

MALTONIANS

I have met many former students and staff of the school in the last fifteen years. Some I have taught, others I have worked with, still others I have never known until they walked through the doors and shook my hand, and wondered if they could perhaps 'have a look around the old place.' Quite often these visits have coincided with long journeys - from Australia, Canada, South Africa, Germany - as an emigrant son or daughter returned to visit relatives or friends, and thought they might take a trip down memory lane (or Middlecave Road) on that journey through fond recollection that schooldays so often provide. It has always been enjoyable to meet people and discuss what remains the same and what has changed about the school over the years.

When I began the website project in 1998 there was no formal connection mechanism with former students. Former grammar school pupils have, I believe, always referred to themselves as *Old Maltonians*. The site was intended for **all** who have any connection with Malton School - Malton Grammar, County Modern, Comprehensive; current and former staff; current pupils and their families; even local companies who help and support the school - and so the more general *Maltonians* seemed a more appropriate name to use, and the Maltonians website was born, at www.maltonschool.org. This is a descriptive term rather than any kind of organised body, so to coincide with the launch of this book *Friends of Malton School* was launched, with an annual subscription and a remit to help the school fund its development, particular in respect of extra-curricular activities, and to allow *Friends* to take an active interest in the school.



VISITORS 1998

A group who visited the school in 1998, pictured in the old library with their old school badge. Sadly I did not meet this group, and have no record of their names.

A photo taken by school secretary Miriam Hall (Cuthbertson).

THE OLD MALTONIANS ASSOCIATION

The Old Maltonians Association (OMA) was very much a grammar school organisation, and as such it was perhaps inevitable that it folded in 1973, eighteen months after the end of the grammar school. At a time when enormous efforts were being made to make the new school a united whole ('Unitate Fortiores', as the motto proclaimed,) maintaining the grammar school former-pupils association was possibly indirectly helping to prolong the divisive past of the school. Some Old Maltonians blamed Mr Gresswell for winding up the Association, but the reality of the situation is shown by the minutes book, now in the Maltonians archive: support was getting thin. A meeting was advertised in the Gazette, to decide what should be done. Three people turned up, in addition to John Gresswell and the secretary, Brenda Beal (née Holmes): Mel Crawshaw, 'Gough', and 'Nendick'. The meeting took the view that they could continue, but it was decided that insufficient interest meant the association should be wound up. Brenda Beal wrote to me in 2002:

... support of the OMA was getting less with fewer people attending meetings. Sadly, following the deaths of Mr P Taylor and Mr B Rolls a meeting was held on Feb 14th 1973 to decide the future of the Association and a letter was subsequently sent to all members stating that it had been unanimously decided that the Association be wound up and the assets disposed of.

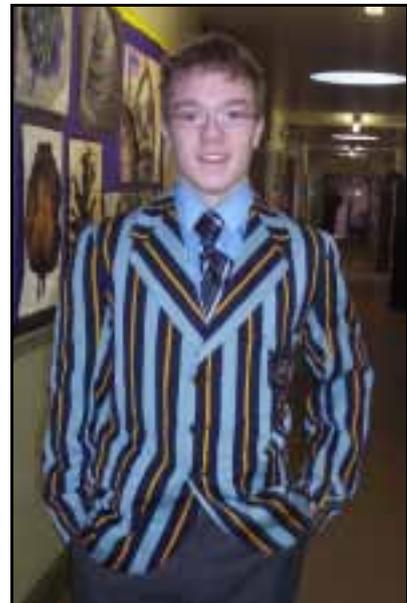
At the final meeting on the 15th March 1973 the Old Maltonian Association ended and all the funds passed to the Bruce Rolls Memorial Fund, which was used to purchase a display cabinet to be placed in the West Wing of Malton School.

Brenda Beal (née Holmes), May 2002

Brenda had left school in 1953, joined the Old Maltonians Association, and was elected to the executive council in 1957 alongside chairman Philip Taylor, and vice-chair Bruce Rolls. She continued to serve until the final closure of the Association.

OMA BLAZER

Liam McDonald modelling an old item of clothing donated to the School in 2004. Derrick Searle contacted us to say his father William Henry Searle had recently died, and he had been sorting through belongings, and had found a number of items related to school. One was a rather fine, brightly coloured Old Maltonians blazer, which he had dry-cleaned and donated to the school. Derrick said his father left school aged 14 in 1919. Note the OMA monogram on the pocket badge.



Brenda continues to describe the Association in her letter:

The annual general meeting of the Association was held in September each year when the officials and executive council were elected. ... Other business of the AGM was to fix a date for the annual reunion, at the beginning of January when people were generally home for the holidays. The committee then met in October to make all the final arrangements for the dinner dance, held at Bower's Restaurant, which was always well supported and good value at 12 shillings and sixpence. Mr T Tate-Smith and Mr B Rolls were toastmasters and guest speakers proposed the toast to 'The School' and the 'Old Maltonian Association', Mr P Taylor responding. Many of us will remember Mr Raymond Stolting (gardener) or Mr Dowding (caretaker) standing at the top of the stairs collecting tickets and the evening finishing with dancing to the *Rhythmaires*.

A war memorial fund had been set up in 1946, and a prize was awarded each year to the pupil considered by the head master to have contributed most to the life of the school. This prize was given at Speech Day each year along with the OMA prizes for tennis and cricket, both bowling and batting. The Committee also organised teams for the School versus OMA football and hockey matches; Mr B Rolls, Mrs Ena Smith and myself organising the teams. They were always keenly fought matches with the whole school out to support and a good tea provided.

Brenda Beal, 2002

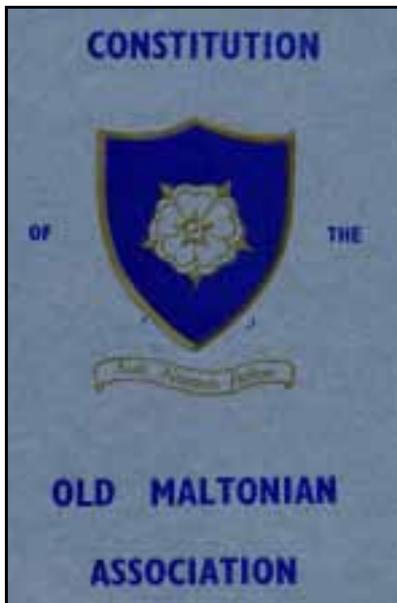
The Old Maltonians Association had a number of pages dedicated to its members in every copy of the school magazine, *The Maltonian*. Reports from Old Maltonians on their activities since departure are fascinating, and clearly the writing of letters, and latterly the use of the telephone, occupied many a former pupil and gave them great pleasure, particularly those in the forces who were abroad on duty. There is a true family spirit in these reports. Where letters were not reproduced, the editor summarises and lets everyone know who has been in touch, what is their business and their whereabouts.



Above:

CHRISTMAS RE-UNION 1926

Two tickets for the popular annual dinner. Note the timings - clearly the party continued well into the night!



THIS ASSOCIATION of past pupils and staff of the Malton Grammar School was founded by Mr. Ernest L. Watt in 1918.

ITS AIMS AND OBJECTS are as follows:-

- (1) To form a bond between the members and the School through the media of Re-unions and the Association's magazine "The Maltonian."
- (2) To promote or assist in any activities conducive to extending the interests and influence of the School.
- (3) To promote and administer such sectional activities as may be desired by bodies of the members.

Left:

OMA CONSTITUTION

A pocket-sized booklet for OMA members, giving quite strict rules and regulations for members. Annual subscriptions were two shillings and sixpence "and no person shall be registered as a Member of the Association whose first subscription shall not have been paid."

REUNIONS

The school does not normally organise reunions itself: they would be difficult to organise with groups spreading over so many years. It does however always provide help in the form of names and addresses or recent contacts to those wishing to stage a reunion for their year group. Usually this happens as a result of one person making considerable efforts to contact those they can from their school days. Often a tenth or twenty-fifth anniversary is the prompt for such an event.

By far the longest running and most regular gathering of former Grammar School pupils is that organised by Colin Gaden. He wrote a few memories for me in 2002:

I was a first in the 'Late Developer' scheme taking an examination at the age of 13 and being granted a County Minor Scholarship to Malton Grammar School in December 1944 to start in the Spring term, January 1945.

The school only had about 130 pupils so everyone knew each other. Famous contemporaries were Vic Wilson, who captained Yorkshire County Cricket Club, and Terry Dyson, who won an F.A.Cup Winners Medal with Tottenham Hotspur. When I started at the school the D-Day landings in Normandy were just six months old and six months after it was V.E.Day (Victory in Europe in May 1945), therefore it was very much a wartime existence.

Growing older means nostalgia for 'the good old days' and I attended a reunion at the Green Man, Malton; I realised that some help was welcomed with the organisation and took on the task starting with a list of addresses from Brian Denison and that list has grown to around 150 O.M's, mainly pre-1950 pupils, one O.M. passing on information about another with whom they keep in contact.

Colin sends out an annual invitation to the reunion, which includes a digest of all the snippets of news he has picked up from people who remain in contact with him. I have attended the event - usually on the last Tuesday in April - on a number of occasions, when it has been my pleasure to tell people about the school as it is today, and to meet some of those gathered to remember their schooldays and school-friends.

GREEN MAN REUNION 1999

An excellent gathering of over 50 former pupils and staff, organised by Colin Gaden. People came from all over the country, and indeed from overseas, to attend - Gwen Zyba (née Monkman) - made a trip from Canada to be there.



MALTONIANS



GREEN MAN REUNIONS

Top left:
DOLLY THACKRAY
Dolly Thackray (née Hickes) with a group of friends at the 1999 reunion. Dolly was both pupil and teacher and the school.

Top right:
COLIN GADEN
Colin, again at the 1999 re-union.



Upper middle:
1998
Colin with Mary Rolls, (Bruce's wife) and former pupils gathered in April 1998.
Picture courtesy Gazette and Herald

Lower middle:
2000
Pictured at the rear of the hotel, Colin with friends from over the years. I cannot give all names, but Margaret Taylor (née Suddaby), Tim Tate-Smith and Mary Rolls are amongst the crowd.
Picture courtesy Gazette and Herald



Bottom:
NEWS CLIPPING 2002
Colin as ever in the centre, once again with Mary Rolls and Margaret Taylor. Eleanor Williams is seated in the front, (to the left of centre).
Picture courtesy Gazette and Herald



Simon Crozier is another organiser for his year-group. He has set up his own website (websites, if we include the St Mary's Primary School version) dedicated to his schooldays, the secondary part of which ran from 1967-1974. 'A site dedicated to those of us "Gutter Snipes" who started at Malton Grammar School (MGS) back in 1967, or joined us later'. Simon now lives and works near Heidelberg, Germany. He has organised two formal reunions and several informal gatherings so far. The first formal reunion was in March 2001, the second, larger version in September 2002. He also attended an earlier reunion organised by classmate Anna Lupton in June 1995. All events are well documented on Simon's website, with pictures and commentary. Participants travelled many miles for these reunions - from Australia, Germany, Canada and the USA, as well as from all corners of the United Kingdom.

1967-74 GROUP REUNIONS

Top left:

GREEN MAN JUNE 1995

Amanda Fenner, Anna Lupton, Kevin Arbuthnot, Valerie Hickes

Top right:

Christine Oxtoby, Richard Duggleby, Malcolm Smith, Simon Crozier, Jennifer Howden, Ian Dodgson

THE LODGE, MARCH 2001

Middle left:

*Richard Dawson, John Wardle, Richard Chandler, Simon Crozier, Kevin Arbuthnot
Valerie Hickes, Dave Preston, Linda Andrew (née MacKinnan), Mike Hardy*

Middle right:

In the evening they were joined by Joanna Kelly (née Carr), Valerie Ventress (née Wilson), Susan Barker (née Lee) and Philippa Brockless (née Holtby)

Bottom right:

SCHOOL VISIT 2002

*Dave Preston, Mike Carey-Topping, Mike Hardy, Chris Dick, Richard Chandler, Dale Ward, Ann Lockwood, Janet Marwood, Malcolm Smith, David Wilson, Simon Crozier
Front: Paul Goacher, Steve Hale, John Wardle, Debbie Longstaff, Valerie Wilson*

Bottom left:

25TH ANNIVERSARY

A ticket for the 2002 reunion designed for Simon by Richard Chandler. Simon added a name bar and it was worn on the day as a badge.



MALTONIANS

Howard Fox has contributed in many ways to this history: through his involvement in writing the original *History of Malton Grammar School* in 1965, through research for some chapters of this book; by passing on many photos from former pupils for scanning; and by providing detailed information on education history. Howard has regularly attended the reunions organised by Colin Gaden, but has also organised two for his own year group, 1952 - 1959.

Jason Langley and Karen Fisher organised a ten-years-on reunion buffet and disco in the school hall in October 1999.



Top:

1959 SIXTH FORM

Pictured in June 2000 when they met in the new library, followed by a tour of the school - the 1959 Sixth Form. The group includes Brian Windsor, Howard Fox, John Rolls, Russell House, Howard Campion.

Middle:

1952-59 GROUP

A larger group returned in October 2001 for a tour of the old Grammar School (East Wing) and a lot of chatting, before moving on to the Wentworth Arms for some lunch.

1989 LEAVERS' REUNION

Bottom left:

Jason Langley with former Head of Home Economics, Christine Baxter.

Bottom right:

Karen Fisher with John Gresswell.

Top right:

TINA KELLY AND SUE ABBEY

Middle left:

LIZ BETTS 2002

Middle right:

1967 REUNION GROUP

(Not in order): *Keith Ellis, from Norton, Dave Butler, Colin Whelan from Scarborough, Anne Pearson from Gilling East, John Burn from Scarborough, Clive Burns from Thornton le Clay, Chris Dale from Thorpe Bassett, Alan Hughes from Pocklington, Val (Andrews) and Kevin Hardisty from Romanby, Alison Marshall (née West) from Scampston, Julia Frankish (née Hepton) from York, Audrey Willis from Dunnington, Pamela Carr from Tytherton, Cheshire; Liz Betts (née Lacey) from Cherry Burton, Janet Pickering (née Haywood) from Sale*

Below:

1970-75 GROUP

Organised by Ann Smith (née Wentworth) and Diane Walker, May 1999 and held at the Bowling Club, Norton. Ann wrote to tell me of the event: "Approximately 66 old school friends and teachers attended. Everyone seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves, even the ones who had been a little bit apprehensive about meeting up after so many years"

Bottom:

40TH BIRTHDAY YEAR 2002

Julie Dobson (Mason) and Della Nicholson organised a reunion in April 2002, when many classmates had reached 40. The group are pictured in the West Wing Hall. Names from Gill Harrison, more or less in order: Mark Freer, Della Nicholson, Patsy Morrell, Peter Burrow, Terry Reed, Anna Massey, Mark Suddaby, Julia Rowsby (née Mason), Tony Campbell, Stuart Ellis, Helen Challis (née Paylor), Gillian Harrison (née Wentworth), Sally Patterson, Susan Crozier, David Jefferson, David Knaggs, Beverley Ellwood, Clive Richardson, Roger Thompson, Neil Paylor, Marjorie Keane, Mark Campbell, Sharon Mort, Tim Verity, Jonathan Fawcett, Karen Talbot, John Delavel (shortly before he died), John Dunstan, Philip Mason, Alan Robinson, John Whitehead, Alex Joannidis, and John Gresswell. Donna Windress, Susan Humpleby, Liz Hyde (née Swallow), Joanne Robinson, David Salmon, Anita Wood, Jill Brewster

In June 1999 Tina Kelly advertised in the Gazette and Herald for any of her 1974 classmates to turn up for a reunion twenty-five years on. Fifty-seven people turned up for the event.

Ann Smith (née Wentworth) and Diane Walker also organised a successful reunion in 1999.

July 2002 saw a reunion organised by Liz Betts - daughter of Audrey Lacey, who was senior mistress at Malton County Modern. Another reunion in 2002 was organised by Julie Mason (née Dobson) and Della Nicholson, in the school hall.



VISITORS

People ring and ask if they could visit their old school; sometimes they enquire in person; occasionally I spot someone peering over the hedge, and find that they were ‘just passing’ and ‘used to come here many years ago.’ Such visitors are always a pleasure to meet - I listen with interest, but can never quite remember everything that was said. My apologies.



1. ROY and BRIAN THOMPSON

Brian had been brought on a visit by his daughter Susan early in 2001, I think as a treat for his birthday. He enjoyed it so much that he returned with his brother Roy a few weeks later. They were pupils in the 1930s and 1940s.

2. CHRIS JEFFERSON

Chris visited in July 2002 having just gained a 1st class honours degree in maths and computing at Cambridge. I'd like to think my further maths teaching helped, but Chris never paid too much attention to exercises and text books, and certainly not to deadlines!

3. EMMA COX

Talking with Dave Ewing in 2003. Emma left in 1994, and at the time she visited was studying dentistry.



4. OPEN EVENING JULY 2002

June Brook (née Stonehouse) with her daughters Ellen and Alice. June was a pupil in the 1970's. Open Evenings always bring in former pupils, and we always have a room with old photographs and documents on show.

5. ANGELA and JOHN WILLIAMS 2005

This visit was the start of their planning for a commemorative plaque and science prize in memory of Thomas and Eleanor Williams



6. PATSY and ARTHUR FIRTH

Patsy (Layburn) and Arthur viewing one of the photo albums on a visit in September 2006. They now live on the Isle of Wight.

7. A LEVEL REUNIONS

Every year during the Christmas holidays sixth formers who have left the previous summer gather to receive their certificates and catch up on news. This one was at The Talbot in 2001.



8. JAMES MARTIN

Celebrity TV chef (and Strictly Come Dancing ballroom dancer) James Martin returned to his former school in 2006. He spent two days filming with a BBC crew as part of his 2007 television series where he mixed memories of his childhood with ideas for desserts. He is pictured here at a cake auction in the gym, staged as part of the filming.

VISITORS - VIRTUAL AND REAL

The presence of www.maltonschool.org on the internet has given people worldwide the opportunity to type 'Malton School,' or even their names, into a search engine, and in seconds come up with information about the school, including all the pictures and details contained within this book. Thus Malton School once again is in contact with former students and staff all over the world. This reflects a time in the heyday of the Grammar School's Old Maltonian Association, when letters came from far and wide, as wartime postings and post-war emigration opened up new areas of the globe for people to move to and create a new life.

A number of former students who have travelled far do return to their home town, and often consider a brief trip back to their school to reminisce. Many have been kind enough to allow me to take photographs - which appear on the following page. Apologies for the poor quality of some pictures, taken in haste, sometimes on a low-resolution digital camera.

Some visitors I never did get a photo of - Peter Smailes visited from Australia in 1999, where he worked at Adelaide university with another Maltonian, Malcolm Oades. Betty Graham (née Johnson) came from Canada in 1999; Linda Medd from Brazil in 2000; Alison Ware from America in 2004.

MALTONIANS ACROSS THE GLOBE

A selection of far-flung places from where former students have been in touch in recent years. A number have followed up e-mail contacts with visits to the school in person.

Base map courtesy of freeworldmaps.net

Such lists are never complete nor accurate. Apologies to anyone whose visit has been missed. The website remains as an easier medium on which to rectify such omissions.



MALTONIANS



1. PETER CARR

Peter Carr visited in 2004., and is pictured in the 30s corridor with a copy of the History of Malton Grammar School. He has lived in New Zealand for many years.

2. JANET and KEN MARWOOD

Janet grew up in Australia, moved to Malton (where her father Ken had been a pupil at MGS previously) for about three years, then moved back to Australia. She visited with her Dad in June 2005

3. DAVE AND SUE PRESTON

Brother and sister pictured in the school library in February 2002. Dave now lives in Victoria, Vancouver Island, and Sue in Rome, Italy.

4 & 6. DAVE EVANS

Dave was a pupil 1958-65, and became head boy. He now lives in Johannesburg. On his visit he managed to find the brick on which he carved his initials. He still hasn't paid the repair bill!

5. MARION LOWE

Not a visitor, but someone who has travelled to an extreme part of the world. A pupil in the 1960s, Marion sent us this picture of her at the North Pole. She is chief executive of the children's charity, The Family Fund Trust.

7. SIMON CROZIER

A regular visitor, Simon has lived in Germany for many years. He is pictured on the left of this 2002 reunion group, gathered by the rowan tree he planted as a commemorative gesture on behalf of the group.

8. PENNY HOWARTH

Penny Gardiner (née Howarth) dropped by in 2005 for the first time in forty years. She now lives near Johannesburg in South Africa.

8. KERRY MARTIN (née ROLLS)

Kerry called in whilst over here from Melbourne, Australia in May 2003 - sadly she was visiting shortly after attending the funeral of her mother, Mary Rolls. She did say that she had managed to see her mother before she died. She had a photo taken with two of her old school-friends - school secretary Jenny Capstick, and Romey Willis.