

Old Derbeian Society

Newsletter 2011



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Dear Old Derbeians,

Firstly on behalf of all Old Derbeians I must express our thanks to Stan Smith for all his work as President and Hon Sec of the Society over the past years, without his efforts I am sure the Society would not be in the position it is today. Our thanks must also go to John Booth who stood down from the committee at the last AGM. John's work for the Society over the years has been legendary and I am sure that we all wish him well and trust he will make a speedy recovery and be able to live a full and active life. A full history of John's work for the society is posted on the Web Site.

This year represents a milestone in the Society's History having been inaugurated in Oct 1911 and I hope as many members as possible will participate in the Centenary events being organised. Full details are on following pages.

It is over 20 years since I was last secretary of the Society and much has changed, but some of the committee are still in place. This brings me to my first request of members. The Committee has several vacancies and to ensure the continuity of the Society we urgently need younger O.D.s to join the Committee so that the future of the Society is ensured. If you are interested please contact me or any other member of the Committee.

The biggest change over the years for the Society has been the formation of the Website www.olderbeians.org. The success of the site is due to the unstinting efforts of Alan Lockyer who is currently acting as website editor and to considerable pro bono assistance, on technical issues, by two OD's Guthrie Whitby and Charlie Mason. Alan has indicated that he will retire at the AGM in January 2013. It is therefore imperative that we find a replacement as soon as possible.

This position is ideal for a younger computer literate OD to carry on the good work of Alan and so help to ensure the future of the Society. Please do not hesitate to contact me or if you require further information contact Alan direct. Whilst on this subject can I please implore all members who received this Newsletter by post BUT HAVE an E-mail address to advise us at olderbeians@gmail.com as soon as possible. To put this in context the cost of printing and posting out the News Letter is over £700, this represents over 50% of the yearly income of the Society so PLEASE, PLEASE advise us of your E-mail address and help us save unnecessary expense.

Alan Draper, Hon. Sec.

Centenary Year 2011 - 12

There is a growing sense of anticipation for the unique opportunity to celebrate the Centenary of the Old Derbeian Society, which was inaugurated in October 1911.

Planning for this auspicious year is at an advanced stage and it is a wonderful opportunity for ODs to make it a memorable celebration year.

A Gala Concert will be held on Saturday 4th February 2012 when the following OD's will be appearing: Michael Harris (1958-1965), Andrew Nicklin (1958-1965) and Ben Bloor (2003-2010), amongst others, and also to have a Centenary Dinner in the magnificent Assembly Hall at Derby Grammar School in November 2012. Additionally, a celebratory print of St. Helen's House is being commissioned, which will be of great interest to all who cherish memories of their school-days there and it is hoped there will be a big demand to purchase copies.

Electronic Communication

Old Derbeian Website-www.olderbeians.org
Over the next few years the Committee of the Old Derbeian Society plans to move its mailing procedures and main contacts with the membership into the 21st Century by adopting e-mail olderbeians@gmail.com and the website www.olderbeians.org as its medium of communication and also as a means of containing costs and reducing its carbon footprint. Members are therefore asked to kindly inform the Society of their up-to-date e-mail address and to note that any future changes will need to be notified to the Society 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. Members who have not yet forwarded an e-mail address or who have changed their e-mail address within the last twelve months are asked to contact the Hon. Secretary with their new address by e-mail via olderbeians@gmail.com.

Cricket Match

The Annual School vs Old Derbeians cricket match was held at the school playing fields, Mickleover on Saturday 18th June. The

weather was fine and windy with the possibility of showers.

The school won the toss and opted to field.

This decision seemed to be the right one as the ODs lost 3 quick wickets for 20 runs. This brought together the Sharma Bros who took the score to 104 before R.Sharma was run out by a spectacular throw from the outfield for 50. The ODs finally finished with a total of 104.

Tea was taken, again kindly supplied by the School.

The School opened with Geer and Brown who took the score on steadily to 39 before Geer was bowled by R.Sharma. 2 wickets then fell in quick succession to the bowling of Lowden, who finished with 3 wickets, and when Brown was bowled by S.Sharma for an excellent 30 the School's resistance began to wane, and the School were finally all out for 98 runs.

The Alan Saunders Trophy was presented at the School by the Headmaster to the ODs Captain and Man of the Match, R.Sharma

Old Derbeian Society. History Subcommittee. Owen Dyer. Editor-at-Large

Volunteer Needed.

We are carrying out research into the actual date of the founding of the school in relation to Darley Abbey.

I have ODs who are helping with this research in Derby, Chester, Lichfield and Lincoln Cathedrals and their associated connections with local City and County archives.

Volunteer needed: I have no-one to cover Coventry Cathedral, Coventry City archives or Warwickshire County archives.

For the work involved there is a short list of questions for the volunteer to ask in order to find out if this Cathedral and any of its

Bishops had anything to do with the founding of Darley Abbey and the school.

Full help and guidance will be given in undertaking this research.

If any Old Derbeian could give some of his time to help us please contact me. I should be delighted if two or more people agreed to share the work. They do not necessarily have to be Old Derbeians.

Time is not of the essence and you would not be expected to do the work in a single concentrated period. A day a week or so would be fine because we all have other things to do and I accept that the research work must fit in round your other interests, commitments and family. I am happy to discuss the work and go over the details before you make up your mind.

Contact
01453 886177 owendyer@uwclub.net

AMBER VALLEY CAMP 1940-1945

NEW PIECE OF MEMORABILIA

OD's young and old will, I believe, be delighted to read that through the generosity of Neville Copestake (1940-1945) we now have taken possession of a piece of WWII School history to place within our growing archives.

The School, as most people know, was evacuated at the beginning of the second world war in September 1939 first to Overton Hall, Ashover and then in June 1940 to the newly completed Amber Valley Camp out in the Derbyshire countryside, north of the town of Alfreton and east of Matlock.

What is this unusual bit of School history? It is Table Block Number 2 which was used for the whole of the school's time at Amber Valley within the dining room to indicate to the pupils their particular table to use for their breakfasts, dinners and evening meal.



At the end of the summer term, once peace was declared in Europe in May 1945, everyone then at the school and not leaving that academic year knew they would be returning to the St. Helen's House complex in King Street in the centre of Derby. Obviously Table Blocks would no longer be of use and in order to acquire a memento of that very eventful time Neville acquired the block which he had kept.

We are extremely grateful for Neville's generosity in handing this over so that it may be placed within the OD Society Archives. As your new Archivist it occurred to me

that perhaps you may have other mementos of times past that you would be willing to pass on for safe keeping?

We here at the OD Society would be so pleased to hear from you.

Written by Barrie Sheard (1945-1950) OD Society Archivist

1947ers Reunion 8th July 2011 Georgian House Hotel, Derby

This year the fifth annual re-union of the 1947ers, who first met almost sixty-four years ago in the new second form of Derby School, took place on 7th July at its customary venue of the Georgian House Hotel in Friargate. The number was slightly down on last year because of pressing hospital appointments and other considerations of health but the ten shown in the photograph enjoyed a delightful few hours together.

As ever on these occasions there are the usual reminiscences (amazingly memories seem to improve as years pass - or perhaps age just nourishes the imagination?) and gentle banter based on our individual success in retarding the advances of time. This year a number of photographs from schooldays helped the conversation flow and also perhaps provided a brake on the more fanciful stories. Again the enjoyment of the occasion was such that it was agreed that we would meet again in 2012. The good news is that some of those who missed this year's meeting have already indicated their intention to be present next year. There may also be 1947ers whom we have failed to contact and we would of course be delighted to see them. Arrangements for 2012 will in due course appear on the Old Derbeians' web site.

Those present and shown in the photograph (left to right) were:

John Hyde, Brian Moulton, John Wilkinson, Russ Jones, Eddie Hunt, Ray Frost, Peter Smedley, Viv Andrew, David (Pinky) White. Mike Bass was also present.



Report from the London Dinner 14th May 2011

Regular diners at the Society's London Dinner held in the dining rooms of the Royal Overseas League on Saturday 14th May were delighted to be joined for pre-dinner drinks by three DGS Old Derbeians who now live & work in the London area. It is hoped that this brief encounter will encourage the 'new generation' of Old Derbeians to pick up the torch in due course and take over the London Dinner which has been held, in almost the same format, since 1954 following an initiative at the Quatercentenary Celebrations of Derby School in that year.

Peter Smith [1958-66], for many years the organiser of the London Dinner reports: -

"This year was a fairly typical evening although attendance was disappointing for the 'last hurrah' event of the series. In all 12 ODs attended [see list below] and those from London & the South were grateful to the 4 attendees from Derby. A fine evening was enjoyed and the ROSL provided a grand meal and an excellent ambience. A circular table did bring home the impact of declining numbers but aided the circulation of spirited conversation and fond reminiscences.

Toasts were made to the Society, the School, & to 'absent friends' and the party dispersed to their several destinations in good heart".

Old Derbeians attending:

Peter Smith (1958-66)	Bill Ellis (1933-44)
Peter Smedley (1947-54)	Roy Taylor (1939-46)
Godfrey Webster (1947-54)	John Bower (1938-43)
David White (1947-52)	David Walker (1956-63)
Russell Thomas (1945-53)	John Sturgeon (1955-63)
Norman Chapple (1942-48)	Barry Newcombe (1960-66)

Annual Derby Dinner 2011

The Derby Dinner of the Society will this year be held on Saturday 12th November at the Mackworth Hotel, Ashbourne Road, Derby at 6.45 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. and it will effectively mark the opening of the Centenary Celebrations.

Full details are on the website in the Events section. Go to www.olderbeians.org.

The Annual Derby Dinner 2010

Dick Mordey (1946-1953) reports:

There may be those who regret not being able to see the photographs of the glory days of Derby County as they climbed the stairs to the banqueting suite at Pride Park but the Mackworth Hotel again proved to be a worthy replacement. Thanks are once more due to Norman Chapple whose arrangements were as efficient as ever. We “out of towners” also enjoyed the convenience and comfort of the nearby Premier Holiday Inn. Some of our number could also have been seen benefiting from the real ale at the adjoining Mundy Arms!

Word must have got around as the numbers at the dinner were up on 2009 (97 against 66). One has to assume that the noise level was not only an indication of the increase in numbers but also of the level of enjoyment. Norman has had the foresight to book the same venue for this year and let's hope the high level of attendance is maintained.

On the night Russell Thomas and Norman carried out their formal duties with appropriate demeanour. Our President, Hedley Alcock, prior to proposing the toast “Our Guests” spoke with some aplomb, welcoming our guests, commenting on the Society's other dinners, the cricket match (“Do it again, Ralph”), looked forward to the Centenary celebrations and pointed to the future and the many successes of current and former pupils of the school. Hedley emphasised the need to link the activities of the School, the Society and the Parents' Association. Thanks were paid to the School staff and to the continuing efforts of the officials of the Society.

Richard Paine, the Headmaster, in responding emphasised the continuing aim of achieving top quality, all round education (I think that is what it was always about, although it might have passed me by in my time!). He pointed to the considerable achievements of current pupils in a wide range of activities, academic, artistic and sporting. Let's hope it continues.

ODs attending:

ALCOCK Hedley	1937/44	MANSELL Keith	1952/60
ALDWINKLE, Clifford	1937/42	MEAKIN John	1951/57
ANTHONY Martin	1946/54	MELLERS, Gordon	1941/48
ASTLE Tony	1946/53	MORDEY Richard	1946/53
BATE Roger	1957/62	PAINE Richard	Headmaster DGS
BESWICK Geoff	1960/65	PICKEN Ashley	1962/69
BILLINGTON, David	1960/68	POLKEY, Andrew	1961/66
BOOTH John	1942/49	REPTON Rod	1960/65
BOWDEN Mrs Elisabeth	Honorary Member	ROBERTSHAW Graham	1941/43
BRINDLEY Alan	1948/53	ROWLEY, WNK ("Jim")	1941/43
CHAMBERS, Barry	1952/60	SANDERS Michael	1946/51
CHAPMAN Don	1942/47	SCALES, Peter	1961/68
CHAPPLE Norman	1942/48	SEAGER Brian	Headmaster 1979/89
CHETTLE Keith	1938/43	SHEARD, Barrie	1945/50
COPESTAKE Neville	1940/45	SMITH Stan	1942/48
DAVIS Mark	1963/71	SOUTHGATE Tony	Honorary member
DIXON James	DGS Head Prefect	SRINIVASAN Ananth	DGS Deputy Head Prefect
DOWLING Robert	1960/67	TOLLEY, Stuart	1961/66
DRAPER Alan	1957/62	THOMAS Russell	1945/54
EDWORTHY Mark	1961/68	TUNALEY Martin	1963/69
ELLIS Bill	1932/44	WALKER Keith	1957/62
FAIRHOLM Peter	1946/51	WARD, Brian	1939/44
FRANKLAND Ian	1951/56	WEIR John	1961-68
GOODWIN, Alan	1950/57	WILLIAMS, John	1950/57

GOODWIN Ian	1965/68
HAMER Russ	1966/73
HANSON David	1951/59
HARRISON Roy	1944/49
HERRING, David	1951./58
HOLDEN Ralph	1944/52
JACQUES Richard	1945/51
KUREK Michael	1963/68
LOCKYER Alan	1946/53

WILSON, Peter	1961/68
WOODHALL, Peter	1961/66
WRIGHT Derek	1960/67

13 November - Remembrance Sunday

On Remembrance Sunday, 13th November at 10.45am for 11.00am, members of the Society will gather outside St Helen's House, King Street at the Derby School War Memorial for the laying of wreaths and the annual service of Remembrance. After the service coffee & biscuits will be available at the Flower Pot Inn which is almost adjacent. Parking is available close-by in the Derby Council multi-storey facility in Chapel Street.

Remembrance Sunday 14th November 2010

Not even the sad disused appearance of St Helen's House could lessen the emotional impact the Schools hallowed War Memorial had on all those ODs who stood before it at the annual Service of Remembrance.

The moving anniversary, as for several years now was conducted with dignity by the Revd Derek Tinsley O.D. The Two minutes silence commenced at the chiming of 11 o'clock by the distant Cathedral clock and was followed by the laying of wreaths by our President Hedley Alcock OBE, O.D. and Richard Paine Hon O.D. Headmaster of Derby Grammar School.

The names of fallen pupils inscribed on the monument who had made the ultimate sacrifice, became poignantly more immediate as the Roll of Honour was read out aloud by four of our members. Stanley Smith O.D. recited the prayer for the Fallen commencing with the eternal words "They shall not grow old as we that are left grow old ..." The cold chill did not diminish the hearty rendering of 'O God our help in ages past ...' and the responses to the Prayers and Benediction.

Russell Thomas O.D. read the immortal passage from St Johns Gospel opening with 'Greater love hath no man that this, that a man lay down his life for his friends ...'

As always it was time for reflection and thanksgiving for all our fallen brother Old Derbeians had done for us and future generations to come.

In Memoriam 2011

Name of Old Derbeian	Years at School
Prof. G. E. Bacon	(1928-36)
M.S. Brindley	(1933-40)
D. A. Britton	(1952-60)
J. S. F. Dallman	(1930-40)
K. S. Hackett	(1947-52)
A. (Albert) Hough	(1942-47)
K.S. Hackett	(1947-52)

Annual General Meeting 2012

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday 26th January 2012 at Derby Grammar School at 7.15pm.

AGENDA

1. Apologies
 2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27 January 2011.
 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 2013
 11. Honorary Membership
 12. To receive other propositions requiring Notice of Motion*
 13. Any Other Business
 14. Date of Next Meeting
- * (21 days' notice)

Position Held	Name
President	Hedley Alcock OBE
Chairman	Russell Thomas
Honorary Secretary	Alan Draper
Honorary Treasurer	David Walker FCA
Committee Member	Ralph Holden
Headmaster	Richard Paine
Deputy Headmaster	Mrs Lesley Reynolds
Senior Master	Paul Hilliam
Past President	Alan Lockyer
Committee Member	Norman Chappell
Committee Member	Bob Dowling
Committee Member	Richard Mordey
Committee Member	Barrie Sheard
Committee Member	Martin Tunaley

COPY OF SUMMARY ACCOUNTS 2010-2011

REVENUE ACCOUNT

	2011		2010	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Membership		1,680		1,330
Merchandise		20		22
Address List		-		713
Interest		6		2
Social Events		620		200
Donations and Miscellaneous		13		3
		2,339		2,270
Expenditure				
Newsletter	1,077		868	
Events	121		257	
Alan Sanders Trophy	-		313	
Banner	120		-	
Administration	487	1,805	413	1,851
Surplus for the Year		<u>534</u>		<u>419</u>

BALANCE SHEET at 31st May 2011

	2010	2010
	£	£
Investments, Bank and Cash Balances	5,384	4,179
Stock of Merchandise	473	585
Amounts owing to the Society	1,853	2,431
	7,710	7,195
Amounts owed by the Society	38	58
	7,672	7,137
Representing		
Accumulated Funds	7,672	7,137

Notes

The above is a summary of the Society's accounts. The full version is available upon request from the Hon Treasurer. Full Accounts will be available at the Society's AGM
The accounts remain subject to audit.

The School and Masonry

The Tudor Masonic Lodge, meeting at the Masonic Hall, Campbell Street, Belper, was formed in part by Old Derbeians. The Lodge uses the School Grace at its Festive Board and has a Toast to the School. All Old Derbeians who are Masons and would like to attend one of their regular meetings or who are interested in having further details regarding membership should contact Alan Draper the Hon. Secretary.

School News

As ever life in School is hectic and we have already sent parties of students to France, Belgium, Germany and Yorkshire on various educational trips in September. As I write we are busy preparing for a School Open Day followed by a visit from the School Inspectors next week!

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly congratulate our examination candidates. I have never known a more difficult UCAS application round than this year, with fewer courses available for more students than ever before. I was delighted on results day when every student was placed at

university by lunchtime, (whereas only just over 50% of students nationally were placed by the end of the day). 73% of all of our students achieved their first choice university and 93% either their first or second choice. They have secured places at many of the best universities in the country for the most competitive courses. Almost 25% of the year will be starting biomedical science courses around the country, further underlining the strength of our Science Department.

The average points score per candidate was nearly ABB for A Level and we were delighted to see a near doubling of the number of A* grades awarded with Dan Geer achieving 4 A* grades.

The GCSE results were spectacular and were the very best that I have known throughout my career. Almost 40% were A* grades and 74.5% were A*/A grades. Four students gained at least 9 A*s with Edward Millband securing 12 A's and 2 A grades at AS Level. These results are the product of much hard work over many months and are a credit to all concerned.

I am delighted that many students have been busy and successful over the summer as well.

Six Derbeians have completed their Gold Duke of Edinburgh award over the past few months. This is an outstanding culmination of the outdoor education programme at the school and represents a fantastic achievement. Only 2% candidates successfully complete their Gold Award nationally and all credit must go to the students and Mr Edge for their efforts and energy.

Christopher Williams has had another excellent summer in his rowing career. Having narrowly missed out on selection for the Great Britain team he was selected for the England team at the Home International Regatta. This was a fantastic achievement given that in order to compete he had to change boat and row in an older age group category. The highlight of his season was undoubtedly his second place in the single sculls in the Home International Regatta in Scotland.

Sanshrav Puri has also been selected as an ambassador for the European Youth Parliament following our participation in the EYP national Debating Competition finals at Durham University in July. He will now be involved in promoting the work of the European Youth Parliament in this country and abroad in the coming year.

All of our successes were celebrated at a highly successful Prize Giving evening in September where pupils and guests were addressed by Danny Crates, Gold medal winning Paralympian on his secrets of success and overcoming adversity.

Richard Paine, Headmaster