



Old Derbeian Society

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August 2008

Dear Old Derbeian,

I usually have to prize snippets of information from the new President in order to provide members with an insight into his life since leaving Derby School, on this occasion however, my task was very much simplified when I received the following note from President Alan Lockyer, which I saw no reason to edit.

“I was both honoured and privileged to be asked by the Committee to be President of the Society and in particular to be succeeding such a stalwart supporter of the Society, Stan Smith. We have all valued his excellent contribution to the life and activities of the Old Derbeians during his term of office and we look forward keenly to his continued participation as he has kindly taken on the role of Honorary Secretary of the Society.

My intention throughout my two years in office is to work strongly on strengthening the ties that have been established in recent years with recent OD's from Derby Grammar School and to build on the foundations which have been laid for links with the school, the Headmaster, his staff and current pupils.”

After graduating with a BA in geography from Liverpool University in 1957, where he met his wife Susan, Alan was to spend the whole of his working life in British Steel and its successor, based in Sheffield. Following privatisation of the Special Steels activities, he became Director Business Planning and Information Technology until his retirement in 1994. Rowing at school and university gave way to tennis, squash and skiing, the latter being his surviving active sport.

Alan and his wife, Susan, have two children and three grandchildren and in retirement enjoy visiting their cottage in Wensleydale.

His busy career has not stopped our new President from keeping up his attendances at the OD's reunions and rarely does he miss the Annual Derby Dinner and Remembrance Day Service each November.

New Secretary

Our new Secretary, elected at the AGM in January, is Past President G. S. (Stanley) Smith (1942–48), 4 Warren Court, Great Sutton, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire CH66 2RR. Tel: 0151 339 5219. Email: stan.smith47@ntlworld.com.

Stan will be pleased to receive any comments, suggestions on Society affairs, etc., either by letter or email.

Old Derbeians Website – “oldderbeians.org”

The Society's website now in its second year includes Society news, dates of reunions and reports, together with the annual Newsletter. There is considerable scope for expansion and innovation if an enthusiastic OD is willing to assume the role of editor. Any OD interested in pursuing this opportunity should in the first instance contact Newsletter Editor, Alan Sanders at abs.abs@virgin.net or telephone 01543 481254 or Secretary, Stan Smith at stan.smith47@ntlworld.com or telephone 0151 339 5219.

School News

David Walker (1956–63), Chairman of Governors, writes:

The School is in good heart. The admission of girls to the sixth form last September went ahead with no hiccup and they have integrated well into school life. Apart from themselves the only visible sign of their being there is a marked improvement in the appearance of the male members of the sixth form. In all seriousness, the thoughts always were that the admission of girls to the sixth form would be accompanied by various benefits; it is too early probably to get a measurement of this benefit, but the feeling from all sides is that it has worked very well.

I attended the final assembly – traditional, but with a further emphasis on achievement both in the classroom and on the sports field. At Sports Day, held a few days ago, more than twenty new records were achieved or equalled. It is heart-warming to see OD trophies such as the Weston Kettle and the Fairholme Shield still being presented on these occasions.

Rowing needs a special mention; this year the school coxed fours won the Ball Cup Regatta, a major achievement for such a small school.

The Junior School won the Rolls-Royce Design Challenge out of twenty-one schools taking part. Much more news is available at the school's website: www.derbygrammar.co.uk

A panel of five current and ex-governors convened over several days earlier this year to first of all sift through twenty-seven applications for our new head. A long list of seven was interviewed, leading to a short list of three. I am

pleased to report that Richard Paine, currently Deputy Head at Sunderland Grammar School has agreed to become our new Head from January 2009. Richard gained a II-1 Degree in Medieval and Modern History at Queen Mary College at the University of London and he currently teaches history at Sunderland Grammar School which has several parallels with our school. He has taken part in a wide range of continuing professional development, all of which will help in this, his new post. At Sunderland he has had responsibility for many aspects of school life and administration, including the pastoral care of the pupils, coaching staff for their self-improvement and the marketing and development of the school. In addition he is a rugby referee and a cricket umpire.

Three dates for you diary are:

Speech Day – Thursday 18th September at 7 pm at the Assembly Rooms, Derby

Remembrance Day Service (followed by lunch) – Tuesday 11th November at 10.30 am in the Michael Bishop Hall

Carol Service – Tuesday 16th December at 7 pm in Derby Cathedral

Valete

Best wishes are extended to the following boys who left School in 2007 and are embarking on their university or vocational careers:

M. BEADLE	Southampton: Medicine
M. BETTS	St. Andrews: English, German
T. BIRCH	Imperial College, London: Mechanical Engineering
C. BURTON	Newcastle: Geography
A. CERKELIUNAS	Manchester: German, Business Management
A. DIXON	St. Andrews: Business Management
P. EACOTT	Bristol: English Literature, Drama
B. FURNER	Lincoln: Sport Development
N. GIDDA	Nottingham Trent: Accountancy
J. GREEN	Birmingham: Ancient History
J. HOPTON	Lincoln: Computer Games Design
T. HOWARD	Newcastle: Engineering
A. JOHAL	Birmingham: Economics
M. MANNING	Employment
E. NETTLESHIP	Lincoln: Architecture
C. NEWPORT	Warwick: English, Modern Languages
S. OKEY	Lincoln: Business Studies
K. PANESAR	Bradford: Pharmacy
M. PARKER	Nottingham Trent: Quantity Surveying
R. ROONEY	Loughborough: Building Environment
J. SAUNDERS	Durham: Natural Sciences
S. SHARMA	Loughborough: Financial Management
G. SINGH	
T. SMITH	Cambridge: Music
M. TIMMINS	Bath: Int. Management, Modern Languages
X. WANG	Kings College, London: Electrical Engineering

M. WHEELER	Warwick: Biology
M. WHITEHEAD	UCL: Medicine, deferred
C. WICKS	Sheffield Hallam: Business and Economics



Headmaster, Roger Waller, who will be retiring at the end of the year.

Roger Waller Retires

Roger Waller, Headmaster of Derby Grammar School, will retire on 31st December 2008, having served in that capacity since before the school opened in September 1995. It is a long stint by anyone's measure, but under his wise stewardship, the school has grown from an initial intake of twenty-six boys, covering just three academic years to a vibrant 300+ mainly boys, but infiltrated(!) by girls in the sixth form for the first time last year, covering years three to thirteen – or in language you and I will understand – from ages seven to eighteen. He is a strong character – a Yorkshireman – never afraid to make difficult decisions and follow them through.

He came to the school having been Deputy Head Teacher at Northamptonshire Grammar School which itself had been set up in 1989; his experience at Northampton was invaluable in the early years of Derby Grammar School. My first practical recollection of Roger was before the school opened in 1995 when he was sitting on a mower ensuring that the grass was cut!

His selection of staff in the earlier years was crucial – we started with six full time teachers. Through his very good judgement and example the school has benefitted from a host of staff members not only devoted to the teaching of their subjects, but also dedicated to the wider enlightenment of the students through extra-curricular activities, sport, drama and music.

His enthusiasm for his pupils' development seems to know no bounds; the results are there for all to see, not just exemplified in examination grades, but more so in the rounded characters of boys leaving the school at the end of their school careers. That he is popular with his students is evidenced by the large number of old boys who regularly attend school functions, particularly Speech Day.

Thirteen years is a long stint; Roger has earned his retirement. He has also earned our undying thanks for having steered the school from its small beginnings to where it is today.

David Walker, June 2008

New List of Members

You will have received your new Directory of Members last year and if you have not already made a contribution to its cost, it would be appreciated if members would kindly make a minimum donation of £7.50 to defray some of its costs. The Accounts, detailed below, illustrate the drain on the Society's funds when a new Directory is issued. Please make your payment to "The Old Derbeian Society" and send to the Treasurer, David Walker, 6 The Pastures, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 4EX.

Honorary Doctorates

In January 2008, John Stobart (1940–46), a world renowned maritime artist, was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by the University of Derby. He proudly wore his Old Derbeian tie at the Graduation Ceremony at the Assembly Rooms, Derby. I understand that the two Old Derbeians, John Stobart and Jeffery Tillett (1938–45), (see obituaries below), are the only individuals to be awarded honorary doctorates by the University.

1947'ers Do It Again

The 24th July 2008 was the occasion of a very pleasant re-union for the second year running of one of the best intakes, 1947, to Derby School (well I would say that wouldn't I?). Organised by Russell Jones, sixteen of us enjoyed the real ale, good food and easy ambience of the Grundy Tavern in the Georgian House Hotel, Derby, but above all the company was outstanding. There were ten apologies for various unavoidable reasons, which to mitigate their disappointment, prompted the assembly to repeat the re-union in 2009, in order to allow us all to meet up again. We missed them!

Centenary

The inaugural meeting of the Society took place on Saturday, 28th October 1911. This took the form of a "smoking concert" (very un-pc these days) and was held in the Dining Hall at St. Helen's. There had been instances of other reunions of the old boys of Derby School, but apart from the years 1779 to 1787, held on an "as and when" basis, normally at the Kings Head, a public house situated in the Cornmarket. This was an old coaching inn, demolished in 1863 to facilitate the widening of St. James Street. [More details can be found – and a photograph – in Maxwell Craven's excellent book *Inns and Taverns of Derby*, Breedon Books 1992.]

Your committee has turned its thoughts to how our centenary might be celebrated and members' thoughts are especially welcome. Preliminary thoughts include a larger and grander version of the annual Derby Dinner, the recreation of the original concert (without the smoke) and a brochure commemorating the event. Over to you.

2007 Scotland and North of England Dinner

I. P. P. Stan Smith (1942–48) writes:

Like Knights of the Round Table we took our seats at the beautifully prepared board in the exquisite ambience of the Royal Scots Club for yet another night of feasting and reminiscing on days of yore. Like school boys we eagerly

gave voice to those episodes that have fixed themselves in the memory for ever and which never fail to give pleasure in the re-telling.

There were thirteen of us, including wives and companions, making it quite an intimate occasion. The meal was beautifully presented and accompanied by fine wines a plenty. Such was the enjoyment that we were content to talk away, with the occasional replenishment of our glasses, until, to our amazement it was a quarter to midnight. Laughter and good humour had made the evening very special.

We are very much indebted to Adrian Hayes, our host for his generous hospitality once again. It was particularly gratifying to have pre-dinner drinks in the superb library among the splendid memorabilia, which of course was a cue for the cameras to start flashing.

We were somewhat saddened to learn that Roy and Jean Fisher were unwell and not able to attend and all wished them well and hoped they would be able to join us in 2008.

Attending this year were Stan Smith (1942–48) and Joyce, David Slater (1941–46) and Sue Smith, Gordon Wright (1958–65) and Hilary, Martin Tunaley (1963–69) and Diane, Brian Ward (1939–44), David Walker (1956–63) and Brenda, John Booth (1942–49), Adrian Hayes (1970–77).

The 54th London Dinner 2008

A report by Norman Chapple

Thanks once more to Peter Smith's tireless commitment and impressive organisational skills, the Annual London Dinner of the Old Derbeian Society was once again a great success. Held on Saturday, 10th May 2008, at the now traditional venue in the somewhat opulent premises of the Royal Overseas League, which is just a stone's throw from Piccadilly Circus, the occasion was as usual thoroughly enjoyed and deemed very worthwhile by all present.

The weekend was enhanced for some by an overnight stay (courtesy of Alan Sanders, 1947–53) at the Royal Automobile Club with its quite outstanding facilities, whilst others arrived in good time to preface the evening meal with an afternoon cream tea in the splendid tea-room of Fortnum and Masons, followed by an hour or two browsing in nearby St. James' Church and in the plethora of very high quality "Gentlemen's Attire" shops with which that particular corner of the West End is blessed.

All of this stimulated our appetites for the excellent food and wine provided by the Royal Overseas League and it was noted with particular interest that the waitresses at this establishment are now at least twenty years younger than their predecessors.

Despite the fact that no less than seven of our regular supporters of the London Dinner were absent for various very good reasons, it was pleasing to note that the fourteen OD's present included two who had never previously attended this well established annual event. Hopefully, this might be the start of a trend.

The opportunity was taken for the Immediate Past President of the Society, Stan Smith (1942–48), formally to present our new President, Alan Lockyer (1946–53), with



John Stobart (1940–46) with Neville Copestake (1940–45), complete with OD ties, at the Graduation Ceremony at the Assembly Rooms, Derby.



Members and wives who attended the Scottish Dinner.

the Presidential Jewel of the Society .

The formalities of the evening concluded with a very thoughtful and stimulating address by President Alan, during which he mentioned such topics as:

- the pressing need to firm up the links with Old Derbeians from the new Derby Grammar School, the existence of which is carrying on a Derby tradition commenced by Royal Charter in 1554.
- sadness at the imminent retirement of Headmaster Roger Waller, a big man in every sense of the word, but anticipation of the opportunity to welcome the new Headmaster, Richard Payne.
- the possible re-start of sporting fixtures between the OD Society and the Grammar School and a proposed OD President's Garden Party in the school grounds.
- the future of St. Helen's House and the School war memorial and the favourable response received by the Society committee's representatives from the developer, Mr. Blunt.

Finally, may I express the sincere hope that as the new male and female Old Derbeians of Rykneld Road become established in their chosen careers, those who are based in Greater London and the Home Counties in particular will recognise the OD's London Dinner as an annual opportunity to meet and socialise with old school friends, and at the same time help to sustain a traditional social reunion dating back to 1954, the quatercentenary of the charter of the original grammar school in Derby.

The Old Derbeians who attended the 2008 London Dinner were:

Ambrose Dowling (1928–35)	Peter Smedley (1947–54)
Bill Ellis (1933–44)	Godfrey Webster (1947–54)
John Bower (1938–43)	David White (1947–52)
John Reed (1941–47)	Keith Mansell (1952–60)
Norman Chapple (1942–48)	John Sturgeon (1955–63)
Stan Smith (1942–48)	Peter Smith (1958–66)
Alan Lockyer (1946–53)	Barry Newcombe (1960–66)

Interestingly, it will be seen that this comparatively small group of Old Derbeians actually provided unbroken representation at the school from 1928 until 1966, a span of no less than thirty-eight years.

The 2008 Amber Valley Reunion

John Booth writes:

Twenty-nine OD's, wives, friends, sons and a brother – Ken Morrell – met at Camp on Sunday, June 22nd 2008 and yarned, recalling those halcyon days, drank coffee and clicked cameras.

Elisabeth Bowden ensured that her mum – Mrs. Grime – “provided splendid weather”. A convivial lunch at the White Horse, Wooley Moor rounded off an excellent day.

OD's making the pilgrimage, some travelling fair distances, included:

Amber Valley attendees included:

Bill Ellis (1933–44)
Ivan Blunt (1933–41)
Gordon Lancaster (1937–42)
Keith Chettle (1938–43)
Peter Evans (1944–49)
Neville Copestake (1940–45)
Stuart Smith (1940–47)
John Newns (1940–47)

Good wishes were sent by:

Brian Gilbert (1936–42)
Clifford Hill (1939–44)
Bernard Burton (1940–49)
Peter Lord (1941–47)

John Reed (1941–47)
Richard Fricker (1942–49)
John Booth (1942–49)
Stan Smith (1942–48)
David Collard (1943–48)
Jack Maiden (1944–49)
Richard Webster (1944–51)
Elisabeth Bowden (hon.)
assisted by Nick Bowden

Jim Rowley (1941–43)
John Stobart (1941–46)
Alan Sanders (1947–53)

The Annual Derby Dinner, Pride Park, Derby 2007

Not visibly daunted by the 5-0 drubbing by West Ham United at Pride Park earlier that afternoon, a smaller number of Old Derbeians and their wives and partners attended the stadium for the annual Derby Dinner on Saturday 10th November 2007. There were fifty-five attending, including your President and his wife, Mr. & Mrs. G. S. Smith, the Headmaster and his wife, Mr. & Mrs. R. D. Waller, The Head Boy, David Richardson and the Deputy Head Boy, Jake Cooper. Norman Chapple had again planned an excellent meal and what might have been lacking in numbers was more than made up for by the bonhomie and fellowship of those present. In his speech, your President thanked several members of the Society for the work they had done throughout the year, and a presentation was made to Elisabeth Bowden (née Grime) who had once again arranged for the annual Amber Valley Reunion to take place at Ogston Reservoir the previous summer.

The Old Derbeians who attended the 2007 Annual Derby Dinner were:

Stanley Smith, President (1942–48)	
Mrs. Elisabeth Bowden, (hon.)	
Roger Waller (Headmaster)	
Anthony Southgate (hon.)	
David Richardson (Head Boy)	
Jake Cooper (Deputy Head Boy)	
Bill Ellis (1932–44)	Vic Wright (1950–55)
Keith Chettle (1938–43)	John Williams (1950–57)
Neville Copestake (1940–45)	David Walker (1956–63)
John Reed (1941–47)	Keith Walker (1957–62)
John Booth (1942–49)	Andrew Bingham (1960–67)
Don Chapman (1942–47)	David Billington (1960–67)
Norman Chapple (1942–48)	John Cope (1960–67)
Roy Harrison (1944–49)	Robert Dowling (1960–67)
Ralph Holden (1944–52)	Gordon Frearson (1960–67)
Russell Thomas (1945–54)	Pat Gallagher (1960–65)
Peter Fairholm (1946–51)	David Goodwin (1960–65)
Alan Lockyer (1946–53)	John Hallifield (1960–67)
Richard Mordey (1946–53)	Michael Thompson (1962–67)
Alan Goodwin (1950–57)	Martin Tunaley (1963–69)
David Hughes (1950–57)	Brian Seager (1979–89)
Bryan Walton (1950–55)	David Edge (1995–02)
Charles Mason (1995–02)	

Remembrance Day Service

The Annual Remembrance Day Service was held at the Old Derbyians war memorial at St. Helen's House on Sunday, 12th November 2007. Wreaths were laid by President Stan Smith and Headmaster Roger Waller. Afterwards, OD's, partners and friends repaired for refreshments to the Flowerpot Public House in King Street.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM will be held at 7.30 pm on Thursday, 15th January 2009 at Derby Grammar School.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday, 9th January 2008.
3. Matters Arising
4. Hon. Secretary's Report
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Chairman
7. Election of Secretary
8. Election of Treasurer
9. Election of Committee Members
10. Appointment of Auditor
11. Amendment of Society Rules (Headmaster or representative as ex-officio Member of the Committee)
12. Honorary Membership
13. To receive other propositions requiring Notice of Motion*
14. Any other business
15. Date of Next Meeting
* (21 days notice)

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

President	Alan Lockyer (1946–53)	(ex officio)
Chairman	Russell Thomas (1945–54)	(ex officio)
Secretary	Stanley Smith (1942–48)	(ex officio)
Treasurer	David Walker (1956–63)	(ex officio)
	Richard Jacques (1945–51)	(retires 2009)
	John Booth (1942–49)	(retires 2009)
	David Collard (1943–48)	(retires 2010)
	Norman Chapple (1942–48)	(retires 2010)
	Alan Sanders (1947–53)	(retires 2010)
	Martin Tunaley (1963–69)	(retires 2011)
	Alan Bird (1960–67)	(retires 2011)
	Robert Dowling (1960–67)	(retires 2011)

EVENT ORGANISERS

Derby Dinner	Norman Chapple (1942–48)
London Dinner	Peter Smith (1958–65)
Scotland & North of England Dinner	Adrian Hayes (1970–77)
Amber Valley Reunion	Mrs. Elisabeth Bowden (hon. member)

Nominations for The Old Derbyian Society Committee 2009

Nominations are invited for the offices of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday, 15th January 2009. Nominations are also invited to fill three vacancies on the committee. Peter Lord has resigned and Richard Jacques retires and neither will seek re-election. John Booth retires by rotation and is eligible for re-election. The amended Rules now also allow for the co-option of three additional members who may contribute a specific interest, e.g., computer expertise. The Committee meets as required, which is usually four times each year. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT

David Walker, FCA (1956–63)

Summary of Accounts – Year Ended 31st May 2008

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT			
	2008	2007	
Income	£		£
Membership Fees	930		870
Merchandise	50		43
Interest	111		97
Social Events	89		375
Donations and Miscellaneous	9		5
	1,189		1,390
Expenditure			
Newsletter	841		892
Directory of Members	1,458		–
Administration	335	2,634	304
(Deficiency)/Surplus for the year	(1,445)		194

BALANCE SHEET At 31st May 2008

	2008	2007
	£	£
Investments, cash and bank balances	4,333	5,735
Stock of Merchandise	513	557
Amounts owing to the society	1,620	1,758
	6,467	8,050
Amounts owed by the Society	–	138
	£6,467	£7,912
Representing: Accumulated Fund	£6,467	£7,912

Note: Traditionally the Directory of Members costs not so far recovered are written off, but as amounts are received in future years, the effect of this write off is reversed.

Membership of the Society

If any OD wishes to join The Old Derbeian Society, the current life membership fee is £35. This nominal amount is used to cover the production and distribution of the Newsletter. An application form may be obtained from the Treasurer, David Walker, 6 The Pastures, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 4EX.

The Old Derbeian Shop

The Old Derbeian Scarf

The scarf is of college size, 66" x 9" and is a green/white/black stripe design to match the Country Tie and is made of pure new wool. This handsome and distinctive scarf is priced at only £18.

The Country Tie

By popular demand the original OD green/white/black broad striped tie has been re-introduced and is available for the bargain price of £10 each.

Traditional City Tie

Green/white/black stripe with St. Chad motif and "1554" on black background, also at a cost of £10 each.

Old Derbeian Cufflinks

Based on the original design of the early 1900s, the cufflinks depict the "Buck in the Park and St. Chad's Cross" in red and green on a gilt background. Priced at only £15 per set, excellent value and perfect gift.

and for the collector . . .

Blazer badges only £4 each. Amber Valley videos £7 each.

All items plus p & p. All available from David Walker, 6 The Pastures, Duffield, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 6EX or why not collect one at the Derby Dinner?

OBITUARIES

BRIAN F. JOHNSON (1945–52)

A Tribute by John Booth (1941–49)

In the only three form entry to the School, Brian was a most enthusiastic OD and a very proud Derbeian. Clearly, he enjoyed every minute at St. Helen's and readily recounted his exploits in sport, music, the Corps, Tanners House and early post war school life. 1952 saw Brian going up to Liverpool University to read German. On his first Sunday in the city he attended Evensong at St. Barnabas Church in Penny Lane. Here he met Olive, joined the choir and became a Reader. He taught in schools in the Liverpool area, retiring as Head of Sixth Form at St. Margaret's High School.

St. Barnabas' Church was full for Brian's funeral. His younger daughter, Margaret, sported a Derby County shirt with Johnson on the back to emphasise Brian's love of the Rams. Those who remember Olive's and Brian's annual visit to the Derby Dinner will recall him ambling to the bar and it could be said that "lardy" was back!

Our sympathy is extended to Olive and Brian's children Ed, Catherine and Margaret. We know that he will rest in peace; God Bless you, Brian.

J. N. L. TILLET (1938–45)

Jeffery Tillett was the first Mayor of the City of Derby and was Mayor when the Queen visited Derby in 1977 to give the town city status. He was an English teacher, music examiner, a Conservative county councillor and was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Derby. Jeffery Tillett, originally from Alvaston, was first elected as councillor in 1957 and was leader of the council between 1988 and 1989 and was the last surviving alderman, awarded for his long service.

He was a founder member of the East Midlands Arts Association, Derby Playhouse, Derby Civic Society Metro Cinema and the Derby Community Arts Trust.

R. MOORE (1930–35)

Reginald Moore, in addition to being a keen member of the O T C, was a great quarter-miler winning the under 13s in 1932 and the under 15s the following two years. He added the 220 yards for good measure and later raced for the Old Derbeians. Reg's career with Eagle Star, where he became a Fellow of the Chartered Insurance Institute, was interrupted by the war when he was commissioned in the Sherwood Foresters finishing his time in India. Resuming his career with Eagle Star, after spells at various provincial offices, he served twenty years as a Branch Manager in the Isle of Wight, finishing his career as Assistant Branch Manager of the London West End office. Reg occasionally attended Old Derbeian dinners with his wife Joyce and has passed on his running gene to one of his grandsons who took part in the Marathon des Sables in April this year.

J. T. HOWIE (1946–54)

John Howie passed away in June 2008 in hospital in Lincoln where he had lived for many years. Over 300 people were at a Memorial Service held for him at St. Nicholas Parish Church on July 4th 2008.

John Howie, who was from Alvaston, will be remembered by his contemporaries at school mainly for his strength, his prowess at rowing and in the gymnasium, but he was a far more rounded and able individual than those memories would suggest and played a full part in all school activities. He was, however, probably the only boy in his year to know how to use all the apparatus in the gymnasium properly!

After leaving school and undertaking National Service, (which he always claimed was spent solely rowing for the RAF), John attended Loughborough College of Physical Education and qualified as a teacher of PE and Mathematics. In 1972, after various posts around the country, he was appointed Head of PE at Lincoln School and remained a much respected member of staff there until retirement. He was very active in organisations and associations in the city of Lincoln and the surrounding area and there were numerous tributes paid at the service to his contributions over the years. John was also a long-standing member of the Territorial Army and was for some years second in command of the 16th Independent Company of the Parachute Regiment.

John was married for almost fifty years to Barbara, also from Alvaston, and he leaves her, two sons and a number of grandchildren.

M. J. EVANS (1961–68)

John Evans, the co-owner of the Flower Pot public house, King Street, Derby has died suddenly from a heart attack at the age of fifty-eight. John and his staff acted as 'mine hosts', providing refreshment at the Flower Pot for many years following the Society's annual Remembrance Day Service at the Derby School war memorial. The Society's association with the Flower Pot will continue as usual.

FORMAL NOTICES

Speech Day

This year Speech Day will be held at the Assembly Rooms, Derby at 7 pm on Thursday, 18th September 2008.

The Scotland and North of England Dinner 2008

The Scotland and North of England Dinner has again been arranged by Adrian Hayes at the Royal Scots Club, Edinburgh and will commence at 6.45 for 7.30 pm on Saturday, 11th October 2008. The estimated cost is £35 to include a couple of drinks per person on arrival and a three course dinner with wine. After reading David Collard's report on last year's event, how can you not go?

Adrian can arrange accommodation at either the Royal Scots Club (0131 556 4270) at a B & B rate of £95 for a double room, or at his own hotel, The Avenue Hotel (0131 346 7270), where the B & B rate for a double room is £70. Early booking of accommodation is advised to avoid disappointment.

Annual Derby Dinner 2008

The Annual Derby Dinner will be held at 6.45 for 7.30 pm on Saturday 8th November 2008 at the Midland Hotel, Derby. Wives, partners and friends are warmly invited.

Norman Chapple is kindly organising the dinner and full details of the new venue and a booking application are included with this Newsletter. Please assist Norman by booking early.

Old Derbeians Remembrance Day Service 2008

In spite of the recent change of ownership of St. Helen's House, the Remembrance Day Service will be held as usual at the Old Derbeians memorial, St. Helen's House at 10.30 for 11 am on Sunday, 9th November 2008. Refreshments will be available at the Flower Pot public house, King Street, immediately following the service. Convenient car parking is available in the adjacent multi-storey car park in Chapel Street.

Derby Grammar School Remembrance Service

Old Derbeians are invited to the Derby Grammar School Remembrance Service in the School Hall at 10.30 am on Tuesday, 11th November 2008 and also to lunch afterwards. The latter replaces the lunch for OD's which in recent years has followed the Society's Remembrance Day Service.

Annual General Meeting 2009

The AGM will be held at Derby Grammar School, Rykneld Road, Littleover, Derby, commencing at 7.30 pm on 15th January 2009.

London Dinner 2009

Next year's London Dinner will be held as usual at The Royal Overseas League, Park Place, off St. James Street, London, at 6.15 for 7 pm on Saturday, 9th May 2009. If you wish to attend, please contact our organiser, Peter Smith, at 9 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, Reading, RG4 8SR or telephone 01189 472971. For a small donation Peter will send you an annual reminder.

Amber Valley Reunion 2009

The Annual Reunion will be held in the old Dining Room, Ogston Sailing Club at 11 am on Sunday, 21st June 2009. Elisabeth and Nick Bowden have agreed to make the arrangements as usual.

President's Garden Party 2009

The inaugural President's Garden Party will take place at 2 pm on Saturday, 27th June 2009 at Derby Grammar School. It will feature a cricket match between the School and OD's, a musical interlude provided by pupils from School and will be followed by a cream tea. A separate letter of invitation will be arranged.

Annual Derby Dinner 2009

Saturday, 7th November 2009

Remembrance Day Service 2009

Sunday, 8th November 2009

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REQUIRED

It is important for you to let us know if you change your address; please advise Alan Sanders, Newsletter Editor, at the heading address in order to ensure continued receipt of your Newsletter.

Please also advise me if you wish to include your email address in a future **Directory of Members**.

Members who would be content to receive an electronic version of the Newsletter in 2009, via our website, are requested to confirm their willingness to do so to the undersigned, at abs.abs@virgin.net. This innovation will allow us to achieve considerable cost reductions on printing, stationery and postage.

A printed version will be sent to all ODs who do not request the electronic version.

Yours sincerely,

ALAN SANDERS (1947–53)
Newsletter Editor