



Old Owenians Newsletter

First Quarter—27th March 2014
Edition 13

Welcome to our Old Owenians Newsletter—for all Old Owenians, with a message from our Head...

“Dear Old Owenians

Welcome to our 401st year and this Spring we see all our joint efforts to improve our Science facilities come to fruition as the Myddelton Building opened for students and staff on Monday 24th February 2014 (more photos on page 3).

We hope many of you will join us for our Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning on Saturday 10th May 2014 when our proud students will be able to show you around the new area and rest of the School. Hopefully you’ll be able to meet up with a few of your past peers for a social as well...(details on page 2)!

Another of our 400th legacies is YOU and you’ll be delighted to know we have now invested in a new alumni database, which by the summer will give you a dedicated password protected website of your own. It will enable you to update your own details online, be able to communicate with other alumni, facilitate reunions, help us build up an Old Owenians Business Directory, take part in surveys and more! We’ll let you know nearer the time when it’s available; meanwhile please continue to ask your peers to sign up to our Old Owenians email list so we can keep in touch with as many of you as possible!



Many thanks go to our Old Owenians Speakers who volunteered their time during National Careers Week this month to inspire students on a wide range of careers including architecture, medicine, banking, accounting, engineering, air traffic control, politics, law, technology, music and art (see pages 6—10).

We hugely value their time and students really benefit from their overview and experience, also extending their general knowledge.

Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning

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**Saturday 10th May, 2014,
10am-12noon**

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Dame Alice Owen’s School

Take this special opportunity to let our students show you around, visit our new Myddelton Building, hear music rehearsals in our Edward Guinness Concert Hall, and enjoy refreshments provided by our OSA (Owen’s School Association)!

~See page 2 for details!~



We had a very positive start to this term with 24 students receiving Oxbridge offers – our 6th successive year with more than 20 places offered from Oxford and Cambridge.

Some of you will also have seen our outstanding success recognised in Tatler magazine in January when they produced their first ever State Schools Guide, listing their top 20 and likened obtaining a place at Owen’s to finding a “Golden Ticket”.

The whirlwind weather in January and February reflected the ongoing energy and breadth of activities of staff and students with language exchanges to Viernheim, Salamanca, Venice and Vannes, a trip to Flatford Mill study centre in Suffolk to complete Geography Fieldwork, a ski trip to Meiringen, Switzerland, Year 12's winning through to the next stage of Rotary Youth Speaks competition with a debate on ageism, two Chamber Concerts, a range of lectures presented by the Science Society, a Physics trip to Cern, an Art trip to Madrid, a Gym and Dance display and our 2014 musical production of Grease is currently being performed in our Edward Guinness Hall!



As a Teaching School (also reported on in our last Newsletter), we are taking an active role in the School Direct programme. This brings graduates into the profession who will be trained by the School. At Owen's, with the support of the Institute of Physics and the National College for Teaching and Learning, we have focused on recruiting staff in key shortage areas.

I am pleased to say that we have recruited four excellent trainees who will be based at Dame Alice Owen's School, with training at Hertfordshire University, alongside our partner schools. This will provide additional support to students throughout the curriculum, and ensure the recruitment of a number of outstanding teachers. Anyone interested in the scheme can view more information on our Advanced Learning Alliance website at: <http://www.advancedlearningalliance.co.uk/>.

So, you can see our Owen's community is very much alive and well in our 401st year and moving forward, focusing on our key business of teaching and learning, which is the continuing top priority for our School Improvement Plan. We're also excited to be able to help promote two Reunions happening this year, organised by Neil Cuttmore for **Leavers in 1992/4** and Hannah Smitz for **Leavers in 2002/4**—see page 12 for more details. I hope you enjoy this edition of the Newsletter and please continue to send us your articles and updates on what you're doing now!

Dr Alan Davison

Join us for our Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning in May!

We'd like to invite you to visit us here in Potters Bar for our Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning on **Saturday 10th May, 2014 from 10am – 12 noon** to enable you to view our new Science facility, the Myddelton Building, (and donors can see their Bricks on the actual wall!). You'll also be able to hear Mr Bernard Bean's Music Centre students rehearsing in our impressive Edward Guinness Concert Hall (opened by Edward Guinness CVO in 2002), as well as have a trip down memory lane or perhaps enjoy a first visit for our Islington Old Owenians!



All our other school buildings will be open to tour, including the Edinburgh Centre (Library, Information Technology and Physics, opened by HRH Duke of Edinburgh 1990), the Bernard Ryan Centre (Sixth Form and Modern Languages, opened by HRH the Princess Royal in 1997), the Arnold Lynch Centre (Maths, Art and Design & Technology, opened by HRH Duke of Kent 2007), and the Sports Cricket Pavilion (opened by Monty Panesar in 2010).

The statue of Dame Alice Owen herself will preside over proceedings in our dining hall, where our parent's OSA (Owen's School Association) will be delighted to serve you refreshments. This event was first held in 2012 to provide you with the chance to meet some of your past school friends over a coffee and have our students show you around the school, so we're excited to repeat this opportunity to open our doors once again especially for Old Owenians. Tours will start at 10.15am and 11.15am.

If you wish to join us, **please register by Monday 5th May** by simply sending an email to Mrs Mandy English at oldowenians@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk stating which tour you'd prefer (10.15am or 11.15am) and number of guests and we will confirm your attendance – family and friends all welcome. Car parking is available on site and there is an excellent taxi service from Potters Bar station – see Directions on our website at:

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/contact_us/directions.html. We very much look forward to meeting you!

Why not extend your visit to our Old Owen's Sports Ground (left), not far away on Coopers Lane in Northaw (postcode EN6 4NF), where they will be serving lunches as usual and Manager, John Clark, will be happy to take your reservation – just ring him on 01707 644211 or email jlcowens@gmail.com for more details.



Myddelton Building Opens Unofficially!

Our Science, History, IT staff and Premises team, worked tirelessly over February half term to ensure our new Science facility, The Myddelton Building, opened for teaching on Monday 24th February. Excited students using the new facility for the first time were delighted with the light airy laboratories!

Features of the new building include 14 new laboratories (see photos below) – 5 Chemistry (upstairs in olive green), 5 Biology (downstairs in apple green), 4 Physics (split upstairs and downstairs in crab-apple green), a prep room with chemical storage, plant room, staff room and toilets, including disabled facilities and a lift. (The fifth Physics classroom remains on the ground floor of the Edinburgh Centre.)



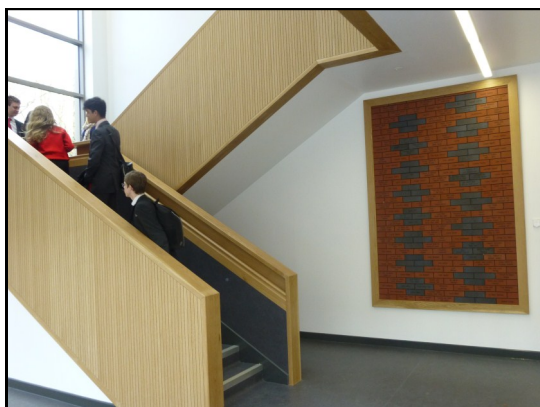
There is a main entry foyer at one end of the building (top right), closest to the Sports Hall with an emergency exit at the other. The one staircase to access the upper floor, disciplines students to file up and down at a sensible pace and the wide corridors give plenty of room for students to move around and access their lockers.



Landscaping around the site is still to be finished and the old Science building is now fenced off, awaiting demolition (bottom right). The site of the old building will become a landscaped area, as planning regulations stipulate that as we are on Green Belt land, we cannot increase our overall footprint, therefore as one building goes up, one has to come down! Asbestos is to be removed first so the building is currently sealed in plastic (takes up to 8 weeks), then the main structure will be taken away.



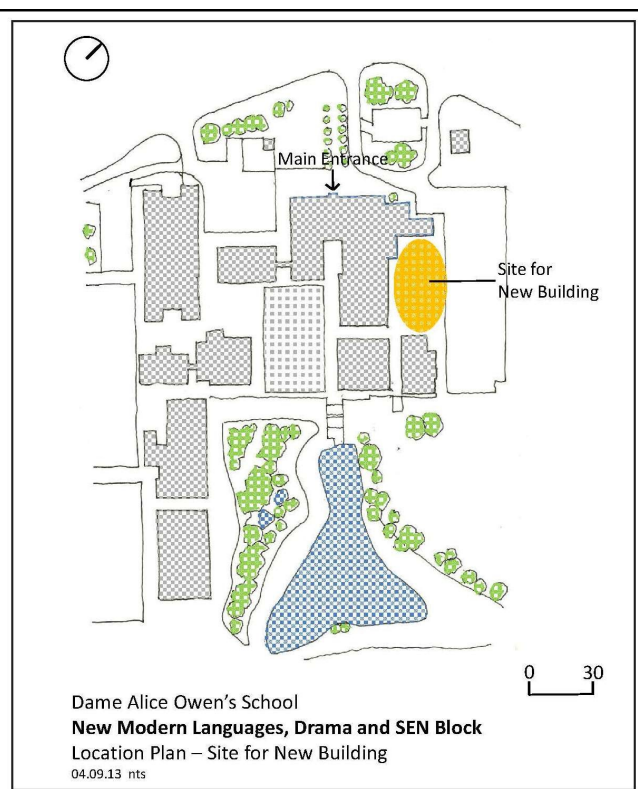
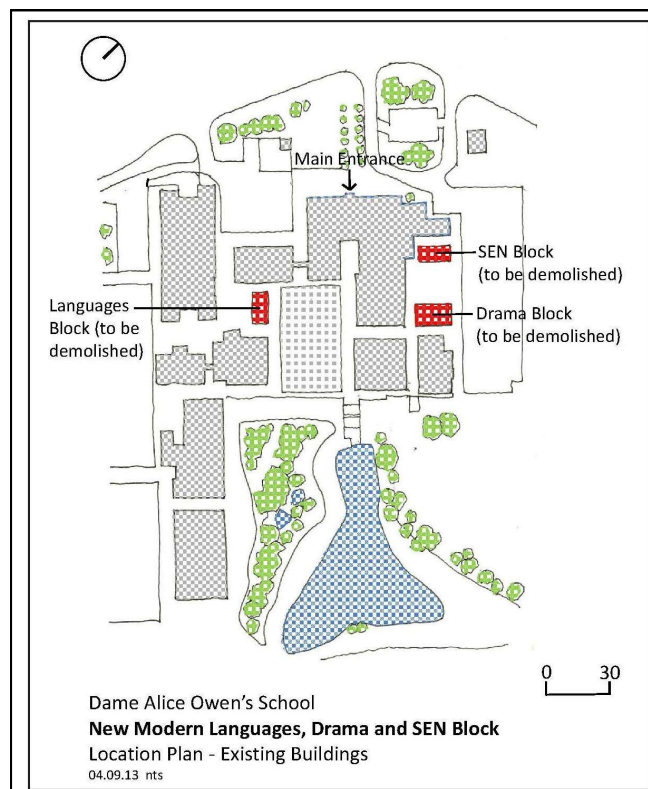
Parents are being given the opportunity to view the Myddelton Building during parents evenings and on other occasions and we hope as many of you as possible will join us for our Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning in May for a tour! Donors will be thrilled with the brick displays in the main foyers.



The new History staff room is now being rebuilt next to one of the History classrooms on the ground floor. Currently in a temporary location in the Edinburgh Centre, the department will move to their new accommodation late Spring, early Summer. We are waiting to confirm a date for our “Official Opening”! You can visit our website for more photos and see the progression of the build, which was completed in just over 12 months at: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/2013appeal_science_build_photos.html

New Project underway!

Our School is always evolving and our next project is to replace our Drama Building which has been the victim of serious flooding for the past few years. You'll also be interested to know that the two temporary accommodation blocks which currently house the SEN (Special Educational Needs) office and classrooms near the Drama building and additional languages classrooms by Edward Guinness Hall will also be included in the new project, as they are no longer fit for purpose. The result will be one complete building adjacent to the main car park as shown in the diagrams below.



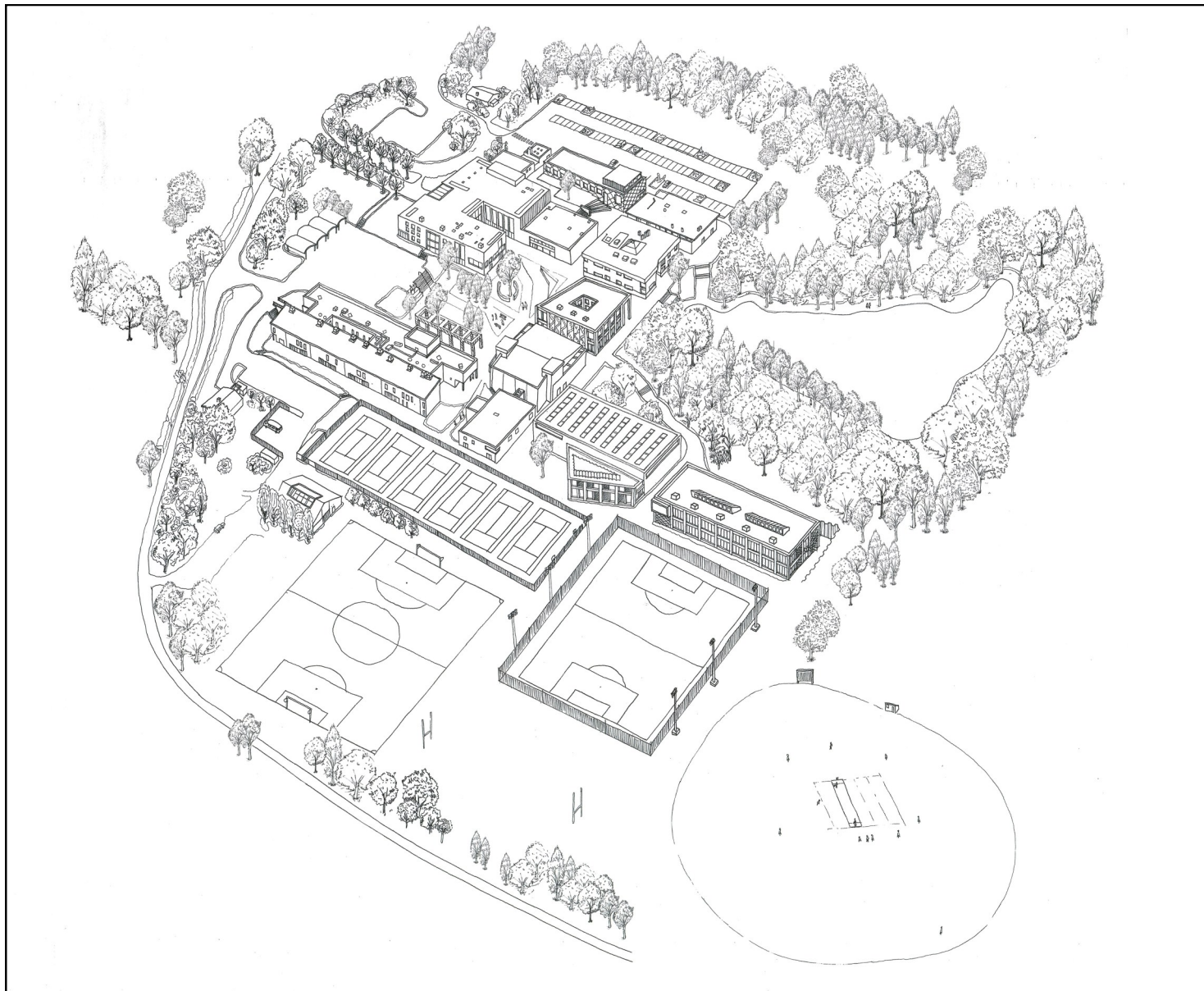
The architects are progressing the design to planning stage and the completion date is proposed for March 2015 with a total cost of around £1.2m. Funding is being sought from the government with a matched funding proposal provided by the Dame Alice Owen's Foundation. The diagram above shows a plan view of the new building, with a Drama studio and classroom, two main teaching classrooms and other rooms to support SEN.

Myddelton Building Architect shortlisted for Award!

Congratulations to Nicola Rutt, who works for Hawkins Brown (the architects who designed our Myddelton Building), as she has been shortlisted for the Architects' Journal Emerging Woman Architect of the Year Award 2014. Well done to Nicola for flying the flag for all women aspiring for a career in Architecture!

Dame Alice Owen's School looks long-term!

Following the completion of our new Drama, SEN and Languages building, we hope to continue with our Masterplan as shown by the birds-eye view from Hawkins Brown below. It essentially shows the replacement of our current Geography, English and Languages Teaching Building, which is nearing the end of its life and will move to occupy part of the space vacated by the old Science Building. There are no timescales or funding arrangements in place for this project as yet, but the governors and Dr Davison are working on it—we'll keep you informed!



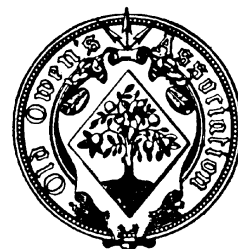
New Clerk to Governors

Following the retirement of Brigadier David Ross CBE in December, we would like to welcome Colonel Michael O'Dwyer OBE as our new representative from Brewers' Hall, who joins our governing body as Clerk to Governors, continuing our valued relationship with the Worshipful Company of Brewers (see their crest, left). You can see a full list of our governors on our website under About Us, Our Team, Governors:

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

Old Owen's Association

John and Lynn Clark, managers of the Old Owen's Sports Ground, Northaw, would like to invite you to join them at two of their forthcoming events: their **Elvis Tribute Night** on Friday 9th May at 8pm—tickets £5 and their **Quiz Night** on Friday 13th June— tickets £10 which includes food and spot prizes—tables maximum of 8! To book either event, please call John or Lynn on 01707644211 at the clubhouse or on their mobile 07766535567 and they'll fill you in on the details!



We're extremely grateful to this year's speakers who gave up their time to talk to our students about their personal career experiences. The talks were held during four lunchtimes during National Careers Week 3rd-7th March 2014 and included a wide range of topics. Here are some of their comments and that of students who attended their talks. Many thanks go to Alastair Crockett (left 2003), Ben Scarisbrick (left 2004), Matt O'Brien (left 1997), Adrian Kelly (left 2003), Alastair Tyler (left 1983), Christine Eberhardie (left 1965), Aaron Marsh (left 1988), John Greenshields (left 2001), Daniel Rogger (left 2000), Rebecca Rogger (left 2001), Iain Smedley (left 1987), Adam Reader (left 1988) and Jan Allain (left 1976). In addition, thanks also to one of our former and current parents, Sally Tanner, whose eldest child left last year, who joined in with a talk about technology.



Thanks to Alastair Crockett (left 2003), who studied Architecture at University of Bath and Masters at UCL. He's now with Niall McLaughlin Architects in London and a part-time Teaching Fellow at the University of Bath. His talk included details on other design professions as well as architecture. <http://www.niallmclaughlin.com/>

Alastair said, *"It was a delight to return back to Owens and see it filled with just as enthusiastic and friendly staff and students as I recall from my time studying there. The new buildings look fantastic additions to the facilities, and visiting the new Art and Design and Technology departments made me wish I could come back as a student again!"*

Freya Hufton, Year 12, said his talk was *"Very informative – I found out a lot of things I didn't realise before and am clearer on how the different stages of becoming an architect work"*

Thanks to Ben Scarisbrick (left 2004), who studied Economics at Birmingham. He's now a Management Consultant with KPMG specialising in the Health Sector. His talk included careers in the Big 4 (with PwC, Deloitte and Ernst & Young) and challenges facing the NHS and how it is run. <http://www.kpmg.com/global/en/pages/default.aspx>.

Kate Wright, Year 12, said it was a *"really interesting talk, especially how taking subjects/degrees don't limit your career path and also working for large corporations"*

Thanks to Matt O'Brien (left 1997), who studied Psychology at University and Masters in Mental Health Studies, working in paediatric medicine. He's now a newly qualified doctor after a "fast-track" 4 year course at St George's University of London. His talk included applying to fast track courses, different routes into medicine and access to all.

Mali Benjamin, Year 10 said *"It was an inspirational talk as he talked about his journey and how this helped him choose further options"* and Mei Ying Chen, Year 11 said *"Very informative and gave me a better sense of the medical world along with routes into it!"*



Thanks to Adrian Kelly (left 2003), who studied Chemistry at Imperial and is now an Air Traffic Controller (ATC) at Heathrow Airport. His talk included life as an ATC (selection, training, working patterns, pay, benefits and opportunities) and wider roles in the Aviation industry.

He told us, *"It was naturally a slightly strange experience being back after 10 years, but wonderful nonetheless. Everyone was welcoming throughout and the students were all polite, attentive and asked some sensible informed questions. Careers Week is certainly a positive venture; if only a couple of students manage to discover a future career from the talks then it will be an absolute success. I feel privileged to have been involved, and would like to again if requested."*



Gabriel Millard-Clothier, Year 9, said *"I thought the speaker gave a very well rounded talk and that he gave us a good outlook on the job, with its pro's & con's"*, Daniel Bishop, Year 10, said *"Very helpful, enjoyed a lot. Hope to become one!"*

Thanks to Alastair Tyler (left 1983), who gained a US Scholarship after A Levels, then studied Economics at University of Bristol. He then worked in banking and finance for NatWest, RBS, Abbey National (now Santander) and Barclays! His talk included the ups and downs of the industry and his many varied roles such as recently working at Deloitte investigating bank's mis-selling of various products.



He told us, *"Well done to Owens for giving such good prominence to Careers Week in your busy school schedule. It was great to visit the school again after a gap of 30 years and still see a few familiar faces !! The visit reminded me how much I had benefitted from my time at the school and how this had helped prepare me for the world of work. As I expected all of the students I met were active engaged learners. I would certainly recommend this to other Old Owenians."*

Gemma Agnew, Year 12 said *"Informative and useful – a good insight into banking and finance"*

Sara Khatri, Year 12 said *"Informative about the commercial world e.g. degree choices and work life"*

Thanks to Christine Eberhardie (left 1965), who studied English and French A Levels, then qualified as a nurse at St George's Hospital, London, specialising in neuroscience nursing, subsequently studying for an MSc in Behavioural Biology and Healthcare. She has taken many opportunities to travel the world in her career. Her talk explored what nursing offers men and women today.

Christine told us she was sorry that she couldn't stay for the tour after the talks and said, *"It was a delightful experience. The welcome and guidance from staff, the chance to meet former pupils as well as the opportunity to speak to a group of attentive young people was splendid. Thank you."*



Niamh Griffin, Year 9, said *"It covered a wide variety of career paths and was very relevant to us. Really interesting and inspiring"* and Lucy Kenealy, Year 12, said *"Inspiring talk, made me think about becoming a nurse"*

Thanks to Aaron Marsh (left 1988), who studied O Levels at DAOS then joined the Army—he now serves in the Royal Signals as a telecommunication engineer. He's currently on a three year extension programme, finishing his second Masters degree, having already completed the maximum 24 years service. He's based in York as a Warrant Officer Class 1 Foreman of Information Systems with his family (married an Old Owenian!). He recently returned from Afghanistan and has helped out with the flood defences. His talk included life in the military and using cutting edge technology to deliver battle winning and lifesaving capabilities, his superb training and travel experiences.

Aaron was able to visit his parents in Potters Bar while here and told us, *"Thank you for a great day, I felt the students enjoyed hearing about what a career with the Military has given me. The students were engaging and seemed to enjoy hearing about current communications equipment's and its supporting architecture. It was a joy to come down and give an insight in to my life."*



Harry Page, Year 13, said *"Covered everything I wanted to know and more"*

Thomas James, Year 13, said *"Very informative on a career I had never really considered. I was interested in the technological side of communications but now will also have a look at Careers in the military"*



Thanks to John Greenshields (left 2001), who studied Modern History and Politics at Brighton University then after various jobs entered Politics in Islington as a Campaign Co-ordinator. He's now Head of Cabinet Office at Camden Council and his talk included working in politics, with experience running local campaigns and those at No 10. <http://www.camden.gov.uk/> He told us his parents and other relatives were also Old Owenians and was pleased to be back to give something back to his old School.

Katherine Young, Year 9 said *"It was reassuring to know that someone successful who works hard can be relaxed (and have fun) too"* Alexandra Woods, Year 9 said *"Interesting aspects that I hadn't seen. Gave me an idea of various different jobs as well"* Papatya O'Reilly, Year 12 said *"He was very informative, open and enthusiastic, I enjoyed it very much"*

Thanks to Daniel Rogger (left 2000), who studied BSc in Economics at University College London and Masters in Economics at the University of Cambridge. He worked as an economist in the Presidency of Nigeria between 2005 and 2011 and is now completing a PhD in Economics at UCL. His talk included his role as Development Economist.

He hopes to move to Washington, America later this year (our loss, their gain!) and told us, *"Coming back to the school was a brilliant experience. It's not just an eye-opener as I better understand what a great school it is, but the students made me feel like they were pleased to hear my experiences. I'd highly recommend it."*



Sara Khatri, Year 11 said *"Extremely helpful in development economics (as a career) – was specific and not too broad"* George Watson, Year 10 said *"I liked the focus on becoming an economist as well as the details of the job itself"* Chris Lam, Year 12 said *"Inspiring, interesting"*

Thanks to Rebecca Rogger (left 2001—yes, Daniel's younger sister!), who studied BSc in Maths and Philosophy at Anglia Ruskin University and postgrad law at Bristol Institute of Legal Practice. Now solicitor in commercial and public law litigation at Trowers & Hamlin. Talk includes the different routes into law, pro bono legal work, a day in the life of a trainee solicitor and working as a lawyer in Oman. <http://www.trowers.com/>

Barnaby Burrows, Year 12 said *"Very helpful and good opportunity to have advice from someone first-hand. Not too personally dominated and helped learn about routes into law"*

Katie Lewczynski, Year 11 said *"Very informative – cleared up many questions I had. Has made me more interested in law"* Harry Buckley, Year 12 said *"Very good talk, I hope more occur in the near future"*





Thanks to Adam Reader (left 1988), who studied Maths, Economics, Physics A Levels, foundation course in accountancy at University of Hertfordshire and a 4 year training contract with an audit firm. He's now Chief Finance Officer for Grace Foods – largest supplier of Caribbean food & drink in UK. His talk included entry to accountancy via audit, what it's like to work in the food industry and tips on landing the first job and students enjoyed sampling some of his sauces!

Adam's company was one of the sponsors of our F1 in Schools team, who came second in the World competition in Abu Dhabi in 2012, where 40 countries took part. He told us, *"It was a pleasure to be invited in to be able to speak to the students and hopefully pass on some useful tips on their future career path. The students were a credit to the school, listening attentively and asking some thoughtful and challenging questions. It was also very interesting seeing how the school has evolved since my years there and the opportunities the students now have. It was also nice to see some 'familiar' faces still around the place."*

Kay Howard-Shigeno, Year 10 said *"The talk was very interesting and I was able to gain a fuller understanding of what people in accountancy do and how large the variation in types of accountancy is. The presentation was very easy to understand and the advice on CV's and interviews was very helpful"* Eugenie Lui, Year 10 said *"Very informative, I liked that he told us about a wide range of paths we can take and that he gave us advice"*

Thanks to Iain Smedley (left 1987), who studied Economics and History at Cambridge and is now an Investment banker with Barclays (Managing Director of Power, Utilities & Infrastructure). His talk included an overview of banking, what bankers actually do, why it's interesting, recent projects worked on and what personality/skills best suits this type of career.

Mimi Zhee, Year 10 said *"Excellent help and ideas on investment banking. Insightful ideas when answering questions and it has helped me to understand the concept of investment banking"* Nimil Shah, Year 12 said *"Very good outline of the banks structure"* Chloe Yiangou, Year 12 said *"Very informative"*



Thanks to Jan Allain (left our Islington Girls' School 1976) who studied Art Foundation at Central St Martin's, London, qualified as an Art teacher then became an independent singer-songwriter, producing 7 albums. Her talk included experience in recordings, promotion, manufacturing, touring, creating a fan base and doing a record deal as well as how to make a living from performing and teaching and how they complement each other. She generously donated 15 of her CD's to interested students, which were originally published in 1994—inspired by 1970's music and Joan Armatrading; she's multi-talented—plays guitar, harmonica and sings although revealed she can't read music! Jan told us she will be touring with Ilsa (her cellist friend) once again this summer, with her first gig in Berlin and a date and venue for an Islington event is yet to be confirmed. She'd never been to our School here in Potters Bar and told us, *"I found the students very attentive and keen to know more. The strong school community is testament to the enthusiasm and devotion of the individuals within it. I felt very welcome and at ease."*

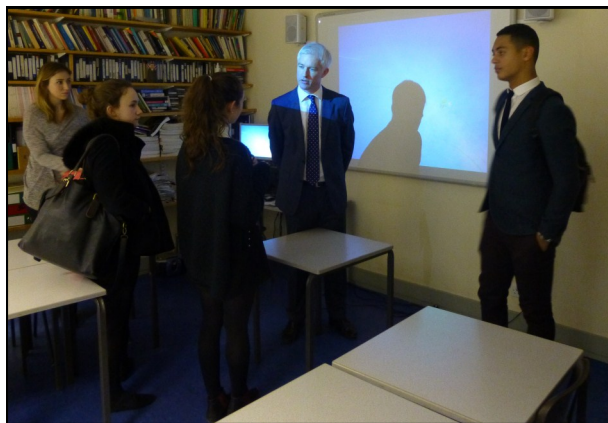


Asa Laleye, Year 12 said *"Really interesting and inspirational"* Daniel Liubarski, Year 12 said *"Completely worth it, incredibly helpful and motivational, very grateful for the opportunity"* Dylan Clarke, Year 9 said *"Very inspirational talk, interesting subjects and very enjoyable"* Jack Antler, Year 9 said *"Really in-depth life story, it was great"*

Graeme Butler (left 2004) and Joe Day MBE (left 1952) were unable attend but we also would like to thank them for volunteering their time and hope they can visit us on another occasion. Graeme left school, played professional football for Leyton Orient for 3 years and is now a coach and fitness trainer. He captained many football teams throughout his time at DAOS! Joe qualified as a Research Metallurgist with experience as Lab Assistant and worked in manufacturing management for Ever Ready, with foreign postings in Canada, China, Taiwan and eventually Korea, where he now lives.

Andrew Porter returns to support Year 13 Politics students!

Thanks to Andrew Porter (left 1991) who also volunteered his time to speak specially to our Year 13 Politics students, returning by popular demand from last year. He studied History and Politics at Warwick then a postgraduate diploma in journalism, became the Daily Telegraph's youngest ever Political Editor in 2007 and is now at Brunswick, the City's leading corporate communications agency.



He was able to answer challenging questions from students such as being put on the spot with which party he thought would win the 2015 election, how the media handle relationships with ministers and what it was like working for the press during the expenses scandal! Gabrielle Swycher, who has an offer from Oxford to read Philosophy, Politics and Economics and other students kept Andrew talking well after the lesson had finished!

Many of you will remember Andrew supporting our School during our 400th Anniversary celebrations last year in his role as one of the compere's at our Royal Albert Hall Concert in April 2013, with another Political Editor (BBC), parent, Nick Robinson. Thanks also to our new Politics teacher, Old Owenian, Dani Papamichael (left 2010) for helping to arrange his visit!

Guy Parsonage (left 1990) returns to DAOS via Skype!

Now the CEO & Partner of Fluid (Marketing and Advertising) and Vice-Chair of The Marketing Society in Hong Kong, Guy kindly spoke to Year 13 students last year during our Old Owenians Careers Talks Week. Organised by Jamie Bird, our Head of Business Studies and Old Owenian himself, Guy once again volunteered his time this February to Skype with our Business Studies students about what it's like doing business in China.

At 9am UK time, 6pm Hong Kong time, we made the connection first time, (unlike in the last episode of Outnumbered!) and he appeared on the full size white board! Students took him through a list of pre-prepared fast firing questions to support their coursework and case studies. He gave an invaluable first-hand insight into their cultural differences, their view of marketing, opportunities for growth, the hierarchy, laws, strategies and drawbacks of operating in Asia – all in half an hour. We once again thank him for his support!



Old School Photos still available back to 1982!

We continue to get requests for copies of old School photographs, so we thought we'd repeat the details that appeared in our December 2012 Newsletter about Gillman and Soame, who've been taking our school photographs for many years. They have an archive section on their website going back to 1982, so, if anyone wants to search for an old photo of year groups or whole school photos, they can visit: <http://www.gillmanandsoame.co.uk/> for more details. You can request a

preview of a photo for them to send you via email to check it's the one you want, for a small charge, which is then deducted from any subsequent order placed.



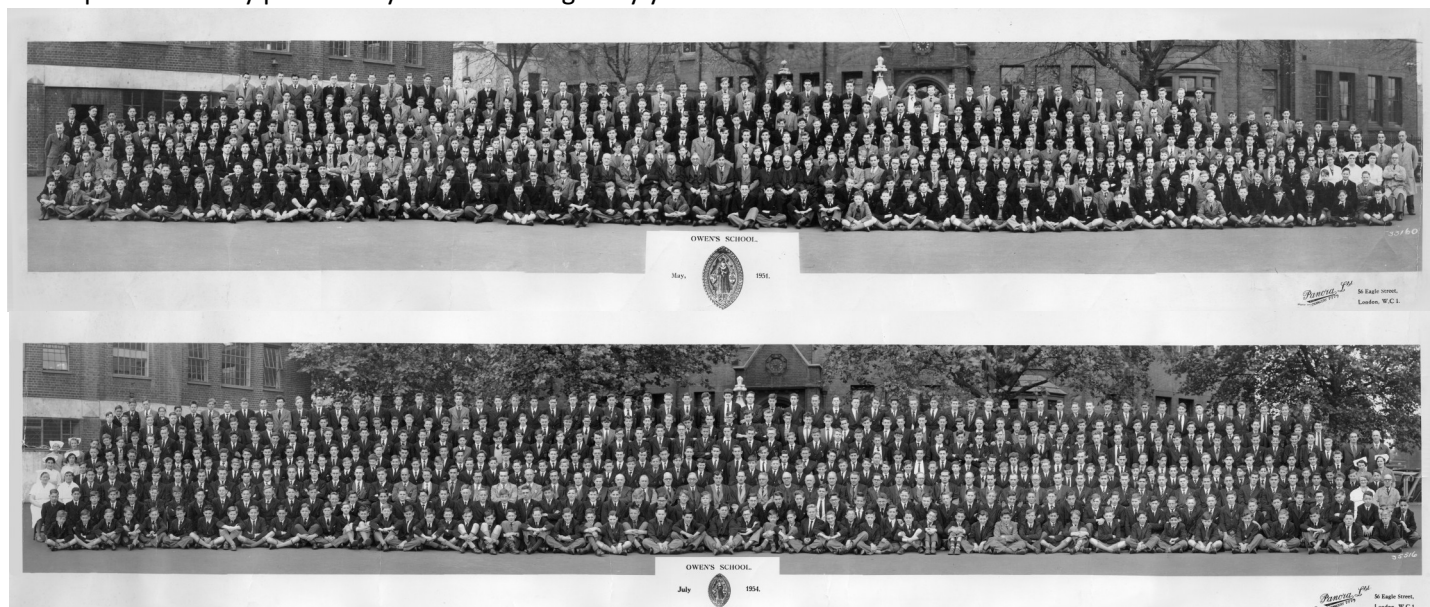
New School Photograph presented!

Many thanks to Old Owenian, Mr Gerald Bentley (photo left), who visited the School with his wife, on Monday 3rd February 2014 to present Dr Davison and some Year 7 students with a whole school photograph from 1948, which was taken outside the old Boys' School premises in Islington.

Mr Bentley attended the School from 1943 until 1950 and was evacuated in the earlier years to Bedford Modern School. We thank him for his kind donation.

The photograph will be displayed with other whole School photographs around the School. If you're visiting our School we have the following whole School photographs on display: Dame Alice Owen's Girls' School, Islington: 1948, 1959, 1963; Owen's Boys' School, Islington: 1919, 1926, 1928, 1938, 1948 (donated by Gerald Bentley), 1964; Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar: 1985, 1997, 2000, 2007, 2013.

We were also thrilled that Graham Simmons (left 1956) noticed we were missing whole School photos taken of Owen's Boys' School in May 1951 and July 1954 and he's kindly provided them on a disc, which we've been able to replicate below—hopefully can enlarge your screen to view! When we go live with our dedicated alumni website in the summer, you'll be able to upload as many photos as you like to the gallery yourselves!



Philippa Found returns to DAOS!

We were delighted to welcome back Philippa Found (left 2010), who spoke at our 2013 Careers Talks and joined Mr Steve Willcock in his Art department for a two week placement this term to prepare her for possible further qualifications in teaching! She was excited to be back with us, observing lessons, helping with the set, attending PGCE workshops, generally experiencing life in our Art department and will no doubt have been inspired by her time here—we wish her good luck.

Owen's Oracle!

Thanks to Head of Year 12, Ms C Balkind, for coming up with



this new half termly email newsletter initiative to help provide Year 12 students with as much information as possible to widen their research for university courses, extra-curricular lectures and work experience opportunities! Also, our students in Year 11 have to complete a week's work experience in November and historically around 50% of placements are sourced by students and their parents. **Mrs Carol Whiter, our Careers Co-ordinator, would always welcome anyone volunteering a week's placement for our students as we lost our County support service last year. If you are able to offer a placement, please contact Carol directly on whiterc@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk.**

Alex Tsui (left 2004) grateful for DAOS grant

Thanks to Dr Tsui for getting in contact and providing feedback about the work he has been involved in since leaving Owen's in 2004 and receiving a grant (the EH Thompson Bequest award) by the worshipful company of Brewers in early 2010, for use in his medical elective to the Red Cross Children's Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa, and to the Neuroregeneration Laboratories, Harvard University, USA.

He says, *"I am pleased to report significant steps made possible by the bequest. Two original research papers resulted from the generous grant, one regarding paediatric renal trauma after work with the Red Cross Children's hospital in Cape Town, South Africa, and a second on the use of nigrostriatal foetal transplants as a curative treatment for Parkinson's disease from Harvard Neuroregeneration Laboratories. Both papers were also presented at international conferences in 2012. I am working as a medical registrar in the London and would be delighted to come back to assist the school in any capacity."*

He is also currently applying for further research grants to undertake a PhD on the use functional neuroimaging in cognitive impairment and dementia in Parkinson's disease.

Dr Tsui thanks Mr Bob Pepper and other members of the Trust for their generous support. We wish him continued success in his research and thank him for his offer to support the School in the future. His two research papers can be found on our main Old Owenians webpage under March 2014 Newsletter. Details about grants offered to students can be found on our School website at: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/sixth_form/higher_education.html.

Ten and Twenty Year Reunions 2014—dates for your diary!

To all Leavers in the Sixth Form in 1994 and Fifth Form (Year 11) in 1992 —20th Anniversary Reunion!



Neil Cutmore (Sixth Form Leaver 1994) is organising an exciting Reunion BBQ on **Sunday 22nd June 2014** at his pub, Martin's Pond, in Berkhamstead, Hertfordshire. As 2014 marks twenty years since leaving Owen's it'll be a fun Reunion for those who left the Sixth Form in 1994 and Fifth Form (Year 11) in 1992!

Neil's posted the event on Facebook has asked us to send you this link to join the event: https://www.facebook.com/events/575816409174938/?ref_dashboard_filter=calendar.

It includes all the relevant details and you can see some great photos from your year group! Ticket price will be £10 for adults, £5 for children (cash only on the day) and Neil will be donating half of the monies raised to Great Ormond Street Hospital Charity.

If you have any problems with Facebook you can email Neil direct on: neil@martinspond.com—he'd love for as many of you to join them as possible! If you know of others who aren't on our Old Owenians email list, please spread the word! Many thanks and we hope you have a great time!



20th Anniversary Reunion



10th Anniversary Reunion

To all Leavers in the Sixth Form in 2004 and Year 11 in 2002 - 10th Anniversary Reunion!

Hannah Schmitz would like you to know she's organising a 10th Anniversary Reunion in Central London on **Saturday 13th September 2014**, for all 2004 Sixth Form Leavers and 2002 Year 11 Leavers. If you're interested in attending the event, please contact hannah.m.schmitz@gmail.com for more information. Further details will be posted in our June Newsletter—she hopes as many people can come as possible, so put the date in your diary now and let your Old Owenian friends know too!

Hannah studied German and Italian at Warwick University and now works as General Manager for The Corner Shop, an arts Public Relations company in the West End.

Talking of Reunions....Gary, Tony, John and Steve return to the US!

Spandau Ballet joined together to perform in the US for the first time in 28 years to launch their new film documentary, "Soul Boys of the Western World". They played their South by SouthWest Film Festival show on Wednesday 12th March at Vulcan Gas Company in Austin, Texas.

The famous Old Owenians and Gary Kemp's brother, Martin, were inspired by their experience and may be considering a new album and world tour. You can read more about their plans and recent gig on their own Spandau Ballet website. We wish them good luck with their ventures. See John, Gary and Steve (right) rehearsing at the Royal Albert Hall at our Concert in April 2013—photo courtesy of Old Owenian, Gaz De Vere.



The Arrow Magazine 2014

The Sixth Form editors of the 2014 Arrow Magazine (Charlotte Evans-Young, Tom Richardson, Will Robinson, Clara Wisenfeld Paine, Barnaby Merrill and Andrew Bays) would like to remind you that this year's edition will be available from the end of April and they'll be selling it at our **Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning on Saturday 10th May (£3.50)**—they look forward to seeing you there, so remember to pick up a copy!

DAME ALICE OWEN'S SCHOOL 1612-2012

400 years would make the Founder proud,
A pride which all Owenians share today.

Alice was born in 1547
Daughter of the keeper of a tavern.
Tradition tells that Alice as a child,
In fields near London with her maid at play,
While seated on a stool and trying how
To pull the paps and so to milk a cow,
Escaped harm from an archer shooting wild
Whose arrow struck her hat. Whereat she vowed
When she became a lady to create
A fine memorial to celebrate
God's gracious mercy granted to prevent
What might have been a grievous accident.

50 years on, thrice married, thrice bereaved,
A widow, heiress to three wealthy men,
A Brewer, Mercer, Judge of Common Pleas,
Her childhood's maid recalled her blest release
And vow she made, which she remembered still
And now had means and purpose to fulfil.

The ambitious plan which Alice then conceived:
To build for Islington where she was born
(And still where Owen's name is proudly worn)
Alms houses for ten widows, and a school
For thirty boys, both under the firm rule
She wrote and a strict master whom she chose.

Care of her whole foundation she bequeathed
To her friends the Brewers' Company, whose
Performance of the Trust after she died
Saw the school prosper, students multiplied.
Then plans were made in 1879
To add a girls' school to complete the fine
Memorial so successfully begun.

Since then Dame Alice Owen's school has run
Through changing status until it became,
One hundred years on now in Potters Bar
A comprehensive bearing the same name,
Of which the fourteen hundred students are
In equal numbers of the girls and boys.

Keeping its Islington and Brewers' ties
Today Alice's modern school enjoys
A splendid reputation which relies
Not on traditions it strives to maintain
But on the high results its students gain.

13 June 2013
Clive Rose

Sir Clive Rose, a descendant of Alice Owen

Many thanks to Sir Clive for getting in contact last year with good wishes for our 400th celebrations. He was sadly unable to attend any of our events due to ailing health, but is still practising his favourite hobby, writing poetry and sent us this lovely poem (left).

Sir Clive is the author of *Alice Owen The Life, Marriages and Times of a Tudor Lady*. He spent 34 years in the Diplomatic Service following five years in the army in the Second World War. He has written two books on East-West relations during the Cold War, and a family history, *The Unending Quest*. It was when he was researching the latter that he "discovered" his ancestor, Alice Owen.

The Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers award top prize to Owen's teacher!

We're delighted to announce that our Head of Art, Mr Steve Willcock, has been awarded Art Teacher of the Year 2014 by the livery company, the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers.

Nominated by our School, it is a hugely well-deserved reflection on his amazing work over the past 7 years he's been at Dame Alice Owen's. We know you'd like to join us in congratulating him on this achievement, especially those who have been taught and inspired by him during their time here.

You can see some of his students work on our website, which displays Virtual Art Galleries from 2009-2013: <http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/arts.html>



Painter-Stainers Hall, above.

Old Owenian wins UK Young Engineer of the Year!

We're delighted to congratulate Rebecca Simpson (left 2013) who has just been awarded UK Young Engineer of the Year at the Big Bang Fair in Birmingham on 15th March 2014, for her project to build a six foot Arcade Machine to help GCSE students revise their STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) subjects. Rebecca is currently studying electronics and communication at Imperial College, London.

Mr Robin Benford, her Design & Technology teacher while she was here revealed, *"She entered a revision computer games machine that she made in our D&T department as her EPQ (Extended Project Qualification) project. She used computer programming and electronics to make a working retro arcade games machine that helps students revise D&T and maths. She had developed this as an interest when she was in the F1 in Schools team that came second in the World finals 2012."*



According to Jason Bradbury, best known for hosting The Gadget Show, one of the judges of the UK Young Engineer of the Year award: *"Rebecca's passion for engineering is irrepressible. Her creation is one of the most original and clever ideas I've ever heard of. As a father of three, I can tell you that using computer games to focus young minds on STEM subjects is right on the money."*

Rebecca wins the trophy, £2,000 and an experience prize and was on the sofa on Breakfast TV on Saturday! She told Electronics Weekly, *"I'm going to use the money to develop this project further. I wanted to show other students what's possible with electronics and programming. I'm also really interested in making holograms by using LEDs, so I want to investigate this too,"* We wish her much success with her future projects and ambitions. Photographs: Courtesy of the National Science and Engineering Competition. Report also appears on our Latest News webpage!

More School News!

You can also read more School News in our half termly School Newsletters on our website, which includes reports from our different departments and is collated by our parent volunteer Newsletter editor Mrs Sara-Jane Mansfield at: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/newsletters.html

Forthcoming diary dates for School Events 2014 to which you are very welcome to attend!

* denotes electronic tickets—see next page about how to order online

Tues 1st April—**Concerto Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm*

Thurs 3rd April—**Soul Band Gig**, Main Hall, 7.30pm—tickets on the door

Sat 10th May—Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning 10am-12noon—see page 2!

Wed 14 May—**Saturday Music Centre Chamber Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm—tickets on the door

Wed 21 May—**Junior Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm*

Weds 18th June—**Chamber Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm—tickets on the door

Thurs 26 June—**Choral Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm (last year's programme, above right)*

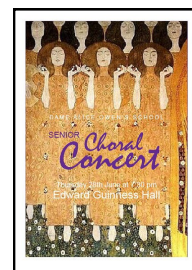
Weds 2nd July—**Concert Band Evening**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm*

Weds 16th, Fri 18th & Sat 19th July—**Summer Play**, Main Hall, 7.30pm—tickets via Mrs M Dibden, School Office

Thurs 17th July—**Senior Orchestral Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm*

Sat 19th July—**Saturday Music Centre Summer Concert**, Edward Guinness Hall, 7.30pm—tickets on the door

Tues 22 July—Open Day 2.00 - 5.00pm – for prospective parents and students, Old Owenians, friends of the School (no booking or tickets required)



Please see our School website for more details about our Concerts as they get posted under Ticket Information or on our Latest News page (links below).

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/ticket_information.html

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/latest_news.html

Note! We now have a new electronic booking system—if you wish to buy tickets for any of our major concerts, they are now available for you to purchase directly online via our electronic payment system, **WisePay** – just follow these instructions:



1. Create an account (or login if you already have one from a previous purchase) on our Electronic Payments page on our website at: <http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/wisepay.html>
2. When you are logged on to Wise Pay, click on the **Tickets** icon.
3. A **Calendar** will open up; select the date of the Concert (use the right arrow above the Calendar to scroll if the event is in a different month than the one that appears).
4. A new window will open up with the **Seating Plan** of the **Edward Guinness Hall**. Click on the seat(s) that you would like to book, they should become ticked as you click them. If a seat is folded down it has already been sold. Once you have chosen your seat(s) click the **Save Seats** button.
5. This will take you to the **Payment Screen** where you can enter your payment details (credit or debit card) and go through to pay for your seat(s).
6. You will be sent an **Email Confirmation** with your seat numbers which confirms you have booked the seats. Please bring this email confirmation as your ticket. **We do not produce paper tickets**. If for any reason you lose this email, there will be a list of who has booked which seats at the front of house for each performance. (Note: If you don't have your Wise Pay login and password or have any other specific Wise Pay queries please email our dedicated email account, wisepay@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk)

Disabled Access

If you require Disabled seating please contact Mrs Dibden, our Music Administrator (Tuesdays and Wednesdays), via her email at: dibdenm@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk to book tickets. Please note that disabled access to our school is limited. It is therefore advisable to telephone the school for advice before arrival so that assistance can be given if necessary. Please also be aware that local residents arrange for parking attendants to be on duty in their area when school events are being held so choose a space carefully!

Owen's win 2 categories at the Mid-Somerset Festival!

For those who have taken part in previous years, you might like to know that once again we did really well in this annual competition! Congratulations to our Senior Chamber Choir and Close Harmony Group who achieved 1st place in their categories on Friday 21st March. Photos of the Senior Chamber Choir and Close Harmony Group (right) were taken at our Choral Concert in December.



The Mid Somerset Festival was founded in 1902 and has been running continuously ever since making it one of the oldest festivals in the country. In the early days it toured the market towns of mid-Somerset, but as it increased in size and scope it eventually settled in the beautiful city of Bath in 1952. It now runs for a full fortnight each March with classes in Creative Writing, Speech & Drama, Music and Musical Theatre. There is a Festival concert on the final Saturday to celebrate some of the best performances in each discipline.

Owen's have taken part since 2006 and have always been strongly represented as our choirs have developed under our hugely talented staff - Director of Music, Mr Simon Werner, and Assistant Director of Music, Miss Elizabeth White. You'll be able to hear their competition pieces at the Choral Concert on Thursday 26th June, as well as the beautiful Faure Requiem – put the date in your diary as the Concert is always a sell-out!



And now for your contributions...



ANDRI CONSTANTINOU – LEFT 2010

Thanks to Miss Constantinou for getting in contact – she's now in her final year at Aston University, and says what a great four years it has been!!! Here's her feedback about the course she's taken:

"I go to Aston University and I study International Business and Spanish and University has really been a great experience for me. On this course I have had the opportunity to work abroad for a year. In my third year I lived and worked in Chile, South America, and it was an absolutely brilliant experience, not only socially but also academically and professionally! The experience has really helped me become more confident with applying to jobs and having interviews because I now have the relevant experience and skills that employers are looking for these days.

In my experience of applying to jobs this year, for when I graduate, a lot of the questions we are asked draw on previous experience on how you dealt with a problem or problematic team member - now, the fact that I have worked abroad has been a great advantage to me but also things like running a society, volunteering and working in my summers also gave me experiences and examples that I could use to show my skills.

I know it's going to seem like everyone is saying the same thing, but it really is important these days to find something that gives you that hands on experience and differentiates you from your competitors! There are a lot of you, so if an opportunity presents itself, take it and learn from it what you can! It doesn't have to be working or volunteering, it can be any activity which you enjoy that shows leadership and team member qualities. It might even be Choreographing, auditioning and performing at the annual Gym and Dance display, or even Helping to organise the Year 13 leavers' ball when you're in year 12 (two things I am very proud of doing); or it could even be something like going camping, or joining a society, a sports club or even raising money for charity or holding a bake sale!

Everything you do counts, and you will learn huge amounts and be able to use this to your advantage in the future, even if you might not recognise the benefits now. Good luck with everything, and I hope I've been able to inspire someone!!"



HARRY SOTERIOU – LEFT 2010

Congratulations to Mr Soteriou for obtaining a 2.1 in his BSc degree in Accounting and Economics from Reading University last summer. Following his degree, he is now at a firm called Haysmacintyre training as a chartered accountant and doing his ACA qualification.



NIAL KEMPSON – LEFT 2010

Thanks to Mr Kempson for getting in touch. Last July he received a 2:1 in his degree in Political Science and Philosophy at the University of Birmingham and has just received an unconditional offer to study a Masters in Social Research at Birmingham, which will set him up to do a PhD (potentially in how LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender or Questioning) liberation is marketed and why division surrounding liberation in the LGBTQ community exists, using depth interviews and focus groups for my study). We wish him all the best with his studies.



EILEEN WHAPHAM—1907-2002 and sister VIOLET WHAPHAM (NEE GRAY) – 1909-1987

Ms Eileen Whapham was Head Girl at our Islington Girls' School in 1926 and her younger sister, Violet, was Head Girl in 1928. Eileen was a surgeon, an unusual occupation for a woman at that time and remained unmarried. Violet became a medical general practitioner. Thanks to a grandson of Ms Whapham for sharing this information when he noticed his grandmother's details on our Senior Prefect list on our website at:

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/senior_prefects.html. We still have some names missing on our list, so if you are able to fill in any of the gaps, please let us know by emailing oldowenians@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk.



WALLACE BECKETT—LEFT 1916

Thanks to Mr Philip Selth, of the New South Wales Bar Association, for providing details of an Old Owenian, Mr Wallace Inglis Beckett. Mr Selth is writing an entry for the *Australian Dictionary of Biography* about Dan Leahy, a famous early explorer of New Guinea and who had dealings with Mr Beckett, (who was at Owen's between 1913-16). Mr Beckett served in the Naval Air Service and RAF 1917-1919 after leaving School and become a miner. Mr Bill Hamilton-Hinds managed to track him down in our records to confirm he attended Owen's—his parent's occupation is listed as an Accountant and he attended Tollington Primary School in Muswell Hill.



JOHN WESTON—LEFT 1952

Thanks to John Weston for his contribution. He's got a few questions some of you might like to respond to - his email address is jt看40hcr@talktalk.net for you to mail direct!

"It was pleasing to see the names of some of my contemporaries mentioned in the last Newsletter. I recognised the name Graham Bird but cannot put a face to the name. Most of the names he mentions I remember despite the fact they were probably in the year above me. Colin Huckstep I knew very well. He and I were in partnership as chartered accountants for a couple of years. I, rather than Colin provided some accounts for both the Old Boys and the School. He and I played tennis and soccer. Colin had the misfortune to break his leg when his shin met my bent knee in a pre season Old Boys football match – his hospitalisation and period of recovery set his accounting career back six months or more. We worked at Deloitte Plender Griffith together – he left to set up his own business and after a short while I joined him as a partner. After two years we were to merge with another practice, for a reason he never explained to me he decided he did not want to proceed with the merger whereas I did. Soon after Colin gave up self employment and went into commerce. He married Sue and they had a daughter and son. Alas he died in his mid fifties.

My home in the nineteen fifties was the White House, a pub in Green Lanes opposite Clissold Park quite close to the Arsenal football ground and within a very short distance from 'Tubby' Turner's church. His home was the other side of the park. His son Russell married Sabrina a voluptuous celebrity. Does anyone remember Mike (?) Singer who lived in Highbury New Park, a hundred yards from the White House.

The school contemporaries I'd like to know about are 'Dell' Barclay, Tim Dodds and Len Caynes - all very talented sportsmen. Len, I believe was a leading light in production with a TV company (ITV?) in the Sports Department. Another was Keith Gilley a distinguished scholar who became a Unitarian minister – my wife and I are still going through a list of 'must to read classic books' he gave me. He was a constant scholar for many years – read English and Divinity at Oxford (?) completed a higher degree in the USA (one of the Ivy Universities I believe) – someone with whom I regret having lost contact. Three of my brothers (Bill, Ron and Doug) all went to DAO – there was a Weston brother there from about 1934 to 1954! Ron died in 2012. Bill and Doug are still going strong: Bill is 90 and does not believe he has any contemporaries who are alive – is that so?

*I was at The School for more years than most and have listed 26 masters of whom I have fond memories. 'Flash' Hardwick was one of the best despite what Graham Bird believes. 'Flash' had a good understanding of teenage boys and the discipline they needed: once you went into the sixth form he treated you like an adult, if you behaved like one. I'll name the others without the complimentary comments I'd could make. They are: 'Dicky' Dare (worthy of a book of admiration), 'Reg' Tricker, 'Weppy' Phillips, Puddiphat, Winkworth, Miller, Paul, 'Steady' Barker, Lloyd Williams (who kindly housed me for a short while when I was evacuated to Bedford, he had a son at the School), Valliarmy, Stephenson, Miss Cast, Miss Lowe, 'Booboo' Davidson, Salmon and Headmasters, Mitchell, Garstang and Burroughs. There was one young lady in my early days at Bedford whose name I cannot remember, a geography teacher who instilled in me a lasting interest in the subject. **How many masters have I missed? I'm surer there are many I've missed. Who are they?"***



JOANNE WALKER—LEFT 1994

Thanks to Ms Walker for keeping in touch! She kindly volunteered to speak to students last year about food retailing during our Careers Talks and took two of our students for a week of work experience at Sainsbury's. She's moved jobs out of meat buying and is now "Senior strategic marketing manager" for Sainsbury's, saying it's nice to have a change and a new challenge! We wish her the best of luck in her new role.



COLIN BULL—LEFT 1970, HEAD BOY

Thanks to Colin for his correspondence over Christmas – he can hardly believe that the 400th Anniversary Concert and Thanksgiving Service took place some nine months ago and says *“They were certainly most enjoyable and nostalgia inducing events and I am really glad that I had the opportunity to attend them both. My daughter and I still reminisce, in particular, about the day we came up to London and spent a wonderful evening at the Royal Albert Hall. It was really good to meet up with a few old friends after so many years and I have been able to keep in touch with Norman Goldner sporadically ever since.”* Colin hopes to travel up to Potters Bar again for our Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning on Saturday 10th May.



SAMUEL FAUX—LEFT 2012

Congratulations to Samuel Faux for passing out as a Royal Marines Commando this January, after leaving the Sixth Form in November 2012, to commence the rigorous training. He’s now serving, based in Plymouth and off on his first posting in May, happy with his choice of career. We wish him much continued success.



MARJORIE BOWYER (NEE WOOD) —LEFT 1937

Thanks to Mr Bowyer for getting in contact about his mother, Mrs Marjorie Wood, who was at Owen’s Girl’s School in Islington from around 1934-1937. He told us, *“She was tickled pink to discover her school on her tablet computer, a gift this last Christmas from her granddaughter, partly as she manage to find your website unaided and mostly because she was surprised to find her old school in existence.”*



LILY SMALL (NEE NASH) - LEFT C1944

We are sad to report that Mrs Small, a former pupil at our Islington Girls' School around 1939-1944, passed away on 22nd February 2014. She was one of the girls evacuated with our school to Kettering during World War 2. The funeral was held on Friday, 21st March at Beckenham Crematorium. Thanks to her daughter, Ms Read, for letting us know.



LES GIBBINGS—LEFT 1971

Thanks to Mr Gibbings for his further contribution to Owen's sporting football history, with great attention to detail based on his records from years ago and recollections of individual performances!

"This is the third and final part of my trilogy concerning my school year team performances from the 1960's, based on contemporaneous records of matches and statistics that I kept in a series of exercise books. This time however, the team for 1969/70 was not a straightforward one composed of my peers from the same single school year as me but it was the school's official 2nd XI and because of that had several component parts. I would say at this stage that what follows that any comments included made herein by me about anyone or anything will I hope be taken in the spirit with which they are made which is to make the reader smile with the nostalgia of such memories rather than cause any offence whatsoever.

Although in theory this was a 'reserve' team and hence a 'feeder' to the 1st XI, it did not really function as directly or as obviously as that, but was a side that built its own team spirit and camaraderie and acted independently although there was always a risk of it being plundered for a player or two when the 1st XI was in need. It included players from across at least three school years - my school year 'peers' (fresh from what were then GCE O (Ordinary) levels and embarking on A (Advanced) levels), those who were a year or more older and those (usually) a year below my peers who were 'girding their loins' for their first assault on GCEs (see the stats tables shown separately).

However, this team, which I record as playing up until Christmas 1969, was singularly more successful than previous ones that I had played in at Owen's (my brief 1st XI appearances excepted of course). This 2nd XI side managed more victories than the combined number of matches that were both drawn or lost (ten wins, two draws and six defeats) and for the first time scored more goals overall than were conceded (fifty nine goals scored – that's a mean average of more than three goals scored a game - against fifty-five conceded). Brilliance indeed after the years of having to regularly explain away our miserable performances of yore to school chums on a Monday morning in the Quad. So why was that?

It is noticeable from a perusal of the squad that some of the otherwise 'regular' names of our peers were missing. Boys' ambitions would naturally be to play in the 'higher' 1st XI side if they were considered good enough. From a perusal of the match-day sides I recorded at the time, I must assume that a number of them had managed to by-pass the 2nd XI entirely and either because of their ability or opportunity, stepped straight into the 1st XI, as they played little or no part in the 2nd XI for that season.

*Some of the names that come immediately to mind in this respect included **Alan Droy** (our team captain in previous years), **Mark Franklin** and of course, the inimitable **Alan Hunter**, whose memory I may have teased a little in past issues. However, Alan H seemed to find his keen ball holding skills and overall ability finally being rewarded with a critical niche in the 1st XI from here on. Perhaps he needed the better quality players around him to make him seem a star - which he appeared to do with many fine performances for years afterwards when both at the school and as a stalwart of the Old Owen's and Veteran teams.*

*The 'leap' into the 1st XI even appeared to apply to some lads from the lower school year below my own. **Richard Bradford** was one such notable player. 'Dickie' or 'Rich' as he (still) prefers to be known, was already laying the foundations for his later flirtation with minor soccer fame as an FA Trophy winner side at the old Wembley Stadium in 1981 with Bishop's Stortford and then making national sporting headlines one week-end in January 1983 by virtue of scoring two goals that earned a replay in an FA Cup 3rd round tie against Football League Second Division club, Middlesbrough. **John Hinchin**, a peer of Richard's, played one game for the 2nd XI according to my records and scoring two goals before also 'disappearing' presumably into the 'senior' Owen's team.*

*Even without these future 'stars' of semi-professional football as a number turned out to be, the 1969 2nd XI was not without it's own characters as I well remember and which doubtless helped shape it as a self-sufficient and a useful outfit in it's own right. **Pete Welch**, was the team captain, and a chap whom I hope would consider that I had not unfairly judged him when I describe him as having the subtle touch on the ball of a veritable battering ram.*

Owen's 2nd XI Football Team – 1969-70		
Name	Appearances (18 matches)	Goals Scored
Bartlett, Keith	1	1
Bye, Stephen	18	1
Dawson, Paul 'Docker'	17	9
Dowty, Ian (G/K)	12	0
Fenner, Tony 'Sid'(V.Capt)	16	0
Gibbings, Les	16	10
Harrison, Dougie	2	0
Hinchin, John	1	2
Kounnou, George	10	7
Lathrope, Clive	2	1
Leon, Bernie	15	9
Martin, Peter	17	4*
Morbin, Peter	8	0
Robinson, Chris (G/K)	5	0
Rogers, Brian	10	4
Sartori, Vince	17	0
Welch, Peter (Captain)	14	1
Watts, Tim	13	7
Opponents	-	3
*3 penalties		

Then there was **Steve Bye**, who like me was an occasional 1st XI player and one who with his frequent weaving runs back and forth across the pitch managed to have an aura more of being dazed than dazzling when 'on the ball'. And of course there was **Bernie Leon**, one of the survivors of the geometry lessons of the celebrated **Mr Copping's** Maths O level Group that included amongst others, **Bob Harness** and me. For some unaccountable reason Bernie had not risen to the top in terms of team selection in earlier years, but he was not without acute and skilful close ball control and who proved himself to be a regular goal scorer netting nine goals in fifteen appearances. As I recall, Bernie gave the impression that playing amongst his erstwhile year mates after so long was a privilege especially as he felt his devotion to all sounds ska, tamla and soul were barriers to his acceptance into what he felt was considered to be 'hip culture' amongst other school year pupils .

It seemed that in Bernie's view, 'hip culture' was represented by the musical taste of the Owen's legendary record-buying diva, **Vince Sartori**. Vince, still in the side and excelling as probably one of the tallest left-back's in school football (although now surely being encouraged to do pre-match warm ups to avoid further muscle strain embarrassments mentioned last time), was without doubt the 'music oracle par excellence' of our school year. He was considered by many then (and now) as their very best friend because of his highly congenial nature which included his willingness to lend the very latest rock album releases to almost anyone who asked him. My only worry was I was never sure that he didn't too readily extend a similar friendliness to opposition players as they bore down on our goal!!

Other new players in the squad who seemed to blend well included **Tim Watts** (seven goals scored in thirteen games) playing on the attacking right side often with **George Kounnou** in attendance (who scored seven goals in ten matches including the only hat-trick of the season in a 6-3 win over Stationers), **Brian Rogers** (who I must confess to not remember just as he may well not recall me), who grabbed four goals in ten appearances playing on the left side of our attack. In close attendance in midfield was **Paul 'Docker' Dawson**, a lad who I knew from my own neighbourhood near Hornsey Lane and whose energy and commitment was a key component of the side's relative success I am sure. Scoring nine goals in seventeen matches I never once revealed his nick-name was linked to the size of his feet!

Other members of the team and key contributors to our success, such as it was, included the excellent keeping of the regular goalie, **Ian Dowty**, reliable defending of occasional newcomer, **Peter Morbin** and of course the magnificently determined play of **Tony 'Sid' Fenner**, who was identified as the Vice-Captain and who frequently held the defence together at either full back or as a central defender. **Peter Martin** played a 'deeper' role in this team and served as our penalty taker scoring four goals (three of which were pens) in his seventeen appearances that season.

On paper one of the most exciting matches for the team appeared to be a 4-3 home win against Archbishop Tenison's when I scored a late winner after being at 2-2 at the interval with the worst being our traditional 6-1 drubbing from our superior Highbury Grove rivals. As for me, **Les Gibbings**, I played in sixteen games for the 2nd XI that season and despite playing in different positions, I still ended up as top scorer with ten goals for the third time (hurrah!) missing only the opening match in mid September 1969 when the side beat Willesden and a game on my birthday in November when the team thrashed Kingsbury County 7-1.

Being top scorer was a pleasing result for me for like many other boys at the time, I was literally spreading my football wings at least in terms of the energy exerted if not in terms of skill displayed and found myself playing for clubs over the weekends (Saturday afternoon and Sunday mornings after the school on Saturday morning) and usually training during the week. Furthermore, I found that my development was shaping me as more of a central defender rather than a striker that had hitherto been identified as my best role.

I am not sure it made that much difference but it did seem that like good wine this 2nd XI team travelled well and only suffered a single defeat out of the seven matches that were played away from the Chandos Avenue Home Pitches (and that was a 4-2 defeat to Stationers when we fielded a depleted side of ten players and no officially recognised goalie) and scoring more than twice the number of goals than were conceded (twenty-seven goals against thirteen). After all it could hardly be down to us responding positively to the opposition supporters jibes as this normally amounted to no more than maybe a passing cat or dog and a perhaps a teacher or grounds man or two!

2 nd XI Team Statistics 1969-70						
Owen's U14's	Match- es Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
Home	11	5	1	5	32	42
Away	7	5	1	1	27	13
Overall	18	10	2	6	59	55

In general I think players at the time probably felt that it had been a decent season for the 2nd XI and certainly the statistics tend to support that. I presume that I didn't continue to keep records into my final season at the school (which would have been 1970/71) unless there is yet another exercise book waiting to be discovered in my garage which I shall venture into once again with the coming of SpringSo you never know, but only time will tell!



ALYWN GAMMAGE - LEFT 1954

Thanks to Mr Gammage for getting in contact and sharing his memories of life at Owen's in the 1940's/1950's after discovering our School website! He reveals how much "Beer Money" was in those days - you can read more about our Beer Money on our website at: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/school_history.html. He told us:

It is a matter of regret that because amongst other things I have been a much travelled person, I have failed to keep in touch with the school and other Old Owenians but by chance, a few short years ago I was travelling through St Albans and noticed a road sign pointing to Owen's School. I took the time to visit and had a chat but as I live in South Wales I am rather remote from Hertfordshire although my sister lives in Cheshunt and I do visit her occasionally.

Let me give you a bit of my history. My name is Alwyn Gammage and I joined the school in 1946 just after it had returned from evacuation during WW2 to Bedford. The headmaster at the time was Dr. Mitchell who was later succeeded by W.L.Garstang. Deputy Headmaster at the time was Mr "Flash" Hardwick a formidable man but nevertheless much loved by the boys. It was reputed that above the door of his classroom was a notice "Abandon hope all ye who enter here", at least that is what was written in "The Arrow", the school magazine.

The times were austere after the war and the school still bore the marks of its role during that time. The school building had been an ARP (Air Raid Precautions) Headquarters and "the quad" was a wasteland because it had been a site for communal air raid shelters during the war and although they had been demolished there was still a lot of debris around, not least because there was still a bomb crater where an enemy bomb had dropped and killed a number of people who had been in one of the shelters at the time. I had the misfortune to fall down this crater whilst on a break, I think I was about 13 years old at the time, and I broke a tooth.

I was in Hermitage House which had the reputation of always being "also rans" but by the time I became House Captain we were Cock House. Amongst the sporting activities at the time was rowing, a sport which I particularly enjoyed, seemed to be quite good at and which I carried on well into adult life. The year I was promoted to the first eight we came third in the Schools Head of the River Race being beaten only by St. Pauls School and Eton "B". I cannot deny that our success at the time and my being in the crew was not just coincidence !!!! Eventually I became Captain of Boats and Head of School although the latter was a privilege enjoyed for only a few months in 1953.

I was also CSM (Company Sergeant Major) in the army cadet unit which was part of the HAC (The Honourable Artillery Company—the oldest Regiment in the British Army Founded by Henry VIIIth in 1537). One of the advantages of this was that because of a shortage of manpower the taller cadets were asked to swell the ranks of guards of honour at such places as St.Pauls and the Guildhall in the City and we also marched in The Lord Mayors Show, right at the head of the procession behind the band from one of the Guards regiments. The school also had air cadet unit and both units enjoyed themselves in the miniature shooting range in the school basement. I still have my medal from when we won a competition organised by "The News of the World".

I had hoped to go to university but it was not to be so like all young men at that time I had to do some National Service. I planned to make the army my career but changed my mind after a while and left to take up a career in banking. This took me all over England Wales and Channel Islands. I have also worked for the Post Office and run my own transport business. These days I do voluntary work. I have been with St. John Ambulance, Red Cross and in recent years Guide Dogs. I am also a volunteer with Cardiff Institute for the Blind.

From the dates I have mentioned you may gather I am a bit long in the tooth (not the broken one though) and I am actually in my eightieth year. I am still active though a bit slower than I used to be. My enjoyment of my favourite sport is only vicarious through my grand nephew who is in the Olympic squad for 2016. One other enduring memory I have—it is a poem which appeared in "The Arrow" (right!). Times were hard!!

*It seems a joke in doubtful taste
Allowing us an ounce of waste
For tell me when poor half starved sinner
Have you had an ounce of dinner.*

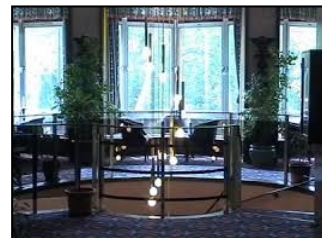
I notice that "beer" money is now £1 for second formers. It used to be two shillings and sixpence in my day so inflation seems to have taken its toll. Talking of "Beer Money" - there was an underground passage which connected one of the classrooms to the pub next door!"

Mr Gammage would love to hear from any fellow Old Owenians who know him from School days, so please email him direct at: algam712@btinternet.com.

And finally...

Harold Moore Annual Luncheon Reunion 2014 for all Old Owenians

Sandy Ann Cannon and Perry Offer would like to remind you to save the date for this London event, being held in the Autumn half term, on **Monday 27th October 2014** at the Imperial Hotel, Russell Square, Elizabethan Suite! More details to follow in our June Newsletter!



400th Anniversary Archive

For those of you who might be sad that our amazing 400th year is now over, you can now take a nostalgic look back at our archive webpages via our School History page at: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/school_history.html - Gareth Randell has also produced a written summary of the year which will soon be electronically available on the link above with photos included from Old Owenian Gaz De Vere.

If any of you were present at our end of year Carol Service at the Cathedral and Abbey Church of St Alban, you'll appreciate this feedback from Anna Young (nee Breeze), who left in 1999. She wrote *"I felt compelled to write following the school's 400th year celebratory carol concert at St. Alban's Cathedral on Monday evening, which I feel very fortunate to have attended. When I was in Year 7 at Owen's, I sang a solo part in the choir at the school's Christmas concert, and the service on Monday brought back such fond memories for me. I have to say though; I never thought I would be sitting listening to the school's numerous choirs almost two decades later, and in such a magical setting. It brought a tear to my eye to hear such beautiful voices, and the music was of the standard I'd expect to hear in a Hollywood movie score! It made me feel so proud to be an Old Owenian, and for this I would like to thank the school."* Thank you for your kind comments, Anna!

Mandela tribute from Barry Hyman

Further to our tribute to Nelson Mandela at the end of our last Newsletter, Barry Hyman (left 1959), still remembers his brief meeting with him and the lasting effect he made. Thanks to Barry for sending this in - he recalls,

"Notwithstanding the ANC's support for the Palestinians, Mandela always remained a friend of the Jewish community. This was based on the fact that as a young recently qualified lawyer, he was taken on as a clerk by a Jewish lawyer, Lazer Skidelsky, in the face of the disapproval of the Apartheid regime. Mandela later said that as a persecuted minority, Jews were more sympathetic to his cause than the wider white community. In 2000 he came to London to speak to a meeting of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. He received a rapturous welcome. As he exited the hall up the centre aisle where I was sitting, I extended my hand and he took it. I drive home from Piccadilly to Bushey, with my left hand only and touched nothing else. When I got home I put my hand on my wife's cheek and said, 'This hand has just shaken the hand of Nelson Mandela.' I felt then and still do that we had both been touched by him."

Updated Admission Arrangements

Every year our admission arrangements go through a consultation process and any revisions made. This year (for entry September 2015) we have updated our sibling policy to: *"Children who have a sibling attending the school at the time of application excluding siblings who first entered the school in the Sixth Form (Y12 and Y13)."* For the last 2 years we've had a 'past sibling' policy in place which extended to siblings of anyone who had ever attended the school. This is no longer the case. We will also no longer consider 'sibling' applications from children who have older siblings who joined the school in the 6th form. You can find all our Admission Arrangement details on our website at: <http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/admissions/index.html>

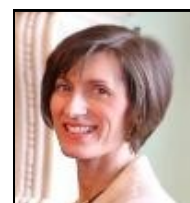
Technical Tip!

Not had one of these for a while, so thought I'd stun you with this one which was supplied by our ever resourceful Frazer Torry (an Old Owenian himself) in our IT Network office! In the event that a CD gets stuck in your CD drive on your laptop, a paperclip is the answer! Next to the manual eject button, there is a small hole for an emergency eject – simply place the end of a paperclip into the hole and press to release! Really – it works! While we're on technical subjects, in case you're ever referred to by your IT support as a PICNIC, the definition is "Problem in Chair, Not in Computer"! Note! If any of the website references in our Newsletter don't work on your computer, just copy and paste to the address line of your browser.

Hope to see you soon!

Remember to email me at oldowenians@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk if you'd like to visit us for our **Old Owenians Coffee and Tour Morning on Saturday 10th May** (just state which tour time you'd like—10.15am or 11.15am and number of guests). Enjoy the Spring break!

Mrs Mandy English, Alumni Relations and Website Manager



P.S. The deadline for contributions to our end of June Newsletter is Monday 9th June 2014 and many thanks again to all of you who've sent articles to date—keep them coming!