

THE MITRE



Ingoldisthorpe The Rectory

2019



John Wallington

WELCOME TO THE 2019 EDITION OF THE **OMA 'MITRE'.**

It is once again my pleasure to guide you through yet another BUMPER issue of 'The Mitre' that I hope you will all thoroughly enjoy.

Before I get stuck into this publication, let me express my thanks to all of you who kindly sent words of appreciation for the publication of 'The Mitre' last year and its contents.

This year our President Simon Pott, our Chairman Ian Dupont and all OMA Committee Members will commit themselves to persuading as many of you and your partners, to join us all again at the Heacham Manor Hotel on **Saturday 26 October 2019** for our annual OMA Reunion Dinner and one fact I can assure all of you of this will once again, be a huge success.

As I begin to knit together this OMA publication it is 12 March 2019, a gale force wind is blowing and winter has not quite done with us here in the UK. I am also aware that preliminary discussions have already taken place between representatives of the OMA and Heacham Manor Hotel Management to ensure that ALL the 't' s are crossed and the 'l' s dotted well in advance of our annual event.

Within this publication I will be reviewing the 2018 OMA Reunion weekend in a little bit more detail in addition to what was published in the 2019 OMA Newsletter and this year we are really hoping we may be able to attract far more local Old Michaelians to join us throughout the weekend at the Heacham Manor Hotel.

So, sit back, with a glass of something agreeable in hand, and enjoy this edition of the 2019 OMA 'Mitre'.

John Wallington
OMA 'Mitre' Editor

2018 OMA Reunion Weekend



The **65th** Anniversary OMA Reunion weekend took place over the weekend of 27th and 28th October 2018 and proved to be a very successful event.

The events leading up to why the Association was encouraged to move from the Le Strange Arms Hotel at Hunstanton to the Heacham Manor Hotel for our annual event are well documented and we do not want to spend any more time on this subject. Likewise, moving to an alternative location was always going to be a nervous option. So, it was with enormous relief that so many Old Michaelians and their partners chose to spend the weekend of 27/28 October 2018 with us all at the Heacham Manor Hotel and helped to make this anniversary year and event such a resounding success. Thank you to everyone who made the journey to NW Norfolk and helped to make the whole weekend so memorable.

Okay, so the weather did not exactly play its part for us all and, by lunchtime on the Saturday, Mike Smith had decided to cancel the OMA Golf Tournament and any thoughts of persuading Old Michaelians to participate in a Croquet competition went straight out of the window! But, these things happen and it became very clear that all guests were very content in spending time in the bar sipping a quiet beverage or three and catching up on years gone by and swapping yarns and tales.



Our Annual General Meeting took place during the Saturday afternoon and was very well attended. Chaired by Ian Dupont, our OMA Chairman, our 2018 AGM proved to be a very lively affair and there was a healthy debate covering a number of relevant topics. We discussed at length the possibility of collating all of the thousands of photographs that had been assembled by John King over the years and always displayed by John at every OMA Reunion weekend for everyone to appreciate. It was noted that, the photographs in their present state, are extremely vulnerable and it was agreed that digitising all photographs would be the best idea so that they could be made available for a very long time.

Furthermore, it was again voiced that the photographs could be made into a style of book and this prompted two things to happen.

First, a wife of an OM volunteered to undertake the preparation of a suitable book.

Secondly, a very generous donation was offered to the Association covering all costs associated with this undertaking.



We all listened carefully to everything that our Treasurer Ruth Chilvers had to say about the present financial situation with regard to the OMA Finances and we were made aware how slim our Bank balance had become. The Association is still very healthy but we were advised by Ruth that it may be necessary to cut back on some expenditures in the future. At which point we were all made aware that another generous donation had been pledged by an Old Michaelian that will protect all future costing's and will enable the OMA Newsletter and the OMA 'Mitre' to continue for the future for the benefit of all OMA Members. The existing OMA Committee were elected en mass, led by our Chairman Ian Dupont.

The Old Michaelian Association welcomed just over 50 guests to our Anniversary Reunion Dinner on the Saturday evening and this proved to be a very enjoyable evening for everyone. It is always a joy for us all when we are able to welcome back an Old Michaelian to our annual weekend Reunion Dinner and all OMs and their guests welcomed with open arms Rachel Golby and her husband David. As many of you may know, Rachel suffered a very unfortunate accident at home and is still in recovery and everyone present made absolutely sure that both Rachel and David were given a true OMA welcome.

Within this publication, we will be publishing a letter from Rachel and we take this opportunity to wish Rachel every success with the remainder of her recovery and hope that she and David will be able to join us all again at the Heacham Manor Hotel towards the end of October 2019.

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OLD MICHAELIANS YOUNG AND OLD ISH!

The Old Michaelian Association has successfully existed for 65 years. In previous editions of 'The Mitre' we have recognised the extraordinary work and dedication provided by many OMs over past years and the Association is constantly endeavouring to encourage as many OMs and their families to join us all in NW Norfolk each autumn to resume friendships and swap many tales of years gone by.

We also appreciate that many OMs have continued to meet, sometimes on an individual basis and it is true to say that many of these friendships have grown over the years and, no doubt, family members have become involved and we wish to pay tribute to these friendships.

This subject was highlighted because of a photograph that was sent in by Patricia Rolph (nee Randall) and with the permission of those involved, it is our pleasure to share this photograph with you all:



The photograph is of Patricia Rolph (nee Randall) who attended the school between 1954 – 1958. Anne Staveley (nee Wakefield) who attended the school between 1951 'til ? and Keith Colman who attended the school between 1947 'til ?. As you will notice, the school register is still incomplete and if this could be made more complete we would be most grateful. My understanding is that the photograph was taken at a Country Pub named The Bell at Brisley and, furthermore, I understand that our colleagues meet on a regular basis. Trisha and Anne meet often and apparently their respective partners play golf together. Anne lives in Thornham with her husband Sam and Trisha lives with her husband John in Dersingham. It was interesting to note from the details that Trisha provided that Trisha and John now live in Trisha's former home where she lived for the first 18 years of her life with her family in Dersingham.

Keith Colman was once a regular attendee to our annual OMA Reunion weekends and we understand that Keith remembers loads of stats. and memories of his time attending St. Michael's School. Keith was one of the first pupils to attend the school and is listed as pupil No. 79 in the School Register. We could not possibly mention Keith's name without offering to Keith and Mary Coleman our sincere congratulations on the many successes accomplished by their daughter Olivia and especially the nomination and winner of the 2019 Oscar for Best Actress



You both must feel very proud, and quite rightly so the Old Michaelian Association led by our President Simon Pott, our Chairman Ian Dupont, the OMA Committee and all OMA Members take this opportunity to congratulate Olivia Coleman on her achievements to date.

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Food for Thought!!



NEWS FROM A DEAR FRIEND



Earlier we mentioned **Rachel Golby** and how delighted we all were that Rachel, together with her husband David, were able to attend the OMA Anniversary Reunion Dinner. Simon Pott made mention of the fact in his after Dinner speech that an OMA Reunion weekend, without welcoming Rachel and David, was unthinkable.

Rachel has been poorly for some time and is still undergoing physiotherapy and constant support from her family as she makes progress along the long road to recovery. So we thought it was very appropriate to copy you all in on a letter received from Rachel in February 2019 as follows:

"Thank you so much for the OMA Newsletter.

At last I can write again. It's taken ages to be able to control my hands!

When I saw you all in October it was so lovely. You all cared so much it was a bit overwhelming.....but wonderful. Old friends are so important.

Life here is much the same. I'm still in my wheelchair and beginning to cope a bit better. It is very slow and tiring but hopefully I will get there one day.....who knows!

Please give my love and thanks to everyone.

I hope we might see you all in October. xxx"

And we hope so as well Rachel. Everyone within the Association sends their fondest love to you and we wish you every success during your recovery.

'We are fast approaching the end of May and publication of 'The Mitre' is very due. On Monday 20 May 2019 we learned that David Golby had been taken poorly and is in Hospital. The OMA together with the OMAA send our sincere love to both David and Rachel and we wish them both all our best wishes in the World as they make progress with their recovery' Ed.



REMEMBERING OLD MICHAELIANS

Sadly, the Association continually and sincerely remembers those OM Members who have recently passed away and in doing so, we offer our deep condolences and sympathy to all family and friends.

We remember:

CARL TAYLOR



Carl was born on 6th July 1945 and he attended St. Michael's School as a Day Boy between the years of 1954 – 1964. Carl's family have agreed that the following Eulogy, as presented by his family at Carl's funeral on 24 September 2018, should be published and we offer our Thanks for this consideration.

Dad.

Carl Taylor was a big man with a big heart!!!

He was dearly loved by his wife Angie, children Ali and Simon, step-children Hayley and Ross, their partners and all eleven grandchildren – 'his little winkles' Alfie, Gracie, Lauren, Charlie, Max, Will, Ronnie, Freddie, Sammy, Francesca and Rosie.

Carl was born to Ivy and Ledner Taylor in the village of Heacham on 6 July 1945. Carl had two brothers John and Paul and a sister Diana – known as 'Dinks'.

Ledner ran the local shoe repair shop 'Taylors' on Heacham High Street. Carl went to Heacham School and then on to St. Michael's School Ingoldisthorpe where he made some life-long friends. It was here that he met his first wife Marilyn and mother to Ali and Simon. He started working with his Father-in-Law Dick Reynolds who quickly became his idol since Dick taught him all he knew about 'wheeling and dealing'. Soon after Carl started to drive trucks up and down the country for a living. He always had fond memories of these times. During this time he also started a business at Regent Garage in Stanhoe selling fuel, repairing cars and lawnmowers and.....of course....dealing! Following the break-up of his first marriage, Carl spent time working for Wimpy as a heavy plant fitter working on projects at Marham Airbase and the construction of the famous M25. After his marriage to his second wife Angie the couple settled at 40 North Way where Carl's second business venture began. Starting in one small garage the business soon expanded to the whole row of garages. The empire known as CLT Motors was born. Always attempting to make a swift £ or 2, he soon became known as Kings Lynn's answer to Arthur Daley!! Carl and Angie enjoyed many fantastic holidays together including trips to Australia to visit his sister 'Dinks' and family. At the age of 65 years Carl decided to retire and left CLT Motors in the capable hands of Richard Burns who had worked with Carl for many years. In his retirement Carl enjoyed the odd game of golf and spent many happy hours watching his favourite football team, Norwich City In 2015 Carl's wife Angie sadly lost her battle with Cancer. Carl went on to spend his last summers at his caravan at Snettisham Beach where family and friends would find him sunning himself whilst enjoying his pipe and listening to his music alongside his four legged friends Spot and Peanut. As his life deteriorated, Carl decided to move to Fakenham so that Ali could care for him and where he felt content and happy.

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ANDREW HERON



Andrew Heron attended St. Michael's School between the years of 1957 – 1963 as a Boarder. He was born on 7th July 1947. We offer to Andrew's family and to all of his friends our sincere condolences and sympathy.

We understand that Andrew's life-long friend from school days, David Barry, attended the funeral service for Andrew Heron in Norwich in October 2018.

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A MINI INVASION FROM AUSTRALIA!!



Since the formation of the OMAA in 19--, the OMA has welcomed with open arms our colleagues from both Australia and New Zealand over the years. The OMAA, under the direction of Les Roberts, has maintained a regular supply of Australian wine to be raffled at our annual OMA Reunion Dinner and we have always appreciated this generosity.

Les Roberts has visited NW Norfolk on many occasions and attended our annual Reunion weekends and it is with much delight that we understand that Les has once again emptied his 'piggy-bank', counted the pennies and he making plans to be in the UK towards the end of October and he has plans to join us all at the Heacham Manor Hotel. (*"Don't forget the Vino Les!"*) Last year we received an unexpected email from *John Dring*. Many of you who attended St. Michael's School in the 1950's – 1960's will remember John attending the school as a Boarder between 1957 – 1965. And.....Yes! I have managed to find a handsome photograph of John.



In John's email he confirmed that he was planning a long overdue visit to the UK in 2019 and he also hoped to include a visit to NW Norfolk to coincide with the OMA Reunion weekend. John is an ordained Priest working in the Diocese of Newcastle for the Anglican Church of Australia and John said in his email that he would very much like to offer his services to the OMA as Celebrant at our annual OMA Eucharist at Ingoldisthorpe Church on **Sunday 27 October 2019**. We are delighted to tell you all that the OMA Committee, under the Chairmanship of Ian Dupont, has accepted John's offer and we all look forward to welcoming John Dring as our Celebrant and as many OM's as possible to our Eucharist which will begin at 11am. *Perhaps I could be forgiven for the slight exaggeration in calling this a "MINI INVASION" from Australia!!* Ed.



While we are in Australian mode, I thought I would share with you all a photograph of another never-to-be-forgotten friend of the Old Michaelian Association and one of the former members of the OMAA: Bob Balfour. Bob attended St. Michael's School between the years 1955 – 1960 and he was always very proud of his Scottish roots and Scottish Rugby Union. I think I am right in remembering that Bob was responsible for persuading the Headmaster to invest in a set of Rugby Union posts so that the school could engage in another sport.



Bob taught me how to drive and I can almost hear the universal cry from you all: "That explains everything!" Ed.

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“THE BOOK”



We want to take you back to the 2018 OMA Annual General Meeting that took place at the Heacham Manor Hotel on Saturday 27 October 2018.

We were all delighted that the AGM attracted so many Old Michaelians and all of the important Agenda items were carried out without any difficulty. Towards the end of the AGM, during ‘Any Other Business’ the AGM was thrown into a general debate due to a question being asked from the floor as follows:

“What steps are being taken by the Old Michaelian Association to preserve the hundreds of OMA photographs collected by John King over a considerable number of years and displayed at every OMA Reunion weekend for us all to enjoy?”

The following debate became very interesting and enveloped the whole of the final part of the AGM last year.

Everyone had an opinion and there was a huge support for the OMA Committee to consider the possibility of producing a ‘Book’ that would contain and preserve these highly prized and important documents for a very long time. Furthermore, it was debated that this ‘Book’ could be produced electronically or in standard book type. It was made very clear to the OMA Committee that it was the decision of the OMA Members at the AGM that something must be done to preserve this record of the life and times and people who attended and/or who were involved with St. Michael’s School Ingoldisthorpe/Hunstanton until its closure in 1969.

Finding a suitable group of people who may have the experience and time to undergo such a project, we know, would not be easy.

We are delighted to report to you all that soon after the 2018 OMA Reunion weekend had finished, we had been contacted by an Old Michaelian who had generously donated a sum of money so that this project, that for the moment we are calling "THE BOOK", could go ahead immediately and would be financially secure. We are sure that all of you would wish to join with us and extend a huge word of **THANKS to our friend, colleague and fellow Old Michaelian who has shown this enormous generosity .**

In December 2018 **David Fleming and John King met and all of the photographs were handed over to David and we can report that all of the photographs have been successfully scanned and preserved in a digital form and are now available and ready to be transferred into "THE BOOK".**

We could not continue without offering enormous 'Thanks' to David Fleming for completing this task on behalf of the Old Michaelian Association.

Secondly, even though we have thanked John King so many times over the years, we do understand that this project would never have been possible without the dedication and sheer hard work given by John King over many years.

Now we want to involve all of you.....

First, do you have the knowledge and experience to be part of this project and are you prepared to engage with and offer your own experience in this project?

Secondly, we would really appreciate any advice you are prepared to share with us that would help us to meet ALL of our objectives that have been set out as a direct result of the debate that took place at the OMA AGM last year. If you do have anything to offer, please do not hesitate to contact us as soon as possible.

Make contact with the Old Michaelian Association as follows:

Email: hinckleytowers@btinternet.com

Mail: **Old Michaelian Association**

1 Onslow Court, 61 Cranley Road

Guildford

GU1 2JR

A VERY IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY **RUTH CHILVERS**



Under the new GDPR regulations, all Members of the Old Michaelian Association need to agree to your Association retaining certain personal information that we currently use to make contact. This information is in the form of personal address, E-mail address and telephone number.

The Old Michaelian Association has always maintained a high degree of confidentiality and this sense of responsibility will be maintained. It is extremely helpful if we are able to maintain such information such as your Date of Birth, the dates when you attended St. Michael's School and any maiden names. This is all very important to us and helps us sorting out table seating at our annual Reunion Dinner.

NONE OF THE INFORMATION RETAINED BY THE OMA WILL EVER BE SHARED WITHOUT YOUR CONSENT.

Would you all please make contact directly with Ruth Chilvers, OMA Membership Secretary, if you **DO NOT WISH PART OR ALL OF THIS DATA TO BE RETAINED**, and it will be immediately removed.

Please note, if you do decide to opt out and request your personal data to be removed from the Association records the OMA will no longer be able to make contact with you for whatever reason.

Thank you.

**RUTH CHILVERS
OMA MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY
85 ELLIOTT ROAD
MARCH
CAMBS.
PE15 8BP**

THE 2019 OMA REUNION WEEKEND

26TH AND 27TH OCTOBER

HEACHAM MANOR HOTEL

HERE IS YOUR OWN PERSONAL INVITATION:



YOU ARE ALL DULY INVITED TO ATTEND THE 66TH OMA REUNION WEEKEND TO BE HELD AT THE HEACHAM MANOR HOTEL OVER THE WEEKEND OF 26TH AND 27TH OCTOBER 2019. FULL DETAILS OF THE WEEKEND PROGRAMME ARE CONTAINED WITHIN THIS PUBLICATION OF 'THE MITRE'. WE HOPE THAT AS MANY OF YOU WILL FIND THE TIME TO JOIN IN WHAT PROMISES TO BE YET ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL AND AWESOME OMA REUNION.

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THE DETAILS AND PROGRAMME FOR THE 2019 OMA REUNION WEEKEND



After exhaustive efforts by the OMA Committee during 2017, we are convinced that we have found a very satisfactory alternative venue to hold all future OMA Reunion weekends.

Heacham holds very fond memories for many of us who attended St. Michael's

School and it is fitting that the Old Michaelian Association has found its way back to a very place in our minds, namely the village of Heacham. Who of you cannot fail to remember a slow walk from The Shooting Lodge down to the village stopping at Wadworth's shop for a "Special" costing just 6p to spur us on our way. Or a trip to "Joplins" for a quick snip at the Barbers!

Well, the Heacham Manor Hotel did not exist in those days but is well established these days as a prominent Hotel backing onto grounds occupied by the '12 Dorm' as part of The Shooting Lodge back in the 50's. Such memories!!

The Heacham Manor Hotel has now been chosen as our home for all future OMA Reunion weekends and the Hotel and the management and staff did us proud last year and they look forward to welcoming all Old Michaelians back again in 2019.

Preparation

- **Accommodation**

All the relevant details of accommodation at the Heacham Manor Hotel are provided as below:

- Room Rates per night.....Standard Double.....£119
(The Hotel will provide a suitable reduction for single occupancy)

Classic Room.....£134

De Luxe Room.....£149

Four Poster Room.....£159

If you intend making a reservation at the Heacham Manor Hotel, we suggest this is carried out sooner rather than later to avoid disappointment.

It is essential that, if you intend to make a reservation at the Heacham Manor Hotel that you mention that you require "Old Michaelian Association" room rates. All the Hotel staff are well briefed with these arrangements and we would advise you to make your reservations as soon as possible by telephoning:

01485 536030

Alternatively, you may wish to seek suitable accommodation in Heacham, Hunstanton or any other location and Guest Houses are listed via Bookings.com

Our annual OMA Reunion weekend promises to be yet another success for our Association and we already are aware that Old Michaelians are making plans to travel huge distances to join us all. **Ruth Chilvers** made some very relevant points within the 2019 OMA Newsletter thanking everyone who joined us for the 2018 Reunion who complied with the new booking system with ease and made the whole procedure, managed by Ruth, extremely easy to control and manage. So, working along the principle that 'if it isn't broke, why try to fix it' we intend to keep our procedure nearly the same.



The OMA **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** will begin promptly at **3.30pm** on Saturday 26th October 2019 at the Heacham Manor Hotel. Chaired by Ian Dupont we really do hope that as

many OMs as possible can find the time to attend this very important event in the diary of the Association. During the AGM important issues will be fully debated ensuring that the continuation of the Association is in safe hands and, in conjunction with the OMA Constitution, we continue to recognise the views and interests of every Old Michaelian.

The OMA AGM last year proved to be a very lively meeting and this is your opportunity as Members to voice your opinion and help to structure the Association for the future because, for sure, the Old Michaelian Association has a good optimistic future.

Besides the election of the OMA Committee for the following year, we also want to start a debate about how the Association can be improved that will attract a larger take up by Old Michaelians and their families and friends to the annual Reunion weekend each and every last weekend in October. This subject was debated during a recent OMA Committee Meeting earlier this year and it was decided that a relevant debate should be placed on the OMA AGM Agenda for this year to ask the following questions:

- **How can we encourage more OMs to attend Reunion weekends?**
- **Is it because of the time of year?**
- **Is it due to the venue?**
- **Is it the cost?**
- **Is it the structure of the weekend?**
- **Is it because you don't feel welcome?**
- **Is the Reunion Dinner too formal?**

Here is an opportunity to have your say and help us to ensure that the Association continues to have a very long and productive future.

Thank you.

After the AGM has finished, we invite all OM's together with family and friends to join us for refreshments.

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The Annual OMA Reunion Dinner will take place at the Heacham Manor Hotel on Saturday 26th October 2019 and we respectfully request that all Diners are assembled in the Dining Room for a prompt **7.45pm start.**

All Old Michaelians who require to make a firm reservation for the OMA Reunion Dinner should locate the Booking Form and choose from the following Menu the items you require providing us with your choice of a Starter, Mains and Dessert.

The Association is pleased to announce that prices for the OMA 2019 Reunion Dinner remain unchanged from last year and we are offering this very appetising and mouth watering selection of dishes as follows:

Menu for 2019 OMA Reunion Dinner

Starters

- 1. Tomato & Basil Soup with Homemade Bread (V & GF)**
- 2. Char-Grilled Vegetable Flan with Toasted Goats Cheese, Roast Cashew Nuts and Black Olive Tappernade (V, N & GF)**
- 3. Seared Pigeon Breast with Roast Black Pudding, Red Onion Marmalade, Parsnip Crisps and Pea Shoots**
- 4. Smoked Salmon Salad with Fennel, Red Onion Coleslaw and Avruga Caviar Dressing (GF)**

Mains

- 5. Chicken Breast with Potato Fondant, Celeriac Puree, Roast Tender Stem Boccoli and Red Wine Jus (GF)**
- 6. Brie and Leek Pithivier with Rocket and Sun Dried Tomato Salad (V)**
- 7. Crisp Confit of Gressingham Duck Leg with Braised Red Cabbage, Pomme Anna, Wilted Spinach and Red Wine Syrup (GF)**
- 8. Roast Fillet of Loch Duart Salmon with Mussels, Leek and New Potato**

Desserts

9. Passion Fruit and Meringue Parfait with Dark Chocolate Décor and Citrus Syrup (V, GF)

10. Elderflower and Lime Cheesecake with Ginger Biscuit Base and Brandy Snap Biscuits (V)

11. Baileys Crème Brulee with Vanilla Short Bread

12. Apple and Cinnamon Crumble with Roasted Oat and Biscuit Crunch (V)

NB

GF = Suitable for Gluten Free Diet, V= Vegetarian Dishes, N= Contains Nuts

Well, if that hasn't started the juices running, I am not too sure what will!!!

An amazing choice for you to mull over.

This very attractive part of what is promised to be a very enjoyable evening

with many friends will cost just **£26 per head.**

RE-CAP

- **If you require accommodation over the OMA Reunion weekend, please remember to book and confirm your requirements.**
- **Fill out the OMA Booking Form to confirm your requirements at the Reunion Dinner. This will be required for all guests.**
- **Mail the completed OMA Booking Form, enclosing your cheque made payable to the Old Michealian Association, to **Ruth Chilvers, 85 Elliott Road, March, Cambs. PE15 8BP to arrive no later please than 1 October 2019****
- **Please try wherever possible to keep to this date because it does relieve the work undertaken by Ruth and the Heacham Manor Hotel in preparing for the Reunion weekend.**
- **The OMA will accept later bookings but we encourage everyone to comply with our information. Thank you.**

The timetable for the whole of our OMA Reunion weekend is as follows:

- **Saturday 26 October 2019 arrive at the Heacham Manor Hotel and enjoy a social lunchtime beverage or three with friends at the Bar.**
- **Please find time to attend the OMA Annual General Meeting at the Heacham Manor Hotel starting at 3.30pm**
- **The OMA Reunion Dinner will start promptly at 7.45pm. Please ensure that you and your guests arrive soon after 7pm**
- **During the evening the OMA Committee Ladies will be managing the scramble for tickets to be part of the OMA Dinner Raffle and they will do everything to prise your well earned 'Dosh' from your pockets and handbags! Be prepared!**
- **The 'After Dinner Speeches' are always a highlight of our annual OMA Reunion Dinner. Led by our President Simon Pott and our Chairman Ian Dupont you are left wanting 'More' at the end. If any OMs do require to add to this banter, please let Ian Dupont know well in advance.**
- **On Sunday 27 October 2019 we invite all Old Michaelians and their guests to Ingoldisthorpe Parish Church for our annual OMA Eucharist. Our Eucharist this year will be led by The Rev. John Dring who will be making his way all the way from Australia to be with us all and wrote to us late last year offering his services as Celebrant for our 2019 OMA Eucharist. We are delighted to welcome John back to NW Norfolk and back to being part of our OMA Reunion weekend. John attended St. Michaels School as a boarder between 1957 – 1965 and, as far as we know, this is the first time John has returned back to NW Norfolk.**
- **The OMA offer our sincere 'Thanks' to the Rev. Mark Capron, Rector of Dersingham Benefice and the PCC for allowing the OMA use of Ingoldisthorpe Parish Church for our Reunion Eucharist again this year.**
- **During our Eucharist Simon Pott will be offering Intercession Prayers and we invite all Old Michaelians to submit names of family and/or friends who they would wish to be mentioned during these Prayers.**

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WILL YOU REACH OUT AND BEFRIEND AN OLD MICHAELIAN?



Our very dear friend and fellow OMA Committee Member keeps in contact with many OMs and, quite recently, she was contacted by Paul Atkins who was interested to know about various 'old' friends who he had lost contact with. Paul said to Pat that he would love to hear from any OMs who remembers Paul from school days. Paul joined St. Michael's School in 1950, although we do not have any record of the year he left the school.

Paul would be so pleased to hear from any of you who may remember him back in the 50s and we encourage this contact between fellow Old Michaelians.

If you can spare a few moments to write to Paul, this can be easily carried out through the services of the Old Michaelian Association. Simply write your greeting message to the following:

E-mail: hinckleytowers@btinternet.com

Or

Old Michaelian Association

1 Onslow Court

61 Cranley Road

Guildford

GU1 2JR

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

SIMON POTT



Simon Pott

It must have been about this time in 1969 when I became aware that my Father was going to retire as Headmaster of St. Michael's School and that the school would close.

Although he would continue as Vicar of Heacham Parish Church and Rector of Ingoldisthorpe Parish Church for many years afterwards.

He had already passed his 60th birthday that June and had not always enjoyed the best of health, no doubt brought about in no small measure by the commitment he gave, in a certain chaotic fashion, to all involved and that included the three of us who have the privilege of being his children. At which point I cannot continue this contribution to 'The Mitre' without a huge tribute to our remarkable Mother.

It must have been a difficult decision because the pupils of the school had become his wider family and the huge affection he had for all who passed through his establishment has been repaid over the following fifty years and will allow us a special celebration when the Old Michaelian Association meets for the annual weekend on the 26/27 October 2019. Much has been said and written about the school over those fifty years and the preceding 23 years since the school opened its doors in 1946. The fact that the Association still flourishes so well after all these years is testament to a small number of dedicated Old Michaelians who form the OMA Committee and put in quality time to ensure a warm welcome to those Old Michaelians' who suddenly re-appear sometimes after more than 40 years absence. We already know this will be the case this year and that is exciting and very rewarding for the OMA Committee. The Australian Association (OMAA) will be well represented in their customary modest and understated way which we have come to know and love.

All former pupils are welcome together with their spouses, partners, families and grandchildren and possibly into a further generation to talk of how it used to be, tales of daring risks, retold with that level of fact and exaggeration that my Father would have encouraged and typified much of his extraordinary life. We look forward with great anticipation to seeing all who are able to join us in Heacham at the end of October 2019

Best Wishes

Simon

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

IAN DUPONT



**Dear Old Michaelians,
Hallo to you all once again.**

Last Year I had considerable reservations about leaving The Le Strange Arms Hotel after such a long time, although on the other hand, perhaps some people weren't so happy with the Hotel anyway. However, after a lot of discussion, and the OMA Committee having looked at several alternatives, we decided that the Heacham Manor Hotel was the best bet, (and as it was only a very short distance from the dormitory I started at St. Michael's) I could see that it had the best location, even though you couldn't walk straight to the beach so easily as before. I hope you all agree and if you don't, please let us know – after all we can't change anything unless we are aware of it, The Heacham Manor Hotel has been most obliging with the arrangements, even though they have changed the management staff on a couple of occasions to date! I hope that as many of you as possible can make the trip to West Norfolk and that the weather is an improvement on last year. With better weather we hope to bring back the OMA Challenge Cup, this time with a golf putting or croquet competition. Please let Mick Smith know if you are interested.

Once again we are able to offer a very full choice of menu for our OMA Reunion Dinner, so please ensure you book your requirements well in time to enjoy all it has to offer.

On Sunday the Celebrant at our Reunion Eucharist will be John Dring (there's a name from the 50's and 60's) all the way from Australia. We sign off with tea, coffee and biscuits served at the back of the church of St Michael's and All Angels after the service.

Well, that is all for now and I look forward to seeing you all at the end of October.

Best Wishes

Ian Dupont

Chairman

Old Michaelian Association

THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING SO ATTENTIVE

My sincere 'Thanks' to you all. I sincerely hope you have found the contents of the 2019 'Mitre' interesting and, while I am in the thank you mood, huge 'Thanks' must be aimed towards everyone who has contributed to our annual 'Mitre'.

As our Chairman has just said, we really do hope that as many of you as possible can find the time to join us all at the OMA Reunion weekend 26/27 October 2019 and help to make it yet another very successful Reunion. Ed.

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