

# OLD MICHAELIAN ASSOCIATION

(FOUNDED 1953)

ANNUAL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2015



John Wallington

Dear Old Michaelian's,

A Very Happy New Year to you all.

I am a little surprised to work out how many years have flown by since I took up the reins as OMA Editor from our dear friend and fellow Old Michaelian, the late Martin Graville. It is nine years and I have thoroughly enjoyed every moment and intend to continue enjoying the task of knitting together the two OMA publications each year keeping the communication links in good order for all of our Members across the Globe.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the constant support and input from you, the Members, and you will read within this Newsletter that I have already established a good wad of material for the 2015 'Mitre' but there is always room for more.

Here is a good example of what I mean:



The iconic, hard working, often abused and often bruised Comar. In her article in the 2014 'Mitre', Felicity Cole (nee Sutton) made mention of this work horse and the precarious experiences of those passengers who chose to sit on the center aisle bench! There has got to be loads of stories relating to the Comar and I think it is about time these were published. Send me your stories and memories and I promise they will be published.....well,

so long as they are not too rude!!

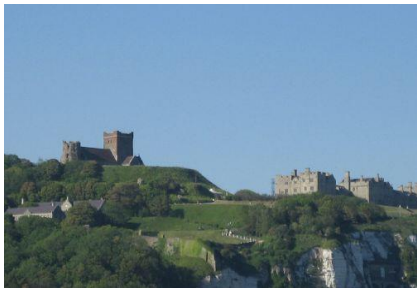
I send my own personal best wishes to you all for 2015.

## **PLANNING THE 2015 OMA 'MITRE'**

Planning the preparing for publication of 'The Mitre' each year is very much reliant on you, the Members and I am forever grateful to you all for all the contributions that have 'hit' my in-box in support of publication. So, it is usually at this time of year, mid-way through the British winter, when I sit down and do the necessary. This year there is no panic, no stress since I have already received a number of articles for inclusion but, as I said to you earlier, there is always room for more.

To give you a flavour of what to expect this year, just wrap your eager eyes around the following:

- **OLD OMA PHOTOGRAPH (Names need to be added to this piece of archive).**
- **DETAILS OF SCHOOL PLAYS PERFORMED IN THE 60/70's**
- **OMA MEMBERS MAKING FRIENDS WITH THE RUSSIAN NAVY**
- **WHO IS THE NEWLY ELECTED CHAIRMAN OF THE OMA?**
- **MORE SUCCESS FOR THE OMA WEB SITE (and an Oscar for Bill Cullin)**
- **FULL REPORT ON THE 2014 OMA REUNION WEEKEND**
- **ALL THE DETAIL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2015 REUNION WEEKEND**
- **THE PLACEMENT OF ONE OF OUR OWN WHO HAS BEEN ASKED TO TAKE UP THE POST OF CO-ORDINATING CHAPLAIN AT ONE OF THE MOST ICONIC AND HISTORIC PARISHES IN THE UK (here is a photographic clue)**



(Where is this place?)

- **MORE MEMORIES FROM CHRIS GIBBS ABOUT HEACHAM PARISH CHURCH**

➤ **AND MUCH MUCH MORE!**

**Phew!! I need to lay down**

## **MEMORIES OF THE 2014 OMA REUNION W/END**

Once again, the Old Michaelian Association proved that, no matter how many years may have passed by since the School closure, asking its Members to continue to support the Association each October as we celebrate yet another successful Reunion weekend in Hunstanton is never a problem.

‘Thank you’ to everyone who made the journey out to NW Norfolk towards the end of October last year and helped to make the whole weekend another huge success for the Association.

Angela and I feel slight embarrassment since, at the eleventh hour we were both struck down by some awful virus and found it necessary to cancel our proposed trip across to Hunstanton. Sorry!



The photograph to the left is wonderful and shows Peter Hartley, Reggie Wood, Geoff Lake and Robin James in attendance and, quite obviously, before the alcohol had started to take effect!

As someone who, unfortunately, did not manage to make it to Hunstanton, I was disappointed at the small number of photographs submitted for inclusion onto the OMA Web Site and the OMA Committee would like to take this opportunity to encourage all Members to take as many photographs as possible, especially at the Reunion

weekend, so that these may be retained by Bill Cullin for the Web Site. Thank you.

I have received many individual reports about the whole weekend and there does not seem to be any juicy rumours and certainly no photographic evidence of foul play. What has been reported back was that the whole weekend was regarded as highly successful. The contribution to that success is, of course, down to the Association Members, but also to the service and support offered and provided by the Le Strange Arms Hotel Management and staff and here is another opportunity to say ‘Thank you’ to all of them.

The OMA Eucharist on the Sunday morning at Ingoldisthorpe was equally well attended and we are extremely grateful to Geraldine Wikley who agreed to step up to the plate and play the organ at very short notice. We offer our sincere Thanks.

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### **RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING OMA COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

It is with regret that Simon Pott and Bob Hill accepted resignations from Heather Kelly (nee Gadsden) and Elaine Humby (nee Clarke) from the OMA Committee at the OMA Annual General Meeting last October.

The Association would like to take this opportunity to thank both Heather and Elaine for all of their support and dedication to the Association over recent years.

**THANK YOU.**

## AGE MATTERS

My name is Alice Smith and I was sitting in the Waiting Room for my first appointment with a new Dentist. I noticed his Dental Diploma displayed on the wall that bore his full name.

Suddenly, I remembered a tall, handsome, dark haired boy with the same name had been in my Secondary school class some 30 years ago. Could this be the same guy I had a secret crush on way back so many years ago?

Upon seeing him, however, I quickly discarded any such thought. This balding, grey haired man with the deeply lined face was far too old to have been my classmate. After he examined my teeth, I asked him if he had attended Morgan Park Secondary School.

*“Yes, yes I did. I’m a Morganer”* he beamed with pride.

*“When did you leave to go to College?”* I asked

*“In 1965. Why do you ask?”* he replied

*“You were in my class!”* I exclaimed

He looked at me closely.

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Then, this ugly, old, bald, wrinkled, grey haired, decrepit excuse for a human being turned to me and said,

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*“What subject did you teach?”*

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## 2015 OMA REUNION WEEKEND DATES

# 24 & 25 OCTOBER 2015

**All details relating to the forthcoming Annual Reunion weekend will be provided in ‘The Mitre’ this summer.**

**Please make every effort to support the Association and prepare to join us all in Hunstanton towards the end of October. You will be made very welcome.**