

OB EVENTS



Peter Davies (63–69) retired in early February and promised himself a sailing trip longer than the usual two weeks. Having set off from the Menai Straits in early May, he finally got to the Shetlands in June after numerous stops because of strong winds, and then travelled south again.

Mark Howson (65–74) has semi-retired after 31 years with Rio Tinto and has set up as an independent consultant mining geologist with his own company, Mineral Resources Professional (MinResPro) Limited.



Three OBs are enjoying being involved with Bedford School at a strategic level, as governors on the school committee – **Ali Malek** (68–74), **Chris Johnson** (66–75) and **Hugh Maltby** (73–83)



Left to right: Ali Malek, Chris Johnson and Hugh Maltby



Varun Bery (75–77) visited Bedford School for the first time since leaving in 1977. His tour included a look around the new Theatre Project. After completing his studies at Harvard, Varun now lives in Hong Kong.

Dr Andrew (Jackson) O'Shaughnessy (67–78) published to critical acclaim a fascinating book on the American Revolution, seen from the British side, called *The Men Who Lost America*. A reception was hosted by DVP for New York, **Miles Young** (63–72), in his offices 'The Chocolate Factory', on 11th Avenue. Among those who attended were **William Carr** (42–47), **George Straubs** (60–69), **Marcus Rayner** (69–79) and **Adrian Adaramoye** (93–00).

It was good to catch up with **Douglas Butler** (70–80) and his wife, Margaret, when they returned to the school over the summer. Douglas taught in the maths department between 1970 and 1980, before moving on to Oundle to be head of department. Margaret's late father, Michael Stephens, also taught in the 'Inky' between 1947 and 1975, and was housemaster of Farrar's when it was a junior boarding house. Douglas and Margaret celebrated their ruby wedding anniversary on 2nd September 2012, having been married at Bedford School Chapel in 1972.



Douglas and Barbara at a recent family wedding

Tim Douglas (78–83) visited the school in the summer with his two children, Nicolas, aged nine, and eleven-year-old Clara. Tim is working in Togo with UNICEF, which supports education, health, protection and social policy.



Josh Galvin (79–83) is co-owner at 'Limeys' in the Western Cape, SA, producers and suppliers of grade 'A' limes.

Al Broderick (80–87) and his 'Hot Sauce' band had a short tour in New England, USA, during the summer.

James Brodie (77–88) took on the Ironman Philippines in August, and Ironman Lake Tahoe in September.

Ben Shorten (83–90) and his brother, **William** (84–89), have both moved overseas in 2013. William is now living in Paris with his family. Ben and his wife, Sam, welcomed their baby, Jack, into the world in June, and are moving, along with daughter Isabella, to Singapore so Ben can work in the Shearman & Sterling LLP office there, and enjoy the family-friendly lifestyle.

Iain Hutchison (84–90) left the Army in September after 16 years' service and, for his last tour, was one of the SO2s (Majors) responsible for the management of support to all the Wounded, Injured and Sick (WIS), based in the Army HQ in Andover. Since July, he has worked for BG Group (Oil and Gas) in Reading, as a learning and development partner, but in the long term hopes to return to teaching physical and outdoor education.

Edward Morris (90–92) took part in a gliding competition in Husbands Bosworth, Leicestershire, coming third overall, with 1,120 km flown over 14.5 hours.



Adam Dawson (81–90) and **Si Britton** (82–93) served together from the early days in the Army section of the CCF to several posts in the Parachute Regiment. Before promotion to a job in Germany, Si was Adam's second in command for two years, while he was Commanding Officer of 2 PARA.



Lt-Col Si Britton (left) with Lt-Col Adam Dawson, OBE, MC



On 31st December 2012, **Jim Stuart-Black** (88–93) was awarded a MNZM for services to Urban Search and Rescue and the Fire Service in the New Year Honours list. The investiture was held on 22nd May 2013, conducted by His Excellence Sir Jerry Mateparae, GNZM, QSO, Governor-General of New Zealand.

Matthew Morgan (84–94) has become the new head teacher at Sir Thomas Rich's School, a grammar school in Gloucester.

A number of OBs attended the final test at the Oval to watch **Alistair Cook** (98–03) lift the urn: back row (left to right) **Iain Gambold** (91–96), **Jules Endersby** (85–96), **Charlie Gray** (88–96) and **Dave Phillips** (89–96); and front row (l to r) **Nick Sims** (91–96), **Matt Smith** (91–96) and **Pete Phillips** (91–96).



Raymond Dokpesi (97–99) was conferred with a chieftaincy title in Edo state.

Joe Lawrence (93–00) is working in Columbia for the Secretary of Education, in the Boyacá department, thanks to Spanish classes during his time at Bedford School. This YouTube video explains his role: <http://bit.ly/OBjoelawrence>

Adam Koster (98–00) trekked up Kilimanjaro this summer, then headed for Rwanda in search of mountain gorillas.

ENDURO

Any OBs in search of a tough challenge should read this!

On 20th September, Tom Howell (94-05) and Adrian Wain (96-05), competed in the Enduro Challenge, representing their company Accenture with a team in a 500-km triathlon from London to Paris, to raise money for Zimbabwe Rural Schools' Development. The Arch to Arc is a gruelling physical race over 48 hours, including a 160 km run from London to Dover, a 40 km swim across the Channel (without wetsuits!), and a 300 km cycle from Calais to Paris without stopping! Tom describes the challenge:

'The 150 kilometres to Dover is broken down into 12 legs, with each athlete completing two legs. There were some outstanding performances from our team with most people setting personal bests for a 10 km distance – twice! Accenture reached Dover in a new team record of nine hours and 39 minutes; but at this point Credit Suisse were 48 minutes in front of us, having broken nine hours and set an event record for the distance.

'We set out from Dover harbour and sailed around to Shakespeare Beach, where the race to France would start. The first swimmers waited for the signal and then rushed into the cold water, swimming furiously out to sea. The weather was kind to us to begin with and the conditions couldn't have been more perfect – our first three swimmers were very strong and capitalised on this, opening up a nice lead. However, I was sixth in the swim order, and after five hours at sea the conditions had worsened somewhat; the swells were getting bigger and the boat was pitching and rolling a fair bit. Needless to say, I was not too enthusiastic about getting in!



The team arrives at the Eiffel tower, with Tom, far left, and Adrian, second left

'It took me a while to find my rhythm, as every time I thought I'd found it a big wave would come along and interrupt my breathing, and after 20 minutes I started to really feel the temperature. On we went though, and I tried to think about warm things – beaches, saunas, anything! – to keep my mind off the gnawing cold. After they gave me the signal for 40 minutes, I knew I was over the hill – but the remaining 20 minutes felt like the slowest I've ever experienced. I was thoroughly relieved when the signal came to board the boat, although I had a bit of difficulty climbing up the ladder as my hands were so cold I couldn't hold the rungs.

'We were making good progress across the Channel, though the tides had swept us a fair distance laterally, and our swim was going to be longer than we'd hoped for. The currents were strong, the weather worsening, and the daylight fading – we were a couple of hours ahead of the other boats by this point, but we'd need to go even faster if we had any chance of making it. All of our athletes swam very well, and we were closing in on France as it came around to my turn to swim again. It was around this point that we received the news that the other two teams had given up – our rivals Credit Suisse couldn't stand the cold and the stormy conditions, and the JP Morgan team were too far behind to have a hope of making the coast. If we could only complete the crossing, we'd be the only team to complete the swim leg, and therefore win by default!

'By the time I went back in for my second swim, it was about 8 pm and dark. I had green glow sticks attached to my cap and my shorts so that the boat could see me out in the water, but even so it was a pretty unnerving experience diving out into the cold sea. All I could see was darkness, and it was fairly disorientating. Ahead, there was a faint glow of orange coming off the French coastline, but it felt like it was an awfully long way away! This time around I focused entirely on my swimming and concentrated on my technique, which served well as a way of keeping my mind off the cold. I'd count 60 strokes hard, 60 strokes easy, but frequently found myself forgetting what number I was on or letting my thoughts drift to other things as my temperature dropped. It really did help though, and I swam a lot better the second time around.

'Three of our swimmers had to go in for a third time, but finally, at 11.55 pm, after 14 hours and 55 minutes, we made



Navigating the shipping traffic in the middle of the English Channel

GOLF



Left to right: Simon Kimber, Hector Paterson, Tim Henderson, Mike Bevan, Jerry Mytton and Chris Johnson

The OB Golf Society returned from a very successful tour of the Angus region of Scotland (Carnoustie, Montrose, etc) to dish out a rare victory in the annual match against the schoolboys in OB Week, at Duke's Course, Woburn. Having lost the previous three encounters, the OB team ran out 4–2 winners, with Tom Langley-Poole (96–06) and Iain Pratt (83–93) leading the way with a 7 and 5 victory.

West Hill Golf Club in Surrey hosts the annual Mellin Trophy which is the premier competition in OB Golf for over 55s. The 2013 Mellin team produced the stand-out performance of the OBGS year in winning the Mellin Plate. After losing in the first round against Lancing, Bedford advanced to the second round of the Plate, beating Mill Hill 2–1 with Chris Johnson (66–75) and Andrew Rudkin (64–69) securing the winning point. After seeing off Cheltenham in the semi-finals, Bedford were drawn up against Sherbourne in the final. Jerry Mytton (64–69) and Hector Paterson (65–70) lost the opener but Tim Henderson (64–71) and Simon Kimber (58–65) levelled the match by winning their fourth match out of four. The final pairing saw Mike Bevan (50–62) replace Andrew Rudkin, who was suffering with a bad back, and partner Chris Johnson to victory 2 and 1. The team celebrated and toasted absent Mellin skipper Martin Murray (55–64) who is winning his battle with leukaemia.

At the same event there is also a competition for the over 65s (Peter Burles Trophy) and over 75s (Bunny Millard). Chris Bushell (50–55) and Chris Everett (45–54) took Bedford to the semi-finals of the Bunny Millard while Mike Bevan (before Mellin final) and Robin Maris (48–60) narrowly lost on the fifth extra play-off hole against Lancing, despite the efforts of Anthony Ormerod (47–57) and Simon Bevan (48–59), who won their semi-final match 4 and 3.

In September, the Autumn Meeting returned to Sheringham on the Norfolk coast and 20 OBs were welcomed back with a Spitfire flyby during the afternoon's golf. Dan Mules (86–96) won the scratch trophy with a fine round of 73. Roger Dalzell (48–57) triumphed in the Medal Salver, shooting a net 69, and Mike

Bevan won the Senior Trophy. Budge Rogers (49–57) just managed to win the Junior Trophy (handicap >14) despite being the only competitor!

The AGM was held over lunch and the society thanked Chris Johnson for his efforts during his two years as captain in which the society won two trophies. Dan Mules was voted in as captain with Simon Kimber as vice-captain for the next two years. The society headed out for afternoon foursomes fuelled with steak and kidney pie, sticky toffee pudding and claret. Lee Dinmore (86–89) and Nick Wade (88–93) birdied the last to win.

Iain Pratt (83–93)

CRICKET

The year 2013 saw yet another tremendously enjoyable season of Old Bedfordian cricket with the fixture list once again expanded and the list of players representing the side as long as ever.

Our continued involvement in the Cricketer Cup, the pinnacle of alumni cricket, has lengthened our season and made necessary some early-season warm-ups. The now traditional home match with Millfield was followed by a fixture away at St Edward's before the CC match proper at home to Repton:

Repton Pilgrims 312–9

Old Bedfordians 140 all out

We lost the toss and were asked to field on a fine June day. On a firm pitch Repton scored freely within the first eight overs; however, they lost wickets at regular intervals. At 64–4 the OBs were seemingly a wicket away from exposing their tail but crucially dropped several chances to remove the pair who went on to build Repton's total with one of their batsmen scoring a fine century.

In response the OBs were never in the game, losing early wickets to a non-threatening attack. The OBs worked hard to build partnerships. However, poor shots and decision-making led to the OBs being heavily defeated.

A frustrating day by all accounts and a huge disappointment as we all felt we could build on a famous win against Charterhouse the previous year.

OB Cricket Week proper started with our Cricketer Cup captain, Will Notley (92–03), bringing his band of MCC men to Bedford for what ended up being a well-fought match. In a decision at the toss not particularly well received by the MCC, the OBs opted to bat and posted a competitive total. The MCC ended up sealing victory with two overs to spare and two wickets in hand – as often happens with the MCC, the batting hardly weakened as we took wickets and there was just a little too much strength for us.

The Tuesday saw Hornsey visit in what we hope will be the first of many fixtures against them. Hornsey kindly handicapped themselves by electing our own Ed Waite as their captain and thus banished any fears within the OBs of a defeat. In fact Edward's 'generous' leadership almost turned Hornsey's dominant position into a losing one. In the end an exciting draw (if that's not an oxymoron) was the outcome with the OBs only ten runs short of victory and Hornsey only two wickets short of their target.

The fixture against The Ousels on the Wednesday was the

SPORTS EVENTS

