

OLD MAIDSTONIAN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER – AUTUMN 1996

HON SECRETARY

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Slightly later than usual but full of news about former pupils, here is the Society's second Newsletter of the year.

Besides the letter itself there are three additional supplements.

Members Directory

With the missing information about members being sent in following the appeal in the last edition it is now possible to issue the first "Members Directory"; this has been done by an alphabetical list for each year of leaving. This will be updated annually.

Occupational Directory

Another first is the "Occupational Directory". This is a reference point for members who may be looking for a service or information and, not knowing who to approach, may find it easier if there is some common ground – both provider and enquirer being Old Maidstonians. Whilst the number of entries in the first edition is small it is hoped other former pupils will join for future copies – it's free!

Revision of the Rules

Through the efforts of John Caley, the Society's rules have been revised to bring them up to date and, indeed, all aspects under one set of guidelines. In some cases the wording has been clarified and in others small amendments to make them more flexible. A copy of the Rules (Revised 1996) is included with this Newsletter to meet the necessity of advising members of the changes prior to the Annual General Meeting.

ANNUAL SUPPER FRIDAY 21 MARCH 1997

(sit-down 7.30 p.m. sharp)

**PRESIDENT
Mark Watts MEP**

The Supper will be held in Big Hall
Doors open from 6.15 p.m.

Bar facilities available from 6.15 p.m.
until the close at 11.30 p.m.

Dress Informal
(jacket and tie)

Tickets cost only
£14.00 each

and can be obtained from the Honorary Treasurer
(please use the 'Return Sheet' of this Newsletter)

Students in full-time education can get special
tickets at a discounted price of £10.00

Special dietary requirements at no extra cost

**All Old Maidstonians welcome!
young, old or in-between!!**

HIGH NOTES FROM THE MGS PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

Auction of Promises

Regrettably, the auction mentioned in the Spring Newsletter did not take place in July. Although a range of very attractive 'promises' were pledged the number of items was well below that needed to make the auction viable. It is hoped that the event will still take place, possibly sometime next summer. If any O.M. could offer something unusual that would make a good gift for somebody then please let the Hon. Treasurer know. Ideas? A ride in a speed-boat, a course of lessons (e.g. horse-riding), a visit to a TV studio to see a programme being made . . . and so on.

Recycling

By the end of the summer term, £352 had been raised from the collection of nearly 40,000 aluminium cans. The paper recycling got off to a slow start last January but by Easter a loyal band of parents were bringing in their unwanted newspapers and magazines. Most of the discarded photocopying type paper from around the site is also put into the 'bin'; much was salvaged during the summer holiday when most departments had their annual clear-out. Now it seems to take just four days to fill the recycling bin – a second unit is awaited! Even better news is the additional monies being paid by the Kent County Council which tops up the present £30 per ton by a further £23.30.

Calendar – 1997

The MGS Calendar has been put together by the well-known local artist, Michael Chaplin. Each month is headed by a sketch of a Kentish scene made by students at the School. Costing just £2.25 (including postage) they can be obtained through the Society's Treasurer – separate 'request' from the usual Return Sheet, please.

THE BID FOR LANGUAGE COLLEGE STATUS

Enclosed with the Spring Newsletter was a separate sheet detailing the School's bid for Language College status. Despite only having ten days to put the application together and raise £100,000 in donations or pledges of cash or goods, the Headmaster and his team had the papers at the Department of Education by the closing date. Regrettably, the bid was unsuccessful, as there were a large number of applications for a limited number of places. The DFE have suggested reapplying but at present the matter is being considered along with other initiative schemes that are available for schools.

The Committee are most grateful to all OMs who so generously helped directly or offered pledges.

Swimming-pool filled in!

Many former pupils will be sad to learn that the swimming-pool is no more. Indeed, that part of the grounds has been transformed during the last few months and now comprises two floodlit tennis courts; these also allow for outdoor basketball and extra spacing for vehicles attending functions. Additional tarmac paths have been put down and the shrubbery extended. For people visiting the School there is a new in/out road which means that pedestrians walk under the archway.

THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA AT MGS

The School is introducing the IB Diploma in September 1997 but just what is it?

The International Baccalaureate Diploma offers a unique educational opportunity to study an internationally orientated and demanding educational curriculum in the Sixth Form. Given the proximity of Europe and increasing business opportunities there, the School believes that this is an opportunity that should be offered to those students who can benefit from it.

The unique feature of the IB is to be found in its internationalism and the curriculum reflects this diversity. Students are expected to relate to their own national identity through the study of their language, literature, history and culture and then also to identify with the corresponding traditions of others and to respond to those intelligently. The IB hopes by this means to develop a more compassionate and sensitive individual, conscious of diversity and willing to view others with tolerance and respect.

The School believes that these features of the IB, together with its academic rigour, offers a challenging curriculum which fits well with its aims of excellence and personal responsibility.

The IB is run by the International Baccalaureate Organisation based in Geneva which was founded in the 1960s. The IB is therefore now a well-established qualification which is taken by students in 80 countries world-wide. It is recognised as an entry for university in well over 100 countries (which is not true of A-levels). Over 630 schools offer the IB Diploma. The Organisation offers a world-wide assessment, development, teacher-training and information network which the School is already using extensively to develop and support the programme.

The IB student works towards gaining a diploma which is awarded on their performance across the whole range of the IB curriculum. The Diploma course is a complete two-year curriculum for sixth formers.

The curriculum for the diploma can be displayed as a hexagon with six academic areas surrounding the core. The IB thus ensures that all students are exposed to two great academic traditions – humanities and the sciences. The unique feature of the curriculum are the core elements: the Theory of Knowledge course, the Creativity, Action and Service programme and the Extended Essay.

The Theory of Knowledge course (TOK) is a required inter-disciplinary study to which students bring the knowledge and experience they have gained both in and outside of the classroom. TOK challenges students to question their assumptions about knowledge and learning, to develop a coherent approach to learning which unifies the other academic studies and to develop their appreciation of other cultural perspectives.

Creativity, Action and Service (CAS) is designed to provide a balance to academic study, to pursue the goal of educating the whole person and to develop the perceptions of citizenship amongst young people. Students develop a profile of activities that might involve drama, musical activities, service to the school, sport, work experience and community service.

The 4,000 word Extended Essay is an opportunity for students to develop their interests in a particular area of their academic studies by undertaking some original research. In addition it acquaints them with the independent research and writing skills expected at university.

The six academic 'subjects' are:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Group 1 | Language 1 (study of own language including selections from world literature) |
| Group 2 | Language 2 (study of a second modern foreign language) |
| Group 3 | Individuals and Societies (includes History, Geography, Business and Organisation, I.I. in a Global Society) |
| Group 4 | Experimental Sciences (includes Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Design Technology) |
| Group 5 | Mathematics (studied through a range of syllabuses) |
| Group 6 | The Arts and Electives (includes Art & Design, Music, Latin, Computer Science or another subject taken from Groups 2, 3, 4 or 5) |

Students select one subject from each academic group. Three of these are studied at Higher Level and three at Subsidiary Level. In this way IB allows specialisation for the student whilst retaining a breadth of study not available in other programmes. Hence a student could specialise in Maths and Science highers to qualify for medical school entry or to specialise in humanities or language options.

In order to qualify for the Diploma, a student must obtain 24 points and complete the TOK, CAS and Extended Essay requirements. Each examined subject is graded on a 1 to 7 point scale and three additional points are available for exceptional work in the core curriculum. If a student fails to satisfy all the Diploma requirements, individual subject certification is provided.

All British Universities will admit students to degree courses with the IB as a qualification and the IB Diploma is recognised by the British government as a degree-entry qualification. There is evidence that in some cases universities actually prefer the IB to A-levels. Additionally, an IB student would be able to seek entry to universities abroad. Funding for such courses is now available through reciprocal arrangements between countries within the European Union.

Ties

The Honorary Treasurer has a supply of both styles of Old Maidstonian tie and these can be ordered using the Return Sheet of this Newsletter.

The 'crested' version is a Jacquard Woven Tie with all-over random motifs of the crest in gold, red and blue on a navy background. It is of Polyester Rep and is 54" x 3 1/8" in size. Cost, including postage, £8.50.

The 'striped' version is also a Jacquard Woven Tie with a main colouring of navy blue containing angled stripes of gold, purple and white. It is of Polyester Rep and 54" x 3 1/8" in size. Cost, including postage, £6.50.

Old Maidstonian Scarf

The Hon. Treasurer has a supply of scarves which cost just £9.50, inclusive of postage. Measuring 54" x 9", the Acrylic Scarf is made with two sets of stripes of silver, mauve, gold, navy, silver on a navy-blue background.

For Sale

There are still some copies of Mrs Caley's "History of the CCF", of which extracts have been published in this newsletter. If anyone is interested, please send £1.00 (one pound) to Mrs D P Caley at 28 Buckland Hill, Maidstone, Kent ME16 0SA.

NEWS OF OLD BOYS

ANDREW ASHENHURST (1961) confesses to being expelled for truancy! A letter from Bob Rylands detailing the removal from MGS was recently found at home by one of his children. However, he does say that the time actually spent in school was not wasted as he attained an MA in Medical Anthropology from the University of London (School of Oriental and African Studies)

SIMON BENNETT (1971) is the Managing Director of an electronics company. Spent many years in the USA, then Bristol for five years and now lives in Oxford. Married with three children.

JAMES BURKE (1955) amongst many other jobs writes a monthly column entitled 'Connections for Scientific American'.

PETER COGGER (1942) is now retired and lives near Colchester. Has spent a lot of time recently visiting Maidstone on the trail of his family tree. Peter's bother, **ERIC COGGER**, was a few years ahead of him at MGS but was killed in Italy in 1944.

MICHAEL CONDUIT (1977) lives in Farnham, is married with two sons, and works in the electronics industry.

STEVE FINNIMORE (1970) is a science teacher in Bristol. A very keen sportsman still playing squash and tennis; a competitive chess player of a good standard. Married with two children.

IAN GASCOINE (1955) is now retired from Southern Water and continues to live in Worthing. With more time on his hands he hopes to rekindle his earlier activities in local politics. Often gets to Kent's home cricket matches.

ANDREW GIBBONS (1979) After qualifying as a dental surgeon from Guy's Dental Hospital in 1983, Andrew spent two years in NHS appointments before joining the Royal Air Force. He passed his Fellowship examinations in Dental Surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1988 and was presented with the Dean's Medal for the most outstanding candidate in that academic year. In 1991 he was awarded a Gulf War Medal and commenced a medical degree at St John's College, Cambridge. Qualifying as a doctor with a distinction in surgery in 1995, Andrew returned to the RAF with the rank of Squadron Leader to continue his training in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. He is married to Nicolene, a South African pianist.

CHARLES GOODRICH (1966) returned to the UK in the summer of 1995 after an absence overseas of 12 years with British Airways and Gulf Air, most recently being three years in Singapore. Now Vice President of Aero Industrial Sales, an American aviation support company based in Staines, Middlesex.

BRIAN HALL (1946) is now retired having sold his accountancy practice in 1992.

ROBIN HOWICK (1944) spent five years as an Engineering Apprentice with Tilling Stevens followed by a period as a service and sales representative until joining an international diesel engine manufacturer in 1953 where he went from service engineer to overseas merchandising manager. This was followed in 1971 with a brief spell in Bahrain before returning to the UK to operate his own exporting company covering both the Middle and Far Eastern markets handling engineering equipment. Retirement came in 1991.

CHARLES LUCKHURST (1991) is now working as a Land Surveyor and was married at St Mary's Church, Watford, on 29 June 1996. Other OM's in the congregation were startled to hear the vicar in his address quote the school motto and praise MGS. It transpired that the vicar was **JOHN WOODGER (1953)** and afterwards produced his old journal in the vestry to prove it! Charles' neighbour **DAVID AMBROSE (1987)** was married in Maidstone in August 1995 and after teaching History at Judd School, Tonbridge for five years, has moved to the Howard School at Effingham. To complete the cluster of OM neighbours, **MARK AZZOPARDI (1984)** is progressing his career as an actuary in London and brother, **STEFAN AZZOPARDI (1988)** is an accountant and has been working in Canada recently.

JOHN MARTIN (1959) retired from the Electricity Association where he held the post of Head of European and Overseas Relations. The job had enabled him to travel extensively overseas with many visits in recent years to Brussels to lobby on electricity-related issues. John is married to Lesley and they have three children.

CHARLES PETZ (1986) came to MGS for his A-level courses. He went on to Aston University (Birmingham) and attained a B.Eng (Upper Second) in Electromechanical Engineering. With a father originally coming from Germany, Charles decided to look for employment in Europe. Nuremberg was the first destination, a place where family and friends lived. A job with the local electricity and water supplier gave a good start, especially a chance to learn the German language. After a year a new job with Siemens came along. Work started as a Commissioning Engineer for the control systems of a conventional power plant. Two and a half years later it was to the sales department for plant automation where he was a Project Engineer responsible for the planning, co-ordination and organisation of projects. Since February 1996 a further move within the company sees him in a department responsible for energy-distribution projects abroad, himself working on an area comprising North America and the Middle East.

SIMON PROCTOR (1977) lives in Maidstone and still excels in music. Earlier this year saw the first performance of a new choral piece entitled 'The Sleeping Beauty'. Simon wrote the music whilst another old boy, **ROBERT MARTIN (1986)**, was responsible for the lyrics.

MARTIN SHRUBSOLE (1966) is living Leighton Buzzard and having been with British Rail for many years was heavily involved recently with its privatisation. His younger brother, **JIM SHRUBSOLE (1969)**, is a teacher and lives in Newbury.

RICHARD SKINNER (1971) lives in Hexham, Northumberland. He confesses to having resided in the North-East for 21 years. Works in the finance department of the Home Advising Association (previously North Housing) where he has been employed for thirteen years with the position of Deputy Director for the past 4 years. Says it is 'a very challenging job and one that keeps me very busy'. Richard has enjoyed many sports and an injury five years ago saw him take up playing Real Tennis; now the top player in the region – but does state that there are not too many players at present. In 1995 he was a member of a small team that took part in a tournament held in Melbourne, Australia.

RICHARD SMITH (1967) has been made a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical Engineers and a Sloan Fellow of the London Business School.

ANGUS WARNER (1996) participated in the world rowing championships held at Strathclyde in August. He rows for the local Invicta Rowing Club and his championship event was the quadruple sculls.

ANTHONY WHITEMAN (1990) has had an excellent year on the athletics track with the highlight being selection and participation in the Atlanta Olympic Games this summer. A runner for GEC Avionics, he specialises in the 1500-metres and has represented Great Britain at several major meetings. On 1 August he finished seventh in his semi-final of the Olympic race and missed a place in the final – and a chance of a medal – by two-tenths of a second.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Old Maidstonian Society will be held on Friday 24 January 1997 at 8.00 p.m. in the Common Room of Maidstone Grammar School. All members are welcome.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 1996 A.G.M.
3. Matters Arising
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report (with Audited Accounts)
6. Membership Report
7. Archive Sub-Committee Report
8. Subscription rates (w.e.f. 1 Jan 1998)
9. Amendment to rules:
Copies of the proposed 'Revised' Version accompany this newsletter
10. Election of Officers:
 - (i) Presidents Designate and Elect
 - (ii) Honorary Secretary
 - (iii) Honorary Assistant Secretary
 - (iv) Honorary Treasurer & Membership Secretary
 - (v) Committee (five members)
 - (vi) Independent Examiner
11. Any Other Business



NEWS OF OLD BOYS (2)

The Membership Secretary spent the summer months looking through the 1996 edition of "Who's Who". Among the thirty thousand plus entries are nineteen who quote Maidstone Grammar School in their places of education. The following are abridged versions of the information given:

ANTHONY JOHN BUTLER (1953) Executive Director of Services (formerly of Personnel and Finance, then Personnel), HM Prison Service, since 1990. Married Margaret in 1967 and has one son and one daughter. After MGS - University College Oxford, Institute of Criminology and Trinity Hall Cambridge. Joined Home Office as Assistant Principal, 1969; Police and Criminal Departments 1969-72; Private Secretary to Minister of State, Home Office, 1972-74; Principal, General Department Sex Discrimination and Race Relations Legislation Units and Broadcasting Department 1974-79; Private Secretary to Secretary of State for the Home Department 1979-80; Assistant Secretary, Broadcasting, Finance and Prisons Departments 1980-88; Assistant Under-Secretary of State, seconded to Department of Environment 1988 as Director Inner Cities; Principal Finance Officer, Home Office 1990. Trustee, University College, Oxford Old Members' Trust 1988-94 (Chairman Trustees 1991-94). Recreations include music and walking.

JAMES WALTER BUTLER (1946) Attended Maidstone College of Art, St Martin's Art School and Royal College of Art after leaving MGS. National Diploma in Sculpture 1950. Worked as Architectural Carver 1950-53, 1955-60. Tutor, Sculpture and Drawing, City and Guilds of London Art School 1960-75. Major commissions include: portrait statue of President Kenyatta, Nairobi, 1973; Monument to Freedom Fighters of Zambia, Lusaka, 1974; statue, The Burton Cooper, Burton-on-Trent, 1977; memorial statue, Richard III, Leicester, 1980; memorial statue, Field Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, Wellington Barracks, London 1985; portrait statue of Sir John Moore, Sir John Moores Barracks, Winchester, 1987; portrait statue of John Wilkes, New Fetter Lane, 1988; The Leicester Seamstress, Leicester, 1990; The Stratford Jester, Stratford-upon-Avon; portrait statue, Thomas Cook, Leicester, 1994; statue, James Henry Greathead, Cornhill, 1994; memorial statue, Reg Harris, Manchester, 1994; portrait bust, Sir Frank Whittle, RAF Club. Received the Silver Medal, RBS, 1988. Recreations include astronomy and golf.

PETER DAY (1956) (Professor) Director of the Royal Institution, and of the Davy Faraday Research Laboratory since 1991, and Fullerian Professor of Chemistry, since 1994; Visiting Professor, University College London, since 1991. Married Frances in 1964 and has one son and one daughter. After MGS attended Wadham College, Oxford (BA 1961, MA, DPhil 1965, Hon. Fellow 1991). Cyanamid European Research Institute, Geneva, 1962; Junior Research Fellow, 1963-65, Official Fellow, 1965-91, St John's College, Oxford; Departmental Demonstrator, 1965-67, Lecturer in Inorganic Chemistry, 1967-89; ad hominem Professor of Solid State Chemistry, 1989-91;

Oxford University, Director, Institute Læuc-Langevin, Grenoble, 1988-91 (on secondment); Resident Professor of Chemistry, Royal Institution, 1991-94. Professor Associe, University de Paris-Sud, 1975; Guest Professor, University of Copenhagen, 1978; Visiting Fellow, ANU, 1980; Senior Research Fellow, SRC, 1977-82. Du Pont Lecturer, Indiana University, 1988; Royal Society Blackett Memorial Lecturer, 1994. Science Engineering Research Council: Member: Neutron Beam Research Committee, 1983-88, Chemistry Committee, 1985-88, Molecular Electronics Committee, 1987-88, National Committee on Superconductivity, 1987-88, materials Committee, 1988-90. COPUS, 1991-(still). Member, Science and Energy Council, British Council, 1991-(still); Council Member: Institute for Molecular Sciences, Okazaki, Japan, 1991-95; Parly and Scientific Committee, 1992-(still). Royal Society of Chemistry: Vice-President, Dalton Division, 1986-88; Corday-Morgan Medal, 1971; Solid State Chemistry Award, 1986. Governor, Birkbeck College London, 1993-(still). Member of Academia Europaea, 1992. Honorary Foreign Member Indian Society of Materials Research, 1994. Honorary Fellow Indian Academy of Science, 1995. Hon. DSc Newcastle, 1994. Various publications. Recreations include 'driving slowly through rural France'.

IAN FOWLER (1950) (O.B.E. 1993). Principal Chief Clerk and Clerk to the Committee of Magistrates for the Inner London area, 1979-94. Married Gillian in 1961 and has two sons and one daughter. Also educated at Skinners School and Kings' School (Canterbury); then St Edmund Hall, Oxford. In National Service commanded 2nd Battalion The Green Howards, 1951-53. Called to Bar, Gray's Inn, 1957. Entered Inner London Magistrates Courts Service, 1959. Deputy Traffic Commander, Eastern Traffic Area, 1987-(still). Councillor: Herne Bay UDC and Canterbury CC, 1961-83 (Mayor 1976-77). Member Court, University of Kent, 1976-(still). Recreations include reading.

EDWARD REGINALD FRANCIS (c1944) (The Ven.) Archdeacon of Bromley, 1979-94, Emeritus since 1994. Married Joyce in 1950 and has three sons. Also partly educated at Dover Grammar School and then Rochester Theological College. National Service with RAF 1947-49. Insurance, including period at Chartered Insurance Institute (ACII), 1950-59. Ordained 1961; Chaplain, Training Ship Arethusa, and Curate of All Saints, Frindsbury, 1961-64; Vicar of St William's, Chatham, 1964-73; Vicar and Rural Dean of Rochester, 1973-78. Member of General Synod of Church of England, 1981-94. Member of Kent Industrial Mission, 1979-89; Joint-Chairman of Council for Social Responsibility in Dioceses of Canterbury and Rochester, 1983-89; Director of Continuing Ministry Education, Diocese of Rochester, 1989-94. Recreations include walking and music.

STUART WILLIAM GILBERT (1943) CB 1983. Director for National Savings, 1981-86 (Deputy Secretary). Married Marjorie in 1955 and has one son and one daughter. After MGS - Emmanuel College, Cambridge (Open Exhibitor and State Scholar). Served in RAF 1944-47. Assistant Principal, Ministry of Health, 1949; Assistant Private Secretary to Minister of Housing and Local Government, 1952; to Parly Secretary, 1954; Principal, 1955; Secretary of Parker Morris Committee on Housing Standards, 1958-61, Rapporteur to ECE Housing Committee, 1959-61; Reporter to ILO Conference on Workers' Housing, 1960; Assistant Secretary, Local Government Finance Division, 1964; Under-Secretary, Department of Environment, 1970-80 (for New Towns, 1970, Business Rents, 1973, Construction Industries, 1974, Planning Land Use, 1977); Deputy Director, Department for National Savings, 1980-81. Recreations include sailing, music and woodwork.

PHILIP MICHAEL SWEATMAN HEDGELAND (1940) (Air Vice-Marshal) CB 1978, OBE 1957 (MBE 1948). Married Jean in 1946 and has two sons. After MGS - City and Guilds College, Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. Served in War: commnd into Technical Branch of RAF 1942; Radar Officer, Pathfinder Force and at TRE, Malvern. Radar Develt Officer, Central Bomber Establishment, 1945-48; Radio Introduction Unit Project Officer for V-Bomber Navigation and Bombing System, 1952-57; Wing Commander Radio (Air) at HQ Bomber Command, 1957-60; Air Ministry Technical Planning, 1961-62; Director of Signals (Far East), Singapore, 1963-65; commanded RAF Stanbridge (Central Communications Centre), 1966-67; SASO, HQ Signals Command/90 Group, 1968-69; IDC 1970; MOD Procurement Executive, Project Director for Airborne Radar, 1971-74; Vice-President of Ordnance Board, 1975-77, President 1977-78; FCGI 1977. President of Pathfinder Association 1985-87. Recreations include audio engineering, amateur radio and horticulture.

(ERIC) DONALD HILLS (c1933) (Air Vice-Marshal) CB 1973, CBE 1968 (MBE 1941). SASO Maintenance Command, 1971-73. Married (first time) Pamela who died in 1989 - one son and one daughter; married Lady Cynthia Way in 1991. Joined RAF in 1939; Group Captain 1962; Director of Equipment 3 (RAF), 1968-69; Air Commodore 1969; Director of Equipment (Policy)(RAF), MOD, 1969-71; Air Vice-Marshal, 1971. Recreations include gardening and sport as a spectator.

THOMAS BUCKHURST HOMAN (1939) (Rear-Admiral) CB 1978. Married Christine in 1945 and has one daughter. Royal Navy Cadet, 1939; served War of 1939-45 at sea; Commander, 1958; Captain, 1965; Defence Intelligence Staff, 1965; Secretary to Commander Far East Fleet, 1967; Director Naval Officer Appointments, 1971; Captain HMS Pembroke, 1973; Rear-Admiral, 1974; Director General, Naval Personal Services, 1974-78. Sub-Treasurer, Inner Temple, 1978-85. Recreations include reading, theatre and cooking.

GEOFFREY ALAN HOSKING (1960) (Professor) Professor of Russian History at the University of London, since 1984. Married Anne in 1970 and has two daughters. After MGS - Kings College, Cambridge, St Anthony's College, Oxford. Assistant Lecturer in Government, 1966-68, Lecturer in Government, 1968-71 at University of Essex; Visiting Lecturer in Political Science, Univ of Wisconsin, 1971-72; Lecturer in History, Univ of Essex, 1972-76; Senior Research Fellow, Russian Institute, Columbia Univ, New York, 1976; Senior Lecturer and Reader in Russian History, Univ of Essex, 1976-84; Visiting Professor, Slaviches Institute, Univ of Cologne, 1980-81. Gave the BBC Reith Lecture in 1988 (The Rediscovery of Politics: authority, culture and community in the USSR). Member: Council, Writers and Scholars Educational Trust, 1985-(still); Overseas Policy Committee, British Academy, 1994-(still); Jury, Booker Prize for Russian Fiction, 1993. Member: East-West Advisory Committee, BCC, 1987-89; Council of Management, Keston College, 1987-89; Internat. Academical Council, Museum of the Revolution, Moscow, 1994-(still); Administration Board, Moscow School of Political Studies, 1992-(still). Trustee, J S Mills Institute, 1992-(still). Governor of Camden School for Girls, 1989-94. Member of Editorial Board, Journal of Contemporary History, 1988; Editorial Committee, Nations and Nationalism, 1994-(still). Various publications. Recreations include music, chess and walking.

JACK WILLIAM HUGHES (1933) (Sir) Kt 1980. Chartered Surveyor: Director South Bank Estates and subsidiary companies, since 1960; Consultant, Jones Lang Wootton, since 1976 (a Senior Partner, 1949-76). Married Marie-Theresa in 1939 but widowed in 1987. After MGS - University of London. Served with Special Duties Branch, RAF, 1940-46; demobilised Squadron Leader. Chairman: Bracknell Development Corporation, 1971-82; Property Advisory Group, DOE, 1978-82; Director: URPT, 1961-86; MEPC, 1971-86; Housing Corporation (1974) Ltd, 1974-78; British Rail Property Board, 1976-86; British Rail Investment Company, 1981-84; Property and Reversionary Investments, 1982-87; TR Property Investment Trust and subsidiary companies, 1982-91; Brighton Marina Company, 1974-86; Undercliff Holdings Ltd, 1986-93; Member Committee, Mercantile Credit Group Property Division; Member Committee of Management, Charities Property Unit Trust, 1967-74; Chairman of South Hill Park Arts Centre Trust, 1972-79; Member of Advisory Group to DOE on Commercial Property Development, 1974-78; DOE Working Party on Housing Tenure, 1976-77; Founder Member, Continuing Professional Development Foundation (Member of Advisory Board, 1980-(still)). Trustee of New Towns Pension Fund, 1975-82. Freeman of the City of London granted in 1959. Liveryman, Painter Stainers Guild, 1960-(still). Several publications. Recreations include golf, travel and reading.

PHILIP GORDON LANGRIDGE (1957) CBE 1994. Concert and opera singer (tenor) since 1964. Married Ann in 1981 and has one son (and one step-son and two step-daughters). After MGS - Royal Academy of Music, London. Made Glyndebourne Festival debut in 1964. BBC Promenade Concerts and Edinburgh Festival, 1970-(still). Sung with Netherlands Opera, Scottish Opera, Handel Opera and many more. Covent Garden: L'Enfant et les Sortilèges, Rossignole, Boris, Jenufa, Idomeneo, Peter Grimes; Death in Venice. ENO: Turn of the Screw, Osud, The Mask of Orpheus, Billy Budd, Beatrice and Benedict, Makropoulos Case, Peter Grimes. Glyndebourne: Don Giovanni, Idomeneo, Fidelio, Jenufa, La Clemenza di Tito, The Second Mrs Kong. La Scala: Rake's Progress, Wozzeck, Boris Gudunov, Il Sosia, Idomeneo, Oberon. Frankfurt Opera: Castor and Pollux, Rigoletto, Die Entführung. Zurich Opera: Poppea, Lucio Silla, Don Giovanni. La Fenice: Janacek's Diary. Palermo: Otello (Rossini). Pesaro: La Donna del Lago. Aix en Provence: Alcina, Les Boriades. Metropolitan Opera (NY): Così fan Tutte, Boris Godunov, Das Rheingold. Vienna State Opera: Wozzeck. Salzburg Festival: Moses and Aron, Idomeneo, From the House of the Dead, Poppea, Boris Godunov. Amsterdam: Poppea, Idomeneo, Il Barbiere di Sevilgia, Dorian Gray, Pelleas et Melisande. Concerts with major international orchestras and conductors including: Boston (Previn), Chicago (Solti, Abbado), Los Angeles (Christopher Hogwood), Sydney (Mackerras), Vienna Phil. (Previn), Orchestre de Paris (Barenboim, Mehta) and all major British orchestras. Many first performances of works, some dedicated to and written for him. Has made over fifty records of early, baroque, classical, romantic and modern music. (Grammy Award for Schönberg's Moses and Aron, 1985). Member of Music Panel at Arts Council of Great Britain, 1983-86. Singer of the Year, RPS/Heidsieck Award, 1989. Recreations include collecting water colour paintings and Victorian postcards.

BRIAN ANTHONY MACE (1956) Director, Savings and Investment Division, Board of Inland Revenue, since 1990. Married Anne in 1973. After MGS - Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. Administration trainee, Board of Inland Revenue, 1971-73; seconded to Secretariat, Inflation Accounting Committee, 1974-75; Inland Revenue: Principal, 1975-82; Assistant Secretary, 1982-90; Under-Secretary, 1990-(still). Recreations include opera, chamber music and song, theatre, cricket and historic buildings.

DALLAS ALFRED MITHEN (1940) CB 1983. Chairman of Forestry Training Council, 1984-93; Commissioner for Harvesting and Marketing, Forestry Commission, 1977-83. First married Peggy in 1947 (died) - one son and one daughter; married Avril in 1969. After MGS - University College of North Wales, Bangor. Fleet Air Arm, 1942-46. Joined Forestry Commission as District Officer, 1950; Deputy Surveyor, New Forest and Conservator SE (England), 1975-76. President of Institute of Chartered Foresters, 1984-86; President Forestry Section, BAAS, 1985. Trustee, Central Scotland Woodland Trust, 1985-(still). Recreations include gardening, walking and swimming.

PHILIP JOHN MOORE (1961) Organist and Master of Music at York Minster since 1983. After MGS - Royal College of Music. Art Music Master, Eton College, 1965-68; Assistant Organist, Canterbury Cathedral, 1968-74; Organist and Master of the Choristers, Guildford Cathedral, 1974-83. Many musical publications. Recreations include flying kites, collecting old fountain pens, collecting Imari, malt whisky.

RODERICK ALLEN PULLEN (1957) (Dr) HM Diplomatic Service, Deputy High Commissioner, Nairobi, since 1994. Married Karen in 1971 and has two sons and one daughter. After MGS - Mansfield College, Oxford, Sussex University. Worked at MOD, 1975-78. Second Secretary, UK Delegation to NATO, 1978-80; MOD, 1980-81; First Secretary, UK Delegation to CSCE, 1981-82; FCO, 1982-84; Deputy High Commissioner, Suva, 1984-88; FCO, 1988-90; Counsellor, Paris, 1990-94. Recreations include riding and travel.

JOHN RAYMOND KEER SAYER (1948) Director, E C Tempus Project: Developing Schools for Democracy in Europe, Oxford University, since 1991. Vice-Chairman, GTC (England and Wales), since 1994 (Hon Sec 1990-94). Co-Director, European School of Educational Management, since 1991. Married Ilse in 1955 and has one son and one daughter. After MGS - Brasenose College, Oxford (Open Scholar). Taught languages, 1955-63; Deputy Head, Nailsea School, Somerset, 1963-67; Headmaster Minehead School, 1967-73; Principal Banbury School, 1973-84; Visiting Fellow, University of London Institute of Education, 1985-92 (Director of Education Management Unit, 1987-90). Chairman: Reform of Assessment at Sixteen-Plus, 1972-75; PUBANSO Publishing Group, 1975-(still); Chairman, External Relations Committee, Headmaster's Association, 1974-77; Secondary Heads Association: Member of Executive, 1978-86. Press and Publications Officer, 1978-79, 1982-84, President 1979-80. Chairman of Joint Council of Heads, 1981; Member of Executive, UCCA, 1975-84; Schools Panel, CBI, 1975-82; Heads Panel, TUC, 1975-80. National Advisory Council on Education for Industry and Commerce, 1974-77; Advisory Committee on Supply and Education of Teachers, 1982-85. Trustee and Member Executive Education 2000, 1983-89 (Hon Sec 1987-89); Member Executive Schools Curriculum Award, 1986-91. Several publications. Recreation includes postal history.

PETER SPENCER WALLIS (1963) Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate since 1993. Married Ann in 1970 and has one son and one daughter. After MGS - Lincoln College, Oxford. Pilot in RAF, 1967-72. Admitted solicitor, 1976. Clerk to: Tonbridge & Malling Justices, 1977-88; Dover & Ashford Justices, 1988-93; Folkestone & Hythe Justices, 1990-93. Member of Council Justices' Clerks' Society, 1983-93 (President 1993). Several publications. Recreations include flying, cricket and choral singing.

MARK FRANCIS WATTS (1982) Member (Labour) Kent East, European Parliament, since 1994. Married Kim in 1988 and has two sons. After MGS - London School of Economics. Planning Officer, Royal Borough of Kingston-upon-Thames, 1988-94. Maidstone Borough Councillor, 1986-(still); Leader of Labour Group, 1990-94. Recreations include walking, the countryside and swimming.

MUSIC . . . MUSIC . . . MUSIC . . .

The Friends of MGS Music Society

The Music Society performs around thirty different performances each academic year, including services, concerts and musicals within the school and beyond and this is in no small part made possible by the generosity of the Friends of the Music Society.

Anybody can enrol as a member of the group and as a 'Friend' will receive a periodic newsletter, be invited to specific musical and social events as well as receiving substantial discounts on many school concert ticket prices. Membership rates are as follows:

Single membership - Annual £5.00 (Lifetime £50.00)

Joint membership - Annual £8.50 (Lifetime £85.00)

For further details please contact:

The Membership Secretary
The Friends of MGS Music Society
Maidstone Grammar School
Barton Road
Maidstone
Kent ME15 7BT

* * * * *

The School's Annual Festival of Lessons and Carols takes place at All Saints' Church, Maidstone, on Thursday 19 December at 7.30 p.m. All Old Maidstonians are welcome to join the staff, pupils and parents.

* * * * *

CD COMES TO MGS!!

The School's Music Society has produced its own Compact Disc which is available from 9 December 1996.

It contains 16 pieces with many being recorded live at the various concerts undertaken, including several from the Music Makers Festival at Bournemouth. Tracks include: Colonel Bogey

(Concert Wind Band), Piacevole from the String Quartet Op 83 by Elgar (Zadok Quartet), One by One (Jazz Band), Away in a Manger (School Choir) and, of course, the School Song!

The Society are able to provide copies to O.M.s and orders can be placed using the Return Sheet of this Newsletter. Cost is £7.50 including postage and packing.

All profits from the CD sales
go to the MGS Music Department

SUBSCRIPTIONS

There are two types of membership available:

The 'Ordinary' rate is £3.00 per annum payable in January of each year. This can be paid by cheque, postal-order, or cash but it makes sense to do it by Standing Order. A mandate for your Bank is included on the 'Return Sheet' of this Newsletter for setting up the instruction.

'Life Membership' can be taken by anybody with the amount payable depending on age. There is a great advantage in doing it this way since you are then "in for life" and an increase in the annual subscription won't affect you. The rates applicable from 1st January 1997 are:

up to 30 years of age - £60

31 to 50 years of age - £40

51 and older - £20

Old Maidstonian Newsletter

The Newsletter is compiled by Roger Brown and all items for inclusion in future editions should be sent to him at the Honorary Treasurer's address on page 1.

The Newsletter layout has been arranged by Jimmy Clinch and is printed by the office staff at Maidstone Grammar School; the Society is greatly appreciative of their help and support.

OBITUARIES

It is with deep regret that the Society records the deaths of Old Maidstonians and our sympathy goes out to their families.

LEO AVERY (1956) died in July 1996. Born in Wakefield his family moved to Maidstone where his father worked in local government. He loved flying and hoped to join the RAF, but, not meeting the exacting physical standards for a pilot, he decided to study aeronautical engineering at the University of Southampton. While there he worked on the design of the VC10.

It was during his time as a student that he first went on retreat to Quarr Abbey. He was strongly attracted to its contemplative atmosphere and after graduation he decided to join the community as a postulant. He took his temporary vows after two years, and then three years later in 1965 his final vows. He was ordained as a priest in 1969. Quarr Abbey was founded in 1132 with the present buildings constructed in the early 20th century,, originally as a temporary home for the exiled French community of Solesmes. When they returned to France in 1922, a group of monks was left as a nucleus for what is now a mainly English community. Today there are 20 monks.

Leo was the third Abbot of the community since 1937 when Quarr was raised to the status of an abbey. His appointment was in 1992 and tragically cut short by a malignant tumour of the brain.

PETER S. BAYLIS (1970) A note was received from his contact address in Botswana, Africa, to advise us that this OM had died 'some time ago'.

ROBERT DEARING (1934) died, aged 78, suddenly in October 1995 whilst in Taunton Hospital following a heart attack.

THOMAS A.G. JESSUP (1916) died in December 1995 after a comparatively short illness; he was almost 96 years of age.

K.J.B. TOPLEY (1923) passed away peacefully in November 1995 having just passed his 90th birthday.

Please Sir, it's mine!

The Midsummer-1995 Newsletter quoted a poem (page 12) that had been forwarded by Mrs Christine Earl who had found it pencilled in a book belonging to her late husband Gordon. Lo and behold the author was soon in touch . . .

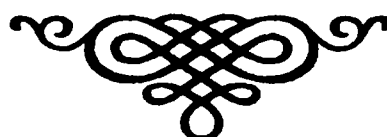
"I'm afraid I must own up to being the P.D. Lawrence who wrote the poem you quote in the OM Newsletter. In the interests of strict accuracy, the first line should read:

When the thrush
In the hush
of the evening sings . . .

I have never been terribly proud of the poem. In fact, I think it only got into *The Maidstonian* for that year (1948) because I happened to be the editor! Nevertheless, I was very moved to think that 'Bruin' had liked it enough to pencil it into his Cassell's anthology. As far as I can remember, he never told me.

"Yes, I knew Gordon Earl very well. Not only was I in the Sixth Form with him (left 1948), but I went up most of the school in the same form. I remember him well as a tall, well-built young man with healthy complexion and wavy brown hair. Secretly I envied both his good looks and his athletic prowess, but I very much doubt whether he suspected such a thing. He was made a prefect, I seem to recall, a term ahead of the usual time (and hence, of the rest of us), so that he might duly be appointed Head Boy before having to leave for National Service.

In our first term at Oxford, I was living out (unusually, owing to a mess-up) and Gordon kindly invited me to tea in his rooms at Pembroke on many occasions - I was at Teddy Hall."



Miles vs Edwards

The Guardian newspaper, on 29 October, included an interview in its School's section where Blue Peter presenter STUART MILES (1987) and his favourite teacher "spilt the beans" about each other.

Stuart: "I found my school very academically oriented. I was an okay but not brilliant student – luckily I could work hard and apply myself. Dr Edwards took us for Latin – but somehow he managed to make it entertaining. Hats off to him for making Latin fun. Not that I passed my Latin O-level – maybe I spent too much time laughing!

I was quite naughty at school, doing things such as collecting bags of gas from the chemistry room and then setting fire to them in the playground. But because I was fresh-faced and innocent – looking I never got caught. I still get away with a lot now. Nobody can imagine me doing these things!

Rather than the lessons, what I really loved about school were the extra-curricular activities, and there was a lot going on. I did the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, joined the cadets for a while and I also joined the Magic Circle which Dr Edwards ran. It was here that I tentatively began to explore the idea of being a performer.

I also made a good friend at the Magic Circle called Eric; he worked on hospital radio and told me how wonderful it was. So one day, when I was about 14, I went along with him; I felt so much at home on the radio – it gave me such a thrill and I was hooked. So the Magic Circle led to what I do today.

Dr Edwards was special because of his enthusiasm, lightness and friendliness. Of course, we had to do some oral work in Latin. Now in some lessons this was horrendous, for example, French, when I used to get horribly embarrassed when it came to my turn to speak and I knew I would make a mistake. But in Latin it was different; Dr Edwards made us feel there were no constraints or barriers to our expression – he did just the same with the Magic Circle – and this made my confidence grow.

For me that's what good teachers should do. We're not all meant to be fantastic at maths, so teachers need to tap into what kids are really good at, which will not necessarily be an academic subject. A lot of teachers at the school were geared only towards exam results; they were too blinkered to see anything else that was going on. Dr Edwards wasn't like that and I'm grateful.

Dr Terence Edwards, still teaching at MGS, comments: "On Open Evenings a lot of parents ask me, 'What use is Latin?' Of course, I have many answers, and one of them is that students really enjoy it. A real problem is that the National Curriculum is pushing classics out. I teach three pupils Ancient Greek after school because there is simply no space for it in the timetable.

I taught Stuart Latin. He was a very nice boy but quiet – so I never dreamt he would go on to do what he

does. I think our Magic Circle helped him grow in confidence. The Circle began when three boys in my form became very interested in magic tricks; they wanted to form a club and so I ended up running it. When they left I carried on with the club.

I don't perform but I know how all the tricks are done. We go round to primary schools and Scout groups doing performances – so this was good Blue Peter practice for Stuart. Young children make very difficult audiences. Unlike adults, they do not sit still and are not very polite. If they know how a trick is done they will shout that out; if they don't know they will run to the front of the stage so they can learn!

Stuart could do all the standard tricks. He enjoyed the Guillotine; he had to cut somebody's hand off and used props such as a bloody apron. Little people get quite frightened at this. He also told set stories to go with tricks such as Rice Bowl, where a Chinese peasant needs more and more rice and so we make more and more appear, but use sweets rather than rice as children tend to be more interested in them.

I can also remember Stuart in a production of the Genesis Road Show. The play starts with an enormous explosion; all the lights go out and planted members of the group start saying: 'What's going on?' They go on to re-enact the beginning of the Bible. Stuart played various animals with gusto. This was one of the first times I saw him really throw all of himself into something. And he was very good.

I've watched Blue Peter a few times, although my children are too old for it now. What strikes me is how good Stuart is and how surprised I am that he's doing it.

You never know how your pupils will turn out in the end. I am often surprised and usually very pleased. One thing I am well aware of is how much pressure pupils are under these days. My time at school was certainly a lot easier. One of the great satisfactions of the job is getting pupils through what can often be quite horrible years. There is such a pleasure in seeing them grow up and become good citizens, doing a job to the best of their ability.

I've been at MGS since 1971 and am well aware of the advantages and disadvantages of staying at one school for so long. There is a danger you can get in a rut. I've avoided it by varying what I teach; I teach English, Drama and PSE (Personal and Social Education) as well as Classics, which in itself is a very varied subject. I actually taught the father of one of my Year 11 pupils. I always say that once I get to the grandchildren, it's time for me to retire!

SCHOOL NEWS – STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Charities Week in December 1995 raised a record sum of nearly £4,000. The 'Custard Pie Death Squad' did their work as usual, their victims including Mr Hibberd and Mr Smith, while Mr Lehec won Dr Webb in the 'Blind Date' contest.

The pantomime, *The Oz That Was*, in mid-March featured all the favourite characters from *The Wizard of Oz* - and a few more. There was a large cast of students of all ages, and the show was masterminded by Dr Edwards. The performances brought in further funds to swell the charities total to around £5,000. The three charities, chosen by student representatives, were: War Child, BACUP (support for cancer sufferers) and the new local RSPCA shelter.

The Quiz Team, coached by Mr Richardson, seemed to continue its triumphal progress when they won the Regional Finals for the fourth year in a row, beating the King's School, Canterbury, which had just beaten Sevenoaks School in the semi-finals. This was the twenty-eighth consecutive victory. In March they beat the Royal Grammar School, Guildford, by 830 points to 450 in the Regional Finals of the Schools Challenge competition. However, they were at last defeated in the National Finals at Bishops Stortford in April. Even so they came away with the Plate cup.

The Rugby First XV reached the Quarter-Finals of the *Daily Mail* Under-18 k.o. Plate Competition. The Hockey first team had a good year in the Templars League. Athletics was a little lacking although a member of Year 10 (Under-15) was selected for the All-England Junior Boys Javelin competition.

There was a busy summer for the musicians. In June, the MGS Choir and Orchestra, reinforced by many friends and three professional soloists, under the baton of Mr David Leeke, performed Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius" at Rochester Cathedral. In July the forty-strong Concert Band again took part in the International Music Makers Festival in Bournemouth, where they performed seven concerts. They received a standing ovation in the Winter Gardens (home of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra) after a concert which included the world premiere of a specially commissioned piece by Adrian Williams. Other concerts were at St Stephen's Church, the Pier Walk Band Stand and the band stand at Swanage. At the final concert by candlelight in the Central Gardens a jazz group played to an audience of 5,000. Praise was received from local people, including the town's Mayor.

Three Sixth Form students won prizes in the Midland Bank's logo competition to celebrate 100 years of the modern Olympic Games. One design went forward to the national heat of the competition. Another pupil was first in his section of the Kent County Council's Christmas Design Competition in aid of Children in Need.

A member of the CCF Army Section won a medal for shooting in the South-East District Competition. Another cadet received a medal for exceptional performance on his leadership course. At their Summer Camp, the Section won every competition, except one in which they literally lost by a second. The Navy Section, despite it being only their first attempt, came third in the S.E. Area Regatta.

There was a soccer renaissance last season, not least thanks to the efforts of Snr Bruna and Mr Lehec. The First XI were runners-up in their Kent League and exited the County Cup at the semi-final stage. The Under-12 team won the Regional Finals of a five-a-side tournament sponsored by the Burton Group which included schools from Kent, Sussex and Surrey. The U13 side became district five-a-side champs and were awarded a place at the National Finals staged at Aston Villa. By the end of the season no less than four of the MGS teams were through to Maidstone Cup Finals; the U13 and U15 were victorious.

Cricket also had a good season. The First XI reached the quarter-final of the county k.o. cup with a dramatic one-run victory over Simon Langton (Canterbury) who were the defending champions. Two players represented Kent Schools and eight others were involved in the Maidstone sides that reached the inter-district finals of both U17 and U19 tournaments.

A Year 12 Young Enterprise company, SPLOGET, was set up. In December they won first prize for the best stand at the fair in Maidstone. This gained them extra points for the Kent finals of the competition in which they were pipped by a group from the Ashford Girls School. They intend to patent their product, a luminous tag to help you see guy ropes in the dark.

The Chess Team won the Kent Schools Championships and the Kent Schools Under-16 Tournament. They won their way to the National Semi-Finals and Finals of the *Times* UK Schools Chess Championship in London for the second year in succession. There they were narrowly defeated by the other MGS, Manchester Grammar School. Three members of the team then travelled to Nottingham for the Rotary/Intel Chess Challenge with our youngest participant getting best score for his age group.

In July and August, ten students with Dr Derrett as one of their leaders spent four weeks in Uganda after eighteen months of planning and fund-raising. They assisted with a community project, trekked in the mountains, went on safari in the Murchison National Park and even found a few days to relax on the Ssese Islands in Lake Victoria.

The Combined Cadet Force at MGS

This is Part Five of the story detailing the CCF history compiled by Mrs Diana Caley.

As far as equipment was concerned Dalton Computers were introduced in 1956; but the greatest excitement occurred in 1951 when MGS was one of the first ten school units selected to have an Eon Primary Glider. The glider had a checkered career and spent most of its time doing unpremeditated nose dives and being repaired; but fairly soon after its arrival Flying Officer Thomson did prove that a launch could be successful. Seven years later a Batley Garage arrived to house the glider, and the Headmaster was able to have his garage back. History does repeat itself – it took about five years to get the new offices and training room hut, and we had already been waiting two years for permission to erect the sectional garage to provide a training room for the RAF Section.

Numbers started slipping in the late fifties and Major Keast had to point out that the end of National Service did not mean the end of the CCF, which had greater importance now, being the sole source of officer material.

The fifties had its honourable moments. In 1956 Sergeant Major Bennett M.M. (Sarge) was awarded the Cadet Forces Medal and two clasps after completing 36 years with the School. For his services to the CCF, Lt.Col Keast was awarded the O.B.E. in June 1959.

For the Corps the sixties was a decade when history was made. Far and away the most important event was the retirement of Sarge in 1960. Sergeant Major Bennett had been with us for forty years. No one could remember times without him. This fine upright military gentleman will never be forgotten by anyone who had any connection with the Corps during those years. He had never missed a parade, field day or camp, he could put a name to every face (and probably remembered a large part of their family history as well), he was ever cheerful, enthusiastic, willing and helpful. Stories by Sarge and about Sarge are legend but perhaps mentioning a certain song about infidelity in London called 'The Spanish Onion', those Bolsheviks in the Guards (i.e. conscripted men in the Great War),

G.B. Phillips' zinc hip bath, and new recruits being sent on a fruitless search for the 'Last Post' will bring happy memories to some people. As 1960 was a free Inspection year, a special Ceremonial Parade and March Past was laid on for him, and he was presented with a silver cigarette case.

Another training directive arrived in 1964 which was fairly helpful, and had only one major change – the Basic Section was to disappear. There was a new syllabus for the Advanced Proficiency Certificate, which didn't arrive until two years later, so in the interval planning was based on guesswork. It is interesting to note that by this Directive all recruits were to go directly to their Service sections. However, the officers, who were supposed to put it into operation, had their own ideas. They devised the Initial Training Wing (ITW) to give basic training common to all services, which was run by Flight Lieut. Knight until his retirement in 1981; thereafter MGS conformed with the Directive.

Various Annual Inspections had their moments. The glider did another spectacular antic by completely breaking up after stalling about 20 feet up. Colonel Sale, while inspecting us, was left gasping by a cadet who in mid-conversation suddenly said, "Can't stop now, we're attacking", and departed into the wilds of Mote Park. Major General d'Avigdor Goldsmid: ". . . the beaming smiles of some of the cadets during the march past were not in the best tradition of the Brigade of Guards."

At the end of the Army Camp at Wyke Regis in 1965 there was a very special parade and presentation to Lieutenant Colonel G.F. Keast. George had modestly played his part in cadet matters both inside and outside MGS. He served in the Home Guard, OTC, JTC and CCF and was in command for twenty years. To say 'in command' is surely right, for his abilities in so many ways were quite uncanny. Orders by him were delivered by smoke signal or lost somewhere

somewhere between pipe and moustache. Orders to him came in official letters which were filed in his locker unopened, and yet he knew their content and could unerringly produce the required one from the heap if necessary. He worked on the principle that if a letter was important it would be repeated three times, which saved a vast amount of useless paperwork. He was a marvellous man and we were very proud when he was awarded his O.B.E., and equally pleased that on his retirement the Ministry of Defence (MOD) saw fit to grant him the honorary rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In the following year a ceremonial parade and march past was held at the School to honour the Headmaster, Mr Claydon, who was retiring. The Headmaster was ex-officio commander-in-chief of the contingent and his very real support meant a great deal to us. It is still the case that the CCF cannot function properly without the co-operation and understanding of the Headmaster.

Not all our time was taken up with parades and high ranking people. Military training was still our main objective. Lt.Col. Keast had introduced a new form of training for the older cadets called Arduous or Adventurous Training. Cadets were required to live under canvas, cook their own food and carry out three exercises in areas of difficult terrain. The Army Section had two on Exmoor in 1962 and 1964 at Easter time. The RAF camps were on Dartmoor and in Snowdonia in 1963 and 1965; but thereafter Arduous became combined and annual. The weather during the first joint exercise (again on Exmoor) was so appalling that it became a survival exercise in deep snow. The training programme was abandoned, and it is to the credit of those officers and cadets taking part in this camp that they survived the full week, whereas another party just ten miles away, and suffering from exposure, had to be evacuated by helicopter.

Due to the enthusiasm and encouragement of Lieut. Landa shooting became more prominent. In 1966 it is recorded that there were three open-range practices in one year! This has been continued ever since and increased to four, taking place every half-term plus one in the Christmas holidays.

In 1968 the CCF Band was re-established and gave its first performance in the Summer. The

Band has associate membership rather than real CCF status because it is unable to march, due to lack of proper equipment. Not all the instrumentalists are or want to be cadets. The Director of Music continues to this day (1981) to provide splendid military music for all formal occasions, so we are grateful to the Band for their support.

After many letters to and from the Joint Cadet Executive (JCE) and the help of Admiral Sir Henry Moore, the RN Section opened on 1 November 1968 with an establishment of one officer and thirty cadets, with H.M.S. Pembroke at Chatham as our Parent Establishment. The officer commanding was Sub-Lieutenant Ryan who had had Merchant Navy and CCF RAF experience. Our 'fleet' began with a 27 ft whaler berthed at Allington Lock, with the addition of a dingy and a canoe two years later. We now have, at shared moorings on the Medway just above Maidstone Bridge, six assorted craft, and the use of nine others which include a Naval Tug. The Naval Section flourished and increased its establishment first to forty and then fifty, and two officers. Both cadets and officers took part in any course or opportunity that came their way. The cheerful enthusiasm is perhaps best expressed by quoting from a report written by Coxn. Rees, "Many weird and wonderful things have been done. There has been a weekend's practical experience in seasickness for a few on board HMS Isis (the Navy's mine clearance vessel). Another highlight was the night exercise in Mote Park (code-named 'Getting cold, wet and tired'). Various new bits of equipment have arrived such as a hole, a lamp-post, other bits of metal, pulleys and rope. Rumour has it that the whole thing will end up as a flag-pole. Everyone has passed something this year, ranging from basic drill to Advanced Naval Proficiency, the latter course being the gateway to Power."

In the 1970s the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme came under the wing of the CCF. The Syllabus for all three sections changed again. The RAF Section won the trophy for best contingent at RAF Annual Camp for several years in succession. At the end of the Army Camp at Culybraggan in 1973 C.P.O. Gude was presented with the C.F. Medal. In 1979 there was a BAOR attachment camp, our first Army camp outside the U.K., and Lieutenant Colonel Caley and three cadets went to a Joint Services Camp in Malta.

STAFF NEWS

Two long serving members of staff retired at the end of the summer term:

ROBERT DUTTON

Bob Dutton joined MGS in 1970, and even before he arrived began to establish a tradition of independence of action and uniqueness of approach! In fact, he refused the post of Head of Physics at interview, and had to be persuaded by a personal phone call from the then Headmaster, Mr Moody, to change his mind. On top of this he took a cut in salary and an extension in hours when he moved here – and, to add insult to injury, missed a pay rise given to all members of his old department just after he left. He admits that when he came he had little idea where Maidstone was or what it would be like to live in. Rather, he felt that the system at Reading Technical College where he previously taught (and indeed other similar colleges) could not be sustained. Lecturers were in the classroom for a three-and-a-half day week and had no other duties. Events have now caught up with his crystal ball of those days. He also felt the lack of personal contact with both staff and students, finding both in good measure at MGS. Even if subsequent headmasters have been known to warn young Physics teachers of the dangers of becoming a member, Bob reckons he could make out a case for the Physics Prep Room being the best Club south of the Thames.

Of all the things that Bob has done for the School, Physics has remained his first love, as befits a descendant of the Faraday family. The current Upper Sixth would no doubt be amazed to hear his contention that A-level papers now are no more difficult than GCSE (then O-level) papers were in 1970. Bob regrets, too, the passing of scholarship and special papers as a real challenge for the most able. Nevertheless, as he said ruefully, Socrates was saying much the same about the standards of philosophy a few centuries ago. . . Under Bob the Physics Department has developed and maintained a reputation for extraordinarily high academic standards. Pass rates of 100% at GCSE and A-level have not been uncommon, despite national statistics suggesting that Physics is a 'Difficult' subject.

This degree of success has been achieved without any loss of popularity of the subject. On one occasion, indeed, we were rung up by the DFEE following a statistical return, querying the number of A-level physicists – surely we had made a mistake; there shouldn't be that many! Both Bob's twin sons took Physics as well, getting A's across the board, and have gone on to scientific careers.

Outside the classroom, Bob can claim two records of long service. He joined the Parents Association Committee on arrival and stayed there for 23 years, longer than any other member. For much of this time he ran the school fête with Roger Sage and must have raised many thousands of pounds for the school. His most memorable fête was in the drought year of 1976, when Maidstone was visited by the most spectacular and only thunderstorm of that long hot summer, timing its arrival perfectly for chaos at 2 p.m. As

an offshoot of the P.A. work, Bob organised and then ran the Friday evening family badminton club for even longer, only handing over earlier this year. He also presided over the stage lighting until recently, persuading able helpers to rebuild the 'totally idiosyncratic' system that he inherited.

In the immediate future he hopes to make an extended visit to New Zealand with Roy Wheatley. Roy will no doubt be tempting Bob on to the black runs in the Southern Alps, as he did when teaching Bob to ski six years ago. Bob followed because, as he said, 'If I didn't go down the side of this house, I'd have got completely lost!' At about the same time Bob acquired his junior Hang Gliding pilot's licence. He reckons that hauling hang gliders back up hill is a mug's game, and so hopes to use his retirement to take up paragliding instead. This is in addition to going horse-riding with his wife, Jill, a shared interest which has taken them to Wales, Italy, the Pyrenees and America.

(Author: Dr David Wilson, Dep. Headmaster)

ROY WHEATLEY

Dr Roy Wheatley had been here even longer than me – though not of course as long as Bob Dutton. When I arrived in 1975 he was acting Fifth Form Master (as we called the Head of Year 11 in those days) while James Malden was on sabbatical leave looking at Greek ruins.

Roy often talked about a place called the 'real world' where, unlike those in teaching, you did a full day's work and didn't have those long holidays. His particular bit of hard reality was the Central Electricity Research Laboratory at Leatherhead, not far from his alma mater, the University of Surrey at Guildford (though that was probably called something else in those days too).

With his experience of the real world, it was not surprising that Philip Pettit soon lighted upon Roy to succeed John Caley as Careers Master. This meant finding actual jobs for boys who left at the end of the Fifth Form or did not apply to university. Fortunately, in the mid-1970s jobs still existed, so it hadn't occurred to anyone that students were 'entitled' to careers education.

Roy was – and is – a keen sportsman. He is said to play a mean game of squash, and in his prime he was an even meaner roller-hockey player. Today he is the National Roller Hockey Association, no less. If you don't believe me, try ringing him up when he's out and listen to his answering machine!

Even before his retirement last summer, this job took him far and worldwide during those long holidays. He has an encyclopaedic knowledge of French restaurants where you can get more than a sufficiency of food and drink for less than a tanner even at the current exchange rate. More recently, he borrowed my Portuguese phrase book and took off for Brazil.

Roy also, by the way, taught Chemistry. Indeed, will eleven- and twelve-year olds ever receive such instruction

again – except perhaps at university?

Despite over twenty-five years in teaching, however, Roy never entirely lost touch with the real world. As he contemplated retirement, he started with some success to play the Stock Market. Now that communications with his broker are not interrupted by having to go and register a tutor group, I'm sure he's ahead again.

Nor, since his retirement, has Roy lost touch with the School. We have already lost count of the number of days he has come in to cover for colleagues stricken with sickness or dispatched across Europe for IB training. Will Bob Dutton be able to match his versatility, teaching not only Chemistry and Science, but English, Art, History, French, Music as well?

The Physics Prep Room, which as ever is where the Chemistry Department hangs out, would not be the same without Roy. After all, it's nice to know you can nod off during a funny story without having to worry about missing the punch line: "And he thought it was iron (III) chloride!".

(Author: Mr Barry Langston)

Other staff departures . . .

MARCUS NORMAN

Mr Norman leaves MGS to take up an appointment at Bethany School. His CDT pupils will remember his quiet and efficient approach to everything he did, and staff a most agreeable colleague. For the last two years he ran the CCF smoothly being in charge of the Naval Section and being Contingent Commander.

KEVIN YOUNG

In September 1993 the School acquired that rarity: a user-friendly computing teacher. Kevin has the talent to explain the system in simple terms so that not only the students but the computer-literate staff can follow him. This is done without condescension, with great patience and with no sign of clenched teeth.

Middle-school classes have also benefited from his interest in pastoral care as he has played a major role in putting together the Personal and Social Education programme for Years 10 and 11. Kevin made invaluable contributions to extra-curricular activities in the School. He had the bravery (or foolhardiness) to arrange, meticulously, a day-trip to Boulogne for the whole of Year 7. This careful planning also stood him in good stead in his involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. On one occasion he knew where his group was supposed to be when they clearly had no idea, having contacted a farm in the wrong county!

He leaves MGS to take up an appointment in Bermuda, teaching at a school on a three year contract. Will he or won't he come back . . . who knows?

THE REVD R. KEITH JONES

Rev Jones, as he was popularly known, arrived in September 1989 from the Scientific Civil Service, where he had worked in the field of Operational Research. Many years ago the route into teaching lay through the church and Keith came from this tradition. After leaving school in South Wales he went to Jesus College, Oxford, and from there he spent three years at Wycliffe Hall, an Anglican Theological College. Following various curacies, he was given his own parish at Abercarn, where he served for ten years until 1981, when he moved to be Rector of a group of parishes in Monmouth. He always had a predilection for mathematics and even while ministering to his flock he found the time and energy to study for a degree in mathematics, gaining a First Class Honours B.Sc to add to his Bachelor of Divinity.

He wanted to share his love of mathematics to a new generation of students and was also able to bring a wide range of other interests to bear in his teaching, including astronomy, music, religion, philosophy, history of mathematics and cricket. He hopes to retire to the West Country where he can buy a plot of land and build the house of his dreams.

MISS LYNDIA MILLIGAN

Ms Milligan joined the School in September 1995 as Head of Economics and Business Studies, and now leaves for an appointment at King's Canterbury; a much less arduous journey from her home near that city.

Other staff news:

Dr Philip Pettit continues to write on the local history of his home town of Syresham. Much more time consuming now is the role he now finds himself elected to as a South Northamptonshire County Councillor!

Roger Brown, OM Honorary Treasurer etc., received his commissioning to the Royal Air Force as Pilot Officer in June. This is in connection with his work in the School's CCF. Come December he's off to RAF Cranwell to be taught how to do the job properly!

The Late Jan Powney

Many Old Maidstonians from recent years will be very sorry to learn of the death of Jan Powney, the School accountant. Originally coming to MGS in 1985 her term at the School was split into two periods: 'retiring' firstly in 1987 to care for her father and then returning in 1990 to cover for a sudden departure of her successor. A further six years at Barton Road ensued until cancer, diagnosed in early 1995, took her on 10 September 1995.

HELP!!

Can any OM please fill in the gaps in this list of boys who were awarded the Corfe Music Prize in the years shown? Most of the names here are 99% certain but I've left some in as an *aide-mémoire*. The years before 1957 are OK as *The Maidstonian* gives details of all prize-winners. But NWN (bless him!) removed this kind of detail when he became editor and the records are missing. Yes, I've worked through past copies of the *Kent Messenger* (on microfilm!) but, true to form, this paper doesn't always get its facts right!

		1968/9	
		1969/70	M. Passmore
		1970/1	
		1971/2	
		1972/3	
		1973/4	C.D. Lyle
		1974/5	I.N. Pawlik
		1975/6	
		1976/7	
		1977/8	C.J. Clinch
		1978/9	
		1979/80	S.R. Isles
		1980/1	P. Naylor?
1957/8	P. Langridge & R.A. Wakefield	1981/2	
1958/9	R.J. Clark	1982/3	
1959/60	P.H.H. Moore?	1983/4	
1960/1	A.R. Young & R.L. Smith	1984/5	P.M. Hatfield
1961/2	R.L. Smith & M.S. Jenner	1985/6	C. Howes
1962/3	P.J. Moore?	1986/7	J.P. Gillett
1963/4	R. Honner	1987/8	J.T. Fillingham
1964/5	A.V. Jones	1988/9	
1965/6	T.J. Moreton	1989/90	T. Pearson
1966/7	B.A. Mace	1990/1	R.E.J. Carter
1967/8	J.W. Cudlip, T.J. Colston & D.Ellis		

Also has anybody got a Speech Day prize-winners list between 1961 and 1981 so that the number of boys taking O-level (GCSE or whatever) and A-level in Music can be calculated? Return of lists guaranteed within days!

Please send any information you have to:

J. Clinch, 3 Upper Street, Leeds, MAIDSTONE, Kent ME17 1SL.

Jim Clinch