

THE OLD LAURENTIAN SOCIETY

Hon. Secretary:

Michael Denny

The Old Rectory, Ashby St Ledgers

Rugby CV23 8UN

Tel: 01788 890523

e-mail; denny-m@sheriff20.fsnet.co.uk

Web Site: <http://www.freespace.virgin.net/old.laurentian/index.htm>

Society e-mail: old.laurentian@virgin.net

Dear fellow Old Laurentian,

February 2007

May I wish all of you a Healthy New Year and inform you that the Old Laurentian Society **Annual General Meeting and Dinner** will take place on **Saturday 14th April 2007**; the **a.g.m. at 6.00 p.m.** in the **Sixth Form Centre** and the **Dinner at 7.30 p.m. for 8.00 p.m. in Big School**. The cost will be £20 and £15 for those in full time education; contact a friend, or better still several friends and make up a table. I look forward to seeing you there.

As I approach the end of my third presidential year I am pleased to report that it has been a very successful period. Once again I have benefited from the advice and support of the Committee who have been very diligent in attending meetings and have never been too shy to contribute.

I have been proud to represent you at two formal school functions. The junior prize giving and founder's day service in Big School and the senior prize giving in Rugby School Chapel where I presented the Society Rhodes medal to last years head boy Mark Baird. I have enjoyed attending the Parents Association meetings where I was able to identify areas where the society could be proactive and offer help to the School.

We are still awaiting a successful outcome to the Hart field development project. The situation is looking a lot more promising with a modified proposal not meeting with any local objections. In the meantime the School has been able to take advantage of the facilities at Fenley field, which has been used both for school Cricket and School Rugby. Again we were able to provide meals and cheer the lads on to some great victories in the Daily Mail Cup. Rugby and District Schools, Warwickshire Schools Rugby as well as Bilton Ajax junior football teams also use the facilities.

The school weekend was again a tremendous success especially the President's Reception. This was held at Fenley Field on the Friday evening with 200 + guests attending who enjoyed a pig roast, fresh strawberries and Pimms, all in glorious weather. The six a side Cricket tournament was hotly contested, it included a year 7 team from LSS who defeated the staff of Bilton School but just lost out to the OL's in the final.

Mike Lewis (an ex Captain and Chairman of the Rugby club) surprised himself and Tiger Woods by winning the OL's golf tournament.

The Captains day was a great success with the attendance of 60 former captains and their partners; the date for this year is Sat 31st Mar. when OL's will host Hereford in the league.

The OL RFC is enjoying an exceptional season, currently joint top of their league having suffered only two narrow defeats. This performance is being matched by the U17's who have also recorded only one loss this season. The Society is sponsoring their short tour to Paris in the spring.

Support was given to the LSS rugby tour to Canada, and has been offered to the School Hockey tour to Barcelona and also the School Orchestra tour to Venice Jul 2007.

Boxing day produced a splendid game of rugby at Fenley field where an under 21 team made up entirely of OL's defeated the elder statesmen of the Club which boasted several first team players. The future for OLRFC is looking very bright.

Rugby and GEC Hockey clubs are to merge and have decided to make Fenley field their spiritual home. The clubs contain a large contingent of OL's and on Saturdays they can be seen enthusiastically discussing their exploits on the hockey field whilst being watered and fed.

As I mention above, moves are afoot with regard to the development of Hart Field. Work will begin soon on a less ambitious scheme but students will at least be able to change in more civilised circumstances and the grounds be more secure from those who consider the grounds to be fair game for abuse.

The School Library, a facility widely regarded as top quality for a Secondary School and a credit to the Staff and Students who have developed it, has long cried out to be housed in a custom built situation, planning permission is being sought to this end.

Yet another set of criteria has been produced for the schools league tables; it is a further comment on the effectiveness of the Headmaster and his Staff that there has been little effect on the School's national standing caused by this change. My thanks to the Head. And his staff for their continuing support of the Society.

In conclusion, I feel that the Society is thriving and I would like to congratulate and thank your Committee for its support and hard work during my three years in office – it has been a pleasure and an honour (well, for most of the time).

Remember to put the date of the AGM and Dinner in your diary and contact your contemporaries to make up a table – the more the merrier.

Best Wishes

Kevin Mahon
(President OL Society)

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I will/will not be attending the O L Society Annual Dinner on Saturday 14th April 2007

Years at School 19..... to

Enclosed cheque for £.....

Please return to:

Mike Denny (Hon. Sec. OL Soc.)
The Old Rectory, Ashby St Ledgers,
Rugby CV23 8UN
or, e-mail your intention to attend to
Mike's home e-mail address.)
denny-m@sheriff20.fsnet.co.uk

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