



THE NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOL READING

THE • OLD • REDINGENSIA •

February • 2006

A Letter from Michael Maule

President 2005 Chairman of the OR Council 2005/6

Change, Communications, Culture, Challenge, Campaigns and Activities were the cornerstones of my first President's letter and there has been no reason to change the focus but I certainly did not fully appreciate the involvement required from all of our Executive Council team to make 'things' happen - for which I give my thanks and appreciation.

When I accepted the role of President in late November 2004 I had to face the fact that I had no Vice President identified for my year in office and succession planning over several of the key executive roles was not in place, simply due to the fact that the OR Association had either not been able to identify anyone or had no bank of willing volunteers. I am delighted that Gareth (Buffy) Price was nominated at the AGM on 26th November and has accepted the position of President for 2006. Buffy will be known to many ORs for his contribution to our Association over several decades and is more than capable of developing all of our current OR initiatives.



Neale Jouques

I am also very pleased to confirm that as part of our succession planning this year's Vice President is Lt. Col. Neale Jouques OBE. He is aged in his very early 40's, rather than like me born in the early 40's and will, at a stroke, provide a significantly stronger link to the younger ORs. Neale is on active service in Afghanistan at the time of writing. He is, in my view, an individual with the skills and vision to expand our appeal to the younger ORs and thus secure our future.

Sadly three members of the Council executive retired from office at the last AGM, namely Social Secretary Brian Titchener and Hon. Sec. Phil Smith and Rudolph Bissoletti. Brian requires no introduction to any member of the OR Association due to his long involvement with all of us and his personal contribution has and always will be highly valued. Within the last month Council Member Adrian Leach has volunteered for the role of Social Secretary and continuity is therefore guaranteed and I am sure the OR Association will wish him well in this new role.

Phil Smith always made it clear that he could only offer Hon. Sec. support for twelve months for which we are all grateful and I am pleased to confirm that our new Hon. Sec. is David Cox who has already begun to make a very active contribution. More details on David appear in this issue of the Old Redingensian but once again we are in a safe pair of hands.

For a long time Rudolph had been Hon. Secretary of the Old Redingensians Golf Association. He retired recently in favour of Will and Rodney Lunn who have taken on the role jointly. Rudolph was latterly a full member of Council and we will miss

his authoritative assistance in accounting and company law matters. In all of this he has been a stalwart of the OR Association and his loss in Council will certainly be noticed.

A specific challenge at this time and requiring an immediate review is the subject of The Old Redingensian publication and particularly the impending retirement of John Oakes, our erudite and very committed Editor. After a decade of hard work as Editor in Chief John officially retired. We all thought that we had identified his replacement but that regretfully was not to be. So overnight, like the proverbial phoenix, John returned to the role, very ably supported by Chris Widdows, so that the jewel in our OR crown could be protected for a further twelve months. John has now indicated that he wishes to step down as soon as we identify his replacement and I am sure that John would not want to have as many curtain calls as Frank Sinatra so we have to work fast to identify his successor. Chris Widdows with all of his other OR responsibilities simply does not have the time to commit to more than a support role. I fully appreciate that at times like this a potential candidate would like to know more before throwing his hat into the ring, so please contact either myself, John Oakes, Gareth Price or Chris Widdows for more details.

In general the editorial copy and style has been evolving, so as to reflect the readership profile, which inevitably includes an extremely wide age range from 18-95 years. In my belief, based on my own personal straw poll, each issue reflects not only our culture and heritage but at the same time accurately reflects today's activities within Reading School and the OR Association and very interesting profiles on our membership.

With the recent senior appointments at the School I can confirm that very worthwhile links have already been established with the interim Head Teacher, Mrs. Patricia Daniels, and Deputy Head, Mr. Ashley Robson. They have both attended our OR Council meetings and the Annual Dinner and are very eager to develop active links with the OR Association.

I am delighted to confirm that OR support to the School has continued to grow this year with greater contribution to the annual Enterprise Awards Scheme both financially and in terms of pupil numbers. We have also been involved in sponsorship for equipment and sports clothing for School Rugby and cricket teams and various fund raising activities. We have already pledged financial support for a Rugby tour in 2006 to South America and a cricket tour to St. Kitts. We have staged the annual 'Question Time' at School when the sixth form students put difficult questions to a panel of distinguished ORs. All of this support is very worthwhile. It also increases the OR visibility throughout the School with both the teaching staff and the pupils alike and should result in additional OR membership once the pupils have left School.

Since my last President's letter I have attended the extremely popular West Sussex Reunion at the Boat House, Amberley, near to Arundel, the annual Cricket Week and the Spring Golf Meeting, all of which provided an opportunity for OR's to participate and socialise.



Question Time 14th December 2005
Back Row: Robin Edgar, Cedric /Scroggs, Gareth Price
Front Row: John Illman (Chairman), Mike Evans, John Oakes

In September we featured the second of our annual Rugby Festivals based on a 7's tournament which was very ably controlled by Bob Lewis. I am delighted to confirm that both player and spectator attendance increased to over 100 ORs and the combination of dry but cold weather, a quality beer tent and the opportunity to picnic in front of the School resulted in a memorable day for everyone.

In closing could I please emphasise the plea for volunteers? I realise that personal time is at a premium but if you value the OR Association even a few hours a month spreads the work load of the very hard working few and enables the Association to reflect your expectations and we therefore can guarantee the future and strengthen still the bulwarks of the nation.

Floreat Redingensis
Michael Maule

Notes and News

Remembrance Sunday

13th November 2005

The President, Michael Maule, and Council members joined a congregation of 60 or more at the Annual Remembrance Sunday service in the School Chapel. The service was led by the Ven. Peter Coombs, the Honorary Chaplain to the ORs, and the sermon was delivered by the Rev. David Hemsley OR. The Head Teacher, Patricia Daniels, was present as was Mary Chaplin JP, representing the School Governors. Wing Commander Tom Walter, the CCF Contingent Commander and Wing Commander Clive Cousins also attended and one of the wreaths was laid by a CCF cadet.



Remembrance Sunday 13th November 2005
The Ven Peter Coombs (Honorary Chaplain), Mrs Patricia Daniels
(Head Teacher), Mr Michael Maule (President), The Rev David Hemsley



The Annual Dinner 26th November 2005
Jim Webb with Mrs Patricia Daniels (Head Teacher)
Michael Maule & Brian Titchener (Background)

The Annual Dinner

26th November 2005

Gareth Price presided and John Redwood MP was the principal speaker at the annual dinner which was held in Thames Valley University Catering Department.

The Head Teacher, Patricia Daniels, who was accompanied by her husband, also spoke. The Captain of School, Will McCallum, gave a gracious speech to thank Gareth Price, the OR President 2006, for the gift to the School of £250. The predominance of ORs under 50 this year gave the event a great deal of zest and Rhodri Price delivered a speech, during which he revealed a number of hitherto secret escapades of his time as a boarder in South House. Fortunately he was sitting at his old House Master's table. Perhaps he was, therefore, more discrete than he might well have been!

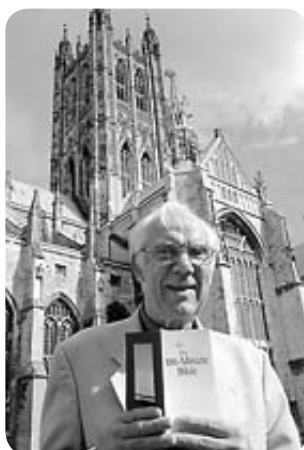
This was Brian Titchener's last Annual Dinner as Social Secretary. He receives the grateful thanks of the President and the Council for his remarkable service to the Association.

Church News

Two eminent OR churchmen have been engaged in work on the bible from differing, but none the less important, perspectives; one being of a missionary, some might say evangelical, nature and the other liturgical.

The Rev. Dr. Michael Hinton, who was a master at the School between 1949 and 1953, launched his '100-Minute Bible' at Canterbury Cathedral on 21st September 2005. To quote Ruth Gledhill, the Religion Correspondent for Times On Line, it is 'a modern version of the Bible designed for the era when speed of consumption counts for everything and few have time to spend an hour in church on Sundays, never mind read the bible from cover to cover.'

Written for people who want to know more about Christianity, the 39 chapters of the Old Testament and the 27 of the New Testament are reduced to just a few pages. The average reader should be able to get through it in an hour and 40 minutes. More than 11,000 copies have been printed by publisher Leonard Budd of the 100 Minute Press. Copies are available online at: www.the100-minutepress.com.



The Rev Dr Michael Hinton displays his 100-Minute Bible at Canterbury Cathedral



The Rev Dr Anthony Gelston

The Rev. Dr. Anthony Gelston, who was at School between 1943 and 1953, has spent four and a half years of 'prime retirement time' working with the Anglican Liturgical Commission. He has advised the Commission on the Psalter and checked the canticle translations. His main task has been to produce a lectionary in which books of the Bible are read at appropriate moment in the liturgical year.

The complexity of this task was enormous and he was confronted by questions like the length of readings, what passages (if any) should be omitted, how to use the Apocrypha, where blocks should begin and end, how to balance an annual reading of the New Testament with reading the Old Testament.

Anthony's career as an Old Testament scholar and teacher in the Faculty of Theology at Durham University made him the most suitable person to undertake the task and for this service he was awarded the Cross of St. Augustine on Wednesday 31st August 2005 by Dr. Rowan Williams, the Archbishop of Canterbury. The Cross of St. Augustine was founded by Archbishop Michael Ramsey and is now awarded to clergy and lay people who have made an outstanding contribution to the Anglican Communion.

Greetings from the USA

The message from the USA Branch to the Annual Dinner arrived too late to be read out by the President. It is always very much appreciated and so it is included here:

**To:
The President, President-Elect, Officers and Members
Old Redingensians Association
Reading, England.**

Gentlemen, Ladies and Guests

On behalf of all members of the USA Branch of the ORs, I wish to extend our very best wishes for a successful AGM and Dinner on 26 November 2005.

I know the past few years have presented many challenges for the Association, and particularly in regard to membership. The efforts of the few for the benefit of all has not gone unnoticed here in the United States. Let us all hope the rewards are many from all who share the unique bond of a Reading School education.

We will be holding our Reunion in California in late February and then, as many of us on your celebration on 26 November, will raise the glass in honour of all ORs and "The School".

We are proud to be a part of the ORs.

Floreat Redingensis!

**Roy F Seymour (52-57),
Hon Sec, USA Branch
19th November 2005**

Overseas News

Roy Seymour has maintained our valuable link with North American ORs for 14 years now. His father, a WWII veteran, still lives in the UK and Roy visits him regularly and always takes the opportunity to look up old friends and visit the School. In the 1950s he played for the flourishing OR Rugby and cricket teams and especially recalls great times at Sonning with Eric Maule, then with Barclays, and Chris Bignal and John Long who, like Roy, were with Lloyds.

Roy invites all ORs who may be visiting the USA to contact him at his address, PO BOX 382, Somerville, New Jersey, 08879, USA.

Reading Old Boys' Lodge

Members may have noticed mention made from time to time in the OR centenary article, in obituaries, and elsewhere in these columns of the Reading Old Boys' Lodge. This Masonic lodge was founded in 1911 and until recently met in Big School. We are going strong, and are looking forward to our own centenary in 2011. Any reader (OR or otherwise) who is interested in joining us, or simply finding out more, is most welcome to give me a call on 0118 957 5334 or by e-mail to robl@payton.uk.net. We'd love to hear from you.

Clifford Payton, Secretary, Reading Old Boys' Lodge

The Farmery Medals

Presented at Sports Day on 13 May 2005

The Sports Day was held at Palmer Park Stadium in glorious spring sunshine under the careful supervision of the sports master, Darren Carrick.

For the third successive year Matthew Richards won the Senior Farmery Medal for winning the 1500 metres; his time was 4 minutes 36 seconds although last year he broke the record in a time of 4 minutes 14 seconds. Both his father, Tony Richards (63-70) and his grandfather David Richards (38-42) attended the school.

The Junior Farmery Medal for the 800 metres was won by Steven Garrett.



The Farmery Medals Presentation

Steven Garrett (800 metres), Michael Maule (OR President), Kerr Kirkwood (timekeeper) and Matthew Richards (1500 metres)

News from Buckingham Palace

The Press Secretary to HM the Queen issued a press release on 27th July 2004 to inform us all that Edward Young, who was at School between 1978 and 1985, had been appointed an Assistant Private Secretary to Her Majesty. He took over from Stuart Shilson who returned to the private sector. Edward joined Barclays Bank plc. in 1985 and became Deputy Head of Corporate Banking PR. Between 1999 and 2001 he was an advisor to the Shadow Chancellor and the Leader of the Opposition. He joined Granada plc. as Head of Communications in 2001.

News reaches us that Edward was able to perfect his Scottish Dancing skills recently.

Gala Concert Planned

The Music Department at School is planning a gala concert in Big School at some time in the Summer Term to raise money to purchase two pianos. Further details will be given in the next edition of the Old Redingensian.

Peter Knight (82-90)

Peter married Phillippa Fergusson, a paediatric nurse from Dartford, on 5th November 2005. Peter and Phillippa left for the Yemen early this year where they are working as development workers for charity on healthcare projects. Peter is now a Member of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health Care.

Reunion

Fifty-nine and a Half Years On...

The 1946 1st XV Re-union Luncheon 23 May 2005

By Peter Coombs

Yes, of course, we should have held the re—union back in 1996 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of our solid scrummaging and fancy footwork. Yes, of course, we should have waited until 2006 to honour sixty years of remarkable results and firm friendships. But rugger players try to avoid doing the obvious. So 2005 it is!

As a matter of fact, the catalyst was the October 2004 Old Redingensian article which claimed the recent school XV to be the 'most successful school team ever'. That claim was quite enough to cause us to search our memories, look to our laurels and reach for our diaries.

So, on Monday 23 May we met together - our first gathering for nearly 60 years - in the elegant surroundings of the Oriental Club, London W1 - courtesy of club and team member John Sadler CBE. There we enjoyed a suitably splendid meal and shared our memories of derring-do.

Present were: Peter Coombs (Captain and Right Centre), John Chown (Left Centre), Ray Fullbrook (Fly Half), Andrew Piper (Scrum Half), Ivor Gershfield (Hon Sec and Wing Forward),




John Chown, Andrew Piper, Peter Townsend, John Sadler, Peter Coombs, Brian Powell (hidden), Ivor Gershfield, Ray Fullbrook

John Sadler (Lock), Peter Townsend (Second Row) and Brian Powell (Front Row). Sadly, either because of distance, illness or other engagements apologies were received from Keith Morgan (Wing Threequarter), Paul Mundy (Wing Threequarter), Geoffrey Taylor (Wing Forward) and Peter Batten (Front Row).

After Grace, said by our captain, we remembered those no longer with us: Will Worsley (Full Back), Michael Green (Wing Threequarter), Gerry Groombridge (Second Row) and Roger Larkinson (Second Row). It was an additional sadness to us that we failed to make contact with Stanley Coates (Hooker).

Our conversation - like many of the matches we played - went from end to end and side to side. We found our memories sharp and our judgements generous. Gwyn 'Fanny' Francis - Welsh international, rugby master and team coach - was recalled with affection and awe - also Edgar Milward firm supporter and benefactor. He treated the team to an end-of-term dinner and John Chown even managed to produce a set of couplets for each player which Gwyn Francis composed and recited at the meal.

Unsurprisingly, the game against archrivals Newbury Grammar School loomed large in our recollections. Perhaps it was the 'sea of mud' conditions; perhaps it was the captain's absence through injury received during training (John Chown graciously confessed responsibility for this!); perhaps it was the fearsome reputation of the NGS star player - one Baker; perhaps it was the memory the previous year's 60-0 defeat - Reading School's 'most crushing rout'? At all events, Ivor Gershfield led the team to a famous victory. Andrew Piper made a subtle break on the blind side to send Michael Green over near the corner. With a very heavy ball Ray Fullbrook converted with a magnificent kick from the touchline. After the game no less than seven members of the team were awarded their 1st XV colours.



Old School Tie
Silk £15

OR Tie
Polyester £10
Silk £15

From Membership Secretary:
C. J. Widdows
21 Bulmershe Road
Reading RG1 5RH

Cheques payable to:
Old Redingensians Association



Late in the afternoon of our luncheon we called 'no side' and wended our way into busy, noisy Oxford Street. The gift of memory had revealed to us that the past could be as up-to-date as the present: and more authentic.

Afternote: A day or so later Andrew Piper produced school magazine evidence of what *could* be the 'most successful school team ever'. In 1936 (Andrew's first term at school) P M Sizer's XV - Played 10 Won 9 Drew 1. And the one drawn game? Newbury Grammar School! plus ca change...



School News

The resignation of Andrew Linnell as Head Master during the last academic year left the Governors with the urgent problem of replacing him. They concluded that the long term future of the School would be best served by taking time to select a new Head Teacher and to allow their preferred candidate to fulfil his obligations to his old school. The best answer to their problem was to appoint a Head Teacher for a year. Though there were a number of good candidates within the School for such a role they chose to employ an experienced candidate from outside and to use the opportunity to take a cool look at the School and to make adjustments and improvements. By chance, and it now transpires, good fortune, an ideally qualified person was available. The Acting Head Teacher of the Holt School in Wokingham, Mrs. Patricia Daniels, was nearing retirement. The Governors persuaded her to undertake a year as our Head Teacher and to ask her to bring her considerable experience to bear on an overhaul of the management of the School.



Mrs Patricia Daniels

At the same time Mike Evans, for a long time now the Second Master, was due to retire. That he was to do so was known for some time to the Governors who were able to find an outstanding replacement for him. Many ORs have good reasons to be grateful to Mike Evans. He had been immensely influential in the House system, in modern language teaching, on the sports field and latterly as replacement for John Haines as Second Master.

There have been a number of staff changes at School and our Chairman has referred to them in his letter. For those of us who are anxious that the School flourishes the news that the new Head Teacher is making a very favourable impression indeed is reassuring. OR Councillors are at one in the view that she is a powerful force for the good of the School. She may be the second female Head of the School. The Abbess of the Saxon abbey for nuns in Reading was probably the first.

The enthusiasm with which the new Second Master, Ashley Robson, has thrown himself into the work at School bodes well for us all. He declares that his aim is to maintain the rounded education that has for so long been the tradition at Reading. This includes maintaining, the link forged by his predecessors, between the School and the ORs.



Ashley Robson

The Head Teacher has been able to perused Tom Walter out of retirement to take over the CCF from Clive Cousins. Tom was the Head of Geography until last year and had been an officer in the CCF for a long time. With the pressure on the timetable the hallowed Friday afternoon parade has been dropped and the Corps now parades on Thursdays, after school. The threatened loss of that 100 year old institution is now lifted though we have yet to see how it will fare as an 'after school' activity.



Andrew Linnell

A profile by Ned Holt.

Head teachers can seldom give more to their school than the circumstances of the time allow. John Bristow held office during a period of stagnation in which taking the School forward was very difficult. Peter Mason benefited from a far greater degree of independence and opportunity and he responded to this by developing the School into one which could stand comparison with any maintained school in the country. Yet Reading School remained somewhat isolated within the local community. Andrew Linnell's time as Head teacher coincided with a change in this respect. Those who direct education in Reading have come back to the view that Reading School is an integral part of its provision.



Andrew Linnell

The School could have had a fine Head over this period who was nevertheless unwilling or unable to respond to this opportunity. In Andrew it gained one who was supremely qualified to take advantage of it. There were many reasons for this; he had a clear vision of the School's role, he was able to find his way through the labyrinth of educational policy with only the occasional comment on its less coherent aspects, and he placed good relations with other schools in the authority near the top of his list of priorities. There has never been more positive exchange between Reading School and its neighbours than in the last eight years. Finally he was extraordinarily competent in dealing with the increasingly complex delegation of financial management to schools which coincided with his headship. This was a cause of massive relief to those of his immediate subordinates to whom the task might in many schools have been allotted!

To end here would leave a picture of Andrew as an administrator alone, and would be inadequate. He maintained the tradition of a highly visible Head teacher. He had taught many pupils and knew them by name; he was often the person to whom they turned for advice when faced with problems. Like the best of his predecessors he added his own stamp to the development and progress of Reading School, whilst recognising what was its essential core. Its traditional identity is as the Free Grammar School of the borough and Andrew Linnell's headship had that at its heart.

Mike Evans

A profile by Ned Holt.

Mike Evans was John Haine's successor as Second Master at Reading School; John had followed Martin Savage. These three men have, therefore, held the post for close to half a century, and Mike's service to the School stands alongside his two predecessors and that of a very small and select group of others.



Mike Evans

Initially, however, his appointment to teach French was one part of a refreshing influx of young teachers in the late sixties and early seventies. Though there were, no doubt, a number of things he was happy to see change as these early years passed, there was also much about the School he liked the look of, and which helped persuade him to stay at various stages when possibilities elsewhere arose. He enjoyed teaching bright students, and was never put off when they felt entitled to challenge received wisdom. He relished the breadth of other activities the School offered. Over the years he was involved in sport, coaching the 1st XI at cricket with real zeal to see the game played well – and taking on the far greater challenge of the 3rd XV. He edited the School magazine and supported dramatic productions in various ways. Finally, though he could see that many things were done well in Reading School, he responded enthusiastically to any opportunity to see them done better.

The first opportunity to play a greater role came when Mike was appointed as House Master of West House. He held this post through a critical period in which its function moved from little more than encouragement for house teams to become the vital hub of the School's pastoral system. The system now receives significant praise from Inspectors, and its success has its origins in the work of Mike and others in the seventies and eighties.

A relatively brief period as Head of Modern Languages ended when Mike was appointed Second Master. He held this post under John Bristow, Peter Mason and Andrew Linnell, successful Heads with, they would willingly recognise, different approaches to their job. Mike was able to give each of them measured advice and loyal but never unquestioning support. When he disagreed with a decision, the Head knew, few if any others did. In discussion of policy he could judge the relative merits of those who always argued for change and those who never did, while retaining the trust and respect of both. He also found the time to bestow the same attention on the worries of the most junior teachers. Though he had many tasks of his own to complete in an increasingly demanding era for the management of schools, he was thus able to maintain the traditional role of the senior member of the common room in addressing the concern of his colleagues. In the last fifteen years of new initiative fatigue which has affected education, Reading School has prospered for a number of reasons. Amongst them is Mike's sure judgement of what was important, unavoidable, or valuable, and what could and should be sent to the bin with haste.

Mike has thus served Reading School well. Along the way he has given the impression of having a fair bit of fun too. We hope so. At the start of the new term a Sixth form Student commented to me, "Mr. Evans was a good teacher." then he added, "He was a good bloke too". "Yes," I said, "I know".

Presentation Evening

Friday 16th September 2005.

Vice-Admiral Michael Gratton CB, the Director of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, was guest of honour for the evening and presented the School prizes. John Illman CMG, presented the OR prizes. The Kirkwood Bursary was awarded to David Mackie and the Kirkwood Prize to Jonathan Fulwell. The Jeremy Ramsay Art Bursaries went to Ross Godden, Phillip Sherwood and Nicholas Woolley. The Captain W.J. Streather (CCF) Award went to George Cave.

The Head Teacher, Patricia Daniels, gave an address. She has given us permission to quote from it as follows:-



Kerr Kirkwood meets David Mackie at the Leavers Party
on 1 July 2005

"It seems to me that at the heart of the success of Reading School is the spirit of the school. It does not lend itself to being analysed and posted up in league tables but, as a newcomer, I feel it to be a very positive and strong force. Let me give you an example. Every day I see boys being treated with understanding and a curious blend of firmness and compassion that they can respond to with humour and politeness. There is a respect here, and it is a joy to behold, because it creates an atmosphere of calmness and trust so conducive to learning.

Of course, being a selective school, people naturally expect high achievement. What makes the school particularly proud, however, is that there is demonstrable improvement between the ages of 11 and 16. In other words, the school is adding

value. In fact we were placed fourth best state school and top boys state school in newspapers' value added table.

22 boys have gained Oxbridge places this year and 71 boys are taking up places in the top Russell group of universities and no less than 12 will read medicine. It should be noted that our numbers are skewed by the fact that 27 boys have opted to take a gap year before university.

As you will know, the school has just gained Humanities Specialist Status, a great achievement which has already produced more resources, particularly in IT, for use across the entire school. Specialist status requires us to take our expertise into the wider community.

It is clear to me, after two weeks, that the school is in dire need of some new classrooms, particularly science laboratories and some of our classrooms are used far more intensively than the DFES recommends. This is a major challenge facing the school in the year ahead.

The ORs have already been into school on several occasions to look me over! I cannot overemphasise how important they are in making the school special. Like the Parents' Association, they link us into the wider community, but, in particular, they are close to the school and give us a powerful sense of continuity.

Sport

OR Cricket Week 2005

Bouncing Back

By Terry Cartwright

After several years of struggling to have a full complement of players, we were blessed with a new problem for this year's O.R. Cricket Week – whom to omit! Thanks are due to Andy Northway for his recruiting efforts. Alongside the traditional 'maturing' players, we fielded teams containing several in their late teens and twenties – including two recent School first XI captains. They all made successful contributions and we hope that they will encourage their contemporaries to join us in future years.

The weather forecast for the end of July suggested that there would be numerous rain interruptions. In the event, the Wednesday game was called off early in the day, but there was only a total of 30 minutes lost to bad weather for the rest of the week.

Monday's game against The Drones (largely made up of Pangbourne College Old Boys and captained by John Illman's son, Jonathan) was unique in recent Cricket Week history, as no batsman on either side scored a 50. The wicket played truly, but fine spin bowling accounted for 14 of the wickets to fall, with evergreen John Grimsdale top-scoring with 45 – falling in the last over before lunch. The desired post-lunch declaration failed to materialise as the Drones' leg-spinner bowled 23 consecutive overs, finishing with 5 for 90. Playing his first game

for three years, left-arm spinner Paul Sainsbury was even more effective, throwing the Drones into disarray from his first over. He finished with the remarkable figures of 6 for 19 from 10 overs, ably supported by Tom Vaal's accurate off-spin.

Runs were in plentiful supply in the two-day game against Bowdon from Cheshire. O.R. Sean Walters, who has been organising the visit for the last eight years, was unable to play because of injury, but he managed astutely from the boundary and his charges pulled off a surprising victory late on the final afternoon. Rob Dewey must have considered himself unlucky, scoring an aggressive unbeaten century in the first innings. Declaring at 251 and then dismissing Bowdon for 193 in their first innings, O.R.s looked assured of victory. A rapid 189 for 6 declared, with captain Martin Bushell contributing a quick-fire 69, set the visitors a target of 251 in around 50 overs – a seemingly unattainable lead. However, the wicket appeared to get better as the match progressed and all the O.R. bowlers struggled against aggressive batting, losing with two overs to spare.

As ever, we are grateful for the support received from the O.R. Council – both in terms of encouragement and financial backing. All who played thoroughly enjoyed the games and we plan to have a full five-day programme in 2006. Opponents for the Tuesday game have already been approached. Anyone wishing to play on any of the days next year should contact Andy Northway on 0118 962 1541, mobile 07973 338463, or me on 01428 602992, mobile 07831 848251.

**Here's to enjoyable cricket in 2006.
Floreat Redingensis.**



*Terry Cartwright
strides to the wicket...*



*...makes a classic
shot,*



takes a tumble,



recovers well but...



finally...



*has to return
to the pavillion after
a gallant innings.*

Results

Old Redingensians beat The Drones by 119 runs

O.R.s 204 all out – J Grimsdale 45, T Cartwright 39
Drones 85 all out – P Sainsbury 6 for 19, T Vaal 2 for 10

Old Redingensians v. Kensington – cancelled due to rain

Old Redingensians lost to Bowdon by 4 wickets

O.R.s 251 for 5 declared – R Dewey 100 n.o., M Bossart 39,
M Bushell 32

Bowdon 193 all out – A Northway 3 for 35, M Russell 2 for 28
O.R.s 189 for 7 declared – M Bushell 69

Bowdon 251 for 6 – J Braid 2 for 57



The Groundsman (Gerry)



The Scorer



The Tea Lady (Lesley)



Concentration off the pitch



Dick Owen is fearless with the bat as well as...



...behind the wicket



Glamorous support



John Evans calls his broker



A spectator concentrates on the game

OR 7-a-Side Rugby Tournament for the Goss and Co Shield

11th September 2005

Sponsored by
Goss and Co



*Clacy Cup : Player of the Year
Simon Bowcock*



*Goss & Co Shield
The Gun Show led by Raghuv Bhasin*



*John Vaughan Trophy
Tom Jacob*



Michael King & Rodney Huggins





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GOSS & CO
Established in 1921

Clarendon House 59-75 Queens Road
Reading Berkshire RG1 4BN
Tel 0118 955 1801 Fax 0118 955 1847

The OR Autumn Golf Meeting at Reading Golf Club

20th September 2005

Ten golfers took part in fine weather, playing for the Bissolotti Trophy under Stableford rules. The winner was Nick Burrows with 33 points, John Steels being 2nd with 32 points. The longest drive was won by Rodney Lunn on the 14th hole and the nearest the pin competition was won by Nick Ray on the 8th hole with a shot to within 9 inches of the pin!



20 September 2005
Rodney and Will Lunn

An excellent lunch was followed by a speech from Rodney Lunn. The club's grateful thanks were given to Rudolph Bissolotti for everything he had done for the club during his term of office - he will certainly continue to play in our biannual meetings! Many thanks also to Mike King and the Goss Group for their generous support with prizes.

Rodney Lunn, Will Lunn

Present

Rudolph Bissolotti, John Childs, Frank Brazier, John Downs, Nick Burrows, Dr Nick Ray, John Steels, Dr Chris Quartly, Rodney Lunn, Will Lunn

Apologies:

John Smith, Colin Evans, Gareth Price, Jack Holt, Cedric Scroggs, Dudley Bruton, Rodney Huggins, Terry Cartwright

NOTICE

The next meeting of the Old Redingensians Golf Association

Friday 5th May 2006
at the Calcot Park Golf Club

Contact: Will Lunn, 25 Brooklyn Drive, Emmer Green, Reading RG4 8SR
Email: will@themonkeypuzzle.fsnet.co.uk **Tel:** 0118 947 2321

Old Redingensians Golfing Society

7th June 2005 Meeting at Reading Golf Club

It was with some disappointment that my last meeting as Hon. Sec. was very poorly attended; perhaps this was a signal that it is time to hand over to someone more dynamic!

Seven of us met for a morning's round of golf followed by a most enjoyable lunch at which we were joined by the President of the Association, Michael Maule, who kindly presented the prizes.

The results were as follows:

Winner with 33 points	Gareth Price
Nearest the pin	Gareth Price
Longest drive	Michael King

On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank the Goss Group plc and the O. R. Association for their much appreciated support during the years that I have been organiser together with the talents of Will Lunn for his photography on and off the Course.



7 June 2005
Rudolph Bissolotti and Michael Maule

I am delighted to announce that the Lunn brothers, Rodney and Will, have agreed to take over the running of the Society and I wish them every success.

Rudolph Bissolotti
Hon. Sec. O.R.G.S.

The Councillors

This is a further article in our 'Lives of Distinction' series. All those included in this piece are currently on the Council of the Old Redingensians Association or are officers holding administrative posts. We failed to capture Lt. Col. Jouques, a Council member and Vice President of the Association, who was on active service in Afghanistan at the time of writing.

Andy Northway (77-82)

Andy attended Reading School from 1977-1982 and although not a great scholar, thoroughly enjoyed his time there.

Since leaving School he has worked in warehouse and distribution and is at present the National Distribution Manager for Heritage Bathrooms.



He lives in Reading with Heidi, his partner of 10 years, and their 9-year-old son George. He also has a daughter of 15 who lives in Cornwall.

Every year he returns to the School for the OR cricket week and since leaving has played for Redingensians CC, currently captaining the 1st XI and being Secretary of the club.

Apart from his obvious love of cricket, he is also a season ticket holder at Reading FC and is looking forward to Premier League football coming to the town!

Ken Brown (55-63)

Ken attended Reading School from 1955 to 1963 and participated in a wide range of school activities, representing the school in a number of sports. In his final year he was Captain of East House.



From 1964 to 1990 he worked in the insurance industry, initially with Cornhill Insurance until 1971, working in Reading, Exeter and London. Following this Ken joined the broking sector, today under the banner of AON. In his final period within the industry, Ken was appointed Associate Director in charge of the Douglas IOM office of Alexander Insurance Managers.

Since 1991 he has been self-employed, developing his own business as an antiquarian bookseller.

Ken has strong family connections with the school; his father and several uncles on both sides of the family and his two brothers all attended Reading School. He was a member of the Council in the 1980's.

Alistair Wrenn (78-85)

Following School Alistair obtained a BSc in Building Surveying from Thames Polytechnic in 1988 and has worked as a surveyor in the Thames Valley since then, obtaining his Charter from the RICS in 1991.



He is currently working as a Residential Valuation Surveyor for a national company, Wolton Chartered Surveyors, based in Reading.

Hobbies include; cricket (Captain of Reading CC 2nd XI), Rugby (still runs out for Reading Abbey RFC) and golf (Member at Caversham Heath GC).

Work and sport leaves little time for anything else.

Chris Widdows (55-62)

Chris says that he had an inglorious career at the school, eschewing any sporting activity preferring to cycle round the Chiltern Hills on games afternoons or to hide away in the South House darkroom developing films and making prints.



After leaving Birmingham University with a chemical engineering degree he worked for 3 years in Sunderland for Corning Glass. Following this he went to Antigua in 1968 to start up computer operations for the West Indies Oil Company and after five years moved to the local airline, Leeward Islands Air Transport Services, to perform the same operation. He returned to England in 1975 and after a couple of brief employments joined British American Tobacco, where he stayed until early retirement in 2000.

Chris was elected to the OR Council in 1985. He took over as Membership Secretary from Michael Naxton in 1991 and has had the privilege of serving ORs in that capacity ever since.

David Cox (51-57)

David was born on Guy Fawkes' day in 1939. He just escaped being Christened 'Guy' but had to accept his grandfather's nickname of 'Squib'. He now answers to 'DO'. He also just escaped conscription.



He attended Alfred Sutton Primary School and was one of only three to pass the 11+ and to be accepted to join the august ranks of dayboys in East in 1951.

He was not noted for outstanding academic prowess but made up for this by his singing ability. He was 'spotted' by Charlie Davis and Birdie Nightingale and was soon making significant contributions to the Operatic Society. This musical connection began a life-long friendship with Frank and Dora Terry.

He served a 37 year career with Her Majesty's Home Civil Service, the last 25 years of which he spent working on various computer projects. He was a member of the Sainsbury Singers (13 years) followed by Reading Phoenix Choir (22 years), which included 2 years as its Chairman.

He is married and has three daughters and two grandsons. His main interests include music, singing, photography, cycling, walking, computing and woodturning. Nowadays his particular interest is avoiding the attentions of the medical profession.

Gareth Price (48-56)

Gareth was one of two brothers who attended the school in the 50's, representing the school at Rugby, athletics and cricket. He went on to read Mathematics at Oxford: thereafter he qualified as an actuary, became a partner in a consulting firm and retired at the end of 1995.



Like many ORs before him, he was lucky enough to marry a girl from Kendrick, Sheila, and now has four grown up children - two of whom went to the School and are now ORs - and four grandchildren.

In retirement he enjoys playing golf, though he has yet to re-achieve the gross score of 82 that he managed the day he married. He was a churchwarden for 10 years, is a governor of his local primary school enjoys vegetable gardening, and reading his favourite stories to his grandchildren.

Ian Moore

Born in Sussex in 1945, his family moved to Reading in 1947.

After School he joined the Trustee Savings Bank where he worked at branches in the Reading & outer London area for 29 years.

He joined the Bursar's Office at Reading School in 1992, became Finance Manager in 1997 and retired from that post at the end of the Michaelmas Term 2005. In 1999 he was invited to join Council as Honorary Treasurer.

Married with two adult children, Sam and Greg, he can be seen at weekends pedalling around the countryside of Berkshire & sometimes beyond.



Michael Maule (56-59)

The second of three generations of Maules attending Reading School, Michael was more accomplished at track and field than academia during his time at the School.

Three career changes have seen Michael move from international banking into the food industry, where he became Managing Director of a subsidiary of Associated British Foods in his mid thirties and then to establishing a specialist head hunting and management training partnership 28 years ago.

After his formal retirement four years ago Michael has refused to retire, regrettably a workaholic, and has continued in recruitment, now placing senior management into short-term interim contracts. Michael has three adult children including Matthew, an OR, four challenging grandchildren and a long-suffering wife Pamela, ex Kendrick School, and still lives in Reading.

Passive interests include photography and spectating most sports and active interests include walking in tough terrains, OR Chairmanship and competitive driving of his classic MGB GT V8.



Neill C Lunnon (82 - 89)

Niell was a member of West House from 1982 - 1989. He enjoyed his time at Reading School so much that after obtaining a degree in Biological Sciences at Exeter University, he studied for a PGSE.

In 1994 he joined the teaching profession at Wellington College in Crowthorne. He has taught biology there for 11 years and has been a housemaster for the past 5 years. He met his wife-to-be, Jane, at Wellington. After teaching English for 12 years at that school, she is now Head of Sixth Form at Prior's Field Girls' School in Godalming. He has two children, Josie 6 and Jamie 4.

During his time at Reading School he played a great deal of sport and toured the USA in 1988 with Bob Lewis and John Vaughan, which was a highlight of his time there. He has no doubt that the opportunities given to him at Reading School shaped the rest of his life and it is with great pleasure and considerable pride that he continues to see the school thrive.

He has been on the OR Council for one year.



Rodney Huggins (44-52)

Rodney was at Reading School from 1944 until December 1952. He gained School representative colours at both cricket and rugby but is perhaps best known for his roles in the Gilbert and Sullivan operas such as Pooh-Bah and

the Major. In 1950 he spent two terms at Lycée Lakanal, Sceaux near Paris, where he claims he only succeeded in "wine tasting".

After qualifying as a Solicitor in 1958 and marrying José the year after, Rodney practised at the Kenya Bar as an Advocate for two years before returning to England in 1961, when he set up his own practice in Reading. When he left private practice in January 1984, the firm had six partners and four offices. He was then appointed a full time Administrative Judge of Social Security and Medical Appeal Tribunals in the South East of England. In 1992 he became National Chairman of the Independent Tribunal Service — the largest judicial tribunal organisation in England, Wales and Scotland with over 300 tribunal venues. He retired from this full time post in December 1997 and is currently a General Tax Commissioner, a part-time Value Added Tax Tribunal Chairman and a legal Chairman on the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeal Panel.

He has been President of the Reading and District Solicitors Association and is a Liveryman of the Arbitrators Company and Freeman of the City of London. For the past twelve years he has been the Chairman of the Trustees of a local Almshouses Charity. He was the President of the OR Association in 1999 and is currently a Reading School Foundation Trustee.

Since 1963 Rodney has been very involved in both the Round Table and Rotary International movements. He holds the unique distinction of having been National President of both voluntary organisations — Round Table in 1975/6 and Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland in 1997/8. He has been Chairman and Member of various Rotary International Committees. He was Vice Chairman at the Council of Legislation for the Rotary world in Delhi in January 1998 and attended the Council in June 2004 as his District's representative.

His hobbies are singing, scuba diving and golf. He is also a Life Member of MCC and enjoys watching cricket.

Rodney has one son Jeremy who lives in North Carolina, USA where he is an Architect married to an American Attorney. They have twin daughters born in 1999.

Terry Cartwright (55-62)

With a mediocre academic record but with some success in the CCF, Terry was accepted for Sandhurst, only to realise that Army goals were incompatible with beliefs that took him on two Aldermaston marches.

A hurried reassessment of ambitions led to a career in advertising, PR and publishing. Latterly Terry ran his own



consultancy, handling marketing for Hewlett-Packard, Philips and GEC-Marconi.

Married, he has now retired to spend his time working on charity events, his smallholding and his golf handicap. He has run the O.R. Cricket Week since 1982.

Will Lunn (51-58)

Will was at Reading School between 1951 and 1958, first in East House and then South House under Martin Savage when Boarders had a very good record of winning the House Competitions. The CCF was always his favourite activity! In 1957 he went with the British Schools Exploring Society to Finnish Lapland.



After School he joined the family firm of C & G Ayres Ltd., known for its removals, storage and rail cartage in the Reading area. He also fitted in OR rugby, rowing and shooting for the Berkshire Rifle Association. This was followed by Round Table and a local antiques society.

He is happily married for 40 years with a daughter and a son.

Adrian Leach (75-82)

Adrian attended Reading School from 1975 to 1982 and then Manchester Metropolitan University where he studied Economics.

He has spent nineteen years in the leasing industry, has lived and worked in Hong Kong and Sydney, Australia and has held leadership positions in Europe and Asia, including MD of both Cisco Capital Europe and AT&T Capital Asia and South Pacific. He currently runs De Lage Landen's European technology finance business



Adrian is married with three children, Jack 9, Harry 5 and Charlotte 4. He lives in Windsor and is a very active member of Windsor Rugby Club, being Head Coach of the under 9's. His two brothers, Stuart and Chris, also attended Reading School.

Our School

Reading School in the War Years

The recollections of Graham Jones (42 – 52)

From the age of five I was travelling daily from Winnersh by bus to Cemetery Junction and then walking to Malvern House School, a preparatory school run by Miss Helen Lacy for young gentlemen who aspired to pass the entrance examination to Reading Junior School. My journey to school was made easier when, in 1939, my father purchased a newly built house in Alexandra Road.



Among my compatriots at Malvern House was Roger Kemp, the Reading School headmaster's son. While I was there, Charles Kemp approached my mother and asked her if I would come round and play with Roger. Roger took me up into the attic in the headmaster's lodge where he showed me armies of lead soldiers and suggested we use them in a mock battle. He placed his regiments in battle positions and I massed mine, one of which included the red coated Coldstream Guards. After a little skirmish with antiaircraft guns which fired wood pellets Roger turned his World War I Cambrai tank on my guards and mowed the lot down. We must have been laughing so much that the Charles Kemp came up to see what was happening. Roger's parents gave me tea but I was never invited back again. He got a ticking off.

The Junior School building was much the same as it is now. The covered area has now been converted and there used to be a temporary extension known as "Tin Tab" and also a brick air raid shelter. The air raid shelter had very substantial walls, 13 1/2 inches thick, and a massive concrete roof. It would have been a death trap if bombed. (It was demolished at the end of the war by a crane with an iron ball on the end of a chain).

It was in the air raid shelter that we were made to practise air raid drills and to put our gas masks on in the dark. It became rather smelly as the boys from East Wing used to play and urinate here and was not popular with either the staff or pupils, so it was not used that much. In the Blitz it was possible to see the glow of the fires of London in the sky from Alexandra Road. It is possible that these fires were visible from the school tower.



Miss O'Reilly

The Tin Tab was actually quite a pleasant little building. The form mistress was Miss O'Reilly, a rather stout old lady, who was to be respected. The form lists state that there were about 24 in the form. The room had about 30 individual desks, all with sloping tops and a space under for books. To the top right was a flat area for pens and each desk had a porcelain ink well. Just by Miss O'Reilly's table at the front was a glass sided box containing silk worms in

which we daily placed fresh privet, mulberry leaves and water. Overlooking the classroom was a stuffed owl with large farseeing rounded eyes which warned us to behave. There was a very large atlas at the rear of the classroom. The corners were kept

clear so that boys could stand there if 'sent to the corner'. The classroom walls in the tin tab were covered by the graffiti written by previous classmates. Constantinople was the name of one capital that appeared on the walls but we were never asked to spell it. Some boys were given daily duties. Since I sat near the stove I was made deputy stoker to John Mullen, who since he sat nearest was made chief stoker. Later on in life he ran a garage and car showroom near Sonning Common.

Miss O'Reilly kept order with two canes. The small round one was called 'Little Tickler' and the large one called 'Big Tom'. Despite its small size everyone seemed to agree that 'Little Tickler' hurt the most. Some boys even said that 'Little Tickler' was the remnant of a full sized cane that had snapped in use. Further punishment included standing in the corner and drills. Sometimes if we had been naughty we were required to stay behind and copy out lines.

My first day at school was to be a disaster. We were all given newly sharpened pencils. I soon broke mine. So I raised my hand and said;

"Please Miss my pencil's bust."

"Boy come here, where did you learn that word."

The whole form burst into laughter. Mystified and very confused I explained that bust meant broken. A fierce grilling ensued but in the end I was told to sharpen my pencil. My mother and father naturally wanted to know how my first day had gone, so I had to face the laughter about my trouble with word bust all over again. Even when I was told that it meant a part of the female anatomy I couldn't see what made everybody laugh.

One day Miss O'Reilly turned up with the shrunken head of a native from Borneo. She explained it was the custom for certain tribes to sever the heads of captured enemy warriors, shrink them by placing hot stones in the brain case and then wear the head hung from their belts. I held the head in my hands to see if it would give me energy. The head is still in Reading Museum. Many years later, as a cartographer, I did all the tie pointing and slotted templates for Sarawak, so perhaps his spirit now lies in peace. (Tie pointing and slotted templating are one of the first stages in mapmaking from air photographs and fixes the position of each photograph.) Miss O'Reilly must have possessed some power for I doubt if the museum would let me borrow the head today.

On the 10th February 1943 a lone enemy bomber dropped bombs in Minster Street, on Wellsted's shop, the People's Pantry, Blandy's, the Town Hall and part of St Laurence's Church. At the time I was in the shed in the garden and ran out as soon as I heard the bomber. Then I heard the bombs drop. I was too frightened to go into town for a very long time. My father was in the thick of the rescue for he was an air raid warden and the bombs landed about fifty yards away from his place of work. As an air raid warden he used to walk the streets at night checking for violations of the 'black out.'



C P Peach

In 1944 Miss McDonald took over IB when Miss O'Reilly retired. Mr Peach, the Junior

School headmaster, used to set out a collection of the comics of the day including The Beano, the Dandy and others. They would be loaned for a week for a penny. Mr. Peach's study used to contain a very large cane and a map of the Reading area divided up into West, East and County. I never received the cane but I have been lead to understand that heavy thrashings did take place.

Another pastime, especially in rainy weather, was flicking or throwing at cigarette cards. You and an opponent would set up six cards each against the cupboards and attempt to knock them down by flicking the cards. I built up a quite good cigarette collection like this.

Soon after my first day at the school I became involved in the great form fight between 1A and 1B. At 11 am Miss O'Reilly used to go over to the common room. The boys from 1A, who had already been let out of their class, barricaded 1B (in the tin tab) to prevent us getting out. However there were some very good street fighters in 1B. We knocked the ringleader to the floor and set about the rest who scattered and ran to tell Mr Timms who, next day after prayers, told the boys of 1B that they must stop bullying the boys of 1A. Miss O'Reilly never said anything to us.

When it came to marking our work we used to hand it to the nearest boy and he would mark the mistakes. Mr Timms used to have film shows, usually of some Marx brothers' films and occasionally one of Charlie Chaplin's. They were held in East Wing and were mainly for boarders.

My next form was 1A with Mr. Timms. The main part of Junior School was divided into two forms by a massive blue curtain, 1A (Mr Timms) and upper 2B (Mr Peach). At assembly this curtain would be drawn back. 1A wasn't as cosy as 1B; there were no stuffed animals to look at or fires to keep going. It was a great deal noisier than 1B and the introduction of a new language like Latin to learn didn't help. I was cheeky enough to ask what use Latin ever would be and Mr Timms informed me that it would be of use in reading old manuscripts. Many years later I did actually have a need to translate some Medieval Latin and duly asked Mr Timms if he could help. He replied in the negative saying he had never done any Medieval Latin. Normally we would get all our art work and suchlike back at the end of term.



S G Timms

One day there was a competition for the best copy of a map which afterwards was displayed at other schools. Although Farrow and I won we never saw our maps again

Lower 2A was run by Charlie Poole. In my opinion Mr Poole was the most talented and probably the wealthiest man in the school. One day he brought in a new pen, a biro. It cost a great deal of money and had a refill which doubled back for greater capacity. This soon failed and the pen had to go back. One boy (Denis Moriarty), with an angelic disposition and cherubic face, was dressed as a chorister and gave a very good rendition of 'Oh for the wings of a Dove' at the end of term. This had been made

famous by Ernest Lough. Mr Poole taught us one more thing. In 1944 the school received a large supply of bananas, dried egg and coco powder. Mr Poole taught us how to peel a banana and eat it.

The music master was Charlie Davis who was the principal violinist in Reading Symphony Orchestra and now and again he would give us virtuoso violin displays of most difficult pieces. 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' was one of them. We used to sit entranced watching his bow dance and fly across the strings.



C A Poole

1944 saw the introduction of the Butler Education Act. Junior School slowly became no more, losing a form a year. Miss O'Reilly and Mr Poole were retired, to be followed by Mr Peach. Mr Poole took over Malvern House School from Miss Helen Lacy and Mr Peach went on to found St Edwards School. During this transition period Miss Bailey took over 1A and then 2B.

I was now living within a few yards of a working farm. After milking I used to let the cows off their chains and take them up the Elmhurst Road and down past the shops into what is now Cintra Park. In the evening I used to bring them back again. Taking cows along the Elmhurst Road might daunt today's youngsters but the war had taken most car users off the road. My father's car was laid up for the whole of the war. One very fine hot day the cows plopped on a newly tarmacadamed road. The hot sun then lifted the tarmac and the Local Authority complained to Mr Pidgeon, the farmer. Mr Pidgeon told them that there were some things about his cows he could not control.

The cows were milked and I then used to put the milk into bottles which I capped with cardboard tops. I used to watch new iron hoops being put on the cartwheels, took part in the haymaking, and bagged up new potatoes. Through my war efforts on the farm we received potatoes and cream. Many years later I saved these listed farm buildings from demolition.

The skies over the school were often busy with yellow Tiger Moth training aircraft, Dakota transport (the workhorse of the day) and the occasional Hurricane or Spitfire. On a walk to Sonning in 1944 I saw a Typhoon with the new black and white striped invasion markings. On D-day I was awakened at about 5 a.m. by the roar of Hercules engines and saw Albermarles towing Horsa gliders across the sky. The sky seemed to be filled with aircraft. All the war waiting to see a bomber and then the sky filled with them. Many years later when playing badminton at Abingdon we used to change in an old Horsa Glider. I could recognise all the aircraft because every year I was given a volume of "Aircraft of the Fighting Powers" for Christmas. One day a German Dornier which had been shot down and a Spitfire were brought up the School drive and put on display at the back of the swimming pool.

I must mention William Bott. He was the coach and groundsman. He had been on the Leicestershire ground staff along with Fred Root, the author of "A Cricket Pro's Lot". Bott and I became very good friends for my whole school life. I often stopped in at the 11 am break to enjoy a cup of tea with him. I once asked



William Bott

him why he didn't go over to the masters' common room. "Me? With all those Oxford and Cambridge Dons, no thank you." Bott was a very special man and had County cricket contacts all over the place. When I met Len Hutton on a train (I had my Jack Hobbs cricket bat with me) he asked me if the school had a cricket coach and when I informed him that it was Mr Bott he said that he knew him well.

William Bott had a large collection of old cricket bats which lined the wall of the Pavilion's anteroom. My Hobbs bat had been one of them. Eventually it was retired and I bought a new bat with Len Hutton's autograph on it. This was stolen in a house burglary recently.

When coaching, Mr Bott used to stand half way up the nets and throw the ball at you. In this way he would quickly produce the same type of ball with the same spin on it so that you could practice a drive through the covers or any shot that he wanted you to practise. He bought with him a catching practice device.

Sadly this was eventually smashed by boys jumping on it and then broken up. Dollery, a Reading schoolboy, who was a good enough bat to hit a cricket ball over big school, later became a professional with Warwickshire. Mr Bott said that the ball he hit over the school was a junior type ball and not the larger sized ball. It was Bott who spotted Dollery's talent, nurtured him and tuned him into a professional.

The Dollery name is still to be found in the Reading area and a Barbara Dollery (no relation to the cricketer Dollery but who married into the Dollery family) has as a nurse been very kind to me.

The cook at St. George's Hall regularly provided us with cakes including large iced cakes decked with candles on birthdays. During the war we accepted two university students. They were involved in the "sheep day" protest at Wantage Hall. The warden of Wantage Hall used to lock the gates to prevent late night student revellers getting back in. He became very unpopular and one night a flock of sheep were placed in the quadrangle. He was forced to resign and "sheep night" is still celebrated today.

Trips on the river steamers were occasional luxuries. Some of the Reading river boats took part in the Dunkirk landings. Other perks for the women were nylons from the American or Canadian troops and the Canadian soldiers gave a party for children. They used to give away toys they had made for us.



Lives Remembered

From John Garveigh (38-45)

Dear Editor,

Perhaps in a longer form than you intended, I am taking up your invitation to contribute to "Lives Remembered" of ORs whose obituaries have already been published.

The Obituary pages of the May 2005 issue of The Old Redingensian brought sad and sobering news of the death of six of my school contemporaries. One, Eddie Cohen, had been a special friend who, I only now learned, had died while I was away in the Far East.



Another, Alan Sears, had briefly come into my life at a difficult time and his obituary now brought back vivid recollections of the generosity and support that the Masters and parents of Reading School extended to me in the run-up to World War II.

My family were Czechoslovak nationals living in Berlin where my Jewish father had substantial business interests. Fearing increasing Nazi persecution, my parents resolved to send me to England where, on recommendation of friends, they enrolled me as a boarder in Reading School. Aged nine, I arrived at

the school in July 1938, a week or so before the end of the summer term, unable to speak or understand a word of English.

East Wing had been chosen as my House, probably because the Housemaster, Gwyn Francis, spoke a smattering of German and he very much took me under his wing.

I later learned that, prior to my arrival, the soon to retire Headmaster, George Keeton, had made it known that a refugee from Germany would be coming to the school and would need looking after over the summer holidays. Refugees were still something of a novelty in 1938 and numerous kindly parents of boys at the school generously offered hospitality during the holidays.



D G Francis

Gwyn Francis decided that I should remain with him and his charming wife for a week or two after the end of term while they moved out of East Wing to their new home in Tilehurst. He was a most admirable man in every way and we remained in touch until his death in his nineties.

My hosts for the next fortnight were the parents of Alan Sears who kindly took me to their seaside holiday home in Bognor Regis.

Following that, the School arranged for me to attend a gathering of children from twenty countries at an international YMCA camp on the shores of Lake Windermere. For the last fortnight I was the guest of the parents of another Reading School boy, Michael Smith.

"Timmy" Timms had now become the Housemaster of East Wing and by the end of the summer holidays I had acquired a sufficient working knowledge of English.

By the beginning of 1939 the Nazis had confiscated my father's business and forbade the transfer of funds out of Germany necessary for my school fees. Again the School came to the rescue. The Governors resolved that whereas they could, for a time, generously waive my tuition fees, I could not remain a border.

The School made my problem known to Professor Morley, a Reading lady running a fledgling refugee aid committee. She had evidently sought the support of local clergy and the vicar of St Barnabas, Emmer Green, called on his parishioners to offer hospitality, for a month or two at a time, to needy refugee children.

Listening to that appeal in church, Frank and Mabel Jarvis were appalled at the idea of passing children from family to family. After consultation with their own children, one of whom was a 12 year old Reading School boy (John Jarvis OR) they contacted Professor Morley and offered a home to a child for as long as circumstances might require. By chance, Professor Morley had just been made aware of a boy at the same school as John Jarvis. My grateful parents were put in touch with the Jarvis's and in February 1939 I went to live with my new family in Emmer Green.

Frank Jarvis was a well respected Reading businessman with a wonderfully happy and caring, practising Christian family. I could not have been taken in by kinder people and from that day on for 5 years they treated me as their own son. That I emotionally survived separation from my parents through the traumas and long years of World War II I owe entirely to the Jarvis family who to this day remain part of my extended family.

In May 1939 when Hitler invaded Czechoslovakia, my parents national status could no longer shield them from persecution in Germany. That day they fled from Berlin and flew to London. Somehow they had contacted Gwyn Francis and Frank and Mabel Jarvis who together that night went to meet them at Croydon Airport. The drama of my parents' flight was not disclosed to me till the following day when I was reunited with them at the home of Gwyn Francis.

My parents were penniless in England and a few weeks later my mother thought it safe for her to return to Berlin to rescue some of our belongings. Before she could come back to England, war had broken out, she was caught in Germany and we did not see her again for nearly seven years.

By 1944 my father was earning enough in London to be able to pay my boarding fees again. I became a boarder in South House where Eddie Cohen was also and we became close friends. We were both in the Operatic Society productions and for the school Sing Song that winter we teamed up to perform a very well received topical duet.

For the great occasion of VE Day in May 1945 the School was closed but Eddie Cohen and I, unable to get home, remained alone confined to South House. Not wanting to miss out on the festivities everywhere, we knotted our bed sheets and climbed out of our study window and over the school wall.

Every street in the neighbourhood had trestle tables set up laden with food and drink. There was music and jollity everywhere and we went from street to street performing vocal duets to great acclaim. The more we imbibed, the better our voices and repertoire became. Inevitably, when we returned to South House at dawn, our knotted sheets had been spotted but the Housemaster, Mr Poole, let us off with a stern reprimand.

After leaving school, Eddie Cohen and I lost touch until, some 10 years later, we ran into each other on a London Underground platform. That chance meeting was to change my life.

Eddie had just returned from a visit to Portugal where he had been received as a VIP and shown the country by a titled Portuguese society girl. He told me that she was now about to come on her first visit to England and he wished to reciprocate her hospitality but had no car. Would I with my car join them?

I was delighted to do so and a close friendship developed between me and our Portuguese guest. That, in time, led to my meeting and falling in love with her stunningly attractive younger sister. We were married in 1961 and, three years later, prompted by the advent of Harold Wilson's Socialist election victory, we moved from England to Portugal. I became a major resort developer and to this day have been fortunate to enjoy an idyllic life in the sun with my wife and our children.

In recent years I have several times met up with Eddie Cohen and his wife Carol on our visits to London and am deeply saddened to learn of his death.

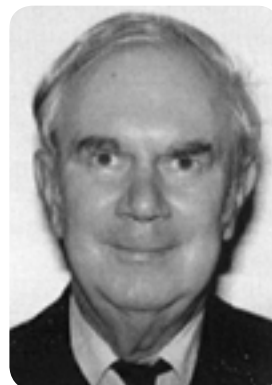
Obituaries

Richard Henry Downing (44-50)

By David Pollitt

Throughout his working life and subsequently in retirement until his death at the age of 72, Richard's life was one of selfless dedication to the well-being of others - young and old.

On leaving school Richard started his working life in Lloyds Bank. This was interrupted by two years' National Service in the Royal Berkshire Regiment, followed by five years in the Territorial Army. After National Service he re-joined Lloyds Bank in the Market Place branch in Reading. This was followed by



various branches in Berkshire before being appointed Manager of the Sandy, Bedfordshire branch on the 9th July 1973, from where he retired on his 60th Birthday on the 17th September 1992.

After retirement Richard retained his flat in Sandy and continued to travel the 80 miles each weekend to stay with the family in Tilehurst. As a consequence, he lived two extremely full lives. In Reading he was a life long supporter of St. Michael's Church, Tilehurst, where he gave unstinting support to the Youth Club. He was also Stewardship Controller of the Church, and General Secretary of Tilehurst Eisteddfod. He was a Past First Principal of Reading Old Boys' Chapter, a member and past Grand Master of Morland Lodge and a member of Reading Conservative Association.

In Sandy he was a Town Councillor from 1993 until his death. He was a member of Probus (President 1998/99), Sandy Youth Club Committee, Sandy Squadron ATC Civilian Committee, Sandy Historical Society, RSPB, RBL, Forces Help (later SSAFA-FH) for over thirty years, Sandy Conservative Club, a number of local Lodges, and a Governor of Laburnum Lower School. He founded and organised speakers for the Sandy Good Afternoon Club, where older people meet one afternoon a month to socialise.

For a number of years he acted as Purser on ships taking part in the Tall Ships Race. He was very upset when, for insurance reasons, he had to give up on account of age (70)! In addition to sail, he also had a great interest in steam - the Windsor and Eton Railway Preservation Society, the North Norfolk Railway, and the Waverley Paddle ship Preservation Trust. His recreational interest was travel.

At one time Richard was actively involved in twenty nine different charitable activities and voluntary organisations. He was much sought after as an Auditor or Treasurer by voluntary organisations, to which he gave his services free.

He came from a very close family. His sisters Sally and Ruth and their families meant a great deal to him. Every Boxing Day he would take the whole family to a pantomime in Oxford and latterly to the Hexagon in Reading. He was a very quiet, private and generous man with an unfailing courtesy and was much respected by all with whom he came into contact.

Richard, who was unmarried, died in Bedford Hospital on 28th July 2005. His funeral, attended by more than 250 mourners, was held at St. Michael's Church, Tilehurst, followed by burial at Henley Road Cemetery on 8th August. A Memorial Service for him was held in Sandy on the 15th October.

He was an exceptional man who made such a contribution to the everyday lives of so many people. To Sally and Ruth and their families, we offer our deepest sympathy.

George Cedric Parsons (32-40)

Contributed by his son,
David Parsons

On leaving school Cedric worked for the Great Western Railway until 1941 when he was called up for service in the Royal Navy. He served on HMS Somali and later on HMS Cavalier.

Following the war he returned to Reading to train as a teacher and there he met his wife, Rene. After teaching at a number of local schools he worked as a peripatetic head teacher and was later appointed Lecturer in Education at Avery Hill College (now part of the University of Greenwich) before eventually becoming Senior Warden.

Cedric and Rene retired to Long Ashton near Bristol in 1989. He died on 27 March 2005 aged 81 and leaves three sons, David, Michael and Stephen.



Michael Dare (45 - 56)

From 'Lives in Brief' (The Times, 14th November 2005) and a contribution from Bob Coombs (53 - 60)

Michael Dare, founder of the British Trolleybus Society, was born on August 13, 1937. He died on September 23, 2005, aged 68.



Born in Reading, Mike spent much of his childhood in Birmingham and Nottingham where there were plenty of trams and trolleybuses, which fascinated him. From Reading School he went to teacher training college at Winchester. During the holidays he worked as a conductor on buses and trolleybuses.

After qualifying he became a primary school teacher and when he was 31 he was appointed deputy head at the newly opened Moorlands School at Tilehurst, Reading — a post in which he remained until he retired in 1995.

He was a very 'hands on' teacher who taught one of the final year classes and was always at the forefront of organising school concerts etc. For many years he took the final year classes to the Isle of Man. The children were well prepared with background information before they went, wrote up all the activities whilst there, and then gave a very varied presentation at a parents' evening after they returned.

Mike founded a society dedicated to trolleybuses. When he was 23 he formed the Reading Transport Society (renamed the British Trolleybus Society in 1971) to preserve the pre-war trolleybus, and it remained a life-long commitment for him.

The society grew rapidly and soon purchased one particularly threatened trolleybus, the No 113 — it was the first of many trolleybuses to be privately preserved in the UK. Mike's project swiftly spawned other organisations around the country. In 1969 his and three other trolleybus groups came together to form an association and charitable trust — the Sandtoft Transport Centre Association, with Mike as its chairman. It was formed in order to administer a trolleybus museum, Mike having found a suitable site at Sandtoft, close to the Yorkshire-Lincolnshire border. It became the Trolleybus Museum.

Mike Dare went to the crematorium by bus in accordance with his wishes. He is survived by his wife Beryl.

David John Edgar

(40-46)

Contributed by his brother
Robin Edgar (40-49)

John Edgar was born on 12 December 1927. After attending Number IX school, at first in Christchurch Road and later in Christchurch Gardens, he entered Reading School senior school as a boarder in West Wing in September 1940. W J Streater had just been appointed House Master and likewise C E Kemp, Head Master.



John entered fully into school life in the difficult days of the war and rationing. Before leaving, he was one of the many boys who were appointed to firewatching duties. Whilst being average academically, he excelled in sport. John rowed in the school four, he was in the shooting team to shoot in the Ashburton Shield at Bisley, he captained the boarders Rugby and the school first fifteen teams, he won the 440 yards and competed in the triangular sports. He was appointed Captain of School in September 1945.

Upon leaving school John hoped to join the Royal Navy but was failed because of colour blindness in one eye. He then went to Southampton to become an apprentice in marine engineering at Thornycrofts. He left with a national diploma and went to sea with the Union Castle Line, which then carried passengers (three classes) and mail to South Africa on scheduled services. One advantage of being a ship's officer was that he was allowed to mix with the first class passengers. With promotion he moved from liner to liner. In doing so, he met his future wife who was coming over on a student trip to Europe.

John and Nina were married in January 1959 in South Africa. They moved to Northern Rhodesia (which became Zambia under the rule of Kenneth Kuanda). After several years they moved to Cape Town where John joined Anchor Yeast and Nina set up a multi racial nursery school, which was eventually forced to close because of the apartheid rules. After John obtained his Higher National Certificate in engineering, he became chief engineer in Cape Town.

In 1974 he was appointed chief engineer for Anchor and Gold Star Yeast, which to his disappointment entailed moving to Johannesburg. Upon retiring he and Nina moved to Wartburg in Natal to be near the family farm. There he built his dream house with a swimming pool and Nina was able to indulge her passion for gardening. After ten happy years there, the continuing violence in the area eventually caused them to move to McGregor in the Breede river valley, where they continued to garden, golf, bird watch and tend their beautiful garden.

John died suddenly and unexpectedly of a heart attack in his sleep on August 30th 2005 aged 77. Sadly Nina died of cancer twelve days later. They are survived by their two sons and their families, who all live in South Africa, and his brother, Robin (OR 40-49), who lives in Reading. John was one of 'nature's gentlemen' and his quiet and wise support will be missed by all who knew and loved him.

John Anderson ('Jack') Powell

(21-28)

Contributed by Rodney Lunn (54-60)

Jack Powell was born in 1912 in the family home and pharmacy in St Mary's Butts (now La Tasca Tapas Bar) which had been run by his family for five generations.



Jack joined West House in 1921 when 'Sugar' Saunders was housemaster. Besides being academic he was a born musician and as a cadet in the Officers' Training Corps would play the 'demanding' Last Post on his trumpet at Remembrance Day services to the approbation of Sergeant Major Ives and Major Redington MC. He had a technical mind and at the age of 14 constructed a wireless receiver which he presented to Mr Spring, the woodwork master. So successful was this set that he received an order for four more sets from the Masters' Common Room – all supplied without payment! Those were the days when radio was in its infancy.

Jack left school in 1928 to join the family firm where he was a director for over 40 years. He expanded the business to become one of the most successful pharmacies in the area. One of his specialties was photography and the sale of cameras and photographic materials to the public. He pioneered commercial photography and personally took aerial photographs for his many clients. During the war he was an inspector of work at the Miles Aircraft Company at Woodley where his callipers and eagle eye ensured the precision construction of many aircraft.

At this time Jack's musical flair had come to the notice of the Chief Constable of Berkshire who prevailed upon him to form and lead a band that would provide Reading with some much needed entertainment. Thus the Jack Powell Band, which played in the Glenn Miller style, was formed in 1940. Jack led the band to win the Melody Maker All England Big Band Competition in 1947. Amongst his musicians was the trumpeter Syd Lawrence who went on to run his own internationally known band.

By 1947 Jack needed more time for his work and his family. He married his wife Mollie that year – a marriage that was to last forty happy years. He continued expanding and improving his business until he retired in 1970 when he moved to Barton on Sea. He often attended OR dinners either at the George Hotel or the old Caversham Bridge Hotel.

Jack died at home on 1 October 2005 aged 93 and is survived by his daughter Jane and son-in-law Martin and their three children.

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Kenneth Bertram Stork

(19-27)

From a letter from the Revd John Lambourne (44-52)
dated 28 September 2005

I buried Kenneth Bertram Stork this week. He was 96 and had entered Reading School as a boarder in 1919. Apparently he was in the 1st XV.

His parents lived in Ceylon and he spent most of his working life with Dunlop in Brazil, Singapore and Japan. He did live locally for a while at Pangbourne.

There was another OR at the service, Fryer, whose father was also an OR.



Michael John Bussey

(39-46)

Contributed by his daughter, Sally Tanner:



My father joined Chestertons, the surveying firm, during the summer of 1945 and went on to become a senior partner of the firm. He was well known in the London property market and became a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors in 1965 and remained closely involved with the organisation until his death. He was chair

of the London Junior Branch in 1961 and West London Branch in 1969. He acted as Honorary Secretary of the RICS General Practice Division (1981-90) and was a member of their General Council (1982-87).

During his time at Chestertons, he also became a well-respected valuer and auctioneer, becoming a member of the Chartered Auctioneers Estate Agents Institute in 1965 and the Select Society of Auctioneers.

His association with Reading continued through his involvement with the College of Estate Management - the leading international body providing distance learning education and training to the property professions and construction industry worldwide. He was selected as an Honorary Fellow of the College in 1991 in recognition of his distinguished support and service.

Following his retirement, he continued his association with the above organisations, along with contributing to the Chiltern Society Rights of Way Group, an association established to monitor and maintain The Chiltern Way, close to his home in Amersham.

Mike died aged 74 in a tragic road accident, in which his wife Ann was also killed, on 29 October 2004. They leave a son, three daughters, and ten grandchildren.

Robert ('Giddy') Gardener

(55-61).

Contributed by his widow, Sue Gardener.

On leaving school Robert took articles with Owen West and McGregor, Chartered Accountants in Reading, where out of three of the partners, two were ORs, Tony Keep and Peter Burgess. When Rob qualified, Owen West and McGregor expanded and bought offices in Worthing and Chichester and he was made Manager of the Chichester Branch in 1967. On the 1st April 1970 Rob was made a partner in Owen West and McGregor. Three years later he moved to Wokingham where he took over the offices of Gould and Mansfield above Lloyds Bank in Broad Street. The Bishop of Reading licensed Rob as an Administrator at the Holy Communion in 1997 and Rob and his wife enjoyed two wonderful pilgrimages with Bishop Dominic and Bishop Mike Hill, one to Greece in the Footsteps of St Paul and the other to Rome and Assisi.

In about 1978 he became a Governor of Finchampstead C of E Voluntary Aided School, where he remained a Governor for 18 years and was Chair of Governors for 15 years. Part of his ethos was to carry out his charity work quietly and efficiently. He would only take on those tasks he felt he knew something about, so he carried out many honorary audits: Finchampstead Scouts, Finchampstead PCC for 25 years or so, Finchampstead Society, Finchampstead WI, voluntary work for Wokingham CAB, the local Conservative Association, Wokingham Area Housing Society and Wokingham United Charities to name but a few. Just before he died he completed the Village School Fund Accounts.



Rob always spoke with great affection of his time at school and of friends he made. In the early '70's he joked that Wokingham had been stitched up by ORs. He was the Accountant, Dave Lewis, was the Solicitor and Brian Robson was the Estate Agent. Robert enjoyed life, family and friends and no one can have a greater epitaph than one which says he was well liked, greatly respected and a much loved gentle family man who lived his life honestly and was a credit to Reading School and for all it stood for.

Robert Gardener died on 19 October 2005 aged 61. His widow would like to thank all ORs who attended his funeral.

Wing Commander Ronald Guy

(24-29)

Contributed by William Lunn (51 - 58)

Ronald Guy was at Reading School during the 1920s. He enjoyed athletics and played the bugle in the OTC band.

After leaving Reading School, Guy worked in banking for



seven years before joining the RAF where he soon received a permanent commission. He served in Iraq, North Africa, India and the USA. At one point he was wrecked in a troopship off the coast on North Africa but managed to guide the ship's company to safety and across the desert as he had the only compass.

In the RAF he became a superb pistol shot, winning a large number of competitions including pistol champion of Great Britain (3 times) and representing Britain in the 1952 Olympics in Helsinki.

He retired in 1960 and then embarked on a varied business management career. He also found time to join our OR team in the Public Schools Veterans Competition at Bisley on several occasions and we were all proud to have him in the team as he had achieved so much.

He moved to Guernsey in 1972, becoming a States Deputy on the Islands Council, pushing for reform of their finances. He represented Guernsey in many international full-bore shooting matches as well as his pistol shooting.

He is survived by his third wife, Elizabeth, his daughter, Sally (to whom we are indebted for his 'trophy' picture and other details) and five stepchildren.

Ronald died on 4 August 2005 aged 92.

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John (Jack) Webb OR

(24 - 31)

Contributed by his son,
Eric Webb (52-58):

Jack joined Reading School in September 1924 and began his first year in Junior School under the kindly eye of Miss O'Reilly. The arrival of Mr Poole in his third year saved him from the fearsome and hard-hitting Mr Douglas who retired at that time. Apparently, it was Jack who coined the expression "If you go into the lobby with a Douglas, you come out with a BSA!" In Senior School he discovered his sporting prowess and played rugby for his House (County) and the School, gaining his colours in 1929. He particularly excelled as an oarsman, rowing stroke coached by "Archie" Meads and winning both House and School rowing colours. His great pal at school (subsequently his brother-in-law) was Bryan Powell MBE OR (24-31) who remembers Jack as a friend and someone who was always fun to be with.



After leaving school he joined the family business with his brother Eric OR deceased (23-29) and was involved with the management of the George Hotel, a popular Reading watering hole with ORs. When that business was sold in 1967, he and Eric started a small chain of town centre tea bars including "The Minster" and "The Abbey" which they ran successfully until retirement.

Jack served in the RAF Police throughout most of the Second World War, spending most of his time in the Middle East. When he was demobbed late in 1945 he spent a few years as a commercial salesman before returning to his roots in the family business.

Jack was a happily married man and is survived by his wife Madge, three children (including Jim OR 52 - 58), five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. He lived most of his life in Caversham Heights but spent the last two years in a retirement home in Dorset owned and managed by his daughter, Sally. Until a few weeks before his death he still enjoyed the occasional pint with his family in one of the nearby local pubs. He will be sadly missed.

Jack died in Bournemouth on 9th December 2005 at the age of 91.



In Memoriam

Colonel Arthur Thomas Burrows MBE ERD (28-36)

Distinguished Soldier
Died 3 January 2006 aged 86

David Lincoln-Gordon (39-46)

Born in India, worked in Africa and the Pacific
Died 25 December 2005 aged 76

Roderick Henry (Roddy) Messer (28-35)

President OR Association 1976
Died 20 December 2005 aged 88

Lionel Percival Wiltshire (32-37)

Schoolmaster
Died 4 October 2005 aged 84

Maurice Bertram Roberts (36-41)

Telecommunications Engineer
Died 28 July 2005 aged 80

Frank Howard Josey (29-35)

Played for Old Redingensians RUFC 1st XV 36-37
Died 15 February 2005 aged 86

Thomas James Paterson (37-45)

Died 20 November 2005
aged 77

Kenneth Bywater (52-59)

Banker
Died 8th November 2005 aged 64

E.L. Moor (49 -79)

Sometime Head of Classics at Reading School
Died 8th January 2006 aged 87

Obituaries follow in the next edition.

Editorial

I hope that the contents of this issue makes up in some measure for the delay in producing it. It is set out in an easier style with more emphasis on pictures. The cover is composed from some of Alfred Waterhouse's plans for Reading School. The original plans are in the Victoria and Albert museum and were found there by Mary Langshaw when she was researching for the new book 'Reading School – The First Eight Hundred Years'. Mary's excellent writing, illustrated with photographs by Chris Widdows, has resulted in a fine chapter in the book.



In writing this book the authors reached a number of interesting conclusions, some of which will come as no surprise to many ORs. The first is that the real foundation for the success of the present school was laid down by George Keeton but it was Charles Kemp who shaped it into one of the best state schools in the country. The simple memorial, which was



erected to Charles Kemp during Denis Moriarty's year as President, compliments his greatest legacy to the School – the large and successful sixth form. Ned Holt, who has himself been largely responsible for the adaptation of the sixth form to modern times, has contributed his own article on cricket to the book. We found that sport, and in particular cricket, has played a remarkable role in the life of our School. That too will come as no surprise to ORs

Floreat Redingensis
John Oakes

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THE REAR ELEVATION



THE SIDE ELEVATION



SECTION

From the original plans by Alfred Waterhouse