

# OLD ARDINIAN

Beati Mundo Corde

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# From our President

Dear Old Ardinians everywhere, it's that time of year when the world seems to go mad for the rush of all things green, red and sparkly, and then we overindulge with all things yummy and arrive at the door of the New Year with numerous resolutions as to what we are not going to do in 2011. This is the perfect opportunity to actually promise to DO those things that we wouldn't normally get around to, however full of good intention we maybe. So if you are sitting reading this newsletter wondering what Ardingly is like today, then 2011 is your year to get back to the school and rekindle your memories of past friendships.



There are a number of great developments going on at the College; not least a big desire to help us all get together through year group parties, an OA London Dinner, hockey, football and cricket matches at the school, the Summer Ball, Burns Night, the Veterans Lunch and so much more. If you have never been to OA Day then how about putting a new entry into your nice new 2011 diary now for Sunday 12th June! It's going to be a fabulous reunion this year; a very strong and warm welcome awaits you with exciting entertainment for the whole family and all ages. In the meantime, from your armchair, check into the Old Ardinian website [www.oldardinians.com](http://www.oldardinians.com) to find out whatever happened to 'thingummybob' and what old 'whathisorhername' is up to. You know you want to... go on take the plunge!

It is a privilege in this 104th year of the Society to make history and accept the post as the first Lady President. I would like to thank Chris Wilson for his hard work and pledge to succeed to continue to instil a real sense of fellowship and keep Ardingly an active and important part of your lives through the OA Society.

Looking out of this Sussex window watching the deepest snow feels light years away from my first duty assignment watching the OAs play cricket in June on OA Day. A most enjoyable day reminiscing of times past with so many familiar faces. We had a fabulous BBQ by the Pavilion with the glorious back drop of School in its summer glory.

Before the end of term I was delighted to be invited to see Ian Hislop return to unveil a most graceful sculpture of the School Pelican in flight, dedicated to former pupils and created by talented 17 year old Ardinian Millie Wilkins. Millie, I'm sure you have a great career ahead of you.

Veterans Day is a major highlight in the OA calendar and this September was no exception and as well subscribed as ever. It was an absolute honour to shake the hand of so many Old Boys and hear their tales of times past, and how Ardingly had shaped their lives. Their enthusiasm for Ardingly today and interest in the future was most enlightening. Although it's been 30 years (ahem give or take) since I went through these school gates for the last time as a student, I came away with the realisation that Old Ardinians, both young and old, are a very special bunch!

I would like to thank my Deputy President Julia Friend, and tireless committee members for their input and support, precious time and that so specific Ardingly humour which never ceases to appeal. Many thanks to Adrian and Anne Arnold for their support and lovely cups of tea. My thanks to those who actually do the work... Jane Dumeresque, Ardingly's Development Director, Gesa Paulfeierborn and Sarah Fricker in the office, and Andrea King for her care and collection of Ardingly memorabilia. To the Governors and Headmaster for their continued support and their hosting of the annual OA and Veterans Day. In the end the real success of the Old Ardinians Society comes down to the enthusiasm and joie de vivre of its members. What epitomises the mood for me was an Old Ardinian who, despite ambivalent memories of his time at Ardingly, recently came to his first OA happening, "Its so nice to be here, and not HAVING to be!" he said.

**Liz Creber** (C 76-78)

## LinkedIn

Group: Old Ardinians (Ardingly College)

Subject: New comment (5) on "What did you actually enjoy about Ardingly?"

I wish I could go back again and spend more time studying, and spend less time in the village pub or smoking round the back of Woodard! Those are really my only regrets, if you can call them that.

I loved the opportunity of taking up different sports, and I even dabbled at hockey despite never having played it before arriving in 1995, making a rather surprising, but enjoyable, debut for the 2nd XI a few weeks later. I have only fond memories of my time at Ardingly and love receiving the OA newsletters to see how the school's progressed (or slipped!!) since my attendance.

If I lived in the UK, and had children, I would have no hesitation in sending them to what I see as a brilliant school with great opportunities in both the sporting and academic world.

Posted by **James Applebee**

## The Donkey

by **Terence Skinner** (E 40-43).

The occasion was an inspection of the Officers Training Corps (Cadets) by a senior officer. The whole school was neatly lined up in three companies on the cricket pitch opposite the pavilion with the band behind them in preparation for the General Salute.

Our senior officer duly arrived, followed by his entourage and approached **Bin Hett** our commanding officer and veteran of WW1, "General Salute" (pause) "Present", (another pause, all awaiting the final word), "Arms". But at that moment the donkey in the adjacent field, behind the tuck shop, farted! I have never heard the like, before or since. It seemed to go on forever, probably amplified by the brickwork of the quadrangle. Whether from respect or confusion **Bin Hett** waited till all was quiet before he called out the magic word "ARMS". At that point the band should start playing the appropriate call. But you can imagine the effect this would have on three hundred schoolboys. The giggles started despite the iron discipline of the English public school. Half a dozen of them dropped their carbines and one was alleged to have wet himself...

...titters and giggles broke out all down the line and all control was lost.

Now, playing the bugle is not easy at the best of times, but when you are a gibbering wreck it's virtually impossible. The rendition of the General Salute was reduced to a few pathetic 'parps' by most of us but held up by a stalwart chap called **Salter** (?), a very steady chap and an excellent bugler. I think **Molyneux** (B 37-41) was the drum major, **Yob Hobden** (B ??-41) on bass drum (he was the only man who could lift it), **Barry Aldridge** (E 39-42), lead side drummer, a young **Billy Cotton** (C 37-46) also on side drum, **Clayton** and **Thrower** (?) and self on bugles and many others.

This happened about 70 years ago and I am ashamed to say that, whenever I recall the event, my mouth starts to curl up in a slightly stupid grin.



At the Annual Dinner in 1938 the outgoing President **S. E. Shaw** (NS, 1881-84) presented a silver-gilt badge embodying the crest of the school to be worn by future Presidents on official occasions. Unfortunately the next such occasion was not to occur until 1945 but the badge has remained to this day.

# Sculpture unveiling



On Friday 25th June, I went to the unveiling of the Sesquicentennial Commemorative Sculpture of the School emblem, not a pelican 'in its piety' but one about to fly off across the Terrace wall and over the iconic Ouse Valley towards the Viaduct.

It is not sited on the wall of the Terrace as originally proposed, but on a plinth on Head's Quad, as some OAs had objected to that plan, and structurally it was not considered possible to provide a sound fixing.

The revised position means that now the sculpture can be viewed from all angles, which is much better.

The commemorative plaque was unveiled by **Ian Hislop** (Head boy) and the project was the idea of Susie Winter, Head of Art.

It was designed by student Millie Watkins and made by local artisan James Price.

Inspiration for the sculpture was the result of a meeting of members of the Art Department with Antony Gormley back in 08 when the idea of a sculpture to commemorate the School's 150th Anniversary in that year arose.

I arrived early just in time to witness the wings being bolted on by College staff.

The ceremony was attended by about 50 invited guests and staff on a very hot early afternoon.

In her welcoming address, Susie Winter told us that although 60 OAs had generously subscribed towards the sculpture, it was only due to the generosity of the Tuckwell family, whose three children attended the school for 05-08, that the project was able to be realised.

**Ian Hislop** (JH & A 67-77) then briefly addressed the guests and a large group of students assembled on the School House Quad, before unveiling the commemorative plaque, mentioning that it was nice to see a pelican not covered in oil. He encouraged the assembled students to follow his example and use the skills and experiences they learn at school in their future lives.

After the unveiling, the guests retired to the Art Department, in the old E & F Dormitories, for an excellent buffet lunch.

On behalf of the invited guests, I would like to thank the Headmaster and Susie Winter for an unforgettable event and one which was a fitting climax to the work and career of Susie who retired soon afterwards.

**Nigel Brecknell** (JH & G 42-51)

John Spendlove (JH & F 69-75) spotted...

a day in the life of Private Eye visit

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid\\_8647000/8647624.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/today/hi/today/newsid_8647000/8647624.stm)



# LETTERS *Letters*

**Max Elwood** (G 46-51), our S Africa rep, responds to the item from **Michael Story** (JH & H 57-66) in the last newsletter...

...there was a very contentious and provocative article which certainly raised my blood pressure. Some of his statements I had to read more than twice to see whether he was being serious.

As a non-scientist and assuming that Story is serious, with this kind of 'Intelligent Design and take the Bible literally' nonsense largely believed by Bible-thumpers in the US Bible-belt, (the literalist evangelical Christians) needs answering by someone better qualified than I am. Here are some of my thoughts.

I'm an engineer, not a scientist. However, I've been fortunate to have been exposed to many different cultures and faiths, as a result of which I have become an agnostic. Particularly because of the damage that I have seen caused by many religions across the world, where one group has endeavoured to impose its philosophy on another. Religion can be a force for good, but so often it has been a force for evil, viz., the Spanish Inquisition and the Crusades, as well as Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Jewish and other fundamentalists imposing their culture and philosophy on others. Hence I am sceptical of the benefits many missionaries purport to bring to other societies, having been a direct witness to some of the damage caused by their zeal, both in India and Africa, with the sole exception of their medical work, which has been of great benefit.

To deal with the Bible as being true concerning the origins of life; look around you, at nature in the form of biology, geography and geology, (the scientific background to Plate Tectonics, Palaeontology and the evidence that the Earth is well in excess of four billion years old, let alone the six thousand calculated by James Ussher, a seventeenth century archbishop, or what the Young Earth creationists purport to be up to ten thousand years).

To take a harsh view of the Bible, the Old Testament is the 'verbal' history of an obscure and largely nomadic tribe living in the Middle East between two and five thousand years ago. They settled in the Jordan valley and was subsequently conquered by various stronger societies from the Assyrians and the Egyptians to the Romans. It encompasses ethics, religion, law and sociology and was probably first written down

not many centuries before the Romans invaded Israel. Prior to that, it was largely handed down by word of mouth and human memory. When it comes to the New Testament, no-one recorded the life of Jesus whilst he was alive or even until several decades after his death and unless someone diarises events as they happen, many things become distorted by faulty memories and even suppression as it appears that at least one of the Gospels was suppressed by the early Christian church as not being "politically correct" in the eyes of the leaders at the time. So despite all the learned men who have studied the Gospels over two millennia, there are some serious doubts of the veracity of many things that are in either of the Testaments.

One must treat the Koran, the Tanakh, the Mahabharata, the Pali Tipitaka, with equal respect to that of the Bible, bearing in mind that the followers of Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and Buddhism considerably outnumber those of Jesus worldwide, along with those who are atheists and agnostics. Are they all condemned to outer darkness? Maybe!

What Story is stating is that 'creationism' is an established scientific fact. This is where many far better qualified than I to comment, differ fundamentally with him. I quote:

*"The established scientific consensus is that creationism has no scientific basis. For example, a joint statement of Inter Academy Panel on International Issues by 68 national and international science academies lists as established scientific fact that Earth is approximately 4.6 billion years old and has undergone continual change; that life, according to the evidence of earliest fossils, appeared on Earth at least 3.8 billion years ago and has subsequently taken many forms, all of which continue to evolve; and that the genetic code of all organisms living today, including humans, clearly indicates their common primordial origin".*

Although there is, as yet, no definitive evidence what the trigger was that caused the change from inorganic to organic chemistry and the formation of proteins in the primordial soup, there is a great deal of scientific research being undertaken to define it. Whether it was 'the hand of God', Yahweh, Allah, or just chance is a debate that will continue long after I start pushing up daisies.

**David Harris** (Staff, 51-87) writes:

I greatly enjoyed the Summer edition of 'Old Ardinian'; many thanks for putting it together. It had much more material than in the past.

**Tony Morton's** (B 49-54) reminiscences of 'Pelican Pie' brought back memories for me. I think I still have two photos somewhere, one of **Pat Molony** and **Geoffrey Clifton\*** in girls' skirts and hats, armed with hockey-sticks! Also one of **Alan Cree** giving a tutorial to Pat Molony, who was dressed as a pupil. I remember a very amusing skit involving **George Coghlin**; he was wearing a suit, gown and his Oxford hood; his head and shoulders enshrined in a photo frame, and the rest of his body concealed; it looked for all the world like one of the photos of past headmasters which line the walls of the Under; he was absolutely motionless when the curtain went up, and then he burst forth into song! I can't remember what he sang, I am afraid; he had a wonderful bass voice; the whole thing was brilliantly done. Someone somewhere ought to have a copy of the programme; maybe it is in the Archives.

I was very sorry to hear of the passing of **Ninian Swan** (D 53-57); I knew him well; he was a very strong supporter of Ardingly, and of his local church. He taught in a Prep School before he retired. I was also sorry to hear of the death of **Henry Jones** (69-87); we always got on very well together. That was an interesting article by Peter Lane.

\***Geoffrey Clifton** is still going strong; he lost his wife Anne some years ago; he lives in Devon. I have his address if anyone would like to get in touch.

**LAST VERSE!!!** Supplied by **Peter Davies** (JH & G 50-58)

Reading the latest issue I noted a request from **Tony Morton** (B 49-54) regarding words of songs in the staff entertainment on 29th March 1958 called "Pelican Pie".

I may be able to help as I have a copy of the script complete with the words of the songs, this came with the 12" record which I also have.

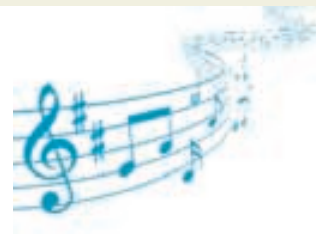
It was 60 years ago this September that I went to JH and I don't think there are many if any OAs in Warwickshire of my generation.

**Ed's comment** - if Peter is wrong, please get in touch!

**GOODBYE ARDINGLY** (sung by **M R Morton**)

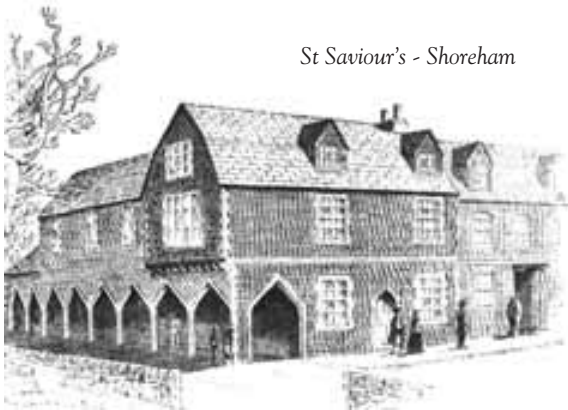
*There seemed so very much to do  
When I was new and still it's true.  
But now when all my time has gone  
There seems so little that I've done.  
If I'd had eyes  
To realise  
I'd feel that leaving came too soon.  
So let me sing, Remembering  
All Ardingly within a tune.*

*Oh Ardingly, Goodbye!  
I'll remember you until I die.  
The chestnuts by the tuckshop path,  
And Dusty in the swimming bath:  
The farm road in the summer sun.  
The winter and long standard run.  
The skating on the Headman's lake:  
The fourpenny drink and lardy cake.  
Oh Ardingly, Goodbye!*





St Saviour's - Shoreham



## Ardingly 1870 – 1930

### Some impressions of an unknown old boy:

It was with mixed feelings that I – an original Ardingly boy – took the train from Victoria for Ardingly on Saturday.

Sixty years ago, I had, with several Masters and some three hundred other boys, taken the train from Shoreham for Haywards Heath and had then trudged along the hot and dusty road to St Saviour's School. I wondered on Saturday how many old school fellows I should meet.



How things have changed! The School buildings in 1870 formed three sides of a quadrangle and little more – there was then no permanent Chapel. They now form something more like the form of a letter H and have a very beautiful Chapel, with High Altar surmounted by a very beautiful seven light stained glass window and lined throughout with fine oak panelling. There was then no railway station nearer than Haywards Heath; there were no

motor cars and consequently no smooth tarred roads.

These things of course, one noticed, and for some of them felt thankful, but what one noticed most of all was the absence of every one of all those hundreds who were there on the opening day. To find one's self, though again one among hundreds, to be the only one who was there in 1870, caused feelings which I will attempt to describe.

Only a week or so back did the Revd. H J Harris, the last of the original Ardingly Masters, pass to his rest – his memory will always be dear to me.

As I sat waiting in the Fellows Garden for Ben Greets play to commence I could not but think of other Masters – Mertens, the dear old Head, Hilton, Wix, Lacell, Thomas, Lee, Pedler, Hurst, Sutton, Scott, the Chaplain Lewington and hosts of old boys. Close to me sat Mr Cunnington, the Secretary, who went to Ardingly – I think from Hurst – in 1870 of those present on Saturday, next in point of seniority to myself.

How thoughts crowded upon one. What had Ardingly stood for throughout those years, and what was it still standing for? These were answered in better words than I can use by the Provost – Bishop Southwell – in his sermon at the Thanksgiving Service a little later on.

Ardingly is indeed a delightful spot, perched as it is on the side of the valley overlooking one of the most picturesque parts of the Ouse – the Headmaster's garden – I believe as a matter of fact it is Mrs Wilson who tends it – with its rose-covered terrace wall behind; the Fellows' Garden surrounded with trees and with crescent formed sloping background; the beautiful lawns of the "quad"; the extensive green playing fields with their well-kept grass; the beautiful embowered swimming bath - these all help to make the Ardingly of today an ideal spot for a school. And yet I feel doubtful as to whether these favoured youths who are there now have a greater love for the dear Old School than we who first went to it from Shoreham in June 1870.

### O.A. CAR BADGE

All O.A.s will be glad to hear that arrangements have been put in hand for the production of 100 car badges, approx 3in x 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in, shield shape, with the colours in vitreous enamel and gilt.

The committee decided that it would be best to have only the shield, which is heraldic and correct, and exclude the crest and motto. The "Duck" is an old favourite with many of us but unfortunately other schools use this crest and it could prove confusing.

It is hoped that there will be samples of the new badge on view at the Ball in September but it is regretted that supplies will not be available until December. The cost will be 25s. post free.

There have already been several applications and, to make sure that you receive one of the first batch, please send your applications to K.E.G. Peters, at 84 Park Lane, Croydon, Surrey, enclosing a cheque for 25s. dated not later than December 1st, 1954. Cheques should be made payable to the O.A. Society. The first 85 applications thus received will be sent the car badges as soon as we have them from the manufacturers. Further supplies will be available about July, 1955.

**Ed's comment.**  
Has anyone still got one?



Nick Tunstill's (D 75-80) call for OA Bikers prompted the following from Ian Tritton MBE (D 66-70):

I too was in Gibbs, from 66-70, and - as far as I know - was the first illicit biker! I kept my Suzuki 80 hidden in the farm buildings for most of my last year up to A levels, frequently nipping off to the Liverpool Arms in Haywards Heath after prep for a pint and a fag before bed.

All went undetected until I decided to make a home run one night, leaving the College at midnight once all were asleep. Silent entry secured successfully at home (in Surrey) for scoff, while parents slept unaware upstairs, but drama followed on return to College, when dirty carb delayed my return. I was half way down the dorm (50 beds long in those days), oily-faced, helmet and flying jacket still on, jackboot in each hand when the bell rang for PT and the Head of House (and School) opened his eyes to see me...

I expected expulsion (just before my A levels) but brilliant Bulteel kept me sweating for 10 days before seeing me - an exquisite punishment! Rather than expelling me - or even caning me - he just wanted to hear all my stories (which I like to think quietly amused him!) then sent me on my way, making me promise to take the bike home as soon as possible. I always felt that I owed him one for that, so as a small gesture I made sure that I got to his remembrance service at Ardingly a few years ago.

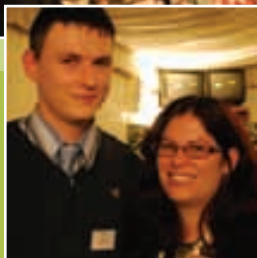
I've had bikes on and off ever since - two Triumph Bonneville's in my 'gap' year, going across Canada and out to Israel, then a BMW R100RS (1000cc) in the 80s - sold on marriage! - and now a Honda Gold Wing, bought with my retirement booty on leaving the Army in 2008 after 37 years. Wot larks!

I'm a Handyman now - initially just to keep me out from under my wife's feet, but now busier than Ben Hur! - but I do take the last week of each month off, often to get a ride out to the mountains to satisfy my hill walking passion, so a ride to Haywards Heath could easily be made one day. We now live near Malmesbury in Wiltshire, and I ride out with a small club here every so often - in fact we did 150 miles today, mostly in the rain!

**Ed's comment** - any more naughty boys or girls out there feel the need to confess...?

# OAs out and ABOUT, TOGETHER

## OA 1986-1992 Reunion at the House of Commons 25th November 2010



On Thursday 25th November 2010 over 100 former students and teachers, who were at Ardingly over 20 years ago, joined together for a memorable reunion at the House of Commons, hosted by the Rt Hon Francis Maude MP.

The guest list included over 70 former students and their guests, former members of staff, notably James and Mary Flecker, John Cope, and Lady Jenny Whitmore, and current long standing members of the College including Graham Dawtrey, Martin Pascoe, John Witherington and Gesa Paulfeierborn. Also present were members of the OA Society Committee, the current Chairman of Governors and Peter Green, the Headmaster, together with a number of other current members of the College. Many enjoyed exchanging stories of their former adventures at Ardingly and catching up on the intervening years.

The evening began with a long walk through the impressive Halls of the Palace of Westminster, followed by a maze of corridors leading to the Terrace Pavilion overlooking the Thames - the venue proved a huge success. Here former students shared a number of bottles of wine and canapés, and enjoyed the opportunity to view over 70 pictures that had been compiled from their time at the College. Speeches were short and it was wonderful to hear from **Jen Witherington** (85-90) (nee Turner), a former student and now a current parent, who initiated the idea of hosting the reunion and who left no stone unturned in tracking down her former classmates. A wonderful evening was had by all who attended, and absent friends were sadly missed.

This event was the first 'focused year group reunion' that the College has held for a long time, and its success will lead to many more similar occasions. A big thank you to everyone who came, it was wonderful to welcome back so many of the Ardingly family.

### We made it... Letterbox revisited -

**Simon Williams** (E 60-65)

Letterboxing started in the UK in 1854 when a Victorian called James Perrott placed a bottle in a seriously inaccessible area of Dartmoor. Since then the pastime has developed and been shaped by technology creating the global hobby of geo-caching although letterboxing continues and I am told there are now as many as 4000 letterboxes on Dartmoor.

My brother, **Robert Williams** (C 57-62) and I attempted last year to find the Beati Mundo Corde Letterbox using the information then available to us. We failed, but agreed we would return if the continued existence of the box was confirmed. During the winter we had direct communication from the Old Man of the Moor who originally placed the box back in the 80s. He had visited the box on New Year's Day to confirm all was well.

Armed with some additional information from the Old Man of the Moor, we returned in April this year. We had been told to follow a bearing of 205° from the flag pole and find a gap between two rocks after about 85 paces, beyond which was a steep descent. At the bottom of the descent would be an upright rock and opposite we would find the box hidden under an overhanging rock.

Our return visit could not have been more different from the previous year. On our first visit it was wet and misty but this time it was a bright sunny Spring morning and relatively dry underfoot. We made good progress past Stephen's Grave and were soon on White Tor at the flag pole. It was clear that our previous search had been at least 75 yards to the east and slightly to the south of where we should have been looking. Our 'sentinel' rock of last year was the wrong rock!

On this occasion, with our new information, we found the box without difficulty and duly signed our names; perhaps the first OA brothers to do so. The log indicates that only three OAs have previously found the letterbox since February 97. **Peter Spear** (JH & C 68-77) in 98 with four subsequent visits, **Luke Darlington** (B 52-57) in 02 (entry not dated) and **Adrian Arnold** (A39-44) on behalf of

**Andrew Alsop** (G 63-68) in 06.

*The correct GPS co-ordinates for the box are...*

*...no that would make it too easy!*

Our thanks go to the Old Man of the Moor for his help and providing us with an excellent and successful walk.

I left Ardingly in 65 to go to King's College Medical School, qualifying in 70. Following an enjoyable few years doing training posts round the country, including time for sailing when based at Portsmouth (a skill first developed on Balcome Lake) and a four year period of pure research at Manchester. I was appointed as Consultant in Respiratory Medicine at Wakefield in Yorkshire. I have greatly enjoyed my clinical career and I retired this March. I am married with four children, one of whom is a junior doctor in Manchester.

My brother Robert worked as a teacher, an industrial engineer and then on commercial computer systems. He is married with three children. Now retired, doing some voluntary teaching but with enough time to explore Dartmoor!





## OA Oxbridge Reunion

The list of Ardinians winning places at Oxford and Cambridge is a long and distinguished one and still adorns the wall of the East Cloister. It was some of the relatively recent names, however, who were invited back for the first Oxbridge Reunion Dinner on 25th September 2010 held in the Staff Common Room. This black-tie dinner attracted 15 OAs who left between 1999 and 2010. Four of the guests had yet to go up: **Sam Elwin** (History, Pembroke, Oxford); **Verena Neufeld** (NatSci, Jesus, Cambridge), **Charles Board** (NatSci, Trinity Hall, Cambridge) and **Charlie Dumeresque** (MEM, St Anne's, Oxford). All will have benefited from hearing the exploits of the graduates and three of them need to improve their snooker before their next visit!

It was a delight to welcome back Oxford undergraduate **Harry McGahan** (H??-??) (History, Lincoln) and graduates **Joe Wellington** (01-06) (Physics, LMH), **Max McGahan** (04-06) (History, Lincoln), **Franz Josten** (00-04) (History and Economics, Hertford), **Peter Armitage** (98-03) (Engineering and Material Science, Trinity), **Michael Zeyfert** (92-99) (Physics, Worcester), **Charlotte Lindsten** (92-99) (Law, LMH), **Tim Buss** (89-99) (Economics & Management, Pembroke) and **Andrew Armitage** (94-99) (Biochemistry, St Catherine's). Cambridge was represented by **Tim Battrick** (99-04) (Maths, Sidney Sussex) and **Maddy Bower** (00-03) (Theology, Robinson).

Also present (though not for the dinner, alas) was Godfrey Armitage, former Oxbridge Co-ordinator and Head of Biology, who continues, in semi-retirement, to provide current candidates with mock interviews. The evening began with drinks in Common Room, allegedly the first time many had entered that inner sanctum, and the Headmaster welcomed the guests, promising new bespoke and exclusive boards to display their names, although he hastened to reassure them that this was not an appeal dinner! In the Dining Room below, guests were joined by Steve Allen, Director of Studies, John Witherington, Oxbridge Co-ordinator and Jane Dumeresque, the recently appointed Director of Development, who organised the event. A convivial meal was followed by post-dinner drinks, much reminiscing and banter and some snooker which did not show the participants at their best!

Jane hopes to be organising more such evenings in future years, with more staff or former staff in attendance and a big thank you to all who came to this occasion - it was a great pleasure catching up with you.

**John Witherington**



## Kenya 2010

The Kenya trip was an experience that is extremely difficult to sum up in a paragraph or two. Like all trips it had its ups and downs, and a feeling one just cannot seem to explain adequately. And so the purpose of my writing is to try to convey just why we went to Kenya. Hopefully this reason will resonate and be recognised by the reader.

I will focus on a theme that I feel is appropriate to label with Kenya and her people. This theme is Change: the change we made to others and the change they made to us.

When we first began the selection process for Kenya, we each had to individually scratch our heads and look for a reason why we would like to take part in this school trip, which did not include the obvious reason, 'It would look good on my personal statement'. I can honestly say that when we arrived at Nairobi airport our personal statements were the last things on our minds.

If someone told you that you would have to dig a trench and cut through trees in the blazing hot sun for over two hours, I am pretty sure you would not accept the offer! If however, you were then told that with this labour, you would have a feeling that right now, what you were doing mattered to people around you, and that their lives depended on it, and that, with every turn of the soil, you were giving the village and the people reason to believe that with the little they had, life was not all bad and that the good within human nature does still exist, that you were making a change in people's lives, your response would be decidedly different.

This is what Kenya was about for me, the idea that my small efforts could change lives forever.

I feel at the end of the trip, everyone has either left a part of them behind, or taken something with them. If I said it was a life-changing experience it would be an understatement. To quote the words of Mahatma Gandhi, 'Be the change you want to see in the world'. The Kenya trips allow you to do just that.

**Owuor Odonde** - current pupil.



## ART

The Royal Academy of Arts is probably the most prestigious art gallery in the United Kingdom. The Art Department has recently been informed of the success of **Anna Wise** in the Upper Sixth in gaining a coveted shortlisted position in the 2010 Online Summer Exhibition. Her double painting entitled 'Power Undressed' was selected from a massive entry of 1300 students work from across the country. This recognition shows that the quality of art work at Ardingly continues to reach the highest national standards and we would like to congratulate Anna on her impressive success.

# where are they now?



**Philip Madeley** (D 65-70)

When thinking of Ardingly, I am often reminded of a story my father told me many years ago of four friends who left school at the same time and vowed to stay in touch. They all agreed to meet at the Café Royal in London ten years hence, have a good meal and share their experiences. The date arrived and at 8:00pm they sat down to dinner but only three of the four

had arrived. Whilst waiting for the fourth, the three recounted their stories over the last ten years. One was a successful banker with houses in Hertfordshire and Florida, the second had joined the army and was now a Lt Colonel and the third was a millionaire with his own advertising business employing over 50 people travelling the world.

The three had now been waiting for over 30 minutes for their companion so they ordered some canapés to accompany their fine wine. The waiter delivered the canapés with a polite 'good evening' to each of the three diners who turned to look at the waiter, each of them realising that their companion had indeed joined them at the restaurant!

I think that when we all left Ardingly our tutors expected the best of us and we all had rosy views of the future. I never made it to university and my life probably followed a completely different direction as a result. I really enjoyed the five years I spent at Ardingly despite not working as hard as I should! I took advantage of as many sporting and outside opportunities as I could and, although I didn't realise it at the time, certainly learnt a great deal about life and how to live with others.

I wasn't sure what I wanted to do as a career, but knew that I didn't want to spend my life in an office. My father suggested land

surveying and after writing to a few companies, got a job with Hunting Surveys, one of the largest survey companies in the Country. I remained with Huntings for ten years travelling all over the UK and also to the Middle East and North Africa whilst being sponsored to go to college and polytechnic to learn my profession. Working and being paid whilst going to college seemed a better option than university.

Having got married in 76, my wife and I started a family in 80 and this was the catalyst for me to look for a more settled job in the UK. The next ten years found me working for a couple of different companies, including my own, in the UK apart from two very short trips overseas, one to Saudi Arabia and a second to Mauritania, a very poor but fascinating country.

My own company was then bought out and I remained with the larger organisation until 2000 when I decided to take a slightly different direction! I was, by now, getting too old to get cold and wet surveying and had become more involved in consultancy and training, and had the opportunity of setting up a new company with a couple of colleagues. This we did and I have remained with them ever since. I now use my 40 years of land surveying experience in training people how to use surveying and civil engineering software primarily based on AutoCAD, the world's standard application for electronic drawing and design. This work has taken me all over the UK to meet and see some very interesting companies and places that otherwise I would probably not have dreamt of visiting. Every day is different and I love it to bits.

Thinking back I sometimes feel like the waiter in my opening story since I don't have a mass of qualifications, an overpaid job and many of the trappings of our increasingly material world. Instead I have had a wonderful working life, met some interesting people, visited some fascinating places and learnt a great deal about life itself. I live in a modest house in Upminster, have a wonderful wife and three great daughters. Could I have done better? Educationally, probably, but then we could all admit to that!

**Erwin Losekoot** (JH & D 78-86) Prefect of Chapel 1985-86 & brother of **Marcel** (D 78-84) and **Brenda** (J 83-88)

After 10 years at Strathclyde University's Scottish Hotel School as the Sir Hugh Wontner Lecturer, I moved to my present post as Senior Lecturer in Hospitality Management at Auckland University of Technology in Auckland, New Zealand. My wife Eileen and our three kids Adam, Paul and Emma came out to visit for six months from January - July 2010 and are now back in Scotland awaiting permanent residency paperwork. Meanwhile I am busy working on my PhD looking at the customer experience at airports, so if anyone is working in that area do please get in touch! I can be contacted on: erwin.losekoot@aut.ac.nz

**Michael Clarke** (JH & F 43-51) writes: My family company for many years did the general printing work for the school, including the school lists and the Annals. By buyouts, the family lost control of the company in 84. My sons were also at Ardingly.

**Paul** (JH & D 69-77) now lives in Sydney and is MD of two subsidiary companies for Employers Mutual.

**Simon** (JH & D, 70-81) is working for BP as a special projects manager.

**Julian** (JH & D, 73-81) is a risk manager for Citigroup for seventy two emerging markets.

Regrettably all have now hung up their cricket boots!

It was fascinating to note that when my sons started at Ardingly, many of the Masters were the same as when I attended Ardingly. Truly a school with a tradition.



5 OAs looking rather gorgeous at Fiona King's wedding July 2010.

(l to r) are: Fiona Bintcliffe (97-02), Tamsin Smith (97-02), Fiona King (97-02), Hayley Furminger (97-02) and Lucy Bruce (00-02).

### Lynda Upthegrove (84-86)

When I was 12 my English aunt, who was a Head Teacher at a school took us on a canal boat trip on our vacation to Birmingham from West Virginia. We went under some strange arches, black and bold, and I had a thought that this place would have something to do with my music some day in the future. Back in West Virginia our brilliant Dad who played acoustic guitar in the living room and sang Bob Dylan, Simon and Garfunkel and all kinds of American traditional songs, - he was an amazing psychiatrist too - passed away young and we then moved to England to be with my Mom's family in Birmingham. The Police wouldn't let me organise the kids to play baseball on the street corner in Birmingham. So I focused on the flute. After some time at the all girls school - wearing all green in Birmingham I was off to the all boys school - Ardingly!

From West Virginia to Birmingham to Ardingly was a double culture shock but I loved it. With small group of gals in the all boys school - we stuck together like sisters. The music was amazing at Ardingly. The vocals in the chorus and the flute tuition got me a distinction at grade 8 (I'm still proud of that one :-). Wingers only once and also singing Patricia the Stripper to the school, I can't believe I did that - blame the head boy at the time :-). You know who you are - and Guys and Dolls. Mr Cannings (60-99) was an amazing inspiration, with his humour, music and straight forward strong ways, his wife Ann was like a mother to me. Such a beautiful place. Ann had gone to America on the boat with my Mom - and then she went to Ardingly to be the school nurse.

Ohio University then back to Birmingham, where I went on a sound engineering course and a teaching course. I was offered this close to derelict Victorian building to teach music in - in inner city Birmingham, by Snow Hill station. Tony Blair wanted to get music into the vocational courses on the advice of the singer from Simply Red. A cool company called Access To Music was delivering courses. This building I was offered was right by the canal and the black, bold arches I had seen as a kid on the canal boat. My second teaching job was at my own site where I was in effect the head teacher! Rock and Roll.

Wet, dank, dark, with one P.A. and one other - a drum teacher- I started the first two intakes of students. They loved it - it was a rock school, vocational BTEC course and the bands we created with the students sounded quite good! Only one floor was renovated so while I was teaching I was co-ordinating the

work men to renovate the other five floors. The next year the students doubled in numbers, and this went on for seven years. The paperwork was enormous! The system for collecting vocational work is like running a post office. At one point I thought I either had to walk out or get really good at being organised - but a rock school in a Victorian building was too cool to walk away from so I colour coded everything. :-). Helping the kids who had been expelled or did not achieve a basic education through the key skills courses became a cause for me. The Second Head master at City College Birmingham said we were the most organised course he had. Not bad for Rock and Roll.

The kids would have me laughing. They were an inspiration. The reward of playing a gig at the local pub was a great carrot. I would put on six bands an evening - like running a circus. So much fun. Some of the darlings thought I was their roadie at times - and I had to draw a line somewhere :-). Those kids knew I loved them. I set up a studio in the basement after it was renovated with four rehearsal rooms that I named after planets.

In the morning I would lift the metal security grates to get into the building and the folks at the bus stop would watch - it was rusty so it must have looked quite funny. The Police knew me well - some piece of equipment was always leaving the building. Inner city Birmingham - some stories I shouldn't tell here about the places either side of the building - but the students were always well looked after.

There were 16 music teachers teaching piano, bass, guitar, history of music, theory, music business, key skills, band rehearsals and music technology, and 200 students, five floors of the building that I had renovated. After seven years I was closing the security grates and the sun was streaming in the windows and I thought I've done it. And I had a thought about California. A few years at another more mainstream college - expanding their music departments, and my American aunt came to visit from California. I went to visit her and I kind of stayed. I now run a music school in California where the teachers go to the homes to deliver individual lessons (see [www.musicupthegrove.com](http://www.musicupthegrove.com))

I've recently released my second album with an absolutely amazing guitarist, Sean Allen (see [www.dreamcyclemusic.com](http://www.dreamcyclemusic.com)) and I've been playing gigs all around the San Francisco area.

My dream now is to have a little baby girl with my new boyfriend, Day, once he asks me to marry him!



**witter:**  
Julia Friend (E 80-82)

**witter:** What is your favourite memory of Ardingly?

**JF:** That would have to be the day having press-ganged the Colonel into allowing a girls platoon into the CCF, we outshone the boys on parade!

**witter:** Good times at Ardingly?

**JF:** I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Ardingly. In those days there were very few girls in the Sixth Form and I embraced the enthusiasm and energy of the school environment, it was very different to the school for young ladies that I had attended previously.

**witter:** What did Ardingly give you?

**JF:** I think the most valuable thing I learnt at Ardingly was to have self belief and the life skills I gained which I still make use of.

**witter:** What are your weaknesses?

**JF:** Fine wine and good company.

**witter:** After all this time back on the OA Committee?

**JF:** Yes, I did a term on the OA Committee just after I left school but felt this is a good time to give something back now that I am older and wiser. As a current parent too I think I am well placed to foster the relationship between OAs and the school.

**witter:** What are you hoping to achieve in your time on the OA Committee?

**JF:** The OA Society is predominantly a social organisation aiming to promote interaction between members. I would like to see many more OAs registered on the OA website and taking an involvement in events it's a great way of making contact with old friends. [www.olderdardinians.com](http://www.olderdardinians.com)

# OAs...could it BE YOU?

**Ray Banks** (JH & A 58-63) writes: I have a House photo which I believe is of Grenville. The teacher was either Tim Elford or Mr Telford!! I can't recall which!

My recent visit awakened a tide of very warm emotions toward the School & I am keen to keep in touch. A reunion in Australia would be the pinnacle but I don't know how many of us are now contactable.

On that note, I have been in touch with Graham Marriott, who is standing to my right in the photo. Graham has been in the USA for 30 years and has been spectacularly successful in his chosen field of cartography.

**(Ed's comment** - 13 seems a small number for Grenville - can any one confirm? Tim Elford - geography teacher, housemaster, head of CCF and shooting - is the Master).



## Ardingly recollections,

a visit by **Ray Banks** (JH & A 58-63):

Some time ago now, as I keyed in "Ardingly College - Sussex" into Google Earth, I had no idea that the result would sow a seed that took years to germinate. As the image of the School clarified I was motionless at my desk. I gazed at the image for what seemed like hours as the memories cascaded forth from some dark recess. I was overtaken by a longing to again stand in the Chapel and walk amongst the buildings.

I emigrated to Australia at age 21, five years after leaving Ardingly. My parents & brother had already settled in Australia a short time before.

After a three year stint in the Australian Regular Army, I started as a Sales Cadet with Arnott's Biscuits, an iconic Australian company with a 70% market share. I have been in sales, either retailing or as a Company Rep. ever since. Today I am the Area Manager for Hallmark Cards Australia in Central Queensland. My territory covers an area of 6,000 square kilometres! I live in Rockhampton, a Central Queensland town with a population of 70,000. It is described as the Beef Capital of Australia. I travel north to Bowen, a distance of around 550 kms and south to Bundaberg, a distance of around 350kms. I travel out west to Longreach which is 800 kms from my home!

On 8th October this year I achieved my goal of revisiting Ardingly! As I drove through the Village with my brother, (not an OA) I could feel the anticipation building. The first sight of the School on the right as we drove past the playing fields necessitated my stopping the car to allow a flood of emotion to be released. I stopped again inside the gates and got out, just to try and take in what I was seeing. As we drove to the car parks in front of the Hard I was filled with such incredible emotion for this School that I had loved as a child.

As we made our way to the Reception and our meeting with Jane (Jane Dumeresque - School Link) I could not resist opening the Chapel door. This was like a step back to my School days, everything as I remembered it, so little had changed.

Jane, I can't imagine what you must have thought of my tear-stained 62 year old face as we met! You were so understanding and so genuinely interested in my silly stories! I cannot imagine a person more suited to what you do! The next four hours of looking through the School and telling you stories, running into Graham

**Editor's PLEA**- Please, please, please can OAs submitting items for inclusion in the Newsletter supply their HOUSE LETTER(S) and YEAR DATES with their contributions. For example - Mark Keatley-Palmer (JH & E 68-79)

**THANK YOU!**



**Ed's comment** - following the interest generated from the Cricket Reunion requested by **Tony Gibbs** (E 45-49), **Philip Madeley** (D 65-70) has supplied two pictures and he needs help with the names!

◀ **Gibbs House** photo from Summer 70 Philip is in the front row, third from left, those he can remember are as follows: Front Row 1 to r, S.K Lawrence (I think), Richard Hodges, me, Johnny Kilah, Gareth Blyth, Nigel Smith, David Harris (House Master), Ian (Baz) Payne, Dave Pearce, not sure, Angus Bulloch. Then his mind goes blank as the remainder were in younger years - who are you?



◀ **Ardingly Rugby Team** 66 or 67 Philip is in the back row on the extreme left. Apart from Ian (Baz) Payne and Dave Pearce (back row 7 & 8 from left) he remembers the faces but cannot remember a single name! Who are you, where are you?

The **Luke Darlington** collection  
supplied by Madeline Fredericks on Luke's death  
- see obituaries

Dawtrely and learning more about the School were simply wonderful.

I stood at the Eagle Lectern in the Chapel and remembered reading a lesson. I remembered the goose bumps I would get during the Christmas Carol Services, the famous "Head's Guts" dinner with all the food and drink you could handle, the punishment P.T. area on the North Quad where minor misdemeanours were atoned for with 45 minutes of the toughest physical activity that could be imagined!

I praised the foresight of the School that used ear protection in the Sixties when rifle shooting in the Armoury. I told Jane of the watchful teacher who had spotted that I found reading the blackboard difficult and recommended that I have my eyes tested. I have worn glasses ever since.

As we passed by the Junior School, I recalled the huge chip fight in the Dining Room which resulted in the caning of most of the Houses! I recalled the precision of Mr Cotton-Smith's cane strokes! This brought to mind the battered light shade in Mr Ellis' study, with its multiple sellotape strips where the cane had caught it on the backswing! The pain of caning quickly gave way to the pride in "sporting" your stripes around the washroom and showers!

I mentioned the "Gobbos" to Graham and was delighted that he was able to explain the circumstances behind their employment. As boys, we had realised that some were "different" from us. I wonder how many of us are still unaware of how this programme unfolded.

We talked of the Tuck Shop and the "Lardy Cakes" that were so highly prized! The entrepreneurial local store owner who opened an account for me so I could buy my two tins of condensed milk each week. My explanation of the windowed letter that arrived at home in the holidays did not work and I was severely reprimanded by my father! As I believe was the unfortunate shop owner!!

I talked with Graham about the communal baths that we indulged in after sport where 4-6 of us would try to clean off pounds of mud from Nine Acre. This was done under constantly running taps!

In Junior School I have a recollection of the old gym building which bounded one side of the playground. It was long and dark, dusty and had wire reinforced windows. I remember it as almost black timber on the exterior. (**Ed's comment** - with the opening of the "new" gym by the swimming pool, this room became the JH "hobbies room").

My weekends were often spent with the Gamekeeper from the neighbouring estate who taught me how to trap and set snares and showed me how he raised pheasants. The grounds & the Lake were a great retreat for me. I have often reflected on how fortunate I was to be able to attend a school such as Ardingly. I would like to thank Graham for the insights he gave me during my visit. To Jane, you are the perfect host! You are charming and thoughtful, attentive and caring. You have made this visit a perfect memory for me to take back to Australia. Thank you so much.



**T**he Veterans reunion luncheon this year was once again a 'sell-out' with many familiar faces attending the event but there were also a number of Old Ardinians who had not been back to the College for some years including **Michael Edden** (A 40-48) who lives in Australia. Welcoming someone back after such a long time is what makes these occasions so special for everyone and it was lovely that he was able to catch up with so many old friends. The OA Veterans Day is one of my favourite events of the year as it is always a privilege to meet and talk to Old Ardinians whom I have got to know over the years like Bunny and Sandie Spall, Keith and Jean Dodson, Tabby Blunt and many, many more.

I am already looking forward to next years' reunion!

Gesa Paulfeierborn

# OAs play on & on!

## OA Girl Hockey - Sept 2010 Match Report (from the College perspective!)

The very first outing for the new 1st XI proved to be a good, even match against the recent leavers side. The 1st XI started well, despite the absence of Captain **Danielle Boyd** for regional hockey. But any benefit the leavers might have hoped for from this was dashed by new girl **Amelie Leerich**. A determined package of speed and ball control that got the 1st XI off the mark with an individual goal, beating several players to have her first shot saved, as well as the follow up, but converted on the third try.

Good play by both sides saw the 1st XI score a follow up goal to reward their determined pressure. With Vice Captain and leader on the day, **Laura Dumeresque** slotting a cracking goal from top of the 'd' into the bottom corner to make it 2-0 at half time.

A bouyant 1st team started the second half positively against a steadily gelling leavers side. But the rigors of training five times in the last six days and limited subs saw the 1st XI start to slow and the leavers slowly gaining more opportunities. The end result was 2-2 after just two finishes, from **Sophie Seeley** and **Chloe Threadgold** respectively, managed to get past **Vanessa Swales**, who was otherwise faultless in her defence of goal under pressure.

A good game and one that shows positive signs for hockey past and present at Ardingly."

## We need OAs to play Hockey & Netball... ...OAs v Ardingly 1stXI

Sunday 9th Jan 2011 Venue: Ardingly College

**HOCKEY: BOYS** - please contact **Tim Barber** on 07780581154 or timbarber87@gmail.com or **Felix Kempf** on +491799648002 or felixkempf1@googlemail.com

**GIRLS** - **Amelia Hunton** via Jane Dumeresque on 01444 893265 or Jane.Dumeresque@ardingly.com

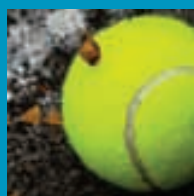
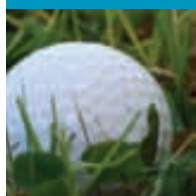
**NETBALL:** **Carrie Walshe** via Jane Dumeresque on 01444 893265 or Jane.Dumeresque@ardingly.com

We will accept players of all abilities and ages so please don't hesitate, get in touch!

If you are an enthusiastic player but are unable to play on 9th January please still contact us. We are hoping to make this an annual event and are keen to play in tournaments later in the year. Any suggestions for tournaments we could enter would be greatly appreciated.

Call us TODAY please!

The OAs need you! If you would like to know more about playing for any of the OA teams, please contact the OA representative listed on the back cover. Players of all standards are welcome, especially those with young legs!



## ARDINGLY COLLEGE LODGE...

Everyone knows that Freemasonry is men-only – except that it isn't. Though the original movement was certainly just for men, women's Masonry and mixed Masonry both came along in time.

Our summer meeting at the College, which as usual was on a Saturday afternoon in June, was followed by a talk given by Joy Keitch of the Honourable Fraternity of Antient Masonry, also known as The Order of Women Freemasons. Joy is a very senior officer in that Order – and she has now been promoted to Senior Grand Warden – and we were delighted to welcome her to Ardingly. Other visitors included notable Masons from the Metropolitan Grand Lodge and the Masonic Province of Northants and Hunts, from our sister Woodard School lodges of Lancing and Hurstpierpoint, and from Tonbridge School. Afterwards we enjoyed the company of the Headmaster and Brenda Green, the Chaplain and other guests at drinks, followed by a fine dinner in the staff dining room. In particular, we thank Peter Green very much for his support.

Our October meeting at Freemasons' Hall in London saw the installation of Terry Scully as our new Master for the next year, and the circulation of the Burgoyne Loving Cup at dinner. The outgoing Master, Mike Byford-Bates, compiled during his term, a booklet giving a brief history of all Woodard School Lodges and we can send this to all who may be interested.

In November, we were represented in Taunton at the 50th anniversary meeting of the Old Aluredian Lodge, of King's College, another Woodard School; Ardingly sponsored the foundation of that lodge in 60, when I was but a sixth-former and George Snow was the Lodge Chaplain; and in recognition of our contribution I was honoured to be asked to represent the visiting Masonic guests from all other lodges during the ceremony.

In 2011 we have evening meetings at Freemasons' Hall on Wednesday 2nd March, Wednesday 26th October and Tuesday 13th December. Our summer meeting at Ardingly is set for Saturday 18th June, probably at 4 o'clock. Every Freemason connected with Ardingly is welcome to our meetings. For everyone who is at all interested in finding out more about this venerable institution, and possibly in joining, do let me know; it's a very rich experience.





# OA Day Cricket...

# ...Match Report

Co-written by:  
Courtney Austin and Chris Spencer - 1973-2010.  
Chris tragically died as we went to press.

The OAs returned to Ardingly keen to see the progress the School had made in their South African cricket tour over the winter. The Old Ardinian's Cricket Club was proud to sponsor their tracksuits for the tour. The OAs had a mix of youth and experience with Nick, Jim, Jack, Chris, Alistair and Courtney; note the Rhodes / Warren House connection, combined with a youthful injection of players from the last few years.

Courtney won the toss and decided to bat on an overcast day on which play was delayed due to rain. As a consequence the match was limited to 40 overs to ensure a result. Courtney and Chris P opened the batting with Chris having scored a century against the OAs last year for the College. Unfortunately, Chris was not able to repeat his great innings from 09, however Jack replaced him at the crease. In the '80's Jack was the youngest player to score a century on "The Green" at 12 years of age. After Jack was dismissed following some graceful shots. A mix up saw Courtney, the opening bat, being run out for 24. Chris S took guard and played sensibly, however, he started losing partners at regular intervals. The College was playing with real enthusiasm and fielded magnificently with some great catches. This resulted in Alistair joining Chris, hitting some clean strikes but after he departed following a flurry of boundaries Nick stepped up to the mark to hurdle the ball around the park with great purpose. He was soon joined by his brother Jim who was also bowled following a short cameo. As Chris was running out of partners, he upped the tempo with some lusty blows and was the last man out for 38. The OAs posted a competitive 152 in testing conditions.

An excellent BBQ lunch was prepared at the interval on the Upper which was enjoyed by many OAs watching the match. It was great to see John Witherington enjoying the match; he was one of the coaches

during the great Ardingly College Indian tour from 1988 that Chris, Jack and Courtney thoroughly enjoyed - playing against several of the more established stars of Indian cricket today.

Chris S and Ed opened the bowling with an outstanding spell of bowling that unfortunately did not result in an immediate breakthrough. Finally the breakthrough came at first change with Nick bowling out the School's number 1 bat. A difficult chance was spilled by Ed at short cover, until Jim was able to get a ball to cut back and trap the other opener plumb in front of middle stump. Chris was brought back into the attack and soon had some wickets to do justice to his fine opening spell, In the end however, the School were victors with just a few overs remaining.

It will be great to call on the younger generation again for the return match next year. The match was played in a wonderful spirit with an excellent speech from the Ardingly head coach thanking all concerned. After the game we were joined by several OAs in the club house for the traditional post match drink.

### OA Team

Courtney Austin 85-88 (Captain)

Chris Spencer 82-91 (Vice Captain)

Chris Parsons

Max McGahan

Ed Long

Jackson Jessop

Alistair Wright

Glen Harrison

Jim Henderson

Nick Henderson

George Banks

12th Man - Alex Austin

### OA Cricket Day 2011

Reserve Sunday 12th June 2011 for the return fixture!

We would be delighted to include any past OA Cricketers - please email courtneydjustin@hotmail.com or call 07876 396543



## FANTASTIC perFOREmance!

Bill Maingot reports...



The 2010 season opened at the end of April at the West Sussex GC on a beautiful sunny Spring day and members of the OAGS were pleased to welcome a School team for lunch followed by the annual match. The latter was a very close contest with the result in doubt until the final game, with the OAs eventually running out winners by 3 matches to 2. Congratulations to **Jack Floyd** top scorer for the School on 40pts (a gross score of 73) and to **Gary Holloway** (E 67-70) winner of the Holloway Cup with 34pts.

In June we adjourned to Piltdown GC, sadly lacking in numbers, but those attending enjoying this lovely heathland course and excellent cuisine. Winner in the morning singles was **Robin Macdonald** (??-??) with 36pts followed by **Roger Munyard** (C 43-50) on 33pts.

On a magnificent Summer's day our guest meeting was held at The Berkshire GC playing the Red Course in the morning and Blue Course in the afternoon. The Winner of the Lee Cup was **Andrew Chettle** (F 80-84) with

35pts and second **Gary Holloway** with 33pts. The guest prize was won by **Stephen Bennet** with 36pts on count back from **Derek Allen**.

The final meeting was held at Walton Heath GC on a miserable wet Autumn day with members playing for the Captain's Prize which was won by **Patrick McGahan** with an excellent 37pts from **Gary Holloway** on 36pts after count back. The guest prize was won by **Paddy Jackman**, the incoming bursar and whom we are pleased to report has joined the golfing society.

The highlight of 2010 has to be finishing in equal first place at Knole Park GC in the qualifying round of the South East section of the Grafton Morrish Trophy and thereby qualifying for the finals at Hunstanton GC in October.

### 2011 Fixtures

West Sussex GC

Thursday 21 April

Piltdown GC

Friday 3 June

The Berkshire GC

Wednesday 27 July

Walton Heath GC

Thursday 22 September

# friends we have lost



**Sir John Gorst** (E 42-46) spent 27 years as MP for Hendon North, died on July 31, aged 82. He was a Tory, considered to be one of the most effective publicists in the House of Commons.

John was born 28/06/28 to Charles Gorst and the former Tatiana Kolotinsky. His great-grandfather, also John, chaired the first Conservative Party conference and became the party's first professional manager under Disraeli.

After Ardingly and Corpus Christi College, he worked at a holiday camp and managed a

Shakespearean troupe in the Lake District before joining Pye's advertising department in 53.

In 64 he formed a public affairs and trade union consultancy. Early clients were British Lion Films, the Federation of British Film Makers and the Film Production Association of Great Britain; he retained a connection with the industry throughout his career, pressing from the mid-1980s for the BBC and ITV to pay a levy for every feature film they screened.

In 60 John was rejected as a Tory candidate on the grounds that "I had never done anything to prove I was a Conservative". In 70 he succeeded Sir Ian Orr-Ewing at Hendon North, defeating "Derry" Irvine, who would be Tony Blair's Lord Chancellor. At Westminster, he showed his independence as one of three Tories to oppose Selwyn Lloyd's election as Speaker. He was an early campaigner for Parliament to be televised. John was also a director of Standard Broadcasting, offering advice on setting up commercial radio stations.

On the Employment Select Committee, Gorst opposed Mrs Thatcher's ban on trade unions at GCHQ, and under John Major he and his colleague Hugh Dykes secured a partial reprieve for casualty services at Edgware Hospital by refusing to vote with a government whose majority had fallen to one.

Retained by Guy's Hospital, he volunteered as a spokesman for the National Heart Hospital when heart transplants began. He handled the media after Britain's second transplant, on Gordon Ford, in 68, and after the third, at Guy's on Charles Hendrick.

John also founded a wave of trade associations-cum-pressure groups: the

Telephone Users' Association, to handle complaints of inefficiency by the Post Office monopoly; the Local Radio Association, to campaign for commercial radio; the Society for Individual Freedom, which began by celebrating the 750th anniversary of Magna Carta; the Enterprise Association, to campaign against further nationalisation; and the Contract Cleaning Association.

He opposed the timing of the introduction of VAT as "lunatic", given the surge in inflation, (Ed's comment - *deja vu?*) and secured a Press Council inquiry into the News of the World taking secret pictures of the defence minister Lord Lambton with Nora Levy and another call girl, saying its methods would have caused an outcry if used by the police or security services.

In the 74 election he painted himself into an embarrassing corner when he told constituents he spoke Swahili, only to be challenged to a debate by a Swahili-speaking Liberal. When the BBC Swahili service offered to stage this, John confessed he "no longer spoke it".

He had a high profile when Mrs Thatcher came to power in 79. Within weeks he was criticising James Prior's plans to reform the law on picketing as "mild and minimal", and early in 80 he accused Prior of cowardice.

John voted with Labour to insert penalties on illegal tapping into the Bill making British Telecom independent, urged Mrs Thatcher to give the Argentines an ultimatum to "get out of the Falklands or be kicked out", and voted against relaxing immigration rules.

When Norman Tebbit replaced Prior, he pressed him to outlaw strikes in essential services. His line over GCHQ took the government by surprise. John began by attacking ministers' refusal on security grounds to let the director of GCHQ and the leader of the union side appear before the Employment Committee.

He voted with Tory rebels to demand a new strategic body for London when the GLC was abolished, and with Labour for the Coal Board to review the case of every miner sacked during their year-long strike. When the Westland affair blew up, he castigated the DTI for keeping "skimpy" records of Leon Brittan's meetings, and was one of the first backbenchers to demand Brittan's resignation.

He was knighted in 94, but lost his seat at the general election of 97.

John married, in 54, Noel Walker (the ballerina Noel Rossana), with whom he had five sons.

Peter Green, Headmaster, notified us that **Janet McCleery**, the much loved organist at Ardingly College from 98-2010 died in her sleep. A Requiem Mass was held at Worth Abbey in November in her memory.

**Patrick Punt** (E 42-43) died on 6 Feb this year. He was involved in the International Union of Railways.

Simon Hiscocks, informed us that his father, **Steve Hiscocks** (F 50-55), died suddenly Monday 4th October.

**Ian Tredinnick** (56-65) has written to let us know that **John Tredinnick** (C33-38) his father, passed away in April. He had been ill for some time. "He was very attached to the College and both my brother, **Mike** (C 61-70), and myself followed him to Ardingly."

**E Opperman** (C 15-22) now deceased, details unknown.

Elaine Norman has informed us of the sad death of her father **Peter** (Walter John) **Hirons** (F 41-45) aged 82.

**Murray Barnes** (B 33-42) died in April.

David Meara, Rector of St Bride's, Fleet Street, informs us that his father-in-law, **John Alexander** (B 35-40) has died. John served with the Royal Engineers - Burma Campaign 39-46. From 48-88 he worked in London as a Civil Engineer at Bullen Consultant. He then had a role as a Voluntary Technical Officer REDR - Disaster Relief. He was married to Audrey, had 2 children, Rosemary & David.

**Peter Welton** (JH & E 71-80) Head Prefect when James Flecker arrived, was very keen on sport, music and drama. He went on to study theology at Balliol.

**RICHARD BACH** (? 45-48). Richard had planned to attend this year's Veterans day, but sadly in the end, was just too ill.

**Michael Clarke** (JH & F 43-51) has written to inform us of the death of his nephew **Stephen Box** (F 63-68). Stephen won a bank scholarship to Ardingly at age 13. He was not very athletic but was proud to captain the croquet team! Having left Ardingly, he eschewed a university course, qualifying as a Chartered Accountant at a Brighton firm by age of 21.

Stephen subsequently went to Deloitte, Haskins and Sells and became a Merger and Acquisitions Partner. He was involved with the privatisation of the electricity companies.

He was then head hunted by National Grid and became their Finance Director. Unfortunately in 01 he was diagnosed with secondary lung cancer following kidney cancer and left the company. A very determined character, Stephen then took on several non executive directorships with national companies.

Having battled his cancer with fortitude and joie de vivre, he

passed away suddenly on 6th March 2010. Stephen is survived by his wife Christine and their two adopted Chinese children.

Jane Childs father **Colonel John Taillefer Merrick Childs** (details not known) passed away on May Bank Holiday. He was diagnosed with cancer of the bile duct five weeks earlier and although it proved extremely difficult in the last few weeks, he managed his 95th birthday just four days before his passing.

**Ralph James Fox Lloyd** (G 63-70) died on 22 August.

**Chris Spencer** (JH&G 82-91) It is with great sadness that we learnt, just as this newsletter was going to print, that Chris tragically passed away on Wednesday 8th December, aged 37. As we all know, Chris was a wonderful supporter of OA Cricket for over 15 years and he was enormously proud of his time at Ardingly. He will be sorely missed by his family and many friends.



**Sir Robin McLaren** (C 49-53) died on July 20 aged 75. Ex Chairman of the Governors, he was a British diplomat who in the 80s played a crucial part in the negotiations to transfer Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty; the following decade he was ambassador to Beijing during the turbulent tenure of Chris Patten as Governor of the territory. He spent the vast bulk of his career living in, or focused on, Asia, and admitted that "most people who work on China do get drawn in to it and fascinated by it. It is a special taste."

Robin was born 14/08/34; attended Richmond and East Sheen Grammar School; arrived at Ardingly, aged 14; won a History Scholarship to St John's, Cambridge, but had "no idea what to do" afterwards. Following National Service in the Navy, sat the three-day civil service commission and was prodded towards the Foreign Service: "At the end of the day I said I'd join it and so (in 58) I did."

Passing an aptitude test, he was sent abroad to learn a "hard language". Russian was already oversubscribed, and he had no interest in Arabic. Turkish was offered as an alternative before Chinese was mentioned. "It seemed to me to be worth the effort," he said later. After a year at Soas, he was sent to Hong Kong by sea. Transferring to Beijing was "very strange", he said: "In 60 China was a very closed environment. It was only just over ten years since the Communists take-over."

Returning to London in 62 he worked as the Korea desk officer before becoming assistant private secretary to Ted Heath following Macmillan's failure to gain British entry into the EEC.

Claiming an Italian grandfather and "exaggerating slightly" his skill at Italian, McLaren was then posted to Rome as private secretary. He swiftly became the embassy's politics expert and, among other things, received Harold Wilson and the then Foreign Secretary George Brown on one of their swings through to try to persuade people that they were interested in Europe". The task was hampered, McLaren recalled, because "it was obvious to everybody that they were simply not on speaking terms".

After four happy years in Italy, McLaren returned to Hong Kong as an adviser to help with the territory's relationship with China, then undergoing the worst of the Cultural Revolution. After only 18 months he was summoned back early due to a misunderstanding at the FO, and took charge of appointments below counsellor level. "It meant that you had to be like a juggler, keeping several balls in the air at once and not allocating people finally until you were pretty sure what slots would need to be filled," he said.

But the position proved useful when, after two and a half years, McLaren was able to arrange his own transfer, to the Western Operations Department, which dealt with NATO and European defence.

A move to Copenhagen followed, where he served under Britain's first female ambassador, Ann Warburton ("We got along fine," he said later). After his return to London in 78, Hong Kong and China filled almost the entirety of the rest of McLaren's career. It was at this time that, under the Labour government, Hong Kong's future was first raised.

In 79 McLaren became head of the Far East department in London and, over the next few years, attempted to "embark upon serious discussion with China over the future of Hong Kong". The attempts, he admitted, were "not very successful". Following the talks, McLaren was sent to the Philippines as ambassador, arriving just as the Marcos regime was collapsing. While there, he was able to witness the revolution and what he described as "the tremendous courage shown by ordinary people and a great outflow of democratic spirit akin to that which was subsequently seen in Eastern Europe". Two years later he was appointed Assistant Under-Secretary of State.

A year after being named Deputy Under-Secretary in 90, McLaren arrived in Beijing as ambassador – "the job I always wanted". Hong Kong still dominated, to the extent that he was frequently forced to cancel travel to other parts of China, and one visit to Tibet.

His tenure there was dominated by the arrival in 92 of Chris Patten as Governor of Hong Kong, and Patten's subsequent announcement that voting rights there would be extended almost to every citizen, infuriating the Chinese. The chill endured through 14 new rounds of talks, which began in 93, led by McLaren. They failed, and in 94 Patten published legislation that was denounced in Beijing. By the time McLaren left in August that year, he described relations with China as "very tricky".

He was appointed CMG in 82 and KCMG in 91.

Colleagues described McLaren as sincere and earnest, as well as hugely hard-working. He also had an argumentative streak which he worked out by taking daily runs, especially at the most tense passages of negotiations over Hong Kong. He enjoyed walking and music, and, in retirement, turned his expertise of Asia to use on behalf of investment trusts.

Robin McLaren married, in 64, Susan Ellen Hatherly, who survives him with their son and two daughters.

**Luke Darlington** (B 52-57) has died aged. After leaving Ardingly he was called up for National Service, completing his basic training at Catterick before attending Mons Officer Cadet School. He was subsequently commissioned into the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment where he served in Germany and Libya. In 60 he joined Barclays Bank in London's West End but resigned after three years and went to Marjons in Chelsea, where he studied English and Music. Later, he worked in schools in Paddington, Berkshire and Oxfordshire and was one of the first students to gain a degree with the Open University. He became headteacher of Charles Kingsley C.E. Primary School, Eversley, Hampshire in 79, where he remained for ten years before being appointed as headteacher of St. Mary's School, Yate, Bristol, another church school but twice the size. Whilst there he was frequently published in the Times Educational Supplement, delighting many with his Thank God it's Friday column and other humorous pieces. He retired in 98.

He was a first bass with The London Philharmonic Choir from 60-63, a member of the BBC Choral Society from 63-67, a guest member of the New Philharmonia Chorus on tour to Dusseldorf in 68 and one of the St. Endellion Easter Festival Chorus from 76-78 - over a hundred concerts in all. He enjoyed acting in Gilbert & Sullivan operettas, both in the chorus of St. Marylebone Operatic Society and later in principal roles with Arborfield Garrison G & S Society. He was also the chairman of the Henley Choral Society. Always fond of sport, he played rugby for his regiment and cricket for BAOR against Berlin Garrison in Berlin, top-scoring in the first innings. Afterwards, he regularly opened the batting for Sonning Cricket Club in the Berkshire League. Latterly he took up golf and won several trophies, becoming the Seniors Secretary of his local club for three years. Having moved to Devon he explored Dartmoor extensively. He also spent much of his time completing a novel during the Winter months while researching and writing Dartmoor short stories during the Summer ones. He was a popular speaker, frequently being invited to talk about how he became a writer and about Dartmoor letterboxing. Married twice, he is survived by his partner, Madeleine, by two daughters and two grandchildren.

Luke wrote this obituary for The Old Ardinian

**Alan Bates** (E 39-43) Born on 26 May 1926 to Francis and John Bates in Bognor Regis. Alan was educated at Prebendal School and sang in the Chichester Cathedral choir. He progressed on to Ardingly College in West Sussex. During this period he joined the Army Cadets.

Later on he joined the Royal Engineering Corps. During his service in the army he obtained a commission and was seconded to the Madras Sappers, India. Whilst in the army, Alan was stationed in Lockerbie where he met Jean Stoddart. Jean introduced him to her sister Isobel Stoddart who was nursing in London. In 1947 he was demobbed and returned home to Bognor. Alan and Isobel married in St Mary's Church, London and honeymooned at Lake Como. They settled in London for five years where Tony and Sandy were born and Alan worked for John Mowlems.

The family moved to Warrington in 52 and lived there for 22 years where he worked as an Estates Manager for Greenhall Whitley Brewery. Alison and Tina were born in Warrington. Here Alan and Isobel made many friends and enjoyed tennis, cricket, bridge and a rich social life.

In 73, after his parents had passed away, Alan, Isobel and Alison moved to Bognor Regis. On returning home, he joined Khars and later became a director and stayed there until he retired.

Throughout his years in Sussex he was actively involved in supporting the Wrenford Centre, was a Past President of ARC and of Rotary. His work with these organisations was greatly appreciated.

He is remembered with fondness by his family and many friends from Warrington and Sussex for his gentleness, kindness, charm, diplomacy and great sense of humour.

# OLDARDINIAN



## DATE for your DIARY...

We are delighted to announce that...

**James Flecker**, former headmaster, will be the guest in the chair for the 3rd Annual running of "an evening with" to be held at St Katharine's, Limehouse on Monday March 28th 2011. Please contact Seb Slater to book your place. [Seb@rfsk.org.uk](mailto:Seb@rfsk.org.uk)



Our ever popular curry nights continue to provide informal opportunities for OAs to meet, eat, laugh and reminisce.

If you would like to attend please contact your nearest group. If it is too far away - how about starting your own group?

Your contributions are wanted.  
Have your say!

- Letters
- Who's Who Feature
- Births, Marriages
- Obituaries
- Sport/Events
- Music
- Regional & International gatherings
- Nostalgic memories
- Photos (300dpi minimum)

Readers who have contributions to make to the newsletter should send them to: [oa@sycamoredesign.co.uk](mailto:oa@sycamoredesign.co.uk) or call Mark on 01580 200592

## WHO'S WHO

### ACTIVITY

President of OA Society  
Vice President  
Change of Address  
Facebook Group

Langalanga Scholarship fund (Kenya)  
Minutes Secretary  
Music  
OA Lodge Master  
OA Lodge Secretary  
St. Katharine's Royal Foundation  
OA Motorcycling Society  
OA Newsletter Editor  
OA Photographer  
OA Scholarships  
OA Trust  
School link  
School Outfitter  
Treasurer  
Veterans  
Web Managers

Year Group Rep

### SPORTS

Cricket  
Football

Golf  
Hockey - boys

Hockey - girls  
Netball  
Shooting  
Tennis & Squash

### REGIONS

Australia / New Zealand  
Germany  
Hong Kong  
South Africa (Cape Town)  
USA (Mid West)  
USA / Canada (East)  
USA / Canada (West)  
UK - East Anglia  
Northern  
South East  
South West  
West Midlands

### CURRY CLUBS

Crowborough  
Haywards Heath  
London

### CONTACT

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Antonia Moll  
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Terry Scully  
Paul Wolff  
Ian Bhullar  
Nick Turnstill  
Mark Keatley-Palmer  
Emma Duggan  
David Petitpierre  
Bill Maingot  
Jane Dumeresque  
Maxine Harding  
Nick Greenwood  
Liz Creber  
Hugh Letheren  
Michael Nash  
Larissa Hunter



Courtney Austin  
Luke Hultquist  
Patrick Griffin  
Bill Maingot  
Tim Barber  
Felix Kempf  
via Jane Dumeresque  
via Jane Dumeresque  
Mike Lakin  
Lucy Tardrew

John Beaty  
Max Lobermeyer  
Mark Sharp  
Max Ellwood  
Timothy Day  
Chris Ellis  
Peter Tuck  
Peter Newnham  
Situation vacant!  
Fenella Holmes  
Chris Sumner  
Michael Stables

Mark Keatley-Palmer  
Fenella Holmes  
Mike Lakin

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**OA bikers...** we run regular rides from Haywards Heath and are involved in plenty of other social and biking events. If anyone still rides (and I know I wasn't the only one who kept a bike in the village in the late 70's!), please get in touch - **Nick Tunstill** (75-80) 01892 610808 or email: [Nick@southeastbiker.co.uk](mailto:Nick@southeastbiker.co.uk)

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