

# Old Millhillians RFC Season 2006/2007



It is only in adversity that character is tested, and this season the players of our rugby club displayed resolution beyond measure. Motivated by a sense of grievance at the manner of our relegation from the league above, we set out with the twin aims of both winning all our matches, and gaining promotion. The former remains a target; the latter was accomplished in some style.

We run this team off a tiny player base; we hardly ever get a full team out training, but this club has produced a complete, balanced, passionate team that was successful this season, and can be successful for several seasons to come. As I told the players before one of our final matches this season, it was an honour just to be in the team, let alone to lead it.

We have worked hard recently during the off season to stimulate interest in the club from recent school leavers, and this has paid off with Sean Goh, Barry Murphy, and Micheal James making significant contributions all season. They have also provided that essential balance of youth and experience that any great team must have, with the sensible younger players reining-in the wild aspirations of some of the older guys like David Kelly and Mark Freer.

A strong start saw us win the first four games, but our dream of an unbeaten season was taken from us by Sarries amateurs. They were a strong team, but we felt we had the measure of them in several areas, and would have beaten them, had a nightclub in Clapham not deprived us of two key players. This unfortunate loss was followed by an outright catastrophe; in driving rain, on a hunchbacked pitch, and administered by one of the most woefully incompetent men I have ever encountered, we lost to Hendon. This loss in particular put our chances of promotion in jeopardy.

To cheer us up, the next game was against league leaders, and promotion rivals Old Streetonians. It was here that our revival started; although we lost the game, we found ourselves. The team was starting to mould itself into a versatile, pugnacious outfit, where players slotted in where they were needed and played for each other.

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## THE 2007 RUGBY CLUB VICE PRESIDENTS' REUNION



The 2007 Rugby Club Vice Presidents' Reunion and pre-match luncheon was held on Saturday 3rd March. Once again a most successful event with 62 attendees. After 26 years John King decided to hang up his apron and only organise the event. The catering was done by OM professional caterer, Nic Leon, who produced an excellent meal, which was greatly enhanced by waitress service, thus avoiding the scrum at the buffet.

There must be something magical about these reunions; as soon as everyone moved out to the touchline, the players became inspired and produced some excellent rugby to overcome Old Haberdashers, spurred on by the enthusiastic crowd support. Next year the VP Reunion will be held before the last match of the season against Verulamians on Saturday 12 April 2008. Leon Catering have been rebooked, so please put the date in your diary and keep it free.



# President's Diary JULY 2007

I am now two thirds through my "year of office" as your President, and I can assure you it has been extremely busy and plenty more still to come.



Following John Elliott's splendid and well supported dinner at the Langham Hotel last October, it got off to a sobering start representing all OM's Past and Present at the very moving **Remembrance Gate Service** on 11th November and thereafter reading a lesson in Chapel. Whilst laying the OM's wreath one reflected upon all OM's who had laid down their lives in the service of King, Queen and Country, and with some young OM's and my children's friends now serving overseas it was poignant for all the School as they passed through the Gate.

Then it was off to Michael Henderson's **South West Dinner** at Somerset Cricket ground where Bob Marshall Andrews gave a hilarious speech – virtually impossible to follow. Michael had previously given a moving address at the Remembrance

Service of his experiences as an Evacuee to the USA from 1940. **The Manchester Dinner** at the St James Club was ably organised by John Elliott and his Committee, and all went according to plan until I stood up to speak and the fire alarm thereafter continuously went off!! Maybe this was an early warning to all.

At this stage the waist line was beginning to suffer especially as Tony Bell had organised a wonderful feast for the **Golfing Society** at its usual haunt of the

Army & Navy Club. I was among very dear friends, the wine and stories flowed and all the club Silver was out on display. The OMGS celebrate their Centenary in 2008 - and are organising a bumper year for all to participate – including a trip to St Andrews.

Wasn't able to attend the **YOM's bash** at the Three Hammers just before Xmas - but was told they gave it a good Hammering! Then "off" on the Far East tour with Frankie my wife in the New Year. First stop Hong Kong; and dinner with Kim Longley (60-65) a direct School House contemporary of mine who "sits in Judgement" on HK!. We had 18 OM's at a dinner organised by Peter Bolton which developed into a great debate about education and the School and I was pleased to catch up with my old friend Ian Skeggs who I haven't seen since leaving MHS. Next stop was Auckland NZ and a BBQ and overnight stay with Nick Howe Smith and his charming family, and Peter Mensa turned out wearing some very colourful OM socks. We managed to see quite a bit of North and South Island, and had dinner with last years R&A Captain – a NZ Tom Gault, among others.

Next stop Sydney and a week end up country with my old OM golfing pal Alastair McClellan at Bowral – home of Don Bradman and his famous Oval. The week end finished up with having a delightful outdoor lunch with John Hopkins and family ten miles away. Back then to Sydney to referee the Australian International qualifier for the OPEN golf championship at Carnoustie - followed by a dinner on the Sydney Harbour front with 8 OM's including Sir Michael Bishop who has a second home out there. Then onto Melbourne for three days R&A golf followed by a further BBQ at David Stannard's delightful home.

After a couple of days retracing my great grand fathers 1853 Australian Gold Rush tracks up at Ballarat, and a drive along the Ocean Route we flew up to Singapore to

meet up with Tony Bells son Alex, and Bill Yates a missionary in KL who hadn't been in contact with the OM's for 50 years. We had a lively debate. Then a long and tedious flight back to the UK. It was great catching up with many OM's in "our Empire", and I was struck by the influence Britain has had in the Far East and especially those Countries with Financial and Maritime centres - the benefits from which flow back to the UK.

The highlights of the year must be the **Service at St Paul's** on 1st March and then the **visit of HRH the Countess of Wessex in May to open the Favell Building at MHS**. The school threw a wonderful reception for OM's and their wives and partners at Stationers Hall and Bridewell Hall after the St Paul's Service which was much appreciated by everyone. I think there were probably a few tears in many an OM's eye as we filed out of St Paul's in glorious sunshine to the Bells peeling and the CCF drummers drumming. An emotive moment.

More dinners with the **OMRFC** at the National Liberal Club and a highly entertaining cabaret, the **Property Dinner** at the Cavalry and Guards Club presided over by Stuart Hibberdine, where Graham Chase gave the main address during his illustrious year as President of the RICS. The Past Presidents, under the organisation of our Chairman John Watkiss, gave a dinner for William and Margaret Winfield at Moor Park GC in March, and I was able to point out on one of the boards when Alastair Black (63-67) had won the English Boys Stroke Play Carris Trophy Competition in 1966. His name is engraved alongside many famous golfing names, and Alastair continues to remain the most talented golfer MHS has ever produced.

You can imagine the expanding waist line as it was then off to Cambridge for the **Corpus Christi dinner** organised – yet again so ably – by Tony Bell, together with the Past Presidents luncheon at the Army & Navy Club. Attended the **OMRFC Vice Presidents Annual luncheon** and watched an exciting match against the Old Haberdashers at Headstone Lane.

On 29th April there was a most moving Chapel Service taken by Rev James Field and then the slate bench dedication to Michael Berry and David Smith at the **St Bees Reunion** which was preceded by their AGM and followed by lunch in the Main School Dining Room over looking Top Field. You will be pleased to hear that all the OB's wish to continue to meet at least annually for as long as possible.

Then it was off to visit the management team at **Alford House** in Lambeth, followed by **dinner at the Nat Liberal Club** where we separately bumped into last years Senior Monitor, as well as Jeremy Galloway entertaining some business guests. Great to see the Club being fully used. I can't tell you how impressed I was with the work being done at Alford House and it fully deserves maximum support from all OM's and the School.

The year doesn't stop and not much time to spend in the office. Attended the **CCF Inspection and Newcastle Competition** - a fantastic performance and turn out by School House; played in the **Halford Hewitt Old Boys Golf Tournament** down at Deal and managed to win my two matches although we lost 3-2 to Highgate in the second round; failed to qualify for the **Grafton Morrish at Royal Wimbeldon GC** and played in the match against the **Masters and the Spring Meeting** which was wonderfully organised (with the biggest attendance ever) by this years OMGS Captain - William Maunder Taylor - at Huntercombe Golf Club, Henley which is a real gem of a course. Also played in the Match against the **Old Cholmelians at New Zealand Golf Club** – which is our oldest continuous fixture going back to 1908.

**The Engineers** held a reception in the new Favell building and then dinner thereafter in Café 6, wonderfully organised by David Rodda. A couple of current pupils spoke so well afterwards, that I have promised to try and get one of them to meet Ron Dennis of McLaren fame. Sat next to Alan Woollaston - who as a Past Master of the Plumbers Company had invited me along to one of his Court Luncheons the previous week in my dual capacity as your President and also as Senior Warden of the Feltmakers Company. Thereafter, another luncheon at Guildhall with the **OM's Livery Association** ably organised by Archie Galloway presided over by Mike Leon who then handed over being Master to David Short. I then bumped into Archie at a **City Livery Dinner** at the Grocers Hall virtually immediately thereafter (definitely time now for a visit to my Tailor).

Attended the washed-out past **School Cricket Captains fixture on the Park** - too wet to play - but a good lunch had by all. Peter Woodrooffe was appropriately attired for play, and good to see my contemporary Ewan Black (Alastairs brother).

We have just held a most successful **AGM and Cocktail party** on the terrace at the Nat Liberal Club, and I am delighted to announce that Graham Chase has been

elected to be next years Vice President to Ronnie Cohn's Presidency when he takes office in October. What a great combination they will be.

Entering the final straight now, with **OM's day** being combined with **Foundation Day** on Saturday 29th September and then the **Annual Dinner at Inner Temple Hall** on Friday 19th October, which will be a splendid affair and an opportunity to celebrate in style and wine, the School's Bicentenary and an opportunity to meet the new Headmaster – Dr Dominic Lockett. Lets have the fullest attendance possible at both, and especially a big turn out for Ronnies "Chain of Office" installation at the Annual Dinner. Ronnie has done so much for the Club over the last 44 years and lets greet him with acclamation.

At every event I have had the opportunity to thank and praise William Winfield for the tremendous job he has done as Headmaster for the last thirteen years - and I would like to record herein the heartfelt thanks of all OMs to him, and wish him and Margaret every happiness in their retirement. Also a big thanks to Tim, Viv and Shalaka in the office - without their help nothing would be possible!!

Finally as OMs I think we all have a debt of gratitude to MHS for giving us the education we have had – and I do hope ALL of you will support – to the best of your resources – **the Bicentenary Appeal** – which is pretty important for the future success of the School. Please act now if you haven't done so already.

Looking forward to seeing you all at **OMs Day** and the **Annual Dinner at Inner Temple Hall**.

Geoffrey Vero

## Nobis et Scholae

The first half of our bicentenary year has been marked by a sequence of celebratory events. In January the Head of Drama, David Proudlock, directed three performances of his historical and social pageant "Never Had It So Good" at a crowded Arts Depot Theatre in Finchley and guests were also able to view some excellent exhibits of work created by the School's artists. This was closely followed by our musicians led by Director of Music, Richard Allain, in two "Unplugged" concerts. The Service of Thanksgiving at St Paul's Cathedral on 1 March will remain strongly etched on the memories of all 2400 past and present pupils and parents who attended. The sun shone brightly, the immaculate CCF guard of honour lined the steps for the arrival of the Lord Mayor of the City of London and the Choir sang superbly. The Rt Revd John Perry (OM) gave a fine sermon linking past traditions, present achievements and future challenges; the Chairman of the Life Governors, Bill Skinner (OM), received from the Lancaster Herald a new coat of arms for the School and Foundation. Afterwards there were receptions at Stationers Hall and St Bride's where it was a pleasure to welcome many Old Millhillian guests.

The sun also shone on 2 May when the School was honoured to receive HRH The Countess of Wessex. After spending time with pupils and teachers from Grimsdell and Belmont, the Countess graciously opened the Favell Building before a crowd of some 1500 well-wishers, made a short speech wishing the School well in its next two hundred years and was presented to the Monitors and other pupils. The CCF Corps of Drums gave the Countess a fine display on Top Terrace. Many Old Millhillians were present, including a reunion of those who witnessed the visit of HM The Queen in

1957. The Favell Building stands as symbolic testimony of our debt to our Founders and our confidence in our ability to offer excellence in education in the future. It has received much approbation: its stylish lines sensitively complement the other major buildings on the Quad. Inside, a stunning blend of light and space is revealed, offering a traditional format with state-of-the-art teaching facilities. We hope it will stand the test of time and become Mill Hill's iconic building of the 21st century.

Sport has also been much in evidence. There was an international mixed hockey match at Southgate Hockey Club in March, our golfers won the London competition of the HMC tournament and now go on to compete with seven other schools in the national final in July, our cricketers have had a promising season although rain sadly prevented play in the bicentennial Captains Match, and, finally, our rugby squad leaves shortly for its tour of New Zealand and the Cook Islands.

It gives me great pleasure to be able to hand over the School for the second half of its bicentennial celebrations to my successor Dr Dominic Lockett. I am sure Old Millhillians will quickly come to appreciate his many qualities and will welcome him and his wife Cara to our community. For our part, Margaret and I leave Mill Hill with many happy memories. The School has played a huge part in our lives. It was an immense privilege to be invited to become Headmaster and to receive the fulsome support of the wider Mill Hill community including most importantly the members of the Old Millhillians Club. I thank you sincerely for your warm fellowship throughout all the years and very much hope to remain in close touch with you all in the future.

William Winfield Headmaster

## Honorary Secretary's Report

The Club is in excellent heart and we have recruited nearly 100 new members over the last year. Events continue to be increasingly well supported (it was good to see so many at the cocktail party, which has now established itself as a popular annual event); and what is most pleasing is that more and more younger members, particularly those in their thirties and forties, are beginning to attend events. I think special tribute must be paid to our Chairman, John Watkiss, who continues to work tirelessly in driving the Club forward, both through the office and the Management Committee. His abiding concern is that we must continue to recruit; John rightly believes that only if we have a large membership will we have the financial basis to provide a professional service to our members and even more importantly to maintain our independence as a club. So do encourage other Old Millhillians who are not members to join.

Of course this is a year when the School and the Club have come together for the bicentennial celebrations. Many Old Millhillians attended the impressive service at St Paul's and one of the two receptions hosted by the School, while some 70 of those who had been here during the Queen's visit 50 years ago were also here in May to witness the Countess of Wessex open the new Favell building. But further celebrations take place in autumn, so don't miss the combined Old Millhillians/Foundation Day on September 29th and what promises to be a special Annual Dinner at the Inner Temple Hall on Friday 19th October, hosted by our outgoing President, Geoffrey Vero; our new President, Ronny Cohn will be inducted and we shall welcome the new headmaster, Dr. Dominic Lockett.. Further details can be found elsewhere in this publication and also in the Mini Marlet, which has proved to be a very successful innovation.

A full tribute to William Winfield's contribution to Mill Hill as teacher and Headmaster will appear in the forthcoming School magazine. However, we must briefly record here how much of a debt is owed to him by the Old Millhillian Club. As our Chairman wrote in his Annual Report:

'William has been an extremely good friend of the Club and the excellent relations between School and Club are due very considerably to him. We wish him and Margaret a long and happy retirement and hope that we will remain in touch with them during the years ahead.'

Meanwhile members have contributed generously to William's portrait, which is being painted by Angus Hampel and William has already enjoyed a number of sittings. The finished portrait will hang in the Favell building.

Thank you as always to our two hardworking secretaries, Viv and Shalaka, in the office and also to the Friends, who have done so much to help us in our communication with our members.

Tim Corbett

# Notices



## Old Millhillians Day

Old Millhillians Day, which takes place on Saturday 29th September, is combined with the School's Foundation Day to enable the whole community to celebrate the School's Bicentennial in style. There should be a very large number of people gathering and of course it will be the new Headmaster, Dr Dominic Lockett's, first major public event. Not only will it be a great opportunity to visit the School again to catch up with old school friends and to visit your former

house but there will also be a variety of different events open to all Old Millhillians: these include Old Millhillian rugby, hockey and fives matches as well as art, music and drama presentations, and a marching display by the School's Corps of Drums. There will also be a Scrutton House reunion, details of which will follow in due course. There will be a separate area on old School House lawn for Old Millhillians to meet and to enjoy a Pimms bar and a complimentary barbeque. After refreshments a magnificent 'Son et Lumiere' and firework display on Top Terrace should provide a fitting climax to the day. Don't miss this very special event, partners and families are also invited. A wet weather programme will be in place. A detailed itinerary will be available on the day.

## TIMETABLE OF EVENTS

- 4.00pm** Rugby – Old Stags vs. Young Bucks Top Field
- 4.30pm** OM Ladies Hockey vs School XI Fishing Net
- 4.30pm** Fives – OMs vs School team Fives Courts
- TBC** Scrutton House (location & time to be confirmed)
- Art, Music and Drama presentations start. Scrutton House Reunion*
- 5.30pm** Complimentary BBQ and Pimms Bar Old School House Lawn
- 7.30pm** 'Son et Lumiere' followed by Fireworks display, Top Terrace



Please contact Shalaka Karlekar on T: 0208 906 7949 if you would like to take part in the sporting events. All abilities and ages welcome.



## HISTORY OF MHS SUPPLEMENT

Many enquiries have been received about proposed supplements for the MHS 200 year history.

The plan is for a letter to go out from Walker House to all who bought a copy, reminding them of what supplements might be available and advising on how to order.

**Roddy Braithwaite**

## OMC SPONSORSHIP FUND

There are still funds available to sponsor OM's to a modest extent and the Club have only had one request so far this year. In return we ask that OMs write a couple of paragraphs on their travel or pursuits with pictures for Martlet on their return.

Please enquire via the Club Office on 020 8 906 7948/9 or to email to [oldmillhillians@millhill.org.uk](mailto:oldmillhillians@millhill.org.uk).

**Nigel Baker (57-61)**

## CLUB COLOURS

The Committee has approved the ordering of new (good quality - decent width) ties and John Elliott, assisted by a new sub committee, are working on what they hope will be some interesting ideas - more news in the next issue.

**John Elliott**

## OLD MILLHILLIANS LODGE (founded 1938)

The response to the last two articles in Martlet have been very pleasing as eleven OM masons have joined. Three OMs new to Masonary have also joined the Lodge; Clive Parket (77-82), Charlie Miller (78-83) and Asif Chatoo (82-87). Any OM mason and others interested in joining the Lodge would be welcome. We meet three times a year.

Please contact Ray Hubbard (46-51) the secretary on 020 8959 4454 or by email to [oldmillhillians@millhill.org.uk](mailto:oldmillhillians@millhill.org.uk)

## Bicentennial Appeal

Old Millhillians have responded positively to the announcement of the Bicentennial Appeal. The twin objectives of the Appeal – people and places – have been well-received. In particular the creation of bursaries to offer opportunities to talented local pupils has really struck a chord with Old Millhillians who remember the "Middlesex" Scheme" or its successor the "assisted places scheme". There have been some moving testimonies by "Middlesex Boys" to the opportunity which Mill Hill gave them..

The Governors' intention to embark on fundraising was formally announced on 1st March: its objective is to establish ongoing sources of funding, not to raise a specific sum for a specific project in a defined period. The initial phase, under the name of The Bicentennial Appeal, has, after just four months, received pledges in excess of 25% of the initial target of £3m. These range from Leadership Gifts through Top Terracers to Supporters. People have made significant one-off gifts while others have committed to monthly direct debits ranging from £10 to £100 or annual direct debits of over £1000; others are considering giving shares or leaving a legacy. Gifts of all sizes and types are valuable. Current President Geoffrey Vero and next President Ronny Cohn clearly stated their commitment and that of the Club to the future of the School through the Appeal. It is hoped that many more Old Millhillians will follow the lead of those who have already pledged.

# ANNUAL DINNER

Friday 19th October 2007



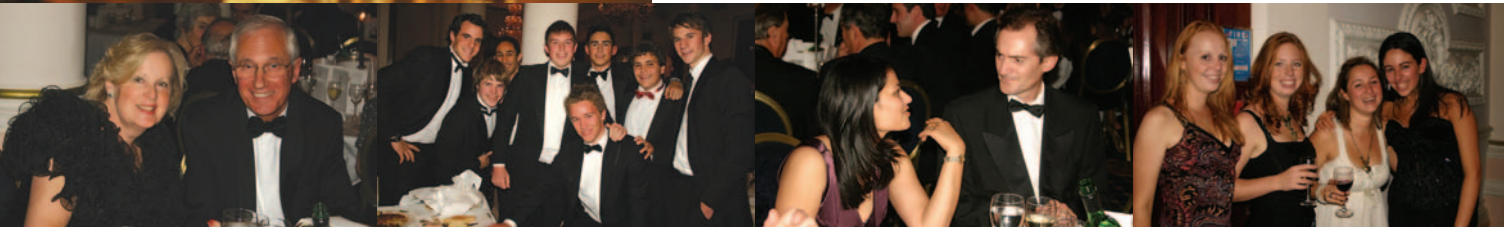
**The President, Mr Geoffery Vero  
Vice President and Management  
Committee of the Old Millhillians  
Club** request the pleasure of your company at the **Annual Club  
Dinner** to celebrate the School's Bicentenary and to meet the new  
Headmaster Dr. Dominic Lockett.

## OM Club

To be held on **Friday 19th October 2007** at **6.45pm** for **7.30pm**  
at **The Honourable Society of the Inner Temple**

**Inner Temple Hall**  
**off Fleet Street EC4Y 7HL**  
**OM Club Office**  
**t 0208 906 7948/9**

**Black Tie**  
Carriages from 10.30pm  
Cash Bar until 11.00pm  
Free car parking in Inner Temple after 6.30pm



### MARTLET 45 NEW MEMBERS

- |         |                      |  |
|---------|----------------------|--|
| 44-48   | Stanley Adrian       | 20 Southfield Manor Park,<br>Cheltenham GL53 9DJ                           |
| 65-70   | Taylor Graham        | 9 Hawthorne Road,<br>Radlett, Herts WD7 7BJ                                |
| 48-53   | Haynes Rodney        | Varchfold, Bethesda St,<br>Henwood Copse, Upper<br>Basildon, Berks RG8 8NU |
| 96-97   | Freisfeld Phillippp  | Kapitelstr.12, 48145<br>Munster, Germany                                   |
| 54-59   | Fear Graham          | The Cottage,<br>9 Aldenham Road,<br>Radlett, Herts WD7 8AV                 |
| 71-76   | Manning Lee          | 85 Wood Vale, Muswell<br>Hill, London N10 3DL                              |
| 58-61   | Thomas Martyn Ryland | Pantyruard, Llanddowror,<br>St Clears, Carmarthen,<br>SA33 4JD             |
| 81-86   | Baxter Richard       | 7 Rainville Road,<br>London W6 9HA   |
| 63-67   | Jankel Anthony       | Park Lodge, Coombe Park,<br>Kingston Upon Thames,<br>Surrey KT2 7JB        |
| 74-76   | Catherwood Jonathan  | 2164 Tremont Road,<br>Columbus, Ohio 43221,<br>USA                         |
| 59-63   | Anthony Robert       | 13 Folly Close, Radlett,<br>Herts WD7 8DR                                  |
| 75-80   | Tucker Nicholas      | 2 Nightingales Close,<br>Horsham, West Sussex<br>RH13 5LB                  |
| 89-91   | Bhatia Sachin        | 102 Hillside Gardens,<br>Edgware, Middx HA8 8HD                            |
| 87-92   | Faik David           | Koningsweg 58,<br>BN De Bosch, 5211,<br>The Netherlands                    |
| 78-83   | Keller Philip        | 30 Meadowbank, Primrose<br>Hill, London NW3 3AY                            |
| 65-69   | Andrew Nigel Dr.     | Cornerways, Stodmarsh,<br>Canterbury, CT3 4BD                              |
| 99-2000 | Freisfeld Benjamin   | Kapitelstr. 12, 48145<br>Muenster Germany                                  |
| 89-94   | Majithia Amit        | Darkiemio 11, Vilnius,<br>Lithuania  |

- |       |                     |   |
|-------|---------------------|---|
| 80-85 | Deacock Adam        | 55 Spencer Rise,<br>Dartmouth Park,<br>London NW5 1AR                             |
| 93-98 | Hansal Peter        | 13 Boundary Road,<br>London N9 8AX  |
| 77-82 | Lanford David       | 27 Little Meadow,<br>Great Oakley, Corby,<br>Northants, NN18 8JN                  |
| 52-57 | Clarke Michael John | 39 Florence Court,<br>Florence Way, Woking,<br>Surrey GU21 2TW                    |
| 60-66 | Salinger Brian      | 32 The Ridgeway, Friern<br>Barnet, London N11 3LJ                                 |
| 73-77 | Ring Howard         | 17 Hills Avenue,<br>Cambridge, CB1 7UY  |
| 52-56 | Kuropatwa Leo       | No 6 Brut,<br>Klein Zevenwacht,<br>Zevenwacht Wine Estate,<br>Kuils River, W.Cape |
| 56-61 | Bennett Rodney      | 7 Queen Anne's Gardens,<br>Bush Hill Pk, Enfield,<br>Middx EN1 2JN                |
| 52-55 | Needham J H         | 7 Posting House Mews,<br>Old Bath Road, Newbury,<br>Berks RG14 1QW                |
| 97-99 | Roberts Lawrence    | Flat 5, 44 Baker St,<br>London W1U 7AL  |
| 78-81 | Sin Wai Sang        | 4/C Devon Court,<br>16 Cornwall Street,<br>Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong                |
| 68-73 | Munday David        | 14 Finchley Road,<br>St John's Wood, London<br>NW8 6EB                            |
| 65-70 | Kingon Angus        | Box 85, North Sydney,<br>NSW 2060, Australia                                      |
| 88-94 | Bender James        | 61 Glebelands Close,<br>London N12 0AM  |
| 97-99 | King-Lewis Elaine   | 81 Ollgar Close,<br>London W12 ONG  |
| 71-78 | Halstead Peter      | 10 Ariki Street, Boulcott,<br>Lower Hutt 5010,<br>New Zealand                     |
| 83-89 | Richardson Jason    | 25 Park Road,<br>London W2 8EX  |

### OLD MILLHILLIANS – CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- |       |                                 |  |
|-------|---------------------------------|--|
| 88-90 | Atkinson Lydia<br>(nee Gardner) | 7 Spode Avenue,<br>Stafford ST18 0TQ   |
| 78-83 | Fisher Andrew                   | 10 Johnsburn Park,<br>Balerno, Edinburgh,<br>EH14 7NA                          |
| 73-78 | Fraser Neil                     | 18 Windermere Road,<br>Penistone, Sheffield,<br>South Yorks, S36 8HL           |
| 70-75 | Gibson Dale                     | 103 Bermondsey Street,<br>Southwark, London<br>SE1 3XB                         |
| 53-59 | Murphy Brian Gordon             | 16 Solent Court,<br>Cornwallis Road,<br>Milford on Sea,<br>Hampshire, SO41 0NH |
| M     | Stanham Edward                  | 20 Watchbell Street,<br>Rye TN31 7HB   |
| 99-01 | Winmai Ayisha                   | 134 Elthorne Avenue,<br>London W7 2JW  |

### NOTIFICATION OF DEATHS SINCE MARTLETT ISSUE 44

- |       |                       |              |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 38-43 | Phillip Baines        | Died May 07  |
| 42-47 | Jack Neill Blair      | Died Jan 07  |
| 46-50 | Colin Prichard David  | Died May 07  |
| 30-35 | Harold Fost           | Died Feb 07  |
| 43-47 | Frederick Johnston    | Died Nov 06  |
| 43-48 | John Arthur McAdam    | Died Sept 06 |
| 26-29 | Thomas Dickson Walker | Died Jan 07  |

## Next Copy Date

The deadline for copy/pictures for the next  
edition of Martlet is **3rd December 2007**.

# Future Events

## North West Dinner

Friday 16th November 2007

A reminder of the above at which we will be delighted to welcome Dominic Lockett, Ronnie Cohn and John Watkiss as well as our other friends from the South. We will send out notices in September and hope for a splendid and well attended evening.

John Elliott



## EUROPEAN WEEK-END 2008

The 2008 European week-end will be held in PARIS on the week-end of 17th and 18th May 2008.

Please put this date in your diaries. If you would like more details contact Edward De Mesquita on: edemesquita@free.fr

MORE DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

# Past Events



## Old Millhillians Property Dinner 2007

The Old Millhillians Property Dinner took place on 28 March 2007 at The Cavalry & Guards Club. Stuart Hibberdine took the Chair and was delighted to welcome The Headmaster, William Winfield, Graham Chase, the first Old Millhillian President of The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and Geoffrey Vero, President of The Old Millhillians Club.

The Chairman proposed the health of The School in its bi-centennial year coupled with the name of The Headmaster, William Winfield who had done so much during his term as Headmaster and, indeed, during his 37 year career at the School.

William Winfield in reply gave a fascinating account of his time at Mill Hill and in particular he referred to Graham Chase who had been a pupil during his time at the School. He remarked that Graham's school days were centered around sport and the choir but he had left as a very rounded and enthusiastic Old Millhillian, later to move on to greater things in his capacity as The President of The RICS. Graham was responsible for the buildings at The School and in particular the new Favell Building, which was now very close to completion. The Headmaster proposed the health of The Club to which Graham replied with a review of the some of the events during his year as President of The RICS, including a visit to the King of Spain requested by his Royal Highness and various travels to Australasia, the Middle East and The States.

The Property Dinner is not restricted to surveyors and attendees this year included agents, investors, developers, architects, contractors, project managers, property lawyers and financiers.

The next dinner will be held at The Cavalry & Guards Club on Wednesday 23 April 2008. Anyone whose name is not already on the mailing list should contact Charlie Green on 020 7812 0503 Mobile: 07775648424 e-mail: charlie@theofficegroup.uk.com



## Engineers' Dinner

4th May 2007

On one of the brighter evenings in May, some 35 Old Millhillian Engineers and their guests – William and Margaret Winfield, Harry Barnes, 2 sixth-formers planning to study engineering and Geoffrey Vero (OMC President) - gathered for a reception in the new Favell building two days after it was opened by the Countess of Wessex. Stephanie Gibbons attended and took photos of the proceedings. Tours were made of the excellent facilities available to the School and many mused over the days when the area had been sports changing rooms and an indoor swimming pool amongst other facilities and all were very impressed by the accommodation now available to teachers and pupils. The party later retired to Café 6 for Dinner.

After a most enjoyable meal with thanks to Mike Gibson and his staff, David Rodda took the chair and before introducing the speakers, spoke of William's major contribution to School life and presented him with a special limited edition of a book on Brunel, the famous engineer whose birth Bicentenary had recently been celebrated. A list of the signatures of those present was given with the book and William thanked David warmly for the gift.

Geoffrey was then invited to propose a toast to the School. He spoke of his enjoyable term as President and ended with the toast. This was followed by William who spoke with strong affection of his time at Mill Hill and commended the new appeal to all present. This was followed by Harry Barnes who described how he had been motivated to become an engineer and invited Alex Loudon and Alex Stavrou, the two sixth-formers, to describe their motivation to become engineers.

This they did very ably and their thoughts were well received by those present. Harry then proposed a toast to the Club. This marked the end of the evening and by popular vote was much enjoyed by all.

David Rodda (45-50)

## Dissent & Education

Friday 31st August – Sunday 2nd September

This is the theme of a weekend conference organised by Old Millhillians to mark the Bicentenary of the School to be held at Mill Hill from Friday 31 August until Sunday 2 September 2007. Among those taking part will be Mr Roderick Braithwaite, the School's most recent historian; Professor Clyde Binfield; Mr Stephen Smith, former Headmaster of Caterham School; and Mr John Wright, OM. There will also be a special service in the School Chapel on Sunday morning, 2 September, at which the guest preacher will be Revd. Professor Stephen Orchard, current Moderator of the General Assembly of The United Reformed Church.

All interested in the history of Mill Hill School are welcome to attend, either for the whole weekend or part of it. Details from the OM office or from Richard Francis: Tel: 02920 700131 and email [Richard.francis@btclick.co.uk](mailto:Richard.francis@btclick.co.uk); or from John Wright: Tel: 020 8959 1437.



Past Presidents Lunch 2007 (above)

## Livery Lunch

City of London Guildhall

The prospect of excellent food and high quality wines in the well appointed surroundings of the member's dining room at the City of London Guildhall ensured the usual substantial attendance of Old Millhillian liverymen on 21st May. Speakers were William Winfield, the outgoing Headmaster, Mike Leon and his successor, David Short and Club President, Geoffrey Vero.



The Honorary Clerk, Archie Galloway, is to be congratulated on his organisation of yet another most enjoyable occasion, which has become a firm annual fixture in the OMC calendar. All liverymen and freemen of the City of London are most welcome. In particular the lunch still awaits the attendance of its first lady. How long oh Lord, how long?

Enquiries please to Archie at [Archibald.galloway@johndwood.com](mailto:Archibald.galloway@johndwood.com) Tel: 07973 507662 or through the Club office on 020 8906 7948/9.

John Watkiss Chairman



## News from Australia

A very successful and enjoyable OM's Queens Birthday weekend has been celebrated down under, involving three functions across the three days. We totalled 11 here at the Stannards for supper on Friday, 11 at the National Dinner on Saturday evening in Melbourne (we are not happy with that number - our worst turnout in a decade - please read below) and 15 for lunch today at the Tillyards. Participating OMs and partners were: Alistair and Jenny MacLennan, Roy and Angela Hanson, Robin and Judy Tillyard, Justin and Emma Wernham (new), Michael Coulter / Tarli Whitford (new), Bill Reid (new), Mike and Linda Hailey, Ken Lloyd / Tina Provis (Daughter), Randy and Kerryn Marshall. Oh and the Stannards!!

Lot of good discussion at the dinner on Sat re attendance, different values / loyalties, etc. With the e-friends dBase and a formal listing of Australasian contacts / members, we have halted the decline into obscurity. The next step is to start to engage everybody more personally (increasingly critical for Gen X, Gen Y leavers) and the plan we are hatching is to form a "National Committee", incl. 3 state focal points, two sub 40 yo's (preferably less than 35) and myself to lead and engage across the continent more effectively, plan the national annual get together, report back new leads and local functions. A couple of us are planning a "raiding party" to Queensland later in the year to get some action moving up there too and promote our State focal point (she doesn't know yet but we will be chatting tomorrow!!), etc. We need a lot more action to involve all the new people that are emerging.

David Stannard

## Legal & Medical Reception

The Old Millhillians Legal & Medical Reception took place on the 6th February at the Royal Society of Medicine, Wimpole Street, London. There were 37 attendees ranging from trainee solicitors and medics to eminent judges and surgeons. The event was a great opportunity for OMs working in the legal and medical professions to socialise over drinks and canapes in an informal atmosphere. Thank you to Dr. Paul Summerfield OM who booked the venue for this event.

John Watkiss (Chairman OMC)

# AGM & Cocktail Party



The Annual General Meeting was held on June with our President, Geoffrey Vero, in the Chair. There were 32 attendees and the regular business, including reports by the Chairman and Treasurer and the election of officers, was soon dealt with and questions answered. The meeting passed an addition to the Rules of the Club, formalising the procedure for the appointment of the Vice-President. Finally the President thanked William Winfield, Headmaster, for all the sagacity, care and kindness that he has shown to so many pupils over the years and his continued support for the Club. In reply William emphasised the mutual benefit of Club and School and thanked both the Club and individual members for their support over the







years – and added how much he was enjoying the experience of sitting for his portrait, which is to be a gift from Club members.

Despite the inclement weather the Cocktail Party was a great success. It is now becoming a regular event which continues to grow in size: this year there were some 130 members and guests - and most importantly a genuine spread of ages. One of the advantages of the web site is that a list of prospective attendees at an event can be publicised, so encouraging others to attend if they recognise someone they know or would like to catch up with. The enjoyment of the occasion seemed to be in no way diminished by having to retreat from the terrace to the David Lloyd George room when it rained.



Congratulations to **Tim Phillips** (W '54-'60), Chairman of the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, who received a CBE in the recent Honours List.

Further congratulations – to **Sam Duckworth** who received the Mayor's Award as Sports Person of the year 2006 for services to Morpeth Rugby Club at the Castle Morpeth Sports Council presentation.

Further congratulation to **Dr Matthew Frise**, who has just become a MRCP (Member of the Royal College of Physicians) and also to Oliver Sander who has just gained a first at Southampton in Mechanical Engineering.

**Tien Tai** (M '91-'93) would like to canvass any OMs residing or working in Saudi and the Gulf States so as to set up a Dubai Dinner, particularly for those of his era. Please let the office know if you are interested.

**Alex Bell** OM (C '79-'84) based in Singapore is now a Director of Unilever in charge of world shipping.

**Nick Roe** thought Chit Chat might be interested to know that

Rosentiel's has just won The Queen's Award for International Trade for the second time. Established in 1880 Rosentiel's is a family run print and publishing business headed by David Roe (S '60-'65) and his son Nick (S '88-'91). Many thanks to them for offering to frame the portrait of William Winfield and to help with a print of the painting for William to keep.

Strikingly Alive could not possibly contain every bit of interesting information about every pupil but **David Butler** (Sc '48-'54) draws attention to one little snippet that is not in the book: a near contemporary in School House, **Peter Moorey** ('51-'56) wrote an article in the MHS magazine at the age of fifteen on the importance of archaeology, and then subsequently became curator of the Ashmolean museum.

Your Honorary Secretary, planning for retirement from Mill Hill School, thought he would invest a small wagger of £2 each way on Anton Cabrera for the United States Open golf championship at 125-1. The rest is history!

## St. Bees Old Millhillians Association

All members of The St Bees Old Millhillians Association will have been advised that Gordon Wren, due to ill health he has retired from active service.

Peter Hamilton-Gray has taken over from Gordon and all correspondence from members of the ASSOCIATION should be addressed to:

Wester Pitmenzie, Auchtermuchty, Cupar, Fife KY14 7HT  
tel. 01337 828 654 fax. 01337 827 901 e-mail:  
peter@graybyrneassociates.com

Issue No.35 of "Occasional Jottings" is in process for July 2007 publication, so if anyone has useful up-dates to offers please send them soon to Peter Hamilton-Gray"

## In Remembrance of Michael Berry and David Smith

Now that the superb seat in remembrance of Michael Berry and David Smith is in place on the edge of the Quad opposite the new Favell building is probably an opportune time to remind older OMs and inform the younger generations of the association between Mill Hill and St.Bees during the evacuation of World War 2.

Many OMs are possibly not aware of the link, and that the association helped to fund the regeneration of the Paddock area to the rear of the Parish church in St.Bees.

The members also subscribed to the funding of a splendid stained glass window in the St.Bees school chapel of the OM crest suitably worded to commemorate those years.

Following the formation of the Association, a visitors book was placed in Station Garage owned by Richard Stout and all Old Millhillians visiting the area are requested to call and sign the book.

**Sam Duckworth** St Bees Association Secretary

## GOLFING SOCIETY

### Halford Hewitt Report April 2007

The OMGS is mostly known for great social golf played off handicap on top courses. We do also have twenty players off single figure handicaps and for these better OMGS golfers the main aim is to be competitive in the Halford Hewitt competition at Royal Cinque Ports and Royal St. Georges.

The Halford Hewitt has been described by the golf writer Nick Tremayne as 'the greatest of all truly amateur tournaments'. Founded in 1924, it's a knock-out scratch competition contested by the old boys of 64 English and Scottish public schools each fielding five foursomes pairs, making 640 competitors in all. The sheer size of the field plus the hundreds of supporters is part of what makes the Hewitt a unique sporting event. The tournament has a rich history, frequently pits average golfers against famous internationals, and produces moments of golfing pressure simply not experienced by amateur players elsewhere.

We fielded a reasonable team with an average handicap of 6.5, although we all know, 'golf's not played on paper' and handicaps are no measure of ability when you're under pressure in the wind at Deal.

It was great to welcome two debutants, Jeremy Lay and Anthony Ward. Jeremy got everyone excited on the practice day by playing a nine-hole stretch around the turn in five under par. It goes to show that 'ignorance is best' at Deal; one doesn't want to be too aware of all of the terrible places that await an errant shot.

We warmed up by playing badly at Littlestone. Taking note of the England Cricket team's tactics, we washed down the poor golf with a suitably large lunch at Royal St. Georges.

#### Enough background, how did we get on?

We got a favourable first round draw against Wellingborough, a team with a past record very similar to our own.

We gave them a good beating 4-1.

The top two pairs were suitably dull; lots of pars.

Garry Brandt is a walking advertisement for Dave Peltz (world famous putting coach).

Luke Turtle hopped and grimaced his way around in new golf shoes. Nunn and Ward nearly wet themselves with excitement by going six up after seven.

Harvey and Nunn scared the nesting birds as far wide as 100 yards of either side (or short of) of the fairways.

#### Second round versus Highgate.

##### We lost 3-2. Let's not dwell on that!

Messrs Bennett, Russell and Vero were unbeaten, which seems to be the norm these days. The team's average age is often a cause for concern, not because our team is old but because the oldies' record is considerably better than the youngsters'. Many complaints of snoring though.....Damn good fun was had by all. We'll win it next year.

#### The team:

Garry Brandt ('77-'82)	&	Jeremy Lay ('80-'85)
Jeremy Bohn ('84-'89)	&	Pat Russell ('57-'62)
Colin Nunn ('75-'81)	&	Anthony Ward ('82-'87)
Paul Bennett ('55-'60)	&	Geoffrey Vero ('60-'65)
Luke Turtle ('95-'01)	&	Sam Harvey ('88-'93)

Ably supported by John Hawkins, Bruce and William Maunder-Taylor.





# BURMA (Myanmar)

## to visit or not to visit?

Having recently returned from a family visit to Yangon. I recalled the comments made during the St.Paul's memorial sermon on 1st March regarding the human rights record of Myanmar. This prompted me to write an article for Martlet.

I had previously visited Myanmar 9 years ago; it is still controlled by a repressive, mendacious and somewhat whimsical military junta; there is no political freedom and Aung San Suu Kyi ('Our Lady'), the country's well-known dissident, is undergoing her 3rd spell of house arrest. However, there have also been modest improvements which may not be evident to the package tourist or foreign commentator.

In 1997, myself and my daughter Natalie, travelled without a family chaperone to Central Burma and the Shan States, but there were many prohibited areas. Whilst these are fewer in number now, the persecution of ethnic minorities, particularly the Karens, continues. The fact that Karens are mostly Christians is an obvious focus for ecclesiastical interest by the UK. So to visit or not?

Those agin claim that tourists are funding a brutal regime and whilst 'Our Lady' would have no objection to a trip by No 2 daughter Carole, (my medical minder) and myself, she frowns on expensive package tours, whose

clientele kick-off at the Strand Hotel where rooms retail at \$450 a night !! Thant Myint-U\*, the grandson of U Thant, whom you might recall was one of the United Nations early and most unaligned Secretary Generals, is for responsible tourism. In his view isolation has been Burma's curse and is the regime's default condition. Tourist money does not prop up the Government – nearly all hotels are privately or foreign owned. The Government receives airport taxes and other small tourist fees, but this is negligible compared with the billions of \$ derived from Natural Gas exports as well as the aid received from China.

I believe such tourism can help lift many ordinary people out of poverty and an influx of outsiders will hasten the possibility of political change. So we based ourselves in Yangon, a city of 4.5 million souls which gives the impression of picturesque dishevelment, a half-finished work in progress and is the most interesting, cosmopolitan city in Burma. As it was very hot (40 degrees), we were



appreciative of our small, inexpensive hotel (\$25 per air-conditioned room per night), located in north Yangon near the core of our family. We made an arduous pilgrimage to the mountain with the Golden Pagoda on the Balancing Boulder at Kyaiktiyo, with three of our young cousins. It was a two day trip by car, lorry and foot – except Aye Maung, as befits his station was carried up and down the last 5 miles (unbelievably steep) in a dhoolie (Burmese sedan chair ( SEE PIC)

For a week we explored Greater Yangon by foot, cab and rail – the city is a sightseers/photographers paradise, from the 50 metre reclining Buddha to the incomparable Shwedagon paya topped by tons of gold leaf. The not particularly comfortable 3 hour circular train ride around Yangon is a must (\$1 ea). But what has changed for the citizens? For my age group – who tend to refer to the colonial days as a Golden Age – very little. But for the young there is the Internet, mobile phones, supermarkets packed with Chinese products, cinemas showing relatively recent foreign films, their own hip-hop stars etc etc. Their role model is a Western one, but this appears to be tolerated by the regime.

I departed with much more hope for Myanmar's future, than after my last visit.

**Ronnie Aye Maung (45-50)**

# Sponsored Swim



Whilst on a ferry crossing to France, aged 10, it was confirmed to me that it was possible to swim The Channel and since then it has been one of my life-long ambitions.

## MARIA IOANNOU RELAY TEAM CROSSING OF

After two near-death experiences in open water, where my abilities to remain calm and focused were pushed to the limit, I decided that I would pursue completing what is regarded as the World's ultimate swimming challenge. With a 90% failure rate due to the extreme cold water conditions and being the busiest shipping channel in the World, it was necessary to become physically and mentally prepared.

I decided that my first attempt to swim The Channel would be as part of a relay team, so I approached friends that I knew would be dedicated to training and fund-raising. Twelve months later we were at the peak of our fitness, had perfected our swimming technique and set out to France on 4th September 2006 at 8.17 am.

The twelve months training schedule was rigorous and we were swimming in cold open water in Dover, partaking in every swimming competition we could find and many days began at 5am swimming in Hampstead Lido in order to acclimatise to the cold conditions we would endure on the actual day. Despite this, there were a lot of good memories from the training, including swimming under the stars whilst it snowed at the Oasis Centre causing one of my team to swim into me and give me a black eye. In July, I competed in the UK's longest offshore swim in Bournemouth and realised I needed to concentrate on mentally preparing myself. The David Walliams documentary was screened the following week and combined with discussions with the team and friends it helped me to go through the motions of how I would deal with every eventuality: the hyperventilating always followed by swallowing sea water; hypothermia; swimming in murky waters where you can't see a thing you are swimming through (including the jelly fish and sewage below); the fact that last year they lost someone on a swim (he was finally washed ashore, 3 days later); 5 metre waves; Basking sharks; the loneliness of swimming for long periods of time with just your thoughts; seasickness; the list is endless. The only fear I was unable to overcome was the fact that, unlike a marathon where if you struggle someone can easily get to you, in open water, if you find yourself in trouble it is a matter of life or death! Knowing that the Pilot and Observer are close at hand on the day comforted me slightly but it really was denial that would get me through it. Another motivation was that this crazy idea of mine was for a good cause and we finally raised £14,000 for our chosen charities Hopes and Homes and Cancer Research UK.

The administration behind a Channel Swim attempt is immense as safety is paramount. We decided that we would go with the less stringent rules of The Channel Crossing Association as they are allowed to assist you if you fall into trouble as opposed to stopping and voiding the swim.



## (93-95 Weymouth House) THE ENGLISH CHANNEL



Our designated swim week upon 'The SeaKing' was between 30th August and 6th September 2006. The Pilot is contacted daily to give you a vague idea of when your swim is and then he confirms at 7.30 pm if your swim is going ahead the next day. This meant that we had to be packed and ready to go at any moment. The first swim of the week went ahead and was completed in 9 hours, the second swim team dropped out so we were next in line. Gale force winds put us on hold for a whole weekend where the team were constantly on tenterhooks with nothing to do really apart from carb-load and sleep! With the help of a team member's grandfather, who had become a sea forecast expert over the course of the week, we decided that we should be in Dover on 3rd September. This proved to be a wise move. We sat anxiously in an Italian restaurant in Folkestone waiting for the 7.30 pm call, which arrived at 9 pm as the Pilot had gone to the pub and forgotten his mobile phone at home! At that point he still could not confirm as the wind had yet to drop, so we were to call him at 6.30 am and if confirmed, then we needed to be ready to swim within the hour. We were relieved that we might finally be swimming, but more so because the sun would have risen at 7.30 am which meant no swimming in the dark. He confirmed and we rushed down to the harbour. The first member greased up, jumped overboard, swam towards the White Cliffs of Dover, the time was noted and he began the journey to France. We were all very excited and began discussing how we would then start training for solo swims, then the Observer commented that she gave us 30 minutes before our enthusiasm died, as that is how long it takes for the sea sickness to set in. Needless to say, she was right! Our first

swimmer struggled to get out of the shoreline due to wave rebound but managed to clear quite a distance. The next swimmer swam for an hour, followed by myself. I managed to cope very well with the cold and managed to find my rhythm very easily. I also kept trying to out-swim the boat in order to maintain my pace. As soon as I saw the fourth swimmer greasing up I knew it was almost my time to swap and was relieved. The next swimmer started off immaculately but then succumbed to seasickness as the water was choppy and started to suffer from hypothermia so he was pulled out immediately and attended to with life blankets and body bags where he joined the other team members, horrendously sea-sick. We then entered the shipping lane and in jumped the remaining female swimmers who performed excellently given the swell, currents and ferries in abundance. One trawler and a cargo ship did not pick up their radios and went from being on the horizon one minute, to looming beside us the next. This meant pulling out two of our swimmers. We then needed to make an executive decision about whether we were going to allow our Pilot to motor us through part of the shipping lane, as the weather had taken a turn for the worse and we were now unexpectedly two men down. Everyone agreed and on leaving the busiest part of the shipping lane we all started jumping in again in turn. After gaining confidence in my first stretch I struggled on my second and every time I swam a stroke my mind was on the boat which was being violently thrown around and I was expecting it to crash down on me any moment. I was then hit by a strong wave and was unable to obtain a rhythm so whilst giving myself a pep talk I was being screamed at by the Pilot to keep moving as the small boat attached at the back would otherwise swing round into me. The cold and panic started to set in and I asked to be taken out for a few minutes to recover whilst someone else swam. Our strongest swimmer nicknamed 'The Fish' was only too happy to oblige. By the time I had recovered, the team had undemocratically taken a vote without me, that as team captain I should be the one to swim to France. I conceded. As I started the final leg I could hear the cheers behind me and I swam smoothly all the way to our goal, melted with happiness when my feet touched the sandy shores, danced on the beach whilst waving like a lunatic at French onlookers before running back into the sea and back to the boat. When I got back I was told that a seal had swum with me up to the shore but they thought it best that I was oblivious to this fact in case I freaked out. That was a wise move.

The journey to France had taken us 9 hours 59 minutes and back to the safety of English shores, three hours. The return journey was against the tide and if the saying, 'Calm seas do not great sailors make' is true, then I am a professional. We were battered by waves, numbed by the cold and sodden with seawater. I still couldn't walk in a straight line the next day!

Would I attempt a solo swim now? Ask me again in a year's time when I can finally look back on the whole day through rose tinted spectacles. For the moment though, I am a Eurostar Girl! Thank you very much to The Old Millhillians Club for their kind donation and to all the Old Millhillians who sponsored our swim.

**Maria Ioannou 93-95**



## Alford House

**To the great relief for all concerned with the club, the planning application for the much talked about redevelopment of Alford House has finally been seen through to a successful conclusion.**



Following the intervention of the local MP, Kate Hoey, and the assistance of a local councillor, planning permission was eventually granted in April this year at a meeting of the Delegated Panel of Lambeth Council, several months later than anticipated. This is a great achievement for all those who have been involved in the process and means that the process of seeking funding can now begin in earnest. A Redevelopment Sub-Committee has already met and identified that the key to the success of the project is a professional project manager.

The next stage is approach a number of potential candidates with the business plan and invite them to tender so that we can get an accurate view of the total overall cost. At the moment we believe that the budget will be approximately £4 million, but this is, inevitably at this stage, a rough figure. Following this process we will need to start identifying possible sources of fund raising and we hope that we will be to get funding in order to pay for a fund raiser. This is another crucial area since the success of the project will depend on this. However, in reality we would have to carry out major repairs to the club in the relatively near future, just to maintain it in good condition, and this would probably cost about £1 million in any event.

The good news is that Lambeth Council are being supportive of the project. Club Manager Tim Saunders has met with the Lambeth Local Strategic Partnerships Manager and he has undertaken to bring senior Lambeth Managers, including the Chief Executive, and local partners to a workshop at Alford House. Another piece of good news is that Alford House has just been chosen to be the Community Access Point for the

Connexions Service. This means the club will house two full time personal advisors for young people and also a part-time careers advisor. This is a great resource for the club members and also raises our profile in the local area. It will build up daytime activity in Alford House and also bring in revenue for hosting the Connexions Service.

Numbers attending the club remain consistent and overall the figures are quite good despite the concerns about gang-related violence and feuding in the borough. Lots of good work is continuing in the club and to name just two, Dulwich Picture Gallery is continuing its outreach art work at the club and the relationship, which has developed over a number of years is going from strength to strength; in addition the 'Endz to da Hood' initiative is an exciting project which will hopefully take a number of Alford House members to a youth club in Brooklyn, New York, founded in the same year as the club, 1884. The aim is to compare the lives and experiences of young people in the "Endz" of London with "Hood" of New York and those involved are currently training and preparing DVDs of their backgrounds, history and daily lives.

I hope that this brief update provides an idea of the current situation at Alford House and the opportunities that it can give to the young people of North Lambeth. As always I would like to thank the Club Manager, Tim Saunders, Senior Youth Worker Jo Dempster and all their staff for their continuing efforts and also the Governors, Executive Committee and the Old Millhillians Club for their support.

**Andrew Welch (75-80)**



cont. from front page

We had several selection issues, in particular at halfback, where, after several failed experiments the Simon Bunyard/ Mary Freer partnership began to pick itself.

That was the first half of the season, and after three losses on the trot, it may have seemed at that point, that our chances of fulfilling our aim of promotion was in tatters. Those defeats meant that, from Christmas onward, only victory in every remaining league match would give us the slimmest of chances of promotion. The players refused to let go of that dream. We went out and smashed Hendon, we went nose to nose with Sarries amateurs and gave them nothing. We played away matches in some pretty crummy places; a council ground covered in rabbit holes in Tottenham, a place in Watford where a shipping container served as the changing room. We played a game against Old Habs which we were losing 14-0 with 15 minutes remaining, and scored three tries to win. We worked hard, believed in ourselves, and played for each other. We won them all.

On April 14, before the last league game, the top of the table was crowded; Sarries had overtaken Old Streetonians at the top, and had secured guaranteed promotion. We were behind Streetonians. The winner of our match would be second in the league, earning the right to a play off against the second placed team in a parallel league, for promotion. It was an all or nothing game, this was a chance that we had earned, and as group we chose to take it. I think we spent the last twenty minutes defending our line, I believe they crossed our line several times, but were driven back. It was an intense, attritional game on a very hot day, and we did not stop working. It was a great win, but carried the potential to be rendered meaningless in the very next game.

After seven months of rugby, the value of the entire season had become distilled in to this single game, eighty minutes that would determine our fate. Guys had joined the club that year, Ben Jones and Tyrone Macdonald from New Zealand, Scotty Mortimer, after a lengthy absence still super fit and hard as nails, Richard Dweck, always giving it his best shot. Other had been with us for only a short while, such as Dan Aukland, a player with a ton of potential, Ruairi Higgins, like a bloody metronome with that throw of his. James and Paul Mason, both guys who will go the extra mile for the club, and for the team. Keiron Walsh, James Carson and Sean Goh, forming the heart of the pack. The best centre pairing in the business, Jamie Adler and David Kelly who built brick walls all over London this season. Player/coach Sean Hardy, Joe Croft, Will Gallagher, Mike James, Jonny Tucker, Jon Lawn, Mike Seabroke, Barry Murphy. These guys stood up and decided that we were not going to lose that game. The worth of this club is in the people that are willing to put on the jersey and the boots. So long as we have them, we can achieve anything.

We had to throw the kitchen sink at Belsize, but we beat them. We are in a new league next season, and I see no reason why we can't earn promotion again. Come and watch us, or come and play. We are trying hard to build a 2nd xv, and are desperate for more players. Contact us through [www.omrfc.org.uk](http://www.omrfc.org.uk).

**Ben Nash 1st XV Captain**

# The Old Millhillian Cricket Club

## 1ST XI finding the going tough in top flight

The 1st XI have struggled to find any consistency in their return to the Herts Premier League this season, currently lying second from bottom in the table after a thumping 10 wicket loss recently to Potters Bar. With no wins, four losses and two draws the squad will need a change of fortune to avoid dropping straight back to the Saracens Herts League. In spite of the statistics, there have been some notable performances with the bat from Tasmanian David Dawson,, Shaun O'Brien, and Garth Jones.

The 2nd XI are currently thirteenth [of twenty] in the Saracens Herts League, division 5, with 2 wins, 3 losses and 2 rain affected results. Again, the side has struggled to find the consistency required to deserve a top three place, particularly in the batting department. Against Old Owens a good batting line-up was skittled out for just 79 runs. In what turned out to be an incredible game, veteran campaigner Charles Low saved OMs blushes with a stunning bowling performance, taking 7 wickets to dismiss the stunned opposition for 45.

The Club congratulates former OM players, Will Porterfield and Kevin O'Brien both of whom appeared for Ireland in the recent World Cup, playing in the infamous Pakistan fixture. Readers may also have seen in the last series against West Indies, Darren Sammy, who played a couple of seasons for the Club, play his debut Test against England, taking 7 for 77 and scoring 25 with the bat.

Finally, three new VPs have been appointed, David Holt, Andrew Halstead and Philip Ridout all of whom have had a long and distinguished involvement with OMs cricket.

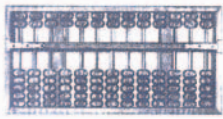
**Stewart Wernham**  
stewartwernham@fsmail.net



	P	W	D	L	F	A	Diff	Pts
Saracens Amateurs	14	12	0	2	557	146	411	24
Old Millhillians	14	11	0	3	277	177	100	22
Old Streetonians	14	10	1	3	359	190	169	21
Hendon	14	8	2	4	235	211	24	18
Old Haberdashers	14	4	1	9	241	342	-101	9
Watford	14	3	1	10	196	386	-190	7
Old Tottonians	14	3	0	11	136	421	-285	6
Old Grammarians	14	2	1	11	195	323	-128	5
Chess Valley	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Apologies from the Editor to E W Brenchley who correctly pointed out that the 1948 Rugby XV had been omitted from the reunion photographs in Martlet Issue 42 featuring Reunion Lunch of 48/49/50. Photograph below.





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# Old Millhilliam Lodge

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

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

The Lodge was founded in 1938 by 32 Old Millhillians.

At present we meet twice a year (3rd Thursday in June and the 4th Thursday in October) at the City University Club EC3.

We are planning to have an additional meeting on Thursday 26th April 2007.

Please contact **Ray Hubbard** for further information.

Tel **020 8959 4454** or email the Club Office at **oldmillhillians@millhill.org.uk**

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