

OLD MAIDSTONIAN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 1983

Hon Secretary:

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51 Spot Lane
Bearsted
MAIDSTONE Kent

Tel: (0622) 30716

President:

Martin Passmore

Hon Treasurer:

Roger Brown
7 Greenfields
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MAIDSTONE Kent

Tel: (0622) 57508

The Committee and Officials of the Society would like to thank all those Old Boys who contributed so generously towards the collections held for Mr. Knight and Mr. Newcombe.

We have received the following message from Norman:

"May I be allowed to express my sincere thanks to all those OMs who contributed to the very generous present which Bernard Mee recently handed over to me; I am proposing to use it for the purchase of a second original painting by one of our many local artists here in Velez, the first one having been bought with the Staff's present. I shall enjoy thinking of you all whenever I look at the picture I have chosen, even if, like the famous "Mr. Chips" in the story, I remember you as you were as boys rather than the many you have grown up to be. That's natural enough, I think?

I've not entirely given up teaching: I am at present coaching a young Spanish university student in English in the hope that he will obtain a place in an American University. Until you have tried it, you can have no idea how difficult it is to teach English to foreigners: there just do not seem to be any rules! Still, it is keeping me on my toes and helping to avoid boredom: not that there is much danger of that; in fact, life here is very interesting and I think I was probably right to look for something different when I retired. Velez is a typical Andalucian town, built on a series of hills, picturesque without being especially memorable, but with something going on all the time. I find everyone very friendly and, of course, the weather is wonderful.

You had my address in the last Newsletter; I am now on the 'phone as well (Malaga 50-22-19), and I am sure some of you occasionally take holidays on one or more of the Costas: if so, give me a ring and I shall be delighted to meet you and offer some appropriate refreshment!"

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An adventurer...

CHARLES L. MACQUARIE (1968) is due to attempt an ascent of Everest by the West Ridge with a team of American men and women next autumn. He has sent us the following account of how he came to be part of this team:

"After graduating from the University of Leeds in 1971, I worked as a Civil Engineer for five years. In the summer of 1976 I came to North America on a four-month climbing holiday. (Climbing and mountaineering have been important activities to me since my days at Leeds). While in Yosemite National Park, California, I met the woman who is now my wife, Anne. My holiday turned into an indefinite stay.

Anne is a ranger for the National Park services. For the past four years we have spent the winter months in Yosemite as backcountry ski-rangers, snowed-in near the crest of the Sierra Nevada. Our summers have been spent in the Tetons where Anne is a climbing ranger and I work as a mountain guide.

Climbing and mountaineering are still important to us. We have been on several trips to Alaska and last year we went to the Karakoram, part of the Parkistan Himilaya. Next autumn (1983) we are going on an expedition to Nepal, where we hope to climb Mount Everest by the West Ridge."

Let us wish Charles and his team every success. Hopefully a detailed report will appear in the Newsletter following the expedition.

News of Old Boys...

PHILIP BAUGHAN (1973) and CHRISTOPHER BAUGHAN (1975) are both in the medical profession.

ROBERT BEALE (1960) is Deputy Headmaster of Cheltenham Grammar School.

JULIAN BRISTOW (1979) has been accepted for a place at Glasgow University where he will be researching into the field of integrated Optics.

S.W. BULLETT (1971) was admitted to the class of Member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers last November. He is a designer of large industrial electrical installations and enjoys the sport of Sub-Aqua despite requiring kidney machine treatment three times per week.

RONALD GIBSON (1980) and DAVID EVANS (1981) have now been accepted for commissioned entry into the Royal Marines.

C.A.M. GOODRICH (1967) is currently employed in the Marketing Division of British Caledonian Airways at Gatwick Airport. His career has taken him to Southern Africa for a year. He would like to hear from other Old Maidstonians in the travel business.

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STEPHEN GOODYEAR (1978) won the Mayhew Prize for the best Applied Mathematics results, and was awarded a distinction after studying Maths at Cambridge. He is now researching into the Quantum Field Theory at Edinburgh.

PETER HAINES (1977) swam a total of eight miles over three days to raise money for St. William's Hospital, Rochester. He recently graduated from Bradford University.

J. HITCHCOCK (1978). As reported in the July Newsletter, he represented Magdalene College, Cambridge, in the University Challenge television quiz. His team reached the semi-final stage of the knockout competition before suffering a very narrow defeat.

PHILIP MOORE (1962) is now Organist at York Minster.

PHILIP SIMPSON (1980) is attending Southampton University. He recently spent a holiday in the U.S.A. travelling around the country in a minibus with twelve others. One of the party was CHRISTIAN LEIGH (1969) who left the school to read Geography/Geology at London.

MARK SMITH (1977) recently married Fiona at St. Margaret's Church, Barming.

JONATHAN SOLLY (1975) is now married to Katherine.

HUGH WEEDON (1944) retired on the 31st July from the R.A.F. after 36 years' service.

Our President, Martin Passmore, tried contacting as many of his school contemporaries as he could find addresses. Below are details of some of those he received replies.

ADRIAN BRADDON (1971) lives at 67, Glenshiels Avenue, Hoddlesden, Nr. Darwen, Lancashire. He is a Tax Manager with a national firm of Chartered Accountants (Thornton Baker) and his wife, Sally, is a Careers Officer with the Lancashire County Council. Adrian's brother, Chris, now lives in Staplehurst with his wife and son, Nicholas.

ANDREW CRIPPS (1973) lives at 10, Hoppingjacks Lane, Danbury, Chelmsford, Essex. He works for a firm making tubes and valves; he still does a great deal of singing.

DAVID GIRLING (1972) lives at Barn Brook Bungalow, Kiln Barn farm, East Malling, Maidstone. Having started as a Builder's Quantity Surveyor and then trying his hand at four other jobs, he decided to do a computing course and is now a Computer Programmer with the London Borough of Bromley. In September, he married Ewa, a Polish girl, and spends his spare time learning Polish, besides doing some freelance photography.

MICHAEL GRAY (1972) lives at 1, Trellyn Close, Barming, Maidstone. He obtained a degree in Architecture and has since worked for a firm of Accountants and as a Loss Adjuster. Currently, he is considering spending some time abroad with his wife and two sons, Robert and William.

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ROBERT KENWARD (1971) lives at 13 Lonsdale Drive, Sittingbourne, Kent. He qualified as a teacher and obtained his first post at a junior school in Sittingbourne. In April he took up a new post as Deputy Headmaster at Holy Trinity School in the same town, which has 110 pupils aged between 5 and 11. In his spare time he has been resident singer for four years at Faversham Folk Club, and he still plays cricket and met STEVE SMITH during one match. He writes of KEITH LEWIS, who has stopped teaching and, together with his wife, has opened a video boutique in Maidstone.

MICHAEL POLLOCK (1973) lives at 36 Conway Crescent, Tonteg, Pontypridd, Mid-Glamorgan. He gained a degree in Music from Magdalen College, Oxford, before going to the Royal College. Currently he worked with the Welsh National Opera, where he seems to do a variety of musical jobs. he has been married for two years.

MATTHEW PORTAL (1971) lives at 31 Gosberton Road, London. He works for the National Foundation for Educational Research in England and Wales, where he is preparing a research project on the methods of assessing the proficiency of 13 year-olds in French, German and Spanish. He is also studying for a part-time Ph.D. on the Philosophy of Learning. His wife, Jane, has a job with B.P. in the City, translating technical Chinese into English.

WILLIAM RAMSAY (1971) lives at 6 Mercia Drive, Ancaster, Nr. Grantham, Lincolnshire. After spending three years flying Vulcan bombers, he went to the R.A.F. College, at Cranwell as a Flying Instructor, and then to the Central Flying School.

TOM ROACH (1971) is at Armament Wing, Girdstingwood, Dundrennan, Kirkcudbrightshire. He is a Captain with the 4th Royal Tank Regiment and, although his usual base is in Hampshire, he is in Scotland for a few months doing tank gun and armour trials. He is married and has a son of nearly two.

PAUL RYAN (1972) lives at 31 Backfields, Headcorn, Kent. He works for London Weekend Television as a Video Tape Editor and hopes to get a job in the new Television South studios in Maidstone.

Congratulations must be passed to TREVOR HAYES (1968), an active member of the Society's committee, and his wife, Christine, on the birth of their son, Richard David.

We have been advised of the following Old Boys Graduating:

Peter Tree	(1972)	2:1	University of Bath in Sociology
Dean Harrison	(1979)	2:2	University of Hull in Classics
Keith Clarke	(1979)	2:2	University of Liverpool in Biology
Ian Turrell	(1979)	2:2	University of Reading in Food Science
David Seabrook	(1979)	2:2	University of Liverpool in Biochemistry
Terence Blackman	(1979)	2nd	at Oxford University in History

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News of former staff...

NOEL LONG is now Musical Director at the Ernest Read Musical Association, where he organises concerts at the Festival Hall and endows scholarships etc.

JOHN NUNN has now given up his Lectureship at Oxford University to become a Chess professional. He is a member of the British World Cup team.

MRS. RUTH CLAYDON widow of a former Headmaster, has recently returned from a trip to Canada. She is apparently vigorous and active and living in Cheltenham.

MR. C.D. GREEN has been appointed Head of Physics at Chepstow School.

MRS. S. DAVIES is now teaching at Scarborough Sixth Form College.

News of present staff...

MME T. SANFOURCHE is expecting her second child.

MRS S. LEES (formerly Miss French) has retired from teaching for the moment to look after her baby daughter.

MR. A.F. LOCK has recently married.

Forthcoming Events...

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The meeting will be held in the Staff Room at the school on Friday 28th January 1983. at 8 p.m. As stated in the Summer Newsletter, an important Amendment in the Society's rules has been proposed. This can be summarised as follows:-

About a dozen Sixth Form girls from the Girl's Grammar School spend more than half their school time at Barton Road. Some have requested to join the O.M. Society when they leave, having completed their 'A' Level studies. At present our rules only permit Old Boys to join.

The Proposal to be brought at the meeting will allow any pupil, whether male or female, who has studied at the school for a reasonable period of time to join the Society. The majority of letters that have been received from you which comment on the matter have been in favour of the Amendment. A second Proposal to be discussed is aimed at restricting former female members to only being recognised as Associated Members.

The decision to alter the rules will be decided by a vote of members present at the meeting. In the meantime, your views will still be greatly welcomed by the Treasurer or Secretary.

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ANNUAL SUPPER:

The supper will be held at the school on Friday 25th March 1983 and the food and service will be similar to that used in 1982. Please use the attached form to purchase your tickets as early as possible. Tickets will be collected on the night. Admission is £6.

O.M. VS SCHOOL RUGBY MATCH:

Please contact the school if you are interested in playing in this game. They will provide any information that you may require, e.g. date and time.

Your turn now...

For many years now the Society has continued on the same format, i.e. Newsletter twice a year, an Annual Supper, the Recent Leavers Function. Perhaps you would like to see something changed; maybe have have a regular function in the summer. What would you like to see in the Newsletter?

Please write to the Secretary or Treasurer and let us have your comments.

December 1982.

TO: Mr. Roger Brown
Hon. Treasurer
7 Greenfields
Willington Street
MAIDSTONE Kent ME15 8ET

FROM: Name
Address
.....
.....

I enclose the sum of £..... in respect of

Subscription for

Purchase of tickets (at £6 each) for the Annual Supper.

Year of leaving

Tick if Banker's Order
required for subscription

.....

TO: The Committee

I would like to see the following changes made to the present events etc:

(Continue over if necessary)