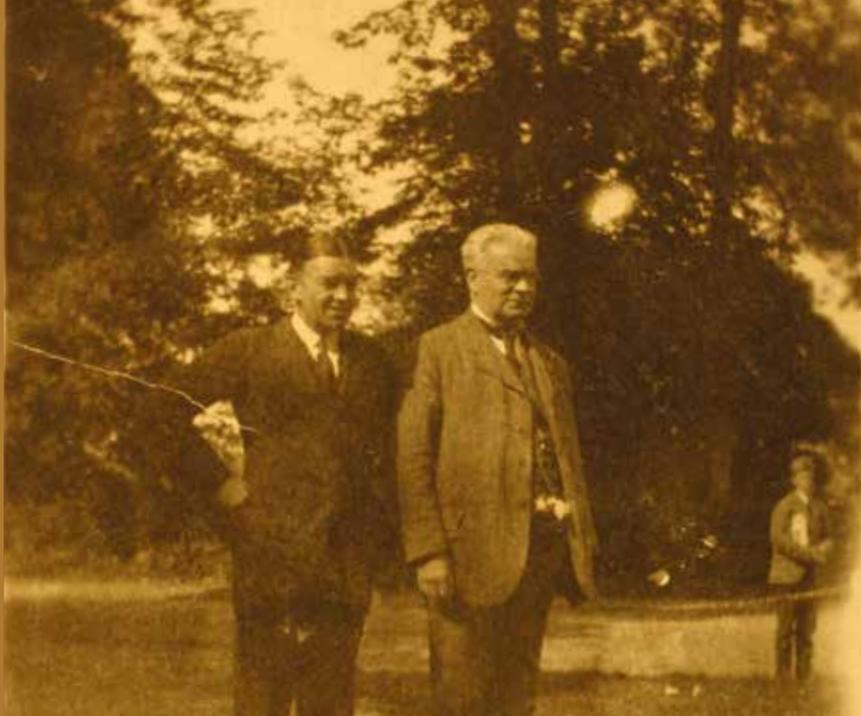
Bruce Maunder Taylor (Weymouth 1959-64)

Shackleton Visits Mill Hill School

Shortly before embarking on his epic expedition to cross Antarctica, Sir Ernest Shackleton finally managed to put together sufficient funds for his grand venture. Money and resources were donated by the Government on behalf of the Nation, by a wealthy Scottish businessman and by several others who included Miss Janet Stancomb-Wills, a member of the Wills tobacco family. Shackleton approached the public schools of England and these sponsored the dog teams, each dog being named after one of the sponsor schools.

One of the dogs was named MillHill and the photo shows Shackleton and the then Headmaster Sir John McClure standing on what is now The Top Terrace, which is presumed to be the occasion when the gift was made. History does not record the fate of MillHill although not many of the dogs survived.

There are several books which have been published recounting the story of the expedition and telling of the loss of The Endurance, Shackleton's ship, and of the survival and rescue of the expedition members. These include one with some remarkable photographs taken by Frank Hurley, the expedition photographer.



Old Belmontians Association

Formed in 1994, Old Belmontians Association (OBA) is one of a very rare breed of prep schools with its own former pupils association, but it has been getting progressively harder to sustain membership. As a result of these conversations, the OBA was dissolved at its AGM in May this year. We are very pleased to welcome them into the wider Millhillian community. As part of the arrangement, two members of the OBA committee have joined ours, namely Adrian Jordan and Anthony Ward though the latter is already on our committee. Furthermore, all OBs have been offered Life Membership or Annual Membership of the OM Club.

Alford House

After some 2 years of negotiations we have finally exchanged contracts with Notting Hill Housing Trust.



This represents the sale of the freehold of about 2/3 of our site to build a modern block of 34 flats and build Alford House new freehold premises. The plans comprise a semi basement sports hall, ground floor with 2 floors above. This is still subject to planning permission but the omen from the pre app meeting is good as we are continuing the community use that we have at present. Once we have fitted out the new premises we hope to have sufficient funds in trust to provide an indefinite income to support the club. This is the object of the whole exercise.

The summer months saw the Club, that has no regular reputation for holiday provision and certainly no funding for it, be unusually active. We ran over 30 sessions, made up of fitness, music, skiing, table tennis and some one to one and family interventions. We had some 300 attendances to these sessions.

Over the autumn term we have completed an outdoor pursuits weekend residential in the Ashdown forest, continued with our ski programme over 6 Sundays at the Snow Centre in Hemel Hempstead, taken a group off to Thorpe Park for "Fright Night"



during Halloween, established a Street Dance project and continued to open 5 days a week for physical and arts activity.

Of note, the Club received level 1 validation from Project Oracle - The Evidence Hub for Children and Young People, for its work in evaluating the benefits for young people coming to Alford House. This is a very significant certification when it comes to grant applications.

See www.alfordhouse.org.uk for more information.

Nigel Baker (1955-61) nigel@alfordhouse.org.uk

Mill Hill School's Heritage: Re-creating Peter Collinson's Garden

Those of you with good memories will remember that 'Project 2018', the plan to re-create the essence of the garden of the internationally renowned 18th century plant collector and botanist, Peter Collinson FRS, was announced in Martlet a few years ago. After much discussion and research, a small group of enthusiasts is now working with the Head, the Bursar and the Assistant Deputy Head, Sam Baldock to re-activate this project with the aim of the garden being officially opened in 2018, the 250th anniversary of Collinson's death.

Collinson lived in the original Ridge Way House and his garden occupied much of what we now know as Top Terrace. His house subsequently formed in 1807 the first building of the Protestant Dissenters' Grammar School, later to become Mill Hill School. The first boarding house of the School was named after him, Cedars House commemorated his work and his portrait has pride of place in the Crick Room, having been donated by the Old Millhillian father of his OM son, Francis Crick.

His legacy includes the planting of a wide variety of trees throughout what is now the School's estate, some of which are still growing on Top Terrace. These trees have been catalogued by one of our group, Trevor Chilton, Collinson Housemaster from 1985 to 2000, and they have been labelled thanks to the generosity of Graham Chase (1966-1972).

The locations of the beds for both sun-loving and shade-loving plants have been agreed and work is underway to identify and source the plants attributable to Peter Collinson, some species of which continue to be available in their original form while others as their cultivars.

To date the Foundation and the Old Millhillians Club have provided funds for this project, with preparation of the beds and initial planting planned for this Autumn. Continuing this work and maintaining the garden are both important and costly.



We believe this project is worthwhile in several ways. It celebrates our heritage; it has educational value; it will add to the visual pleasure and historical significance of Top Terrace; it will be available for all members of the Mill Hill School community to enjoy.

Dr Russell Cowan (1958-63)
Trevor Chilton, Collinson Housemaster (1985-2000)
Roddy Braithwaite (1945-50)

St Bees

During the Second World War, Mill Hill School was evacuated to St Bees School in Cumbria and more than 500 Old Millhillians spent all or part of their time there. Until recently the Old Millhillians had a subsidiary St Bees Society, but inevitably declining numbers meant that the Society was disbanded a few years ago.

Even sadder was the closure of St Bees School itself last year. However, the St Bees School Trustees outlined in a recent newsletter their efforts not only to maintain existing assets and infrastructure but also to identify an educational model for the School which would enable it to reopen.

In their press release, at the end of July, the Trustees believe that a viable model is possible and identified three options for further review and development:

1. An independent school plus an independent international centre.
2. An independent school coupled with an international centre in the form of a partnership.
3. A reopening of the school in partnership with an existing UK school.

Routine communications and latest developments are issued through the Trust's website at www.stbeesschool.co.uk.



A lovely print of a watercolour painting of St Bees by Arthur Rooker Roberts, founding Head of Belmont, was in the possession of Richard Wylde, OM at St Bees, who died in July. The OM Club would be interested to learn the whereabouts of the original.

Peter Phillips, the son of Warren Phillips, Winterstoke Housemaster during WW2 and brother of Tim Phillips, former Chairman of Wimbledon All England Tennis and Croquet, has written an entertaining and memorable account of his time there, entitled 'An Evacuee's Story'. If you would like a full copy of his recollections, please contact the OM office.

Ronnie Aye Maung (Burton Bank 1945-50)



Ronnie Aye Maung, passed away on Monday 24th October. Ronnie was at Belmont and then Mill Hill and was always a very enthusiastic alumnus. He served both as Honorary Secretary and President to the OMs, and got a huge amount of pleasure from meeting old and new friends in that capacity.

He always talked very fondly of his time at the School: being evacuated to St Bees; playing rugby and cricket; but mostly about the friends who he made there. Ronnie had been unwell for some time, following a stroke in 2013, but true to form had defied virtually every medical prognosis thrown at him – a fighter to the last. In the end, it was a very peaceful passing. Our thoughts are with Joan his widow and his daughters Lorraine, Carole and Natalie. The family are planning to hold a memorial service in the Mill Hill School chapel at 2pm on the 10 February. Please email ayemaungmemorial@gmail.com

John King (Burton Bank 1956-61)



We are very sorry to report the death of **John King** on Saturday 12th November, following a long illness.

John was a true stalwart of the Club; as well as being an accomplished rugby player, John was the OMRFC Middlesex Representative for many years, he edited the Middlesex Informer Magazine, helped out as grounds man at Headstone Lane, organised excellent lunches on Vice Presidents' Day, and was also responsible for introducing Martlet, which he edited.

John was awarded the President's Medal in 2015 in recognition of his enormous contribution to the Club.

Our warmest wishes go to John's wife Edwina.

Careering Ahead

Work Experience – Making a Difference

The Old Millhillians Club has recently established a Career Support Sub-Committee. Its members are Mitesh Bhimjiyani, Ted Ivens, Dick Lidwell and Peter Wakeham. The team will work closely with the Club Office and the school's Careers Department to further the career interests of OMs and pupils.

One of our major priorities is to help provide a range of work experience opportunities through the Old Millhillian community. There is overwhelming evidence that young people are more likely to be successful in their job hunt if they have done some good work experience. Moreover, graduates who have had no previous work experience at all are unlikely to be successful during the selection process.

Ted Ivens, who has conducted hundreds of candidate interviews during his long career as a head hunter says: "I can honestly say that those candidates who had enjoyed any form of work experience stood out from those who had not. I could spot almost immediately the confidence it had given them and their broader knowledge and wisdom."

Dick Lidwell, who has spent his whole working life providing career advisory services, makes the following comment: "Students benefit enormously from work experience if they use it well. We encourage them to keep a diary of their time which then becomes a crib sheet for the future when writing applications and updating the CV."

The advantages of work experience are not one-sided. The Chartered Institute for Personnel Development (CIPD) sees the following benefits to employers: "Work experience placements enable you to access a wider range of talent and engage

with your community, potentially with a view to employing more young people as part of your workforce in the longer term. Offering work experience placements can also make a useful contribution to your strategic talent management and workforce planning. Young people offer new ideas and fresh ways of thinking, reflecting the interests and needs of the next generation of customers and consumers. Furthermore, it can be an opportunity for staff development with potential for management opportunities, because staff can act as 'mentors'

OMs have traditionally been very supportive in providing work experience to OMs and Mill Hill pupils. This summer Andrew Millet gave an opportunity to a sixth form student to spend a week shadowing work across all the main departments of his accountancy practice, Wisteria.

Furthermore, Ali Celiker arranged for a sixth form student to undertake a competitor analysis project for his start up, British Pearl. This has proven to be an extremely valuable exercise for the company. Moreover, students hope the experience will help improve the content of their personal statement in the UCAS application form.

Peter Wakeham asked a friend who heads up an engineering recruitment business to write to local clients. One has already responded with a request for potentially 10 – 15 students from the school in 2017.

We are keen for more OM employers to be part of our work experience initiative. Please contact the Club Office to register your interest. If you need more information or more convincing, please download the excellent CIPD document "Placements that work" at www.cipd.co.uk

Peter Wakeham, (Burton Bank 1960-65)



OM Golfing Society

OMGS were playing in a tournament at West Hill GC for older golfers of some of the earliest schools to play in the Halford Hewitt, a major tournament for 64 public schools. There are 3 age group categories: over 55, over 65 and over 75. We didn't fare too well in the over 55's (the Mellin Salver), but in the over 65's (the Peter Burles Salver) we reached the final thanks to the play-off pair Tony Smith and Paul Nicholas. In the event they could not manage a win against a particularly good Oundle side. Chris Maunder Taylor and Cliff Rose were the other pair in the semi-final (two pairs compete in a scratch match-play competition).

This is the first time since the tournaments started 56 years ago that Mill Hill have reached the final of the main events, although we have been in the finals of the Plate competitions for first round losers 5 times, so this was a really good performance.

The players were: Peter Alexy, Mike Corby, Chris Maunder-Taylor, Paul Nicholas, Paul Reik, Cliff Rose, Pat Russell, Tony Smith, Andy Turnbull, and Geoffrey Vero.

Colin Nunn (Burton Bank 1975-81)

OMRFC

At the home match at Headstone Lane on 19th December 2016 both teams lined up and stood for a minute's silence in remembrance of two club stalwarts, John King and Ronnie Au Maung, who had recently died. The Club Chairman, John Gallagher, speaking to the two teams said that Ronnie, a former main Club President remained a loyal supporter of all things Old Millhillian all his life, whilst John King was the essential Club man, the typical unsung hero without which no club could successfully exist. He had been instrumental in the organisation of the OMRFC Vice-Presidents lunches for many years, and had also served in various capacities within Middlesex rugby. As player and supporter and activist within the club he would be much missed. The 1 XV went on to win their top of the table clash with a bonus point win in which they scored six tries. **John Gallagher (Ridgeway 63-69)**

Chris Kelly (OM)

The Club is delighted to record that Chris Kelly, a long-time supporter and player for OMRFC and a notable administrator in the RFU, has been elected as Junior Vice President of the Union. He is likely to become President in two year's time.

Totteridge Millhillians Cricket

Totteridge Millhillians celebrated their elevation to the Premier Division this season for the first time, by retaining their premier division status following a successful summer. The Junior Section won all their divisions bar one to finish the season at the top of the league, which is a great achievement.

A moment of fame for the Club occurred during the final of the T20 Blast played at Edgbaston on 20th August. Couch potatoes were listening to "Bumble" Lloyd commentating; he noted that Monty Panesar had arrived in the Northampton dugout, Monty having recently joined Northampton's playing staff.

He mentioned that Monty had been playing on that day for Totteridge Millhillians. In the commentary box there was general disbelief that a cricket club of that name existed, but Bumble held his ground pointing out that John Embury is player/coach at Totteridge Millhillians. He did not mention that Adam Rossington, whose skills had been on display for Northampton during the T20 Blast Final, is also qualified to play for the Club as an OM.

Enquiries to join Totteridge Millhillians should be addressed to Steve Selwood (steve@theridge-n20.co.uk) who would welcome players and supporters alike.

OM Ladies Sport

The OM Club is very conscious that there is little provision for lady OMs in the way of sports clubs under the Club's banner.

The Club Office would be pleased to hear from any lady OMs who might be interested in forming a sports club for lady members. Please contact omc@millhill.org.uk or phone the Office on 0208 906 7949.

Support and advice will be provided by the Club in setting up.

Forthcoming Events 2017

21st January	OM South Africa Lunch Gathering Tim Sobey's home, Vermont near Hermanus Contact: John Parrot johnsparrott@gmail.com	10th May	OMC Liverymen's Assoc Lunch Guildhall, London EC2 Contact: Archie Galloway archiegalloway@hotmail.com
2nd February	OM Fives Dinner Bleeding Heart Restaurant Wine Cellar, London Contact: Oli Sander oliver.sander@gmail.com	10th May	Abu Dhabi OM Summer Drinks Ray's Bar, Jumeirah Hotel, Etihad Towers Contact: Raj Achan rajachan@aol.com
7th March	OM Medical Professions Meeting Royal College Physicians, London WC2. Contact: Dr Russell Cowan cowans@btinternet.com	11th May	New York Dinner (venue tbc) Contact: Club Office/Development Office omc@millhill.org.uk
9th March	Media and Communications Networking Event (venue tbc) Contact: Caroline Hepker chepker@mac.com	12th May	Engineers' Dinner Bleeding Heart Restaurant, London EC2 Contact: Gordon Mizner mizner@btinternet.com
April	Entrepreneurs event (venue and date tbc) Contact: Tom Lincoln tom.h.lincoln@gmail.com	13th May	Toronto Dinner Adega Restaurant Toronto Contact: John Oldroyd oldroyd@sympatico.ca
1st April	OMRFC VP lunch Headstone Lane Contact: John Gallagher allgallaghers@hotmail.com	25th May	City Dinner Lansdowne Club, London W1 Contact: Solon Satanans solon.satanans@tradition.com
19th April	Past Presidents' Luncheon Athenaeum Club SW1 Contact: Tim Corbett timcorbett@hotmail.co.uk	10 – 11 June	Australasian Weekend Dinner Contact: David Stannard omclubaus@gmail.com
26th April	U6 Leavers Reception National Liberal Club, London SW1 Contact: Club Office omc@millhill.org.uk	27th June	OMC AGM & Cocktail Party National Liberal Club, London SW1 Contact: Club Office omc@millhill.org.uk
3rd May	Property Dinner National Liberal Club, London SW1. Contact: Mike Peskin mike.peskin@osborne.co.uk		

Merchandise Price List

Silk Ties

Country & Town	£25.00
Extra long	£27.50
Non crease	£30.00
Silk untied bow ties	£17.00
Cufflinks - Enamel	£15.00
Crystal Tankard	£25.00
Hat Band	£5.00
Golf Umbrella	£35.00
Blazer Badges	£12.00
Pashmina	£25.00
Silk Square	£25.00
Mens Scarf	£25.00
Top Terrace Print (by TWC)	£18.00

'The new mens scarves proved very popular and we sold out! New stock arriving soon'



Tims Pic