



Old Owenians Newsletter

Fourth Quarter—16th December, 2014
Edition 16

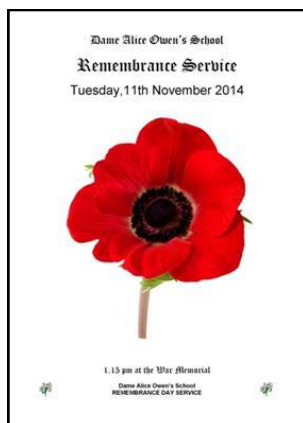
A message from our Head...

"Dear Old Owenians

This year, people all over the Country have been commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the start of the Great War. It's been a time for individuals to reflect on the sacrifices of others in their own way. We've taken the opportunity to post details of our alumni who gave up their lives in both wars on a special webpage which you can now view on the link below.

We've also applied for a grant to clean and re-gild our War Memorial in the School grounds – see further page 2 and http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/war_memorials.html.

Old Owenians wore poppies at our excellent Old Owenians Annual Reunion Luncheon in London (Harold Moore Luncheon) this October half term, which was run for the first time by our new organiser, Sandyann Cannon – many thanks to her for a splendid occasion and we look forward to seeing even more of you next year - full report on page 4.



I'm delighted to report that our School has maintained its position as top partially selective State School in the Times "Top State and Independent Secondary Schools" league tables published in November. Our exam results continue to be outstanding, despite changes to the exam structures and a slight national drop in performance. Students, staff and parents work together to achieve these results and I know how much this reflects the hard work and effort of all concerned. On the sporting front, we'd like to extend congratulations to Old Owenians, brother and sister, Patrick and Rachel Elwood, who've both been selected for the Cambridge Boat Race Squads – more details on page 15. We pride ourselves in recruiting highly qualified staff; if anyone's thinking of looking for a new challenge in teaching see details on our School Direct programme and find out about internships the Advance Learning Alliance offer on page 7.

Governors are now looking at how to take forward our Masterplan to develop facilities that students deserve. They're considering preliminary designs for a new teaching block, to replace the 3 storey English, Geography and Languages building, adjacent to the lower playground/car park. Diagrams of our Masterplan were given in our Old Owenians Newsletter March 2014, page 5. We welcome discussions about our plans - please contact me personally if you would like more information.

Now, in what will be its fifth year, we'd like to highlight our forthcoming Old Owenians Careers Talks Week, in March 2015. Our School community is hugely appreciative of those Old Owenians who generously volunteer their own time to inspire our current students with their chosen career paths. It really is your opportunity to make a direct difference and share your personal experiences—read Paul Birri's comment (Class of 2006) from our March 2013 Old Owenians Newsletter; he's now flying Boeing 777's with Cathay Pacific Airlines:



"I can still vividly recall an old Owenian came back to the school to offer advice about becoming a pilot; of course I was there to listen. His name was Alex Rowe. He had just gained employment with EasyJet and I found him to be a true inspiration."
*We look forward to meeting more of you in the Spring and would love to hear from Alex Rowe!
I wish you all a very happy festive break and we'll be in touch again in the New Year.*

Dr Alan Davison

SAVE THE DATE!
2nd-5th March 2015!
Old Owenians Careers Talks Week
Please look out for details
inviting you to attend in a special
email in January and see page 22!



Dame Alice Owen's School First World War Memorial

1914-1919 SCHOLAE OWENIANAE ALUMNOS ALUMNI SALVTANT

Translation: "We salute the alumni of Owen's School"



We thought it was appropriate to remind alumni about our First World War Memorial in our School grounds. It lists 170 names of former students who attended our original Owen's Boys' School in Islington and died in the service of our Country between 1914-1919.

Old Owenians from our Islington School will remember the large tablet of dark-blue Cornish Delabole Slate inscribed with names in gilded letters sited under the balcony at the back of the old School Hall. R.A. Dare B.A., in his book first published in 1963: "A History of Owen's School (1613-1976)", tells us that the ceremony of the unveiling, which took place on Tuesday 8th November, 1921, was performed by Major-General G.D. Jeffreys, C.B., C.M.G., G.O.C. London Command, and was "one of the most moving spectacles ever seen at the School".

He also noted that all through the war, at his own expense, Headmaster Mr R.F. Cholmeley had generously sent every Old Boy on active service a copy of the School magazine whether he was a subscriber or not. During the war years, he received the honour of being awarded the O.B.E..

When the Boys' School was closed in the mid 1970's, the tablet was put into storage until an Appeal raised the money to have it transferred to its current position in the grounds of our School here in Potters Bar. We hold a Remembrance Service every year on 11th November, or as close to the date as possible, in School lunchtime at the War Memorial at 1.15pm for staff and students to attend. Our Administrative Officer and Old Owenian, Mr W Hamilton-Hinds, arranges the Service.



Bible readings and prayers are read out by our Headteacher and senior staff, our Head Boy and Girl lay a wreath (supplied by an Old Owenian), one minutes silence is held and a selection of names are read from the Book of Remembrance. Last Post is performed by a student trumpeter. If it's raining, the Service is held in our Main Hall. Photos appearing on this page were taken November 2014. Details of both our WW1 and 2 Memorials appear here: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/war_memorials.html.



A Remembrance Service programme is published every year, listing those who died in both the First World War and the Second World War. Our Service is reported in our Old Owenians Newsletter and photos are published on Latest News each November.

Due to weathering over the years, our war memorial is in much need of repair. A Grants Pre-Application was submitted to the War Memorials Trust (WMT) Grants on 12/11/14 for £1,000, which, if successful, will contribute to the renovation work (listed below).



Brickwork to be power washed and re-pointed
Slate repaired (see above)/cleaned/buffed
Patio power washed/repointed
Lettering re-gilded (3,000 letters - 170 names)
Plants replaced (see below)

You can also view details of our Memorial on the War Memorials Online website which supports our grant application. Any further enquiries can be addressed to Mrs C Airey, Premises Manager at aireyc@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk.



1906 -1907	Adcock, H P	1907 – 1913	Lempriere, E G R
1908 -1914	Akehurst, E C	1896 – 1901	Levy, F S
1909 - 1916	Andrews, L B	1900 –	Lion, A J
1902 – 1907	Angas, L G	1903 - 1910	Lyon, L E
1894 – 1899	Austin, C W A C	1908 – 1913	MacDonald, A L
1904 – 1910	Baker, W F	1898 – 1904	Mackie, D Y
1909 – 1912	Barnes, C H	1905 – 1908	Machin, W G
1904 – 1909	Barrenger, H G	1907 – 1912	Maddox, C P
1910 – 1911	Batchelor, N V	1909 – 1913	Matthews, A T
1896 – 1899	Battersby, E J	1900 –	Matthews, T T B
1890 – 1894	Beard, H L	1907 – 1910	Medcalfe, J R
1894 -	Beckett, G A	1905 – 1908	Medhurst, E H
1901 – 1909	Bell, C M	1902 – 1906	Mercer, G A
1906 – 1911	Binckes, R	1907 – 1912	Mills, C G
1899 – 1904	Blight, C F	1907 – 1910	Millem, H
1904 – 1906	Blunn, C R	1904 – 1909	Milne, A D
1909 – 1914	Boote, J A	1902 – 1908	Milner, W F
1908 – 1910	Booth, W	1899 - 1905	Mitchell, C C
1902 – 1906	Broughton, W C R	1911 – 1915	Moore, R
1905 – 1911	Boulting, S E	1909 – 1914	Morris, P S
1899 – 1902	Bowler, G B	1905 – 1910	Nash, T J
1903 – 1909	Bromfield, K	1909 – 1914	Natali, P H
1904 – 1912	Broughton, L A	1902 – 1909	Newland, A K
1909 – 1915	Burrowes, B W O	1902 – 1906	Newland, H B
1897 -	Burrows, G E	1906 –	Newman, C
1903 – 1905	Cansfield, H D	1890 – 1896	Nicholls, E J
1902 – 1906	Cansfield, V M	1884 – 1892	Norris, W C J
1899 – 1901	Capham, P W	1905 – 1908	Nowell, E H
1901 - 1903	Clark, H T	1907 – 1913	Ord, H J
1903 - 1906	Cockett, A W	1905 – 1911	Organ, H P
1906 - 1908	Cooper, C Ashley	1906 – 1910	Owen, L O
1899 - 1907	Coward, L G	1907 – 1911	Palmer, L A
1911 - 1913	Crawford, C J	1904 - 1907	Parsley, R J
1904 - 1908	Craymer, D C	1909 – 1912	Parsons, G J
1903 - 1905	Crossman, F R	1902 – 1908	Patrick, G C
1903 - 1908	Csako, E S	1904 – 1908	Peall, S G
1910 - 1912	Dames, C L	1902 – 1906	Pearce, C D F
1902 - 1908	Daphne, A	1906 – 1907	Pearson, G F
1901 - 1903	Davie, J	1906 –	Peasnell, F G
1911 – 1914	Davies, V E	1911 –	Plergny, V W du
1902 - 1905	Davis, K B	1906 – 1911	Pook, W
1892 – 1898	Dewsbury, C B	1909 – 1915	Poole, N
1905 – 1913	Dickson, M J B	1905 – 1908	Price, E S
1901 – 1908	Dolwin, C J	1894 – 1897	Price, W G
1888 – 1892	Dowding, I W	1899 – 1904	Rabley, E A
1905 – 1906	Evans, O J	1898 – 1900	Rees, S C
1913 – 1917	Fawley, R W H	1906 – 1910	Reese, A MC
1898 – 1904	Field, C L	1908 – 1912	Reeve, S M
1901 – 1903	Finnis, W F	1907 – 1912	Reeves, F
1911 – 1914	Flaxman, E J	1904 – 1911	Reid, A
1914 – 1915	Forsyth, D C	1902 - 1904	Reid, GR
1905 – 1913	Foulger, J T	1905 – 1909	Robinson, R
1905 – 1911	Fromant, H D S	1897 – 1901	Salmon, V E T
1905 – 1911	Gabriel, F G	1892 – 1894	Samuel, F
1897 – 1900	Gibson, T H	1907 – 1913	Sandell, R L
1905 – 1909	Glover, J B	1904 – 1906	Saunders, F J B
1904 – 1907	Goodworth, C J	1913 – 1915	Seaman, A W
1913 – 1915	Grace, F	1903 – 1911	Serjeant, C L
1895 - 1898	Gray, M C	1895 – 1902	Serjeant, H M
1903 – 1909	Greville, S	1901 – 1903	Shurrock, C W
1911 – 1915	Hagon, W A	1907 – 1909	Simpson, H A
1905 – 1910	Harding, W	1902 – 1905	Skinner, P G
1890 - 1893	Harrower, J	1890 –	Small, E R
1912 – 1914	Haughton, C R	1905 – 1915	Solomons, M
1911 – 1912	Heathcock, H A	1891 – 1896	Stromqvist, S G
1911 – 1912	Hills, P R	1905 – 1909	Surry, N F
1895 – 1899	Hirschbein, W H	1910 – 1916	Swallow, E H
1900 – 1905	Hopkins, H L	1907 – 1912	Taylor, H V
1910 – 1912	Hopper, C W	1908 – 1913	Thompson, S J
1903 – 1904	Huddy, A M	1908 – 1915	Tiley, G C
1910 – 1912	Huggins, L	1903 – 1908	Tiplady, F E
1906 – 1911	Hutchison, W F	1903 – 1908	Twort, A E
1904 – 1912	James, H F	1907 - 1915	Waller, T E F
1906 – 1912	Jones, H G	1908 – 1915	Ward, E
1907 – 1911	Kearns, W G	1902 – 1903	Warwick, F H
1898 – 1904	Kelly, P P	1904 – 1906	Webber, D H
1905 – 1907	Kemp, S	1903 – 1909	Webber, H W T
1907 – 1910	Killingback, S G	1907 – 1911	Wheeler, W D
1898 – 1904	King, H G	1907 – 1911	Whenman, J C
1897 – 1903	King, J	1906 – 1908	Willis, E F
1899 – 1900	Kinsley, L M	1906 – 1913	Wilson, C
1906 – 1911	Kitchen, J E	1906 – 1911	Wilson, E H
1906 – 1910	Knott, R F	1905 – 1911	Windsor, A C
1908 - 1912	Knott, R M	1902 – 1907	Winter, R B
1907 – 1909	Knowers, P A	1907 - 1911	Wright, F C

Old Owenians Harold Moore Annual Reunion Luncheon



We're sure you'll want to join us in extending many thanks to our volunteer organiser, Sandyann Cannon (Class of 1981) for arranging her successful first Old Owenians Harold Moore Annual Reunion Luncheon at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square in London on Monday 27th October during half term.

Over 80 guests enjoyed a sumptuous lunch, preceded by drinks in the bar, and were delightfully entertained during an interlude by our own student musicians from Year 10 and 11.

They'd all kindly given up their half term Monday to perform for Old Owenians, bringing in instruments on the minibus with Assistant Head, Pam Perrett and one of their parents; Abigail (aged only 14), led on the Saxophone, Joe on the keyboard, Henry on the guitar and James on the drums. Old Owenian sisters, Pamela Mansi (Class of 1951) and Val Cross (Class of 1955), particularly wanted to thank them for their lovely entertainment during the event!

Adrian Sykes (Class of 1978) gave a speech, talking about his time at Owen's as a student himself, marrying a fellow student, then his time as an Owen's parent. He generously volunteered to attend our Old Owenians Careers Talks in 2013, inspiring students about his role in the Music Industry. Thanks very much to Adrian for his time and also Perry Offer (Class of 1977), who performed the duties of Master of Ceremonies and eventually sorted initial problems with the sound system!



Another highlight was the speeches given by two members of the School's Senior Team – Deputy Head Boy, Tristan Balakrishna (photo left) and Deputy Head Girl, Katie Prior. They received thunderous applause not only for their content but confidence and ease of deliverance—a great opportunity for them to practice their public speaking skills!

Both School songs were given a thorough airing – ladies singing the Old Girls' School Song were accompanied by a recording of the music made by our School and later, the Old Boys' School Song was rousingly performed (with some notes held rather longer than others at the end of the verses!!!). We're thrilled that two of our alumni have also now volunteered to accompany the songs on a violin (Boys' School) and folding piano (Girls' School) and look forward to next year's renditions! The afternoon continued in the adjacent bar until 6.30pm as guests were reluctant to stop catching up with their old classmates. Special guests included past Head, David Bolton 1982-1994 and possibly our oldest alumni, Charles Baron (Class of 1936). Past student and current staff member William Hamilton-Hinds also attended.

Our guest speaker for next year is already lined up – Fred Groom – former teacher at both Islington Schools and our Potters Bar School. If you'd like advance notice of the date and venue of next year's event, which will be held around the same time, please email Sandyann to go on her mailing list at: sandyannc@annon.co.uk.

Message from Sandyann about a new Old Owenians Choir!

"We're looking to start an Old Owenians Choir and are very grateful to the school for offering their facilities. If you're looking to brush up on your music and singing skills, or would just like to be part of this new venture, please contact me at sandyanncannon@tiscali.co.uk or ring me on 07973 755269. We're aiming to start February 2015!"



Old Owen's Sports Ground—Home of the Old Owen's Association, Old Owen's Cricket Club, Old Owen's Football Club and Potters Bar United Football Club

Many thanks to Old Owen's Manager, John Clark, for this update on facilities and events at the Sports Ground!

*"Lynn and I took over running Old Owens Sports Ground on 1st July 2010, after 30 years in the casino industry. We've improved both the outside and inside areas and have created a warm friendly atmosphere for all to enjoy both members and **non-members**."*

*Whether it's to watch Football or Cricket or just to come along and enjoy a few hours in the bar, we're open every evening from 4pm and all day at weekends. Our grounds are situated in Coopers Lane, Northaw, set back off the main road with ample parking. There's a pool table, a table tennis table, two dart boards plus two large TV's and a projector screen showing all Sky and BT Sports channels. We've got a large and small function room which is available for hire for parties, christenings, weddings, wakes or any other celebration; **please call the clubhouse on 01707 644211 for details!***

In the winter, a real log fire burns to add to the ambiance of any occasion along with comfy sofas and quality draught beer and ales. In the summer, we've got a fully covered BBQ which is available most Saturdays and Sundays and we hold regular Hog Roasts—also available for hire at the club or any outside catering you may need. Food and drinks are available all day at weekends ranging from sandwiches, burgers, omelettes, curries, chilli's and homemade soups and on Sundays we also serve a choice of Roast dinners. On Tuesdays evenings we've a "Dining In" evening with a set two course meal which changes weekly.

We've a range of Friday Night events to suit all tastes; a popular Quiz Night in March, June, September and December; a band night once a month and Alvin as Elvis performs his fantastic show at least three times a year. We'll be introducing other events during the year so please check the website www.OLDOWENS.COM regularly for further details. Look out for our adverts in the Potters Bar Eye too!

Old Owenians Football Club, Potter Bar United and Old Owenians Cricket Club, who are all based at the Old Owen's Sports Ground, encourage new members. We have some of the best pitches in Hertfordshire and you would not be disappointed playing on them!"

Old Owen's Cricket Club – Report on the 2014 Season

Many thanks to the Old Owen's Cricket Club for this inspirational report!

*"Fellow Old Owenians,
Old Owens Cricket Club, playing out of the beautiful ground at Coopers Lane, was formed in 1924; hence the 2014 season was the 90th anniversary for the club. To mark this auspicious occasion the club started the year in February by making its first ever overseas tour, and did so in style in travelling all the way to the beautiful island of Sri Lanka.*



A 25 strong tour party of current and former players, partners, friends, family members, umpires, groundsmen and the current Manager of the clubhouse enjoyed 10 days none of them will ever forget. Matches were played at no fewer than 3 international standard venues; in Galle, Kandy and Colombo (England have just been beaten twice at the latter and will, in December, play twice at Kandy!). Off the field the party, amongst many other things, stayed in some of the finest hotels in Sri Lanka, visited a turtle hatchery and an elephant sanctuary and even indulged in a moonlit tuk-tuk convoy along the coastal road at Galle.



It's fair to say that the team was outplayed on the field, where the temperatures were high and the quality of the opposition higher still, but the term "strive with a will" was much in evidence. Highlights included Alan Hunter hitting a 6 at The Premadasa in Colombo in his 60th birthday year and Bradley Lane cleaning up an opening bat at Galle, with the fort behind him, with an absolute jaffa.

Back in Blighty the domestic season was, overall, another success. The club runs three league sides in the Saracens Hertfordshire Cricket League on Saturdays, with the 1st XI now in the highest division in the club's history on the back of some excellent recent successes, having been promoted three times between 2009 and 2014 to division two this year. The 1st XI has a very young squad with many talented individuals playing the game in the Owenian spirit. The season ended in dramatic fashion with them securing a spot in Division 2A for the 2015 season by the narrowest of margins; 1 point.

The 2nd XI tends to feature a core of "senior pro's" many of whom are Old Boys playing a good standard of cricket at a slightly more sedate pace than the 1's. An up and down season saw the 2's retain their place in Division 7B. The 3rd XI is the breeding ground for the stars of the future and where some of the best and most experienced clubmen around nurture the youthful talent. This year the 3's finished 3rd and as a result were promoted to Regional Division B East. The club also has a proud record of playing strong Sunday cricket, despite this version of the game having seriously declined elsewhere; this is something the club needs to work hard on retaining.

In other recent news the club's overseas player in two recent seasons, Daniel St Clair, has just made his debut in a 4-day game for the full Trinidad and Tobago side.

Old Owens is renowned as a fantastic place to play cricket, with beautiful surroundings, superb playing and social facilities, including the best post-match barbecue around! The club would love to attract new playing members of all abilities and hugely welcomes spectators on Saturday or Sunday afternoons. Winter nets will be starting in February for anybody who is interested in trying out.

For more information please see the club's website at <http://oldowenscc.co.uk/> or contact the Club Captain, Ken Rowsell via kenrowswell@yahoo.co.uk. The club also has Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts (simply search for "Old Owens Cricket Club"). The cricket club would like to wish all alumni, their family and friends a happy festive season and the best for a successful 2015."



Are you thinking about a future career in teaching?

<i>Doing a Degree?</i>	<i>Already have a Degree?</i>
<p>The Advanced Learning Alliance is offering school internships to prepare University Students for Teacher Training via School Direct.</p> <p>School Direct involves work based training with a bursary in certain subjects and a PGCE qualification. Observations will be offered in Outstanding Schools.</p> <p>We will support you to gain the most out of school internship by:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offering support and mentoring to you throughout the Internship • Providing the opportunity to work with small groups and whole classes • Providing the opportunity for you to mentor sixth formers in preparation for their University application • Giving you the chance to take part in projects and activities • We will provide written testimonials and references for Interns who successfully complete the course, as well as comprehensive information on the School Direct route into teaching <p>Placements will be available in June and July 2015 and applications are now open.</p> <p>We are particularly interested in Maths, Science, English and Modern Foreign Languages, however other subjects will be considered.</p> <p>To apply please email a letter and CV to Ms Jane Hart, Assistant Headteacher, Watford Grammar School for Girls, j.hart@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk</p> <p>For more information about the Advanced Learning Alliance see our website at: http://www.advancedlearningalliance.co.uk/</p>	<p>Dame Alice Owen's School is accepting applicants with a degree (2:1 or above) via UCAS to train as teachers through the School Direct Programme for the academic year 2015-16, by working in partnership with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watford Grammar School for Girls • Watford Grammar School for Boys • Queen Elizabeth's Boys School • Yavneh College • Rickmansworth School • University of Hertfordshire <p>We offer a high quality and comprehensive training programme with a proven track record in providing a stimulating and supportive environment for teacher training. Successful applicants will spend most of the week in school, with some time at the University of Hertfordshire.</p> <p>Places are offered in a range of subjects but we are particularly interested in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, English, Modern Foreign Languages (French, German, Spanish). All candidates should have some school experience.</p> <p>So, if you're passionate about your subject and are looking for a new challenge, you'll need to apply through UCAS from November 1st 2014. For further information, please email Ms Jane Hart, Director of Teaching and Learning, Watford Grammar School for Girls j.hart@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk</p> <p>Although the initial UCAS application is made to Watford Girls as the Lead School, the School Direct place will be offered in one of the collaborating schools. The following links may also be useful:</p> <p>Department of Education – please follow this link Click here</p> <p>For verification of equivalency of overseas qualifications - NARIC</p> <p>For skills test information – DfE Skills Tests</p> <p>All schools and Hertfordshire University are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers</p>

Welcome to our School Direct recruits!

Dame Alice Owen's School has 4 graduates on the School Direct programme (as mentioned on the previous page), who started with us this Autumn term (listed below). Dan Latham, who's been recruited to work in our History Department, is an Old Owenian and achieved a First Class Honours degree in Politics from Nottingham this summer!

Paco Sanz Ojero (MFL - Modern Foreign Languages)	Subject Mentor (Tony Meekin)	Professional mentor (Bob Pepper)
Judith Nicolson (Maths)	Subject Mentor (Louise Price)	Professional Mentor (Bob Pepper)
Samantha Nicholls (Art)	Subject Mentor (Steve Willcock)	Professional Mentor (John Johnstone)
Daniel Latham (History & Politics)	Subject Mentor (Charlotte Grove)	Professional Mentor (John Johnstone)

First Class Honours Degrees

May we offer many congratulations to those students who have recently achieved the following top level degrees:

Grace Parker	History, Robinson College, Cambridge, 2010
Emma Lloyd-Jones	Modern and Medieval Languages (Spanish & Italian), Emmanuel College, Cambridge, 2010
Carla Thomas	Philosophy, Politics & Economics, St Anne's College, Oxford, 2011
Sam Whiteley	English Language and Literature, Exeter College, Oxford, 2014
Owen Carter	English, Cambridge University, 2014 (Double First)
Hannah Colledge	Fashion Design, De Montfort University, 2014

And belated congratulations to Dr Anthony R. Moore, who sends greetings from Boston, MA, as he's only just learned from our Newsletters about the honours boards! Dr Moore, (Class of 1952), was House Captain and Deputy Head*. He studied English and obtained a First Class Honours Degree in 1991, at the Royal Holloway and Bedford New College, University of London, followed by an MA with Distinction in Classic Modern Writing, in 1993 at the same university and finally a PhD in American Literature, in 1999 at Boston University.

*If anyone knows the names of any other Senior Prefects, to fill in our missing gaps, we'd love to hear from you:

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/senior_prefects.html

Report on Science Society Lecture – November 10th 2014

Thanks to Dr Tara Garnett (Environmental Change Institute, University of Oxford) for an excellent Science Society Lunchtime Lecture; "The World on a Plate: How people, food and climate change are linked – and why it Matters". She spoke to student scientists and geographers about the challenge the world faces to feed an increasing population and the inequality of food distribution. She provided some interesting statistics such as:

- 50% of people will live in water stressed region by 2050
- 10 companies account for 40% of the global food sales
- World population in 1969 was 3.6billion – there are now 7.2billion in 2014
- People in Britain spend 12% of their income on food, in Cameroon they spend 70%

In response to the question, "What can we do?" she gave one solution about how we can eat differently to aid reducing GHG (Green House Gas) emissions:

- Eat more plants
- Eat less meat and dairy
- Don't throw food away
- Question what's normal – are we eating out of habit/culture or what's good for us/the planet?

In answer to student's questions, Dr Garnett explained that she studied English at University, followed by a Masters in Developmental Studies before eventually completing a PhD in food systems research. After visiting and working in India she volunteered for a UK NGO which inspired her to continue in this field. Her opinion on GM (genetically modified) foods was that while technology may have a small role to play, on its own it cannot be seen as a solution to the many problems we face. In addition, much of the research has been centred on breeding crops that benefit the rich rather than poor people in low income countries. Students asked, "When will climate change impact on our lives?" to which she replied that change is already taking place and that people will have to continue to adapt to deal with the impacts and develop solutions to cope with those changes. At the same time we need to be looking at ways of reducing emissions, including through changing our food consumption patterns.



Science Society Lectures

Our busy programme for this academic year is almost complete, with one final lunchtime lecture planned for students from Dr Annete Loffer and Dr John Fishwick of the Royal Veterinary College, entitled, **Veterinary Science “How bacteria and viruses rule the world” on Wednesday 25th February 2015**. We know students benefit hugely from this extra-curricular society—we’ll keep you informed of our ongoing programme in future Newsletters, as you’re welcome to attend any of our free evening lectures.

Cardiac Risk in the Young and Jake Gallagher

Old Owenian, Rebecca Zouvani, who is Fundraising Manager for Cardiac Risk in the Young, gratefully accepted a donation of £402 raised by a Sixth Form social event in September at Old Owen’s in memory of our former student, Jake Gallagher. The charity’s vision is, “To work with cardiologists and family doctors to promote and protect the cardiac health of our young by establishing good practice and screening facilities devoted to significantly reduce the frequency of young sudden cardiac death throughout the UK”.

Continued support for our Business Studies students

Many thanks to Adam Reader, Chief Finance Officer from Grace Foods UK based in Welwyn Garden City, for his inspiring talk to A Level Business Studies students on strategy, finance and brand management in UK manufacturing. Adam is an Old Owenian (Class of 1987) and a current parent.



He told students that the GraceKennedy group was established in 1922 and celebrated their 90th anniversary in 2012. Today it’s a \$1bn corporation, based in Kingston, Jamaica and listed on the stock exchanges of Jamaica and Trinidad & Tobago. As one of the Caribbean’s most dynamic businesses it operates across more than 70 subsidiaries worldwide, spanning food manufacture and processing, retail, banking insurance and money remittance among others.



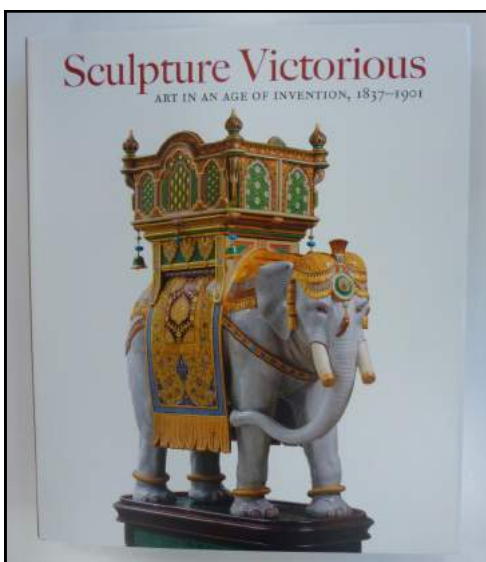
He talked about the strategy of subsidiary, Grace Foods UK, the logistics of food manufacturing (they produce over 10 million bottles of sauce a year!) as well as their technological investment and explained the impact of globalisation on their business.

Students were very focussed on his in-depth presentation and had many questions. Adam kindly bought samples of his products for students to take away and try, including their Caribbean sauces and a new Aloe Vera Drink which has been walking off the shelves at Tesco! Our Head of Business Studies, Mr Bird, who arranged the visit and his students, were very appreciative of his time giving them a real life example towards their A Level case studies.

Dame Alice Owen’s Statue at Tate Britain—don’t miss it!

See below photos of the front and inside of the Catalogue Book which is accompanying the Sculpture Victorious exhibition, currently at the Yale Center for British Art in New Haven, Connecticut, US. Our Dame Alice Owen’s statue is on the Frontispiece and listed as: “George Frampton, *Dame Alice Owen (detail)*, 1897, marble, alabaster, bronze, paint and gilding, Dame Alice Owen’s School, Potters Bar (cat 136)”. **The exhibition comes to Tate Britain 25 February – 25 May 2015** (Press view 23 February 2015) and will be on display in the Linbury Galleries. Our statue is mentioned in the Press Release reported on the Tate Britain website at:

<http://www.tate.org.uk/about/press-office/press-releases/sculpture-victorious-0>



Dame Mary Glen Haig - Obituary

We have kindly been given permission from The Telegraph to publish their obituary of this Old Owenian, Dame Mary, Glen Haig, an amazing fencer who competed at four Olympic Games and defended the movement's ideals as a member of the IOC (International Olympic Committee). Thanks to Andrew Porter, Old Owenian, for arranging this for us. For those of you who didn't see the original report, which appeared in The Telegraph on 26th November, 2014, we hope you enjoy reading about her incredible achievements.



"Dame Mary Glen Haig, who has died aged 96, fenced for Britain at four Olympic Games and later became a respected sports administrator, serving as one of two British representatives on the International Olympic Committee from 1982 to 1994.

Her father, William James, who had competed in the 1908 Olympics, had taught her how to fence and she went on to become one of the country's most decorated competitors, winning gold medals for the Women's Foil at the British Empire Games (later the Commonwealth Games) in Auckland in 1950 and in Vancouver in 1954, followed by a bronze at Cardiff in 1958.

This photo above, of Dame Mary Glen Haig in front of the Olympic flag, was taken by BRIAN SMITH

She made her first Olympic appearance at the 1948 "Austerity" games in London, where she did not win a medal, although she made it to the final, finishing in eighth place. At the time she was working as an administrator at King's College Hospital, London, and she was still at work the night before her first match. There was no Olympic Village and nobody to carry her fencing gear for her from the hospital to the lodgings the women's team had taken in a run-down house behind Victoria station (where she had to sleep on a camp bed in a room shared with two other women). "I went looking for some food and there was a lovely smell coming from the house next door and I joined the queue," she recalled. "I think it must have been the French team. That's the sort of spirit in which one went off to the games."

In contrast to the hype that surrounds the modern Olympics, she recalled that her hospital colleagues were "not too bothered" about how well she did: "When you've had a war and had ghastly things to contend with . . . On one occasion a nursery had been hit. Can you imagine? I'll never forget that day, mothers beside themselves, not knowing where to run to, not knowing if their child had been brought in. Things like winning medals, we didn't worry about things like that in those days."

Mary Glen Haig in the 1950s (right—TOPHAM PICTUREPOINT)

Mary Glen Haig continued to compete in the Olympics until 1960, though she never again made the finals, and continued to fence until her late seventies. In 1982 she was one of the first women to be appointed to the IOC, a post she continued to occupy until 1994, also serving on bidding committees set up by Manchester and Birmingham.

In this capacity she supervised the first Women's Islamic Games, held in 1993, in which 407 athletes took part in eight different sports. She was also greatly admired for her work over a decade on the IOC's medical commission, which often involved her having to rise at 5.30am to attend meetings on doping. She took an idealistic approach to the bidding process, revealing in a letter to the House of Commons National Heritage Select Committee in 1995 that she and her fellow British IOC representative, Princess Anne, found the whole business of Olympic lobbying to be "exceedingly distasteful, not in line with Olympic philosophy and certainly outwith all the ethics of fair play". The Princess, she recalled, "openly declared her distaste for the valuable and too readily accepted 'perks' seemingly directed at influencing votes – hence perhaps her alleged unpopularity with those reported to be 'powerful men in sport'."



Mary Glen Haig at a fencing display in 1950 (below—TOPHAM PICTUREPOINT)



Mary Glen Haig remained an honorary member of the IOC and made her last major appearance at the conclusion of the 2004 Summer Olympics, held in Athens, reciting the English version of an ode in praise of the city which she had commissioned to be written in ancient Greek by the Oxford classics scholar Armand d'Angour.

Mary Alison James was born in London on July 12 1918 and educated at Dame Alice Owen's School. She began taking part in regional and international fencing competitions in 1937 and made her last competitive appearance in 1960. In 1943 she married Andrew Glen Haig.

Fencers Gillian Shhen (left) and Mary Glen Haig model their new Olympic hats in 1956 (below—TOPHAM PICTUREPOINT)

As well as her work on the IOC, Mary Glen Haig held positions within the British Olympic Association and the International Fencing Federation. During the 1970s she chaired the Central Council of Physical Recreation, and she was president of the British Sports Association for the Disabled from 1981 to 1991.

Alongside her sporting interests she continued to work as a health manager, working as a hospital district administrator from 1974 until 1982.

She was also a long-serving vice-president of the British Schools Exploring Society (now British Exploring). Never a figurehead, she took a deep interest in the activities of the "Young Explorers" (YEs) and over many years never missed committee meetings, where her experience and wise counsel were of great value. Until recent years, she also attended the annual reunions held at the Royal Geographical Society when the YEs presented accounts of their activities and scientific field studies.



Mary Glen Haig was appointed MBE in 1971, CBE in 1977 and DBE in 1993. In 1994 she was awarded the Olympic Order at the Centennial Olympic Congress in Paris. Her passion for sport never left her, and she was a great supporter of the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Mary Glen Haig's husband predeceased her, and she later lived with Joyce Pearce, a medal winner in fencing at the 1966 British Empire and Commonwealth Games, who died in 2011.

Dame Mary Glen Haig, born July 12 1918, died November 15 2014

Remembering Antony Staniland

Thanks to Mr Paul Levy, who writes about the arts in general for the Wall Street Journal Europe, for giving his permission to publish his article about educator and Old Owenian, Tony Staniland, on his arts journal blog. Tony Staniland past away aged 85, earlier in March this year : <http://www.artsjournal.com/plainenglish/tag/dame-alice-owens-school>.

"Tony Staniland was one of those hard-to-categorise, larger-than-life people who was a hero to those whose lives he changed, but who was modest about his own ambitions, and seems to have worked so hard simply because it gave him pleasure. A physically big man, well over six feet tall, this philoprogenitive educator had six children, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren by three marriages, loved driving his smart cars, drinking red wine ("I was born two glasses short of perfection"), the South of France, and Queen's Park Rangers.

He was so fervent about teaching that, late in life, he deducted a few years from his date of birth on his CV, resisting retirement, so as to continue giving classes, to the benefit of the equally no longer young (mostly female) admirers to whom he taught literature at New Horizons Chelsea. Most of his working life, however, was spent rescuing damaged young people, with whom he had some special affinity.

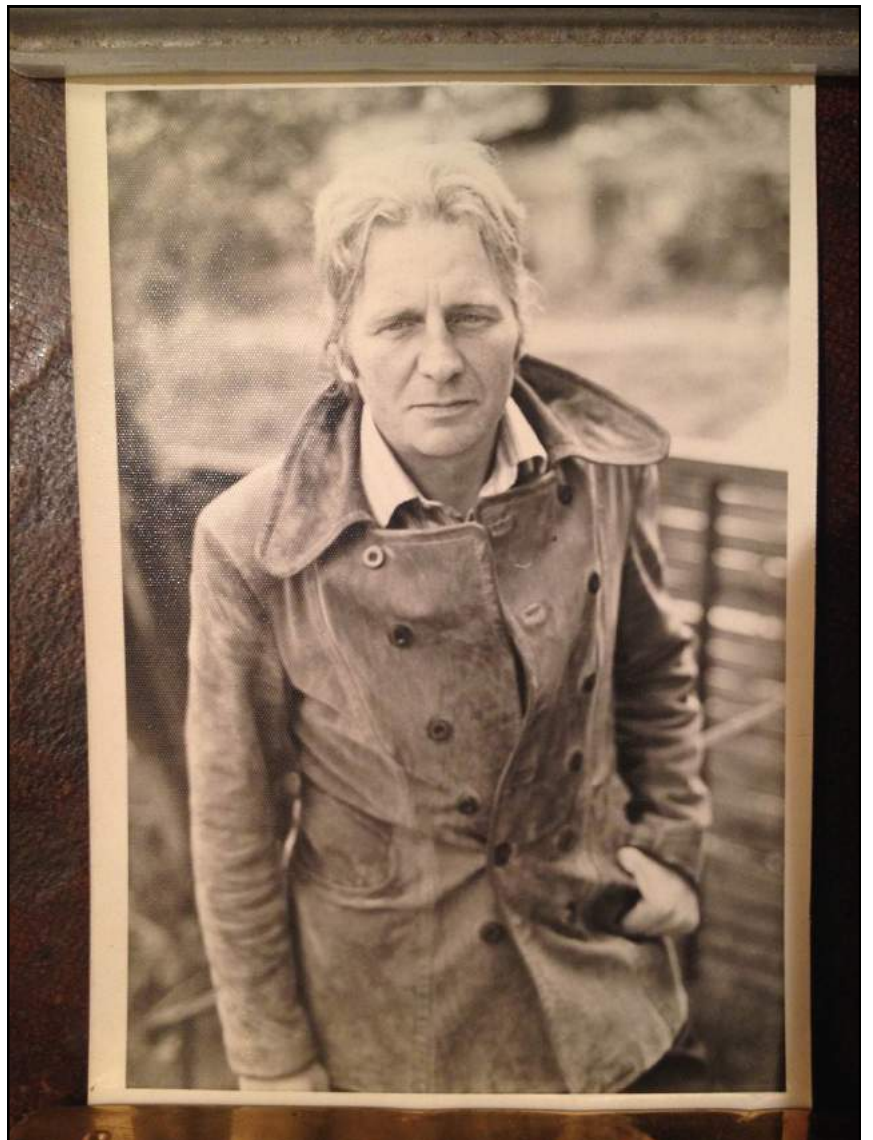
It's difficult to imagine where this gift came from. Born in Marylebone, London in 1929, Tony was an only child. His father, George Havelock Staniland, was the manager of the BBC Singers, the 80-strong group founded in 1924 in Maida Vale, and he was closely connected to the Proms.

Tony grew up with memories of meeting most of the great names of music, including Malcolm Sargent and even Ralph Vaughan Williams. Music remained one of his greatest passions, and he regularly attended the Proms, as well as events at the Royal College of Music, Festival Hall and smaller venues.

Though the family was not Catholic, he was sent to the Knightsbridge Oratory for primary school; and later to Dame Alice Owen's School in Islington.

His wartime experience might go some way to explaining his empathy with children with broken lives.

His imposing father was in Bedford with the BBC, responsible for the broadcast of the daily service and other programmes. Though his mother, née Justina Lavinia Yoxall, might have taken him to live with her own mother in Wiltshire, she opted instead to stay in London as an air raid warden, and Staniland was evacuated to several different houses in the Home Counties for two and a half years.



Following his military service as a young officer, and a year of university at Cambridge, about neither of which he had much to say, Staniland subsisted on a variety of jobs, including being a librarian. In 1953 he married his first wife, Joan Skinner, and they had a son and two daughters.

He fell into teaching because he badly needed a job to support his growing family, and began this career at a rough school in Battersea, where the Head was impressed by this young man who serenely did his football pools while keeping order among the 15 and 16-year-olds no one else could control. This temporary appointment was made permanent, but to make ends meet, Staniland also ran an after-school club in Parsons Green and worked in a coffee bar for three to four nights a week.

By 1962 he'd married his second wife, Elfrida ('Fridl') Berger, and soon had a total of five children to look after. He regarded her Austrian father, Walter, who had written studies of Nazism, as his intellectual mentor, and long after the marriage had ended continued to visit Dr Berger in Salzburg. He first met Anne McLoughlin, whom he later married, at one of his English Lit courses in 1973, and subsequently at a performance of 'King Lear'; their son, Lorcan, has inherited his grandfather's musical talents.

In 1966 Staniland took a degree in English literature and Education at Goldsmiths' College, and two years later the Advanced Diploma (now upgraded to MSc) in Child Development at the University of London, followed by an MA in Psychology from Durham. In 2009 he became a Fellow of the Institute for Learning.

He went to Vernon House School, in Brent, in 1968, and was Head Teacher from 1972-82. The school took pupils from aged five to sixteen who had social, emotional or behavioural difficulties. This was before the educational establishment medicalised these problems and gave them names and diagnoses. A magazine article by Andrea Kon describes him as 'a tall relaxed man with greying hair and startlingly blue eyes [who] has real friendship and support to offer his staff; he runs the school in a settled structure and has loads of love to give to the emotionally hurt children who become his responsibility.'

Staniland had nine staff and the school took about fifty pupils at a time. His record was astonishing: sixty per cent of the children who passed through Vernon House in his time were able to go on successfully to ordinary schools. He regarded it as his job, he said, 'to repair the academic as well as the emotional damage from which our children suffer,' though each child was allowed to work at his own pace. He did, however, insist on being addressed as 'Sir': 'The relationship has to be one of children to adults. It's no good pretending to them that we're children, too,' he told Ms Kon. 'They have to come into a stable structure – many, after all, are inclined to violence when they arrive.'

Joining the Inspectorate in 1981, from 1985-91 he was Senior Inspector/Education Officer, redesignated Director of Special Services. He taught two–three evening courses each week throughout his career, originally because of the six children he was eventually supporting – though it seems almost to have become an addiction – and he from 1991 he lectured in Psychology at the London Metropolitan University, The American University in London, the Open University, Kingsway College, and in Literature at Fulham and South Kensington College, Kingsway College, Camden, and Kensington and Chelsea College.

An ardent Francophile, in 1979 he and Anne discovered La Garde-Freinet, a little French village in the Massif des Maures, 20km above St-Tropez, where I first met him drinking pastis in the kitchen of our bohemian aristocrat friend, Lady Jane Heaton. Tony and Anne, who otherwise lived in Primrose Hill, treated the village as a second home—Paul Levy"

Antony Staniland, educator, born London, 5 August 1929; m. 1st, 1953, Joan Skinner, 1 son, 2 dau., m. diss; 2nd, 1962, Elfrida Berger, 2 dau., m. diss.; 3rd, Anne McLoughlin, 1 s.; died London, 22 March 2014.

Message from The OSA - Foreign notes and coins collection



Our OSA (Owen's School Association) are raising funds for our School by collecting foreign notes and coins so we thought we'd ask if any of our local Old Owenians would like to contribute. Perhaps you live close enough to us to drop into Reception on your way somewhere? They'd be very grateful if you can help by simply sorting out any old foreign notes and/or coins left over from holidays and business trips etc.. Any old British or Irish coins and notes, old decimal coins or farthings, 1d pennies, three pence, six pence, shillings and crowns would all be appreciated. LITERALLY ANYTHING THAT IS OR WAS ONCE MONEY IS SUITABLE!

Foreign coins and small banknotes cannot be exchanged at any British bank or Bureau de Change so please take a moment to donate these coins and banknotes and help us turn it into a useful donation for the school. **The closing date for handing in the currency is Friday 16th January 2015** (remember we're closed from Friday 19th December)! Thanks!

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award

We're delighted this year, for the first time in several years, to be able to support 32 students who've signed up to take their Gold Award! Miss Lord, our DAOS Duke of Edinburgh's Award Co-ordinator, now runs a weekly lunchtime drop-in support session with Mrs English and is organising three Practice and Assessment expeditions in 2015. We'd love to hear from any of you who have done or are doing their Award to inspire our current students!



Old Owenians come to visit

On Tuesday 21st October, we were honoured to receive five alumni from our Islington School (Class of 1968), who came to visit our site here in Potters Bar to see how education has moved on in the last 40+ years! They were very impressed during their tour, which included meeting Head, Alan Davison, seeing both new and old buildings and finding their names in the old register when they were at school. Thanks to David Sturt, Martin Steiner, Andrew Robertson, David Blacket and Graham Hall for coming to see us!

Some of their comments and photos from their visit are below:

"I wasn't sure how I would react to visiting a building with which I had no physical link other than by name. In fact, I felt a real connection! The school had a great atmosphere and really felt like a place of learning in which everyone (staff and scholars alike) had vitality and enthusiasm."

"Education has changed in so many ways since we were at the school. The options and choices available in both academic and non-academic subjects are remarkable, but it is not remarkable as to the extent to which pupils have achieved success helped in no small measure by all the whole school staff."



"I always think of Owen's Way as being special and it clearly continues to achieve success and fully rounded pupils. I was particularly impressed with the community feel."

"Many thanks for showing us the modern version of our school. It was a thoroughly enjoyable tour and an enlightening experience. Thanks also to Bill Hamilton-Hinds for providing not only his insights but also a seamless continuity between Islington and Potters Bar."





PATRICK ELWOOD – CLASS OF 2012

Thanks to Patrick for volunteering to tell us about his experience being selected for the Cambridge University Boat Club Squad this year. Writing in November, he explains how the training regime alone is a huge commitment on top of his studies. We're grateful for a brief insight into how it's organised and hope he finds time for partying after the event! The BNY Mellon Boat Races will be held on Saturday 11th April 2015 at 4.50pm & 5.50pm, with the Goldie – Isis race at 5:20pm. We wish Patrick and Rachel, his sister, also trialling for the Women's Squad, the very best of luck!

"At the beginning of the season in September, approximately 40 athletes began the trialling process, but lots of these have now been cut from the squad. The final squad size on race day is 20 rowers and 3 coxes; from this squad there will be the Blue boat (8 rowers), the reserve boat called Goldie (8 rowers) and a spare pair (2 rowers). I will certainly not be in the Blue Boat this year, but I am aiming for a seat in Goldie, which would put me in a good position to challenge for a Blue Boat seat in the future."



The squad recently competed in the Fours Head of the River, over the reverse of the Boat Race course in London. This was a really important event because it is the only time when we directly compete against Oxford during the season, before the Boat Race.

We entered 5 fours, and I was in one of them; we beat the equivalent boat from Oxford and came second in our category out of 38 crews, which was a really positive result. See photo of Patrick, closest to the camera, in the stroke seat, wearing sunglasses!

This year is a very exciting year for the boat race, because the women's race is going to be run on the same course for the first time, an hour before the men's race! My sister Rachel (who left Owen's in 2014) is currently trialling for the women's squad, and is aiming to make their reserve boat, called Blondie.

The training is a big commitment; it takes up at least 6 hours a day, 6 days a week. I wake up at 5.30am most mornings to train in the gym before lectures - either lifting weights or long sessions on the rowing machine. We then travel to Ely via minibus on weekday afternoons and weekend mornings to row on the river Great Ouse. At Ely there is a 5km straight stretch of water, which we have mostly to ourselves; this is great for training, but it is very bleak, and can be quite windy and cold...

Fitting academics around training is tough, but just about manageable, though I also have to find time to eat 5000-6000 calories a day. Whilst it can be stressful to juggle the rowing and academics, I enjoy being constantly busy, and I feel incredibly privileged to have this opportunity, and also very proud to represent Owen's!"



LEONARD ALLEN – Owen's Scholar 1930's

Thanks to Leonard J. Allen of Burlington, Ontario, Canada, who's written to tell us about his father, who was an Owenian and will soon send us more information. He told us, *"I came to Canada in 1957, just five years old, with my parents. My father is Leonard Allen, born September 22nd 1922 in London. He resided at Helmet Row and attended Dame Alice Owen's School on a scholarship in the late 1930s as a Day boy. His brother Wally (or Walter) also attended at roughly the same time. Dad is now 93 years old, and in a nursing home. He has always spoken with great pride of his opportunity to attend Dame Alice Owen's School."*



JOHNNY QUINN – CLASS OF 2008

Thanks to Mr Quinn for contacting teacher, Matt James, in our Maths Department to inspire students on their new Honours Board! He's written a brief summary of his career to date and may attend our Old Owenians Careers Talk in March 2015 to share his exciting experiences using maths in the workplace.

"After leaving Dame Alice Owen's I studied Mathematics at University College London for 3 years, graduating in 2011 with a first class honours degree (87% overall). I then took a year out to concentrate on my swimming (I narrowly failed to make the Irish team for London 2012) before starting to look for a full time job. In September 2012 I joined Coral (the bookmaker) as an odds compiler, combining both mathematical skills and sports knowledge to set odds for sporting events. I use a lot of statistical analysis on past performances as well as my own knowledge/opinions to derive the odds for sporting events, and then manage the liabilities (or my 'book', hence the term bookmakers) as the bets come in. My main job is to set all Formula 1 odds, though I do a lot of tennis and a lot of other smaller sports as well. So if you go down to your local Coral shop and bet on Lewis Hamilton to win the next Grand Prix, the price you get will be what I have decided!

As a career choice I would say it's pretty unusual, and probably something a lot of Maths students haven't considered, or even heard of for that matter, but it's very rewarding and exciting, plus you get to work in a very friendly and relaxed environment, surrounded by sports. I would urge the current students to at least consider it."



MERLIN MILLER – CLASS OF 2004

Merlin Miller performed an amazing guitar recital as part of a Christmas Tree Festival in North Mymms this December and kindly agreed to have his photograph taken for our Old Owenians Newsletter.



He's currently in his final year at the Royal Academy of Music, where he is studying Guitar with Professor Michael Lewin FRAM. He previously studied Composition with Dr Patrick Nunn ARAM alongside Guitar. Merlin was first awarded a scholarship to study at the Academy in 2011, and since then he has been fortunate to be involved in a variety of projects, including frequent lessons with Visiting Professors David Russell FRAM and Fabio Zanon ARAM.

Last year, Merlin had the opportunity to perform Sir Peter Maxwell Davies' piece "Hill Runes" in the Academy's Guitar Showcase concert, in the presence of the composer. Of note, in early 2013, Merlin took part in filming for the Sir Michael Parkinson television program "Masterclass" which was broadcast on Sky Arts earlier this year.

Merlin was the winner of the 2012 Lennox Berkeley Society Award for his performance of Berkeley's music and has previously been a finalist in the Hatfield and District Music Festival Competition. He has given the premiere of a piece by former Academy student David Burden ARAM at the West Dean International Guitar Festival.

Merlin has also been a recipient of the Academy's Bache Fund Prize and he is generously sponsored by the Wolfson Trust. He says, *"I look forward to hearing from you soon and also to read the Old Owenians newsletter and catch up with what's been happening!"*

At the Festival, Merlin played a guitar by the eminent German luthier Matthias Dammann, which is on loan to him from the Royal Academy of Music. He is about to apply for a two year Masters course at the Academy which will enable him to continue his passion.



MICHAEL J LE GOOD—CLASS OF 1952

Thanks to Mr Le Good, who was inspired by seeing himself in Ken Jones 1951 School Photograph (below and article in June 2014 Old Owenians Newsletter). He is in the bottom row, 3rd from the right (Ken Jones directly above)".



He says, "My decision to write to you has been triggered off by the portion of the 1951 School Photograph which Ken Jones sent in, which showed me up with great clarity, and even mentioned my name, "LeGood known as Leggy" (although I have always spelt it Leggie). It gave me quite a thrill to see it; although it was saddening to know that at least two of those shown are now no longer with us.

The person on my right was Donald Millichap, my greatest friend at school. We did a lot of cycling together, as well as playing the recorder. He died of cancer some ten years or so ago, but he survived long enough to attend the surprise 60th birthday celebration which my wife Margaret and my son Julian arranged for me. Donald was very quiet at school, although outstandingly brilliant, and I was very surprised to learn from a colleague at 'The Civil Service College' that he attended a Country Dancing Club. I was also surprised to discover at his funeral that he had climbed all the Munros!

On Donald's right is Peter Lloyd-Williams, and on his right is Michael Christmas, whom I believe has also died. Behind Donald is Michael Harold, with whom I became quite friendly in my last year. I was in contact with him and Stan Gould at about this time last year, making plans to meet up at 'The Harold Moore Memorial Luncheon', but that was not to be, as I had to go into hospital that day for the first of two knee replacements. The second replacement occurred in April of this year, but unfortunately, during the rehabilitation period I cracked the patella, which required a further operation and six weeks in plaster, which appears to have deadened almost every muscle in my legs. I now make my way with difficulty around the house, and have to depend upon Margaret to drive me to 'The Chiltern Hospital', in Great Missenden three times a week, twice for an hour's physiotherapy in the gym and once for half-an-hour's hydrotherapy.

Incidentally, when looking through one of Margaret's 'Old Girls' Association' magazines, I discovered, sadly in the obituaries, that Michael Harold's wife had gone to the same school, 'Walthamstow Hall' in Sevenoaks. She was younger than Margaret, so Margaret didn't know her, but it was clear that she was a very bright and active young lady.

I think that I have remembered a few more teachers' names, so I will insert them here:- Mr. Mitchell, the headmaster when I joined the school, who went on to head up Newcastle Royal Grammar School; Mr. S.E. Phillips, Chemistry plus extra-curricular music. He introduced me to recorder playing, and probably had more influence on me than any other master; R.A. Dare and Gus. Olphin, History; Bo-bo Davison, Art and Scoutmaster; Captain Cole, our form-master in the first year; A.J. Hopkins, Mathematics, who left to take up a Headship, at Coopers School I believe, followed by G.H.B. Stephenson; Jimmy James, English and R.I.; R.B. Paul, an Old Boy taken on out of pity I think, who totally failed to teach me any Mechanics, and who died of cancer while at the school. I seem to remember helping him to teach Latin, a subject in which I revelled; Lloyd-Williams, Music (I think); I remember one morning when he accompanied our assembly hymn as usual, but had failed to notice, in advance, that the metre of the tune he had chosen didn't match the metre of the words. I think that we, the singers, were left with two extra syllables at the end of every other line. It was difficult to keep a straight face!

Well, I think that that is about enough for a first shot, so I'll close here. If anyone wants to contact me, my e-mail address is :- leggie04@talktalk.net and my postal address is :- Kinkundi, 2 Tancred Road, HIGH WYCOMBE, Bucks. HP13 5EF.

Like Ken, I owe a lot to Owens, and I rejoice to see the successes which accrue. With good wishes to you and the whole school team."



LINDA RUBANO NEE GOLDHILL – CLASS OF 1963

Thanks to Ms Rubano for getting in contact – she now resides in New York and wonders if there are any other Old Owenians living nearby! She managed to reconnect with some of her peers during our 400th celebrations and is delighted to be back in touch. She says if anyone wants to contact her she's love to hear from you and can be reached at: momlax11@aol.com.



LES GIBBINGS—CLASS OF 1971

Thanks to Mr Gibbings for another great contribution, entitled, *“What Did We Do In Our Lunch-Breaks?”*! He's included a photo of Owen's Fields (below) which he took on a trip there last year with Owen's classmate, Vince Sartori—they couldn't believe they used to play football in such a relatively small space!



“It struck me that the way pupils spent their lunch breaks at the Boys school at the Angel, Islington in the 1960s changed during their allotted time there according to preferences and greater freedoms as one progressed through the school by age.

In the early years at the London school I recall that for many, lunch breaks brought opportunities for rapid peer group bonding through the playing of football in the 'quad' (the local name for the small and odd shaped playground covered in asphalt) . A tennis ball was generally used which led to many a pair of decent shoes being ruined with mistimed kicks on the ground or over-arduous tackles - whilst the 'matches' were many and confusing largely due to the area for the game being defined by where the 'goals' could be located on opposite

sides of the quad. One would usually be against the wall that separated the school for the back gardens of houses in St. John's Street and the other would be set up against the fairly short wire mesh fence that, as far I can remember, sort of meandered round from the red brickwork by the top of Owen's Row opposite the Woolpack pub till it somehow linked up with the grey brickwork of the girl's school boundaries on it's far side.

Football ability in these intense matches was largely irrelevant and individuals often found their niche especially if they were without much aptitude on the bigger stage of the weekly trip to the pitches at the Whetstone playing fields – glory seekers would cluster about the opponents goal and seek and be satisfied to get even the merest touch of the ball as it made its way towards either the brick or wire goals! For some, this form of earnest endeavour every lunchtime paled after a while and certainly for most boys it became less important as they grew older.

I am sure there must have been a rule as to what age had to be to leave the school boundary but I am pretty sure it was always something that was being tested by boys from every school year almost continuously. Some might slip out round to enjoy the delights of the fayre available in the various cafes in the area - or the fish & chip shop – as there just weren't the fast food outlets then that exist in abundance now. I can vividly recall taking trips up to Chapel Street market – well all life was there wasn't it? But the object of interest for those I associated with was more often than not, the John Strickland record shop (long since gone out of business) in order to keep up with our almost constant musical interests. There was also the market stall with endless racks of vinyl albums and great discounts on newer stuff for us to enjoy. There was of course a record shop literally just a few doors up from the school but the activities of at least one of our chaps had made us less than welcome there as I recall.

As we got even older there was the redoubtable 6th form club to be enjoyed but perhaps activities connected with that should be treated as a whole other story for some other time!! There were however, two distinctive music episodes I can vividly recall without any advantages:

I think it's fairly safe to say that I was a well-known Beatles fan in my class/year, and it was a matter of honour for me to ensure that I would own a copy of their latest release sooner than most others. So when the Beatles released the song that they had performed on what for the time was a record breaking World Live Transmission in June 1967 entitled 'All You Need Is Love' the following week, I was out and back into the school with it as fast as my legs could carry me.

But how to play it? We were only 3rd or 4th years at the time and had no access to a record player. Enter our maths teacher to the rescue, W.J. Hamilton-Hinds who procured one for a short while one for the whining lads who proceeded to sit and enjoy repeated listening's of both the A and B sides wearing broad smiles (B- side was 'Baby, You're A Rich Man'). There was a group of us but sadly I really cannot recall the names from this distance in time. I can guess but that's not the same. We only broke off as the time approached 1.30pm and afternoon lessons were imminent. I wonder if Bill Hinds remembers doing that for us?

And then there was Charlie Herbert and his 'magic' piano playing for the other musical episode that I have never forgotten. I don't know much about Charlie's background or what he did after he left Owen's but it was when we were both in the 5th form I recall that he dazzled us with regular impromptu sessions at the school piano in the 1st floor main hall. Tucked away in the corner he played as if he were entertaining friends in a night club – but it was the stuff he played that grabbed our attention.

Charlie was a keen Beatles admirer like myself but he had more than a passing admiration for Mr McCartney and to all intents and purposes rather fancied himself a bit of 'Macca' fan – to the extent that I can recall him wearing grey hipsters with a light pinstripe and a collarless short sleeved three button tee (known better at the time as a grand-dad shirt) in a suitably pastel shade of lilac, which was more than a bit like his idol in 1968/9. His hair was also similar in cut and style to Beatle Paul's 1968 ensemble.

The admiration didn't just stop there as Charlie's forte was playing the latest music of the still Fab-Four and particularly songs from the rich source of material offered by the Beatles' so called White Album that had been released just before Christmas in 1968 and other material released in that year. It therefore meant sing-a-longs for us to 'Hey Jude', 'Hey bulldog' 'Lady Madonna' and many others. His coup-de-grace however was 'Martha My Dear' a Macca special about his Old English Sheep dog apparently that had a nice jangly piano intro that Charlie had down to a fine art! I think Masters and Prefects who may have been prowling the corridors over the lunch period popped their heads into the Hall to see what was happening but as it was all so good natured nothing much ever happened to stop us. A splendid time was guaranteed for all and I even learnt to play the intros to a couple of tunes under Chas's supervision with two fingers. You can't buy learning like that!!"



PETER ELDRIDGE—LEFT 1968

Thanks to Mr Eldridge for his memoirs! He told us he was inspired by Les Gibbings contribution to the September Newsletter, which *"sent the rusted buttons on my aged databanks into overdrive with, inter alia, its reckless talk of the School Cadets and Task Force"* and hopes to jog the memories of others who experienced the life and times of the, mainly, 1961 intake!

"The School Cadet Force

As if living through the October 1962 Missile Crisis while at Owen's wasn't enough, it was decided by somebody somewhere that, when the 1961 intake reached the fourth year, membership of the School Cadets would become compulsory. Exemption would only be granted upon the receipt of a letter from parents whereupon the hapless pupil would be assigned to Task Force. For my sins I served six months in each.

The School Cadet Force was sold to us on the basis that the re-introduction of conscription was inevitable and that, by taking and successfully passing Part I and Part II (of what I was never quite sure), an Owen's warrior would be assured of junior office status when conscription came.

Unfortunately, I was issued with a uniform, which reeked of something or other, and which I was forced to wrestle home on the 279 bus. I seem to recall that our parents were asked to buy the boots to complete the ensemble. This request came with a useful tip to the effect that, if the boots purchased were of a type which was covered in dimples, a boiling hot spoon applied assiduously to the front of the boot would soon yield a dimple-free toe-cap which could then be polished to regulation brightness. The note failed to mention that the holding of a metal spoon in the manner outlined would render the soldier useless, being unable to hold a rifle until the burns had healed. If only the Russians had known...

I knew my time in the Cadets was coming to an end when one of the "boy officers" (as Les points out, there were those who could hardly wait for Friday afternoons to come around so that they could morph into Field Marshals, Quartermasters etc.,) charged me with "insubordination" with my "punishment" being to run around the Quad three times holding a rifle above my head. With false papers I headed for the Swiss frontier and Task Force.

Task Force

As part of a new initiative for the bright-eyed Owenian, Task Force was, in truth, scratching around to find us something to do. The only task assigned to us was the demolition of an upright piano which had somehow become trapped in the crypt of St Mary's Church in Upper Street. Outcome: one smashed piano and an "F"(sharp?) in GCE "O" Level Music.

Remembrance

A special school morning assembly was always held to mark Remembrance and the minute's silence at the end of the assembly was, for as long as I was at the school, marked by the sounding of "The Last Post" played on the trumpet by Malcolm Brown, another 1961-er. He positioned himself in the corridor between the 6th Form gallery at the back of the hall and the old lecture theatre. Although it must have been nerve-wracking, I cannot remember him playing it anything but faultlessly. A very poignant moment.

In lighter moments, Malcolm played with the jazz ensemble put together by science master "Betty" Crocker (named after a popular cake mix of the time). I can only seem to remember them playing "Midnight in Moscow" - perhaps that was their entire set list - at a couple of school concerts and one Visitation. Malcolm's piece de resistance, in my view, was his solo rendition of "Spanish Harlem" which I found spine-tingling.

Hockey

The introduction of hockey was vigorously pursued by sports master "Gym" Chant and proved to be very controversial. In the first place, the football season was to be shortened to make space for this new activity and, secondly, it was originally proposed that parents would be asked to purchase sticks for their son(s). In the event, the school funded the purchase of the sticks but the unrest occasioned by the shortening of the football season rumbled on for a good while.

The day arrived when the 1961-ers had their first day of hockey at the field in Chandos Avenue and it was bedlam. In addition to sticks being wielded like battle-axes, halberds, clubs and cudgels the inability of most boys to quickly grasp the rule that outlaws the backswing of the stick above shoulder height led to a steady stream of casualties to the local hospital. The ball appeared to be a cricket ball painted white and you certainly knew you had been hit if your body found itself in the ball's flight path. Defending a short corner was virtually suicidal. These were all hard lessons and other tricks were added to a hockey player's armoury, in particular the technique whereby the handle of the stick was run down an opponent's rib-cage - exquisitely painful and the reason why many opted for golf, fencing, tennis or weightlifting when such choices became available.

One 1961-er quickly picked up on the need for substantial protection if one's hockey career was not to be cut short. Step forward Ron Erwood, goalkeeper of no fixed shin pads. Cutting his teeth between the sticks at football, Ron fancied the idea of occupying the same position at hockey. By the time he had adorned himself with heavily-disguised cricket pads and an assortment of other impedimenta he looked like a small branch of The World of Leather - had such a thing been in existence then. Strangely, after only one season, the team finished as joint champions of London so the villainous Mr Chant was vindicated in the end.

Football: Year 1961 vs Enfield Grammar School

Whatever year we reached, matches against EGS always had a certain frisson (Fr: to kick lumps out of each other) about them. As far as Owen's players were concerned, nobody's ardour cooled on these occasions and the referee was often tempted just to put the team sheets straight into his book. Chris McHugh probably still has the souvenir kneecap he picked up from the pitch in the aftermath of one of these games - the first person to gain a cap at this level. The reason why this particular fixture always drew such animosity is now lost to me.

Miscellaneous Memories

(a) Wee Willy being strangled by his gown in Room 7 as he prepared to sound the bells for end of lessons.

(b) Stan George's Woodwork Room mantra: "Three fingers, one finger and a thumb". Not entirely successful in preventing parents from asking why certain finished articles had been painted red.

(c) Ron Erwood's out-of-hours, uncannily accurate portrayal of Rolling Stones' bassist, Bill Wyman, using broom handle and bee-in-mouth facial expression. Usually reserved for a 1613 Club tabletop.

(d) Bill Hamilton-Hinds as pupil then master - courage above and beyond the call of duty.

(e) Mr Copping (Maths) and his unique representation of a recurring decimal number which crossed the width of the blackboard, crossed the blackboard frame and edged its way along the wall before disappearing through the window into St John Street.

(f) Spam fritters for school dinner. Where are they now that I crave them? Also, whither "Fling" - a bottled fizzy drink sold in the Tuck Shop? It was traditional to repeatedly tap the bottom of the bottle with a key to produce a frothing head at the mouth of the bottle which was then ingested with a loud "slurp". Seemed to make the drink last longer.

(g) Inaugural meeting of "The Magic Roundabout Appreciation Society", I swear I wasn't there on 1 April 196?

(h) On arrival in September, 1961 was Head Boy, Paul Kelly, really wearing racy brown suede shoes? Was Stan Merritt really 21?

(i) Roy Gordon's sweet shop in St John Street. See the ads in "The Arrow".

(j) Caretaker Taffy - did he ever take off his trademark brown "hardware counter" coat?

(k) Miss Chloe Stallibrass and "The Naming of Parts". I can't recall the name of the poet but the poem was, on the surface, about the stripping down, maintenance and re-building of a military firearm. In discussing the poem, the class, as though one, suddenly came to the realisation of what the poet was actually on about. None of us was ever the same again, and finally

(l) Mr Bundy (School Secretary) to whom you presented your completed exercise book before being issued with a new one plus sticky label. Always had a cigarette super-glued to his bottom lip.

I might possibly have dreamt all of the above.

Peter Eldridge (1961-1968) Cloudesley House and Member of The Magic Roundabout Appreciation Society"



GRAHAM SIMMONS – CLASS OF 1950

Thanks to Mr Simmons for sending us these great reunion photos and update below – he says if any others from the 1950 intake would like to join them, please contact him on gj.simmons@btinternet.com.

"Just nine members from the original ninety in the classes of 1950 managed to attend the biennial reunion lunch this year on Sunday 12th October and hosted by Mervyn Theaker at the Leander Club, Henley-on-Thames. Those present were--Norman Webster, Graham Simmons, David Bragginton, John Lodge, Geoffrey Ransby, Tony Lynn, Don Day, Malcolm White, and Mervyn Theaker.

We had on display a complete set of the 'ARROW' from Michaelmas term 1950 to Trinity term 1957, an oar painted in DAOSBC colours last used over 50 years ago and the school photos May 1951 and July 1954.



Toasts were drunk to "the School" and "absent friends" and it is hoped to keep the event going for many more years."



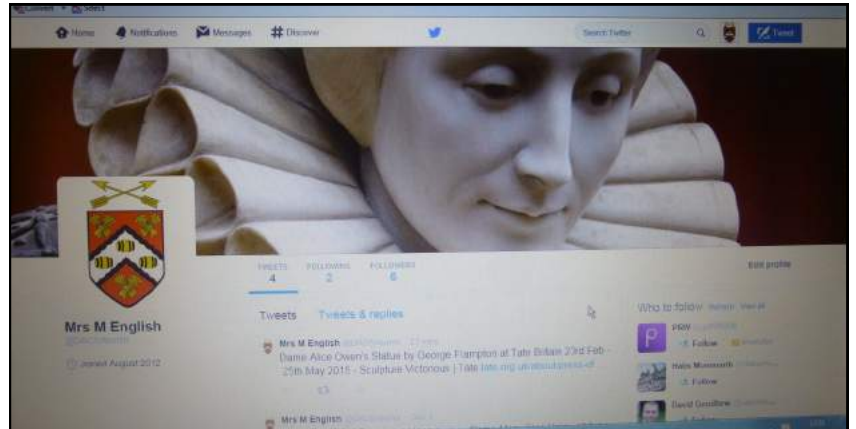
And finally...

Pete Hutchinson

After 35 years of outstanding service, Pete Hutchinson will be leaving us this Christmas, following a staffing restructure which sees the introduction of two new Pastoral Managers at Key Stage 3 and 4. Old Owenians will remember him as History and Politics teacher in his first post, as well as being initially Head of Year then Head of Upper School, and finally Assistant Head for Key Stage 4. You may also have recollections of his love of flying and his very efficient organisation of the prizes for Visitation! We would like to express, on your behalf, many, many thanks to Pete for his excellent work and huge contribution to helping make our school what it is today; he will be much missed by all. You can read more about Pete's life at Owen's in a great article written by a parent after an interview with Pete in our Old Owenians Newsletter, December 2011 on pages 16-17: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/documents/old_owenians/old_owenians_newsletters/december_2011_old_owenians_newsletter.pdf

Follow @DAOSAlumni on Twitter!

Now with a new account, we've updated our social media to include Twitter! As our Old Owenians Newsletters are now biannual, you can keep in touch more regularly by following us - we'll be posting tweets every now and then with information relevant to our alumni - **PLEASE FOLLOW @DAOSAlumni** - see link for more details: <https://twitter.com/DAOSAlumni>. Your editor has only just started to use this, so if I can learn, you can! "Never Stop Learning" #TheOwensWay!



Old Owenians In Touch

Our numbers keep gradually increasing - we now officially have 3,520 Old Owenians listed to receive our emails (for two Newsletters and about our Careers Talks) - so thank you very much to those who've "spread the word". This Christmas, if you're meeting up with any Old Owenians, it would be great if you'd check out if they're on Old Owenians In Touch, if not encourage them to do so! Also, if you own a business and would like your details to appear on our publicly available Business Directory on Old Owenians In Touch, please let us know at: oldowenians@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk - we have currently nine businesses posted!

State schools urged to create own old boy networks

State schools need to work harder to build links with successful former pupils who can offer mentoring and work experience to current students, a charity has said (Greg Hurst writes). Future First is urging comprehensives to follow the example set by independent schools and create a network of alumni that may help to provide students with careers advice, and the school with fundraising.

Three per cent of former pupils of state schools said they were contacted by their old school within the past year, compared with 42 per cent of people educated at a private school, according to a YouGov survey

commissioned by the charity. Alex Shapland-Howes, managing director of Future First, said: "Alumni are invaluable in helping state schools support their students to make that difficult transition between school and work.

"Many schools are already doing this by using their alumni as inspirational, relatable role models who know the background of the students, kicked a ball in the same park, [and] may have had the same teachers. If students see people like them with the same background have succeeded, they are more likely to believe they can too."

Dame Alice Owen's School ahead of the game!

This article appeared in The Times on Monday 13th October 2014. We're unusual for a state school, having built a relationship with our alumni as a legacy of our 400th Anniversary in 2013. We're also grateful to Old Owenians who volunteer their time to give our current students a real insight into different career options in our Old Owenians Careers Talks week, held in conjunction with National Careers Week every March. If you're in a position to

think you'd like to take part now, please email Mrs Carol Whiter, our Sixth Form Manager and Careers Co-ordinator, to give your intention so she can add you to her list: whiterc@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk. An email with full details will be sent to all alumni w/c 12th January 2015 requesting those who might be interested to sign up—we'd really like around 20 speakers again this year (Mon-Thurs 2nd—5th March)! Remember, our next Old Owenians Newsletter will be at the end of June 2015, so there's NO EXCUSE that you don't have enough time to write in!!! If you'd like to visit our School, please get in touch—we look forward to seeing some of you in March at the Careers Week. In the meantime, have a wonderful Christmas and many thanks to you all for your ongoing support.

Mandy English, Alumni Relations and Website Manager

