The World is their Oyster

- Parthiv Rishi & Sasan Nazer’s epic road journey across 22 countries to Mongolia
- Charlie Winch and a group of recent leavers returned to teach in Tamil Nadu

Read all about it on pages 9-11
For our part, we are only too aware of the challenges that await our pupils and the need to equip them with all the qualities they will need to pursue success, happiness and fulfilment in their adult lives.

Academic work continues to occupy a great deal of our collective energy, and I remain hugely impressed by the seriousness with which our boys and girls approach their studies, ably supported by their teachers. University entrance has perhaps never been so competitive, and we must continue to impress by the maturity and confidence of our senior pupils, and it is their personal qualities as much as their intellectual gifts that should see them go on to success at university and beyond.

Part of what makes Mill Hill the school it is, and Millhillians the people they are, is the breadth of education that we traditionally provide; success in a wide range of areas has, once again, been highly evident this term. The girls’ 1st XI hockey team, after a slow start, has gone on to chalk up a string of impressive victories, and the 1st XV, under their new coach, former Saracens player Don Barrett, have had a particularly successful run in this year’s Daily Mail Cup competition (at the time of writing, they are preparing for a challenging encounter with St Benedict’s, Ealing, following victory over a very strong side from Bedford Modern School).

On 11 November, the School gathered to mark Armistice Day. I hope those Club members who were present at the gate of honour, at which your President joined me in laying wreaths in memory of the fallen, will agree with me that the pupils acted in a way which greatly added to the dignity of the occasion. In the chapel service which followed, I was privileged to be able to deliver a message from Her Majesty The Queen, who passed her best wishes to the Club and has won many friends wherever she has travelled.

Planning is now well-advanced for the changes to come into effect in September, when we shall move from compulsory Saturday lessons and introduce weekly boarding alongside our traditional full-boarding provision. Both developments should serve further to strengthen the position of our School which, despite the challenging conditions, continues to move forward and produce pupils of whom we can all be justifiably proud.

Dr Dominic Luckett, Headmaster

Honorary Secretary Report

Another year and another President has served his year: many thanks to Mike Corby, who has been an enthusiastic ambassador for the Club and has won many friends wherever he has travelled.

Always keen to espouse the merits of being an Old Millhillian he has attended a wide variety of events in the UK and beyond, including America and the Far East. He has also funded a President’s Prize, awarded to an outstanding pupil in the Upper Sixth form and presented on Foundation Day, and initiated the setting up of an Old Millhillians room at the School. For detailed information about the nature of this room see Andy Mortimer’s report in this publication.

Our new President is Chris Maunder Taylor but, as those of you who attended the AGM will know, we did not have a President lined up for 2012-13 (though we have several names for the succeeding years). Andy Mortimer is stepping into the breach, subject of course to his election at the June 2012 AGM, and Alan Toulson is taking over the Chairmanship of the Club for the year.

The Management Committee has continued to meet regularly and in January will be focusing on membership issues. Just as the School is evolving to meet changing needs so it is vital that the Club remains relevant and purposeful. How we implement the two central Club objectives - of promoting interaction among members and supporting the School - continually needs to be assessed. For instance we need to consider whether the social needs of our members are best served by formal events or by informal gatherings such as the Dakers and the City drinks. Another key area we are trying to develop is the OM Careers initiative and at the moment there is a particular need for Lower Sixth Formers at the School to have the opportunity to shadow someone for a day. Further details can be found on page 14.

Communication with members is key and inevitably technology moves apace. We have a website, a regular Martlet and an OM group on Facebook, but the main method of contact is of course email. In order to formalise our communication we are going to send out a monthly email newsletter with important news, including death announcements, and reminders of forthcoming events. We hope this will prove preferable to random and sporadic emails continually arriving in members’ inboxes.

Every best wish for the coming year from our President, Chairman and all of us in the Club office.

Tim Corbett, Honorary Secretary

The New President

Christopher Maunder Taylor FRICS, our new President, introduces himself:

I entered the School in the autumn of 1960 following my two older brothers, as well as my Father and his two brothers, into School House (Weymouth).

I enjoyed my school days. I left having developed an enduring love of choral music, having formed an affection for France and the French, and having learned that enthusiastic participation in everything can be as rewarding as great expertise.

When I left my Father sent me to speak to an Old Millhillian friend about working as a surveyor in the Shires. Roger Raffety took me on as an articled pupil and after 45 years in the property market and 40 years after qualifying as a Chartered Surveyor, an enjoyable career has culminated in joining the family firm.

My wife Beverley is Deputy Head of Stormont, a girls’ preparatory school in Potters Bar. Of my three children, Helen lives with her family in Australia, Oliver with his mother in Evesham and Guy in London, where he is about to embark on a career in teaching, sponsored on the GTP scheme.

As for myself, I play golf, fish on the fly, sing in a local choir and grow vegetables. I also enjoy the friendship of a large circle of fellow Old Millhillians.
OM CLUB www.omclub.co.uk

Annual Dinner 2011

‘How will I recognise you?’ inquired Peter Bolton of our President, Mike Corby, when he was due to visit OMs in Phuket in June. ‘Oh, a prematurely grey 25 year-old with film star looks.’ When Mike emerged from customs there was Peter in the airport foyer holding up a sign reading BRAD PITT.

This was one of the amusing anecdotes of his year in office that Mike regaled us with at this year’s Annual Dinner.

Mike had chosen the London Film Museum as the venue for this year’s dinner on Friday 14 October. This may have appeared to be an unusual choice of location but the circular central rotunda of the former County Hall (where the museum is now situated) afforded a dramatic setting for the occasion. Old Millhillians Jonathan Sands and Rick Senat are the Museum directors and the 150 guests were able to view a number of interesting items from the exhibition decorating the pre-dinner reception area.

There was a strong Winterstoke connection as Mike Corby, Jonathan Sands, and the caterer Nic Leon, were all former members of the House. Dr Dominic Luckett, the Headmaster, and his wife, Cara, were among a number of guests from the School including the monitors and two current parents.

Old Millhillians Day 2011

Saturday 10th September 2011

This year we reverted to the tradition of having a separate Old Millhillians Day rather than combining with the School on Foundation Day; and enabling the Life Guardians to meet on the same day. With the threat of cold, inclement weather it was decided to hold the lunch indoors in the Large rather than having the usual barbecue and many thanks to the School for providing a delicious buffet.

The hockey team had a significant win against a team from Southgate Adelaide Hockey Club, with Adam Harvey again proving to be a prolific goal scorer. Sadly the Old Millhillian Rugby Ist XV lost their opening league match on Top Field against Ickenham. Look at the Future events page to see the date of next year’s OMs Day, when we hope to involve a wider representation of the Club in a number of new events such as an art exhibition.
North West Dinner

The North West (or Manchester) dinner was held on Friday, 18 November at the St James’s Club. This was superbly organised by John Elliott and John Farmer and the arrangements of 25 or so guests around a long single table made for a particularly convivial evening. The food was excellent as were the wines and everyone was carefully attended to by the Club’s maître d’ Lynn Dunn, Head of Belmont and Pauline Bennett-Mills, Head of Grimsdell, stood in for the Headmaster and delivered lively accounts of exciting developments at the Foundation. President Chris Maunder Taylor was resplendent in his newly acquired Old Millhillian blazer, which his brothers secretly had tailored for him. John Elliott and his brother Grahame were also attired in this striking item of costumery. This is Old Millhillian blazer, which his brothers secretly had tailored for him. John Elliott and his brother Grahame were also attired in this striking item of costumery.

The President, in proposing the toast to the School, recounted the excellent time he had on his last visit to Wales, with the Old Boys, and the hospitality he had received. The President gave a resume of all the continuing activities of the Club and the close and active liaison with the School. In his speech, Dai Rees brought all these present up-to-date on the School’s activities and future plans. He then proposed the Toast to the Club coupled with the name of the President. The President thanked him for the toast.

Among the OMs present was John Sorotos (34 -38) who as a member of the Cardiff and County Club was very much at home and also Roy Thorpe who had flown in from Canada. Among others with close Welsh connections who came from England to attend were Ray Hubbard, Tom Oxenham and Graham Fear. My thanks must go to David Padddison who helped immensely with the organisation of the dinner.

The Welsh dinner is held biannually and we hope the next event will be on the last Friday in October 2013 at the same venue. However there is the opportunity for those in Wales to attend the South West dinner in Somerset next November. Ronnie Boon

Welsh Dinner

The Welsh Area Dinner was held this year at the Cardiff and County Club, Westgate Street, Cardiff on Friday 28th October 2011. Thirty six OMs and their wives attended including the President and Dai Rees Master, representing the School.

The President, in proposing the toast to the School, recounted the excellent time he had on his last visit to Wales, with the OMs. Despite the rain and the hospitality he had received. The President gave a resume of all the continuing activities of the Club and the close and active liaison with the School. In his speech, Dai Rees brought all these present up-to-date on the School’s activities and future plans. He then proposed the Toast to the Club coupled with the name of the President.

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Old Millhillians Day 2012

Saturday 15th September, Mill Hill School

This year we are encouraging as many OMs as possible to attend OMs Day; we shall be introducing some new events so there should be something for everyone. Please save the date and come along with your family. The tentative plans for the day are as follows:

Art Exhibition

We shall invite OMs to display their work on OMs Day. We plan to hold a small exhibition to showcase the art work of current students and OMs.

Musical Interlude

We would like to organise a musical soiree on OMs Day, so if you sing or play a musical instrument, then please join us. The Director of Music, at the School will arrange a programme along with students. If you are an artist or musician -- please get in touch; don’t be shy! All abilities welcome.

Sport

We would like to once again hold an OM hockey match, so if you would like to take part you can get in touch. The School 1st XV will be playing QE Boys School on Top field in their first match of the season and spectators welcome.

Barbeque

We hope to have a BBQ on Top Terrace/dining room after the rugby match in the early evening around 7pm.

Reunion for OMs who left in the ‘Noughties’

If you were at the School between 2000 – 2010, please get in touch as we would like to hold a reunion for you on OMs Day.

Annual Dinner 2012

Friday 19th October at the Haberdashers Hall

Please start contacting OM friends from your House or year group to organise a table for the Annual Dinner. Chris Maunder Taylor our new President has chosen a stylish venue in a central location for this year’s dinner and it should be a memorable social occasion, if you need help from the Office to get contact details for lost friends, then please get in touch.

Old Millhillian - Legal/Medical Reception

Friday 9 March 2012

Wedlake Bell LLP, 52 Bedford Row, London WC1.

Time 6.00pm – 8.30pm

Tickets £20 or £10 for under 30s

Informal drinks & supper reception (possibly a Guest speaker) Legal and Medical is taken in its broadest sense so academics, dentists, scientists, researchers all welcome. It should be a good evening offering you the opportunity to socialise and network with fellow OMs that work in the same profession as you. This is particularly important in these difficult economic times and we hope that both young and more senior OMs will attend.

Contact: Clive Weber 0207 395 3000 or Shalaka in the Office.

European Weekend in Biarritz

4th – 6th May

Tentative itinerary for the weekend is:

Friday 4th - evening drinks and informal meal
Saturday 5th – sightseeing, followed by lunch and more formal dinner
Sunday 6th – sightseeing, event, visit and return to Blighty.

Windsor can help with booking accommodation and he has some great treats lined up, such as a trip to a “Cidrerie” in Spain, golf, a thalasso afternoon, a trip to the historical town of Bayonne and much more...

Please contact Windsor if you are interested in attending.

Contact Windsor for more information.

Clive Weber 0207 395 3000 or Shalaka in the Office.

Please contact Shalaka in the Club office if you need more information on any of these events: 020 8906 7949 or skmillhill.org.uk

Events not to be missed

These are just some of the events taking place this year, but there are plenty more listed in the Calendar such as the regular monthly City drinks, the Oakers first Tuesday and the AGM and Cocktail party in June. Please make a note of the events in your diary and make a special effort to attend and encourage your OM friends to join you.
We couldn’t think of a more appropriate way to celebrate our five years at Mill Hill. For many of us, myself included, this was only possible thanks to generous donations from the School’s Lewis Van Moppes and EP Shanks travel award matched by grants from the Old Millhillians Club.

After receiving our A-Level results and having our University places confirmed we set out on a 30-hour journey. When we arrived at the School at about 9am local time, tired, hot, and hungry, in true Sri Jayendran fashion we were quickly rushed onto the stage in front of the entire School to greet a crowd of familiar faces. We got up to the same sort of things we did last year, teaching in a similar fashion and visiting local landmarks such as the extraordinary waterfalls and temples, but we were also able to spend more time travelling independently. Finally, before returning to the UK, we stopped over in the Maldives for a welcome break thanks to Shahi Ghani!

All in all another unforgettable experience. The School’s partnership with Sri Jayendra does so much to benefit both Millhillians and the Indian pupils: we all felt so privileged to have had that opportunity again.

Charlie Winch (Weymouth 2011)
You are exhausted having already driven for 12 hours today (but have only covered 120 miles such is the condition of the dirt tracks). Darkness and cold are quickly setting in.

The Rally is totally unsupported - if you’re in trouble, you’re on your own! There is no specified route either (you just have to get you and your car to Mongolia so to add to the challenge, we planned on trying to pass through as many countries as we could – we just had to make sure we had the right visas!

On 23 July 2011, we set off from Goodwood Racing Circuit in what would be our new home for the forthcoming six weeks - a ten-year old 1.3 litre Hyundai Accent that had already done over 85,000 miles. Despite our best intentions to learn everything about car maintenance, by the time we set off we were still not confident about changing tyres let alone knowing what to do if something seriously went wrong. But with a 20 quid Argos toolbox and a Haynes manual we nevertheless set off.

Initial progress through Western Europe and the Balkans was good and eventful - including one panicked evening in Dubrovnik where we managed to lose our car (it had been towed) and a day where we ending up driving through five borders and five countries. We managed to take in some great scenery on the Adriatic (particularly Croatia and Montenegro) before arriving in Istanbul within a week.

As we left the comfort of Europe, border crossings became trickier with long delays, light-fingered customs officials and expensive visas and car insurance requirements. Our policy of British stubbornness in the face of corrupt border guards and police paid off in the end as our total ‘bribe’ count for the trip came to an impressive total of two Smirnoff bars and a tennis ball (considerably less than the much coveted US dollars that many other teams ended up dish ing out. Driving conditions also slowly deteriorated and by the time we left Turkey became so bad that we both needed to concentrate all of the time – no rest for the passenger as he not only needed to read the indecipherable signs but also had to be on the lookout for suicidal local drivers, even more suicidal pedestrians, dozy livestock and potholes.

On entering Iran our presence became much more of a novelty to locals and, the constant police stops aside, we found the hospitality as breathtaking as some of the landscape and scenery. A very wide variety of the landscape and scenery. A very diverse landscape, the white marble and gold covered capital, Ashgabat, you soon realise how far from the living room but still used a hole in the back petrol tank for your wash for two weeks (!!) it didn’t matter as everything was covered in layers of dust and sand anyway.

As the Rally progressed, the roads became much more difficult to drive (rocks and boulders, sand, mud and most worrying of all) through several rivers under the watchful eyes of soaring eagles and dozing camels. To get to the Mongolian capital, Ulaan Baatar. As we powered through, we passed teams stranded across the country – their vehicles unable to withstand the harshness of the Mongolian terrain - broken axles, destroyed radiators, flooded engines, shredded tyres! Morale was high though as we camped with teams on the desert and steppe under a blanket of millions of stars each night. Although we didn’t get to wash for two weeks if it didn’t matter as everything was covered in layers of dust and sand anyway.

After 6 grueling weeks in a car most of you wouldn’t even risk taking on the North Circular (which we bought for £950 from an ad we found in Autotrader), we finally arrived at the finish line in Ulaan Baatar. We had driven 10,000 miles through 22 countries to get there (and we didn’t even get one puncture)! An amazing and unforgettable experience.

With thanks to the OMs for their support and the support of all our friends and family in helping us raise around £6,500 for Macmillan Cancer Support and the Christina Noble Children’s Foundation.

The Rally involved driving across desert and mountains, over sharp rocks and boulders, sand, mud (and most working of all) through several rivers under the watchful eyes of soaring eagles and dozing camels. To get to the Mongolian capital, Ulaan Baatar. As we powered through, we passed teams stranded across the country – their vehicles unable to withstand the harshness of the Mongolian terrain - broken axles, destroyed radiators, flooded engines, shredded tyres! Morale was high though as we camped with teams on the desert and steppe under a blanket of millions of stars each night. Although we didn’t get to wash for two weeks if it didn’t matter as everything was covered in layers of dust and sand anyway.

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The Foundation Appeal has already raised over £200,000 towards the work now completed on the Physics Department and the external redecoration. The Appeal’s next objective is to make similar contributions to the work to be done to each of the Biology and Chemistry Departments. The Biology Department requires the refurbishment of five laboratories and a prep room during 2012-13. The cost of refurbishing each laboratory is between £30,000 and £80,000 depending on the laboratory.

The Foundation Appeal is also being tasked with contributing to major projects in sport and drama, which will be respectively announced in Spring 2012. For those Old Millhillians who are also Old Belmontians it might be of interest that the celebration of the Centenary of Belmont begins in the summer term of 2012; there will be a number of major events and a centenary fundraising campaign for a commemorative project.

Four new A Better Chance Bursary beneficiaries joined the School in September; three funded by Lord Glendonbrook and one by the A Better Chance Bursary group in the medical, dental and veterinary professions and members of Collinson under Donald Hall. It is hoped that two more groups will be able to provide similar funding by September 2013.

If making a gift now is just not possible, you might like to remember the School in your will, which carries with it membership of the 1807 Society. We currently have 30 members and aim to reach 40 during 2012.

There is more on our website www.mhsfoundationappeal.org.uk and look out for the new Foundation Appeal video.

If you would like to contribute to the Foundation Appeal or just want to know more, please get in touch. Whether your interest is in People (bursaries) or Places (the Science Building, Annual Fund or Annual Projects) or you wish to include the School in your will, I would love to hear from you.

Nick Priestnall – Director, Foundation Appeal

Foundation Appeal USA EVENTS

Sunday 11th March
12 noon lunch in Naples, Florida

Many thanks to leading supporters of the A Better Chance Bursary campaign, Robin Mills (Ridgeway 1957-62) and David A Brown (Barton Bank 1956-61), who are hosting this event, which will take place at David’s home at 205, Indies Way, Unit 1002, Naples 34110. Please let David dbrown@mbat1975.hsbc.com or me know if you hope to make this event.

Tuesday 13th - Saturday 17th March, California
I will be in California from the 13th – 17th March and will be guided by those in the area as to what to do, when and where! There are almost 30 Old Millhillans and Old Belmontians for whom we have contact details in California. There is a nucleus around LA and another around San Francisco, which is why there is a suggestion that we have a function on Tuesday evening in LA and on the Thursday or Friday evening in the SF Bay Area. However if those who are local have different or better ideas, I would be pleased to hear them. If you live in California and are willing to help pull something together (identify and book a restaurant) please let me know ASAP.

The events in Florida and California are open to all OMs not just to those resident in those states! In fact, I already know of two OMs from the North East who are planning to make sure their winter break to the sun coincides with the event in Florida.

Nick Priestnall
e: rpi@milhill.org.uk

“Frontloading” of the Governments proposed four-year reductions adds to the burden by giving no time to prepare. Added to this is the loss of funding received for services that are co-located at Alford House. In total, this is a loss of £45,000. In addition there is the constant uncertainty about our lettings income. So far we have not managed to build elements that increase income.

In fact the reverse has been the case. We have developed elements that improve our service to young people but increase our on-going costs.

We have therefore had to urgently review our plans for redevelopment. The aim of the redevelopment was to become “fit for purpose” and to generate a greater income stream that would sustain, and in good times increase services to young people.

The Club is looking at every opportunity to make savings and increase income, to achieve this it has re-examined its development plans and has formulated a new plan that might just produce the aims of the original plan and be realistically achievable in these tough economic times.

At the time of writing we are submitting revised plans to the Council.

The Fitness Studio that was built and opened in 2010 is proving very popular. It has already attracted 240 young people through its doors and a number of young people are gaining Awards and accreditation through this activity.

The Club brought together young people, staff and trustees for a full day of training that created an action plan for giving young people more responsibility for Alford House services. This is the first time, that the Club can recall, that all those involved in the Club have been together to discuss the Alford House.

The 2010-2011 annual report is available and if you would like a copy please contact me at: nigel@alfordhouse.org.uk.

We would again like to thank all those who have given so generously to the Club over the past year. If you do not already have a standing order with us, or would like to make your first donation you can do so through our website www.alfordhouse.org.uk.

Nigel Baker (55-61) Chair of Governors

Alford House

You will have seen from previous reports in Martlet we have planning permission for a major redevelopment of Alford House. However cuts to funding for children and young people have been significant, sometimes disproportionate compared to the overall cuts to local authorities. In the case of Alford House, as with the similar organisations in the voluntary sector, a 30% reduction compared to the Council’s 16.7% overall.

The Club is also busy preparing for one its outdoor pursuit weekends in the Ashdown Forest. Just a few weeks ago Alford House was awarded a Silver Level London Youth Quality Mark, a quality assurance scheme accredited by City and Guilds. The Silver Quality Mark demonstrates young people’s involvement and participation in the Club.

At Present the Club is busy preparing a very small number of young people for a graduate ski programme that will end with them going to Scotland for a week’s skiing and for two of our young volunteers to complete Sport England’s Snow Sport Level One Instructor Qualification. This has been partly funded by the Mill Hill School Fundraising Concert.

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Nigel Baker (55-61) Chair of Governors

www.omclub.co.uk
The Average Parent

The second letter (see below) also made publications and the two he wrote to the 'Times' this summer.

Your Honorary Secretary has only ever written two letters to it into 'The Week' and was in response to an article by Alice Chit Chat people to bring up children.

reminds me of a dictum of my teaching days: 'The more you meet the average parent the more respect you have for the average pupil.'

Legend has it that the quotation was originally attributed to the great Sir John McClure – but you may know better.

A Virtual OMs Day

It must be a rare occasion when you read about seven OMs in one day, particularly here in Switzerland. That particular Friday was one of those. The chain of events started when I managed to find a bit of good news in the Guardian earlier in the week. It was an article about two Australians who had bought a male lion cub from Harrods and the story of its integration into African was an article about two Australians who had bought a male lion cub from Harrods and the story of its integration into African horse-racing. Francis is also writing a screen play for Dead Heat, the first of the novels he co-wrote.

Felix Francis (1966-71) son of deceased author Dick Francis has just brought out his first novel (he did co-author four books with his father). The novel is called Gamble and not unsurprisingly is set in the world of horse-racing. Francis is also writing a screen play for Dead Heat, the first of the novels he co-wrote.

Tony Fitzjohn (Weymouth '63)

is giving a lecture on 15 March 2012 at 6.30pm at Mill Hill School

Keith Armitstead (60-62)

wrote in to say that he along with all members of the School's 1954 Cricketer 1st XI have been cricket ground. If you would like to join them, please ring Keith Tel: 0208 942 9087.

The most recent, in the form of a lunch, took place on 11.11.11 at the Oxford and Cambridge Club, Pall Mall. An impressive number of twenty-two Old Collinsonians from 1956 attended, including Peter Armitage and Henry Goldsmith from the US and others from all parts of the UK. In addition, the current Housemaster, Peter Lawson, joined the group; it was unfortunate that the then House Tutor, Rev. David Payne was prevented from attending, due to illness.

The event was presided over by Ray Dunsbier. In order to bring everybody up to date, a booklet was distributed containing resumes of the attendees covering the past fifty-five years - a hard task in one hundred words. Recollections came from around the table, followed by the Housemaster, who described life in the thriving Collinson of today.

A Virtual OMs Day

It must be a rare occasion when you read about seven OMs in one day, particularly here in Switzerland. That particular Friday was one of those. The chain of events started when I managed to find a bit of good news in the Guardian earlier in the week. It was an article about two Australians who had bought a male lion cub from Harrods and the story of its integration into African horse-racing. Francis is also writing a screen play for Dead Heat, the first of the novels he co-wrote.

Felix Francis (1966-71) son of deceased author Dick Francis has just brought out his first novel (he did co-author four books with his father). The novel is called Gamble and not unsurprisingly is set in the world of horse-racing. Francis is also writing a screen play for Dead Heat, the first of the novels he co-wrote.

Tony Fitzjohn (Weymouth '63)

is giving a lecture on 15 March 2012 at 6.30pm at Mill Hill School

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A certain amount of discussion took place regarding the next Palindromic due on 2.2.22, sixty-six years on from 1956. Whilst there was a unanimous (understandable?) wish to attend to be there, attendance at the event will not be entirely in the hands of the participants!

Ray Dunsbier

Some 40 Oakers met for Christmas lunch on 6 December

The Collinson Palindromic

In December 1956 it was proposed that there should be a reunion, just for those present in the House at that time, at some memorable future date. Thus the idea of the Collinson Palindromic was born. The first reunion took place on 6.6.66 and this was followed by 7.7.77, 8.8.88 and 9.9.99.

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Obituaries

A full list of deaths since the last publication appears below and detailed obituaries of some OMs will appear on the OM website and in the School magazine. However, we record a brief obituary of two members of the School staff.

Many Old Millhillians will be sorry to learn of the death of Tony Turnbull, who was a master at Mill Hill School from 1947-1978, and was Housemaster of Collinson from 1960-1974. He died peacefully in a nursing home in Angus, Scotland, in November, and leaves a widow, Peggy. He is also survived by his three sons, lan, Alister and Andy – all OMs – and a daughter Alison and 9 grandchildren. A full obituary will appear in the next magazine but detailed obituaries of some OMs will appear on the OM website and in the School magazine. However, we record a brief obituary of two members of the School staff.

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**Old Millhillians Rugby**

The season started promisingly with a much larger pool of players emerging from a successful summer training programme headed by coach Sean Hardy, an Old Millhillian himself. The 1st XV was looking forward to the season as newly promoted forwards lacked depth, while the forwards lacked quality, often by a mere point. The team is ably led by new skipper Jeremy Graves and has gelled well and is now providing the selectors with more options.

So I report that in both sides the spirits are high and morale strong. Gideon Felton continues to recruit players and we hope soon to resurrect a ‘B’ XV and Vets XV. Many thanks as always to the many stalwarts working in the background such as John Tucker, James Mason, Gordon our invaluable Chairman David Webster.

**Totteridge Millhillians Cricket Club**

The season began in drought conditions, firstly on a memorable pre-season tour to Spain, followed by an incredibly dry spell in April/May.

Once again, TMCC 1st XI finished comfortable winners in Division 1 of the Saracens Herts League. As expected, former New Zealand player, James Marshall, shone with bat and ball. Skipper, Shaun O’Brien, led the bowling attack, well supported by Asif Sutaria and Hasan Mahmood. Vishal Bhimjiyani occasionally turned his arm over, and contributed well with bat too, demonstrating his versatility as an excellent all-rounder. Justin Le Fort’s inclusion in the side over the past 2 seasons has provided some welcome stability in the batting line-up. The 2nd and 3rd XIs both managed respectable mid-table finishes whilst the 4th XI struggled towards the latter part of the season, finishing just outside the relegation zone. The Colts section continues to grow: we are hoping to have in place as head of colts coaching next season a well known former England cricketer.

Winter nets begin in the New Year. Justin Le Fort has been appointed 1st XI Captain for next season and Vishal Bhimjiyani Club Captain, both OMs. Shaun O’Brien has stepped down after 5 years as skipper: Shaun has done a tremendous job during his captnacy, leading the side in successive years to become Division 1 champions. We are delighted that John Emburey, Middlesex and England, is to become player/coach next season. For further club news/information, or to contact us about joining, please go to the club website at totteridgemillhillians.com.

Stewart Wernham (1974-79)

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**Golf**

The OMSG golfing year concluded with over forty members attending the Club’s AGM and Annual Dinner at The Pewterers Hall on Friday 2nd December. The evening began with members standing in silence to remember Tony Turnbull, Mike Peterson and David Harrison.

Tom Hignett, who is retiring as Honorary Treasurer, was deservedly made a Vice-President in recognition of his twenty-three years in the post and at the dinner Tom also received a presentation from the Club. John Hawkins, Captain, also awarded Nick Priestnall a Beart Trophy in recognition of his work in raising the profile of the OMSG at Mill Hill and securing funds to assist the development of golf there. A further Beart trophy was awarded to James Ellis for his winning record in this trophy, which unfortunately had coincided with OMs Day, still managed twenty dedicated attendees, including newcomer Lawrence Parnes and octogenarians Mark Sellers, Roy Mills and Peter Woodroffe!

Next year’s dates, 28th-30th September will avoid the clash. NB Old Millhillian golfers are encouraged to join Royal Cinque Ports as Public School members, giving them favourable green fee rates as far afield as Royal Lytham and Royal Cinque Ports. The annual Autumn weekend at Hankley Common had been particularly successful with twenty-one golfers enjoying the challenges of the splendid course. The annual Autumn weekend at Deal, which unfortunately had coincided with OMs Day, still managed twenty dedicated attendees, including newcomer Lawrence Parnes and octogenarians Mark Sellers, Roy Mills and Peter Woodroffe!


Finally a reminder that the Spring tour to North Devon takes place from the 27th-30th May 2012, but do get in touch immediately with me (John Hawkins) if you are interested in playing.

John Hawkins (Captain)
We would like to hear your news and views. Feel free to contact the Club Office with news and photos about your achievements, interesting stories and anecdotes!

Please contact Shalaka on: 020 8906 7949
sk@millhill.org.uk