



Old Owenians Newsletter

First half—30th June, 2015

Edition 17

A message from our Head...

"Dear Old Owenians

For those of you who are in education, or have children or grandchildren in education, another season of hard work and exams is nearly over and we'd like to welcome our Year 13's as Old Owenians, wishing them good luck with their results in August. A huge thank you to our alumni, who generously volunteered their time in March to take part in our Old Owenians Careers Talks week to inspire students – our most successful event to date - see pages 2-9. We also held our inaugural Old Owenians Network Reception at Brewers' Hall in May and again, thank our London based alumni for supporting this exciting event, which "sold out" of places in 48 hours – see page 11 for more photos!



At School, as well as concentrating on teaching and learning, this Spring and Summer terms have seen many successes—we've been busy building our new pastoral team, completing our new Drama, Languages and Learning Support building (page 14), seen County wins at Football, Hockey and Rugby, arranged our usual language exchanges, held two Art Exhibitions, practised and performed concerts and our musical, The Threepenny Opera. The Politics Department expertly organised a whole school mock election which gave a real buzz about the school (and on Twitter!) for several weeks and we saw 28 students complete their Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award practice expedition to the Brecon Beacons at Easter.



However, as in many schools, we're facing financial challenges, particularly as a high achieving school, with limited numbers of students whose parents' income is below the very low bar for free school meals. This has seen us badly affected by Government spending cuts as we receive very little pupil premium. In addition, the sixth form funding we receive has been savagely reduced, and we do not benefit from significant additional money available to

schools in central London. Our per student income is half that of a number of schools in Islington, and well below that for the majority of local schools (DfE figures 2015). To reduce costs we have had no alternative but to make three teachers compulsorily redundant to date, and cut all areas of expenditure.

We can assure you that all successful schools are in a similar position. Many of you will already be only too aware of the year on year rises in fees by schools in the independent sector, needed to maintain their provision. By comparison, you may be surprised to learn that our income in cash terms has actually fallen by 2% since 2012.

We are fortunate to benefit from the very generous support of the Dame Alice Owen Foundation, although this is not in itself sufficient to maintain the provision at the School. We wanted to share this with you as we continue to seek funding from all sources to maintain our outstanding levels of education and parents have recently been asked to increase their voluntary contributions.

On a positive note, it never ceases to amaze me the breadth of activities students have the opportunity to take part in and the level of excellence in all that students and staff achieve. We recognise and applaud their ability to go the extra mile in all areas of school life which exceed expectations and our whole school community continues to "strive with a will" to ensure our students receive the best possible education possible. Enjoy this issue of the Old Owenians Newsletter, thanks to our alumni for their valuable contributions—keep them coming. We'll be back in December! Dr Alan Davison

SAVE THE DATE!
Monday 26th October 2015!
Old Owenians Reunion Luncheon
(Harold Moore)-see p20 for details

Old Owenians giving back...young Owenians being inspired



Now, in our fifth year of holding this event, we're once again extremely grateful to this year's Old Owenian speakers who volunteered their time to inspire our students about their personal career experiences. The talks were held during four lunchtimes in National Careers Week 2nd – 5th March 2015. Students were encouraged in assemblies during the preceding weeks with a presentation to "put themselves in someone else's shoes" and take the opportunity to explore those careers they had an interest in, or to find out about a new one to expand their general knowledge. We've had some great feedback from speakers and student alike!

Many thanks go to:

Christina Hooson, (Class of 2004), Anna Young, (Class of 1999), Nicolette Amette, (Class of 1989), Rebecca Goldie (Class of 2001), Catherine Pewsey, (Class of 2004), Nadine Azizollah, (Class of 2000), Anthony Croxford, (Class of 1997), Pamela Sivathondon MD, (Class of 1999), Susanna Hurrell, (Class of 2005), Lee Prebble, (Islington Class of 1969), Neil Cutmore, (Class of 1994), John Lewis, (Class of 1996), Keith Miles OBE FCA, (Islington Class of 1958), Peter Hunt, (Islington Class of 1975) and Elliott Clayton, (Class of 1996).

Gracie Defries (Class of 2006), Jessica Calvert (Class of 1997) and Simon Collett (Class of 1987) were unable attend but we also would like to thank them for volunteering their time and hope they can visit us on another occasion.

Christina Hooson—Class of 2004



Thanks to Christina, who studied European Studies (BA) at King's College London and International Affairs (MA) at the University of St. Gallen, Switzerland. She then gained experience working for the European Commission and the UN and now lives in Geneva, working for FSG, a consulting firm whose mission is to create lasting social change, making progress against the world's toughest problems <http://www.fsg.org/>. Her talk included education and languages required and benefits and challenges of an international career.

Our students told us:

Fantastic PowerPoint – made her path and ideas always very clear – fascinating career path. Very engaging speaker and made sure everyone understood her and what she meant – Conor O'Shea, Year 13

Very informative about the journey to her current job – I liked seeing how languages can help job prospects

– Lore Sturmy, Year 10

Really interesting and informative talk – an eye opener to what languages can do to help you achieve

– Felicity Gillingham, Year 10

An eye opening talk in terms of how languages can open the door for jobs in life – Chris Dunkin, Year 10

Very passionate about her career, explained everything concisely and gave some inspiring advice about making career choices and ambitions – Tristan Balakrishna, Year 13

Ann Young (nee Breeze) - Class of 1999

Thanks to Anna, who studied Advertising & Promotions Management at Buckinghamshire New University then gained experience working in event management before qualifying as Business Studies teacher and taught for 7 years. Now back in industry, she's running her own business called Plan A – Event Management <http://theplana.co.uk/> and offers freelance consultancy as Marketing expert. Her talk included varied routes to employment and how to find your ideal job!

Anna had a very full classroom and was one of our most confident speakers with her teaching experience – great verbal feedback from students!

She told us, *"I was very impressed with the questions asked by students after my careers talk. They were clearly engaged and excited by what I had to share with them and it was an honour to be able to offer advice to such lovely young people based on my own experiences. The school looks great and it was quite astonishing to see how it has changed since 1999. I would be very happy to return at any point in the future."*





Nicolette Amette—Class of 1989

Thanks to Nicolette, who studied English with Drama at Hull University then left her post graduate degree in Journalism for a job with ITN. She's worked for C4 News, News at Ten, Big Breakfast, Channel Five, and various political programmes, one off specials documentaries and more recently for Daybreak/Good Morning Britain.

Nicolette's talk was full of energy –she told us, *"It was only when working out what I wanted to say to the pupils that I sat down and reflected on the teachers who had inspired me, encouraged me and set me on the course to my chosen profession. Thank you Mrs Brown (Kelly). It just takes one teacher to believe in you to help you believe in yourself. It was satisfyingly*

cyclical to speak to the students of today about vocations, dreams and goals and remember the professionals who helped me achieve mine. How nostalgic to walk the path by the lake and the sports hall after 25 years and only then, fully appreciate the beautiful grounds and the unique opportunities the school provided me with. How strange to find the school so different and still very much the same. How suddenly terrifying to look at a class of expectant, hopeful faces and attempt to tell them about my career, how I did what I've done, and how much potential they have, how their voices and thoughts are important and what exciting possibilities life holds for them in no more than 30 minutes please!"

Our students told us:

...very informative about how to prepare and what people are looking for in order to get this sort of job. Thinking about hobbies that I like – this has inspired me to write! - Oliver Pressland, Year 11

It was really interesting to see the different jobs that are necessary in making the TV shows we see daily

– Zoe Berman, Year 9

I particularly enjoyed the videos and her personal stories about getting into her dream job – Emilia Bryce, Year 9

Really good – would love to have been given more contact information!!! - Ana Ovey, Year 12

Rebecca Goldie—Class of 2001

Thanks to Rebecca, who studied English Literature at Anglia Ruskin University, Cambridge then MA Conservation at Camberwell College of Arts, London. After various different jobs, she is now Book and Paper Conservator at Cambridge University Library, currently conserving their Lewis-Gibson Collection which consists of over 2000 Hebrew manuscripts dating back to medieval Cairo.

In very much a niche role (and loves it!), she was happy to talk to a small group, including an introduction to the profession and more broadly in the cultural heritage sector and its importance at a local and international level. She also explored how the job draws upon many of the subjects that students may be studying now, including history, art, chemistry and D&T.



Our students told us:

10 out of 10! - Elinor Downie, Year 12

Very interesting, good to find out about something new – M Lodge, Year 11

Very enthusiastic and inspiring. Showed passion for what she does and passes on her passion – Eppie Sharp, Year 11



Catherine Pewsey—Class of 2004

Thanks to Catherine, who studied MA Stage Management at Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, and then gained experience at the Watermill Theatre, Newbury, and the Almeida Theatre, London. She now works freelance at theatre's around the country and on tour, and is currently contracted to the Donmar Warehouse <http://www.donmarwarehouse.com/> in London, as Assistant Stage Manager.

Catherine really enjoyed her visit and tour and would volunteer again for a third time! Our students told us:

Very interesting – a career I may consider – Alexia Pieretti, Year 10

Really enjoyed it – Aimme Adesina, Year 12

Very informative and useful – Charlie Porritt, Year 12



Nadine Azizollah—Class of 2000

Thanks to Nadine, who studied Zoology at Sheffield then worked at a small private zoo in South Yorkshire and subsequently ran an outreach enterprise visiting schools with collections of invertebrates and reptiles. Since 2011 has been working at ZSL London Zoo <http://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo> delivering educational talks and demos to the zoo's one million plus visitors per year! Her talk included details about her career path and the benefits of doing a job you love passionately! Nadine wrote about her visit, *"Thank you so much, I really enjoyed my trip down memory lane in visiting Owen's again. The students were a delight to talk to, and I really hope that they got something useful out of my presentation...the whole day was really well organised and it*

was interesting to see many new parts of the school on the tour in the afternoon. Many thanks for having me!"

Our students told us:

I enjoyed hearing about her personal experiences and also the challenges she faced and how she overcame them

– Korina Chapman, Year 9

It was very enjoyable and a good insight into potential routes involving animals after secondary school –Jake Light, Year 12

Interesting about the lots of different options you can choose from a taking a zoology degree – Toby Palmer, Year 12

Pamela Sivathondon—Class of 1999

Thanks to Pamela, who studied Medicine at Cambridge University, and then moved to Oxford University for her clinical studies, where she's lived and worked for 10 years. For the last 8 years, she's worked as a general surgeon and is currently working as a colorectal surgeon in Reading. Her talk included details about her experiences of applying to Oxford and Cambridge, careers in Medicine and Surgery in particular.

She told us, *"I hadn't been back to the school for nearly 16 years! The last time I came to the school was for my A level results - a day I'll never forget! Although buildings have changed the feelings are the same. It really is an incredible school with huge achievements happening in every department. The new buildings are amazing and the pupils are setting higher standards than if could have ever imagined. The artwork and exhibitions are particularly impressive. Proud to have been a part of it. Congratulations to the school."*



Pamela's subject was so popular we had to use the two classrooms which open into one in the Arnold Lynch building to accommodate all the students who signed up! They told us:

Brilliantly honest – definitely an eye opener into what life is really like as a surgeon – she seemed very passionate about her work – Charlotte Penny, Year 9

I found the talk interesting and informative, especially on how life is as a surgeon and choosing an Oxbridge college that's right for you – Chris Dunkin, Year 10

I really like how you can learn from people who are doing the job you are interested in so you can learn from their experience – Oliver Presland, Year 11

Interesting to hear about the typical day and the hours involved in being a consultant surgeon ...good insight to life in a hospital – Louisa Penrose, Year 12

A charismatic, informative and engaging talk that didn't get awkward at any moment – George Treschi, Year 11

I want to go into medicine, this just confirmed it – Holly Cole, Year 9



Pamela was delighted to discover we still have a photo of her with Princess Anne on our wall in the Bernard Ryan Sixth Form Centre! When she came to open the new building, she talked to several students on her tour of the School – Pamela was chosen to demonstrate work in the science laboratory—see left!

Anthony Croxford—Class of 1997

Thanks to Anthony, who studied Mechanical Engineering at University of Bristol, then worked for Crown Cork and Seal - a global packaging company and gained experience in projects on optimising production lines. He then studied for a PhD and worked on research into Non-Destructive Testing (NDT). Now, he's a Senior Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering at Bristol University. His talk included pathways to careers in engineering and opportunities in academia.

Anthony enjoyed his visit to DAOS, all the way from Bristol and would consider coming again!

Our students told us: *Very interesting and opened my eyes to something I'd never considered* – Lucy Bird, Year 10

Very insightful – helped me to understand some fundamental engineering – Kyle Kean, Year 11

Informative and explained the steps you have to take as well – Angelo Charalambous, Year 13

Eye opening - didn't realise there were so many options in the engineering industry – Alexia Kormi, Year 10



Susanna Hurrell—Class of 2005



Thanks to Susanna, who studied at the Royal College of Music and the National Opera Studio and has worked with several of the major London orchestras including the BBC Symphony Orchestra and BBC Concert Orchestra as well as performing several leading operatic roles and at Glyndebourne.

She very kindly performed for Owen's at our amazing 400th Anniversary Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in 2013. Photos here show her rehearsing (right) and receiving a standing ovation at our event (left).

As an Opera Singer, currently working for the Royal Opera House, <http://www.roh.org.uk/> her talk included "Becoming a Musician" and a career in the Performing Arts.



Our students told us:

Very knowledgeable, learnt a lot about the profession and how to prepare – Alice Dadswell, Year 9

Good talk. Refreshing lack of PowerPoint!
– Jakob Metson, Year 10

The talk gave me a real insight into the process of musical performing – Roshan Fernando, Year 12

Really interesting and inspirational. Good advice for future auditions/interviews – Zoe Nendick, Year 11

Truly inspirational – Dylan Clarke, Year 10

She showed us that there are opportunities as a costume or stage designer as well – Zoe Weir, Year 10

Lee Prebble—Class of 1969

Thanks to Lee, who studied for the Diploma in Planning at what is now the University of Gloucestershire and gained experience working for local authorities culminating as a Section Head for Sevenoaks District Council. He now has his own Town Planning practice working as a consultant mainly for local authorities and as a trainer.

Lee told us, *"We were made very welcome. The whole event was extremely well organised—it was a pleasure to be part of it."*

Our students told us:

Interesting to hear about a career I know very little about – links to economics, geography and sustainability – Steph Borden 12HW

I had never considered town planning as a career before so it was good to hear about something a little different and also introduced a lot of new career options – Sophie Wilson 12KDO

An insight into a world of work I had never come across – James McArthey 13JKB

It was interesting to learn more about something people generally know very little about – Lizzie Coles 13JKB



Neil Cutmore—Class of 1994



Thanks to Neil, who studied at Hertfordshire Regional College for HNC in Business and Finance as part of a management training scheme. He created his own Telecommunications company and now owns and runs Martin's Pond – a pub in rural Hertfordshire:

<http://martinspond.com/>.

His talk included using entrepreneurial skills and combining multiple careers and told us he enjoyed his time with us!

Our students told us:

Very good for the life skills and experience, thanks! Sasha Reechaye, Year 12

Inspiring and encouraging to push you into taking risks – Latha Lanka, Year 9

Inspiring for my independence and to broaden out my career path – Olivia Whitfield, Year 9

Talk was interactive and gave an interesting road to success – Alex Cirpan, Year 10

Neil held a very successful 20 Year Old Owenians Reunion at his pub in Berkhamstead last year and has proposed "to do it all again!" on Saturday 11th July, 2015. As last year, the ticket price will be £10 on the day (cash only please) of which he'll donate £5 to Great Ormond Street charity. His pub is Martins Pond, The Green, HP4 2QQ Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire: <http://martinspond.com/>. If you'd like to attend, please visit his Facebook page, or you can also email him direct at: <mailto:neil@mortgages-expert.co.uk>. Simply indicate whether you can come and if you wish to bring family etc. so that he can get an idea of numbers and if you have any dietary requirements (vegetarian etc.)! He looks forward to hearing from you!

Neil will also be doing some more fundraising with his own family, who are doing a sponsored skydive for Collett School for children with learning difficulties on 26th July this year. If you'd like to support him, read a brief summary of the charity by his son, here: <https://localgiving.com/fundraising/collettschoolskydivedancutmore>

John Lewis—Class of 1996



Thanks to John, who studied at Cambridge University, then did a Master's degree in Glasgow and a PhD at Cardiff University. Following his experience with Dutch and Estonian central banks, he now works for the Bank of England as Senior Economist in the International Directorate. His role includes academic research, analysing economic developments in real time, briefing the monetary policy committee, modelling the global economy and its effects on the UK <http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/>. His talk detailed his role and influence.

John's session had standing room only and students were given a marvellous opportunity to quiz John with all sorts of questions! Our Head of Social Sciences, Economics and Business Studies teachers all attended!

Our students told us:

Great talk about the type of work done. Even better was the interesting discussion on macroeconomic problems

—Mimi Zhee, Year 11

Answered some very testing questions well and clearly — Kate Wright, Year 13

Very interesting – gave me a great deal to think about – I am now a lot more interested in economics

– Tara Daemi, Year 9

Very informative and answered questions clearly – talked through how he ended up in the career he has today

– Fabio Arricale, Year 12

Good time for questions – Dan Coomey, Year 12

Very good, interesting and engaging – Anna Cunningham, Year 12

Keith Miles OBE FCA—Class of 1958

Thanks to Keith, who qualified as a Chartered Accountant in the City of London, has extensive knowledge practising for multinational businesses including becoming Group Finance Director of Etam plc, a large public company in the UK. Working as Finance Director for The Institute of Economic Affairs, brought him into the world of influencing government and policy makers <http://www.iea.org.uk/>. He is, amongst other positions, Fellow of The Institute of Chartered Accountants and has also written numerous articles finance and economics. Awarded the OBE (Order of the British Empire) by the Queen in 1999, for services to Anglo-Slovene relations, he included his wide experiences in these many roles in his talk.



Our students told us:

Very interesting and entertaining – understood very well – Omar Hossain, Year 9

Marks out of 10 – 11! Xenios Matjilla, Year 13

The brochure he gave out was very helpful and he gave a great insight into what it's like to be an accountant and what it takes to do so – Jack Bedells, Year 12

I like the talk as it really highlighted the fact that there are so many choices in the banking and finance world – William Merrett, Year 10

Keith, an alumnus from our Islington days, joined us with his wife and they both enjoyed the tour of our Potters Bar school, having only visited once before for a meeting. He very kindly donated books to our School library which, after a short display in our main foyer (see left), will be generously available for the benefit of current and future students.



Elliott Clayton—Class of 1996

Thanks to Elliott, who studied English Literature and Language at Leeds with a year in Spain on the Erasmus scheme. He started as a journalist in Madrid, teaching English and working on Hello! Magazine. Now, he's the UK Country Manager of a Sales and Account Management team of 20 for Conversant - a \$16 billion advertising company: <http://www.conversantmedia.com/> - one of the largest digital media companies in the world.



His fascinating talk included opportunities in the rapidly expanding digital media market, recommended study paths, the financial rewards and the opportunities globalisation offers recent graduates - especially in global hubs like Singapore and Dubai currently.

Our students told us:

Learnt lots – really good tips!—Laura Jackson, Year 12

Relevant slides, good info, interesting, well explained – Luther Lisk, Year 9

Gave great insight into advertising – George Chingworth, Year 11

Inclusion of salaries was quite interesting – Amy Brewer, Year 11

Peter Hunt—Class of 1975



Thanks to Peter, who holds a degree in Financial Investigation and Financial Crime (MAFIFC) obtained through a 3 year part time study course held at Teesside University. Having left DAO at 17, he joined Midland Bank (now HSBC) and from there his interest in Financial Crime developed.

He joined Hertfordshire Police in 1985 and in the late 80's specialised within Criminal Investigation and qualified as a Detective officer. He's served on many specialised units including murder squads and in 1994 joined Hertfordshire Police Fraud Squad.

He's had secondments to a Regional Crime Squad dealing with Financial Investigations

relating to Organised Crime Groups and the recovery of their assets acquired through their criminal enterprises.

After travelling extensively throughout the world on investigations, he transferred to the City of London Police <https://www.cityoflondon.police.uk/> Overseas Anti Corruption Unit in 2013, working on investigations relating to Bribery and Corruption cases. His wide ranging and interesting talk included his role investigating allegations of bribes paid by persons to overseas Government officials in order to win contracts and the wider profession.

Peter told us, *"This was my second visit to the school and I can sense the amount of positive energy that comes out of the building. The staff and students are all very courteous and I really felt that during my talk, there was a genuine interest shown by all the students with a good flow of pertinent questions asked after my input."*

Peter captivated a full classroom of students poised to hear about his career as a detective and passed round some interesting tools of the trade, used when analysing credit card fraud.

So once again we thank our all speakers who had their photos taken in our main foyer near our smaller statue of Dame Alice Owen's and our Art Display—here's the line up! Anna, Rebecca, Christina, Nicolette, Anthony, Catherine, Nadine, Pamela, John, Neil, Lee, Susannah, Keith, Peter and Elliott!



More exciting talks!

We were delighted to host two further events during National Careers Talks week and one later in March—first, the Worshipful Company of Brewers gave a fascinating early evening presentation to governors, staff and sixth formers about the Brewing Industry, including its history and methods of production. They even bought samples of hops and the real thing for tasting—not to be missed! They then repeated a similar event at Aldenham School during the later evening - Aldenham School are also supported by the Worshipful Company of Brewers. We're grateful to Colonel Michael O'Dwyer OBE, our Clerk to Governors and representative of the Brewers on our governing body, for arranging this splendid event. It was such a success they've already booked to come again next year!



Former parent returns!

Thanks to Simon Upcott for volunteering to speak to students in our second additional talk, at the end of our Old Owenians Careers Talks week, as a former parent of 4 students (his last two children left in 2013). He's an international tax expert, heading up a FTSE 250 multinational company tax department (Group Head of Tax, Vesuvius plc), with representative responsibilities for UK multinationals at UK, European and international (OECD) levels.

Head of Economics, Mr Simpson, arranged a special Friday lunchtime session for Economics students to give them first hand tax knowledge and the opportunity to ask lots of questions! We're grateful to Simon for his valuable time—who is himself an alumni of Dr Challoner's School, in Buckinghamshire.



Design and Technology students benefit once again!

Finally, thanks to Old Owenian, Scott Bain, responsible for Vehicle Design at McLaren Racing Limited, who also once again, came to talk to students later in March, as arranged by Head of D&T, Mr Benford. In addition, we're very grateful to Old Owenian, Adam Reader who has spoken to students previously about careers in UK manufacturing and who's company, Grace Foods, is involved in sponsoring our students FI in Schools competition.

Dame Alice Owen's soon to be home!



Having been on her travels to the US, Dame Alice appeared at the Sculpture Victorious exhibition of "The Beauty and Power of Victorian Sculpture" at Tate Britain from 25th February to 25th May 2015, as organised by Tate Britain and the Yale Centre for British Art in the US.



Our statue was one of the key pieces in the exhibition and afforded you the opportunity to see her beautifully lit, at eye level (as opposed to high up on the plinth in our dining room!), walk all the way around her and see her amongst other significant Victorian masterpieces (as the photo here shows—permission from Tate Britain).

Sir George Frampton, the famous sculptor, was commissioned by us in 1897 to create her; she's made of marble, alabaster, bronze, paint and gilding. The exhibition was quite exclusive with only 6 rooms and for those of you who managed a visit, she did indeed look stunning! Dame Alice returns to us during the summer holidays in a possible new location!

IT reminder!

Add oldowenians@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk to your safe senders list and update your email on Old Owenians In Touch if you've changed it—we're sure you don't want to miss our email alerts for newsletters and events. You can always refer to our website under Old Owenians for details of events, thank you!

Old Owenians Network Reception—May 2015—our inaugural event!



We were thrilled so many of you wanted to attend our first evening networking event held at Brewers' Hall in London on Monday 11th May, which benefited from some glorious warm Spring weather. Feedback from those of you who joined us was really positive with the prominent question being, "When's the next one?"! Many apologies to some of you on the waiting list whom we couldn't accommodate, as we had limited spaces, although we were able to offer a few last minute places and unfortunately some guests weren't able to make it on the night.

Guests were invited, who either worked or studied in Greater London, as an ideal occasion for them to meet fellow Londoners and keep in touch! Drinks and canapés were served and business cards were entered into a Champagne and Teddy Bear raffle! Here are our winners, Kim Barrett (nee Bishop), Class of 1973 and David Spurling, Class of 1956. Kim was especially delighted with our 400th anniversary "Owen Bear", as she's Head of Pelham Primary School and was looking forward to telling all her pupils about Dame Alice Owen!

Home of the Brewers, the beautiful rooms at Brewers' Hall were kindly donated by the Worshipful Company to enable us to hold this after-work event, as we know many of you cannot join us for the Old Owenians Annual Reunion Luncheon in October (Harold Moore Luncheon) in half term. This new event provided the perfect opportunity for alumni to pop in on their way home from work or university/college or to travel in and start their evening with us. For many of our guests, the last time they had visited Brewers Hall was as a Year 7 student collecting their Beer Money and some of our Islington students had never visited before!

Old Owenian, Peter Martin, (Class of 1971), our Chair of Governors was our host for the evening and the Master Brewer, James Arkell, as well as our Brewers representative on our governing body, Colonel Michael O'Dwyer OBE also dropped in. Old Owenian and Co-opted Governor, Nick Barnes, (Class of 1993), was kindly able to attend (pictured right), as was Old Owenian and Administration Officer, Mr Bill Hamilton-Hinds (Class of 1963), who drew the raffle.

Our Head, Alan Davison and our Senior Prefect students, enjoyed chatting to alumni and were inspired to see what they've all been up to since leaving School! Present were: Head Boy, Sam Mason and Deputies, Rosina Acosta, Stef Borden and Phil Hobbs—we're glad they were able to take time out of their exam studies to join us.



Mr Hamilton-Hinds (pictured left), told us that he was so pleased to meet past students he'd taught, and to see what they were doing now, saying it's what makes teaching so rewarding and satisfying, knowing the successes your students are able to achieve.

Guests who attended (with Class of):

Michael Stern, 1952, David Spurling, 1956, Patricia Barber, 1960, Joan Beavington, 1960, Russell Fell, 1963, Ron Tabor, 1967, Dr Ian Franklin, 1968, Andy Melvin, 1969, Anthony Gibson, 1972, Kim Barrett, 1973, David Eacott, 1976 Michael Howard, 1976, Lorraine Hammond, 1977, Arun Rishi, 1977, Glyn Chapman, 1978, Andrew Weston, 1981, Vic Brown, 1982, Alastair Tyler, 1983, Matthew Pearce, 1985, Stephen Page, 1986, Roy Thompson, 1986, Paul Garrett, 1987, Alex Collins, 1991, Andrew Porter, 1991, Gavin Jordan, 1992, James Trezona, 1995, Tanya Jordan, 1996, David Goedecke, 1998, James Penson, 1998, Anna Young, 1999, Vincent Lo, 2001, Aniket Sardana, 2001, Jocelyn Benson, 2004, Hannah Osborne, 2004, Rhiannon Evans-Young, 2009, Eden Silver-Myer, 2009, Chloe Spiby Loh, 2009, Alice Buckley, 2010, Emily Hurrell, 2012

Companies and institutions represented were:

NHS, The Wax Chandlers, Imperial War Museum, North Bridge House School, London, Rhombus Design Ltd, Moyes & Co, Irish Blood Transfusion Service, Cubic, Pelham Primary School, Pelham Academy Trust, CGNMB LLP, Arguo, British Telecom, London Ambassadors, University of London, Maidment Judd, Wellstar, Deloitte, Howe Robinson Partners, Nabarro LLP, Commercial property advisory service, London, Vestra Wealth, Hydrock, Brunswick, PerkinElmer Company, Ernst & Young, Rooster Punk (Ad agency), CgMs Consulting, Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (Airbus Group), Project and Building Consultancy Ltd, Plan A, Arqiva, Focus Nature Ltd, The Corner Shop Events, Progressive Digital Media, Children and Families Services, Islington, Eric Parry Architects, Eden Silver-Myer Jewellery, Political Lobbying and Media Relations Westminster Advisers - public affairs consultancy, National Centre for Circus Arts

We were overwhelmed by the lovely comments and the quick response to our feedback survey following the event, some of which we thought we'd share with you below and photos taken during the evening. 100% of our alumni said they'd attend another such event and recommend it to others!



"I met an old friend from the year above me in Owen's, who I certainly wouldn't have met up with otherwise! We're now back in contact and are arranging a reunion with our old "train gang"."

"It was interesting to see people that I'd been to school with and find out what they are doing now."

"Great timing to attend on way home from work and a good opportunity to visit Brewers' Hall"

"It was a really valuable evening! Also, particularly thank you for the introduction to Alistair Tyler. It was great to meet someone at the company I am soon to be starting at. I look forward to the next one!"

"I thought that the whole proceedings were extremely good"

"I enjoyed the evening very much and I am very grateful to the organisers for holding the event and for inviting me."

"It was very interesting listening to people's memories of their time at Owens, and I was delighted to hear about the current achievements of the school."



"Congratulations on a very well organised event with excellent turnout"

"Had some positive interest in a couple of projects I am engaged in from those previously unknown as well as rekindling relationships. Great mix of networking and social wrapped up in one."

"Everything was excellent"





"It was an ideal opportunity to meet former pupils but also to find out what people were doing in their work lives with the possibility of future mutually beneficial opportunities."

"Great night. Thanks so much for organising. Really interesting and fun."



"Nice to discover what people are up to and interesting to meet people who work in a similar field."

"It was a really successful event and a great chance to meet alumni from across the years. Thank you also for the introduction to Andrew Porter, we had a lot to talk about! Look forward to seeing you at the next event."



Millennium Plinth outside Brewers' Hall

For those of you who've not visited recently (or not noticed!), see below the Brewers' dramatic Millennium plinth:

NOTHING IS DISTANT FROM GOD

THE DYING WORDS OF THE MOTHER OF ST AUGUSTINE ARE OFFERED HERE BY THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BREWERS IN CELEBRATION OF THE SECOND MILLENNIUM OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD



School News!

New Languages, Drama and Learning support building to be named after an Old Owenian!

Sir Alan Parker will be the name of our new Languages, Drama and Learning Support Building. As an Old Owenian, Sir Alan Parker CBE was honoured to be asked and will be opening the building officially on 1st July at 2pm.

Having attended our Islington Owen's Boys' school (Class of 1962), he supported our 400th Anniversary Celebration Concert at the Royal Albert Hall in 2013 and other events.

The photo shown here with Old Owenians, Gary Kemp (left) and Tony Hadley (right) from Spandau Ballet was taken at our 400th Anniversary Reception at Mansion House in 2013.



An inspiration to all drama students, Sir Alan's career as a director in the film industry spans over 40 years, including directing iconic films such as Bugsy Malone, Midnight Express, Mississippi Burning, The Commitments, Evita, Fame, Birdy, Angel Heart and Angela's Ashes. Read his full biography at: <http://alanparker.com/>.

Almost complete!

Our new building has been in use since just after May half term and final touches are being applied. The main structure has been equipped with fixtures and fittings, in time for students taking Language oral exams and Learning Support students taking public exams during this exam season. The outside area between the new and existing buildings is paved and has an additional stepped area for seating - disabled access from the car park is available at the side of the building. A magnolia tree has been planted and water fountains have been installed inside and out, along with a kitchenette facility to incorporate the drama office and general staff room. There are three main classrooms (one for drama, two for languages), two learning support classrooms and four small general use classrooms. A store room is provided at the rear of the large drama studio and a disabled toilet is located near the main entrance. See photos taken here as the work was being completed in May.



New building to be named after Old Owenian, Sir Alan Parker Building - more photos from the inside below!



New Deputy Head appointment

We're thrilled to be welcoming Mrs Hannah Nemko, currently Deputy Head at the very successful Yavneh College in Borehamwood, as our new Deputy Head in September and are excited about working with her. Yavneh College was listed by The Times in 2014 as "the best performing non selective state school in the country at A Level".

Tom Morkill MBE



Thanks to Mr Morkill for sending in these lovely photos as requested from his inauguration at Buckingham Palace on December 11th 2014.

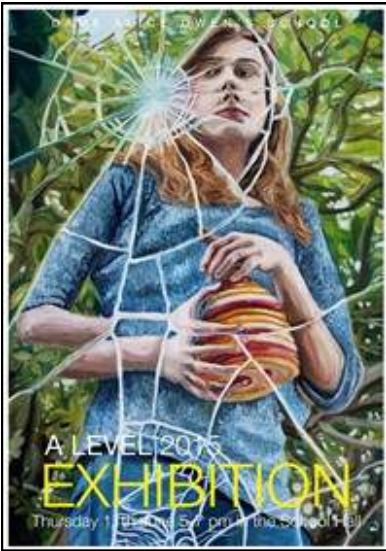
As reported in our June 2014 Old

Owenians Newsletter, he received an MBE in the 2014 Queen's Birthday Honours list in recognition of his services to education and his role as Chair of Governors at Dame Alice Owen's School. His family; wife, Jean and two daughters, Susan and Kate were

there to support him on the day! He told us, "It was a beautifully organised day and the palace staff were very efficient and friendly. The weather also obliged—quite sunny but with a chilly wind!"



Students excel in Art Exhibitions!



Our Art Department was able to host two amazing Exhibitions of A Level and GCSE artwork this May/ June with our talented students course and exam work. Galleries have been created on our website from this years events—please go to this link for a virtual tour! <http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/arts.html>

In addition, we congratulate Abigail Wilderspin, Year 13, (pictured right) who was short-listed in the top 20 for the Saatchi Gallery, Art Prize for Schools Award from over 20,000 entries submitted by more than 30 countries from around the world and her work was displayed at a special exhibition in April (shown below right).



This is the second time in five years that a Dame Alice Owen's School student has exhibited at this prestigious event - Nick Hease was shortlisted in 2010.

Congratulations also, to Year 13 student Lawrence Tang, whose extraordinary architectural tree sculpture has been chosen for this years online Royal Academy Summer Exhibition A Level Competition (below right).



DAOS also supported the recent 'Best of GCSE' Exhibition at Elm Court

during the Potters Bar Carnival on Sunday 7th June, receiving extremely positive comments from visitors (photo below left).



Finally, five Art students had their work displayed at Somerset House, also on Sunday 7th June, to celebrate the work produced for the National Art and Design Saturday club (left). Students have been attending weekly throughout the year and exhibited their



work in this celebratory exhibition. Thanks once again to our Art Department and all staff involved for continuing to provide opportunities for our students to display their work.



Students and staff excel at team and individual Sports!

Sporting Old Owenians will be thrilled to know that this season, our 1st XV became County Rugby Champions (below top), our Year 10 became County Rugby Champions (below middle) and our U13 Girls became County Hockey Champions (below bottom) in an incredible string of wins!





In addition, Sarah Fishwick, Year 11, completed the London Triathlon in Hyde Park on Saturday 30th May 2015 in 1 hour and 15 minutes – a really tremendous achievement. Her challenge was to swim (in the Serpentine) 400m, to ride her bike 15km and finally run 2.5km. She was working towards this event for her Physical section of her Gold Duke of Edinburgh's award and passed with flying colours! Finally, four members of our staff took part in this year's Blenheim Palace Triathlon in Oxfordshire on Saturday 13th June 2015 – Mrs H Wootton, Miss J Nicolson, Miss A Roots (from our Maths Department) and Mrs M English (your editor!). They all completed the event in under 2 hours, with Mrs Wootton achieving a personal best! The challenge involved first a 750m swim in a wetsuit across the beautiful Blenheim Lake, then a 19.8km bike ride around the trails, followed finally

by a 5.4km run in the grounds of the historic house. Miss Nicolson fundraised for the event's sponsor, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and Mrs English, raised over £1,200 for The Dystonia Society. They're ready to sign up again for next year and would welcome any staff **OR ALUMNI** who'd like to join them! If you register your interest for 2016 at: <http://www.theblenheimtriathlon.com/> you'll get a priority email nearer the time—let us know so you can sign up with the same Wave group name to get the same Wave time—you need to book early for a non-charity place—look out for priority emails September/October!



Sir Ian McKellen comes to visit!

Sir Ian McKellen, a founder of Stonewall, came to visit us on Friday 22nd May 2015. As a School, we've worked closely with Stonewall for over 5 years to address homophobia and promote tolerance and acceptance of difference. He spoke to two packed assemblies (over 600 students), sharing his insight into the challenges and dangers of being openly gay in the mid to late 20th century. Students gave him a tour of our School, including our new drama building and at the end of his visit he said, "I was so impressed by the friendly, mature attitudes of the staff and students. I think Dame Alice should be very proud." Head, Alan Davison, shaking hands above, thanked Sir Ian for his time and thought provoking assemblies, then presented him with a book and the last bottle of 400th anniversary specially brewed beer!

Next School Events to which you're very welcome!

Wednesday 1st July—Concert Band Evening Edward Guinness Hall (EGH) 7.30pm

Saturday 4th July—OSA (Owen's School Association) Summer Fete 12 noon-4pm—School Grounds

Wednesday 8th July—Summer Play – Performance – Daz for Zoe*—School Hall 7.30pm

Thursday 9th July—Senior Orchestral Concert – EGH 7.30pm

Friday 10th July and Saturday 11th July—Summer Play – Performance – Daz for Zoe*—School Hall 7.30pm

Thursday 16th July—Open Day 2.00 - 5.00pm - just turn up for a guided tour or simply walk around yourself for a trip down memory lane and to see our new buildings! Our whole school community are invited; current parents/students, Old Owenians and prospective parents/students! **We look forward to seeing you !**

***Daz for Zoe**—The play is roughly based on *Romeo and Juliet* but is set in the near distant future. In this world, there are two types of people – the Subbies (from suburbia) and the Chippies (from the inner city). The subbies have all the power and wealth, the chippies are left in poverty. Some chippies are fed up with their situation and have resorted to violence – they are members of a gang called DRED. They are trying to uncover the head of another secret organisation called FAIR who think peaceful negotiations between the two sides is the only way forward. Mixed up in this turmoil are Daz and Zoe – Daz is a Chippy, full of hatred for the Subbies and their way of life, and Zoe a Subbie. When they meet, they fall in love. With danger on all sides, how could they ever be together?

If you've got any queries, please speak to Mandy English on 07864 517175 or our School website for more details at:

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/news_dates/ticket_information.html and for directions please see:

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/contact_us/directions.html

Cricket at Old Owen's Sports Ground—by Alan Hunter

"Old Owen's Cricket Club would like to welcome anyone interested in playing cricket at the Old Owen's Sports Ground in Coopers Lane, Potters Bar, EN6 4NF. The facilities for Cricket at the Old Owen's Sports Ground consist of 2 cricket squares which are meticulously looked after by our groundsman and both are covered in adverse weather conditions. Facilities also include changing rooms and a fantastic Clubhouse equipped with Bar, Lounges, TV's and a Function Room.



The Old Owen's Cricket Club has 3 Saturday XI's that play in the Saracens Herts League (www.hertsleague.co.uk) in divisions 2A, 7B and Regional B East respectively. The League season normally starts at the beginning of May and finishes in early September for all teams. League fixtures normally start at 1 p.m. and consist of both limited overs and timed matches.

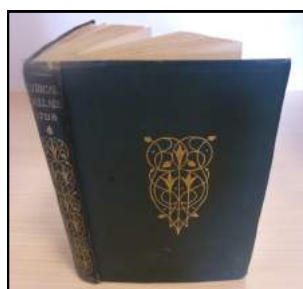
There is a Sunday XI that plays friendly fixtures every Sunday throughout the season and the occasional Cup games are played on a Sunday by the 1st XI. The Cricket Club also has a Colts section that train and practice on Sunday mornings between 10.30 a.m. and 12 p.m. The section currently has training sessions for U9, U12 and U14 which started in April and will cease in Mid-July. Adult Cricket Nets currently take place on Thursday evenings from 6.30 p.m. onwards at the Old Owen's Sports Ground. **Everyone is welcome to come along and take part.**

Thanks to Alan for this article and also to our Science technician, Debbie Palmer, who is a member of the club and parent and would also encourage you to join! If you're interested in playing, have any enquiries or would like to go and check out the facilities, please contact any of the following personnel:

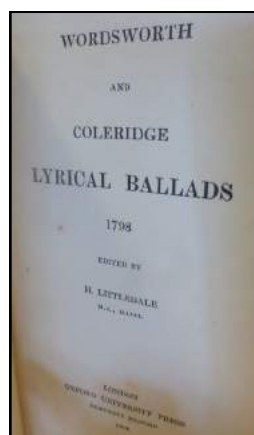
Rory Allan	07956 514798 (1 st XI Captain)	Shaun Flook	07718 050587 (2 nd XI Captain)
Alan Hunter	07940 769675 (3 rd XI Captain)	Rob Sibley	07876 303663 (Sunday Captain)
Tim Lane	07977 998502 (Colts Section)		

They look forward to seeing you!

Lyrical Ballads 1798



Thanks to Noel Course for sending us an addition to our archives - a book called "Lyrical Ballads, 1798". Inside the cover is an ink stamp with Owen's School, Islington dated 11th Feb 1925.



He thinks it might have been one of the books within the school library and that it's possible it was an item left in the estate of the late Ethel Henniker, who may have been an Owen's pupil or it could have belonged to a relative of his mother, the late Margaret Clifford (nee). If anyone would like to borrow the book for research, please contact us.

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Your next Old Owenians event—Harold Moore Annual Reunion Luncheon!

Please put this date in your diary—**Monday 26th October 2015!** Old Owenian, Sandyann Cannon, who volunteers her time to arrange this event, will be sending direct invitations to those who are on her list in September with details about how to book your ticket—we'll also be sending a reminder to all Old Owenians via our usual email address. If you'd like to send Sandyann an email to join her list directly, please email her at: sandyannc@annon.co.uk.

This is a lovely occasion in the Elizabethan Restaurant, Imperial Hotel, 61-66 Russell Square, Holborn WC1B 5BB (see photo), where alumni can meet and greet each other over relaxed pre-lunch drinks from 11.30am, chat over a delicious 3 course meal (1-4pm) and continue afterwards in the hotel bar if they so wish!

We'd like to encourage many new attendees this year as we know you'll enjoy the event, whether it's catching up with old faces or networking with new ones—we know you have a lot to talk about!



More Firsts for the Honours Board!

Thanks to sisters, Samantha Holliday (nee Pearce) and Deborah Hobbs (nee Pearce) – Class of 1995 and 1997 respectively, for getting in touch with details of their Firsts for our Honours Boards and information about some more of our Senior Prefects page on our website!

Samantha Pearce: Consumer Services Management (BA Hons) from Leeds Beckett University in 1998

Deborah Pearce: Art: Practice & Theory (BA Hons) from Lancaster University in 2001

Samantha said her Home Economics teacher, Cheryl Luxford, was the inspiration and encouragement behind choosing her course and Deborah still continues to teach Art at Haberdashers Girls School. Both now have families of their own and very fond memories of their time here at Owen's!

Congratulations also to:

Pamela Sivathondan (Class of 1999): MD (Cantab) 2014, MA Hons (Cantab) 2005, BMBCh (Oxon) 2005

Helen Thomson (Class of 2009): Cellular and Molecular Medicine (CMM), from Bristol University in 2013

Romy Shum (Class of 2011, Senior Team Girl): BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics with Study Abroad, from Durham University 2015

If you were awarded a First, please get in touch—our Honours Board is updated every September!

Opportunities for you though our Advanced Learning Alliance

If you're currently in your first year at university and would like to consider a career in teaching, or are a recent graduate looking for a career change, the Advanced Learning Alliance, led by Dame Alice Owen's School, would love to hear from you. We're running an internship programme for two weeks in June/July 2016 across our high achieving partner schools, during which time you will observe lessons, speak with school leaders, have opportunities to teach and find out about routes into teaching. We've had many alumni enter the profession over the years, and we want to be the ones to train you, because we know your standards will be high!



If you're interested in finding out more, please contact Jane Hart (Lead for School Direct and Teacher Training for the Alliance) at j.hart@watfordgirls.herts.sch.uk or Jonathan Robinson (Director of the Teaching School Alliance) at robinsonj@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk.

To find out more about the Advanced Learning Alliance take a look at our website www.advancedlearningalliance.com and follow us on Twitter @JonRobALA and @AdvLearnAl.

We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Support Us—to answer your questions!

We often have alumni ask how they can support us and so in response, we've created a webpage which explains exactly that—**see link below**. We know some of you are in the position of being generously able to give your time, for which we're very grateful and know some of you would like to contribute in other ways. Whatever way it is, we appreciate that for all of us, there are different times in our lives when we feel we'd like give back so we've tried to give you as many options as possible. With our alumni programme we've been able to develop for you, during and since our 400th Anniversary in 2013, we're thrilled and privileged that so many of you want to stay in touch and that we can provide many ways in which you can do so. **Probably, the best way to support us would be to simply spread the word about Old Owenians In Touch and encourage others to join! Thank you!**

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



HAYLEY POMFRETT – CLASS OF 1997

When we wished Hayley good luck appearing on a new TV show, which started in February, she said *“I'm very excited to be involved...!”*. She's the first violinist and leader of Heartbeats Strings, the string quartet performing live on ITV's new daytime game show, 1000 Heartbeats. (Credit for the photograph, below, goes to Alan Harbord).

Hosted by Vernon Kay, the show sees contestants compete against the clock – 1,000 of their own heartbeats – to win a cash prize. The jackpot is £25,000. As they play each of the seven rounds, their heart rate is measured and relayed to the string quartet, with the musicians playing at the tempo of the contestant's heartbeat. The competitors need to stay calm under pressure to win big, as if a player runs out of heartbeats, their game is over. 1000 Heartbeats can be seen weekdays, Monday to Friday, on ITV at 4pm.

She also spoke to the Welwyn and Hatfield Times; *“It's a really exciting opportunity to work on the show, especially since it is quite rare these days to have live orchestral musicians on TV shows and this is for a whole series.”*

The paper reported that Hayley started playing the violin while at Cuffley Junior School and started private lessons aged 10. She joined the vibrant music scene here at Owen's which inspired her to continue to study at a specialist music university in Germany for four years before landing some big roles back here in the UK.



She plays for West End Shows (for example, she's been in the orchestra pit at Phantom of the Opera and Les Miserables musicals), orchestras, does recording sessions and electric violin shows for corporate events – her work takes her all over the world. She performed at the BRITs earlier this year and has appeared with Beyonce, Kanye West, Take That & toured with Lana Del Ray, Rod Stewart and on George Michael's Symphonica Tour. She also played in the BBC Concert Orchestra for the Queens Diamond Jubilee Concert at Buckingham Palace in June 2012.

Apart from 1000 Heartbeats, her TV appearances include playing in the live band for The X Factor and performing with Tom Odell on Alan Carr's Chatty Man. She's also played at a wedding fayre at Hatfield House and in the House of Commons! You can read more about Hayley on her own website: <http://www.hayleypomfrett.com/>.

Thanks to Hayley for keeping in touch and we wish her continued success with the new show and her music career.



ADAM HARRIS—CLASS OF 1981

Thanks to Mr Harris, who tells us about the challenges working in the NHS and sharing his career progression, he says, *“I left School in June 1981 expecting to work for Marks & Spencer after receiving 5 rejections to study Medicine. Whilst travelling through Europe with my best friend, Coneyl Jay (left 1980), my A level results were opened by my Mother who rang the admissions office at Charing Cross Hospital Medical School (my first choice and only interview) and convinced them to accept me through the clearing system. In October 1981 I started training as a doctor (after declining a job at M&S, Brent Cross).*

I graduated in 1987 and spent the next 10 years in and around London training to become a consultant. I developed a particular interest in diseases of the gastro-intestinal tract, acquired a new set of skills (endoscopy), passed some exams, spent 2 years in research and was appointed Consultant Physician & Gastroenterologist in Tunbridge Wells, Kent in 1997. Overall, my work is very rewarding (“busy saving lives”) but as the NHS limps through another year, I find myself working longer hours and supervising less experienced junior staff and, with regret, I am planning for an early retirement....

I owe a debt of gratitude to Dame Alice Owen and in particular to my Headmaster, the late Gerry Jones, who offered me a place despite being “from outside the area”.



ROSIE BUSIAKIEWICZ – CLASS OF 2011

Congratulations to Rosie, who's been given a place to study at Harvard, for an MA in 'Arts in Education' run by the Graduate School of Education. You may remember Rosie, in her Sixth Form here, as she took a lead role in our musical, "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and who also compered for us at our amazing 400th Anniversary Concert at the Royal Albert Hall.

She studied History of Art for her BA at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, and is currently at the Courtauld Institute of Art studying for an MA in the History of Photography and Film. At the end of her second year at Cambridge, she became president of the Fine Arts Society, as well as sitting on the college's Fine Arts Committee, and organised a college-wide art competition and exhibition that was open to anyone who studied or worked at the college.

As soon as her degree was finished she spent two months working for Kettle's Yard Gallery in their temporary exhibition, and volunteered during their family afternoons on Sundays. She's very aware that the study of art and visits to museums are considered 'elite' activities, and she says Harvard agree with her on this - the course she will be doing actively combats issues such as these by teaching students how to deliver art-based and creative initiatives to all communities. She launched a crowdfunding website to raise money for her fees – she's using her savings from her part-time job as well as a loan to pay for my living costs once she's out there! Wishing her all the very best of luck in America!



DAVID SPURLING—CLASS OF 1956

Thanks to Mr Spurling for sharing his teaching experiences with us in this article—he attended our Old Owenians Network Reception in May and won our Champagne Raffle!

"I have spent most of my career teaching, ranging from a secondary modern as well, as grammar schools and universities, including University of London, Birmingham City University and Greenwich University. In the classroom. I originally started teaching at the age of 19. I had a whole day's advice on teaching before I started. I was told that I was bigger than them so I could tell them to shut up! I don't think that was true! On the other hand, I was told that it was okay to say when things went wrong, but also to make sure that I said thank you when things went right and that was good advice! I have taught students in the classroom from age 11 to 67, and as a tutor from age 4 to 48. I have also written 14 textbooks and a joke book. I am proudest of the joke book! I have been a parliamentary candidate in Meriden, and also a councillor in Southend-on-Sea and in Swale in Kent.

I have specialised in transport teaching as well as current affairs subjects. My interest in transport, started at Owens when we often waited for the steam train to Finsbury Park from Oakleigh Park when we went to the sports field in Chandos Avenue. The service was then only hourly. This was long before the school moved to Potters Bar. I have stood in front of classes of people from at least 50 different countries. Whether I have taught them anything is not really something I can say. I think the challenge which I find, as with many teachers, is to be able to apply the subjects to real life.

I have also been a statistics examiner for the then Chartered Institute of Transport as well as having marked A level Labour economics for EdExcel and am currently marking the scripts for the Association of Business Managers and Administrators, which aims to provide cheap but good quality courses for poorer countries. I have also set up a College in Nairobi. I currently have two intelligent, 19-year-old apprentices working for me on mission impossible to get me organised! I am also working on a world of work book to look at the problems which people face in making the transition from school to university and from university to work. I would happily share my thoughts on this with any current or past Owenians."



EDMUND MCKINNON – CLASS OF 1952

Thanks to Dr McKinnon for getting in touch – he was recently a Senior Visiting Fellow at the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies in Singapore and returned to Java in mid-March this year. He was unable to attend our Careers Talks Week but has had an interestingly varied career to date, from rubber planter in north Sumatra and amateur archaeologist to development and livelihood specialist in Indonesia and latterly art historian – he says his career was *“formed more by happenstance than planning”!*



JUDITH SIMPSON—LEFT AROUND 1950

Thanks to Judith Simpson for her mail! She'd like to get in touch with old school friends Pat Tattam and Shirley Galland but says as it's 65 years ago, maybe that's just too long! If anyone has any details for us to pass on, please contact us at oldowenians@damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk as she says our help would be much appreciated. Ms Simpson apologies that she can't attend any reunions as she now lives in Johannesburg, but would love to hear from friends!



ROY CHENERY – CLASS OF 1967

Thanks to Mr Chenery for sending us this lovely photo of Owen's students from Year 5 at the Horseferry Rowing Club on the Thames, which was used by the School in 1964/1965. He's told us that the gentleman to the left of the photo worked for the rowing club, rather than being part of the school and he himself is the person in white to the extreme right of the picture. He recognises only one other person – Robert Lorge, the fifth person from the right.





TIM BOSTON – CLASS OF 1964

Thanks to Mr Boston for getting in touch – he’s been in the US for the last 25 years and works as Assistant Administrator of the Ming Hsieh Department of Electrical Engineering, University of Southern California. If he’s back in the UK visiting relatives in Hertfordshire, he’ll try and pop in for a tour!



TONY LAVENDER – CLASS OF 1956

Many thanks to Mr Lavender for getting in touch about our Careers Talks this year – he’s had an extremely varied and interesting career and is now partly retired – he has his own consultancy website where you can view the many roles he’s had from being in the Navy, Civil Service and Consulting; www.cdiuk.org.



RUSSELL FELL – CLASS OF 1963

Thanks to Mr Fell for sending in this interesting article about his career and what’s inspired him over the years. He also attended our Old Owenians Network Reception in May. We hope he’ll be able to visit our school here in Potters Bar at one of our next events for a tour!

“I left Owens in 1963. I obtained a B.A. in Chinese & Politics from Leeds University in 1968. My first job after leaving university was coaching football, oddly enough, in Sierra Leone, but for most of my career I was a primary school teacher. After I retired I spent five years as a station announcer with Chiltern Railways. Apart from football, I've coached athletics and table tennis.

My first form teacher at Owens was Mr George, the woodwork teacher, and I remember I was completely hopeless at his subject. Yet it's strange how things can sometimes work out, because years later I qualified as a woodwork teacher myself! I spent two and a half years in China, in Xian, teaching English in the early eighties. That was a tremendous experience and had a big influence on our two children. My older son is now the professor of Taiwan Studies at S.O.A.S. in London. He did Chinese and Politics at Leeds too, and last autumn our grandson began his university life at Leeds doing the same combination of subjects.

*These days I am semi retired, but I still coach chess at my last school, North Bridge House in London. It was at a chess tournament last week at Lochinver House that I heard the news of Bill Hinds recent illness. Bill and I were in the same class at Owens for several years. Alan Parker, of 'Bugsy Malone' fame, was also in our class. **

Although I was the North London Grammar Schools 880 yards champion in 1960, it wasn't till I was into my late fifties that I really took up running seriously, and then I began running marathons. I come from a sporting family. My grandfather played football for Queens Park Rangers and Barnet, and our oldest grandson has played cricket for Bedfordshire.

Whereas my older son followed my interest in China, my younger one took up my other passion for bus and rail transport, and he has built up a very successful ebay business selling bus and rail memorabilia. Partly perhaps to escape the stresses of teaching, I began photographing buses in London. That was over forty years ago, and now my son puts these images out for sale on ebay. Getting these pictures ready takes up quite a bit of my time, but it's a labour of love.

I would like to come up to the school sometime. I still haven't been there yet. The nearest I came was when I was photographing some of the school bus routes outside the school some years ago!”

* Mr Bill Hamilton-Hinds had a successful operation just before Christmas and more recently a second one. We’re delighted to report he’s recovering well and, unsurprisingly, can’t wait to get back to work!



RALPH ROBINSON - CLASS OF 1910

Thanks to Niall Stoddart of Blandford School for information about Ralph Robinson, who appears on our First World War Memorial. Robinson was from Palmers's Green and taught English and History at Blandford for just one school year 1913/14. He was sadly killed at Ypres on 27th April 1915.



Niall has produced biographies of those who were at Blandford and died in the war. Our application to repair our war memorial is ongoing—you can see full detail on our website at: http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/about_us/war_memorials.html



ARTHUR STANLEY-SMITH – CLASS OF ???

Thanks to Arthur's granddaughter, Ms Acheson, for sending us these photos of a medal belonging to him, recording 100 miles in 10 hours, on 1st June 1907. We think it's an Old Owen's Cycling Club (OCCC) medal which means 10mph on his bike—sounds about right! We understand he was also quite a swimmer and held medals for rifle shooting too!

Our Assistant Head, Dr D Mitchell, also a cycling enthusiast, has just started cycling the lanes of St Albans and Wheathampstead on a Friday after school with Mr Titley, our Head of Geography—he'd welcome others to join them!



BRIEN MARTIN –CLASS OF 1951

Thanks to Mr Martin for getting in touch with us in February. While not able to attend our Careers Week, he's kindly written some details of his experience of 50 years as a Chartered Surveyor, as he views career information as an important element in young people's education. He tells us, *"I started in a local practice, after which I switched to the commercial sector. This opened the door for me to be involved in the development of many major (and minor) commercial developments, including shopping centres, office and industrial schemes throughout the UK, several major Cities in Europe, the USA and Asia. I certainly found it to be extremely enjoyable. I became a visiting lecturer and examiner at two of the London universities who conducted approved BSC (Estate Management) courses and now have a busy life as a director of one of the UK's larger development organizations."*



MIKE GOODGE—CLASS OF 1961

Thanks to Mr Goodge for sending us his life story to date and this great class photo, with Mr Neil Blake, which has been confirmed as Middle Sixth 1959/1960 by Mr David Dallman, also Class of 1961, as he remembers, *"I only got my colours for cross-country in March 1960, so the photo must have been for the year 1959/1960"*. More from Mr Dallman on p 35.



Back Row L to R: Peter Searl, Ted Cook, Raymond Barnes
 Middle Row L to R: Terry Room, Alan Morley, Paul Hanmer, David Dallman, David Pewsey, Ralph Nicholls
 Front Row L to R: Victor Abraham, Michael Alexander, Peter Caton, Mr Neil B H Blake, Christopher Long, Leonard Underwood, Mike Goodge

Mr Goodge was a pupil at Owen's School Islington from 1953 to 1961. He then studied Civil Engineering at the Universities of Leeds and Massachusetts and then stayed and worked in the USA for 7 years. He returned to the UK to work with Consultants or County Councils in London, Exeter, Oxford & Guildford.

He started to have opportunities to work overseas, in 1985, when he was sent by Devon County Council to New Zealand to help run road safety training workshops. He has been travelling ever since and has worked in a total of 35 different countries as a road safety specialist.



Since 1996 he has lived in Vientiane, the capital of Laos, South East Asia, with his second family, (see photo L to R: Ellen, Anousone, Mike & Emily Goodge, Christmas 2014, Vientiane, Laos). Mike also has grown-up sons in the US and Canada. He is now fully retired, (perhaps), after several previous failed attempts.

He hopes to visit the Potters Bar campus later this year with his older daughter Emily who is due to

start her studies at London College of Fashion in North London, which is not that far from the Angel Islington and the previous site of Owen's Boys' School. Mike would be happy to hear from any of his old classmates via

mjgoodge@gmail.com or better still show them around his part of the world if they are ever in South East Asia!

Some questions from Mike: *Any old Owenians work in more than 35 countries? What is the record?*
Any other old boy or girl visit or work in North Korea? (Mike helped run a workshop in Pyongyang in 2006)



JOHN WESTON – CLASS OF 1952

Thanks to John Weston for supplying these fantastic archive photos for our Newsletter – he's remembered most of the names and suggests that perhaps other readers could fill in those he doesn't recall or correct the ones they think are wrong! He told us this first photo was supposed to be one of all the prefects at the time, but one was missing – that was John himself!

Back row - K Dovey; J Newman; D Barclay; R Chivers; D Flynn;

M Singer; M Fowler; M Harold; 'Spud' Elder; J Christmas

Front row - Not known!; A. Knight (head boy); W L Garstang (Headmaster); Le Good; D Penfold



Back row - Langford; DK; Newman; Bill Diamond; D Wright; D King

Front row - Woolley; Frank Smith (goalkeeper); Del Barclay; John Weston; ?????Who?



Back row - Dell Barclay; D King; Jock Martin; Dan Faulkner; John Weston; Reg Tricker (Sportsmaster)
 Front row - Bob Beecham; Tony Moore; Alf Knight (capt); Lawrence Levy; Dick Diamond; Dell Getting



Front row – Bill Read; K Guilder; Dan Faulkner; D Critcher; Woolley; John Weston; Wicking?
 Back row – D King; Dell Barclay; Alf Knight; M Harold



ANDY HALLEWELL – CLASS OF 1981

Thanks to Mr Hallewell for getting in contact in February – he lives in Ireland so apologised he wasn't able to attend our Careers Week! Since 2007, he has been working in the voluntary sector as the manager of an environmental NGO (Non-governmental organisation) in the Republic of Ireland, called the Organic Centre <http://www.theorganiccentre.ie/>, which promotes "Organic Gardening, Horticulture and a Sustainable Lifestyle". He now has a young family of his own (4 children at primary school!) and occasionally still comes back to visit Potters Bar to see his wider family!



LES GIBBINGS – LEFT 1971

We're thrilled Mr Gibbings continues to inspire us with his articles for our Newsletter—thanks to him once again for this contribution, entitled, ***"The Hockey 'Nearly Boys', April 2015"***

"When we started to play hockey in the Lent term in the mid-1960s we had very few full matches with teams outside of school and had to content ourselves with contests against other school years or the Girls School. Although, I can recall playing one or two schools whose players appeared to be ignorant of the basic rules and who behaved in a foolhardy way.

I long remember a match against Holloway County at the Whetstone ground when in seeking to cut out a cross that was off the ground, one of their defenders dived full length to head it away and of course promptly knocked himself out, presumably having been confused about the difference between a football and a hockey ball. We were all utterly astonished by such ridiculous behaviour and the referee (Mr Williams, the sprightly but diminutive Latin master) promptly abandoned the game while help was summoned.

The few contemporaneous records that I kept of the 'hockey years' were for the 1967 as Under 14s and 1968 as Under 15s and I have created simple tables of appearance details from the information I came across in my old exercise books. Because of the paucity of details I don't think much can be read into the recorded performances of the two years for these teams except to mention that a defeat at the hands of rather sticks, of the 4th Years in 1967 was our one outing before participation in the London Hockey Association Festival Cup and only one of two defeats overall. The other one being in the final of the Festival Cup in 1968.

Whilst a number of those who played across those two terms/seasons were familiar by virtue of having vied for places in the appropriate year's football side as well, there were one or two players who were 'newcomers' as it were. This included the ferocious tackling half back Alan Cook (who I mentioned as being a pal of Chas Herbert in my last newsletter article) and the tenacious opposite number on the other flank, Colin Myers. Both seemed to have a lower centre of gravity which may have contributed to the relative ease of their special aggressive attitude to ball winning and distribution. I must also give a special mention to Bob Massingham who acquitted himself admirably as our 'keeper throughout.

I played the centre forward but was always wary of oncoming keepers with their steel boots who were capable of kicking the dense hockey ball searing upwards in the general direction of the head when they stormed out to cut out through passes. Alan Hunter seemed to be as tricky and as intricate with the hockey stick manoeuvres as he was with a football while Mark Franklin managed to apply his style of being as swift as the wind with the ability to take the ball with him (something many failed to do and which often led to efforts at goal runs being cut short in their prime as a player would find himself having to go back to retrieve the ball that would get stuck in a rut or the mud).

It was largely due to Mark's swiftness that a year after almost making the final we succeeded in doing just that. If I got the ball I would hit it through into the opponents half for him to run onto and often end at least one short dash up the pitch with a goal. Unfortunately it worked for us until we reached the final when we lost to the same team who had knocked us out in the semi-final of the previous season. Despite having beaten them in the earlier group stage it seems they were destined to be our bête-noir and we lost 1-0. Given that the festival cup matches were only thirty minutes long a single goal often sufficed but this time we were on the wrong side of that victory equation.

We had had two decent attempts at Cup glory but had to content ourselves as being the 'nearly boys' by just falling short of winning in both years. However the medal I collected that day in 1968, now an unbelievable 47 years ago, is still treasured by me (see photo) and was the only one I gained with a school team (Owens played non-competitive 'friendlies' in all sports in those days or so it seemed, as part of the ethos of playing for the sheer enjoyment of taking part only).

Despite our 'heroic failure' as such, each member of the team was also awarded the right to wear a school sports tie (which was a rustish red colour with silver arrows) in recognition of our earnest endeavour on behalf of Owen's. I have it still."



OWEN'S UNDER 14'S HOCKEY TEAM – 1967

Name	App'ces (3 friendlies)	Goals Scored	Festival Cup Ap'ces (3 short games)	Goals Scored
Bailey, Colin?	1	1	0	0
Bye, Stephen	1	0	2	0
Cook, Alan	2	0	3	0
Droy, Alan	2	0	3	0
Frankland, Chris	3	0	3	0
Franklin, Mark	2	0	0	0
Gibbings, Les	1	0	3	0
Harness, Robert J.	1	0	1	0
Hornsey, William (Keeper)	3	0	3	0
Hunt, Cliff	1	0	0	0
Hunter, Alan (Captain)	3	7	3	2
King, James	2	0	3	0
Lee, George Balmore	3	0	3	0
Martin, Peter	1	0	3	1
Maund, Philip	2	0	3	0
Ross, Alec	1	0	0	0
Samuels,	1	0	0	0
Sartori, Vince	1	0	0	0

U 14S HOCKEY TEAM STATISTICS 1967

Owen's U14's	Matches Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
Friendly	3	3	0	0	11*	0
Cup	3	2	0	1**	3	0

*3 goal scorers were unrecorded

**lost on short corner in semi-final

OWEN'S UNDER 15'S HOCKEY TEAM – 1968

Name	App'ces (2 friendlies)	Goals Scored	Festival Cup Ap'ces (5 short games)	Goals Scored
Bartlett, Keith	0	0	1	0
Bye, Stephen	1	0	4	0
Cook, Alan	2	0	5	0
Droy, Alan	2	1	5	0
Frankland, Chris	2	0	5	0
Franklin, Mark	2	3	5	4
Gibbings, Les	2	2	5	0
Hunter, Alan (Captain)	2	0	5	0
Martin, Peter	2	1	5	1
Massingham, Bob (K'per)	2	0	5	0
Maund, Phil	1	0	5	0
Myers, Colin	2	0	5	0
Speller, Colin	1	0	0	0

U 15S HOCKEY TEAM STATISTICS 1968

Owen's U14's	Matches Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Goals For	Goals Against
Friendly	2	1	1	0	7	4
Cup	5	4	0	1*	5	1

*lost 0-1 in Final



ANTHONY MOORE—CLASS OF 1952

Thanks to Dr Moore for sending in this wonderful contribution of memories and photos—all the way from Boston, USA, where he's lived for the past 22 years. He's intimated that it's a long and winding road that got him there with many more tales, which we hope one day he'll impart to us!

"Forgetfully Wondering About 1945-1952

"Forty years on, when afar and asunder/ Parted are those who are singing today,/ When you look back, and forgetfully wonder/ What you were like in your work and your play."

The Harrow School anthem was the other song we sang with discordant gusto to bring Islington Visitations to a rousing conclusion. Can we ever fully recover our past in the present? Probably not, as that first verse suggests. But last August, I reached behind me to take a shaky hold on the living importance of my grammar schooldays. Torrential rains and gale force winds swept Cape Cod (Massachusetts) and denied me a favourite summer pastime of salt water fly fishing on Nantucket Sound. Instead, I spent a pleasant few hours engrossed in this website, the first time for many years I'd tuned into news of Owen's. I was intrigued especially by John Weston's fine illustrated memoir in Newsletter 14. John left me soaked in nostalgia. We were team mates in the First Football and Cricket XIs. Stirred by his example, more than sixty years on and over 3,000 miles asunder in Boston, U.S.A., I've collected a few random remembrances of things past. Since everyone knows that Owen's has provided superb education for decades, centuries even, I've wondered mainly about the benefits outside the formal curriculum that continue to enrich my life.

I won a 1944 LCC (London County Council) Junior County Scholarship and a free place at Owen's while evacuated to Luton. Following two terms at Luton Modern School I moved back to London after VE Day (8 May 1945) to wait for the full return of the Boys' School from Bedford. Accordingly, in September 1945 I set off from my Blitz-torn Shoreditch neighbourhood, walked into Islington and met up with another likely lad bound for the Angel. Alf (A.W.J.) Knight and I soon found we had more in common than our new school caps. We are exactly the same age and began a close friendship on our first day that not only survived but was strengthened by fierce rivalries as scholars, sportsmen and House Captains (Knight for Colebrooke, Moore for Hermitage). The bonds remain tight in the Twenty-First Century. Last Christmas, we enjoyed the latest in a long series of summit meetings when we followed doctors' orders, as we do always, to drink plenty of fluids.

"C'mon boys, let's have a stab at Caesar." The proud Welshman Jimmie (D.H.) James opened every lesson on one of our School Certificate set books with that invitation. Every lesson! Only after mature reflection did I appreciate that his terrible joke, ground out so often, was shrewdly aimed at making Shakespeare less frightening to fourteen-year-olds, more approachable. He succeeded with me and gets credit for igniting my serious engagement with the Bard of Avon. I played Bottom (for one night only) in the School production of A Midsummer Night's Dream (February 1951). In a daring leap in to the Twentieth Century, the Girls' School was invited, for the first time, to contribute and fill the eight women's parts. I believe one or two enduring marriages originated right there. Jack (J.E.) Smith, my Upper Sixth English teacher, helped consummate my Shakespearean affair with Oxbridge style tutorials (just the two of us) in the peace of the school library. A Whitaker Memorial prize of Shakespeare's complete plays (embossed in gold with the Frampton Dame Alice and other motifs from School history) was always close at hand, until recently. These days, only because it's more convenient, I brush up my Shakespeare with a Kindle and marvel, again and again at his enduring topicality.

Countless memories centre on the dedicated, endlessly generous Dickie (R.A.) Dare (a.k.a. Reg or Dan). I gained from his influence when he was at his peak, around the middle of his remarkable forty-two-year career with Owen's. He was a valued mentor, first as History then as Form Master. He knew when to press hard, when to let up, when to be present, when to recede. While I edited three issues of The Arrow (1951/2) he did the heavy lifting. Confident in his own lack of vanity, he wrote informative features, prepared page layouts and copy for letterpress printing, corrected galleys and distributed the finished magazine, careful to call it our work, not his. He left me free to rise above my station and posture as school jester ("Without Offence"), seasoned drama critic (reviewing landmark productions in London's West End and Regents' Park), scrupulous literary scholar ("For Your Bookcase") and fearless investigative reporter ("Old Owenians at Work" and "Around the Angel").

In his Form Room (number 14, I think) he opened my eyes to visual art and my ears to classical music. The room's dreary décor was relieved only slightly by a reproduction of "Interior of a Dutch Courtyard" (1660) by Pieter de Hooch. Dickie's enthusiasm for the picture's historically accurate photo-realism propelled me to London's National Gallery to view other Dutch Masters. From there I was stirred to comprehend and apprehend Masters of other periods. He turned on a light that has since illuminated visits to galleries and exhibitions across three continents; I continue to be nourished by all plastic arts.

Furthermore, he taught me to listen as never before. His seemingly limitless knowledge of music of many periods and styles was conveyed with a relaxed grace. His illustrated appreciations during the Gramophone Club's Thursday afternoon meetings were worthy of the B.B.C. Third Programme. Prior to November 1950, he played his selections on a hand cranked phonograph with a gigantic horn. The apparatus was ancient and touchy yet Dickie could coax rich orchestrations from it, pausing often to sharpen its fibre needles. I came to see that serious music was not a sophisticated pleasure for a minority. In April 1949, excited by his presentation of the polka and fugue from Weinberger's Czech opera *Schwanda the Bagpiper*, I bought the 12" LP before remembering we had nothing at home to play it on. My cash-strapped parents stepped up and bought a radiogram.



In 2012, Jane (my American wife) and I stayed in Islington as our base for the Summer Olympics. Now and again we strolled around the Angel so I could flaunt haunts of my formative years. The site of the Victorian school building on the north side of Owen's Street was redeveloped in the late 1970s, so I was not surprised to find private flats there now. But, on the south side, I was jolted back in time by prominent physical features of fond memory, hiding in plain sight. Owen's Field, now a tranquil peace garden maintained by Islington Borough Council, flourishes over the footprint of the boys' playground.

That playground is among my many well remembered fields: we fought pickup games there in all weathers, with balding or soggy tennis balls, never yielding. Gates to today's green space are flanked by two nineteenth-century

limestone pillars. They have lost height through time, but not stature: they bear proud witness to over 170 years of Owen's history. In my era, they were 50 yards along Owen's Street, crowned with finials (now missing) and hung with gates to the playground. Bought originally by the Brewer's Company to grace the 1841 Owen's Almshouses in Saint John's Street, they survived intact when the Almshouses were demolished in 1886 to make way for a separate girl's school and the playground I knew.

Then they faced our imposing front entrance, the use of which was among Prefects' privileges. Heavy mahogany doors opened into a dignified sanctum where the polychrome statue of Dame Alice kept an eye on us. Her presence was a key part of my life for a time. We exchanged pleasantries (I imagined) more than two dozen times each week as I bustled past on the day-to-day business of the School. We share a clean little secret. I often rubbed her right foot for good luck before an examination or a big match. And the ritual brought the desired result . . . on rare occasions.



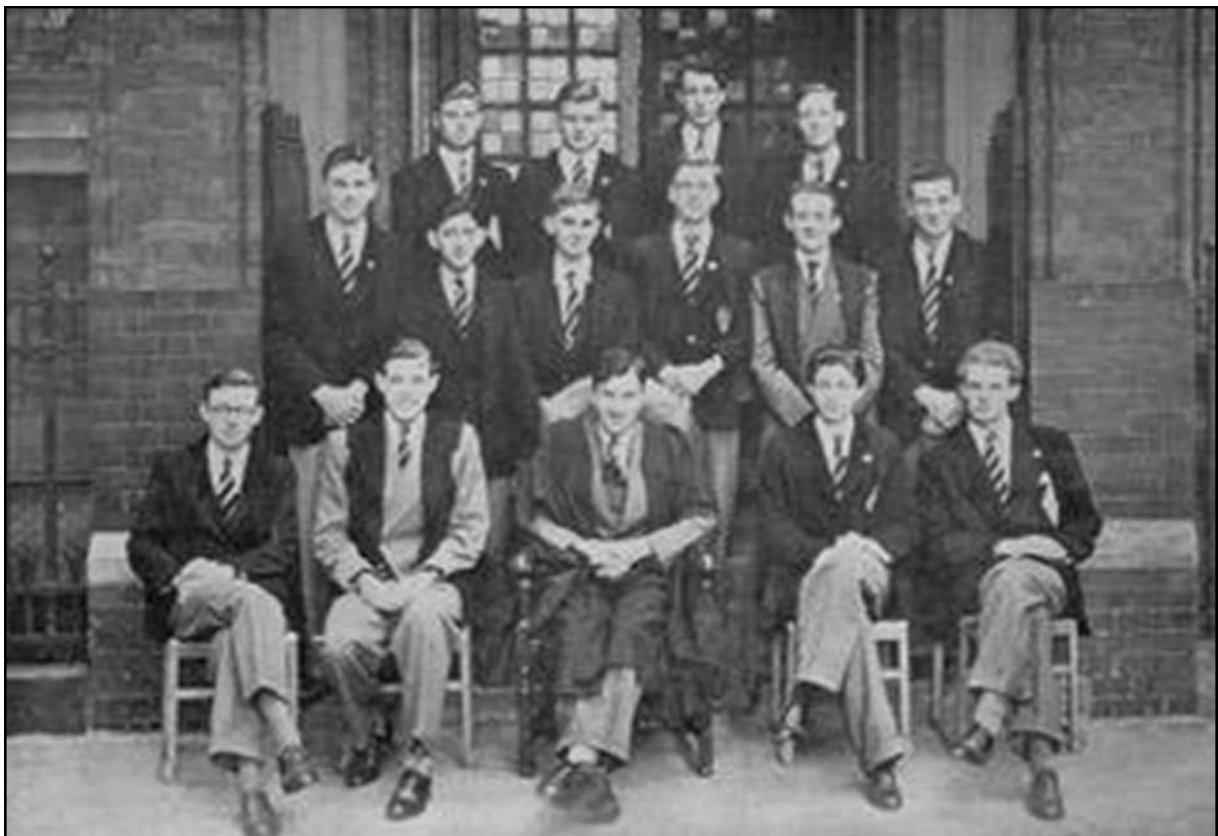
Owen's Field is bordered on the west by the two-storey brick block dating from 1904, which on the outside remains just as I remember. It is the same image that plays across my mind from my Sixth Form years. Today it is divided into private flats. Then it housed our Luncheon, Art and Craft rooms on the first floor and the Prefects' Room on the ground. Everyone who knew the redoubtable Harold (H. A.) Moore (no relation) felt his unquenchable desire to bring O.O.s into closer partnership with the School. In November 1951 he recruited Alf Knight and me to inaugurate Owenia with the Luncheon Room as its centre of activity. His Owenia was a Thursday evening social club with a mixture of physical and mental pursuits that flourished on School premises for at least ten years. The Prefects' Room was our haven during P.S. periods, although most of what went on there was neither private nor studious.

For instance, it became our Green Room for the Christmas 1949 Show, optimistically billed as "the Prefectorial Boards' treat" for the rest of the School. I never quite perfected my quick costume changes as I impersonated both film stars Peter Lorre and Sidney Greenstreet in dialogue, hatching a fiendish conspiracy. Alf's renderings of Al Jolson's well-known song ("Mammy") and of Stanley Holloway's monologue ("Albert and the Lion") were more accomplished.

As I've said, the Boys' School had no visible contact with the Girls' School prior to the 1951 School Play, even though it was within touching distance (a sad comment on those times?). So Tony (L.A.) Pearce (Prefect 1949/50), lacking a ready source of willing partners, mustered all his considerable resources to fire up the 1950 Dance Committee (Tony is Captain in the 1950 Football XI photo). We strove with a will into the fray, advertised our mature allure to most of the girls' schools in North London and were aroused by the warm response. That late July evening was an emotional ending to a memorable school year. The professional band, buffet, spot prizes, choruses of the School Song from the usual suspects and more lovely ladies than we knew how to handle, left some of us near tears. I can still feel a bittersweet mixture of elation and regret that welled up as yet another Summer term came to an end ("another one more, another one less" some Scots say as each year passes).

We eagerly pursued other cultural improvements in P.S. periods. I admired Gordon (G.M.D.) Croton (Head Prefect 1950) as exuberant mimic of the leading actress Vivien Leigh, married at the time to Laurence Olivier, gushing off stage about his virility. Olivier later was awarded a peerage and became first director of the National Theatre on the South Bank. Gordon (also in the 1950 Football XI photo) was our expert advisor on the opera, ballet and theatre worth attention. We went often to the Sadler's Wells Theatre, just a few hundred yards away. A designated messenger would nip out at 10:00 a.m. to place numbered stools that guaranteed day tickets up in the gods (price eighteen old pence) for the evening's performance.

Our Room was also where Laurie (L.D.) Levy (Head Prefect 1951) made a lasting impression with a singular talent. He would whistle entire Gilbert and Sullivan operettas through closed front teeth. We sang along with the better known choruses, Science and Modern Sixths in two part disharmony. Without doubt, justice was served when Laurie was cast as The Judge in the School production of Trial by Jury. He was to create a highly successful dental practice in one of the classier parts of London. I've often wondered if he whistled while he worked on extractions and fillings.



Headmaster and Prefects, September 1951

Front: G.C. Harmon, L.D. Levy, W.L. Garstang, A.R. Moore, A.W.J. Knight. Middle: P.R. Coster, W.E.P. Lloyd-Williams, M.J. LeGood, D. Millichap, L.P. Welton, M. Flower. Back: P.D. Penfold, P.D. Cakebread, R.S. Chivers, D.N. Flinn..

I doff my cap to Mandy English and her enterprise in creating this forum for personal histories. I've had great pleasure re-living small parts of those seven years when the Boys' School featured so prominently in my life. "Their memory doth strength beget." More, much more can be said. I was conscripted into manhood by H.M. Government and left Owen's in May 1952 to start my two-year National Service. Here in Boston, where I've lived for the past 22 years, I teach American Literature at Boston University. But don't get me started on the long and winding road that brought me here. Thereby hang many tales. Perhaps I'll recount one or two another time. Tony (A.R.) Moore (email: tonemoo@bu.edu)

Thanks also to Dr Moore for this photograph of the First XI, March 1950 *Back row: Mr. Tricker, T.L.G. Dodds, A.W.J. Knight, D.T. Williams, G.M.D. Croton. Middle row: A. Rosen, D.W. Barclay, D.T. Jenkins. Front row: A. Stoll, A.R. Moore, G.A. Whitbread, L.A. Pearce (Capt.), L.F. Caynes (at the away leg in Oxford of the annual double fixture with Lincoln College)*



MARK LITTMAN - SEPTEMBER 1920 - JUNE 2015

Thanks to Nick Rule (Class of 1971) who's informed us about Mark Littman's obituary in The Telegraph (30th June 2015)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/obituaries/11702101/Mark-Littman-barrister-obituary.html>

Mark Littman was educated at Owen's School and at the London School of Economics, from which he graduated with a First, at the age of just 19, in 1939. Two years later he took an MA with first class honours from Queen's College, Oxford and went on to become a barrister. He took a break from law between 1967 and 1979 *"to seek new challenges in the commercial world"*.



CJ SOULSBY – CLASS OF 1946



Mr David Soulsby (Class of 1950) sadly informed us that his brother, Mr John Soulsby, passed away last July at the age of 85. He's kindly sent this jolly photograph of him aged about 18 so others may recognise him and shared this about his brother, *"He was in life a soldier and later a solicitor. He left school in 1946 having attended in Bedford and The Angel and was accepted by The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst in 1947 as an officer cadet passing out in 1948 and commissioned in the Royal Artillery as a Second Lieutenant. He served in the UK, Germany, Egypt and Ghana where he was Adjutant in a regiment of the West African Frontier force and assisted in replacing British officers with Ghanaian personnel at the time of independence."*

In 1961 he left the army with the rank of captain and enrolled at Liverpool University where he gained a law degree and started practising as a solicitor which he continued until the time of his death. He married Monica in 1956 and had four children, one of whom, Ruth died in 2006. Monica died in 2011."



REUNION—CLASS OF 1966

Thanks to Ms Geraldine Palfreman for sending details about the Class of 1966 Reunion! It was lovely to meet her classmate, Kim Barrett, at our recent London Network Reception at Brewers' Hall in May, who also mentioned that the Class of 1966 were having a reunion, so we'd like to encourage anyone who's reading to support their event!

She says, *"A group from the Class of 66 namely Geraldine Palfreman (Nee Bailey) Kim Barrett (Nee Bishopp), Janice Lyons (Nee Jeffries), Chris Button- Edwards (Nee Button) and Sue Banks are organising a re-union for anyone that joined Owens Boys or Owens Girls School around the years of 65-66-67. The event will be held at the Walker Cricket Ground and Squash Club in Southgate, London N14 on **Saturday the 19th September 2015.***

We have made contact with quite a few old classmates already but still looking for some elusive people. Anyone interested please contact Geraldine Palfreman (Nee Bailey) on gepalfreman@hotmail.co.uk or 07811-171349 and let her know the best way to contact you and confirm all details."



DAVID DALLMAN—CLASS OF 1961

Thanks again to Mr Dallman for keeping in touch! He still hopes one day to visit our School as he has relatives in Enfield and is in contact with several other Old Owenians, including Mr Goodge (page 26)!

He recalls from the photo sent by Mr Goodge that their friend, Ralph Nicholls, sadly died while pony-trekking in Snowdonia less than a year after leaving School. He says, *"Several of us were still at the School when this happened, in our third year 6th. I remember Mr Puddephatt coming down to the dining room one lunchtime, resting his straight arms on the end of the table and telling us the sad news. This was the first time anyone I knew well had died, apart from two of my great-grandmothers."* Mr Dallman was also due to meet with Mr Keith Miles (Class of 1958) and one of this years Old Owenians Careers Speakers) in Geneva at the beginning of June, which was to be for the first time since 1958!

He has some other news about Old Owenians to share with us, first, with reference to the current Emmanuel College (Cambridge) Magazine in the News of Members section, on p.192:

"2000 Jennifer Burrage married Harry Sugiarto (1999) in the College Chapel on 5 July 2014"

We offer congratulations to Jennifer, who was a student here, matriculating at Emmanuel in 2000, so most likely one of the Class of 2000, although she's not registered on Old Owenians In Touch. Please spread the word if anyone knows her!

David also reports that *"Last year there was a big conference on AIDS research and Robin Offord (Class of 1959) was once again in the world news. I think he must be one of the most distinguished of current Old Owenians. He's listed in Debretts under Academia:*

<http://www.debretts.com/people-of-today/profile/19074/Robin-Ewart-OFFORD>

At school, Robin was on the Arrow committee. I attach a photo of some of the committee, from the Trinity 1958 issue. (See right)

It used to be a tradition that photos of the Arrow committee were taken in some offbeat place.

The names are, left to right: David H Tripp (editor) (leaving year as you define it, 1959), Ralph W Nicholls (1961), Robin E Offord (1959), Trevor H Harvey (1964) and D. Dalziel (1960)"

We look forward to hearing more from Mr Dallman soon!





BARRY CAIN – CLASS OF 1970 AND NEIL MACKENZIE MATTHEWS – CLASS OF 1976

Thanks to Barry and Neil for telling us about a new book they've written called Flexipop! The Book. It's the story of the most bizarre pop magazine ever published (between 1980-1983), called Flexipop! and is a trip down memory lane of music from the early 80's, featuring many pages reproduced from original issues of the magazine.



The 164-pages have been lovingly put together by themselves, as ex-Flexipop! publisher and editor, Barry, and ex-Flexipop! photographer, Neil, with **Gary Kemp – Class of 1978** on the front cover!

The book is being sold with a free flexi disc by Spandau Ballet.

A PDF of their press release can be found on our Old Owenians Newsletter page and an article about Spandau they sent us, which appeared in a national music magazine - Vive Le Rock, earlier this year.

Barry tells us, *"I attended Owens from 1963 to 1970. My two sons, Paul and Andrew, also went to the school in the 1990s."*

I became a music writer and publisher and launched the magazine Flexipop! in the 80s. I am now bringing out a book about the magazine and Spandau Ballet have very kindly provided a version of Gold, recorded live at Sadlers Wells in 1983, as a disc to be given away with the book.

I had a bestselling book published several years back called '77 Sulphate Strip about a year in my life when I first started writing about music and punk was just beginning. I went on the road with bands like the Sex Pistols, Clash, Jam, Stranglers and The Damned and my experiences are recorded in the book. I am also currently working on the autobiography of Malcolm McLaren that I first started ghost-writing in 1980."

The book is available from the Flexipop! website at: <http://www.flexipop.com/bookhomespandau.html>

These great photos of Spandau Ballet (below) are by Neil Matthews, another old Owenian who was in the same class as Spandau manager Steve Dagger and also became the Flexipop! official photographer. He also directed videos by such artists as Paul McCartney and Pavarotti. Thanks again to Neil for sending them in!



GREGORY AROUTIUNIAN – CLASS OF 2012

Congratulations to Gregory Aroutiunian, (Queen’s College, Cambridge, Natural Sciences) for winning the best beginners trophy with his partner in the Inter-Varsity Dancesport Competition (IVDC), otherwise known as “the nationals” in February this year! The pressure was on for the CUDT (Cambridge University Dancesport Team), as they were hosting the event for the first time. Gregory and Rhiannon Jones did extremely well – CUDT wrote *“that is to say, of the 500 or so people competing on the day who had only taken up the sport in the last twelve months, they were the best in the country across the four dances in which they train and compete.”* You can read their full review at: <http://www.bluebirdnews.co.uk/cudt-reign-supreme-at-nationals/>.

And finally...



Request for information!

We've had an enquiry from Ms Lesley Dean, who'd like some more information about the artist who painted one of our Headteachers, Miss Eleanor Wilson – V Russell (see photo). She tells us that her Mother used to clean for V Russell and in 1958, when she was one year old, and her Mother was cleaning, the artist painted her. She's still got the painting of herself today and is curious about artist. If anyone could share any information about V Russell, she'd be delighted to hear from them. You can email her direct at: lesleydean777@hotmail.com.

Former Parent, Ian Huckle, tells us about Golfing discounts!

Currently Vice Captain of Old Fold Manor Golf Club in Barnet, one of our former parents, Ian Huckle, wanted to tell us about discounts being offered at his club. Please see PDF flyer on our Newsletter page for full details!

Top Triathlon Tips!

Being a complete newbie to the Triathlon scene over the past 9 months, your editor has had a steep learning curve in all 3 disciplines, open water swimming and cycling especially, so I thought I'd share my top tips for anyone that's interested! See PDF on our Old Owenians Newsletter page—remember, if you'd like to join a DAOS team next year at Blenheim, which has to be the UK's most stunning venue for such an event, please let us know in September—we'd love to include you! I was a representative in the Female 50-54 category and finished in 1 hour and 51 minutes—really chuffed with the result as a first-timer! Best part of the actual race was being on the podium at the end with the DAOS team—#greatplacetowork.



Bursary Information for alumni currently in higher education

E H Thompson Bequest and FE Beecham Awards and Katherine Dames Awards

University entrants from Dame Alice Owen's School are eligible for a number of Awards from the E H Thompson Bequest and one award annually from the F E Beecham Award. **These Awards also apply to our alumni, currently in higher education.** In addition, the Katherine Dames Awards are available only to girls at Dame Alice Owen's School who wish to continue their studies at university but foresee financial difficulties which might prevent them from pursuing this course. The bequest determines that at the time of applying, the applicant must be supported by only one parent and that parent must be her mother. **This Award also applies to our alumni, currently in higher education, and who have not previously received a Katherine Dames award.** Please see our website for more details:

http://www.damealiceowens.herts.sch.uk/sixth_form/bursaries.html



Old Owenians Careers Talks Week 2016

This event will be taking place w/c 7th March 2016, in conjunction with National Careers Week—put the week in your diary now if you're interested and we'll be mailing you in January 2016 with full details!

Another Old Owenian returns to work here!

We welcome Sarah Lofthouse (Class of 1990), who joins us part-time in September to teach Biology. She's looking forward to working in the impressive Myddelton Building (our Science facility, which opened in 2014) and contributed to its funding by attending the Royal Albert Hall Concert in our 400th anniversary year with her husband, Nick Lofthouse, also an Old Owenian (Class of 1987)! As a reminder of what's in place of the old building now, see this photo of Brewers' Garden, which was taken on 24th June 2015 at lunchtime with students enjoying the campus style area, eating picnic lunches and playing roly poly down the hills!



Thanks to Tom Imber

At our recent Governors Meeting on 22nd June, the governors expressed their immense gratitude to Tom Imber, who is due to step down from the Governing Body in July, for his work in supporting the school over the past 15 years. Tom will continue to support the work of the Governing Body in 2015-16 as the Responsible Officer.

Next Event! We'll send out information about the Old Owenians Annual Reunion Luncheon (Harold Moore) in September. In the meantime, have a sizzling summer and hope to see you at the Imperial Hotel on Monday 26th October! Keep in touch on Twitter too: <https://twitter.com/DAOSAlumni> and thanks for your amazing ongoing support #theowensway!

Mandy English, Alumni Relations and Website Manager