



THE OLD MONMOTHIAN CLUB

FOUNDED 1886

Telephone: 01873 855167 Email: oldmonmothians@monmouthschool.org
www.oldmonmothians.co.uk

NEWSLETTER April 2011

IN OUR 125th
YEAR THE
MEMBERSHIP
HITS 3,198

STANDING ORDERS

Many of our Standing Order payers have now supported the Monmothian Charitable Trust by converting their donations through Gift Aid declarations and are now benefactors of the Trust. The response has been encouraging, and of course provides additional income via tax refunds from the Inland Revenue. It is hoped that all Standing Order payers will convert their donations to Gift Aid, thus enabling us to further assist pupils in a variety of different and meaningful ways.

OM webALUMNUS

Many OMs have now registered on the free webALUMNUS site. To register, go to the Old Monmothian website www.oldmonmothians.co.uk and follow the link on the Home page. On entering the site, click on "New, never registered before?" and fill in the questionnaire provided.

MESSAGE FROM THE CLUB PRESIDENT

No report would be complete without reference to the devastating impact of the recent combined earthquake and tsunami that wreaked such havoc upon Japan and the surrounding islands. With loss of life above 20,000 and in excess of 500,000 people made homeless this terrifying human tragedy is additionally expected to become the costliest natural disaster in history, with the repair bill likely to top £100 billion. Coming so soon after the earthquake in Christchurch, New Zealand, and with countries across the world being faced with nuclear consequences of earthquake and tsunami we are made brutally aware of the fragility and vulnerability of the human race that touches us all.



No-one can fail to have been moved by the traumatic scenes beamed into our homes. Buildings demolished, trees and vegetation torn down, people bemused and shell-shocked, and amongst the carnage the bewilderment of young children as they crave security and protection. Closer to home we have continuing strife in the Middle East, internal turmoil and bitter fighting, leading tragically to the certainty of further loss of human life. This man-made disaster compounds human disaster across the world and we find ourselves questioning the values and priorities to which we lay claim. Yet is it not in this very questioning and in ascertaining our values that each and every one of us gains strength in seeking to make some contribution, however small we may believe it to be, to the complex issues that face the world's population?

Just last December in "The Monmothian" I commented that "what has struck me forcibly this year has been the determination of the young students to assist, in a practical way, others suffering from disabilities, illness or poverty". An example of this practical help was given in the case of a pupil planning to go to Sri Lanka this year to be "drafted into building houses from scratch with the locals. . . . aiming to get our hands dirty and help the people one-on-one in the on-going aftermath of the Tsunami disaster".

Then I learn of the initiative of **Grant Nicholas** (OM1979-84), song writer and lead singer of *FEEDER*, who have just made a terrific gesture of support to the Japanese appeal (more appears later in the newsletter). Read also, in this edition, of the extraordinary dedication of **Richard Parks** (1988-95), **Andrew Bowen** (1983-90) and **Simon Butt** (1981-86) in their determination to help others.

Never did I believe that my message this year would again be coloured by the devastation of a tsunami but again never have I felt more certain that the values acquired by the pupils at Monmouth School prepare and empower them to face the challenges of a rapidly changing world.

Modern technology has of course made us instantly aware of the challenges that confront nations, governments and peoples of the world. By the very speed of communication the world has become a smaller place. No country or native people can regard themselves as entirely immune from the problems of another. The banking crisis impacted on the world's economy; the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear crisis in Japan go to the heart of our human and environmental relationships, whilst the anguish and despair stemming from internal strife in the Middle East raise questions of intervention and interdependence on both human and political fronts. The technology informs us of the problems. Our speed and strength of response is nurtured in the values that underpin the governance of the Haberdashers' Schools and are reflected in the stated objects of the Constitution of our Old Monmothian Club. It has been my privilege during my two year tenure as your President to see this relationship of School and Old Monmothian Club continue to build on strong foundations. In this **our 125th year** no effort has been spared to communicate with members across the world to come together in their regional areas in celebration and thanksgiving for the memories of a school best captured in the words of Leonard Clarke OM:

**"Let us remember the School by the river
The games that we played in the sun and the rain
The friends that we made who are with us forever
Though some may not answer the roll call again"**

Our programme was given a perfect start by the marvellous dinner held at Lincoln College, Oxford University, in December 2010 in recognition of the achievements of two OMs, **Paul Langford** (1957-64), Rector of Lincoln College and **Richard Carwardine** (1958-65), President of Corpus Christie College. The abiding memory of all those in attendance was of the modesty and humility of these two ambassadors of learning, endearing qualities that shone throughout a very special evening.



In January of this year we again held a very successful Cardiff Dinner, where **Rollo Arthur** was presented with an inscribed gift in thanks for his organisation of this event over some 40 years. At Monmouth, **Jamie Burn** is hard at work in preparation for what is likely to be a very special OM Reunion Day on 11th June, whilst **Michael Mounsdon** is finalising arrangements for the popular Henley Dinner on 27th August. With excitement high after the School's unbeaten rugby season in 2010 plans are now being made for a 'get-together' of all surviving members of the unbeaten rugby sides at a commemorative lunch to be held on

the occasion of the Annual General Meeting of the Club on 1st October 2011. Also in October, **Steve Norris** will bring down the curtain for the year with the eagerly awaited London Dinner, which may even reach the 100 member target on this special occasion.

In addition to the formal events that feature in our annual calendar, **Michael Steen** in the Eastbourne area and **James Richards** in Birmingham have advised Sharon Finch, OMC administrator, that they are happy to arrange a regional lunch or dinner. Other local or regional events may yet be announced.

I would like to thank Sharon for the work she is undertaking in this newly appointed role. Coming as the position does in the aftermath of the Review Sub Committee Report, chaired by **Brian Margrett**, and the Action Group Recommendations, steered by **Richard Booth**, her work in providing information and understanding of the organisational structure linking school-leaver and OMC cannot be overstated. May I also take this opportunity to thank **David Evans**, Editor of the OM Newsletter, for his support and vision in the design and presentation of our OM literature.

As ever, I cannot speak too highly of the Officers and Members of the OMC Committee who have supported me. No praise can be too high for the work, over decades, of **Ivor Hodgson**, **Tony Roberts** and **Brian Margrett**, loyal devotees of our Club who have not always enjoyed the best of health in recent times but whose cheerfulness and dedication to the

OMC remains undimmed. Patron **Sir Frank Davies** and former long serving OM secretary **Roger Atkins** have successfully launched the Monmothian Charitable Trust which provides important financial support to school and pupil welfare. **Ian Bowen's** astute financial stewardship, **Henry Toulouse's** meticulous recording of school and OMC life and Patron **Bob Blake's** wise counsel have all been vital ingredients in maintaining the dynamics of a club that is well equipped to face the future with confidence.

We are fortunate that we have in Vice President **Richard Booth** and Hon Secretary **Ray Blight** two members of our younger generation who have embraced the dedication and commitment of our senior members and welcome the opportunities afforded by new technology and information systems. As our OMC seeks to assist the School in every practical way, as guided by our Constitution, I would like also to thank the Headmaster and his staff for the facilities provided to enable the Club to undertake its duties expeditiously. With the advent of the School's **400th anniversary** now showing clearly on the horizon and the building programme well advanced, the William Jones Foundation can be assured that the OMC will continue to provide support in every practical manner for a School that has such a marvellous track record of education and achievement.

In conclusion may I thank the members for the honour and privilege of serving as your President for the last two years.

John Pearman (50-56)

A MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF THE OLD MONMOTHIAN CLUB

Interestingly, publication of *The Monmothian*, which made its first appearance in 1882, preceded the establishment of the OMC by four years. It was suggested in a letter written to the magazine by R P Roseveare, younger brother of the first editor, and the Club was formed in 1886. H A Ward, one-time Second Master, recorded in his history *Monmouth School 1614 – 1964* that "Its main purposes were to organise teams and matches, and to give help to the School games, and dinners were held both at Monmouth and in London from time to time; but its main activities seem to have been somewhat spasmodic." A dinner in the Rolls Hall, now Monmouth Town Library, held in 1891 to mark the imminent departure of eleven masters, was attended by 200 OMs – a greater gathering by far than has subsequently been achieved!

A more structured Club was formed in 1908, with quite a modest membership. In 1928, it was determined that a drive should be made to increase the numbers and, indeed, the membership increased steadily over the following decades. This was mainly through the introduction of a scheme whereby boys still at school could qualify for future life membership by paying a certain number of small termly sums, totalling less than the normal life subscription. By 1964, the total membership stood at 1,100: it is now three times that number.

The Monmothian was published fairly regularly from 1882, but not always with the same number of issues or pages (which varied in size, presumably in the interest of economy, and availability of paper in war-time) and not necessarily at the same times in the year. There were regular complaints about lack of support and the difficulty of keeping solvent. Editorship in the early years was in the hands of boys, but from 1931 it was entrusted to masters. For a long time, the steadily increasing cost of production was borne by the Club, but in 1963 it was decided that the School should take over the main responsibility and that the Club would make a handsome financial contribution. Today's full-colour, 150+ page publication is a far cry from the pocket-sized four-page newsletter familiar to OMs in the 1920s.

125th
Anniversary

ROD SEALY

A memorial service was held in the School Chapel on 22nd January 2011

SIMON BUTT (1981-86) recalled many of his personal experiences of Rod:

“I had the great honour to have had Tudor House chosen as my boarding house. It was on a very damp September day in 1981 that I was duly dropped off by my parents and into the very capable care of Rod and Esther Sealy. As my father was in the Army this continuity of education was critical. As with all the boarders in the house, Rod and Esther effectively became my second parents until I left in 1986 to enter Sandhurst.

As head of rugby, Master in charge of Tudor House and 2i/c of the CCF, Rod always thought of others first, with selfless commitment. His previous experiences from military service meant that this quality always shone through, especially in the two rugby terms, when he would devote hours and hours of his own time to coach and improve the strength, skill and abilities of not only the first XV but other teams in the School. Many Monmouth pupils have gone on to represent their countries, counties, services or local sides thanks to Rod's coaching. As a house master I know that he would often cancel going away or visiting his children to look after those of us in Tudor House who had to remain over a weekend because our parents were abroad.

Rod set extremely high standards, which he never lowered both within the house and on the sports pitch. It was simply not good enough to come second; winning was the objective but always with humility and good manners. He was an inspiration to many people, he had a reputation for excellence and he was an icon that we did not want to disappoint and whom we all respected. I was fortunate to have worn the brown jersey of the first XV for three seasons and have many memorable moments with Rod whilst I attended school here. Whilst I could go on reminiscing for hours, he would have reminded me: “Say what you have to say and then get on with the game.”

Revd NORMAN MORRIS (School Chaplain 1985 – 2000) represented the Common Room

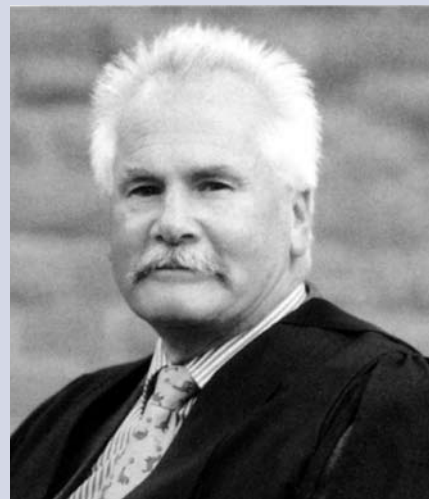
“When I came to Monmouth in 1985 there was one teacher who was a Common Room Colossus; who had a strong, disciplined, steely exterior yet who was also kind and utterly devoted to Monmouth School, its staff and boys – not much was going to ruffle him or put him off expressing an opinion - that was Rod Sealy!

In his 34 years at Monmouth, Rod fulfilled his major role as Head of PE and Master i/c of Rugby and much else besides for the School. He presided over the building of the new Sports Hall in the 1960s, which must have seemed a big advance at the time and which included a new Swimming Pool. Rod retired at a time when the latest Sports Hall was being planned and built. There cannot be many Heads of Department whose professional life coincides with the life of the buildings they created!

As a player, Rod had been a hooker yet his great skill lay in developing teams that played an open, attractive, passing style of rugby, which was a pleasure to watch. He had several successful unbeaten 1st XVs, and a number of Monmouth schoolboys went on to play at the highest levels, winning international caps, including **Tony Jorden**, **Keith Jarrett**, **Eddie Butler**, and **Richard Parks**, and lots of encouragement was given to one of my 3rd XV Red Army stars, **Wayne Barnes**, who refereed some School matches, and is now one of the top rugby referees in the world!

Rod always wanted to be a Housemaster and at various times he was Master of the Grange, first Housemaster of Dean House and, most important of all, Housemaster of Tudor House, which was formed in his time to cope with additional boarding numbers. He believed in proper boarding which included Saturday morning school, Saturday fixtures and Sunday Chapel, which fitted his vision of a school which aspired to high standards, a sense of pride, respect and responsibility which took in the whole person.

He made a deep impression on us all. He was a powerful figure, yet one who contributed hugely to the well being of the School over a long period of time, leaving a legacy of rugby success and a vision of a school always aiming high and looking for achievements in lots of different fields. Rod was a remarkable man, father, husband, colleague, teacher and rugby coach!”



Rod's hugely successful 1st VII side of 1974
©Eaden Lilley, Cambridge

TOP CLASS RUGBY

It seems entirely appropriate to Rod's memory to acknowledge here the success of current School rugby sides. In last year's newsletter, it was a pleasure to report a fine performance in the National Festival by our 2010 VII, who reached the semi-final of the tournament. So there was great delight when this was followed by an unbeaten season at First XV level – we have produced only ten such results since the mid 30s. The OM Club presented the players with glass tankards, suitably inscribed, at a Dinner held on the 18th March to celebrate the occasion.

As if this wasn't enough, the 2011 VII repeated last year's performance by again reaching the semi-final in the National Festival. A full report will appear in the next edition of *The Monmothian*.

Henry Toulouse

OLD MONMOTHIAN DAY

Last year's event was a hugely enjoyable occasion held on a beautifully sunny June day. After a service held in the Chapel, and the opportunity to look around the School, lunch was taken in the Pavilion. The superb menu presented by the catering team, under the guidance of Neil and Ginny Muir, drew from Bob Blake the observation that it included the finest cheese board he had ever sampled!

A presentation was made to Mike Orton, on the occasion of his last OM function, prior to retirement at the end of the Summer Term: Jamie Burn reminisced, quite graphically, on Mike's biology lessons!

Following lunch, OMs and their guests engaged in convivial chat and watched a number of the School's cricketers take on Bromsgrove Grammar School. In an atmosphere that was quintessentially British many of those present remarked that it was one of the finest ever OM Days.

Jamie is hoping for an even better turnout this year, **on June 11th**, in celebration of the Club's 125th Anniversary, and details of the menu, the day's programme, and how to book are enclosed with this newsletter. And those prepared to show off their legs and don a pair of shorts might feel inclined to take part in a challenge tennis match against the School. If you are interested, please contact Jamie on jamieprior2003@yahoo.co.uk if you would like to 'volunteer'.



A CELEBRATION OF TWO MASTERS

The Old Monmothian Club hosted a dinner at Lincoln College, Oxford University on Friday 10th December to mark the appointment of two former Monmouth School pupils. Professor **Paul Langford** is Rector of Lincoln College and Professor **Richard Carwardine** is President of Corpus Christi College. Among those present were: Dr Steven Connors Headmaster at Monmouth School; Mr George Pulman, immediate past Master of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers; Mr Murray Kerr and Dr Patrick Baird, Governors of Monmouth School.



INFORMAL EASTBOURNE REUNION

Mike Steen (1956-62) is organizing an informal Eastbourne Reunion, meeting at his home in Eastbourne, then on to Beachy Head for LUNCH. Details are as follows: Tuesday 28th June 2011, 10.30am meet at 12 Cranborne Avenue, Eastbourne, BN20 7TS where Mike is making coffee available on arrival. Then either walk (approximately 1.5 miles) to Beachy Head, setting off at 11.45am: non-walkers can drive. Rendezvous at BEACHY HEAD for a Pub Lunch at 1.15pm. The cost is £12 exclusive of drinks. Contact Mike at janeasteen@hotmail.com Tel: 01323 736009



OM FOOTBALL MATCH VS 1ST XI - BROOME TROPHY

Saturday 12th February 2011

After cleaning off their boots and locating their shin pads from the previous year, a relatively young OM team took to the field on a fine Saturday afternoon.

The OMs mixed youth with experience in an attempt to regain the Broome Trophy - awarded by Olympian David Broome - and it was pleasing to see David on the touchline supporting the team.

Both sides opted for a passing style of football, which excited the many on-lookers and at half-time the contest was in the balance at 1-1 with both sides failing to put the final touch on some good build up play. The second half proved to be equally as tense and exciting as the OMs took the lead at 2-1.

The trophy looked destined to return to the OM cabinet until a well-worked move by the School enabled top scorer Hallam Amos to sneak in and equalise. The final whistle blew with the score at 2-2. The subsequent penalty shoot-out resulted in a 3-1 victory to the School's 1st XI and jubilant celebrations followed.

Please contact Mark Tamplin (at the School) or Richard Broome if you are interested in resurrecting your footballing days and gracing the pitch for one final time.

Thanks to the OM Team: Richard Broome, Iain Clayton, Tom Robinson, John Wray, Luke Reeve-Tucker, James Richards, Ben Jenkins, Luke Aldridge, Jason Woo, Jeremy Wyatt, Oliver Price, Jon Denning, Oliver James and Ben Pike.



AN EXTRAORDINARY COINCIDENCE

Jill Trew and Ann Callaway met at a London secondary school, and discovered their hereditary paths were entwined!

Ann's father **AEW Hodges** (1921-29) was Head Boy at Monmouth and her uncle **John H Hodges** (1933-39) was an old boy. Jill's great uncle **Lionel James** was Headmaster (1906-28), her grandfather **Cyril Pearson** taught at the School and her mother lived on site at School House.

Cyril Pearson was appointed to Monmouth School in 1909 and remained at the School until his death in 1946. His subjects ranged from junior science and manual training to English and senior French. He commanded the Cadet Corps, the forerunner of the OTC, from 1911-1918 and ran the Junior Boarding House for 15 years. During his later years, he was in charge of the School and Bricknell Libraries and, for many years, editor and secretary of *The Monmothian!*



AEW Hodges was an all round athlete, playing for the 1st XV 1925-29, Captain of Football (Rugby) 1928-29, Captain of Cricket and Captain of Fives in 1929, when he won the individual Fives Trophy. He was an Under Officer in the OTC involved in training juniors, having obtained his Cert "A"; House Commander of School House 1929; and Captain of School 1929...not much to aspire to then!

John H Hodges (1933-39) was also a successful athlete, playing in the 1st XV in 1936-39. He was Captain of Football in 1938-39; Vice Captain of Hockey in 1939; an Under Officer in the OTC in 1938, and a prefect in School House. He also won the senior Music Prize in 1939.

Ann and Jill are tracking down their family history, piecing together a little more detail on the story of school matron Ethel Clabburn and her marriage to Lionel James, as well as the marriage of her sister Dorothy to French teacher Cyril Pearson. Part of their investigation entailed a trip to the School where, on a rather cool November day last year, they were shown round by Jack Reynolds (*Sixth Form*) and Pat Davitt (*School Archivist*).

Richard Parks (1988-95)

The former Welsh International and Barbarian flanker, has created **The 737 Challenge**. Forced to retire prematurely from his rugby career due to a shoulder injury, Richard decided to create the challenge – a pioneering 7-month race to climb the highest mountain on each of the world's continents and venture to the South and Geographical North Poles - and to raise funds in aid of Marie Curie Cancer Care. Richard has been joined by Olympic Gold rower Steve Williams and Marie Curie nurse Jan Suart. The locations are The South Pole, Mount Vinson, Aconcagua, Kilimanjaro, Carstensz Pyramid, The North Pole, Mount Everest, Denali and Elbrus where Richard will be accompanied on the climb by Sir Ranulph Fiennes.

You can pledge your support and make a donation at <http://www.oldmonmothians.co.uk/omnews.html>



Andrew Bowen (1983-90), who is now a permanent resident in Australia living with his family (two sons) at Tewantin, north of Brisbane on the Sunshine coast, recently took part in the Newcastle to Sydney Race - a distance of 108 miles and limited to 100 competitors. The course comprises mountains and forest trails - a great test of endurance, especially in temperatures of 35°C and considerable humidity. This year only 34 completed the race, with Andrew coming 16th, in 32 hours 50 minutes.

His next extraordinary test is attempting to run across the Nullarbor Plain - and play a round of golf while he does it! The Plain has its very own golf course, the Nullarbor Golf Links. Billed as the world's longest golf course, it is 1400 kilometres from start to finish, around 33 marathons in length. Eighteen holes are positioned at different spots along the road - the first at Ceduna in South Australia and the last in Kalgoorlie in Western Australia with some holes separated by over 100 kms. Andrew hopes to raise \$50,000; if you wish to donate please visit the **33 Marathons Challenge** website.



Lt.Col Simon Butt (1981-86) is raising funds for the Battleback Centre - covering 940 miles in 11 days! He will be competing in the **Absolute Challenge** 4th - 14th May 2011. Riding from Land's End to John O'Groats, the competitors will be raising funds for the Royal British Legion Battleback Centre, a facility that will radically improve rehabilitation services for injured Service personnel, through sport and adventure training.

If any other OMs would like to join Simon you can do the full 940 miles or just a day or two. Alternatively, you can support with a donation by going to <http://www.absolutechallenges.org/>

Grant Nicholas (1979-84) Grant is the songwriter and lead singer of "FEEDER", one of the UK's top rock bands, which was formed in Newport in 1991. He has very close connections with Japan - his wife is Japanese, as is Taka Hirose, the group's bass player. Feeder recently released a single *Side by Side* and all the profits from sales and downloads will go towards supporting the Red Cross in beleaguered northern Japan. If you would like to support please go to www.feederweb.com



Over the past two years, OMs **Tom Bevan (2007)** and **Sebastian Warwick (2009)** have been running a cricket coaching initiative (*Crickability*), targeting 6 to 13-year olds in the local community, with a view to enhancing and developing their skills.

They look to develop a child's cricketing ability through the use of small-sided games. This allows them to perform all their skills in a game situation and encourages players to practice within a competitive environment, testing them to their full ability while maintaining the critical fun aspect. Their coaching programme sets out to inspire young players who want to learn more about cricket and develop their individual skills. More information is available at www.crickability.com

OM CRICKET

2010 Season Report

This year has been a successful and extremely progressive period. Twenty-nine Old Boys represented the club in Summer 2010, over five fixtures, the first of which was against the School. This is the premier and most popular fixture for the club and unfortunately it proved to be a humbling defeat. A strong 1st XI bowled superbly and the OMs failed to post a challenging score, which was reached with ease, despite an impressive bowling spell from Oli James.

Two weeks later, the OMs faced the South Wales Hunt, which proved to be a very well contested match, resulting in a nail biting draw. Jon Denning ensured that we posted a competitive score and in the field, the Old Boys put in a great performance but couldn't get the final wicket needed for victory. At the beginning of August, the Club was invited into a fifteen-over a side tournament, between Wormelow Cricket Club and the hosts, Monmouth Cricket Club - a fantastic day made all the better as the OMs were victorious. After a slow start against Wormelow, we pulled off an unlikely victory against Monmouth and thanks to some clean hitting from Greg Fury, cantered to victory in the final against Wormelow.

On August Bank Holiday Weekend, we faced a Ross-on-Wye Invitation XI in a Twenty20 Match. We defended a very creditable score and Chris Lawlor, usually noted for his batting, finished with four wickets to gain victory. The final fixture at Brockhampton Cricket Club was abandoned due to rain but overall the season was a resounding success.

This year, the club applied to enter The Cricketer Cup but unfortunately missed out narrowly: next year, plans are in place for a UK-based tour, as well as around eight fixtures through the season.

If you are interested in supporting or representing the O M Cricket Club, or purchasing an OM Cricket Sweater for £20 please contact Tom Bevan.
Email: omcc1886@hotmail.co.uk Mobile: 07979 518 268

RESULTS:

vs Monmouth School (Home) - Tues 29th June Lost By 7 Wickets.
vs South Wales Hunts (Home) - Sun 11th July Winning Draw.
The Wye Valley F15 Tri-Series @ Monmouth CC (Away) - Sun 8th August Winners.
Group Game 1: vs Wormelow CC - Lost by 6 Wickets
Group Game 2: vs Monmouth Town CC - Won by 3 Wickets
Final: vs Wormelow - Won by 6 Wickets
vs Ross-on-Wye CC Invitational XI @ Ross-on-Wye CC (Away) - Sun 29th August Won by 4 Runs.
Brockhampton CC Twenty20 Tournament @ Brockhampton CC (Away) - Sun 5th September. Abandoned due to rain.

Thank you to those that have supported and represented the club this year:

D. Head (1991), J. Despontin (2000), T. Robinson (2002), A. Seymour (2004), G. Fury (2005), John Greaves (2005), G. Simpson (2006), Alec Backhouse (2007), Tom Bevan (2007), Simon Cope (2007), Rhys Davies (2007), Steve Greaves (2007), Alex Thurman (2007), Mustafa Jaafar (2007), George Ingram (2008), T. Lee (2008), Rob Bailey (2009), Lloyd Davies (2009), J. Denning (2009), J. Evans (2009), Oliver James (2009), William Kellard (2009), R. Kyle (2009), Sam Parry (2009), Ed Sargeant (2009), Sebastian Warwick (2009), Findlay Williams (2009), Max Backhouse (2010), Chris Lawlor (2010).



OM SHOOTING CLUB

OM shooting continues to grow, with a trickle of new names appearing on the mail distribution lists: this bodes well for more competitive shooters next season. Word of mouth, networking skills and email via Colin.waldron1@ntlworld.com appear to be the most appropriate mechanisms to increase the membership of the OM Shooting Club fraternity.

This year saw a return to practice at Bisley by a few stalwarts who braved the torrential rain to punch holes in soggy targets. Unfortunately, the intent to hold more sessions did not materialise, due mainly to a lack of mobility on the part of the secretary, so when it came to the Veterans Day Match team selection proved rather much guesswork. The "A" team score of 231.21 was almost equal to last year's record (232) and with some juggling from the top scorer of the B Team would have made 235. Top gun went to Colin Waldron with 49.7, closely chased by Allan Barrell with 48.8.

This season saw a long promised return to small-bore, in the form of a shoulder to shoulder challenge with Chepstow Rifle club, which took place on OM day hosted at Chepstow. The day itself proved a close fought "win" for the hosts, though Allan Barrell took away the Gallery prize, which it was rumoured contained alcohol! This will now become an annual fixture on the calendar.

Our stated objective as the OM Shooting Club is to encourage the sport within the School, but to this end we have had a quiet year, having re-established contact only. It is our intention to provide support in the form of coaching and the opportunity for competition for current school members during the coming season. Officers of the OM Shooting Club will be continuing to converse with common room staff to ascertain how we can assist in this rejuvenation in the coming year.

PS VETERANS MATCH 2010 SUMMARY :-

A Team		B Team	
Waldron C	49.7	Kalicski G.C.	44.3
Barrell A.C.	48.8	Walker M.	45.1
Jones P.V.R.	42.1	Singleton R.	44.2
Jones C.	47.3	Mullett R	32.0
Wilson R.	45.2		
Total	231.21	Total	172.3

Apologies :-

T Byrne, M Ehressman, I Galbraith, D J Goss, R W Hodgson, N Hooper (US!), P Langley, B J Margrett, H Murray (Clifton), D F C Peace, M Vaughan, M Williamson, P Williamson, R Wilson, P Woolley (US!)

The OM Shooting Club will shortly be commencing the 2011 fullbore season with a practice shoot at Bisley in early April in preparation for the Public Schools Veterans' match on July 14th. We have a team of small-bore shooters participating once again in the British Schools Small-Bore Rifle Association "Fletcher Cup" still organised by Frank Harris (ex Malvern master) whom many OM shooters will recall from the Sixties and Seventies.

We are hoping to engage with The School for a shoulder to shoulder small-bore shoot on OM Day and to combine that with an Invitation Competition at Chepstow Rifle Club to make a 3-way competition. It is rumoured that the School can field a team capable of very competitive shooting, having won their division NSRA Summer league in 2010, so we all look forward to making contact and encouraging the sport in the School.

Any OMs who have shot, that includes most of us who were in the CCF, and fancy taking it up again even for just a few weekends, and are interested in rejuvenating the sport at the School please contact Colin.waldron1@ntlworld.com

OM DIARY

Monmouth OM Day:

Saturday 11th June 2011 - including tours of the School and Grange, swimming for children, lunch in the new Pavilion followed by cricket and tennis matches.

Contact: Jamie Burn 07748 844337

Email: jamieprior2003@yahoo.co.uk

Marlow Regatta:

Dorney Lake, June 19th 2011.

Henley Dinner:

Saturday 27th August 2011

Contact: M A J Mounsdon (01628 485297)

London Dinner:

Friday 14th October 2011

Contact: S H Norris (0115 878 0635)

Cardiff Dinner:

Date to be advised

Contact: R W Arthur (01633 400542) (h)

YOUR OFFICERS

President: John Pearman (50-56)

Vice-President: Richard Booth (80-87)

Hon Membership Secretary:

Henry Toulouse (42-47)

Hon Standing Order Secretary:

Rob Harris (83-88)

Hon Treasurer: Ian Bowen (45-50)

Hon Secretary:

Richard (Ray) Blight (77-82)

Committee Meeting notes and regular updates on the activities of the Club are available on the Old Monmothian website www.oldmonmothians.co.uk

Information is also posted on the webALUMNUS site, accessible via a link on the Club website.

The objects of the Club are :

To promote social and sporting activities among its members

To provide a link between Monmouth School and its Old Boys

To further the interests of the School

OM SPORTS SECRETARIES

Cricket:

Tom Bevan omcc1886@hotmail.co.uk

Golf: Ian Bowen (01600 712955)

Rugby: Fred Hartley (01600 713143)

Shooting: Colin Waldron (01233 622271)

Rowing: James Knight (01622 204035)

OLD MONMOTHIAN GOLF

Old Monmothian golfers are invited to enter in the annual Gold Day to be held this year at Raglan Parc Golf Club, on Saturday 28th May 2011 - assemble at 12 noon for a 12.30pm start. **Format:** Stapleford • Full Handicap • Yellow Tees.

Cost: £30 per person to include coffee and bacon roll on arrival; 18 holes of golf in the afternoon; evening meal with Prize-giving.

Contact: Ian Bowen, Chusan, Dixton Road, Monmouth NP25 3PL

Telephone 01600 712955 Email leslybowen@btinternet.com

UNBEATEN XV's REUNION

A reunion lunch is being planned to bring together representatives of the unbeaten sides of 1936, 1940, 1949, 1955, 1958, 1965, 1970, 1972, 1984 and 2010. It is hoped this will take place on 1st October 2011 to coincide with the AGM and a home game against Bristol - one of the oldest fixtures on the School calendar. Keep an eye on the website for further information.



The School's impressive new pavilion is the venue for lunch on OM Day - 11th June.

You may be interested to know that **The Hitchcock Room** is available to hire for private functions, and seats 100 guests. For larger events, the **Blake Theatre** can seat a maximum of 150 and the stage can be used for bands/discos/entertainment.

Details from Neil or Ginny Muir on **01600 713143** or email: n.muir@monmouthschool.org

MONMOUTH SCHOOL SHOP

01600 710410 Email: theshop@monmouthschool.org

Opening Hours: **Monday-Friday 12.30-2.30pm and 3.30-4.30pm**

Sat 12.00-1.00pm

Please make cheques payable to **The Monmouth School Enterprises Ltd**

The following items are available: price excludes post and packing.

OM Club Ties - Brown, Green and White sports ties or Dark Blue formal tie with Brown, Green and White stripes, both in polyester **£7.50**

Also available in silk **£15.50**

Monmouth School Cufflinks - featuring School Crest **£20.42**

OM Club Scarves - Brown, Green and White design on the width, in a wool/cotton mixture, approx 58"x 11" **£5.50**

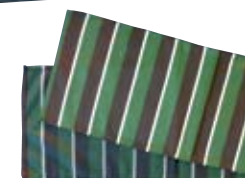
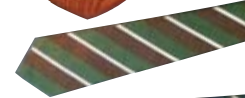
New Line Bow Ties - in OM colours (blue design), ready made up with fabric neckband **£7.15**

Wall Shields - the School Crest with Monmouth School emblazoned on the scroll **£40.85**

School Prints - from an engraving by the late Marcus Holmes, a former art master at the School, of the School from Wye Bridge in 1926 **£7.50**.

- a set of 4 prints from pencil drawings by Darren Ray who left school in 1989 and is now pursuing a career in Fine Art.

Complete set, unmounted **£25.00**. Individual print, unmounted **£6.50**.



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held on Saturday 1st October 2011 at 10am in the William Jones Room, Monmouth School (to be confirmed, please check website). Nominations for the election of Officers and Members of the Executive Committee must be received by the Honorary Secretary in writing with the names of members proposing and seconding the nominee, and with evidence of his agreement to stand for election, at least seven days prior to the date of the AGM. The agenda for the meeting will be as set out in clause 11 of our Constitution. This can be found on our website (www.oldmonmothians.co.uk).