



Old Derbeian Society

Newsletter 2009 and 2010

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August 2010

Dear Old Derbeian,

It has been my very great privilege and honour to have been both President and Honorary Secretary of the Old Derbeian Society, from which I have derived much pleasure but the time has come for me now to relinquish the office of Honorary Secretary and so this will be the last time I will be editing the Newsletter. Alas, advancing years have caught up and the distance between my home and Derby make it increasingly difficult to attend committee meetings and it is time for someone much younger to take on the role and bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to energise the Society for its future well-being. Having said that, let me hasten to add that it has been wonderfully rewarding to make my small contribution and to enjoy the fellowship with the committed members of the committee. So there is now an opportunity for someone to come forward to take on this most rewarding role and make a valuable contribution to this illustrious alumni.

The willingness of the Headmaster, Richard Paine and the Deputy Head, Mrs. Lesley Reynolds to be co-opted on to the committee has been of tremendous importance and their enthusiasm and input has been appreciated and provides this personal and vital link with Derby Grammar School, so important for the future of the Society.

For the second year the Cricket Match between the School and the ODs was held at the School sports ground in Mickleover on a gloriously sunny afternoon on Saturday 26th June 2010, arranged with meticulous care by Ralph Holden, Paul Hilliam (DGS) and Christopher Whitworth (DGS). A good match easily won by the School, concluded with a delightfully moving and poignant presentation by Alan's widow, Thelma Sanders, of the Alan Sanders memorial trophy to the winning team. A full report of the occasion appears later. It would be good to see more of our members supporting this event, which is a great day out, and would be an enormous encouragement to the committee.

Unfortunately, due to a clash with the Soccer World Cup, necessitating a change to the proposed date for the President's Garden Party, this function had to be postponed. It is planned to hold the Garden Party again in 2011.

The sub-committee think-tank has been in over-drive and has been concerned particularly with the Society's Centenary, which will be celebrated from October 2011 through 2012. There are exciting things in prospect, which

it is hoped will attract an enthusiastic response from ODs of all ages. It is proposed to hold a Gala Concert in the superb Grammar School Hall in January 2012, with the Annual Derby Dinner also be held in the School Hall in November 2012 and a Centenary Ball, on a date to be advised. Additionally, the Society has offered a prize for the design of a centenary logo by the pupils of the Grammar School, which will be used on stationery during the centenary year. A print of St. Helen's House is being commissioned, which will be for sale and we trust be in big demand by ODs with fond memories of this grand old building and their time at Derby School.

It is also proposed to publish a commemorative Roll of Honour of Old Derbeians who gave their lives in the service of their country in World War 1 and World War 2.

All very exciting so watch the website.

The honour of President of the Society was conferred on Hedley Alcock, OBE (1937-1944) at the Annual General Meeting, in January 2010 and we look forward to his term of office. The Society is extremely fortunate to have such a man of integrity and vast experience to dignify this office. In preparation for the Centenary, the Committee has decided, that for this unique occasion, the tenure of the office of President of the Society is to be extended for one year in these exceptional circumstances. He will, therefore, now retire in 2013.

Old Derbeian Website – www.olderbeians.org

Alan Lockyer (1946-53), Website Acting-Editor reports:

The website is now well established as a medium for keeping members informed of the Society's activities and the dissemination of news in the period between the issue of the annual Newsletter.

An archive of previous years' Newsletters is maintained and the website has a link to the 'New Derbeian' produced by Derby Grammar School for ODs of recent years. A link to the DGs website is also available.

Over the next two years the Committee of the Old Derbeian Society has decided that to reduce costs, all communications will be by e-mail and the website, www.olderbeians.org. Members, therefore, are respectfully requested to keep the Society informed of their up-to-date e-mail addresses and to notify of any changes. If you have not forwarded an e-mail address or if it has changed, please send it to olderbeians@googlemail.com marked

for the attention of the Hon. Secretary.

The Society owes a great debt of gratitude to ODs Guthrie Whitby (1983-1987) and Charlie Mason (1995-2002) who continue to provide the technical resources for maintaining the web-site, on a pro-bono basis.

The committee is seeking an Editor for the website to relieve the immediate Past President of his Acting-Editor role and any OD interested in taking on the post should contact the Hon. Secretary via e-mail at:

oldderbeians@googlemail.com

School News

David Walker (1956-1963), Chairman of Governors, writes:

The problem with writing a column like this is having to decide what to put in and what to leave out! In addition, because I try to visit the headmaster once a week during term time my views get masked by the mundane and routine. I am not sure how interested ODs are in the review of the school's procedures and written instruction to ensure that the school more than passes muster on the occasion of its next inspection. I suspect that half those who started to read this section of our newsletter have drifted off by now, so perhaps this is not a good start. It is pertinent though since a school does not run itself and these matters are of no small importance.

So to more interesting matters:

INDOOR ROWING: Christopher Williams (year 11) won a gold medal at the national indoor rowing championships earlier this year.

CRICKET: The new square at the school's playing fields was brought in to use this year. Lack of water has affected the playing area though. The introduction of indoor nets has contributed to a better performance this year.

JUNIOR SCHOOL CHOIR: Won its class at Derby Arts Festival again this year.

SWING BAND: Has been involved in many fine performances this year both at the school and elsewhere. It faces the perennial problem of replacing its best players when the year ends. We have every confidence that Mrs. Lamley will continue to produce more than a good band this coming year.

ORGAN SCHOLARSHIP: Ben Bloor has secured an organ scholarship to New College, Oxford but has deferred his entry for one year, to take up a one year organ scholarship at St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

For more information the school's website at www.derbygrammar.co.uk will keep you up dated regularly and as it happens!

SPEECH DAY: This year will feature an old boy of the new school, Dr. Roberto King, now a Research Associate at Loughborough University. This will take place on Thursday 16th September at 7 pm at the Assembly Rooms.

A Remembrance Day Service will take place at the

school on Thursday 11th November commencing at 10.40 am.

The School's Carol Service will take place in Derby Cathedral on Tuesday 14th December at 7 pm.

All ODs are welcome to attend these events.

Three dates for your diary:

Speech Day – Thursday 16th September 2010 at 7.00 pm at the Assembly Rooms. Derby.

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

Carol Service – Tuesday 14th December at 7 pm in Derby Cathedral.

Valete

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to all the pupils who left in 2009 and are embarking on the furtherance of their careers:

E. C. BAILEY	Leeds: English and Philosophy
W. J. BETTS	Durham: Music and French
C. J. COOK	Bath: Pharmacology
A. H. CRESSWELL	Liverpool John Moores: Biomedicine
H. CRITCHELL-WARD	Durham: Physics
E. A. DALE	Deferred Entry
J. R. DALE	Nottingham Trent: Law
C. J. DEAKIN	Bates Weston Accountants: Accountancy Apprenticeship
J. W. GAZZARD	Leeds Metropolitan: Physical Education
P. K. GOLDSBURY	Edinburgh: Psychology
J. S. HADDEN	Plymouth: Marine Studies
A. S. HOLLINGSWORTH	Nottingham: History
A. L. HUGHES	St. Andrews: Economics
C. P. MCANDREW	Nottingham Trent: Quantity Surveying
R. D. PIZZEY	Deferred Entry
H. L. PRINCE	Exeter: German and Russian
E. RICHARDSON	Royal Academy of Music: Music
S. SHAMA	Sheffield: Law
J. J. SKINNER	Nottingham Trent: Chartered Surveying
C. SMOOTHY	Hull: British Politics and Legislative Studies
T. STAEHR	Leeds: Geography
S. L. TINLEY	Oxford: Law
L. A. R. TROWBRIDGE	Nottingham: French and German
M. P. J. WRIGHT	Nottingham: Medicine

Cricket Match

Barrie Sheard (1945-1950) reports:

Old Derbeians versus Derby Grammar School 1st XI

Saturday 26th June 2010 was a perfect summer's day for the twenty-five overs match between Derby Grammar School's First XI and the Old Derbeians, with blue skies and bright sunshine and a pleasant cooling breeze the scene was set for a great day's cricket

Commencing promptly at 10'clock the School took the field led by their captain, James Lowden and the ODs opening pair, Alex Hollingworth and Joe Gazzard took their place at the crease.

The School with some inspired bowling dismissed the ODs for 89 in the 25 overs.

Tea was taken at 3 pm, with refreshments provided for the players and umpires by the School.

At the same time ODs with families and friends reminisced and enjoyed their picnics.

After tea the ODs, captained by Rahul Shama took the field and the School's openers, Don Geer and Robert



Derby School First XI Winners of the Alan Sanders Memorial Trophy

Hollingworth commenced the innings. An early wicket saw Robert Hollingsworth dismissed for a 'duck'. However, when James Lowden came to the crease, together with Don Geer 91 runs were scored in 17 overs to win the match. Don Geer scored a magnificent 55 not out and James Lowden a commendable 22 not out.

A superb match completed, the afternoon concluded with the presentation for the first time of the 'Alan Sanders Memorial Trophy' to the winning team. The ceremony was introduced by the Society's President Hedley Alcock, who spoke glowingly of the pivotal role Alan had played over many years as the Society's Hon. Secretary and Newsletter Editor and felt that the Trophy was a fitting tribute to his memory.

The Trophy was presented to James Lowden, captain of the School First XI, by Mrs. Thelma Sanders, Alan's widow, after making a short but gracious and moving speech.

Thanks to Ralph Holden for his organisation of the logistics and for providing the wines, soft drinks and light refreshment to end a memorable occasion.



Mrs. Thelma Sanders presents the Trophy

The Annual Derby Dinner 2009

Stanley Smith (1942-1948) reports:

The Annual Derby Dinner, arranged with the usual meticulous care by Norman Chapple, to whom we extend our grateful thanks, was held at the Mackworth Hotel, Ashbourne, Road, Derby on Saturday 7th November 2009. Having moved from Pride Park after many years and the Midland Hotel in 2008 it was an unexpected change of venue but the spacious and beautifully decorated dining-room met with universal approval.

A goodly gathering of Old Derbeians, wives, partners and friends were soon in animated conversation and no doubt telling a good tale or two about days of yore!

After a substantial meal and a glass of wine or two it was quite obvious that everyone was enjoying the occasion and this event maintains its attraction as the main social event in the Society's calendar.

We were delighted to have Richard Paine, Headmaster (DGS), Mrs. Lesley Reynolds, Deputy Headmaster (DGS), as our guests.

The President, Alan Lockyer (1946-1953) welcomed the guests and gave a short and informative address. He expressed the sentiments of the members in conveying our good wishes to Norman Elliot, not able to attend due to ill-health.

All in all an excellent evening in great company



The President greets Richard Paine, Headmaster, Derby Grammar School

Old Derbeians Attending:

Hedley Alcock (1937-44)	Keith Chettle (1938-43)
Martin Anthony (1946-54)	Barrie Sheard (1945-50)
Geoff Beswick (1960-65)	David Collard (1943-48)
Andrew Bingham(1960-67)	Stan Smith (1942-48)
John Booth (1942-49)	John Cope (1969-67)
Mrs. Elisabeth Bowden Honorary Member	Tony Southgate (Honorary Member)
Alan Brindley (1948-53)	Neville Copestake (1940-45)
Christopher Brown (1960-67)	Robert Dowling (1960-67)
Tony Challis (1938-47)	Russell Thomas (1945-54)
Richard Jacques (1945-51)	Bill Ellis (1932-44)
Alan Lockyer (1946-53)	Michael Thompson (1962-67)
Keith Mansell (1952-60)	Peter Fairholm (1946-51)
John Meakin (1951-57)	Martin Tunaley (1963-69)
Richard Mordey (1946-53)	John Hallifield (1960-67)
Barrie Oakley (1951-58)	David Walker (1956-63)
Richard Paine (Headmaster DGS)	Russ Hamer (1966-73)
Rod Repton (1960-65)	Bryan Walton (1950-55)
Mrs. Lesley Reynolds (Deputy Head Master DGs)	Roy Harrison (1944-49)
Don Chapman (1942-47)	Derek Wrigh (1960-67)
Jim Rowley (1941-43)	Ralph Holden (1944-52)
Norman Chapple (1942-46)	Vic Wright (1960-67)
Brian Seager (Headmaster 1979-89)	David Hughes (1950-57)
	David Zydzienowski (1963-68)

2009 Scotland and North of England Diner

Report by John Booth (1942-49)

An October weekend in Edinburgh is always a delight and this year in spite of the disruption caused by the construction of a new tramway system in Princes Street, ODs and their wives and friends could only concur.

Adrian Hayes' usual superb arrangements at the Royal Scots Club ensured that the Annual Dinner was an occasion to savour and to be long remembered.

Along with Adrian we were joined by Alan Lockyer, our President, his wife Susan, John Booth and Marion Edge, Stan and Joyce Smith, Martin and Diane Tunaley and Brian Ward and his son Julian.

Apologies and good wishes were sent by Roy and Jean Fisher; Don and Joyce Maiden; David Slater and Sue Smith; David and Brenda Walker; and Mrs Hilary Wright.

Conviviality attended the company as we waxed lyrical over the superb meal accompanied by delicious wines as we recalled old times and discussed plans for the future. Old friends were fondly remembered and the midnight hour was soon passed.

Why not join the Edinburgh gathering this year? You would find the weekend so rewarding and once savoured you will come and come again!

59th London Dinner

Report by Peter Smedley (1947-54)

Eleven ODs, most from the London area, met for the Annual London Dinner at the Royal Overseas League on Saturday 8th May against a background of crisis.

Nothing new about ODs meeting for their London Dinner during a crisis. Usually it has been alarm bells



A bouquet for Elisabeth Bowden admired by Don Chapman and Neville Copestake

ringing over Derby County, or over St. Helen's House. This year's crisis was the limbo between the general election and the formation of a new government. Sadly it soon became clear that, despite a combined 76 years of Derby School education, the meeting would not be able to form a Government, not through any lack of ability, but through sheer lack of numbers.

The lack of numbers theme led conveniently into a general discussion (and not for the first time) of the future of the London Dinner. All possible efforts had been made by organiser Peter Smith to widen support, assisted in various ways by others, but to little avail. Sadly it had become clear that Father Time would exert his malign influence at a greater rate than any countervailing efforts on our part.

It should be said that none of this detracted from enjoyment of one of the best meals of recent times, and as much spirited conversation as ever.

So the 2011 Dinner will be the 57th and last, not going out with a whimper, but with a resounding fanfare to celebrate the OD Society Centenary. One last gathering when it is hoped numbers will rival the best of the last decade, and the fellowship enjoyed by so many over so many years will be sustained for one more time.

If you can possibly reach SW1 and The Royal Overseas League on Saturday 14th May 2011 – come and join us for a night to remember!

Old Derbeians Attending:

J. Bower (1938-43)	P. A. Smith (1958-66)
J. H. Booth (1942-1949)	J. P. Sturgeon (1955-63)
A. F. Dowling (1928-35)	A. R. Thomas (1945-53)
K. R. Mansell (1952-60)	G. Webster (1947-54)
B. W. Newcombe (1960-66)	D. V. White (1947-52)
P. J. Smedley (1947-54)	



Derbeians attending the London Dinner on Saturday 8th May 2010

The Amber Valley Reunion

Ralph Holden (1944-1952) reports:

On Sunday 27th June 2010 over fifty ODs, wives, partners, friends and even sons and daughters made the annual pilgrimage, on a flawless summer's day, to rekindle happy memories of schooldays spent in what remains a breathtakingly beautiful, unspoilt part of Derbyshire.

The occasion was the 70th Anniversary of the old School's move in 1940 to the new Amber Valley Camp from its temporary quarters at Overton Hall, safe from the bombing raids over central Derby.

Under the watchful eyes of Elisabeth Bowden (née Grime) and her son Nickolas, who work tirelessly each year to ensure the success of the event, we gathered in the clubhouse of the Ogston Sailing Club, which is all that remains of the original Camp buildings, to reminisce over coffee with School comrades. Some ODs present were too young to have been evacuated or not even born until after the School returned to St. Helen's in 1945!

The Clubhouse is still recognisably the School dining hall, with the masters' common-room at one end and the

tuck-shop at the other. Sadly though, the last two dormitory buildings, 'Bakewell' and 'Birchover' have now given place to the new yacht store.

Looking over the waters of the reservoir a dwindling number of us remember the immaculately laid out football pitches and cricket greens lying between the narrow gauge track of the Ashover Light Railway and the River Amber, with its purpose made swimming pool, dug out by boys and masters.

The President, Hedley Alcock, in his address spoke of his own recollections of Overton Hall and the Camp; oases of security and well-being in some of the darkest days of the war. He confessed, somewhat sheepishly, to being the one privileged pupil out of the whole school who, armed with a certificate from Matron because of 'water on the knee', missed the epic walk from Overton Hall to the camp by riding on the back of the luggage lorry!

After the traditional group photograph the majority of the members repaired to the 'Nettles' Inn at Ashover for a carvery lunch where the conviviality continued long into the afternoon.

All agreed the day had proved to be another successful milestone event in the history of the Society.



The 2010 Amber Valley Reunion. Happy memories.

Old Derbeian Reunions

There were two successful reunions early this year both held in Derby: the 1947'ers met at the Georgian House Hotel, Friargate, Derby, on 8th July 2010, their venue for the past four years, whilst the 1951 intake met for the first time at The Menzies Mickleover Court Hotel, Derby, on 16th April 2010.

All who attended attested to the enjoyable experience of meeting up with school chums and renewing friendships forged many years ago and revitalised through the reunion. All intend to meet up again next year.

For further details, please refer to the website:
www.olderbeians.org

Remembrance Day Service

The Annual Remembrance Day Service was held at the Old Derbeian War Memorial, St. Helen's House on Sunday

November 8th 2009. The service was conducted by the Reverend Preb. D. M. Tinsley (OD) and wreaths were laid by President Alan Lockyer and Headmaster Richard Paine.

There was an added poignancy to the remembrance by the reading of the names of our fallen colleagues from the First and Second World Wars read by John Booth and Peter Lord.

Even without the aid of a musical accompaniment we managed a heart-rending rendition of 'O, God our help in ages past' and the National Anthem.

Following our long established custom we repaired to the Flower Pot Inn in King Street after the service to enjoy some refreshment, kindly provided by the proprietor.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday 27th January 2011 at Derby Grammar School at 7.15 pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 28 January 2010.
3. Matters Arising
4. Hon. Secretary's Report
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of Chairman
7. Election of Hon. Secretary
8. Election of Hon. Treasurer
9. Election of Committee Members
10. President's Office 2012
11. Honorary Membership
12. To receive other propositions requiring Notice of Motion*
13. Any Other Business
14. Date of Next Meeting

*(21 days notice)

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

<i>President</i>	Hedley Alcock OBE (1937-44)	ex officio
<i>Chairman</i>	Russell Thomas (1945-54)	ex officio
<i>Secretary</i>	Stanley Smith (1942-48)	(retires 2011)
<i>Treasurer</i>	David Walker (1956-63)	
	Alan Lockyer (1946-53)	
	Norman Chapple (1942-48)	
	Martin Tunaley (1963-69)	(retires 2011)
	John Booth (1942-49)	(retires 2011)
	Robert Dowling (1960-67)	(retires 2011)
	Barrie Sheard (1945-50)	
	Ralph Holden (1944-52)	(retires 2012)
	Richard Mordey (1946-53)	(co-opted)
	Richard Paine (Headmaster DGS)	(co-opted)
	Mrs. Lesley Reynolds	(co-opted)
	(Deputy Head DGS)	

TREASURER'S REPORT

David Walker, FCA

Summary of Accounts – Year Ended 31st May 2010

REVENUE ACCOUNT

	2010	2009
Income	£	£
Life Membership Fees – 27 (29)	1330.00	810.00
Profit on Sales of Merchandise	22.02	39.45
Derbyshire Building Society	0.81	73.82
Bank of Scotland	0.78	0.65
Surplus on Derby Dinner	200.00	150.00
Address List	712.50	545.00
Robert Laurie Memorial Fund	3.50	3.50
	<u>2269.61</u>	<u>1622.42</u>
Expenditure		
Newsletter	540.53	462.00
Attributable Postage	327.60	405.82
President's Garden Party	241.05	
Alan Sanders Trophy (net)	313.06	
Membership Certificate	79.00	–
Information Commissioner Fee	35.00	35.00
Presentations	–	90.76
Secretarial and Administration	142.26	79.91
Remembrance Day	16.50	16.50
Donation and reimbursements to School	140.00	299.60
	<u>412.76</u>	<u>521.77</u>
Surplus for the Year	<u>434.61</u>	<u>232.83</u>

BALANCE SHEET

At 31st May 2010

	2010	2009
	£	£
Assets		
3½% War Loan at valuation	76.77	74.45
Derbyshire Building Society	3481.78	3480.97
Bank of Scotland	620.05	413.33
Cash in Hand	–	207.55
Stock of Merchandise	585.41	444.49
Debtors and Prepayments	2430.99	2116.89
	7195.00	6737.68
Amounts owed by the Society	58.39	38.00
	<u>7136.61</u>	<u>6699.68</u>
Representing		
Accumulated Capital Fund	3086.14	3086.14
Seaton Bequest	25.00	25.00
G. W. McQuillan Fund	500.86	500.86
Reserve Fund		
Balance at 1st June 2009	2928.39	2695.56
Surplus/(Deficiency) for the year	434.61	232.83
	<u>3363.00</u>	<u>2928.39</u>
Robert Laurie Memorial Fund		
Balance at 1st June 2008	159.29	159.32
(Decrease) in value over the year	2.32	(0.03)
	<u>161.61</u>	<u>159.29</u>
	<u>7136.61</u>	<u>6699.68</u>

With the exception of the Robert Laurie Memorial Fund, part of which is invested in 3½% War Loan, all funds are represented by the bank and building society balances shown.

Please note: John Booth, long standing and highly esteemed Member of the Committee and a Past President of the Society is not seeking re-election at the Annual General Meeting. His services have been invaluable to the Society over many years and I take this opportunity on behalf of the Society to express our gratitude for his sterling services.

We are now looking for a Hon. Secretary as I am not standing for re-election at the AGM so I will be pleased to receive nominations to fill the position.

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)
Future of the Society	Ralph Holden (1945-52)

Nominations for The Old Derbeian Society Committee 2011

Nominations are invited for the offices of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations are also invited to fill three vacancies on the committee. Alan Bird has resigned and Martin Tunaley and Robert Dowling retire by rotation and are eligible for re-election.

The committee meets as required, which is usually four times a year. Further information is available from the Hon. Secretary

Membership of the Society

If any Old Derbeian wishes to join the Society, the current life-membership fee is £35.00. 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, 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 County Tie and is made of pure new wool. This handsome and distinctive scarf is priced at only £18.

The County Tie

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

Traditional City Tie

Green/white/black narrow stripes with St. Chad cross 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 a modest £15 per set, excellent value and a 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. Also available at the Derby Dinner?

OBITUARY

MICHAEL JOSEPH GARRETY (1938-45)

We were deeply saddened to learn of the death in December 2009, of Michael Joseph Garrety, a distinguished academic and an iconic Old Derbeian.

Born in 1927, Michael attended Derby School during the war years; he was evacuated to Amber Valley with the school at the same time as his two cousins, after being bombed out of their London house, were evacuated to his then home in Allestree! From 1944-45 he was Head Boy under Headmaster Leslie Bradley, for whose knowledge, wisdom and understanding he retained a life-long admiration.

On leaving school he joined the Royal Tank regiment and was commissioned in 1946 and saw service in Egypt and the Middle East until the British evacuation of Palestine. After demobilisation he remained in the Territorial Army for many years. His military interest spanned the time from 1944 when he became Company Sergeant-Major of the school OTC, until 2008, when he was invited to Buckingham Palace for the presentation of new colours to his regiment by the Queen.

After discharge from the Army, Michael took up a scholarship and read for a degree in English Language and Literature at Nottingham University, subsequently gaining a higher degree and other post-graduate qualifications in European and Cultural Studies at Chelsea College (University of London).

From 1952-1966 Michael taught English at colleges in Huddersfield and Manchester and also contributed to the development of their drama departments by producing and writing plays for performance.

In 1966 he took up a post at Brunel University (then one of only three technologically-based universities) as lecturer in charge of English and European Cultural Studies, where he remained until retirement.

His published works related often to the writings and poetry of Great War years and he contributed to the activities of many literary societies.

A man of many skills and interests, including archaeology and all things mechanical, he was above all, perhaps a family man. Married to Christine in 1954, together they celebrated their fifty-fifth wedding anniversary. He leaves two sons, a daughter and three grandchildren.

Among the many tributes received he was described as

“gifted in many ways as a scholar, lecturer, writer and actor among others” and as “a modest man of great intellect and integrity, with a strong sense of duty and of right and wrong but with a wonderful sense of humour too”. Another tribute which would have surprised him said, “He was a brilliant speaker whose teaching has influenced my whole life.”

Our deepest condolences go out to Christine and the family in their sad loss.

FORMAL NOTICES

Speech Day

Derby Grammar School will hold their Speech Day in the Assembly Rooms, Derby at 7.30 pm on Thursday 16th September 2010.

The Scotland and North of England Dinner 2010

The Scotland and North of England Dinner has been arranged once again by Adrian Hayes at the Royal Scots Club, Abercromby Place, Edinburgh, EH3 6QE. on Saturday 9th October 2010, and will commence at 6.45 for 7.30 pm. The cost will be £35 per head, inclusive of pre-dinner drinks, a superb three-course meal accompanied by excellent wines. This is a most convivial occasion and well worth your support so why not give it a try.

Accommodation is available at either the Royal Scots Club, telephone 0131 556 4270 or e-mail info@royalscotclub.com or alternately at his own hotel, The Avenue Hotel, telephone 0131 3467270.

Annual Derby Dinner 2010

The Annual Derby Dinner will be held on Saturday 13th November 2010 at the Mackworth Hotel, Ashbourne Road, Derby commencing at 6.45 for 7.30 pm. Wives, friends and partners are cordially invited.

Accommodation is available at the Mackworth or at Premier Inn, 95 Ashbourne Road, Mackworth, Derby (Telephone 0870 990 6606).

Norman Chapple, the event organiser and has included full details and a booking application, which are included with this Newsletter. Please help Norman by booking early.

London Dinner 2011

The final London Dinner will be held on Saturday 14th May 2011 at the Royal Overseas League, Park Place, off St. James Street, London, at 6.15 for 7 pm. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance, in this the Society's centenary year, to ensure a fitting end to this event. For further details contact the organiser, Peter Smith, 9 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, Reading, RG4 8SR or telephone 0118 947 2971.

The Society is indebted to Peter Smith for his tireless efforts to organise the dinner over many years but increasingly diminishing attendances have resulted in the decision to make this final event something special and go out with a bang!

Amber Valley Reunion 2011

The Annual Reunion will be held in the Old Dining Room, Ogston Sailing Club at 11 am on Sunday 26th June 2011 and once again the indomitable Elisabeth Bowden and her son Nick will make the necessary arrangements.

Old Derbeian Remembrance Service

The service at the War Memorial, at St. Helen's House, will commence at 11 am on Sunday 14th. November 2010.

Refreshments will be available afterwards, courtesy of the Flower Pot Inn, King Street.

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 Michael Bishop Hall at 10.30 am on Thursday 11th November 2010 and to lunch afterwards.

Annual General Meeting 2011

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at Derby Grammar School on Thursday 27th January 2011.

Cricket Match and President's Garden Party

Due to clashes with the World Football Cup it was not possible to find a suitable date in co-operation with the School to hold the Garden Party this year. However, it is expected that the Cricket Match and the Garden Party will be held in 2011.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION REQUIRED

It is important that you let us know of any change in your personal details, so that we are able to maintain an accurate data-base of the membership. Any changes should be communicated to the Society, at oldderbeians@googlemail.com marked for the attention of the Hon. Secretary if mailings are to be received.

In addition to being circulated by e-mail the Annual Newsletter and enclosures will be available each year on the website and will be capable of being printed, by downloading, if a hard copy is preferred.

Yours sincerely,

STANLEY SMITH (1942–48)

Newsletter Editor

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