

December 2006



The Old Edwardians Gazette



Presidents & Vice-Presidents

The President

J.A. Claughton, M.A.

Vice-Presidents

R. Edmonds, F.R.I.B.A.

R.J. Garratt, D.F.C., LL.B.

A.C. Muffett

M.B. Lloyd

M.J.W. Rogers, M.A.

T.G. Freeman, M.A.

H.R. Wright, M.A.

B.G. Creed

D.J. Corney, F.C.A.

A.C. Williams T.D.

Former Presidents

1883-1900 The Revd Albert Richard Vardy, MA

1900-1929 R Cary Gilson, MA

1929-1942 ET England, MA

1942-1948 CR Morris, MA

1948-1952 TEB Howarth, MC, MA

1952-1974 The Revd Canon RG Lunt, MC, MA, BD

1974-1982 FGR Fisher, MA

1982-1992 MJW Rogers, OBE, MA

1992-1998 HR Wright, MA

1998-2005 Roger Dancey, MA

Former

Vice-Presidents

1883-1905 Charles Edwards Mathews, FRGS

1883-1923 Rawdon Levett, MA

1886-1896 The Most Revd Edward White Benson, DD, Archbishop of Canterbury

1886-1892 Alfred Baker, FRCS

1887-1889 The Right Revd Joseph Barber Lightfoot, DD, Bishop of Durham

1887-1891 Sir Arthur Blyth, KCMG, CB

1887-1888 Sir Francis Galton, FRS, DCL

1887-1889 George Frederick James

1889-1935 OH Caldicott

1894-1901 The Right Revd Brooke Foss Westcott, DD, Bishop of Durham

1894-1910 Sir Alfred Hickman, Bt.

1895-1912 EW Floyd, MA

1900-1902 Sir Alexander Mackenzie, KCSI

1900-1902 R Harding Milward, JP

1900-1929 Sir Francis Low, Bt.

1900-1919 Revd J Hunter Smith, MA

1902-1931 HE Herd

1902-1942 Walter R Jordan, MD

1903-1932 Sir James Smith

1903-1914 Major-General RG Kekewich, CB

1903-1920 Alderman Samuel Edwards, JP

1904-1911 Sir Nathan Bodlington, LittD

1904-1921 Sir AWW Dale, MA, LL.D

1910-1949 GA Nutt

1911-1956 JF Jordan, FRCS

1911-1958 Joseph Manton, MA

1913-1951 Revd Prof. JF Bethune-Baker, DD, FBA

1916-1926 Sir John Barnsley, VD

1920-1933 Hon. Sir HA McCardie

1920-1944 Dudley Docker, CB

1920-1943 PC DeL Adams

1920-1949 Revd CH Heath, MA

1920-1956 Prof. FW Thomas, CIE, PhD, DLitt

1921-1955 The Right Hon. Sir Richard Hopkins, PC, GCB

1925-1953 The Right Revd Ernest William Barnes, ScD, FRS, Bishop of Birmingham

1925-1939 Sir William Waters Butler, Bt.

1930-1939 R Cary Gilson, MA

1934-1940 Sir Ransford Slater, GCMG, CBE

1935-1963 Lieut.-General Sir EWC Bradfield, KCIE, OBE

1936-1976 Bertram C Ottey

1939-1959 Sir Leonard Browett, KCB

1941-1969 FH Viney, MA

1942-1964 Commander AS Langley, CMG, MA

1944-1956 Sir AW Ibbotson, CIE, MBE, MC

1945-1970 Field Marshal Viscount Slim, KG, GCB, GCMG, GCVO, GBE, DSO, MC

1950-1974 The Hon. Mr Justice Finnemore, MA

1950-1977 Air Marshal Sir Charles Guest, KBE, CB

1953-1958 ER Bickley

1954-1971 Air Marshal Sir Robert Saundby, KCB, KBE, MC, DFC, AFC

1956-1963 Captain Oliver Bird, MC

1957-1963 EW Vincent

1957-1974 Stanley Baker

1957-1973 TW Hutton, MA

1957-1966 EC Witt

1960-1984 NF Appleby

1969-1981 GF Mountford

1972-1975 HHN Davis

1969-1993 RR Harvey, OBE, Hon. MA

1975-1994 The Revd Canon RG Lunt, MC, MA, BD

1971-1994 NJF Craig, MA

1974-1997 Air Chief Marshal Sir Denis Smallwood, GBE, KCB, DSO, DFC, FRSA, FRAeS

1969-1999 John Norwood

1982-2000 FGR Fisher, MA

1995-2004 Prof. MFH Wilkins, FRS

1995-2004 Sir John Vane, FRS

2005 J.M. Coley

Officers of the O.E. Association

Chairman of General Committee

Paul Thomson

Committee

Andrew Baxter *Hon. Treasurer*
Michael Baxter *Hon. Registrar*
Derek Benson *Hon. Secretary*
Bernard Adams *Editor of the Gazette*
David Brewer *Edwardians Football Club*
Gerald Chadwick *Sports Club*
David Corney
Robert Edmonds *London OE*
Jim Evans *Cricket Club*
Philip Gough
Michael Lloyd
James Martin
Mark Roberts
Stephen Talboys *Hon. Secretary*
David Ward
John Wheatley

Co-opted

Brian Creed
Michael Edwards
Ian Metcalfe

Hon. Secretaries

Derek Benson,
King Edward's School,
Birmingham, B15 2UA.
Telephone: (0121) 472 1672
Fax: (0121) 415 4327
e-mail: dnb@kes.bham.sch.uk

Stephen Talboys,
204 Galton Road,
Smethwick,
West Midlands, B67 5JP.
(0121) 420 3313
(0121) 627 6267

Hon. Registrar

M.D. Baxter,
36 Woodglade Croft,
Kings Norton, Birmingham, B38 8TD.
e-mail: OEA.registrar@btinternet.com

Hon. Treasurer

A.G. Baxter,
3 Nightingale Place,
Pendeford Business Park,
Wobaston Road,
Wolverhampton, WV9 5HF.
Tel: (01902) 787171
e-mail: info@baxters-ca.co.uk

Auditors

Clement Keys

School Representative

Derek Benson,
King Edward's School,
Birmingham, B15 2UA.
Telephone: (0121) 472 1672

Section Secretaries

London OEs

David Edmonds,
61 Stanhope Road,
Longwell Green,
Bristol, BS30 9AJ.
Telephone: 0117 932 8249
e-mail: dave.edmonds@virgin.net

Old Edwardians Sports Club Ltd.

Gerald Chadwick,
1 Musgrave Close,
Sutton Coldfield.
(0121) 241 2531

OE Cricket Club

Michael Hughes,
'Mead End',
Galtons Lane,
Belbroughton,
Worcestershire, DY9 9TS.
(01562) 730346

Edwardians Football Club

Ben Hewitson,
25 Whitley Avenue,
Solihull,
West Midlands, B91 6JD.
(0121) 234 0052

OE Golfing Society

Martin Wilkes,
Telephone: (01675) 467354

Fives

George Worthington,
King Edward's School.
Telephone: (0121) 234 0052

OE Basketball Club

Aidan Hayes,
King Edward's School,
Birmingham, B15 2UA.
Telephone: (0121) 472 1672

In this Gazette will be found a Membership Application Form which includes a Banker's Order Form together with details of Life Membership. The use of the Banker's Order spares the Association much work and expense. Life Membership, however, not only spares us even more but also offers a real bargain to those with intimations of immortality! If you do not need the form yourself, why not pass it on to a non-member?

Editor of the Gazette

Bernard Adams,
3 Ashbrook Terrace,
Charles Street,
Brecon, Powys, LD3 7HE.
Tel & Fax: (01874) 625710
e-mail: bernardsadams@aol.com
Mobile: 07877 030407

Contributions

Copy for the next Gazette should reach the Editor by 30/04/07. Views expressed in the Gazette are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Association.

Not just another law firm.

Let's face it, there are a lot of them about.

We like to think we are different. Cobbetts is a top 50, rapidly growing, full service law firm with offices in the three key commercial centres outside London - Birmingham, Leeds and Manchester.

Through our focus of delivering commercial, pragmatic and value-for-money solutions, based on astute and practical legal advice, we have become one of the fastest growing law firms outside the capital.

Why not experience for yourself why people like doing business with us.

Cobbetts - lawyers with real vision.

For more information please contact:
Old Edwardian - Martin Woodward
0845 404 2501
martin.woodward@cobbetts.co.uk

www.cobbetts.co.uk
Birmingham | Leeds | Manchester





December 2006
No. 277

The Old Edwardians Gazette

*Published by The Old Edwardians Association, King Edward's School, Birmingham, B15 2UA.
Club Founded 23rd June 1883, Association Incorporated 11th May 1891.*

Contents

<i>Official Notices</i>	page 3
<i>Editorial</i>	4
<i>From the Chief Master</i>	6
<i>Articles</i>	8
<i>Association Affairs</i>	11
<i>Old Edwardians Sport</i>	12
<i>School Affairs</i>	18
<i>Letters to the Editor</i>	22
<i>Notes & News</i>	23
<i>Births, Marriages, Deaths and Obituaries</i>	26
<i>Subscription Form</i>	31
<i>Notes & News Form</i>	32

Official Notices

ADVERTISEMENTS

Members and others are invited to place their advertisements in the *Gazette*. To book space in forthcoming issues, please contact Derek Benson on (0121) 472 1672.

The rates (excluding VAT) are:

A4 Page	£100
Half Page	£70
Quarter Page	£55



Editorial

There are two unusual features in what may prove to be my last *Gazette* as editor: the first is a remarkable dearth of correspondence! Perhaps there was not a lot of contentious material in the June issue? Perhaps members have been short of adventures to share? Or reminiscences? Whatever the reason, this is an unaccountable phenomenon which one can only hope will not be repeated. Consider yourselves heartily encouraged to send in your letters – articles and photographs too!

The second innovation is a piece by the President, who proposes to write regularly in his capacity as Chief Master. In the past, news of the School has usually been made available through such public sources as *News & Views* and the web site, and so this new angle on events will be of interest. As President, John Claughton — the third (not, as previously thought, the second) OE to hold the post — views his function somewhat more proactively than did his immediate predecessors, who made no such regular use of the *Gazette*.



The Cover Picture . . .

. . . shows the festive scene at the Biennial Dinner. The photograph, like those on the inside back cover, is kindly provided by Roger Wilson.



The Registrar . . .

. . . is still waiting for more than 450 responses to his Audit of members. He plans a third mailing, but those Members who have not yet responded are asked to do so forthwith as their views are wanted and welcomed!

He also draws the attention of members to a publication that has been organised by the Association of Representatives of Old Pupil Societies: *Schools At War* by David Stranack, published by Phillimore & Co., Shopwyke Manor Barn, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 2BG; e-mail: www.phillimore.co.uk. ISBN: 1 86077 338 9. Price: £14.99 or £13.49 if ordered online.



Help needed!

Some old film, taken in 1937 by Douglas E Parry (1939), has come to Derek Benson. It has sections on a tennis match, OE cricket match and other family occasions. It might be nice to put the relevant parts on the web site BUT there is a problem. It is not in 8mm nor 16mm format, but 9.5mm.

Does anyone know how to get it into a format that would go on the Web? Or has anyone equipment that will enable it to be transferred to DVD? Offers of assistance to Derek, please.



Guided Tours

Derek Benson is able and willing to show OEs round the School during term. He recommends midweek for this, as the place is more lively than at weekends, and will be happy to make mutually satisfactory arrangements. Contact him at the School.



Monthly Lunches . . .

. . . will continue to take place on the second Wednesday of each month in the Buttery Bar at the Clarendon Suite. Your frequent attendance is cordially invited! Contact either Brian Creed (0121 705 5564) or Alan Blower (0121 354 2541).



Veterans' Lapel Badges

Those who served in the forces during either of the World Wars, in the inter-war years or between the end of World War II and 31 December 1959 are eligible to receive a Veterans' Lapel Badge. These may be obtained from the Helpline 0800 169 2277 (from overseas +44 1253 866043), from Graham Taylor, Veterans' Badge Office, Room 6108, Tomlinson House, Norcross, Blackpool, FY5 3WP or from the web site www.veteransagency.mod.uk/vets_badge/vets_badge.htm



Changes of address

Members are reminded that they can correct their own addresses in the Association records by engaging with the web site. Those that have no facilities for this can, of course, notify the Registrar by post as previously.



School/OE addresses/ web sites:

www.kes.bham.sch.uk
(School ONLY)

www.olders.org.uk
(OE Association)

rpmthomson@hotmail.com
(Chairman OEA)

OEA.registrar@btinternet.com
(Hon. Registrar)

office@kes.bham.sch.uk
(Hon. Secretary OEA at School)

bernardsadams@aol.com
(Editor, *Gazette*)

dave.edmonds@virgin.net
(London OEs)

www.olderscricket.com
(OE Cricket Club)

www.edsrugby.com
(Edwardians Football Club)



There's no substitute for a winning team

Let Keystone tackle your moving problems

- Largest stocks of wheels and castors in the UK
- Established over 70 years
- Specialist technical advice freely available
- Competitive prices
- 24 hour service
- Trade counter
- Comprehensive colour catalogue free on request
- BS EN ISO 9002: 1994 (Formerly BS5750 Part 2)



KEYSTONE

The Castor Specialists

Contact: Ian Partridge

KEYSTONE CASTOR COMPANY

50 Green Street, Birmingham B12 0NB.

Tel: 0121-772 1010. Fax: 0121-773 1103.

<http://www.yel.co.uk/sites/keystone-castors>



From the Chief Master

‘Although we humans are animals (and shouldn’t forget it) our most wonderful facility is handing down stores of acquired knowledge to successive generations of children — and training their young minds to handle, evaluate and use all this increasing store of knowledge. This handing down is sacred work, in my view, and the main place it happens is in Good Schools. Ergo, a Cathedral of knowledge such as KES is more sacred ground than St Philip’s or St Chad’s.’

So wrote Graham Kinsman, an Old Edwardian, a classicist, a grower of trees in America and the most richly entertaining e-mail conversationalist I know. Now I’m not sure that every teacher or pupil feels quite so strongly that they stand on sacred ground, but it’s been the kind of day today that might make you believe it. You will all remember such days well — bright, clear, cold days with lengthening afternoon shadows on South Field.

Such a day might be timeless, but schools are all about action in time. Since I last wrote, much has happened. The summer brings exam results. For the first time, the A level results put us outside the *Daily Telegraph*’s premier league. That’s because we got 89.9% A and B grades. Three things are true. The first is that this is hardly failure: almost exactly half of the pupils in the Sixth Form got 3 or more A

grades, nineteen pupils got in to read Medicine and fourteen to Oxford and Cambridge. At GCSE almost exactly half of the boys in the Fifth Form got five or more A*s at GCSE, and ten boys got ten A*s out of ten. To tell of the finest, Richard Lau got a Top Candidate Award in A Level Chemistry, and Adam Townsend and Mark Davies Top Candidate awards in English Literature — out of 362,438 candidates — and Gaurav Vohra and Harpreet Gohel did the same in Spanish — out of 35,112 candidates. But the second is that we do operate in a world of grade inflation: in 2000 six schools scored more than 90% A and B grades, whereas in 2006 forty-two did. So, for a school like ours we have to keep on getting better in statistical terms to preserve our status. The third truth is that schools like ours have to think hard whether A Levels, with AS exams and all those modules and exams every year and retakes, remain the best way to challenge and excite our pupils. We aren’t changing yet, but we are thinking.

Of course, this isn’t the whole point. The worlds of Friday afternoon, of Leadership and CCF, of Personal Service and charity, the worlds of after school and the weekend and the holidays, of sport and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, of music and drama, of chess and Junior Schools Challenge and debating, of exchanges and trips and expeditions, these



John Cloughton, M.A. — Chief Master

worlds matter. A school that goes in the summer to Pompeii and Herculaneum, to France, to southern Africa and Honduras, and will go in the coming year to Egypt, Morocco, Utah, France (often), Germany, Spain, southern Africa, and on rugby tour to Dubai, Singapore and Australia, and on myriad occasions in this country walking and climbing and caving and camping, that has two boys going with the National Children's Orchestra to Beijing, that will do all of its usual monumental things with music and, in addition, provide the orchestra for Elmhurst Ballet School at Symphony Hall in July, that provides athletes and cricketers and rugby-players and water-polo players competing at national and county level — that school is not just talking about the wider life, but doing it and enabling boys to do it.

This is the school that we must preserve, one of challenge, excitement and diversity in everything we do. I fear that I've said that before, and I'll say it again. And I've said this before, at the Biennial Dinner and elsewhere, and I'll say it again. We have to do more now to make this school more open to the world. In recent decades this school has remained a great school, but it has become less and less accessible to the bright boys of this city. The end of the Direct Grant system, which provided a majority of free places here, dealt us one blow. The end of the government Assisted Places scheme dealt us another. The Foundation responded to that by funding its own Assisted Places Scheme. That means that about 20% of the existing pupils get some form of financial assistance through scholarships and Assisted Places. But we, like many similar schools, must do more. We are at the moment taking one significant step in Assisted Places. Next year, we won't have any more money, but more families on a wider range of incomes will be eligible for support from the Assisted Places. We hope that will mean we will get more able pupils to contemplate coming here. I also hope that our efforts to form ties with the local community will also make schools and parents and boys think that this could be a possible choice for them.

But there must be a longer and larger plan. This school, in collaboration with KEHS, will start to raise money for the future, above all from you all, to fund more pupils, more Assisted Places, to provide more opportunities, the opportunities we have all shared. It's going to take some time, but that means that it's time to start. I know that there has been a scheme for giving in operation for some time, but we need something infinitely more substantial, run by the school in co-operation with the OEA. The beginning will involve finding as many of the former pupils as we can so that we can spread the word. That means that we won't be coming calling just yet, but we are on our way. And if any of you feel that you could help in any way, please get in touch (claughtonj@kes.bham.sc.uk).

The Biennial Dinner had some usual and unusual guests. The usual — using the term loosely — guests included Andrew Packham, the captain of the Old Edwardians Cricket Club in the 1970s who had the audacity to nickname the future Chief Master Jimmy Osmond, and Munna Mitra, one of my schoolday heroes. The unusual were some members of staff who were invited for the first time, Derek Everest, Phil Lambie, George Worthington and George Andronov. I was proud some of my teachers had the chance to sense the gratitude that we all feel. At the end of the evening some of the 1986 crew told how their own Assisted Places had changed their lives and their expectations. Transformation is what education is meant to do: it has been the greatest engine of social mobility in this country. It is what this school has been best at for centuries. We must and will continue to do just that in the coming years, but it will take your help.



Articles

Paul M Stevenson writes of recent research that he has carried out into the life of an Old Edwardian.

Mark Anthony Hamilton Davis was born on 19 July 1923 and died on 22 June 1944. He attended King Edward's School 1934–1939. After leaving school Anthony — as he was known in our family (I am his nephew) — read Aeronautics at Wadham College before joining the RAF Volunteer Reserve in April 1942. He was sent to Canada for training as a pilot under the British Commonwealth Air Training Plan, and on his return was posted to various training stations in the UK, including RAF Silverstone (now the Grand Prix circuit) and RAF Winthorpe, where the attached photograph was taken, before being posted to 619 Squadron at Dunholme Lodge in Lincolnshire. He and his crew made seven successful raids into enemy occupied territory in their 51 days of active service, before their aircraft was shot down on the night of 21/22 June 1944, the incident in which Anthony lost his life.

A vivid account of the circumstances of that night has been written by the bomb aimer Peter Knox and the navigator Leslie Taylor, which indicates the heroism of Anthony, or 'Dave' as he was known to the crew, in staying at the controls in order that his crew had a chance of bailing out. From their memoirs we now know that on that night, the shortest night of the year, 619 Squadron was included in a task force to attack the oil and fuel dumps at Wesseling, close to Cologne. This was considered a tough

target and new crews were not included. The crew's Lancaster 1, C for Charlie, Registration ME846, was to carry a big load of both fuel and bombs, including for the first time a blockbuster (1,000 lb bomb), and orders were to bomb from 20,000 feet.

It was just before midnight that the heavily laden aircraft reluctantly left the runway at Dunholm Lodge, rising slowly over the Lincolnshire countryside with its heavy load. Dave had to struggle to get to the bombing height as they flew over the Channel towards Europe. They crossed the European coast over the Dutch island of Walcheren, close to the Belgian border, at almost 18,000 feet and headed directly for Germany. A short while later Peter reported seeing flashes from ground fire and explosions in the sky ahead. In accordance with established routines, Dave started to weave the aircraft. Then there were three explosions close to the aircraft followed by a more muffled explosion and a jolt. The plane had suffered a direct hit in the starboard outer engine; it is thought that this was from Flak although enemy fighters were in the area that night. Apart from a momentary expletive, Dave quickly reverted to the language drilled into him in the many hours of practice for just such an emergency. He ordered the flight engineer to feather the starboard outer engine, but by then it was on fire and in a very few seconds he clearly recognised that the fire was out of control. In a calm clipped voice he said over the intercom, "abandon aircraft — emergency, jump, jump".



The ME846 Lancaster Bomber Crew

The crew now went into automatic response mode. Peter Knox, as bomber aimer, was lying over the front exit through which he had to make his escape, to be followed by the navigator, the wireless-operator, the flight-engineer and lastly the pilot. The two gunners had escape routes at the rear of the aircraft. When Dave gave the order to abandon the plane, all had to confirm over the intercom that they were jumping. As Peter had to lift up the escape hatch he responded first, “air-bomber jumping”. He heard the others starting to confirm that they were going too, including his close friend the mid-upper gunner, George Moggridge, but not John Bowering, the rear gunner. There was no shouting, no calls for help, and in a numbed state, he moved into the escape routine. Scrambling to his feet, he grabbed and fixed the parachute onto the harness by clips in front of his chest and sneaked a quick look at the fire now engulfing the starboard wing. He disconnected the intercom, but since they were at still at almost 18,000 feet he had to keep using oxygen until the very last second. Each member of the crew had his own supply. He undid the clips of the escape hatch and lifted it for jettisoning. The force of the rush of air twisted it as it dropped vertically through the hatch. For a horrible second it was jamming the escape route, but he kicked it clear and saw the gaping hole with a sense of enormous relief as he disconnected his oxygen and rolled out head first with the aircraft now at 17,000 feet and losing height. He was followed by the flight-engineer and by Leslie Taylor, the navigator, whose account indicates that the rear fuselage was also on fire. On hearing the order to jump, he moved from his navigation table, clipped on his parachute as though it was an everyday occurrence, and tapped Dave on the shoulder in passing to indicate he was leaving, said “cheerio” and exited through the front hatch closely followed by the wireless-operator.

All this time Dave had been holding the lurching plane as steady as possible. What happened next is not entirely clear. It is known that the navigator, the wireless-operator and the flight-engineer left the aircraft after Peter, but the fifth to exit, Dave, did not follow and it would appear the two gunners never made it from their exit either, despite a clear indication from the mid-upper gunner that he too was jumping. Both Peter and Leslie were sure that

the rear-gunner John Bowering already lay dead in his turret as nothing was heard from him over the intercom before they jumped. It is therefore likely that George Moggridge, on clipping on his parachute in the rear of the plane noticed that the rear-gunner had not left the aircraft and went to his aid, telling Dave of the problem at the same time. However, with the starboard wing on fire it is also possible that the escape exit for the gunners was blocked by the flames, as their exit was on that side of the plane.



Mark Anthony Hamilton Davis — 1923–1944

According to RAF records, the aircraft exploded in mid-air a short while later and nothing to identify it has ever been recovered; both Peter Knox and Leslie Taylor, however, indicated that it exploded below them as they were still on their parachutes. This explosion close to the ground is confirmed by the parish priest of Postel who says: “1944, night of 20 June [it is thought that he has the date incorrectly shown for there was no raid passing over Postel on that night] heavy firing from flak to squadrons of RAF-planes flying direction Germany. A loaded bomber exploded in the air in the vicinity of the border-markers on the Bladelse weg (. . .) The explosion was so violent that all the windows of the houses were broken. Two “pilotes” (airmen) were found dead, very heavy wounded (“vermorzeld”= “crushed”?). Others were saved by parachute. One of them with a “sprain ankle” gave himself up to the Germans, after landing at “Steenovens” (a location about 1 or 2 km south

of the crash site). On 23 June 14 German soldiers arrived in the abbey. Their task: to clean up all the plane-wreckage in the entire region . . .”

From Leslie Taylor we know that the aircraft was shot down at 0120 hours British Summer Time on 22 June, near Balen/Postel and close to the Belgian/Dutch border. He estimated his position when he landed as 15 km southeast of Postel but to the northeast of a canal or river, which blocked his way to the west. Peter Knox, bailing out first, had landed on the southern side of this obstruction and therefore had an easier route towards the west. Plotting their likely positions on a map shows that the burning aircraft came down north of Balen and east of Postel, which, as expected, is on track for the eventual target that night for an aircraft flying in a direct line from the Dutch island of Walcheren to Wesseling in Germany.

Leslie Taylor, Thomas Newberry, and Dennis Belshaw were captured and spent the short time until the end of hostilities as prisoners of war. Peter Knox made contact with the Belgian resistance movement and eventually arrived back in England, where he immediately insisted on meeting the families of the crew to inform them of the circumstances of that night. Our family have always been most grateful to Peter for this selfless act.

The bodies of the two gunners, George Moggridge and John Bowering, were recovered and were moved to Deurne (near Antwerp, I believe) and then reburied side by side after the war at the Schoonselhof cemetery in Antwerp in Plot IVa, Row F, Graves 16 & 17. Anthony’s body, however, has never been recovered — nor indeed has the aircraft. RAF records show that it totally disintegrated — a not uncommon occurrence for a blazing aircraft fully laden with fuel and bombs.

In June 2005, a plaque was unveiled at Newark Air Museum in memory of the crew, for it was at this location, RAF Winthorpe, that the crew first flew together as a team. In September this year the town of Mol in Belgium too dedicated a plaque in memory of the crew and also of those Belgian people who helped Peter Knox and other airmen evade capture and escape back to allied territory. This was erected at the site where it is thought the aircraft exploded.

These tributes ensure that the heroic actions of people like Anthony and his crew will not be forgotten long after those that knew them have passed on. The crew of Lancaster ME846 are typical of many airmen who gave their service to their country, some paying the ultimate price. It is a sobering thought that the none of our crew were more than 20 years of age.

I still have a copy of the Order of Service dated Saturday 10 May 1947, when a memorial service was conducted in Big School to honour those ex-pupils and, I presume, staff who lost their lives in



The ME846 Memorial Plaque

the war, together with a book of the Service Record of all who attended King Edward's.



Arthur Muffett (1926) recalls the School of the 1920s:

I finally passed the Entrance Exam for KES in 1922 and joined in September. I was 15, and it was make or break for me, as I had failed the previous year and wouldn't get another chance. I like to think that there was some excuse, because my formative years had been overshadowed by the War, when prep school teaching was patchy. I had been at Stanley House, which, like EPS, Chigwell House, the Bluecoat School and Wintersloe (who remembers them?) specialised in cramming for KES.

I still remember that exam. It took place over three days in the daunting vastness of Big School, with about 300 candidates from all walks of life. Some had the ulterior ambition of Foundation Scholarships and university, but the majority

aimed no higher than being 'builders of the burly city' and the free places offered at the Foundation Schools. There were papers in the basics, plus History, Geography and English Grammar, and we took dictation from Cary Gilson himself, an awesome figure in gown and mortarboard.

In the early '20s everybody — schoolboys included — went into Birmingham by train from suburban stations to New Street, and at all times the sound of steam engines could be heard in the School. Some boys came in by bicycle, which they stored in a 'cavern' at the end of the lower corridor. We worked three full days, two half-days and Saturday mornings every week, though an exeat could be obtained for Saturdays on sporting or religious grounds. The day began with Prayers in Big School at nine o'clock, with the head porter, SJ Ford, resplendent in his uniform, controlling the crowd and catching latecomers at the massive oak doors (preserved at Edgbaston). Cary Gilson always said prayers himself, emerging from behind Sapientia to remove his mortarboard and read the Collect for the day and the Foundation Prayer. He was a remote figure for most of us — during the whole of my time he spoke to me only once, uttering the single word 'Yes' in reply to my request to give up Chemistry and take extra French lessons.

The New Street building — now remembered by so few — was an absolute rabbit warren of floors, staircases, corridors and classrooms from Captain Powers on the top floor to 'The Bishop', the only master on the ground floor. The entrance — the lower corridor — contained the Governors' Room, the Porters' Lodge and the Masters' staircase to the upper corridor.

The subjects taught were mainly the basics, while the more exotic — such as Latin, Greek and Art — were reserved to the elite who had their sights on scholarships to Oxford or Cambridge. It is quite amazing that the teaching staff were no more than twenty-seven in number. Three were scientists: Walton ('Bubbles'), Baines ('Wader') and Langley ('the Commander'). The mathematicians were Richards ('Black Dick') and Smith ('Tatcho'). Kirkley ('the Pink'un') taught Latin and Greek, and Street ('the Chocolate Soldier') and Lee ('Bertie') taught French. Street was not popular; he had a biting tongue and a temper, and was reputed to have thrown chalk at a boy who had annoyed him. Lee distinguished himself by dying in class. Hammond was another colourful character who taught History, as did 'Willie' Strong. He was a devoted housemaster, always enthusiastically present on the touchline at house matches. After I had left he unfortunately shot himself.

By far the most popular master was Major RJT Bryant ('the Bargee'), and I was fortunate to spend a large part of my time in UVC with him, preparing for School Certificate in Latin and English. His large room was at the front end of the upper corridor, and when the windows were open there was always the sound of traffic. His speciality was the Shakespeare set book, and he inspired in me a lifelong devotion to Shakespeare's plays and poems. When I finally passed Matriculation he sent me a personal note which I still have.

At my prep school I was completely useless on the soccer field. My father had played rugby in Somerset (where I was born in 1907) and although he was a keen supporter of Aston Villa and had a seat in the Directors' Box he was delighted that I was going to a rugby-playing school. My first duty as a 'sherring' was to stand behind the goal at Eastern Road to retrieve and return balls kicked by would-be or actual members of the 1st XV. In due course I rose via house matches and junior school games to the 1st XV and my School Colours cap, which still sits on my desk.

Finally, an incident which shocked and delighted the whole School assembled at prayers. Behind and above Gilson was a gallery where Bell, the master in charge, presided over a noisy mob of juveniles. (Bishop Stevenson in his book *Beyond the Bridge* describes 'Tonky' Bell as 'wearing a gown turned from rusty black to green by the Indian sun'.) One morning, as Gilson was intoning the Foundation Prayer and the whole School looked on in fascination, IS Macaulay made his way hand over hand down the heavy curtains that covered the window in Big School to the floor. Gilson continued his oratory and then ordered one of the prefects who stood around Sapientia to seize the miscreant. The prefect was Alan Nunn May — later notorious as one of the Cambridge intellectuals that spied for Russia. Macaulay was killed in the Battle of Britain, a member of the 'Few'.

I left School in the spring of 1926 and began work as a junior clerk (after a medical examination) at a salary of £60 per annum. The going rate in a top-rank insurance office was £40, but I qualified for a further £20. I joined the OEA at once, and remember seeing in the Club — then in Union St. — HE Herd, WE Jordan and Paddy Adams, all founder members — but that's another story!



ASSOCIATION AFFAIRS

Annual General Meeting 2006

The AGM took place at 2 p.m. on Wednesday 13 September 2006. At twenty-six, the attendance was slightly greater than on the previous occasion.

Apologies for absence were received from Derek Benson, John Wheatley, Bob Garrett and Norman Ludlow.

The Minutes of the AGM for 2005 had been published in the *Gazette* and were passed.

The Chairman welcomed the new Chief Master and President of the Association, John Cloughton, to his first AGM. In presenting his report, he spoke of the good work done by the Committee and referred especially to the contributions of the late Brian Teare, John Coley and Clive Hereward. He also mentioned that Brian Creed was thinking of taking a less active part in Committee and that Bernard Adams might be moving to foreign parts.

The Treasurer presented the accounts, which had been published in the *Gazette*. He invited questions, but none were forthcoming. He complimented the auditors, Clement Keys, and proposed their re-election; this was accepted.

The President gave a spirited account of the School year and of his first months in office.

The Officers and members of the General Committee were re-elected en bloc. David Corney and Stephen Talboys, whose terms had expired, were willing to continue to serve and were also re-elected. Mark Roberts and James Martin were elected to fill vacancies on the Committee.

Under **Other Business** the Biennial Dinner, the Christmas Supper and the Social Event planned for September 2007 were all promoted.



Visitors to the Memorial Ground at Streetsbrook Road may well in the past have purchased petrol at the nearby Texaco garage. That has now gone, to be replaced by a small



London Old Edwardians Annual General Meeting 2006

The London OE AGM was held on Tuesday 16 May at the RAF Club, Piccadilly, with the President, Chris Latham, in the Chair. Nick Carter stepped down after seven years as Hon. Treasurer and Derek Ridout was nominated and duly elected to serve in his stead. The Chairman to the Committee, Harry Hart, together with the other Officers to the Committee and Committee Members had all agreed to serve for another year, and were duly re-elected. The meeting was attended by 10 OEs: D Edmonds, R Evans, H Hart, A Iles, C Latham, D Rattue, D Ridout, D Sells, G Tayar, and Dr G Taylor.

The new Chief Master, John Cloughton, represented the School and addressed the meeting.

Summer Outing 2006

This year's Summer Outing, held on 24 June 2006, was a visit to Nuffield Place, former home of William Morris, Lord Nuffield. We met at the Henley River and Rowing Museum, in Henley, at about 1.00p.m. for a light lunch followed by a private visit around the house

estate of new houses in a road now named EDWARDIAN CLOSE. Permission was duly sought and granted, as Solihull BC had insisted on a road name of local interest.

and gardens of Nuffield Place. Following afternoon tea, we returned to Henley for an early evening meal at the Loch Fyne Restaurant. Our party totalled 32: Old Edwardians and their partners, including 5 former pupils of KEHS.

Among those present were the following Old Edwardians: P Barwell (KEHS), G Burston (KEHS), D Edmonds, C R Edmonds, R Evans, L Freedman (KEHS), H Hart, M Kernick (KEHS), C Latham, H Ramshaw, D Rattue, D Ridout, Dr J Taylor, C Tullock (KEHS), Dr G Wright, and J Young.

Annual Dinner 2006

The Annual London Dinner is to be held on Monday 4 December 2006 at the Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly. The Guest Speaker will be **David Willetts MP (1974)**.

General Note

If you are not on the London Old Edwardians mailing list, and you wish to attend any of our functions, please contact the Hon. Secretary, David Edmonds, 61 Stanhope Road, Longwell Green, Bristol, BS30 9AJ. Tel: 0117 9328249 (home), 0117 321 2218 (office); e-mail: dave.edmonds@virgin.net

OLD EDWARDIANS SPORT

Old Edwardians Cricket Club

Jim Evans reports:

First XI

The Saturday 1st XI confirmed their status in the Warwickshire Cricket League Premier division for 2007 following victory over Marston Green in the final home game of an inconsistent season. A final league position of ninth — which included wins against Bedworth, North Warwickshire, Bronze and Bedworth, all teams that finished above the club, but losses against Kenilworth and Pickwick, who finished below us — illustrates the inconsistency of team that too often under performed.

A notable batting performance during the season was 127 by Mike Hughes, who is now approaching his 40th century for the club. Mike scored 550 runs at an average of 45.83 and was voted the player of the year. Captain Phil Clarke passed ten thousand runs for the first team, a landmark only previously reached by Peter Vernon, John Winspear, Richard Pope, Mike Hughes and Richard Lucas.

The Sunday 1st XI enjoyed a growing fixture list with current KES pupils Nitin Saul, Haidar Lone and Hussnan Hussain featuring in selection. The team progressed to the second round of the national knockout following a final-ball victory over Old Elizabethans. Dreams of a Lord's final, however, were ended with a narrow home defeat by a strong Moseley side containing former Warwickshire player Keith Piper.

Club Tour of the West Country

In July 2006 the Cricket Club visited the West Country for their 40th successive tour. Four matches were played and on the Wednesday evening the players of past and present assembled in Bath for a celebratory Dinner. Those involved included:

GERALD CHADWICK . . . Sports Club Chairman, sometime Hooker (for the rugby Club) and Tour organiser supreme.

NEIL CHANDLER . . . Tour youth, brother-in-law of John Evans.

PHIL CLARKE . . . Current captain of OECC, dashing batsman.

RICHARD COX . . . Big Cheese at WCCC, son of OECC former player, President and Legend Trevor Cox.

JIM EVANS . . . Former 1st team batsman, wicket keeper and occasional leg-spinner. Now assisting another legend — Stuart Hardie — in developing the Youth Cricket essential for the future of the Club.

TONY EVANS . . . son of Jim, who lives too far away to travel for weekend matches.

PRESTON FLETCHER . . . Club stalwart now plying his trade in the Shropshire League. Is happily a regular on the weekend tour to Bishop's Castle.

MICHAEL HUGHES . . . Current opening batsman of considerable aplomb and of even greater ability. Holds Club record for centuries and is regarded as one of the best batsmen in the League.

FRANK JONES . . . a busy wicketkeeper/batsman for the 1st XI — now retired.

CHRIS JORDAN . . . Captain of the very first OECC Tour; known affectionately as the Big Bopper of '50s pop fame, on account of his penchant as a batsman to take on the opposition when chasing a big score. An early fashion icon of cricket.

TERRY McMICHAEL . . . A stylish batsman who likes a good time.

JOHN NICHOLLS . . . Club Captain, with a tremendous record for taking wickets and making speeches. Has perfected the Doosra.

ANDREW PACKHAM . . . Original Tour member and fine all-rounder who captained the Club in a charismatic manner. Not a bad rugby player either; a raconteur of note.

MARK PHILLIPS . . . Lovingly known as the Cat, former wicketkeeper of repute who

has graced all three sides over the years. Not known for sartorial elegance.

RICHARD POPE . . . Former captain and known throughout the country as Mr BIG.

DAVID TAYLOR . . . An opening bowler of great ability and contribution to the Club. A 100 wicket per season man who, to general dismay within the Club, took his talents down south.

PETER RILEY . . . TIS . . . a fine opening batsman and off-spinner.

IAN THOMSON . . . Former 1st team batsman of considerable talent, now an umpire on the Midlands circuit. A quiz man of great repute.

PAUL THOMSON . . . a dedicated tourist but not quite as talented as his namesake.

GEORGE TRANTER . . . Club loyalist now living in North Wales.

CHRIS WALLIS . . . President of the Club.

ANDY WHELAN . . . Official scorer to the Club 1st XI.

Second XI

Following on from last year's second place finish, the 2nd XI had another promising season, finishing 4th in what is becoming an increasingly competitive league. This follows the introduction this season of promotion and relegation into 2nd team cricket.

After a slow start to the season, which was not helped by unfavourable weather conditions early on, the 2nd XI achieved 6 outright victories, 8 draws (of which 6 were winning draws), just 2 losses and 6 games abandoned because of weather.

Third XI

After last season's record number of wins and promotion, this season brought the 3rd XI back down to earth. Competing at a higher level gave the side a bigger challenge.

The season got off to the worst possible start against potential relegation rivals Water Orton

when, after the team had seemed in complete control of the match with only 128 needed to win, the batting collapsed resulting in loss by a single run. There then followed a series of defeats, generally against better opposition, although by the end of June we were beginning to compete. After a creditable draw against West Bromwich Dartmouth, there followed

the team's solitary win in the League against championship-chasing Barnt Green. That match was notable for a knock of 117 by KES player Karran Modi, who played in our U15 youth side in 2005. This was his first century in any form of cricket as an opening batsman.

The season continued to improve with further assistance from KES school players Haidar

Lone and Nitin Saul. The team finished eighth out of nine competing teams, just avoiding relegation.

On Sundays the team performed much better, winning the half dozen games played.



O.E.C.C. AT BISHOPS CASTLE

In September 2006 the Cricket Club Third XI made its annual pilgrimage to Bishops Castle to take on the local side who play on a lovely ground looked upon by the Long Mynd. Unfortunately, the XI came second, but were able to drink back the fixture in anticipation of 2007.



Back row: Mark Phillips (umpire), Gerald Chadwick, Preston Fletcher, Jonathan Christopher, Iain Crawford, Paul Thomson, Mike Treacy, Stuart Hardie (umpire).
Front row: Matt Melia, David Dallaway, Mac Mclean, Charles Fentiman, John Evans, Dan Christopher.

Youth Cricket

The club again entered U13 and U15 sides in the Warwickshire youth leagues and has an active programme in place which is beginning to bring new younger players into the club sides.

Many of last year's U15 side have now moved up to more senior cricket, and we thus had a relatively young side. The season finished with two wins in seven matches. We were never

seriously outplayed, however, and the prospects for next season are good as the school U14 sides seem particularly strong. Indeed, it was my pleasure to manage the KES U14B side which won all its 9 matches.

The U13 side played seven matches, three of which were won and one tied. As usual, much hard work goes into raising this side virtually from scratch each year, and some encouraging players seemed to emerge this season.

Much hard work is put in by Mike Thornton, Stuart Hardie and Phil Clark (among others) to keep this area active. It was thus encouraging to see twelve current or former youth team players in the senior OECC sides during the season. The majority of these are from KES. Their availability is necessarily greater after exams are finished, however, which leaves the club with early season issues to address.



Terry Grant Memorial Match

Last year the Cricket Club lost a stalwart when Terry Grant died of cancer. By way of a memorial the Club staged a match in his honour which was a great success but marred by a wet afternoon.



A photograph of those young and old who played in the match at Streetsbrook Road to remember Terry Grant, who was a key member of the 1st XI for many seasons.

Back row: John Nicholls, Terry McMichael, Stuart Hardie, Andrew Thomson, Iain Crawford, John Stokes, Paul Thomson, Zak Hughes, Michael Hughes.

Front row: Neil Chandler, Nick Grant, Frank Jones, Phil Clarke, Luke Clarke, Chris Wallis, John Claughton and sons, Gerald Chadwick, Richard Jones.

Old Edwardians Rugby Football Club

John Forster writes:

After achieving promotion last season to Midlands 3 West (South) we anticipated that this new campaign would not be easy, and indeed this has proved to be the case. At the time of writing we have played eight of the scheduled twenty-two games in the league, have won only two and are in ninth position out of the twelve participating clubs. Three of the defeats suffered were by less than a single score, and in two games we lost by only two points.

Like all local clubs we are suffering from a shortage of players, especially in the lower sides; we have been able to field a third team only once every three weeks. Although this is disappointing, many of our rivals are now fielding only two teams. The newly formed Junior/Youth Section is, however, the shining light on the horizon. The efforts of former 1st XV captain Paul Price and his talented team of coaches and assistants have attracted a membership in excess of ninety children, who enjoy the facilities of the club every Sunday

morning. They are now playing competitive matches and joining in all the local tournaments.

Arrangements for Year 125 are well advanced. We are indebted to the School and the Governors for their assistance in our efforts to celebrate our longevity, in particular for permission to use Big School for a celebratory Ball on 1 September 2007 and again, about May 2008, for our Annual Dinner. In the words of Stuart Birch 'The new Chief Master, John Claughton, is anxious to improve relationships between the School and Streetsbrook Road and is more than happy for us to use the facilities free of charge for these two events'. The Edwardian Football Club could not be more grateful for this generosity and, of course, the intent behind it.

Yet again we mourn the passing of a great Edwardian footballer. The membership is devastated at the untimely death on 4 November of our third team captain, Malcolm Weller; only forty years of age, he collapsed on the pitch during a match. Despite the attention of a doctor who was playing for the third team he died before the attendant air

ambulance could reach hospital. His loss is indescribable; he will be remembered with love, affection and respect by all that were lucky enough to know him. He had been with the club for seventeen years since moving from St Albans, and his chirpy cheerfulness and dry but firm sense of humour will long be remembered by us all. His contribution both as captain of various sides over the years and as a committee member will not be bettered. The world, our club and the London Wasps (his other passion) will be all the sadder and poorer without him. A great man has left us.

Our thanks go again to our various sponsors, whose groundside advertising revenues are always appreciated. Sertec Group Holdings Ltd. continue their support as our principal sponsors, for which we offer our continued gratitude.

All members and vice-presidents, old and new, are always welcome to join us at the Memorial Ground in Solihull whenever they have the opportunity.

And so to Spain, to organise the Easter Tour 2008. Join us then!



Edwardian Football Club

Fixtures 2007

Games kick off at 2.30 unless otherwise indicated.

1st XV

06/01/2007	Hereford	A
13/01/2007	Earlsdon	H
20/01/2007	Pool	TBA
27/01/2007	Sihillians	A
03/02/2007	Old Laurentians	H
10/02/2007	Birmingham Medics	H
17/02/2007	Nuneaton OE	A
24/02/2007	Leamington	H
03/03/2007 3pm	Bedworth	A
10/03/2007 3pm	Pool	
17/03/2007 3pm	Stratford	A
24/03/2007 3pm	Harborne	H
31/03/2007 3pm	Pershore	H
14/04/2007 3pm	Old Coventrians	A
21/04/2007 3pm	Old Saltleians	A
28/04/2007 3pm	Old Yardleians	A

2nd XV

06/01/2007	Hereford	H
13/01/2007	Earlsdon	A
20/01/2007	Pool	TBA
27/01/2007	Silhillians	H
03/02/2007	Old Laurentians	A
10/02/2007	Birmingham Medics	A
17/02/2007	Nuneaton OE	H
24/02/2007	Leamington	A
03/03/2007 3pm	Bedworth	H
10/03/2007 3pm	Wyvern	H
17/03/2007 3pm	Stratford	H
24/03/2007 3pm	Harborne	A
31/03/2007 3pm	Pershore	A
14/04/2007 3pm	Old Coventrians	H
21/04/2007 3pm	Old Saltleians	H
28/04/2007 3pm	Old Yardleians	H

3rd XV

06/01/2007	Sutton Coldfield 4's	A
13/01/2007	Earlsdon	H
20/01/2007	Pool	A
27/01/2007	Silhillians	A
03/02/2007	Kings Norton 3's	H
10/02/2007	Birmingham Medics	H
17/02/2007	Bournville 2's	A
24/02/2007	Leamington	H
03/03/2007 3pm	Pool	A
10/03/2007 3pm	Wyvern	
17/03/2007 3pm	Redditch	A
24/03/2007 3pm	Harborne	H
31/03/2007 3pm	Pershore	H
14/04/2007 3pm	Bournville 2's	H
21/04/2007 3pm	Old Saltleians	A
28/04/2007 3pm	Old Yardleians	A

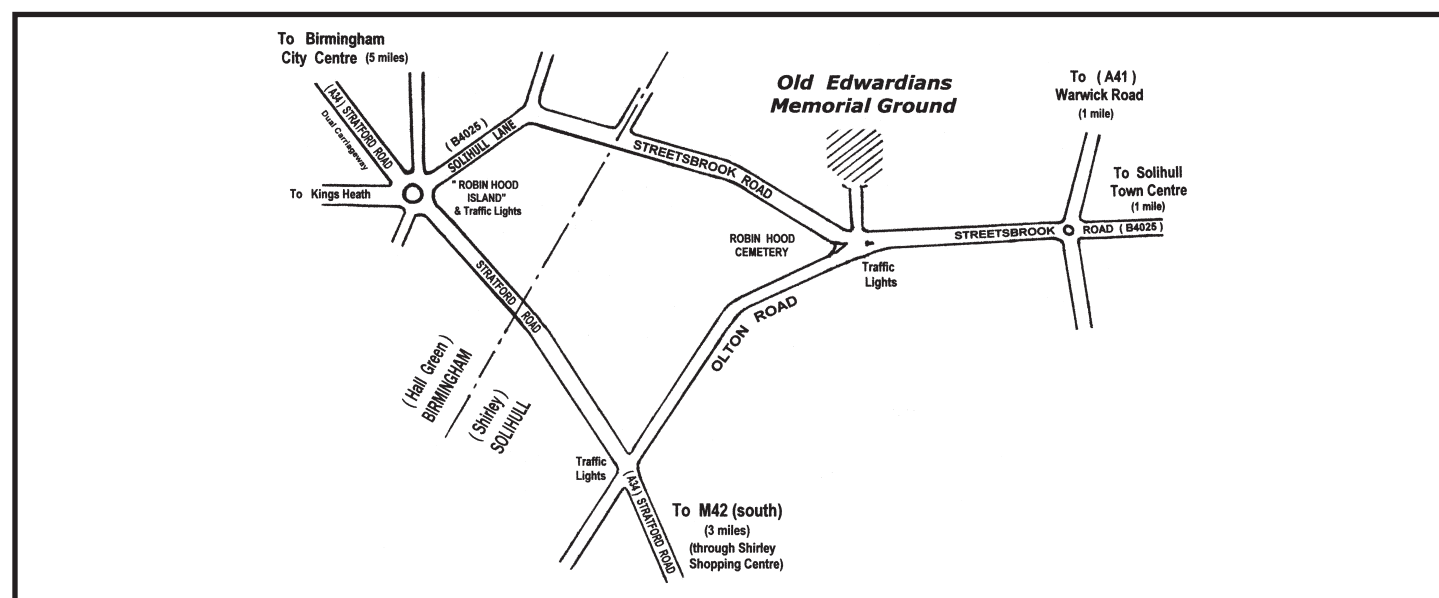
Support is always welcome!

John Forster draws the attention of members to 'Year 125', for which a number of special celebrations are being organised. John Cloughton and the Governors have kindly donated the use of the School facilities, in particular Big School, for two major events. The first will be a Gala Ball on 1 September 2007, the second the end of year dinner, probably sometime in May 2008.

Where to find us!

We are indebted to Richard Stubbs (1963) for the map showing the location of the Memorial Ground.

The Memorial Ground



Dates for your Diary at School

1st September 2007

Rugby Club Celebratory Ball

.....

22nd September 2007

Association Social Event for Old Edwardians and their ladies

.....

19th September 2008

Association Biennial Dinner

SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Founder's Day took place as usual, but on the eve of the birthday of Edward VI. The Chief Master welcomed the Bailiff, who presented the prizes, in a speech that neatly combined wit and solid fact. Ranging from the intolerable situation of an erstwhile Headmaster of Shrewsbury — for whom he expressed little sympathy — to the burden laid on our Pious Founder in having to memorise the works of Cato — much sympathy this time — via sadness at the general ignorance of the words 'parse' and 'construe', he extolled the achievements of numerous pupils, praised and thanked the staff for their manifold activities and welcomed newcomers. He touched on the future, the need to raise funds, and the intention to continue transforming lives as the School has already been doing these 454 years.



Derek Benson writes:

Members — especially those who contribute to the scheme — may like to know something of the progress of the first recipient of an OEA Bursary. In the Shell in 2005, he is now in the Remove, and his July 2006 report suggests — across the board — that he is a very able young man, if at present a little too laid back academically — perhaps finding the work in the Shell not sufficiently challenging? I have spoken to his Remove form master, who says that things have improved this term: he is working well and contributing to form discussions with some maturity. There are now no organisational or disciplinary problems — so perhaps he has got the message of his July report!



The CCF has notched up a great success, winning the West Midlands Skill at Arms trophy under the captaincy of Charles Douglas. Two members, Robin Joseph and Paul Pritchett, gave a presentation at the Imperial War Museum about their recent visit to Malta in memory of Dennis Knight OE, killed at the age of nineteen as a pilot in the RAF.



The Junior Schools Challenge team consisting of Ed Siddons, Ollie Clarke, Andrew MacArthur, Ed Jackson and Oscar Denihan won the Plate Competition in the national finals.



The Cot Fund has had another very good year. Donations have been made to Friends of Gambian Schools, Namibian Schools, Cafod, Oxfam, the Wooden Spoon Society, Alzheimer's Research, the RNLI and Water Aid. The Pakistan Earthquake Appeal raised over £3,000.



KES came second in the Regional Final of the National Team Maths Challenge, losing to another Foundation school, while Ismail Akram and Ben Walpole won awards in the Intermediate Maths Olympiad.



An exhibition on Tolkien's schooldays at KES was held in the library in May.



The junior school play was *Vanity Fair*, adapted from Thackeray's novel of that name, and a great success. Also on a thespian topic, Ted Smith was selected to act at the Birmingham Repertory Theatre, playing a boy called Andrea in *The Life of Galileo*. He evidently had a great time and recommends the Junior Rep to everyone that enjoys theatre.



The plethora of activities taking place on Friday afternoons spreads wider still and wider. CCF, Leadership, personal service and sports coaching are popular with senior boys, while for the juniors the idea seems to be 'they name it, we provide it'. Competitive bird-watching at Edgbaston Pool nature reserve is a new one to me!



The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme continues to prosper. Boys can join in the Upper Middle, and some ninety have recently attained Bronze Award standard, some under testing conditions. Arduous expeditions seem to have been the order of the day this year. The Removes' Outdoor Activity Week, aka Rems Week, and the Shells Camp provide a good introduction.



Classics Department

Stan Owen writes:

In 1988 the Classics Department left its old home in the Classical Corridor to occupy the five attractive classrooms in the G corridor, created from the former tuck shop and changing rooms on South Terrace. Classical pictures now line the former shower area, a fine oak cabinet, built in memory of Martin Bourne, displays pupils' work and a heritage area presents material tracing the history of the School. The Classics Department continues to supply the leading universities with a steady stream of talented Classicists, several of whom have become leading lights in the academic and legal worlds. There have been a large number of predictable changes since I arrived as Head of Classics in 1981. Most of these have revolved around the curriculum and options in the Upper Middles and beyond, with some changes working in our favour, others against, a case of swings and roundabouts. Generally speaking, with the introduction of the new three-subject option system in the Fourth and Fifth Forms, those taking both Latin and Greek, with one other subject, must show a substantial commitment to Classics. Four options can be taken by doing Dual Award Science rather than three separate sciences but, with the traditional emphasis on Science, relatively few boys have been willing to make the perceived sacrifice. The tradition of sharing the teaching of Greek with KEHS, which has always existed, has been extended recently, with much of the Greek teaching in the Divisions and Sixth Form being done across the road.

Since the early 1980s, when Latin ceased to be a compulsory subject, the Classics Department has consisted of five members and has seen few changes of staff. Phil Lambie and George Worthington, who recently decided to teach part-time, are long-serving members of the School, with Phil having taught for 38 years and George following closely behind with 36 years. Laurence Evans has taught for 20 years and I am now in my 26th year. The position of fifth and most youthful member has seen a succession of young teachers over the years, including Gareth Edwards, Andrew Shackleton, Virginia Stephenson, James Stone, Richard Lonsdale and Ben Tanner. Well-deserved promotion has been the driving force for their departure from KES after service of between two and ten years. Alistair Melvill is now the youngest member of the department and his expertise with Information Technology has been warmly welcomed.

Phil Lambie goes from strength to strength. His presence outside the School is as deeply valued as his scholarship within the classroom. He has organised and led trips to Italy every other year since 1984. He takes part in Leadership weekends and walking expeditions. He drives the School minibus on Geography field trips and assists on Removes Week trips to Wales and Cumbria. Phil is now the senior member of the Common Room and shows no signs of fizzling out. His only concession came in 1992 when he handed over control of the expanding Library to a full-time librarian. George Worthington has organised and led trips to Greece every other year from 1992 and has regularly assisted on trips to Italy. He has organised ski trips and has studied Modern Greek with distinction in Birmingham and Athens — and is now turning his mind to Portuguese. He retired as Housemaster of Vardy in 2005 but still organises and plays Eton Fives. Laurence Evans has been Head of Upper Middles for six years. He also has assisted on trips to Italy and Greece and plays a large part in organising School Rugby. He has assisted on Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions and training camps and takes an active part in School cycling trips. Alistair Melvill is now in his second year at KES and has already shown his wish to get involved in a wide range of activities. He is a Vardy house tutor and has assisted on History and Geography field trips. He coaches hockey and cricket and runs the U15B cricket team.

The Classical Society and Anagnostics are still going strong. The high point in the Classical Society year has become the Shells Classical Drama Competition, birthplace of many a KES Thespian and staged in the Concert Hall in the third week of January. It is our first chance to see all Shells perform (or not perform) together and to spot up-and-coming theatrical talent. Though never destined to scale the theatrical heights, the competition still gives budding actors and writers a chance to get their foot on the bottom rung of the ladder. Most important of all, it is great fun!

The Cambridge Latin Course, now with its own excellent web site, is still followed and parts of Virgil are still read at GCSE. Hellenists follow a new course called Greek to GCSE, which is not as dry as it sounds. The School Intranet and Internet have opened up incredible possibilities for pupils to broaden their access to Classical information. For what it is worth, Google lists just under three million entries for Virgil, just over three million for Cicero, while Homer has around seven million. Increasing numbers of pupils, whether their school teaches Classics or not, are learning Latin and Greek, thanks to modern technology. Like most other subjects, the academic wings of Classics have been clipped in the Sixth Form by the introduction of AS and A2. The pressure of preparing pupils for a gruelling regime of national examinations at the end of the Divisions has removed what was one of our main academic strengths — a whole year, free from the pressure of national examinations, in which to explore the language, read what we wanted, encourage academic curiosity and research, and prepare pupils for universities such as Oxford and Cambridge. Those seem idyllic days by comparison with the rat race of today. It is daunting for both pupil and teacher that each of the final three years of school life will be terminated by public examinations: learning for academic pleasure has become training to achieve nationally set criteria — or jump through the hoops, to put it bluntly.

Ancient History at A-level has now become Classical Civilisation and fair numbers of pupils take the opportunity to approach the Classical World using English as the medium. Several Firsts have been gained at Oxbridge and other universities for Ancient/Modern History.

The Classics Department has a significant place in that academic oasis beside the Bristol Road that is KES. Of the five Grammar Schools, only Camp Hill Girls and Fiveways now offer anything that might be called a Classical education. If the quality of pupils entering KES can be maintained, the future of Classics seems promising. John Claughton is now batting for KES as Chief Master. He leads from the front and teaches *inter alia* several periods of Classics, from the youngest to the oldest. Being taught by the headmaster is a coup for the boys, as I remember from my first year at King Henry VIII School in Coventry. What is more, to the question, sometimes asked out of bravado or naivety, “What can I do with Latin?” we can answer, “Well, you could always become Chief Master of King Edward’s School!”

FRONT UP Fashion — Old Ed launches rugby fashion brand

Old Edwardian Jon Allen, who graduated from the school in 1997, has launched his own rugby fashionwear label — FRONT UP (www.frontup.co.uk).

Jon graduated from Durham University in 2000 and went on to become an advertising Exec in London before spotting the niche in the market for a fashionable alternative to bland and uninspiring garments currently available in the market.

Aiming to become the style icon of the rugby world and the games equivalent to Stussy or Diesel, FRONT UP is a lifestyle brand offering players and fans with something different, expressive and unique. By fusing rugby with high street trends FRONT UP brings a fresh look to a conservative and traditional marketplace.

Former player, 27 year old media manager - Jonathan Allen conceived the idea two years ago after observing the fashion revolution in other sports such as golf. The influence of golfers such as Ian Poulter, who combine performance with flair, has helped inspire FRONT UP's ethos of passion, energy and style.

“With England defending the World Cup next year, increasing participation figures, players gaining iconic status and new forms of the game evolving, it's a fantastic time to get involved. We're currently looking to expand sales internationally and we have plans to launch our first women's and children's ranges early in 2007. Combined with launching our bespoke tour design service — with our first commission for Aston Universities Tour to Barcelona, we've got a busy and exciting 18 months ahead of us!”

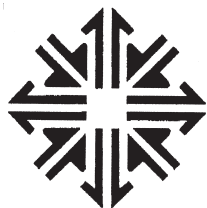
Well aware of established brands such as Eden Park and Hackett who have a more traditional

image, FRONT UP is looking to shake things up and bring the passion and excitement of the game into the clothes that people wear.

So if you want to stand out at the match, in the bar or simply around town then FRONT UP's

the brand for you. To view the latest collection and to grab that special someone a great Xmas present visit www.frontup.co.uk. For any enquiries or business opportunities please e-mail: info@frontup.co.uk

The advertisement features a black background with white text and graphics. At the top left is the 'FRONT UP' logo, which consists of a stylized 'FU' inside a circle with motion lines. To the right of the logo, the words 'FRONT UP' are written in large, bold, sans-serif capital letters, with the website 'www.frontup.co.uk' underneath in a smaller font. Below this, the text 'Exclusive Rugby Fashionwear' is followed by 'Tees • Polos • Sweats' and 'Prices from £20'. A line of text says 'View and purchase from our online store now'. At the bottom, it says 'Email info@frontup.co.uk or call +44 (0) 121 353 9081'. The bottom half of the ad shows four pieces of clothing: a long-sleeved shirt with a large '7' and 'SEACHSIDE' text, a short-sleeved shirt with 'FRONT UP' text, a short-sleeved shirt with a 'Pass' logo, and a short-sleeved shirt with a 'FRONT UP' logo.



COUNT ON

KING EDWARD'S SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

COUNT ON

LANGARD LIFFORD HALL

ACCOUNTANTS • REGISTERED AUDITORS

LIFFORD HALL
LIFFORD LANE, KINGS NORTON
BIRMINGHAM B30 3JN

FOR PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES

Accounts Preparation, Audit, Taxation,
including Inheritance Tax Planning, VAT, Bookkeeping,
Corporate Recovery and Insolvency Advice

Contact Old Edwardian Keith Chambers FCCA

One of a Team of Qualified Players

Tel: (0121) 459 1222

Fax: (0121) 433 5268

E-mail: info@liffordhall.co.uk

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From Furokh Panthaki (1976)

21 September 2006

Dear Mr Adams,

For some time now I have wanted to share a discovery of mine — a book called *Midwinter* by John Buchan of Richard Hannay fame. Perhaps literary buffs among the Old Edwardians can advise me as to whether this is a known classic, or is perhaps not deemed to be one.

While I am writing, how many in our midst have been taken by Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author*? I was struck by the term 'mentally deaf' and its prevalence in today's world, especially among egocentric authority and the narrow-minded. Incidentally, the inability to listen is beautifully featured in the song *The Living Years* by Mike and The Mechanics. Anyone agree?

Finally, is the notion of an OE Literary Society too far removed from reality to merit consideration? Mr Parslew, what say you, sir?

Yours sincerely,

Furokh Panthaki



From Alan Donaldson (1955)

25 September 2006

Dear Bernard,

Congratulations on the last issue of the *Gazette* — but I was sorry to learn at the OEs' excellent dinner on Friday that you're giving up the editorship. Many thanks for all your efforts. Gordon Woods and Douglas Fleming were our only contemporaries at the dinner, and you've no doubt heard the sad news of David Gallon's death last Monday.

In case they're of interest I enclose two photographs showing two members of the 1950s staff. The one shows WD Rees walking in Manderscheid, the German village the School party went to in the Easter holiday of (I think) 1951. He later moved to Repton, and I believe that he has now died. The other photograph was taken surreptitiously when I took my 16 mm 120 roll film camera into School, and shows DAP Weatherall reading *The Waste Land* in December 1954, as you too may recall (*indeed I do* — BSA). I wish now that I'd tried snapping other members of staff!



WD Rees

Are you 70 yet? (*No, I always was young for my age* — BSA.) I went to a nice do at Henley-on-Thames on the 18th for David Davies (70 that day) and have posted a card to Michael Parslew (70 next Wednesday), and — DV — Gordon Woods and Alan Smith will get there on 25 October and I myself three days later.

All the best,

Alan Donaldson

A happy tale of longevity foretold! Re the Editorship, I am proposing to move to Hungary in the near future (to the Balaton north shore, if any wine-lovers read this) where letters will be forwarded (see p. 1) if no replacement is found for me. As I have said before, being Editor is great fun and a very worthwhile thing to do — BSA.



DAP Weatherall

NOTES & NEWS

Vikram Bannerjee (2002) has been awarded a Cricket Blue at Cambridge and has made his County debut with Gloucestershire.



Richard Brookes (1994) graduated with an M.Chem. from Worcester College, Oxford, and went on to a D.Phil. at the Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory, Oxford. He spent 2001–02 as a lecturer in Chemistry at The Queen's College, Oxford, moving then to teach Chemistry at Whitgift School and returning to KES as Head of Chemistry in 2005.



Rakesh Chauhan (2003) has been commissioned into the RAF as a pilot. He is currently reading International Relations at St Andrews.



AJ Conder (1979) is still a partner at MacFarlanes (solicitors) in London. There are two other OEs at the firm: **JG Rhodes (1963)**, who has just retired as a partner but remains a consultant, and **Ashley Greenbank (1982)**, who remains a partner.



Slightly old news, but **NO Cooke QC (1973)**, a human rights lawyer, warned the government of Mauritius in 2003 not to undermine the independence of its Director of Public Prosecutions. Undertaking *pro bono* to defend the Hizbullah leader Cehl Meeah (in fact the case was abandoned), he is full of praise for the democratic and constitutional conduct of judicial affairs in the island. And he feels that those who remember his schoolboy ineptitude in French would be amazed at the fluency of his interview in *L'express samedi*!



Richard Temple Cox CBE RIBA FRSA (1956) has retired as Chairman of Castle Vale Housing Action Trust on its successful completion of the regeneration of the region's largest post-war housing estate — a 12 year programme costing £300 million. He is currently Chairman of Birmingham and Solihull Uft — a Government-sponsored programme to regenerate all primary care facilities in Birmingham and Solihull — and has been appointed to one of the Prime Minister's new Honours committees, dealing with charity, voluntary section, local authority, police and fire authority nominations and awards.



A while ago **Robert Darlaston (1959)** mentioned to some OEs that he had put on a web site the narrative of his School memories (published in the *Gazette* a few years ago), together with some photographs of School which he had taken in the 1950s. He has since transferred the contents to a new site which has greater capacity enabling him to add the rest of his KES photos from the '50s. The text is largely unaltered, save for some fine tuning here and there, so you don't have to plough through it all again!

Anyone who is interested in looking at the photos is welcome to browse the site (www.robertdarlaston.co.uk), including the other pages which have further childhood memories, current weather statistics for the village where he lives, and many 1950s photos of steam trains — some taken on trips from School! It should be added that the web site is NOT listed on Google or other search engines and is thus accessible "by invitation only"!



James Dawkins (2004) is reading Geography at Nottingham University and recently spent six weeks in Honduras under the auspices of Operation Wallacea, studying the role of rural non-farm employment in the Cusuco National Park. He was financially assisted in this by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the Old Edwardians Association.



I learn from **Margaret Davies (ex-KEHS)** that **Mrs Editha Gregory**, one of the ladies that taught at the School during the Second World War (see **Freddie Oxley's** letter in the *Gazette*, June 2005), is living at Selly Wood House. A Birmingham graduate, she taught French and Spanish at KES, moving after the war to Nottingham Polytechnic and then to Tamworth College. Now in her mid-nineties, she is said to be frail.



Dave Haslam (1980) was included in the Sunday Times Christmas Reading List for his book *Not Abba: The Real Story of the 1970s*.



Hugh Houghton (1994) and Jo have moved to Oxford. She has been accepted for full-time ministerial training by the Diocese of Birmingham, studying at St Stephen's House. Hugh has begun work as a full-time research fellow at the University of Birmingham on the continuation of the project to produce an edition of the Old Latin text of the Gospel according to John, assembling all the non-Vulgate manuscripts and citations in early Church Fathers. There is some teaching and administrative work associated with the post, so he will be commuting to Birmingham a few days each week, and hopes to continue singing with the CBSC. After serving for over three years at St Gabriel's, Weoley Castle, he will be looking to offer non-stipendiary ministry within the Diocese of Oxford.



Oliver Newcombe (2000) played Water Polo for Wales in the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne.



Adam Nooney (2006) has been awarded an IMechE Scholarship.



In March 2006 **Graham Rand (1965)** was awarded the Companionship of Operational Research, one of the highest awards of the Operational Research Society. The relevant press release states:

The Companionship of OR is awarded to Graham Rand in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Operational Research Society and to the International Federation of Operational Research Societies over a period of over 30 years. At all times since 1974 Graham has been involved in some way — usually in several ways — with either or both of the ORS and IFORS. His first involvement was as UK contributing editor to International Abstracts in OR (IAOR) from 1974 to 1979; he then took over the editorship of IAOR until 1991, when he became

editor of the Journal of the Operational Research Society for a period of 5 years to 1996. He became IFORS Publications coordinator in 1998 and managing editor of International Transactions in OR from 2000 to 2005. His involvement has not been limited to publications; he was chair of the conference committee for OR 26, held in Lancaster in 1984, and of the Programme Committee for the 12th IFORS Conference, held in Greece in 1990. He became a Vice-President of IFORS in 1998. Graham has also been actively involved in many ways in supporting OR in developing countries.

All this constitutes an impressive catalogue of activity, but it by no means covers all of Graham's contributions to OR, which also include chair of North West OR group, chair of the study group for OR in developing countries, chair of national events committee, council member — and one of, perhaps *the*, longest innings as member of an ORS committee with 22 years unbroken service on the publications committee.

The photograph shows Graham receiving the award from Professor Belton, President of the Society 2004–2005.



The last School Captain of the New Street era, **CK Roberts**, appeared in a 1940 picture — reproduced recently in The Birmingham Post — of ratings from Birmingham at the 'somewhat forbidding' naval establishment HMS St Vincent, where he was training as a Fleet Air Arm pilot. He is now living in Merimbula, NSW, Australia.



On 1 August **Leslie Robotham (1926)** celebrated his 100th birthday. We offer our warmest congratulations on this happy occasion.



Charles Singleton (2002) received the Queen's Medal at RMA Sandhurst, as the top cadet in his year.



David Woods (2005) has been awarded an Athletics Blue at Oxford.



Graham Rand (1965) and Professor Belton

OE Bibliography

Dave Haslam: *Not Abba: The Real Story of the 1970s.*



Paul Mitchell: *The Making of the Modern Law of Defamation* (Oxford: Hart Publishing, 2005)

The modern law of defamation is frequently criticised for being outdated, obscure and even incomprehensible. But it was not always so difficult to understand. *The Making of the Modern Law of Defamation* explains how and why the law has come to be as it is by offering a historical analysis of significant developments since the seventeenth century, and the reasons behind them. These reasons include such diverse factors as the rise of the popular press, judicial personality and the influence of academic writers. Whilst the primary focus of the book is the law of England, it also makes extensive use of comparative common law materials from jurisdictions such as Australia, South Africa, the United States and Scotland. This book will be essential reading for anyone interested in the law of defamation, in media law, and in the relationship between free speech and the law.



Charles Mitchell and Paul Mitchell (eds): *Landmark Cases in the Law of Restitution* (Hart Publishing, 2006).

It is now well established that the law of unjust enrichment forms an important and distinctive part of the English law of obligations. Restitutionary awards for unjust enrichment and for wrongdoing are clearly recognised for what they are. But these are recent developments. Before the last decade of the twentieth century the very existence of a separate law of unjust enrichment was controversial, its scope and content matters of dispute. In this collection of essays, a group of leading scholars looks back and reappraises some of the landmark cases in the law of restitution. They range from the early seventeenth century to the mid-twentieth century, and shed new light on some classic decisions. Some argue that the importance of their case has been overstated; others, that it has been overlooked, or misconceived. All

persuasively invite the reader to think again about some well-known authorities. The book is an essential resource for anyone — scholar — student or practitioner, with an interest in this fascinating area of the law.



David Stranack: *Schools At War* (Phillimore & Co, Shopwyke Manor Barn, Chichester, West Sussex, PO20 2BG; e-mail: www.phillimore.co.uk ISBN 1 86077 338 9) £14.99 or £13.49 if ordered online.



Arthur Muffet (1926), who is ninety-nine, joined the pupils of Dilwyn Primary School for a two-minute silence at the village War Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. He gave an impromptu talk to the children about his memories of the first Remembrance Sunday in 1919, and recited *In Flanders Fields* from memory.

Photo reproduced courtesy of the Hereford Times



Births, Marriages, Deaths and Obituaries

Births

To **Tim Langley (1990)** and **Kate** on 20 April 2006, at Birmingham Women's Hospital, a son, **Alasdair**, weighing 10 lb 10 oz.

Marriages

Iain Gray (1996) married **Dr Tina Chowdhury** on 4 November at Birmingham Register Office.

Luke OT Graham (1998) to **Laura Faith Frey** on 8 April 2006. The couple are now living in Atlanta, Georgia.

Deaths

We announce with regret the deaths of the following Old Edwardians:

DJW Chapman (1949)

EV Corbett (1928)

DO Cox (1967)

Philip Cranmer (Common Room)

Sir Michael Davies (1939)

Major J Drew (1936)

E Edwards (?)

DN Gallon (1954)

RN Lester (1955)

FW Mottershead (1930)

SB Palmer (1945)

M Rogers (1951)

CD Skinner (1947)

MICHAEL GREATREX CONEY (1932–2005)

*I am grateful to **John Collins (1942)** for sending the following obituary by John Clute from the online site of the (Canadian) Independent newspaper, 14 November 2005.*

Writer: born Birmingham 28 September 1932; married (two sons, one daughter); died Saanichton, British Columbia 4 November 2005.

When Michael Coney learned earlier this year that he was fatally ill with asbestos-induced lung cancer, he put three novels previously unpublished in English onto his web site as

free downloads for his friends and readers. (It is a sign of the uncertainties of the current English-language publishing scene that one of these works had already been released in Russian in 1999.) The calm and open manner of this farewell gesture reminded those who had known him that they were going to miss another good person too soon.

Coney was born in Birmingham, educated at King Edward's School there, and began a career as a chartered accountant in 1949; but he did not settle into that profession. He worked for some time as a management consultant, managed a hotel in Devon from 1966 to 1969, then went to the West Indies with his wife Daphne. Together they managed the Jabberwock Hotel in Antigua until 1972, when they emigrated to Canada. Coney then worked for the British Columbia Forest Service until his retirement in 1989; *Forest Ranger, Ahoy!* (1989) is a lively account of the service, whose rangers patrolled the enormously complex British Columbia coast in wooden, flat-bottomed boats.

This full, professional existence, the life of a late-20th-century wanderer who finds job satisfaction in a beautiful venue far from home, may have taken most of his time; and, as his books about the British Columbia littoral clearly manifest, he cherished his resting place on the Pacific Rim. But it was not the whole story. As early as the mid-1960s he had begun to submit "radical" science-fiction stories to Michael Moorcock's controversial *New Worlds* magazine, none of which Moorcock took. Taking this lesson to heart, he began to write (and to publish) tales closer to the central concerns of 1970s science fiction. His first novel, *Mirror Image* (1972), neatly intensified the American genre's Cold War focus on impostors and secret invaders; in this case the 'amorphs', who are indistinguishable from us, are themselves convinced that they are human.

Coney's amorphs reappear in *Brontomek* (1976), which won a British Science Fiction Award in 1977, and are effective images of the uneasy 1970s sense that the world was becoming less easy to decipher; this sense of ominous insecurity marks other early Coney novels like *Syzygy* (1973), which is set in the same troubled planet as *Brontomek*; and *Friends Come in Boxes* (1973), a slice-of-life tale set in a near-future Axminster where the

overpopulation crisis has been solved by a surreal and sinister system in which adult minds are imprinted into the brains of infants, androids embody specially privileged members of an unequal society, and real and unreal mesh dizzyingly.

After a first rush of dystopian tales, however, Coney began to shift his ground from the more overstressed regions of the Western world (and its analogues on other planets). *The Girl with a Symphony in her Fingers* (1975), set somewhere near the end of time, palpably dramatises a longing for a quieter realm; and his most successful later work — *The Celestial Steam Locomotive* (1983) and *Gods of the Greataway* (1984) — could almost be set on a transfigured Vancouver Island. In these tales, and later connected fantasies, human beings have been exiled from any central role in running their lives or their planet. Their job is to live well, in harmony with other humanoid species, in a world whose violent but non-fatal complexities will remind 21st-century readers of the current vogue, in book and film alike, for tales set in Virtual Realities.

It is of course a common condition nowadays to travel far from one's origins, to experience exile as a norm, almost like an amorph in a world of humans. In his own life, Coney clearly experienced exile, but reaped the benefits of ending up in a kind of earthly paradise, where he stayed put for the last thirty years of his life. His fiction, too, after traversing the upheavals of our times, found a home and stayed there.



EDMUND VICTOR CORBETT (1912–2003)

Born in Handsworth, Vic Corbett was a lifetime supporter of Aston Villa — and of Warwickshire CCC. Leaving King Edward's in 1928 he became a junior assistant in Birmingham Reference Library. Spare time study enabled him to qualify as a Fellow of the Library Association at the early age of 20 in 1932. Shortly afterwards he obtained his first senior post as Deputy Borough Librarian in Mitcham, Surrey.

The war interrupted his service there, and he spent three years in the RAF, mostly in India training recruits, and rising to the rank of Squadron Leader. In India he was also able to

indulge his lifelong interests of travel, riding and sport — in particular tennis, at which he won a number of trophies in the RAF.

Vic thought of remaining in the RAF after the war, but decided to return to Mitcham Library. Soon he was appointed Deputy Librarian at Ealing, where in 1947 he met and married Enid. His next appointment was as Deputy Librarian at Croydon Library, and then, at the end of 1951, he became Borough Librarian of Wandsworth, the largest of the London boroughs at that time.

Vic remained at Wandsworth until his retirement in 1977, working tirelessly to provide a first-class service. When he took over, Wandsworth was not in the forefront of the library service, but Vic's innovative ability and practical energy transformed it. He was the first to introduce audio- and photocharging, one of the first to use a computer method for recording loans, and librarians from all parts of the country and from abroad made the pilgrimage to Wandsworth to see these. Vic was an influential figure in the history of librarianship.

In addition to his local work, Vic was active in the Library Association for over twenty years, serving as Chairman of the Publications Committee for six years and for two as Chairman of the Executive Committee. He was also, *inter alia*, Chairman, later Treasurer, of the London and Home Counties Branch, library adviser to the Association of Municipal Corporations and a member of the National Lending Library Executive and London and South Eastern Region Management Committee. He was the author of numerous text books on librarianship, and in 1975 was President of the Library Association. His was a record of service and distinction in Librarianship that was second to none.



ALBERT J COTTRILL (1915–2005)

This obituary is kindly provided by his widow Mrs Joyce M Cottrill:

Albert J Cottrill was born in 1915. He went to Camp Hill in 1925 and a year later won a Foundation Scholarship to King Edward's, which was then in New Street. After

matriculating at Higher level he left in 1932 and entered the accountancy profession. He qualified in 1948 and specialised in taxation. He remained with the same firm all his working life, although the name changed around him when firms merged. He was a taxation manager with Ernst and Young when he retired in 1980.

His interests were varied and included the Boys' Brigade, the Baptist Church, wild flowers and where to find rare species, his garden and music. The church at Fernhill Heath, where he was finally in membership, has dedicated a new piano to his memory. He leaves a widow, a son and a daughter.



PHILIP CRANMER (1918–2006)

This obituary is edited from that in The Times:

Born into a musical family, Cranmer was accompanying his baritone father in concert appearances when he was only thirteen. A chorister at the musically distinguished All Saints, Margaret Street, he went to Wellington College, where he showed precocious prowess in hockey and cricket, and to Christ Church, Oxford, where he took his BMus and MA.

His first school post — as assistant music master at Wellington — was interrupted by war service in the Royal Artillery (an unpleasantly noisy milieu for a musician, one thinks!). He reached the rank of major and was appointed Chevalier de l'Ordre de Léopold II and awarded the Croix de Guerre Belge.

After the war he joined the staff of King Edward's, leaving to become staff accompanist at BBC Birmingham. Academe lured him back, and in 1954, after four years in the music department of Birmingham University, he became Hamilton Harty Professor of Music at Queen's University, Belfast, moving in 1970 to be Professor of Music at Manchester University.

President of the Incorporated Society of Musicians in 1971, in 1974 Cranmer moved to London as secretary of the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. His interest in italic handwriting — he was for a while chairman of the Italic Handwriting Society — may be seen in his signature on many a certificate. He gained a high reputation as an adjudicator, and was from 1980 to 1987 chairman of the Musicians'

Benevolent Fund. Numerous honours were his, including a doctorate conferred by Belfast University in 1985, and a number of publications stand to his credit.

A mild-mannered, urbane man, hospitable and of considerable intellect, Cranmer always held a balance between the serious and the frivolous. He celebrated his 80th birthday by performing all of Bach's 48 preludes and fugues from the Well-tempered Clavier in the village hall at Clayton, where he and his wife Ruth lived in retirement, and also set to music witty verses of his own composition; some of these were recorded under the title *Why Was Lloyd George Born so Beautiful?* by a professional group including Peter Pears.

Ruth, whom he married in 1939, predeceased him in 2000, and he is survived by their four children.



MICHAEL ALFRED WILLIAM DAVIES (1921–2006)

This obituary is edited from that appearing in The Daily Telegraph:

Born in Stourbridge, Michael Davies read Law at Birmingham and was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn in 1948. He practised on the Midland circuit, of which he later became leader jointly with the Oxford circuit.

Taking silk in 1964, he prosecuted a series of high-profile criminals including Ronald 'Buster' Edwards (Great Train Robbery) and William Waite, chauffeur of Stoneleigh Abbey. He served at various times as deputy chairman of the Northampton Quarter Sessions, Recorder of Grantham, of Derby and of the Crown Court. Chancellor of Assize in Birmingham in 1970, he was Chancellor of the Diocese of Derby 1971 to 1973 and a member of the Bar Council 1968 to 1971.

Appointed in 1973 to the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court — the first judge specifically appointed to handle defamation cases — and knighted, he presided over a broad range of cases — involving such celebrities as Lord Aldington, Koo Stark, Sonia Sutcliffe, Sir Ranulph Fiennes, Elton John and Neil Kinnock — before taking over the jury list in 1988, in which capacity he had notable success in cutting the delay between writ and trial from three years to less than one. He did not endear himself to the press, however, with a number of awards of heavy damages.

A strong line in courtroom humour was his too — 'What is an ageing bimbette?' was his question to Andrew Neil apropos Pamela Bordes — and while he was noted for his exemplary courtesy he could be tetchy. He believed passionately in the jury system, and went to great lengths to help his juries. He was concerned over the public image of the judiciary as 'old gents who . . . slumbered through a day's work'.

In 1991 he took what he termed 'voluntary redundancy', but continued to sit occasionally, and became Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn. His non-legal interests included golf and opera, and he had a penchant for old black-and-white films on television. His favourite cigars cost him £2,500 per annum until 1984, when he gave them up!

He married his wife Margaret in 1947, and they had a son and three daughters.



ERNEST EDWARDS (1883–1959)

This obituary from The Liverpool Echo and Evening Express of 12 January 1959 has recently come to hand. Assistance has also been given by Mrs Pat Marshall, a descendant of Edwards:

Edwards had been a general reporter on the Birmingham Argus before his appointment as sports editor of the *Echo* in 1902. Born in Bromsgrove, he played rugby for King Edward's and soccer for Small Heath — which later became Birmingham City FC — where he lived. He was also a good golfer and an expert on many sports.

An accomplished musician, he was for many years organist at Claremount Road Methodist church, Wallasey. He was also for some time theatre critic on the *Echo*, and in the 1920s became well known as a broadcaster from the Liverpool station 6LV.

His outstanding popularity was based both on his great journalistic ability and on his courteous nature. When he had to criticise he did so honestly and fairly, never indulging in destructive criticism or cleverness at the expense of those who could not defend themselves. His writing was liberally laced with humour, and his knowledge of sport — and especially soccer — was encyclopaedic.

Oddly enough, it was Edwards that gave the name 'Spion Kop' to that part of the Anfield ground. The Kop was constructed in 1906; quite when the name was first used is uncertain, though obviously from early in the 1906–07 season. It commemorates the hundreds of men from the South Lancashire regiments who died on 23 January 1900 in the famous engagement of the Boer War.

The School records list one Ernest G. Edwards, who was in the 1st XV in 1899/1900 and also won the Albert Prize for Mathematics in July 1900. One cannot be certain that the two are the same, but I feel that the obituary is of sufficient interest to warrant its inclusion, late though it is. Edwards' uncle Frederick Beecher Edwards (who was younger than him) also went to KES. He became a news editor for the New York World Telegram. — BSA.



DAVID N GALLON (1936–2005)

Tony Trott writes:

David Gallon died on 18 September 2005, nine years after the first signs of incipient Alzheimer's disease. For those who had known him at School or during his vigorous and highly successful career this was tragic news. For his family — his wife Inge, son Mark and daughter Lotte — it was worse, as it entailed the harrowing spectacle of a talented and much loved personality being gradually eroded and destroyed.

At KES between 1947 and 1954, David migrated from Classical V to the History Division. He took History, English and Latin at A Level, and then won a Minor Scholarship in English to Queens' College, Cambridge. Before going up he spent two years in the RAF, a good deal of that time in Germany. At Cambridge he got a First in the English Tripos. He was a dedicated student, very hard-working and responsive to literature, serious-minded not only about work but also on his general view of life — but never stodgy or solemn; he was too truly intelligent for that. From Cambridge he went to Edinburgh to work for a research degree on the early nineteenth-century writer Thomas Love Peacock, but for reasons unknown (at least, to me!) he left Edinburgh after two years with his doctorate unfinished.

By then married, he moved to a lectureship in English at Aberystwyth. One of his former students there has told me how personally helpful he was to students, in addition to being a stimulating teacher. He was never reluctant to devote time to dealing with their problems and difficulties, explaining, advising, guiding. Out on the coast of Cardigan Bay, however, he and his wife came to feel isolated from the main currents of national life, and so in 1969 they moved to London for David to take a job with the new Open University and become interested in its creation. They settled in Orpington and the OU was the focal point of the rest of his working life.

For twenty-five years David worked for the OU as lecturer, administrator and organiser, and found the work immensely fulfilling. He became Deputy Regional Director for south-east England, and as such revealed considerable administrative ability. He was responsible for organising and then running summer schools, to which task he brought an infectious energy which could not fail to enthuse the students. Moreover, his personal warmth was an important factor in ensuring success in this branch of his work. He took a particular interest in students with disabilities. He was, par excellence, an educator, a man whose own sharp intelligence and wide-ranging intellectual and human sympathy were devoted to enlarging in others the possibility of a fuller life.

Along with a deeply serious nature went a marked capacity for enjoyment and for social life. Many of the photographs that I have seen taken during his time at the OU show him glass in hand. They also reveal, amusingly, a physical trait that I remember so well from his schooldays, and which obviously stayed with him throughout his life: the habit of looking very steadily at you while you were talking, with his head ever so slightly cocked to one side. Knowing only too well the intelligence that was at work in the cocked head and behind the steady eyes you knew that what you were saying was being seriously weighed up. It was at first a somewhat unnerving experience.

In 1990 David underwent an operation for the removal of a brain tumour. He recovered well and continued working until 1994, when he took early retirement. In 1997, however, the

first signs of his final affliction began to appear. Until those final years David was a life-enhancer, whose energy and dedication enlarged his students' capacity to live more fully. This is the mark of the real educator, and that is how his family and friends will remember him — a cheerful, sociable and seriously dedicated man.



MIKE ROGERS (1932–2006)

This obituary is edited from that appearing in The Times:

Born in Sutton Coldfield — his father was head brewer at Ansell's — Rogers joined the West Midland Bird Club in 1946, cycling all over the region to look for rare species, and became a member of its research committee at the age of 16 and secretary the following year. He developed a great ability not merely to recognise bird calls but also to imitate them.

After National Service in the Intelligence Corps, based in Trieste, he joined the Metropolitan Police in 1958. Serving until 1981, he reached the rank of Detective Sergeant. His interest in birds was maintained, and in 1978 he became bird recorder to the Sussex Ornithological Society and secretary of the British Birds Rarities Committee (BBRC), the post that was to dominate his later life. Descriptions of uncommon sightings were sent in to him where he lived in Sunbury, for circulation to a panel of experts for verification and — if accepted — eventual publication in the annual Report on Rare Birds in Great Britain in *British Birds*. He was a frequent contributor to this journal, occasionally lacing his serious material with a touch of humour — 'Perhaps, like the camel, the Greater Sand Plover was designed by a committee'.

On retiring from the police the BBRC became a full-time (unpaid) occupation. He also remained with the Sussex society until moving to St Mary's in 1984 as bird recorder for the Isles of Scilly. He found Scilly not entirely to his taste, however, as he was recognised and accosted by enthusiastic 'twitchers' everywhere he went, and in 1987 he moved to Towednack in Cornwall.

He suffered a slight stroke in 1991, but continued to work through the mountainous paperwork of the BBRC. He launched the Association of County Recorders and Editors, becoming its secretary, and in 1996 received his only honour, election as an Honorary Subscriber to *British Birds*, only the twelfth such in the 89-year history of the journal.



Glaisyers

SOLICITORS

- Criminal Defence
- Family Matters
- Motoring Offences
- Welfare Benefits
- Tax/VAT Offences
- Care Proceedings
- House Sale/Purchase
- Divorce
- Wills/Probate/Trusts
- Fraud
- Domestic Violence
- Personal Injury

For all your legal requirements call...

Stephen Cole (1963) or any of his partners...

Charles Royle
David Simon
Julia Powell
David Dollery

John Loveday
Antonia Smith
Neil Davis
Steve Masih

Ewen Smith
Stewart Dunigan
Kevin Good
Claire Burns

Members of the Law Society's Children, Family, Personal Injury & Probate Panels



Community
Legal Service



Family
LAWYERS



A QUALITY SERVICE
Approved by The Legal Aid Board

Criminal
Defence Service



10 Rowchester Court and at . . .
Printing House Street
Birmingham B4 6DZ
Fax: 0121 236 1534

Web: www.glaisyers.co.uk

11 Waterloo Road
Wolverhampton WV1 4DJ
DX: 10455 WOLVERHAMPTON
Fax: 01902 710909

E-mail: advice@glaisyers.co.uk

FOR IMMEDIATE HELP AND ADVICE CALL...

0121 233 2971 or 01902 719800

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

The Old Edwardians Association

A Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England No. 33983.

Registered Office: King Edward's School, Edgbaston Park Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2UA, England.

To the Honorary Registrar:

Sir, I desire to become a member of the Old Edwardians Association and Old Edwardians Sports Club Ltd., and I hereby agree to submit to, and be bound by, the Rules and Regulations, and Memoranda and Articles of Association of the Association and the Sports Club, and I authorise you to place my name on the Register of members of the Association and the Sports Club.

Name: Year of leaving School:

Degree/Title (if any):

Address:

.....

..... Postcode:

Occupation: E-mail:

I wish to join the Association on a Life Membership/Annual Subscription* basis and include my Banker's Order/Cheque* for £
(*delete as applicable)

Signature:

Date:

Proposed by:

Seconded by:

(Signatures of two Members)

Subscription Rates

Annual Subscription £7 or Life Membership
based on number of years since leaving School:

Up to 5 years ago £220

Over 5 years ago £185

Over 10 years ago £150

Over 20 years ago £122

Over 30 years ago £94

Over 40 years ago £73

Over 50 years ago £52

Over 60 years ago £31

Please send this **complete** form to the Registrar: MD Baxter, 36 Woodglade Croft, Kings Norton, Birmingham B38 8TD, who will arrange to forward a completed Banker's Order below to your bank.

To the Manager, (Bank name) Date:

..... (Branch)

Please debit my Account No. to pay to Barclays Bank PLC, Wolverhampton Business Centre, Wolverhampton WV1 1DS (Sort Code 20-97-78), for the Account of THE OLD EDWARDIANS ASSOCIATION (A/c No. 40720119), the sum of £ now and £ on the first day of January in each year.

Signed: Name:

Address:

.....

NOTES & NEWS

Name: Year of leaving:

Current Address:

..... Phone:

Spouse and family (with ages): E-mail

.....

Higher Education — where? what? when?

.....

.....

Publications:

.....

Profession(s) — what? for whom? when?

.....

.....

.....

Civil, volunteer or sport achievements:

.....

.....

.....

Academic honours:

.....

.....

Membership of societies or clubs:

.....

.....

Professional awards or honours:

.....

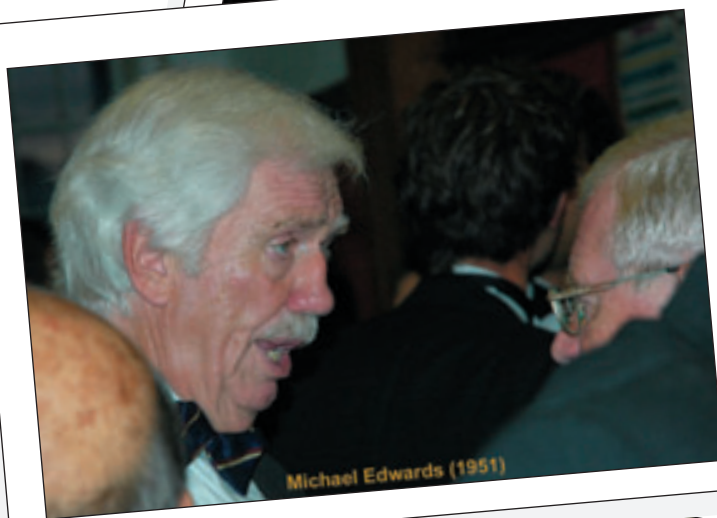
.....

Hobbies or interests:

.....

.....

Please send this form to the 'Editor of the *Gazette*'
BS Adams, 3 Ashbrook Terrace, Charles Street, Brecon, Powys, LD3 7HE.



OE Ties and 450th Commemorative Gift Collection



Heraldic Shield
£20.00



'Standard' tie
Polyester – £7.00

Bow ties
'Standard' only
Ready tied or
Self tie – £8.00



450th Anniversary ties
Limited Edition of 450
Polyester only £8.00



'Alternative' tie
Polyester – £8.00
Silk – £15.00



Cufflinks
'Quick Action' – £15.00

Please add post and packing.
Shield £2.00. All else £0.50. For more than one item include just one p+p
at the higher value. Alternatively place your order and collect from Reception.

Cheques to 'OEA'. Enquiries and orders to Derek Benson at the school.
(See page 1 for the contact details.)