It was with great sadness that we learned of the death of Nigel Fanshawe on the eve of his 104th birthday and reproduce below a letter to all Old Chelmsfordians from his daughter, Isabel Josey.

“I am sorry to have to write to tell you that my father, Nigel Fanshawe, passed peacefully away on Monday 2nd February 2015, in Frinton-on-Sea on the eve of his 104th birthday.

As many people know he loved teaching mathematics and taught for thirteen years at Radley College, four years at Eton College, and was then Headmaster of King Edward VIth School, Chelmsford, for twenty-eight years. In retirement he taught mathematics part-time for nine years at The City of London School for Girls in the Barbican.

Teaching was his great interest and passion; he had started teaching as a sixth former at Wolverhampton Grammar School where he taught junior forms when a staff member was absent! This introduced him to teaching which led him into the profession, greatly benefiting many pupils over many years. Many staff have told me over the years how they both benefited from, and enjoyed, working with him.

Dad was interested in many things such as wild flowers, birds, older churches and buildings, elegant furniture, medieval paintings in particular Madonna’s, heraldry, classical music, crosswords, mathematical puzzles and books. He had copies of many classical books and read modern books from the library. English medieval history through to the Victorian age was his great focus with a special interest in the Black Death. His memory was incredible and he could talk about many things as he remembered much that he had read.

He enjoyed walking and taking part in sports, latterly following sport on the television.

As a father he took a great interest in his three children, trying to teach, interest, support and guide us as he thought fit. He gave us the space to make decisions and to grow; he was kind and caring, patient and helped each of us to achieve what we wanted in life. He was determined and always knew what he wanted to do. Dad never gave up and continued to adapt to the challenges life set before him.

At 82 years old, when my mother could no longer cook meals, he taught himself to cook everyday meals. Subsequently, when he was widowed he learnt to play bowls and two years later he was a member of a trophy winning team.

I shall miss him greatly, but he was fortunate in having a long and fulfilling life. Thank you all for keeping in touch with him as he followed everybody’s life with such interest.”
Leslie Retford, who has been associated with the School since 1958 as a pupil, teacher and governor, has written this personal memory of Nigel, some of which is derived from letters received from Nigel himself, and has kindly agreed that we can use this as our initial tribute to the man still warmly remembered by so many members as ‘Headmaster’.

“When Nigel came to take over as the Headmaster of KEGS in 1949, he had already been a schoolmaster at Radley College (for 13 years) followed by 4 years at Eton. At that time 38 might have been considered a young age to assume the responsibilities of Headmaster at a Grammar School and it was a difficult time for KEGS having lost its headmaster, “Nobby” Squier, in difficult circumstances. The School then had a number of boarders and Mrs Squier had been Matron. Mr Squier’s daughter had been School Secretary. The School was poorly funded and faced staffing issues in the aftermath of the war.

Nigel therefore found on his arrival “about 10 days or so before the summer term opened” that he was face to face with a disaster. The Chief Education Officer, Mr WC Primmer was apparently surprised by Nigel’s query as to who would be found to fill the vacancies of the new school secretary, the new Matron and the cook. For the first four weeks Nigel “had to sit more or less permanently in the school office” dealing with phone calls, correspondence and staff concerns. He was also having to run the boarding house assisted by his wife, Maria, who already had a full-time job as a housewife with 3 small children.

An even greater challenge was that the Education system was undergoing revolutionary change. The 1944 Education Act brought with it major reforms establishing a national system for the selection of pupils according to their perceived talents into grammar, technical and secondary schools at the age of 11+ but with provision for movement at a later age if a pupil’s aptitudes were found to justify it. This was a system which Nigel embraced wholeheartedly and continued to advocate to his dying day. The Butler Act also required that state schools should have governing bodies set up by Local Education Authorities to oversee their management. KEGS, like other old established grammar schools, already had a governing body (now known as the Foundation governing body) which had in fact been running the school since 1551 and which owned the lands and buildings. The Chief Education Officer considered that the Foundation should be wound up and in Nigel’s words, “asked if I knew that the governors had been changed by the Butler Act and would I be quite happy if he continued to deal with all the details and the governing etc.” Nigel showed great foresight by declining this offer and so the Foundation survived.

As a Headmaster he worked to raise the standard of KEGS in all respects, drawing no doubt upon his experience of teaching at top public schools such as Eton. Smart school uniforms were introduced. The Fleur de Lys debating society was developed. He was for a time Commanding Officer of the Cadet Corps. Even when a Matron was appointed and there was an Assistant Boarding Master, Nigel would often eat supper with the boarders and on Sunday mornings he would take them on a walk to worship at Chelmsford Cathedral (and even to Writtle Parish church). Unusually in state schools we had a holiday on Ascension Day! Generations of pupils will remember that at every final assembly we had the hymn “Forth in thy Name O Lord I go…” and the reading was always 1 Corinthians 13. He continued to teach mathematics in the sixth form.

He introduced the Transitus scheme to fast track the most academically gifted boys from the end of their second year directly into the fourth form so that they took their O-level exams a year earlier than normal and could go on to accumulate further exam grades and more Advanced levels. The School exam results
soared to record heights and increasing numbers of students found places at Oxbridge and other good universities. He knew every boy in the school, though in those days everybody, staff included, was referred to by their surname! He read and signed every school report but he was never a control freak. He placed implicit trust in his colleagues on the teaching staff leaving them with a fairly free hand to manage their teaching and without the stratified chains of management that are normal today. If parents had any “issues” Nigel preferred to deal with parents himself and, if necessary, would deal subsequently with the teacher involved. He was greatly admired by staff and pupils alike.

Nigel faced increasing hostility from the Chief Education Officer for not always toeing the line of the LEA and when in the 1960s the Essex Education Committee decided in favour of converting all secondary schools into Comprehensives “WC” Primmer ran into the “awkward ideas” of Nigel Fanshawe. KEGS was effectively saved by the existence of the Foundation Governing Body which could claim that its foundation by Royal Charter gave them a certain power of veto. The County ordered that the Foundation hold a special meeting to discuss the future. The Foundation voted by 15 votes to 3 to retain the status of KEGS as a selective boys grammar school and given that there would continue to be selective grammar school for boys in Chelmsford, the County High School for girls was also to continue. Over 100 grammar schools in Essex were closed but KEGS survived thanks in large part to the determination of Nigel Fanshawe.

When later political changes of government threatened enforced comprehensivisation, Nigel and the Foundation were prepared albeit reluctantly to consider making KEGS an Independent School.

It was always Nigel’s belief that the 1944 Education Act offered the greatest opportunities for social mobility whereby boys from any class, who showed academic promise, could be nurtured and prepared for university education……and girls too because in 1976 he admitted the first girl in 425 years into the sixth form. She was to be but the first of many.

Without doubt, thousands of pupils have owed their successful adult careers to KEGS and to the inspiration of Nigel Fanshawe. He established KEGS as one of the leading grammar schools in the country. He ensured the School’s survival in the darkest of times. He set a benchmark against which any of his successors would be judged.

I consider myself privileged to have been a pupil of his, a colleague of his on the teaching staff and a friend. He is greatly missed”.

In her letter, Isabel thanked everyone for keeping in touch with Nigel over the years and even before learning of Nigel’s death we had heard from both Ian Page and Mike Weston about their recent visits to Frinton to see him and a group of old boys, organised by Frank Easton, who had started at the School at the same time as Nigel in 1949 were due to visit him on his 104th birthday to help celebrate the day. Sadly this was not to be.

Ian Page. 1944-1954, iapage@lineone.net, had written:- “One of the penalties of reading the OCA Newsletter is the constant reminder of one’s own mortality. The December issue published the death of two of my contemporaries, Ricky Richmond and Peter Finch. Richmond was a couple of years ahead of me, and I had little contact with such a sporting “god”. However, Finch and I became friends after an exchange visit to Paris, and we used to meet about once a year ever since. He had started on the Sunday Times colour magazine and later ran the crossword on several magazines. He explained that running the crosswords meant putting in the first answer and letting the computer fit in all the other answers. He then made up the clues according to
the capabilities of the intended customer, so that he could use the same crossword, with different clues, for different magazines. He was a keen campanologist and several times we had to arrange our dinner appointments around his bell-ringing practice. It was a big surprise for me when he told me he had gone blind because we had had dinner only a few months earlier, when he was quite OK.

On another subject, I went with Rex Speller to see Nigel Fanshawe in the summer. We found him as sharp as ever despite his physical frailties, and we enjoyed reminiscing about all the masters we had had at school. I attach some pictures of that day”.

Like Ian and Rex everyone who visited Nigel commented on his amazing memory and the wide contact he retained with former pupils. He was a regular communicator with snippets for the newsletter and his last, shortly before his death, was to phone with the news that Trevor Garlick, at School in the early seventies and now Regional President for BP's North Sea business, had received an honorary Doctorate of Engineering in recognition of ‘his leading and influential contribution, through the course of a distinguished career, to advancements within the international oil and gas industry’ by the Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh.

Mike Weston, 1956-1963, had also visited Nigel several times recently, taking him in a wheelchair along the seafront in good weather with Mike suggesting that Nigel ‘deplored the amount of flesh on view!’

Simon Heffer, at School from 1971-1979 and now a Political Correspondent with the Daily Mail wrote a moving eulogy for Nigel and this can be accessed using the following link:-


We will all have our special memories of Nigel, some undoubtedly happier than others, which we will be pleased to include in future newsletters. His funeral will be held in Basingstoke on February 26th but the interest we have received from all quarters for a memorial service in Chelmsford has, not surprisingly, been huge. We will be having talks with the School regarding this shortly and will keep members informed of any future plans.

THE HEADMASTER WRITES

Another half term packed with activity has just passed by, but the brief week of pause affords the opportunity to look back and review those six weeks. I suppose that the big news in early January was the decision of Governors to increase the Year 7 intake from four forms to five – we will be admitting 150 boys in September. OCs may well have read about this in the press - some may feel that a small school is desirable, and there is some truth in this – but we will remain small by the standards of most secondary schools, and this change reflects the huge and rapidly rising demand for a grammar school education. Because of the substantial rise in applications, we certainly do not anticipate any reduction in academic standards. This change should, as well, secure benefits for the many different areas of extra-curricular life in the school. The major sports of rugby, football, cricket and athletics should strengthen, but other sports, notably tennis, badminton, netball, hockey and basketball all seem to be flourishing at the moment, and a good supply of potential players should allow this to continue and thus provide a range of excellent sporting opportunities to KEGS students.
On a related note, any one who made it to the outstanding recent stage production of “Our Country’s Good” will know that KEGS Drama is in good hands, under the direction of Mr James French. School productions are certainly not under any threat, but very tight school funding does mean that “minority” GCSE and A level subjects are dependent on adequate numbers choosing to study them, and an increased pool from which to draw should help to preserve the future in subjects such as Drama. Music, too, should benefit from an increased supply of instrumentalists and singers, boosted, we hope, by talent nurtured by our Year 7 music project, which is providing tuition on an instrument to 40 boys this year.

The post-Christmas weeks also bring news of University application success, and with it, sometimes, disappointment. We were delighted to hear that 23 current Year 13 students secured offers at Oxford or Cambridge – another excellent year in this regard, although I don’t believe that we should be obsessed with this one measure of success. One of those 23 was our current School Captain, Henry Allen, who some of you will have met. I am expecting that he, together with the two excellent deputies, Theo Demolder and Qudsiyah Shah, will be at the OCs’ dinner on the 21st March - an occasion which I am much looking forward to myself. No doubt, this occasion will bring back many vivid memories – of places and events – but perhaps especially of people. I am sure that much, rightly, will be said about Nigel Fanshawe; the purpose of this column is primarily to bring news of the school, but I do think that it is appropriate to note that his influence continues to be felt, that his name is spoken of with respect, and that he is something of an inspiration even to those of us who only met him on one or two occasions.

The influence of other former staff and pupils is felt in other ways - we were for example delighted to be addressed at Prize Giving by OC, Jon Swaine. Less publically, another recent alumnus of the school stopped me in a shop in the Christmas holidays to ask how things were at KEGS. He was very interested to hear of our plans to create better links between the school and former pupils, perhaps particularly with those who have dispersed across the country and the globe and not necessarily retained links via the OCs, and he handed me his email address. This alumni project, on which we have received excellent support and advice from George Heseltine, will be kicking off in the Spring, and I hope very much that it will reinforce the strength of many things which currently happen. I am often humbled to hear how fondly OCs speak of the institution they attended, and frequently, their willingness to support it once they have left – a generosity for which I am profoundly grateful.

Tom Carter.

A FUTURE KEGS PRIME MINISTER?

Elliot Ball (Holland House – 2003/10), currently studying at the LSE for his Master’s degree, has decided to stand in the May general election in the Bethnal Green and Bow constituency as the sole national candidate for the 30-50 Coalition, an independent party standing up against the big boys.

A key element of his party’s manifesto is that 12 independent MPs should be guaranteed a seat in each parliament to inject a bit of diversity into political debate and to break up the monopoly of the two major parties (the Lib Dems no longer count). Come May, he’s looking to be sitting on the green benches in his pink trousers as one of those Independent members.

But with a Labour majority in the constituency of 12,000 to overturn and, perhaps more importantly from a student perspective, 3,000 votes needed for his deposit to be refunded, it is likely to be an uphill battle. So if there are any Old Boys out there keen to help on the ground or to contribute in a more tangible (pecuniary) way, please do get in touch by email at Elliotball3050@gmail.com. The full manifesto of the 30-50 Coalition can be found at www.30-50.co.uk.
OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Barbara Gray, BGray@kegs.org.uk, the School’s Honorary Archivist has written “Just to alert you that I’ve put up a new post on the KEGS Archive blog and will be posting again shortly. Perhaps you could mention this if you see anyone who might be interested. I will shortly send a tweet to the KEGS Twitter account and hope that it gets re-tweeted. The link is http://kegsduffieldlibrary.edublogs.org and Barbara added the quote from Lord Avebury, 1834-1913 "A room without books is as a body without a soul".

RICKY RICHMOND - A MAN FOR ALL THE PEOPLE

Donald Kelly, 1944-1951, donpatkel@btinternet.com, followed up the news of Ricky’s passing:-

“Many thanks for the December OCA Newsletter. I was sad to read about Ricky Richmond's death but was fascinated to read about how much he'd packed in to his life and how much he'd given to the School and the Association. On a lighter note I was pleased to see that my other contemporary in 1B, 1944, Les Ketley, had won a minor prize in the Christmas draw! Best wishes to all OCs for the New Year”

Dave Vickery, 1968-1975, dilston@hotmail.com, also wrote:- “Thank you for the newsletter. Of course, I was sad to read the news about Ricky - being rather out of the loop up here in Norfolk, I had not heard previously. Without wishing to make any extra work for anyone it did make me wonder whether such significant news would merit a short e-mail to those on the newsletter list. One of my memories of Ricky's enthusiasm is an occasion when he travelled to an away game to umpire for the 3rd XI. The opposition batsmen went for an optimistic single and I made a rare direct hit on the wicket at the bowler's end where Ricky was officiating. The appeals were vociferous and none more so than Ricky's until he regained his composure and lifted his index finger!”

MEMORY CORNER

In response to our article in the last issue from Barry Brown, at School in 1941-1942, asking ‘Where are they now?’ we heard first from Murray Brazier with the news that “June Gisbey still lives in Chelmsford. She worked as a typist at the town Post Office and married a Post Office engineer. June is a friend of my brother-in-law’s wife. I recall that her husband’s name was Gilbey, which meant she only had to change one letter in her name!” We were subsequently more delighted to hear from June herself although it appears she was originally Gisby without the ‘e’:-

“I was totally stunned to find a copy of the OCA Newsletter through our letterbox in Chignal Road on Saturday morning. It had been delivered by Maurice Lakin, one of your members, whose family lived near to my parents in Cotswold Crescent and so knew the relevant name. I am the June Gisby referred to by Barry Brown and I knew him many years ago as a teenager - I am now 86 to his 88!! We had a small group of friends including my best pal Olive Wyborn and I remember Barry, Peter Bates, Lloyd Davies and Reggie Coates. He lived in Tor House, Upper Moulsham. If there was a Johnny Coates I did not know him. Barry is right about my being Carnival Queen although I was also Thanksgiving Queen when the war ended being chosen also as Carnival Queen the following year - consequently Chelmsford was subjected to me two years running. As for the Bradridge girls, Margaret is listed in the telephone directory as still living in Shrublands Close, Chelmsford but I regret I have no knowledge now of Jean. I do hope this is all of interest to Barry and that he is well. I will have been married for 60 years in 2015 to the boy I first knew at 4 years old and am now Mrs June Gilbey! Grannie told me “Change the name and not the letter, you change for worse and not for better!” - Nice wasn’t it?”

Tony Pye, 1940-1945, la.pye@btinternet.com, has written:- “OCA Newsletters circa February 2014 contained in the reminiscence section references to the musical talents of my cousin, Michael Sydney Goldman and the jazz sessions they used to have in the front room of his house. Two of the people who wrote were Brian Goodey and Gareth Gunning. Unfortunately I was having a bad time medically throughout 2014 so did not respond sooner but have recently been in touch with Michael who emigrated
to Canada quite a long time ago. He now lives at Qualicum Beach on Vancouver Island with his long-term partner, Shirley, who writes a blog as well as writing for B. C. Tourism on the official Government Website. Although he has had some serious health problems Michael remains very upbeat with the same sharp sense of humour and is still performing in gigs. Michael is not a member of OCA but would be delighted if Brian, Gareth and any other of his music making school mates from KEGS would get in touch with him. His email address is volanta@outlook.com.

David Rootkin, Secretary of the Old Chelmsfordians Lodge, has sent us this photograph of a pair of cufflinks that are now in the possession of Bryan Bowles but which originally belonged to his father, Gordon Bowles, who attended KEGS from 1929-1934. David would be interested in hearing from anyone who might have seen such a pair of cufflinks before, whether it was the School or someone else who originally had these made and would welcome any ideas as to where he might go to get these produced again. We suggested that our members could also be interested in acquiring a set should he manage to get a supply.

David can be contacted at damar2@blueyonder.co.uk.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Tony Carpenter, who at Mass at Holy Name, Moulsham Lodge, on Sunday December 7th was presented with an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis to mark his 70 years service as an Alter Server.

Tony, pictured with Father Hugh and fellow alter servers outside the Church, has similarly served the School giving of his time as both a Management and Foundation Governor for very many years - although still a few less than the seventy he has given to the Church!

Richard Spilsbury has advised us that his sister Janet, herself an old girl of CCHS and her husband David Cox (1946-50) celebrated their 60th (diamond) wedding anniversary on 1st January this year and felt this worthy of a newsletter mention. We are also indebted to Richard for receipt of a run of Chelmsfordians dating from his time at School in the fifties which we have added to our archive.

REMINISCENCES - A ‘LITTLE’ MORE

Steve Little has published “Days We'll Remember All Our Lives”, a humorous collection of stories of teenage KEGS life from his time there from 1960-1968 and we are indebted to him for having allowed us to feature a selection of these edited extracts in our recent newsletters. Sadly these have now come to an end but following the last article on School Sports, Chris Weekes, 1958-1965, weebex12@hotmail.com, has penned his thoughts on the subject:-

BOXING. I was the only boy in Strutt at a certain weight for the House Boxing competition and so, annually, I always got into the ring to be matched against a bloke from Holland who was nicknamed Basher Bright (something from the Beano??). I had a good technique flawed by a weakness for nose
bleeds and in every bout with Basher Bright I lasted until the last round when he landed a punch on my nose and the blood flowed all over my white t shirt. End of contest!

CROSS COUNTRY. Not my favourite sport but one which we had to do in the wet winters when the football pitches were too muddy. We would run around the course which Steve Little described with some taking short cuts. On one very rainy day the River Chelmer flooded its banks by the time we got to a certain point in the circuit which necessitated our having to swim across what had been the path !!! What would ALF and SAFELY say today but it did us no harm at all.

HOCKEY. Yes, what a farce this was. Trying to play hockey on a football pitch with large divots and the extreme rigid refereeing standards of NOGGS NEWMAN. The game did not flow and the whistle was non stop. How envious I am of today’s hockey players on astroturf. Such a great game full of speed and skill but not in the 1960's.

RUGBY. Not sure about Steve's description of the team? Yes THE LIONS team was for a select band of boys, including our editor, who did not much care for football. Taffy Davis, Physics master from guess where in the Valleys, taught us the rudiments of the game and from there we progressed, playing teams from all over Essex. These included Brentwood School whom we beat in a rousing game under the old rules on a cold afternoon in 1964 (I think) at Chelmsford Rugby Club. After this momentous event Rugby became an official school sport. The Team also included Dr Peter Bullock, a centre three quarter, who was featured in the December 2014 Newsletter.

PE. I hated this considering it to be a total waste of time and effort trying to jump over a box called a Horse. The only time I liked visiting that cold and ancient gym was at the end of every term when we were allowed to play pirates, a game in which someone chased you and you had to escape like flying monkeys by climbing up the wall bars or swinging across ropes. Again I cannot help but think that H and S has banned this by now.

ATHLETICS. So finally to my recollections of the Summer sports day. Not being an athlete most years I would help to measure things like the long jump. However, there was a year - I think it was 1964, when no one else in Strutt would enter the Blue Ribband race the TWO MILES. It was the time of the diminutive British runner BRUCE TULLOH who did not wear shoes even on cinder tracks. Our track was grass so I decided to run in bare feet. The race began and as I had no pretentions of winning or even finishing , I decided to go out in front. This went on for a number of laps and the real athletes in the race especially BOB CHAPMAN of TINDAL must have been getting concerned and began to quicken their pace in an attempt to catch up with the flying barefooted Weekes. As this was not a movie, of course they overtook me and I finished last to a round of applause.(so typically British!) It appeared that my impromptu pace making had resulted in Bob Chapman smashing the school 2 mile record!

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Chris (pictured extreme right kneeling in the front row) mentioned the ‘editor’ playing for the Lions in his article above and referred us to this photo of the team which drew 11-11 with Maldon Vikings on 26th October 1963 with the question “Where are they now?”.

At about the same time Ray Little, 55applecottage@gmail.com, seated right with hand on chin, sent us this photo of many of the same schoolboys, including John Aldridge, Clive Ling, Steve Lowndes and the Editor at a
Band Camp at Colchester Garrison in the early sixties asking “George: is that you standing next to ‘Futty’ Whitehead in the back row?” We do know the whereabouts of others in the two photos including Dr Peter Bullock, also mentioned by Chris Weekes above (extreme left in the picture below) but would again ask of the rest “Where are they now!”

[Image of Band Camp]

John Aldridge, john.aldridge@tesco.net, 4th from right in the back row, has been in touch with Derek Miller, centre front without cap, and would be interested if he or any of those in the above photo have any memories of the Cultybraggan Camp, close to the village of Comrie, in West Perthshire. “It and its nuclear bunker are now in community hands but there is a small heritage centre which we visited last year which is keen to gather any memories of its days as a MoD camp (after the German POWs had been packed off home). I only spent one evening there as I was doing the Greenfields expedition and can remember very little except Blinman senior concerned to get into the village to see some ladies!”

200 CLUB and DEVELOPMENT FUND

Our two fundraisers, the 200 Club and Development Fund, both continue to run which enables us to continue our ongoing programme of improvements at the Club. As previously mentioned Adam Dessouki, adamdessouki@gmail.com, and Mark Allison, mark.allison@pinnacle-psg.com, respectively have agreed to take on the administration of these and enquiries about joining either the 200 Club, just £13.20 a share per annum, or the Development Fund at £5.00 a month can be made to them.

200 Club winners at the end of 2014 were:- Dave Kitchiner, Tony Tuckwell, Steve Little, Brian Lovejoy, Eric Churchyard and Clive Clark. We have now decided to revert to monthly draws and winners in January were Ted Marsh, Steve Locke and Alan Friend with those in February being Selwyn Wheeler, Alan Dann and Dawn Crisp.

Development Fund winners were:- Owen Raisborough, George Heseltine, Eileen Terry, John Swinney, Peter Cash, Martin Meddle, Andrew Murray, Adrian Raison, Nigel King, Tom Iliffe, Dave Kitchiner, Adam Dessouki, Nick Wright, Pete Ellwood and Alan Friend. Congratulations to one and all!
OBITUARIES

We are sorry to report the death of Cath Glynn on January 15th after a short illness. We had kept in touch with her since the death of Harold and a number of OCs attended the funeral service at the Chelmsford crematorium on February 6th and later joined Peter and Andrew, other family members, neighbours and friends at the South Lodge Hotel. Cath had managed to look after herself at home in the ‘St. Swithins’ cottage at Howe Green she and Harold had shared all their married life where she continued to enjoy her garden, knitting, radio and television all of which were reflected in the choice of music and the hymns and readings at the service.

Mike Cooper Cocks, 1948-1954, mikanncc@btinternet.com, enquired “Don't know if I have missed this in past newsletters but I have just heard from Michael King's wife in Jamaica that he died in October 2013 after a gallant struggle against a long and painful illness. He had been at KEGs in the early 50’s”

Frank Easton, 1949-1954, advised us that he had learnt recently that Robert (Bob) Windley, who was at School from 1957-1962 had died. Whilst not knowing him at KEGs Frank met him later through Phyllis Weall, the daughter of the late Charles Weall who practised architecture in and around Chelmsford, and who became his first wife. In the sixties he worked at Marconi New Street and with Phyllis went to Iran to install radar equipment in that country’s airports. Unhappily they got caught up in the Iranian revolution and returned in 1981 when he took a job in the wholesale meat industry. He had two children with Phyllis but they were later divorced and Bob married again to Jane having 2 more children. Very sadly Toby aged 17, an issue of his first marriage, was killed in 1991 in a road accident. Bob became a Building Society manager but ultimately left this country to live in the Far East. I had heard nothing from him for many years until in the Autumn of last year he sent me a Linkedin request describing himself at that time as an independent food production professional. Just before Christmas I heard of his death aged 70 in Davao in the Philippines. Bob was only peripherally involved at the Old Chelmsfordians but attended a few socials in the late 60s and played some tennis. He was a useful squash player and golfer at that time. He was a man of considerable practical ability and could turn his hand to most things be it inserting an RSJ in a building project or rebuilding a car engine and whilst in Iran reassembled a fire engine. He leaves 2 ex wives and 3 children”.

Peter Crisp, 1945-1950, wrote following the news in the last newsletter:- “I was surprised and saddened to read of the death of David (Arthur) Howes which apparently happened some months ago. It is always a pity when one of us loses regular contact for any reason, such as moving away from the area, and I find it difficult to refer to David as anything other than “Arthur” as that is how I always knew him. The story was, as you probably know, that he was given the nickname Arthur because of an impersonation of the famous Arthur Askey but I was never privileged to see it. My memories are mainly of some very happy social occasions, including the short period when a group of us considered ourselves as a ‘Rentacrowd’- available for parties anywhere! Arthur’s footballing reputation was as a very (very!) hard tackler as a few of our older members will still remember. I was able to witness first hand that his fame in this respect was not over stated, even when playing a Boxing Day “friendly”! His first wife June is remembered with great affection as a petite person who could nevertheless down a pint of bitter – or two – with the best of us. RIP Arthur – you will not be forgotten”

Colin (Wal) Tant, 1956-1963, suggested that he couldn’t add much to Peter’s recollections but reiterated “that Arthur was certainly a regular member (with the inimitable June) of the Ricky inspired OCA social crowd of the mid-sixties to the early-seventies era and his tackling was certainly of the take-no-prisoners variety. Arthur was always our representative when it came to restarting with a dropped ball as the opposition generally felt it wiser not to compete! He was also First XI Soccer captain for one season in the sixties. Having said that Arthur was a strong silent type and he was generally found propping up the bar at socials or standing by the booze in the kitchen at parties! He worked in the transport industry and his management style was to take recalcitrant drivers behind their truck and forcibly remind them of their obligations! I don't even know when he was at school but think that he was a contemporary of the late David Salmon”.

Mike Cooper Cocks, 1948-1954, mikanncc@btinternet.com, enquired “Don't know if I have missed this in past newsletters but I have just heard from Michael King's wife in Jamaica that he died in October 2013 after a gallant struggle against a long and painful illness. He had been at KEGs in the early 50’s”
Len Menhinick, 1936-1945, drew our attention to the death of Philip Guy Burton on January 22nd. Philip joined KEGs with Len in the first year but was evacuated when war broke out. He was associated with Great Waltham cricket for most of his life vacating the Secretary’s seat after 58 years to then become Treasurer whilst also lending his hand to pitch preparation. As a Chelmsfordian he was possibly better known for running the family delicatessen on Broomfield Road.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Ted Caton and Lloyd Hardy continue to oversee the organisation of the coffee mornings and were able to report another successful Christmas event on December 18th - “1950’s VA were in charge when the annual pre-Christmas fish and chips (in one case chicken and chips) were enjoyed courtesy of Murray Brazier. As usual, delicious “puddings” were provided by the ladies. Attendance was in excess of 25, most of whom remained to eat. Profits from this repast will be added to those arising from the monthly raffles and will be donated to the Grapevine charity, our chosen charity for 2014, at the January coffee morning”.

“Peter Turrall duly attended another well attended January meeting to receive our cheque for £500 and in accepting this he gave a brief insight into why and how ‘Grapevine’ had grown out of the Chelmsford Mencap charity and the particular work they are doing for the ongoing education of the over 16s that they care for”.

As we go to print the February meeting, at which the charity for 2015 will be decided, has been postponed from the 19th to the 26th as we have received prior notice that the power will be off all day for necessary tree pruning to safeguard the overhead lines. Any thoughts of thermoses and blankets were quickly discounted at this time of year!

Future dates are the third Thursdays, 19th March; 16th April; 21st May; 18th June; 16th July and 20th August. All members are welcome and anyone requiring additional information should contact Lloyd Hardy on 01245 251187 or Ted Caton on 01245 256790.

OCA WILDLIFE DECEMBER 2014 - FEBRUARY 2015

Nick Green has updated us on recent sightings of birds that he has recorded at and around Lawford Lane.

December: 2 Mistle Thrushes graced the field from 10th; the 11th was very memorable with a stunning Kingfisher on the stream on the eastern perimeter - and a wintering Chiffchaff in the southwest corner (sporting a metal ring), a scarce occurrence in Essex. By coincidence I had found another Chiffchaff in the car park at the back of Wilkinsons in Chelmsford on 9th and Chris Flint reported a local Sparrowhawk nabbing a Blackbird on the cricket square on the 17th. “Wednesday 17th December 2014 was a mild clear morning at HQ when I emerged from the groundsman's shed at around 11am........imagine my surprise when a bird flew passed me at roof-top height at a speed akin to "concorde"......utterly ignoring me the bird had its sights on juicier fare........a poor blackbird had just dieted on a cricket square earthworm and was easing his way back towards Writtle when his flight and life came to a premature end at the hands of the predatory sparrowhawk in a fluster of feathers and flesh; he was dead within seconds and within a few moments 4 magpies had surrounded the scene to see what they could rescue for themselves but they were to be denied as the killer flew off with its prey seeking the shelter of the trees on the eastern side of the ground to enjoy a late breakfast”

January: Up to 8 Magpies; Goldcrest; a cracking male (all dark bill) Kingfisher on 6th -7th, 20th, and 24th -26th mainly on eastern stream; on 6th, 25 Redwings and 25 Fieldfares flew over in a winter with few Scandinavian thrushes recorded and a Kestrel on the 9th was welcome as again rarely noted; 6 Blackbirds and Song Thrush on 21st, and 2 Buzzards flew south on the 31st, – thankfully 2 Corvids alerted us to their presence.
**February:** On the 1st the Sunday lunchtime members witnessed 2 Mistle Thrushes, 6 Blackbirds, 4 Fieldfare and 2 Redwing within 100m of the clubhouse in sunshine, a veritable thrush fest! 12th and 16th, Kingfisher again nearby; 12th a Little Egret flew over.

All 6 bird nestboxes have been cleaned and put back up. Our ace carpenter Terry Burney has now supplied 2 bat boxes so these have also been carefully sited.

Bernie Oram and the Friday crowd continue to do a great job for conservation and have planted the flowerbed between the tractor shed and clubhouse with wildlife-friendly plants including 3 Buddleias.

Please let us know if you have any OCA wildlife sightings: nick7green@aol.com or to the Editor George on heseltineuk@aol.com

**E-MAIL CONVERSIONS AND HOUSE MOVES**

Following their recent 200 Club wins we are delighted to have re-established contact with both Clive Clarke (1952-1957) and Steve Locke.

Clive thought he had given his new details on moving to Great Dunmow to his former near neighbour, Peter Anstee, in their Baddow Road days, but ‘that said, my new contact details are cliveclarkfca@gmail.com’.

**Steve Locke**, Stephen.Locke@patesgs.org, was tracked down to the Pates Grammar School in Cheltenham, by one his former schoolmates, Alan Ball, and he was delighted to catch up with recent newsletters.

**Clive Foskett**, 1958-1965, “Finally, whilst writing to you, it reminds me to ask you to kindly send me the OC's newsletter by email in the future. Email address is - cliverfoskett@btinternet.com.

**Dave Irwin** has notified a change of email address to irwins@uwclub.net and

**Bryan Reeve** to bryan@reeveassoc.co.uk.

**Ian Brown**, 1964-1971, “Having been recently elected Chairman of the Suffolk Wildlife Trust, during one of my introductory briefing sessions, I was made very much aware of the mailing cost of newsletters. Consequently my reluctance to receive correspondence via email has been overcome and I apologise for not having supplied my email address sooner. Henceforth please email future copies of your excellent publication to idbenergy@outlook.com. As you know the 1960 cohort keeps in regular contact via the admirable efforts of our “social secretary”, Steve Little, and our annual Christmas bash in the City was once again most enjoyable. However, I have noticed that since our first gathering at the beginning of the century the number of pints consumed has dramatically reduced - a sign of weakening bladders and common sense at last!? Hope to see you at the Dinner on March 21st, best regards Ian”.

**Stephen Foakes**, 1961-1967, stephen_foakes@btinternet.com. “Many thanks for dropping the latest edition of the OCA Newsletter off at my house yesterday - I am sorry I missed you. The reminiscences of school life by Steve Little and John Escott on Pages 11 and 12 certainly brought back some memories! Apologies for not letting you know my new address which is Stephen_foakes@btinternet.com”.

President, Andy Cook bumped into Willy Alderton on the train travelling to London who asked him to send on his new email address to us which is WALderton@novae.com.
FOOTBALL

As we go to press we are sorry to report that our football correspondent, Graham King, is again under the weather and we wish him well. However we can report that after a spell of cancellations with waterlogged pitches the season is back on track with all teams playing well and with the two Sunday teams both heading their respective league tables and retaining interest in the cup competitions. We give below the results that we do have to hand and hope to have a full end of season report for the next newsletter.

SATURDAY FIRST TEAM  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Goalscorers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/12/2014</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>ONGAR TOWN</td>
<td>Won 2-1</td>
<td>Own Goal and Ben Sanders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/12/2014</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>HUTTON</td>
<td>Lost 2-1</td>
<td>Marti Cullum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/12/2014</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>LEIGH RAMBLERS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>HAROLD HILL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>HUTTON</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>OLD SOUTHENDIANS</td>
<td>Lost 4-1 on penalties after 1-1 full time and aet</td>
<td>Essex Sat Premier Cup R4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>CANNING TOWN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>SHENFIELD AFC</td>
<td>Postponed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/02/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>CANNING TOWN</td>
<td>Lost 2-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/02/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>GALLEYWOOD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SATURDAY SECOND TEAM  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Goalscorers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/12/2014</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>HUTTON RESERVES</td>
<td>Won 2-1</td>
<td>Charlie Prudence, Ben Haywood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/12/2014</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>STAMBRIDGE UNITED RESERVES</td>
<td>Won 3-2</td>
<td>Stuart Gleed, Lewis Baker, Mike Medici</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/12/2014</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>STAMBRIDGE UNITED RESERVES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/01/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>RUNWELL HOSPITAL RESERVES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/01/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>CANNING TOWN RES</td>
<td>Won 4-0</td>
<td>James Ward 2, Samsa Yavuz, Steve Cooke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>HAROLD WOOD ATHLETIC</td>
<td>Lost 2-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/01/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>WHITE ENSIGN RES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31/01/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>KELVEDON HATCH RES</td>
<td>Postponed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/02/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>RUNWELL</td>
<td>Lost 3-2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/02/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>RAYLEIGH TOWN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SATURDAY THIRD TEAM ‘A’  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Goalscorers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06/12/2014</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>WRITTLE MANOR</td>
<td>Lost 4-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13/12/2014</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>MARCONI</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/12/2014</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>BADDOW BLUES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>MUNDON VICS RESERVES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/01/2015</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>MARCONI ATHLETIC</td>
<td>Won 4-1</td>
<td>Alan Coleman, (our goalkeeper assisted by the wind!) Max Green, Dan Gregory, Dominic Norman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>EXILES</td>
<td>Lost 5-4</td>
<td>Trevor Pyner 3, Liam Dodsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>MARCONI ATHLETIC</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dave Strachan knock-out cup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31/01/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>MUNDON VICS</td>
<td>Won 3-1</td>
<td>Michael Medici, Liam Landers, Dan Gregory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07/02/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>MARCONI ATHLETIC</td>
<td>Won 5-1</td>
<td>Dave Strachan Cup R2 Dan Gregory 3, Conor Hurst, Jack Swann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/02/2015</td>
<td>AWAY</td>
<td>UCC RESERVES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
06/12/2014 HOME CRICKETERS HORNDON SAXONS Div 1 Cup 1st Round Won 3-1
   Phil Kerridge 2, Tim Ryder
13/12/2014 NO FIXTURE
20/12/2014 NO FIXTURE
03/01/2015 HOME SPORTING CLUB WOODHAM
10/01/2015 HOME FRENFORD SENIOR Won 5-0 Warren Brayne 3, Matt Drummond, Dan Lee
17/01/2015 AWAY LEIGH RAMBLERS Lost 6-2 Pat Fairman
24/01/2015 AWAY HEATH PARK
31/01/2015 HOME SUNGATE Postponed
07/02/2015 AWAY OLD PALMITERIANS Won 5-2 Warren Brayne 4, Matt Drummond
14/02/2015 AWAY CRICKETERS HORNDON SAXONS

VETS RESERVES ESSEX VETERANS LEAGUE DIVISION 3 (EAST)

06/12/2014 NO FIXTURE
13/12/2014 HOME WHITE RODING Drew 3-3 Daniel Lee 2, Warren Brayne
20/12/2014 NO FIXTURE
03/01/2015 AWAY BLACKMORE ROYALS
10/01/2015 AWAY SILVER END
17/01/2015 HOME HATFIELD BROAD OAK Won 2-1 Paul Groom, Martin Hooper,
24/01/2015 AWAY SPORTING CLUB WOODHAM RES
31/01/2015 AWAY CHELMER VETS Won 4-2 Stephen Brook, Shaun Clark, Matt Drummond
07/02/2015 NO FIXTURE
14/02/2015 NO FIXTURE

SUNDAY FIRST POPE AND SMITH LEAGUE DIV 1

07/12/2014 AWAY RUNWELL HOSPITAL
14/12/2014 HOME REDSTONES Won 2-0 Ryan Fleming, Paul Tiffen
21/12/2014 AWAY BROMFORDS REUNION
04/01/2015 AWAY WOODHAM ATHLETIC
11/01/2015 HOME CAMPION OLD BOYS Essex Sunday Junior Cup R4 Lost 3-1
18/01/2015 HOME SOUTHMINSTER AND NORTON Postponed
25/01/2015 HOME CHELMER WANDERERS
01/02/2015 AWAY SOUTHMINSTER & NORTON Postponed Div 1 League Cup
08/02/2015 HOME INFIELD Won 6-0 Ryan Baxter 3, Paul Tiffen, Adam Flack, Luke Anderson
15/02/2015 HOME RUNWELL HOSPITAL

SUNDAY SECONDS POPE AND SMITH LEAGUE DIV 2

07/12/2014 HOME SPRINGFIELD Won 3-2 Farnworth, Lamb, S Yavuz
14/12/2014 AWAY BROOKHOUSE Drew 1-1
21/12/2014 AWAY BILLERICAY PSV Division 2 League Cup
04/01/2015 AWAY PRIORY SPORTS RESERVES Gillott Trophy
11/01/2015 AWAY PSV BILLERICAY
18/01/2015 AWAY PRIORY SPORTS Postponed Gillott Trophy
25/01/2015 NO FIXTURE
01/02/2015 NO FIXTURE
08/02/2015 AWAY PSV BILLERICAY Postponed
15/02/2015 AWAY CHELMER WANDERERS
CRICKET

You may not think it, but the new season starts in little over two months, writes Baz Bowerman. The first eleven will be looking to go one better than last season when they finished runners-up to Springfield, and they begin with an away trip to High Roding on Saturday 2 May.

The second eleven begin their season at the Lane and play host to Great Totham's second eleven.

There is good news for the third eleven who, due to league restructuring, remain in division nine despite finishing in the relegation places last season. Their first game is against East Hanningfield 2s and they will be hoping to start with a win having defeated them twice last season.

Finally, the fourth eleven start their campaign with an away trip to St John's Billericay seconds.

Details of all results and performances of note will feature in the next newsletter.

Matt Cranfield drew our attention to one of the lady cricket members, Alice Green, who was recognised for her outstanding volunteering work and rewarded by meeting and training with the England Women’s cricket team. During the 2014 season, 19-year-old Alice completed more than 675 hours of volunteering either as a coach or assistant manager at the OCs and for Essex age-group teams. In recognition of the remarkable effort, the ECB's head of England Women’s performance, Paul Shaw, invited Alice to meet the team during a training session at the National Cricket Performance Centre (NCPC) in Loughborough.

Of her many hours volunteering Alice said “I just enjoyed it, so didn't want to stop. Everything that I have done with Old Chelmsfordians and helping out with the Essex age-group teams this year has helped me with my confidence and I can't wait to get coaching again next season”.

TENNIS

Membership Renewal

Our main membership renewal phase will begin on 1/4/15 and for the first time, we are planning to use an electronic payment system. Renewing members will be encouraged to transfer the 2015/16 fee directly into an OCA bank account and as most people these days are well used to making such payments, we are hopeful that there will be a good take-up. It will save us a lot of work, time and expense compared to the previous system of members returning cheques and forms through the post.

LTA Initiatives

We have had a couple of meetings with county and regional LTA officials, along with representatives from the City Council, about initiatives that they are keen to pursue. Generally these focus on increasing the numbers of people playing tennis and in particular, to encourage more female players to play regularly. One key event is ‘The Great British Tennis Weekend’ which will occur around Wimbledon fortnight and we are likely to hold ours in mid-June. It may well be that participating in these initiatives will then allow us to access funds for grants towards any improvements we would like to make.

Defibrillator Training

The OCA purchased a defibrillator last year through a discounted scheme organised by the LTA. This has now been installed in the members bar and training is being arranged through Anglia University and should take place in late April. It will consist of a three hour session for around 12 trainees from the various sections. Let’s hope we never have to use it!
**Annual Dinner**

We are already planning the 2015 annual dinner having decided, after four good years at The Punchbowl, to use a different, more local establishment. We have a short-list of three suitable venues all of which can accommodate us on our preferred date of Friday 16/10/15.

**Teams**

The winter league finishes at the end of March and most of our teams have been able to play the scheduled games so far although the weather has caused some rearrangements. Of the eight teams we field, two are top of their divisions, one with a 100% record over 8 games played, three are well established in the top half of their divisions and none of the other three, two of whom were promoted last year, appear to be in any danger of relegation. We have occasionally fielded Men’s 3 teams where all four players have been juniors and some juniors are featuring for Men’s 2 and 1.

**Membership**

If you are not currently a member of the tennis section but have always fancied trying out the great courts, particularly with the new surface, contact Alan Coulthard on 07795 105328. If your tennis is a little rusty, Alan and Derek Rogers (Head Club Coach) can organise coaching sessions to individuals and small groups. Also, our website at www.chelmsfordianstennis.co.uk is a good source of information about the section.

For further information about the section contact Alan Coulthard on 07795 105328 or check out the website at www.chelmsfordianstennis.co.uk.

**TABLE TENNIS**

David Porter has provided his report:-

**Chelmsford Winter League 2014/15**

With around 10 weeks of the 2014/15 season remaining, 3 of our 8 teams remain in with a realistic chance of promotion from their respective divisions of the Chelmsford & District Table Tennis League

The A Team are currently 3rd in Division 1 and with a small points gap to the team in 4th retain a good chance of finishing in the top three come the end of the season. Brandon Crouchman (71%) and Michael Andrews (70%) have both had excellent seasons to date and have been ably supported by Terry Dowsett and latterly, John Cleasby, a mid-season recruit from Maldon Table Tennis Club.

Our B Team have put together an exceptional run of results over the last couple of months and are unbeaten in their last 8 games (5 wins and 3 draws). Kevin Worthington (86%) on his return to the OCA fold this season has performed to consistently high standards throughout the season and has received solid support from Robbie Burton (54%) and Stephen Northcott (47%). If they can maintain their form for the remaining 6 games of the season then they have a realistic chance of promotion and joining the A Team in Division 1 next season.

In Division 3 our C Team are currently 2nd and still remain on course for filling one of the two promotion slots. Finishing as Champions is not beyond them and they will be disappointed if they don’t at least end as runners up. Frank Hodge (72%), Nat Ravlic (69%) and Daniel Berry (61%) continue to perform to a consistently high level. Perhaps more surprisingly our D Team who were propping up the table a couple of months ago have seen a resurgence since the turn of the year and now find themselves in the lofty position of 7th place having opened up a sizeable margin from the relegation places. Successive wins (7-3
and 10-0) have provided the impetus for this move up the table. Newcomer Andrew Huckson (4 wins out of 6 in his first two games) has provided valuable, recent support to David Porter (51%), Roy Moore (41%) and Mick Hayes (39%).

In Division 4, our F Team have moved into second place and have a good chance of achieving their second successive promotion. The youthful team of Peter Windley (86%), Tom Barker (77%) and Charlie Mariner (39%) have gelled together well this year, although they are going to have to overcome Peter Windley’s absence for a period of 4 weeks as he is attending a residential course out of the area. The E Team of Adrian North (67%) and Charles Yeung (64%) and Dave Newman (29%) have consolidated their mid-table position and have already all but secured their place in Division 4 next season.

In Division 5 our G Team remain one from bottom, but as previously reported this would be a pleasing improvement from last season when they finished bottom. In particular Dave Bishop (36%) is now beginning to show the potential that he has not previously been able to turn into victories. The same is hoped for Mike Morecroft and Dave White who should be winning more games at this level.

In the Click League our Junior Team has enjoyed two thumping 5-0 victories recently thanks to newcomer Tejas Kotwal, his brother Tanishq Kotwal and Click –regulars Lawrence Bartlett and Aswin Siam (returning recently from an arm injury).

**Chelmsford League Individual Championships 2015**

OCA’s players continued the trend of recent years in performing really well in the recent Chelmsford League Championships. Here are the achievements of OCA players who either won or were runners up in the events that they entered :-

- Brandon Crouchman – runner up in the Mens Singles.
- Brandon Crouchman – winner of the Mens under 21 title
- Brandon Crouchman (with Scott Dowsett of the Elmtree Club) – winners of the Mens Doubles
- Peter Windley – runner up in the Junior Boys Singles
- Daniel Berry and Peter Windley – winners of the Junior Boys Doubles
- Peter Windley – winner of the Junior Handicap Singles
- Peter Windley – winner of the Division 4 Singles title

**New Players**

We are always looking to recruit players to supplement all of our teams. If you are interested in playing or know someone who may be then contact David Porter by emailing DJPESsex@aol.com or phoning on 07885 467935.

**Practice sessions**

All those interested in playing table tennis are reminded that Tuesday evening sessions continue throughout the Autumn and Winter from 6pm. Our coach, Mick Parkhurst, is available at most sessions if individual or group coaching is required.

**GOLF**

Howard Swan has advised us that the 31st Alex Swan Trophy will be held at Bentley Golf Club, Brentwood, Essex on **Thursday 25th June 2015**.

He is hoping to welcome a large number of Old Chelmsfordians to this event and asks those interested to please put the date in your diary and he will look forward to seeing you then.

Howard can be contacted at:-

howard.swan@swangolfdesigns.com, 01277 896229, Telfords Farm, Willingale, Ongar, Essex CM50QF.
OCA WEBSITE

Our website has recently undergone something of a facelift and members are invited to take a look at this at www.oldchelmsfordians.com

This is looked after for us by one of our members, Steve Cooke, and should others be interested in having professional help with their own website Steve would be delighted to hear from you.

Steve.cooke@chelmsfordwebdesign.com

ANNUAL DINNER 2015

A reminder that the Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday March 21st with Lord Bourne of Aberystwyth and Wethersfield our guest speaker. As Nicholas Bourne he started at the School in September 1963 as a contemporary of our incoming President, Terry Allen, and is himself a member of the Association. There will also be the opportunity for many of you to welcome the new Headmaster, Tom Carter, to Lawford Lane for the first time.

The function is held at the clubhouse with a start time of 7.00pm for 7.30pm, Dress is Lounge Suit and an OCA tie and tickets are now available at £25.00 each.

All enquiries should be made to George Heseltine - contact details below.

As always, any members wishing and willing to receive the newsletter by email or wanting to advise us of any change to either their home or email address should again contact George Heseltine at heseltineuk@aol.com to arrange this.

Once again thank you to all contributors for this issue which we trust has again made for an enjoyable read.

We invite everyone to send their news and views for the next issue which should be available at the end of April.

Please send all communications to:-
George Heseltine : 30 Trinity Road : Chelmsford : Essex : CM2 6HS
Phone : 01245 265962 Email : heseltineuk@aol.com