



THE OLD PRIORIAN ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2017



President's Welcome

May I welcome you to this issue of the Newsletter in what proves to be the 90th year of the Association. This newsletter is blessed with a plethora of entertaining articles for the reader's delectation and further perusal. These articles include, notably, the Headmaster's Introduction of the '1902 Society', further news of the War Memorial Refurbishment, an article on the very successful recent Old Priorian Mentoring Evening (held for the Sixth Form about to embark upon their careers), plus important reports from recent social events including the Annual OPA Dinner and the Oxford and Cambridge Dinner, a very informative article about the work that OPs carry out with HCPT and the Lourdes Pilgrimages, a brief report from AROPS (a networking group of likeminded Old Pupils Societies) plus an interestingly refreshing entertaining article - 'Old Priorian Spotlight' and sporting news from the rugby and cricket communities (indigenously as well as from the New World). Let me remind you of our Annual Sports Festival and invite you and your families to be with us on the afternoon of 2nd July 2017.

Especial thanks to Edd Conway for editing and collating this newsletter and to Tara George and Will Bedford (from the Development Office), both ably assisted by the OPA Administrator, Richard Baker,

for all their behind the scenes work and support. I commend to you this excellent newsletter - 'A Minimis Incipe'

Lewis Hill (OP 1975), President OPA



The President, "on duty" as the OPA AROPS Representative

Old Priorians Thirty Year Reunion

Early in May 2017, a group of 23 Old Priorians of the 1987 vintage enjoyed an evening of laughter and reminiscing at The Duke of Kent pub in Ealing. Hard though it seems to believe, it was almost 30 years since we left school and headed out into the real world. It was really lovely having the opportunity to catch up with one another. Some friendships had blossomed and endured over the years, whilst for others it was the first time in a long while that they had been in contact with their contemporaries.

The conversation flowed easily - as though it was only yesterday when we had last been together - as we exchanged information about our family life, careers and important milestones. We may have aged physically (only slightly of course!), but it is clear that we remain young at heart. As the evening progressed and background music from the 1980s provided an excuse for a few talented individuals to show that they still had the moves on the dance floor, it was inevitable that tales were exchanged about

our school days. There was so much to talk about and the hours passed by at a rate of knots. Before we knew it, we were being gently shepherd out of the pub shortly after midnight so that the staff could lock up. Fond goodbyes having been exchanged, the more energetic and intrepid members of the group headed out in search of an alternate watering hole on Pitshanger Lane.

We are very grateful to the Old Priorian Association and the OPA Council for the provision of a generous subsidy, which went a considerable way toward meeting the cost of the venue and the drinks and nibbles. Thank you also to Tania for providing the background music (courtesy of a well-known music streaming service); to the very helpful staff at The Duke of Kent; and to the OP87 veterans who spread the word about the reunion far and wide using social media. We know that some of our contemporaries were unable to join us on the night due to family, geographical and work reasons - you were all missed!

Hopefully we will not leave it so long before coming together once more.

OP87 Attendees: Hasan Abdat; Garen Arevian; Tania Ambridge; Gervase Blake; Roger Carter; Daren Daly; Demetrius Danantanas; Aidan Doyle; Richard Elston; Kevin Emamy; Nicholas Fallon; Julian Frost; Georgina Gilmore; William Hagerty; Damian Innes; Dominic Lawson-Smith; Nicholas Leamy; Damian McColgan; Angela McHale; Klaus Murmann; Rob Simmons; Iain Stuart; Noelle Wilson-Smith

By Rob Simmons (OP 1987)



The OP 1987 Reunion

War Memorial Refurbishment

A couple of years ago, research revealed that the School's existing Memorial to fallen Old Priorians of the First and Second World Wars was incorrect in several respects. The original First World War memorial was in the Abbey and was destroyed by bombing in WWII; shortly after the Second World War a new memorial was created - constructed by the school handyman and lettered beautifully by an art teacher. This is the memorial which has been awkwardly sited in the Orchard Hall for some years and has now been re-located to outside the door of the new Chapel, facing a statue of Our Lady which was set up in memory of Dom Gervase Hobson Matthews, an Old Priorian, monk, and member of teaching staff who died at Dunkirk in 1940. The two memorials were always intended to form a pair and so it is good to see them reunited at last.

However, the war memorial contains several errors in the names of those killed in the First World War, and these would be difficult to change. There is also the sad fact that the memorial omits Peter Hand, a member of the teaching staff who died in the Second World War. A committee of staff, Fr Thomas, parents, and Old Priorians, has looked at the various options and has decided to commission a new memorial, which will not only rectify all the errors but also add Peter Hand, Clement Bruning (who died in a German internment camp in Poland in 1942), and André Mannheim, who died flying with the RAF in peace-time. The world being what it is, it has been decided to leave some blank space in case it is needed in future. Committee member Dominic Cuss (OP 1980) commented "As a friend of André, I am pleased his service to the country is being recognised

on the school memorial. At school, he had a passion for the CCF and joining the RAF as a fighter pilot was his dream; tragically he died whilst on a training flight".

Our ambition is to unveil the new memorial on 11th November 2018, the hundredth anniversary of Armistice Day. We have commissioned a solid oak memorial with incised letters, which will be produced by Mr Luke Chapman (his work can be seen at <http://www.localcarve.com/>). It will be erected in the Cloisters, giving it more prominence and allowing sufficient space for it to be the focus of ceremonies in future. The new memorial will cost £10,000, of which we have already raised almost exactly £7000 from events such as lectures (on HMS Hood and Operation Benedict), the CCF Bonding Boot Camps, the Field of Remembrance, and the annual Remembrance Concerts. We are

planning several more events over the coming eighteen months to enable us to meet our deadline, and donations, however small, are always welcome.

Catherine Lawson, Head of Communications, Commonwealth War Graves Commission and a current parent comments: "On behalf of my fellow parents, I am so pleased to support the new war memorial, which will ensure the lasting commemoration of all members of the St Benedict's community who have given their life in the service of their country".

Please contact Shaun Hullis, Head of Classics, by email at shullis@stbenedicts.org.uk if you would like to support the appeal or for any other additional information.

By Shaun Hullis, Contingent Commander CCF and Head of Classics, St Benedict's School



Operation Benedict Lecture: Jamie White (L5), Mr Shaun Hullis and Mr John White

Old Priorians Christmas Reunion 2016

On Monday, 19th December 2016, about ninety Old Priorians, from the class of 2015, gathered at the Benet Club for our first Christmas reunion. A welcome drink was provided by the Old Priorian Association, which got the evening off to a great start. It was fantastic to see so many of our classmates and is a testament to the feeling of community that St Benedict's engenders that it wasn't just leavers from eighteen

months ago who came to enjoy the company, but some who left in earlier years. So many stories of travels far and wide, university life and the world of work were swapped and friendships rekindled. It was an enjoyable evening of festivity and merry-making and we are all grateful to the Old Priorian Association for making the event possible. Bring on the next one!

By Xavier Crean (OP 2015)



The Class of 2015

Introducing the 1902 Society

This year we are proud to be celebrating the 90th anniversary of the Old Priorian Association. Over the years there have been highs and lows, but the OPA has always remained an integral part of the St Benedict's community. I am pleased to say that in 2017 the Association is stronger than ever, with a vibrant community of OPs who regularly meet, network and support each other.

As generations of our pupils have passed through the school and have gone on to their adult lives, many have looked back at their time at St Benedict's with great warmth and appreciation. We have been very grateful to be recipients of legacies left by such Old Priorians, who wish to give something back to the school.

Such philanthropy can have a profound effect upon our ability to offer the very best to today's

pupils. Legacies allow the school to offer bursaries to deserving students without the financial means to pay fees, or to enhance the fabric of our buildings and facilities, of which we are so proud.

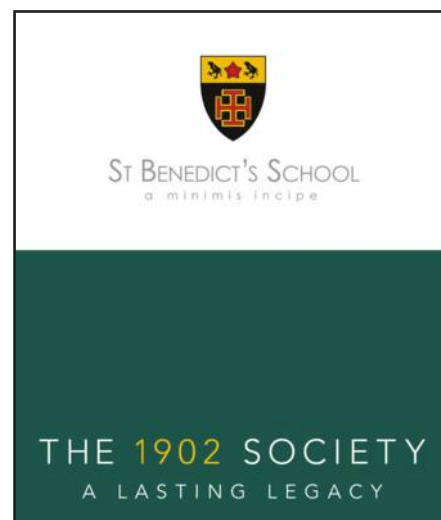
As a way of recognising the generosity of our donors, I am delighted therefore to introduce the 1902 Society, established to recognise all past and future benefactors of St Benedict's.

All Old Priorians who pledge a legacy to the school will become members of the 1902 Society. Later this year we will be mailing a brochure to you which will contain further information on leaving a legacy to St Benedict's. This will be followed by a celebratory lunch for all those who wish to join the Society. A link with further information about the 1902 society will shortly be available on the Old Priorian Association website (www.theopa.org) but If you would

like any further information in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

With my best wishes,

Andrew Johnson, Headmaster



Annual Oxbridge Reunion Dinner

Held at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, and hosted by Senior Master, Dicky Thomas, the evening welcomed back Old Priorians from across the years, including some joining us for the first time.

"A Minimis Incipe": A Business Perspective was the theme of best friends Mark Leonard (OP 1993) and Mark Fitzgerald's (OP 1995) after dinner address. Both Marks reflected on their time at St Benedict's and the influence it had on their formative years. Both speeches were very insightful and well received by those present.

We were also delighted to welcome our new Headmaster, Andrew Johnson and his wife Dawn. Andrew commented that he was delighted to attend the dinner and shared his vision for St Benedict's moving forward and confirmed a new strategic plan was underway which he would share with the Old Priorian community later in the year. Andrew indicated how much he enjoyed meeting so many of our Oxbridge Old Priorians and have the opportunity to experience first-hand the strong bond that exists between the School and our alumni community.

Marcus King (OP 2004) commented: *"I had a fabulous evening in the wonderful environment of the Oxford and Cambridge Club, eating delicious food, catching up with old friends and listening to a fascinating*

talk about how the values held by Old Priorians translate into the world of business".

As always good food and great company were central to the success of the evening and an enjoyable time was had by all. The 2018 Dinner will be held in the Oxford and Cambridge club on Friday 26th January 2018.

By Walid Haddad (OP 2010)



Mark Fitzgerald, Andrew Johnson and Mark Leonard



Walid Haddad (OP 2010), Christina Haddad (OP 2012), Alan Kenny (OP 2007), Kumaran Parinpanathan (OP 2009) and Alex Stafford (OP 2005)

Old Priorian Spotlight - Christopher Maclay

When I was looking at universities and picking my A2s, I went to the art department to ask about art schools. My art teacher at the time said, "I thought you were going to study politics at Oxford or something like that". It sounded sensible, so I applied to study politics at Oxford. That didn't go so well - turns out I was rubbish at interviews. The good news is that it gave me a push to take a gap year which I had been considering while I reapplied to Oxford. The gap year was pretty life changing - I spent a year travelling solo across Latin America and learned a lot about poverty and injustice, as well as growing some terrible long blonde locks and dressing like a hippy. The Oxford reapplication was less successful - a year wiser, I was still rubbish at interviews, but I had a great three years at the University of York instead, including a year in California where I joined a fraternity at the #2 Party School in the US. It turns out there is a league table for party schools in America!

Inspired by my gap year, I focused my studies on international development and conflict, and did some internships in southern Mexico (where I realized there was such high capacity that they didn't need a good-meaning hippy like me, regardless of my beautiful blonde locks), and Liberia (where I realized that I could actually play a useful role). I also finally learned to interview, and coming out of my MA I started a job working for a £65m DFID extreme poverty reduction program in Bangladesh.

Extreme poverty is actually a thing, not just me trying to make my normal poverty reduction program sound more rad - we often hear about those living 'below the poverty line' of \$1.25/day, but the extreme poor in Bangladesh lived on less than \$0.30/day. I was seconded to one of the portfolio partners working in Bandardan, a tribal area on the Myanmar border about 10-15 hours from the capital (depending on traffic). I toiled and troubled, never really satisfied that we were doing enough, but after a couple of years the program started delivering strong results: the initial 2,000 households enrolled saw a 729% increase in income within 2 years, with 75% moving from extreme poverty to middle-class. The program was later scaled to reach 50,000 people, and a study of the overall £65m portfolio conducted last year found it had

sustainably lifted over 1m out of extreme poverty, exceeding its target. Take that, Daily Mail!

I use all these stats, as I'm actually an aid skeptic myself - I've seen some soul-destroying interventions in the name of 'charity'. My rule of thumb is that about a third of aid programs do nothing, a third probably do harm (causing dependence, or a range of unintended negative consequences), and a third achieve great things. Some donors (such as DFID) and some NGOs probably do much better than that. That has never caused me to give up on the sector but to work harder to improve those percentages.

I have worked in a bunch of different contexts since - I managed a small organization in northern Uganda for about a year-and-a-half supporting the psychological, social and economic reintegration of former child soldiers from the 10-year conflict there. I then aimed to move to the West Bank to join my missus who was working for Doctors Without Borders, but was barred from moving there after a pleasant 7 hour interrogation at Ben Gurion Airport (it seems I'm still not very good at interviews). Instead, I ended up a week later in Liberia, managing a youth employment program for the international NGO, Mercy Corps. I had a great three years there. Liberia is a small and challenging country to work in, but you have a big ability to influence beyond 'charity projects',

and I worked closely with senior Ministers as well as the President, Nobel Peace Prize winner Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, on various youth employment issues. Those three years included a difficult year in the middle with the Ebola crisis; I had to put my existing program (and life in general) on hold and work out how to be useful in the crisis which ended up killing over 11,000 people in West Africa. I ended up setting up the main health messaging program in the country, and my missus again worked for Doctors Without Borders as one of the people 'in the white suits'. It wasn't an easy time professionally or personally, but rewarding in its own way, and I learned a lot. I blame this period for losing my beautiful blonde locks, and now replicate the haircuts of lower division footballers to mask the balding. After Liberia, I moved to Nairobi, Kenya (which feels a little bit like Majorca after my previous residences) still managing a youth employment program, but this time across 5 countries in Africa, in partnership with The Coca-Cola Africa Foundation.

The timing of being asked to write this article is an interesting one, as after 8 years in the humanitarian aid and international development sector, I'm transitioning out this month to join a tech start-up based in Kenya. Far from giving up on my idealistic social objectives, I've never been more excited to achieve impact at scale - the start-up, called Lynk, is focused on building technology to link informal workers to jobs. 80% of employment in Sub-

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Chris in Liberia

Saharan Africa takes place in the informal sector, including almost all service workers from plumbers and housekeepers, to carpenters and construction workers. With no formal processes of recruitment, no CVs, and no accountability for bad jobs, work in these sectors is irregular and pay is low. People have no opportunity for a 'career' as work is based on waiting by the side of the road day-by-day in case you're lucky to get picked for a job. By developing a LinkedIn for the LinkedOut, we're aiming to create professional profiles for hundreds of thousands of workers (initially in Kenya, then across Sub-Saharan Africa), whose professional credibility is developed by the jobs they complete through the platform. This means more regular work, and higher pay for those who do good jobs. I'm excited for the new challenge, and looking forward to balding with grace.

By Chris Maclay (OP 2004)

Chris in Uganda



Old Priorian coaches in America

Last year I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to spend some time coaching rugby in America. Just prior to starting as a coach with the Old Priorian RFC, I headed out first to Las Vegas where I spent some time with the ever-growing Las Vegas Blackhawks. A relatively new club, the Blackhawks are a club side made up of aspirational rugby players from local high schools. It was a great experience to help them prepare ahead of a big match (four hours away in Utah!). Coach Leonard Nell, a South African living in Las Vegas, has done an amazing job convincing youngsters of the benefits of rugby and has the squad round to his house most weekends to watch Super Rugby alongside a BBQ. He's invested a lot of time in the boys and it was easy to see how much they love the sport.

I then jumped on a flight over to Connecticut where I joined up with Yale University in New Haven for a few days. A former Leinster Academy coach, Greg McWilliams, is now their Director of Rugby and pushing the programme forward. I was incredibly lucky to coincide with former Australia

coach Robbie Deans who, visiting his rowing-scholar daughter, helps Greg with the rugby for a couple of weeks per year. It was an amazing opportunity to learn from such an experienced coach and, though the weather was considerably colder than Vegas, I had an incredible few days coaching, talking rugby and exploring the historic campus. I

made a short stop at Princeton in New Jersey too before heading back to the UK. Rugby is one of the fastest growing sports in America and it was awesome to see the improvement in infrastructure, organisation, coaching and playing ability that is ongoing.

By Edd Conway (OP 2005)



Edd coaching the Blackhawks (Photo thanks to Killer Imaging)

Families of St Benedict's

In a previous edition, we caught up with the three Molony brothers who are now spread across the globe. This time we go one better, with updates from the four-strong Gleeson clan...

Matt (OP 1995) was tight-head and pack-leader for the 1st XV for his last two years at St Benedict's. In Matt's final year the team were one of the favourites for the Daily Mail Cup, however they unfortunately lost to Campion away in the last 16. Nonetheless, an abiding memory for that generation of players was their last game of the tour to Cork in 1995. As part of an epic tour (with many stories ineligible for documenting), Bennies beat the Christian Brothers (unbeaten on their home patch and with many Ireland U19 players in their ranks) in a titanic match which finished 15-9.

Matt is the eldest sibling of the four Gleeson brothers and - having departed the bosom of the Ealing homing-beacon he has been living in north London with his wife, Lisa, since 2010. He works for Aon UK and is Chief Broking Officer of

the Aviation & Space division. His passion/hobbies are Arsenal, rugby and sport in general.

Adam (OP 1996) works in recruitment and lives in Chalfont St Peter (South Bucks) with his wife Peta and their two children (Charlie and Jack). He played for the school and the odd game for the OPs as a centre, before then realising he was better suited to football and socialising. He left with some amazing memories from the winning tour to Cork, however more importantly left with a group of friends (several years both above and below) who he still sees regularly and would still to this day class as his closest mates.

Joe (OP 2004) was captain of his year group up until sixth form and started his rugby career as a flanker who ended up playing fly-half and centre despite his love of savoury and sweet goods in equal measures. Joe's fondest memories are touring Vancouver unbeaten with the sixth form team whilst in Upper Fifth and touring Italy in 2003. Amongst his favourite memories are the bonds made

during his sixth form playing days, which exist to this day. Many of his current friends were all part of the same squad. He also captained the Old Priorian Saints for nearly 4 years which extended the social group to various year groups of old boys. Joe is now a Graphic Designer for Battersea Power Station Development Group, amongst his hobbies are football, running, art and travelling. He is living in Greenford, a short walk from his old stomping ground of Perivale playing fields. He is also recently engaged to his fiancé Tammy - with plans to be married in 2019.

John (OP 2007) currently works as a Special Needs teacher at a school in Chelsea after working in Property Management for four years until he began teaching in 2014. He played at Hooker for the 2nd XV's 18 game unbeaten run in 2006 and captained the 3rd XV. He is by far the funniest (and self-professed best looking!) brother who still likes to remind people on a daily basis that he was awarded 'Personality of the Year' on his final day at the school.

By The Gleeson Brothers



The Gleesons – Joe, Adam, Matt and John

Contact with other OPs

The OPA Office is happy to act as a "Contact Agency" for email contact - If you wish to contact an OP whose email address you do not have then email us and we will forward your email address to the person concerned (provided we have an email address for them!) saying that you wish to contact them by email; he or she is then free to contact you if they wish.

Please note that we will not forward email messages - we will not act as a third party email source!

Old Priorian Mentoring and Networking Programme

In Lent Term 2017 we were delighted to host our first Old Priorian Mentoring and Networking evening in the new Sixth Form building here at the Senior School. The programme is the brain child of OPs Kumaran Perinpanathan (OP 2009) and Anthony Searle (OP 2009). Kumaran and Anthony were joined by Katerina Soukeras (OP 2008), Will Lunn (OP 1999) Marina Ranger (OP 2009), Michael Simpson (OP 2008) and

Andrew Lavelle (OP 2009) who all generously gave up their time to support the programme. We were also delighted to welcome Robin Nonhebel and Dicky Thomas who both came along to lend their support to the evening.

The evening offered the opportunity for our current Upper Fifth and Sixth Form students, to hear first-hand from our OPs about their own time at St Benedict's, subsequent university choices, and career paths to date.

Marcin Scicinski (Upper 6th) commented "It was particularly useful to have advice from Old Priorians not much older than ourselves on the next steps into universities and the professions". Robin Nonhebel also commented, "The Old Priorian Mentoring and Networking Programme is an excellent addition to the range of services St Benedict's provides for its Sixth Formers. Having intelligent and successful OPs like Kumaran Perinpanathan, Marina Ranger and Andrew Lavelle to provide advice is a significant bonus. It is generous of such busy professionals to give up their time, but it is typical of such old boys and girls that they so often do".

Our next Mentoring and Networking evening will be held on Wednesday 7th June and we hope to welcome back OPs currently attending university or taking a Gap Year. Please do get in touch if you would like to become involved with the programme as we very much hope to extend the programme further by offering peer to peer networking evenings supporting our Old Priorians with their own careers paths.

By Tara George, Development Director



Dicky Thomas (Staff 1982 to date), Kumaran Perinpanathan (OP 2009), Robin Nonhebel (Staff 1971-2010), Anthony Searle (OP 2009) and Andrew Lavelle (OP 2009)

Email Addresses

Do please remember to keep us informed of any email changes and encourage OPs who may not be on our emailing list to let us have their addresses. Please DO NOT send us listings from your own address books - Data Protection prevents us from using them; addition of an email address to our database requires an email from the person concerned!

Your News

If you would like to share where life has taken you since you left St Benedict's with our readers, please get in touch! Simply complete the "Where Are You Now?" form on our website: theopa.org or get in touch with the OPA Office.

HCPT Lourdes Pilgrimage

HCPT is a charity which has a special place in many Old Priorians' hearts. It is an international charity which takes thousands of disabled and disadvantaged children to Lourdes at Easter, for a week-long pilgrimage holiday filled with laughter, fun, and friendship. As the charity is so big, it relies on a structure of smaller, regional groups, and for many years, St Benedict's has always provided a group of 6th formers as volunteers, to assist other 'family' groups in the Met North West region of London. The helpers from St Benedict's join in activities with other groups in the day, helping to push wheelchairs, play instruments, and add an extra energy to the group. It can only be described as a profound life-changing event for most 6th formers who travel; the spiritual side of Lourdes, the bonds they form with their own peers, and the friendships developed with the children travelling, stay with everyone. So much so that many 6th formers still travel with the groups they were allocated to, and some, including myself, have gone on to set up their own groups in order to continue the work of HCPT. Group 10 was formed by myself, (OP 2009) and Sean Taylor-Beirne (OP 2009), in 2014 after we decided to start a 'family' group formed from St Benedict's, in order to tap into the network of willing volunteers from St Benedict's and allow them the chance to continue working with HCPT.

During Easter week 2017, Sean and I led a group of 11 very willing helpers (5 OPs) and 5 vulnerable children with varying disabilities, including Down's syndrome, autism and physical disabilities on the HCPT pilgrimage. I also provided the nursing care to those with complex medical conditions, and

ensured all of their health needs were met. It was an early start on Easter Monday, but we all managed to find some enthusiasm for singing 'Rise and Shine' on the way to Stansted airport. Apart from the group getting stuck in the lift and needing to be rescued by the airport engineers (much to the amusement of the children - not so much the group leaders!), it went without a hitch, and we arrived on Monday afternoon in a very sunny Lourdes. One of our sponsored children with learning difficulties had the chance to work as an air hostess during the flight which was great fun and bought a smile to everyone's face.

The subsequent days in Lourdes included going on 'le petit train', many games of football, and a fancy-dress party. We also had a particularly special day in Gavarnie, a small village in the Pyrenees, and the weather was so glorious, that we had Mass outside on the meadow, next to the river. This was followed by an afternoon of games with the children and helpers in the mountains, enjoying the sun and making the most of our time together as a group. The children and vulnerable adults we took all had a wonderful time. It was particularly moving to see some of children that hadn't been able to access the traditional Mass in their local parishes due to their disabilities, partake by singing, playing instruments, and learning from the other children in the group; two of whom, also with learning disabilities, were altar servers. It was also overwhelming to see so many people from different backgrounds, ages, and disabilities come together during that week. Moreover, for the helpers, having that opportunity to spend time with other helpers who they would never have the chance to meet, and form friendships with

them, is one of the highlights of HCPT. It was a very special week filled with fun, laughter, tiredness, love and friendship, and one we are already looking forward to in 2018.

We have a team of very dedicated helpers in Group 10, without whom the trip wouldn't be possible, but are always keen to expand our helper base, and give others the opportunity to experience this life-changing pilgrimage. In the lead-up to our 2017 pilgrimage, we sent out an email to the OPA and we received a huge response. Not only did many OPs generously donate their money which Group 10 were incredibly grateful for and which enabled us to fully cover the costs for sponsoring the children, but we received emails from OPs with connections to HCPT as well, and it was wonderful to hear about their experiences. It was also great to make connections to other HCPT charity groups who have links to St Benedict's, and we anticipate that these links will strengthen over the next few years. Thanks to all OPs who donated and got in touch with us; we would love to stay in touch.

If you are interested in travelling as a helper with HCPT Group 10, or a group you may have travelled with in the past, then it would be great to hear from you, as we would love for you to re-connect with the charity, and are always looking for extra support. Moreover, if you have any children or vulnerable adults in mind who may benefit from travelling with Group 10 for the 2018 pilgrimage then we would love to hear from you also. For further information please contact me on group10@hcpt.org.uk or via the OPA.

By Jess Taylor (OP 2009)

WAYN - Where are you now?

It would help us to maintain our database records accurately and it would also help both the Development Office and Careers Department of the School, if you would take a few minutes to visit the Website and complete the WAYN Form which can be accessed from the link on the Portal Page. This applies especially to those of you who have left School in the last few years and are now on the first rungs of the ladder in that great big working-world or still in further education; having said that, don't let us put the rather "Older OPs" off supplying their information - the occupation "Retired" can be just as useful, providing of course we know what field it is that you have worked in!

All information supplied is treated with the confidentiality you would expect. Many thanks in anticipation of your help; the following link will take you straight there: <http://theopa.org/contact-us/wayn>

Forthcoming Events for your Diaries

Full details will be published in our email news and on our website:

OPA Golf Day 2017
Friday 16th June 2017:
Tee-Off 1.00pm
Ealing Golf Club

Tickets are priced at £60 for non-members (£20 for current E.G.C. members) including a round of golf and barbeque. Prizes will be awarded on the day for the best individual, best team, nearest to the pin and longest drive.

This event is open not only to Old Priorians, but also to staff, current parents and friends of the school. Any proceeds from this event will be donated to the School Annual Giving Programme.

For further information, please contact Mr Will Bedford in the Development Office 020 8862 2223.

25 Year Reunion
Friday 23rd June 2017:
Evening Event
St Benedict's School: 6.30pm

The School is arranging this reunion for Old Priorians who left St Benedict's between 1990 and 1995.

The evening will include a drinks reception and school tour, giving OPs the opportunity to catch up with some familiar faces and see how the school has developed over recent years.

We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

OPA Annual Sports Day 2017
Sunday 2nd July 2017:
Perivale Sports Ground
1.00pm to 6.00pm

Sports on the day will include 20/20 cricket and netball, with a variety of fixtures between Old Priorians, current pupils and members of staff.

The day is open to all whether partaking in the sports or spectating with family and friends. A bar and barbeque will be available on the day so please come and join us for an enjoyable day of sport in the sun!

For further information on any of the above events please contact Tara George, Development Director, by email: tgeorge@stbenedicts.org.uk

50s/60s Reunion Lunch and School Tour
Sunday 15th October 2017:
Orchard Hall: 11.45am to 4.00pm

OPA AGM, Memorial Mass and Lunch 2017
Saturday 11th November 2017:
Ealing Abbey and Benet Club:
10.30am to 2.30pm

Old Priorian Oxbridge Dinner 2018
Friday 26th January 2018:
Oxford and Cambridge Club, London
7:00pm for 7:30pm

Old Priorians go back to School

We are always delighted to welcome back our Old Priorians for a school visit. This year, so far, we have had visits from Edd Conway (OP 2005), Francis Cuss (OP 1972), André de Moller (OP 1959), Michael George (OP 2003), Michael Henderson (OP 1956), William Lunn (OP 2000) and Rob Malengreau (OP 2007).

We are particularly grateful to André de Moller who taught an Art masterclass to our Upper Sixth Art students and also very generously donated some of his paintings to the school. The paintings are now proudly displayed in the new Heritage Room in the Senior School.

If you are interested in coming back to school please do get in contact with us and we would be delighted to facilitate a tour.

By Tara George, Development Director



Richard Baker (OP 1959), André de Moller and Brian Taylor (OP 1960)



Andrew Johnson and Mike Henderson



Andrew Johnson, Richard Baker (Francis's Chemistry Teacher), Francis Cuss and Dominic Cuss (OP 1980)

Organising a Reunion

Reunions are now more popular than ever and remain a great way to get together with old friends and rekindle school memories.

If you are curious about what your fellow alumni are doing, then we are here to help in many ways - do please contact us.

Much useful information about reunions, including guidelines for claiming a possible subsidy, is available at: <http://theopa.org/events/reunions>

News of Old Priorians December 2016 to May 2017

Corrado Boscarelli (OP 1977): Died 8th March 2016, Aged 55. R.I.P. Corrado was the uncle of current pupil, Alex Dupuy (U5).

Brian Clancy (OP 1959): Emails: I read with interest the Michaelmas Term 'NEWS'; one item in it particularly caught my eye: the mention of the School's involvement with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award (DoE) scheme.

This was started in 1956/57 and the School took it up in 1958. I cannot recall which member of staff was the 'instigator' of the idea - It may have been JBO (Fr Bernard Orchard, Headmaster) himself, but I do recall that Chris Fitzgibbon (OP 1959) (then the Head-boy) took it under his wing and nursed it through its early gestation at the School. Chris was a very good sportsman - particularly as a cricketer (with bat and ball!), but that spring/summer he broke his arm and so his sporting activities were curtailed, so that left him available to take on the DoE scheme.

Chris was an U/O in the CCF, the recipient of one of the first Trevelyan Scholarships and he also was awarded the Priorian Medal. He went on to Worcester College Oxford. A lasting memory that I have of him was his winning the Long Jump at Sports Day with his arm in plaster. Chris died tragically in a sailing accident on Lake Bolsena in Italy with 2 others in the autumn of 1966; he was only 26yrs old; their bodies were never found - nor was their boat, or any part of it. An unresolved mystery!

Josephine Daly (OP 1984): Emails in her Dinner Booking that her brother, Matthew and his wife Ginny have had another little boy - Edward, born on 17 November 2016 a brother for Leo (2).

Bob Davies (OP 1959): Died 7th April 2017, Aged 76. R.I.P.

André de Moller (Kasprzyk) (OP 1959): In December 2016 André made his first return visit to the School since leaving in 1959, visiting especially the Art and Music Departments. He commented afterwards: "Thank you so much for making my nostalgic visit to our school such fun; Needless

to say, an eye-opener! I remain stunned by the changes that I saw - difficult to reconcile what I saw with the days of what I remember. What I remember I remember vaguely as I sink into decrepitude, but, my goodness what a contrast with the 1950s!!"

Christopher Denny (OP 1967): Retired in 2010 as a Lt Cdr from the Royal Navy where he was a Seaman Officer (Aircraft); he now lives in East Dunbartonshire, Scotland; he reports that taking part in full time grandchild care occupies his full attention.

Jeremy Grant (OP 1958): Now living in Berkshire; Seeking contact with **David Everett** (OP 1958).

Peter Grubb (OP 1960): Died in London 23rd December 2006, Aged 64. Peter was credited as Britain's leading mammalian taxonomist, and one of the pre-eminent mammalogists worldwide.

Imran Gulamhuseinwala (OP 1989): Received an OBE in the 2017 New Year's Honours for services to the Financial Services; Imran works as the Global Lead for Fintech at Ernst and Young.

Philip Haworth (OP 1957): Phoned after many years "absence", seeking news of **Geoffrey Healing** (OP 1955); we were unable to help - does anyone have any information?

Robin Hooper (OP 1972): Now living in East Sussex, emails: Dear Mr Baker, back in the late 60s/early 70s, based on Rudyard Kipling's poem 'If', you composed a wonderful bit of prose starting with the line 'If you can make the foulest stinks invented...' and had a line 'If you can watch 'Black Monday' without falter...' I cannot find my copy so I wonder if you might still have a copy of this magnificent work, please?

RB (School Staff 62-00) replies: "I do remember this, but sadly I too have lost trace of my original work. In presenting it to a Chemistry class fifty years ago I may have actually culled it from "somewhere", but goodness only knows where. A search on the internet for "Parodies of Kipling's "IF" does not throw any light on

a possible source from which I "extracted" my offering. The mention of "Black Monday" (a b/w film from ICI about ether fires in labs, which they had taken off their film catalogue - probably too "scary"! ICI gave me a free copy so that I could continue to use it to try and "instil safety" into my 6th form chemists before I let them lose on organic preps!) now adds weight to the possibility that I did actually write a few lines myself. Can anyone help us in this quest?

Richard Little (OP 1973): Emails his thanks for details of the 2017 Oxbridge Dinner; unfortunately a family skiing holiday prevented his being there, but he hopes to attend next year.

John Luckie-Downe (OP 1982): Emails that he wished he could have attended the recent Operation Benedict Lecture, but unfortunately living in Bahrain precluded this. He is trying to trace a boy from Bahrain who attended St Benedict's School in 1977. "He was I believe in my year so would have been 13 years old at the time. Are there any records available from which he might be traced?" Unfortunately, the OPA Database was unable to provide any useful help - can any OP from those years help?

David Maxwell (OP 1965): Living in the West Midlands and now retired from his work as a higher education advisor involved with student recruitment 2004-2014.

Emin Moskofian (OP 2013): Has graduated with a BA in History from UCL, London and also has a Graduate Diploma in Law; he is working as a Future Trainee Solicitor in Corporate/Finance Law.

Kevin McCormack (OP 1965): Emails with his updated email address - he had forgotten to inform us when he changed it some time ago and had "fallen off" our Distribution List! He keeps in contact with contemporaries, lunching recently with Gilbert Munnich (OP 1964), Robin McNair (OP 1963) and Adrian Rapazzini (OP 1964) and is in email contact with Chris Hopper (OP 1964).

Adrian Nockles (OP 1970): Now Retired and living in North Yorkshire.

continued on page 12

Jonathan Patel (OP 2002): Emails seeking contact with Martin Szamfeber (OP 2007) in response to Martin's news article in the Spring 2016 Newsletter concerning a Property Professionals Group.

Anthony Phillips (OP 1958): Emails to remind us that Sebastian Gorka (OP 1988) is now a senior member on the Staff of Donald Trump, President of the USA.

Peter Sands (OP 1937): Died 8th December 2016, Aged 96. R.I.P. Peter had been for many years our oldest OPA Member.

Greg Stafford (OP 2001): Greg and his wife Caroline announce the birth of their daughter, Susannah on 4th May 2016; they are now living in Chiswick.

Ian Stephen (Staff 70-08): Has moved from Somerset to Kent; he passed on news of Su Wijeratna's (née Cook, School Staff 96-03) appointment as Lower Master at Eton College from September 2017; he comments: Any 'glass ceiling' that might have existed seems to have been shattered!

Edward Stimpfig (OP 2013): Edward emails - I am currently working for Pareto Law, a careers organisation focusing on graduate opportunities. We place graduates across all verticals of industry with companies like, Virgin Media, IBM, Barclays, Glaxo Smith Kline, Amazon, American Express etc.

The reason I thought I would get in contact with the OPA is because I recently met **David Matkov** (OP 2010), another Old Priorian two years above me at school, asking for help in finding him a career. After helping him through our process and guiding him through the recruiting process with a few of our clients we have done exactly that. It dawned on me that I could do the same with other Old Priorians as I could be a potential avenue in helping them find a career. My contact details are: estimpfig@pareto.co.uk

Bernard Stutt (OP 1955): Emails: Many thanks for the interesting Email News for March 2017. I think that the new system is much better (*Editor: Less frequent Email News, but many more "dedicated" Event Emails, both OPA and School*). As you probably know I have attended a few of the OPA and School events made possible by timely notification of them. I see Philip Haworth is seeking to track down Geoffrey Healing. I remember them both, particularly Geoffrey Healing as I was in the same form as him for all my time at school. If you have any record of where he lived in his school days, it's just possible that one of my OP contacts may have some news.

Jem Walker-Browning (OP 2014): Still living in London and re-establishing contact with the OPA, having left St Benedict's from the Upper Fifth.

Tamlyn Worrall (OP 2016, former Development Director): Emails from Tokyo - our first Japanese Christmas has been surprisingly festive. Aside from a penchant for Kentucky Fried Chicken on Christmas Day, and no official holiday, the shops are full of Christmas decorations and the lights in the city are spectacular. We started the boys' school holiday with a three-day trip to Hiroshima, which was most interesting although harrowing at the Museum. We have been to beautiful Miyajima Island to see the floating Torii gate at Itsukushima Shrine. **Sam** (OP 2016) heads to Australia to work and spend time with my parents, before returning to Japan for an internship in the city with an Asset Management firm and also 12 weeks with the British Chamber of Commerce in Japan; he is due to start at Manchester University in September 2017. The first few months in Japan have been extremely busy - I am now Chair of the school's PTA (like the SPF) and helping them launch their alumni programme too in the summer. I have also been approached about being on the Board of Trustees of several charities in Japan but will take my time to consider what is best for us all. I have made lovely friends and spend busy days trying to get to grips with the Japanese language - a huge challenge - and hiking in phenomenal scenery outside of Tokyo. The weather here is just marvellous - mild, beautiful blue skies, and dry.

And yet again ...

The biannual lunches organised by Ian Blackaller (OP 1957) continue to flourish and so once again a good number, twenty-three, of the late fifties, early sixties vintage Old Priorians met up at Shampers in London on 27th April 2017 to "take lunch at leisure"! This occasion had a tinge of sadness as one of our regular "members", Bob Davies (OP 1959) who had booked to come, died on 7th April - Patrick Tobin (OP 1960) paid a moving tribute to Bob before we settled to eat. On this occasion, it was a pleasure to be joined for the second time by a more recent leaver, Geoffrey Bennett (OP 1970); we hope he enjoyed the occasion and was not too put off by "older OPs" after all he will be entitled to his OAP in June! Perhaps it is time to expand into the next generation of OPs!

Attendees (OP Years from 1955 to 1970): James Anscomb; Anthony Baker; Desmond Baker; Richard Baker; Geoffrey Bennett; Ian Blackaller; Tony Brunning; Brian Burns; Brendan Caulfield; Denis Costello; Andre de Moller (Kaspryczk); Patrick Gardiner;



Geoffrey Bennett (OP 1970) and Patrick Tobin (OP 1960)

Kevin Hannigan; John Maloney; John McGrath; Basil Nickerson; Stephen Novy; Anthony Phillips; David Randell; Bernard Stutt; Brian Taylor; Patrick Tobin; Gordon Wilson

By Richard Baker (OP 1959)



Brian Burns (OP 1960) and Kevin Hannigan (OP 1957)

AROPS Conference May 2017

This year's AROPS (Association of Representative of Old Pupils' Societies) conference convened with over eighty representatives from alumni societies from across the whole of Britain, gathering to learn and discuss, guide and to be inspired. Set in the rolling landscape atop a commanding view of Bath, Prior Park College was originally built for Ralph Allen whose quarried stone engendered the fashion of building Bath in the now universally recognised architecture that defines the area.

After a brief introduction from the Headmaster, James Murphy-O'Connor, brother of our current Chair of Governors and an OP in his own right (2003), the conference learnt how the school had been purchased by the Catholic Church in 1830 and was then to be managed by the Christian Brothers until they left in 1980, when the Board of Governors contrived a 'management purchase'. This led to a brand-new chapter for the school, bringing with it co-education, academic excellence and a whole host of other, subtler, changes which are reflected in the thriving community spirit so evident throughout the school to this day.

The first session by Mark Coote, of Wells Cathedral School, emphasised the synergy to be gained from cooperation between Alumni

Societies and Development Offices. He illustrated his talk with slides showing the exponential growth in fundraising activity generally, finishing his professional exposition with a suggestion that his role was not so much 'fundraising' as 'friend-raising' - which made some people smile. After coffee there followed two pre-selected Discussion groups which could be chosen from a list that included Data Protection, Living Archives, Work Experience (Networking and Mentoring), Social Media (for Associations) and an Events 'ideas-generating workshop'.

As I was representing the OPA I found out beforehand what would be most useful for the Association, so duly found myself learning about Living Archives, past present and future (and how valuable acid free paper is for a manual record to be retained along with its digital form). Much discussion ensued about 'the nebulous iCloud' that rains down digital information from above for immediate access, with some discussion about future accessibility of such stored knowledge. Without compatible access to such storage it might well and truly be a 'Cloud of Unknowing', so to speak. However, 'Life is short and the Art long' and all too soon after a splendid lunch we were being appraised upon the upcoming General Data Protection Regulations due to become

statute in 2018. Two experts held forth, both David Varney (expert on Data Protection law from 'Borges Salmon') and Louise Bennet, (an IDPE professional fundraiser) enlightened us on the niceties of the new law and on how this would practically affect fundraising; this General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will be a significant ratcheting up of regulation regarding Data Protection with the potential for inflicting punitive fines on those who might err from the straight and narrow of its stipulations.

Gathering for a third plenary session brought a round of questions from the floor fielded by Jane Hendry from the AROPS Committee, most of which concerned one aspect or another of the day's activities. Close of conference permitted a brief tour of the school and the School Chapel before thirty five stalwarts and associates reconvened for a final and entertaining social evening meal of fine food interspersed with tales of the school and some more 'conversazione'. Just after midnight I found myself exhausted but back in Ealing and just about managing to brush my teeth ready for an early rise in the morning. Sleep heralded the end of a long and useful day 'friend raising' for the OPA.

By Lewis Hill (OP 1975), OPA AROPS Representative

Old Priorian Cricket Club Update

Matt Codrington (OP 2012) is again assembling a swarthy band of OP cricketers for another season of cricket in Britain's notoriously sunny Summer. If you'd like more information, or to be involved in any way, please contact Matt by email at matthew.codrington26@gmail.com

Date	Opposition	Venue	Time	Match type
Sunday 30th April	Ealing CC	Home	1:30pm	35 overs
Sunday 7th May	Emeriti vs Bennies	Home	11am	Declaration
Sunday 14th May	Finchley	Home	1:30pm	40 overs
Sunday 21st May	Prince Consort XI	Home	1:30pm	40 overs
Sunday 28th May	Brentham	Away	1:30pm	40 overs
Sunday 4th June	Shepherds Bush	Away	1:30pm	40 overs
Sunday 11th June	Teddington	Away	1:30pm	40 overs
Wed 14th June	Staff BBQ (TBC)	Home	6pm	20/20
Sunday 25th June	OPCC club day	Home	1pm	N/A
Saturday 1st July	St Benedict's School	Home	11am	Declaration
Sunday 2nd July	OPA 20/20	Home	10am	20/20
Sunday 9th July	Emeriti	Home	1:30pm	30/40 overs
Sunday 23rd July	Emeriti Phillips Cup	Away	10am	10 overs
Sunday 30th July	Salix	Home	1:30pm	40 overs
Sunday 6th August	Old Actonians	Home	1:30pm	40 overs
Sunday 13th August	Roehampton	Away	2pm	40 overs
Sunday 20th August	Old Amplefordians	Home	11am	45 overs

Old Priorian Rugby Club Update

The OPRFC remains a credit to the Association and the school, having recorded another year in London 1, rugby's sixth tier. As the only side in the league that doesn't pay players, it is always going to be a tough task but the OPs finished 10th out of 14 this season, only six points away from finishing 7th and some twenty points clear of the teams troubled by relegation. The club entered new pastures at the beginning of the 2016/17 season with a completely new coaching team set up following the departure of Anthony Andrews. Greg Knights, who had previously coached the club in his earlier years was the new D.O.R. and he quickly established a first class coaching team in Adam Preocanin (Forwards Coach), Edd Conway (Skills Coach), Neil McFarlane (Backs Coach) who would all be assisted by Myles Stringer (S&C) and Dai Langdon (Physio). The start of the season proved, however, to be quite tough and it took the boys a few games to get into the season and get up to speed with the challenges of London 1 rugby. However, to their credit they came through and put in some fantastic performances even when injuries mounted up to experienced players for prolonged periods of time. This injury list meant new players had to step up and play to a higher level of

rugby than they would have experienced, and to their credit they performed strongly.

Our third successive season in London 1 North was, therefore, a tough but rewarding one. After a tough start to the season, the OPs started 2017 on fire, recording four wins from five games. A struggling but markedly improved Sudbury were first up, with the OPs returning from Suffolk with a 34-17 win. The following week, high-flying Brentwood visited Perivale and spent much of the game shell-shocked by the intensity of the Priorian defence. The visiting side were fortunate to win 26-16, with their coaches admitting afterwards that the result was tough on the OPs. Wins over Chelmsford (14-12), Eton Manor (43-14) and Barking (36-12) followed to improve the league position as we got deeper into February.

A tough run of fixtures thereafter saw the OPs lose four in a row against sides with vastly superior resources who were sitting atop the league. The OPs were unfortunate to lose to Letchworth Garden City (29-27) and took great credit from earning a four try bonus point away at Champions Tring. The ground began to firm up as Spring approached, something that always benefits our club, and

two excellent victories followed. An incredible display of running rugby at Perivale led to a 62-12 win over Saffron Walden with Alex Ozegovic (OP 2013) earning yet another Man of the Match accolade. Jack Dever, Michael Simpson, Aristide Goualin (all OPs 2008) and Ben Chippendale (OP 2016) carved through the opposition defence for some outstanding tries. The following week, the OPs travelled to local rivals Ruislip who have proved to be somewhat of a bogey side in recent seasons. Under intense sunshine, the boys again played some excellent rugby with the quick-thinking Aristide Goualin (OP 2008) tapping a penalty to run under the posts for a crucial score in a 31-17 bonus-point win. With Head Coach Greg Knights retiring this Summer, it proved to be a much-appreciated win against his former club.

On the 22nd April, the club managed to get two sides together to make the mammoth trip over to North Walsham for the 1st's final league game and a 2nd team friendly. Our OP Saints (2nd team) were superb value in their win whilst the Twisters (1st team) succumbed to a narrow 19-15 defeat in the final game of the season. The journey back was enjoyed by all, featuring Old Priorians of various vintages and the many non-OPs who continue to add so much to the club. The club would like to thank the school for their continued support and excellent facilities - we hope to provide a home for all Old Priorians for many years to come. The club also wishes Greg Knights good luck in his coaching retirement as he focuses on his work. Greg has been involved with St Benedict's for many years, first coaching at the school and then as our first coach when we re-formed the club in 2008. The 2s continue to play expansive and social rugby, providing a place for those seasoned in the game as well as those who want to get to know what the sport is all about.

Off the field, the Club continues to strengthen its ties with the School and this season was a first with not only the Head and the Exec team coming to both lunch



The OPRFC Table at the Annual School Rugby Dinner

and a game at the start of the season but we finished off the season with a number of OPA Council members attending our last home game for the first time. Both sets of excellent guests. The club continues to build within the community and we see more and more faces join who didn't attend the school as we increase our footprint not only in the rugby leagues but also the wider

community, this is a real benefit to the club and only adds to the environment that we have built. The OPRFC was delighted to be invited to the school End of Season Rugby Dinner, an excellent event hosted by 1st XV coaches James Coles (Head of Rugby) and Myles Stringer (OP 2006). Following a speech by Edd Conway (OP 2005), the club presented the OPRFC Clubman of the Year Award which

was won by Freddie Greenwood. We hope to see him in the club colours one day! We look forward to continuing to provide a place for Bennies boys and girls to continue their association with sport and welcome all players, volunteers and supporters!

By Alex Pereira-Inacio (OP 2000) and Edd Conway (OP 2005)

Annual Old Priorian Association Dinner

This year's annual Old Priorian Association Dinner, held on Thursday 20th April, was marked by also being in the 90th year of the Old Priorian Association. Once again it was held in the magnificent interior of the Lansdowne Club, just off Berkley Square in central London.

Filled almost to capacity, the dining facility comfortably accommodated nearly ninety Old Priorians, all resplendent in black tie attire. After the customary champagne welcome, all guests convened for a splendid meal, in keeping with the club's wonderful culinary standards.

This year's guest of honour was fencing Paralympian, Dimitri Coutya (OP 2016); he charmed his audience with a 'matter-of-fact' modesty about his Paralympian journey to Rio, his self-effacing

candour and courage and not least with his sense of humour. Not only that but he also managed to save the day by raising a toast to St Benedict, our own School's Patron Saint.

In addition to the traditional main guests of the evening, (the Headmasters of both Senior and Junior Schools and their wives, Head Boy and Head Girl, but with the absence of the Abbot, currently on sabbatical in Kansas until Pentecost), this year Council decided to extend an invitation to other school pupil representatives - the Deputy Head Boys and Girls and the Captains of Sport.

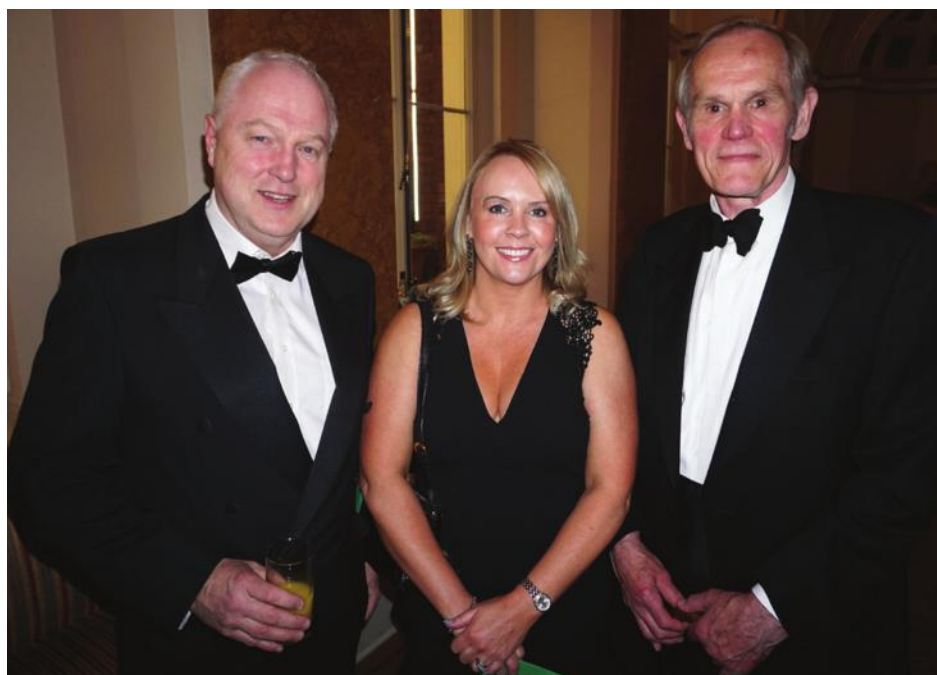
As are all these gatherings, held under the auspices of the Old Priorian Association, the intention is to provide a venue to gather together Old Priorians of all ages to wine, dine and reminisce. This

of course is also a wonderful opportunity to meet old friends. And indeed, we did this, socialising until 11pm when the bar closed and 'carriages called' (as is the saying) and we went our various ways.

So let me ask you... if it is possible for you to attend one such event in the coming year and the event itself fits in with your own social diary, (Golf Day, OPA Sports day, OPRFC match days or the AGM in November), then why not consider joining us in partaking of what must surely count as one of the highlights of the Old Priorian Calendar - The Annual Dinner?

God willing, maybe we will see you again next year at the Dinner in 2018.

By Lewis Hill (OP 1975), President OPA



Chris Graff (OP 1974), Tara George (Development Director) and Paul Andersson (OP 1963)

Front Cover Photo: Dimitri Coutya and Andrew Johnson



Oliver Lythgoe, Alexandra Vangelatos and Sam Lewis (all OP 2015)



Joe Kearns (OP 1950), Clare (OP 1983) and Basil (OP 1994) Nickerson, Tara George (OP Council) and William Bedford (Staff)



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Social Media

The Old Priorian Association has a presence on social media. Please like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter and Instagram to stay up to date with events and news. We'd love to build on our ever-growing network and get you connected to fellow Old Priorians.

Twitter @oldpriorians



Instagram @oldpriorians



The Old Priorian Association - Founded 1927

The Old Priorian Association

The Old Priorian Association was formed on Friday, 1 July 1927 with the name reflecting its beginnings within Ealing Priory School, which was the name of St Benedict's School at the time.

The Association was established to form a centre of union for former pupils of the School and to hold meetings to renew old bonds which connect its Members and alumni with the School and Ealing Abbey. A vital role of the Association is to forward and promote - in every practical way - the interests of the School, whilst conducting its business according to The Rules of The Association, which form the structure within which it operates.

The Association is governed and run by a Council consisting of three elected Officers, no fewer than four elected Members and a number of Ex-Officio Members.

Elected Officers

Lewis Hill (OP 1975)

President

Marina Ranger (OP 2009)

Honorary Secretary

Kumaran Perinpanathan (OP 2009)

Honorary Treasurer

Council Members

Frank Casali (OP 1984)

Edward Conway (OP 2005)

Sinead Leahy (OP 2008)

Christopher Stevenson (OP 1964)

Brian Taylor CB (OP 1960)

Jessica Taylor-Beirne (OP 2009)

Luca Uberai (OP 2010)

Andrew Wilkie (OP 2008)

Ex-Officio Council Members

Andrew Johnson

Headmaster

Rob Simmons (OP 1987)

Headmaster, Junior School

Catherine Bedwin

Bursar, St Benedict's School

Patrick Murphy-O'Connor (OP 1976)

Chairman, St Benedict's Governing Board

Jean O'Brien

Society of Parents and Friends

Richard Baker (OP 1959)

Administrator, OPA

Tara George

Development Director,
St Benedict's School

Full details about the Association and its activities can be found at:
www.theopa.org

The Association has office facilities within the School and may be contacted by:

Email: opa@stbenedicts.org.uk

Telephone: 020 8862 2249

**Post: The Old Priorian Association,
54 Eaton Rise, Ealing, London
W5 2ES**



Your Newsletter

Please do let us have your news and views for inclusion in the next Newsletter. Full details of the Association can be found at: <http://www.theopa.org>. Current School news can be found at: <http://www.stbenedicts.org.uk/Latest-News>.

Please also remember that submitted image files must be of high resolution and as large a file size as possible.