



# OLA Newsletter

December 2005

## Inside this Issue

- 1** 2006 Loughborough Dinner, May 20, 2006  
The Chairman's Report
- 2** Contacting LGS  
OLs Reach Final of Grafton Morrish Tournament
- 3** LGS CCF Annual Review  
WebAlumnus  
Felix Buxton of Basement  
Jaxx Presents LGS Prizes  
Ties and Cuff Links  
Next AGM  
2005 London Dinner
- 4** Old Loughburian  
OGA Bonfire Ball Great Success

The Old Loughburians' Association  
Burton Walks  
Loughborough  
Leicestershire LE11 2DU

## Loughborough Dinner

➤ Ben Hammersley (87-94) to Propose toast to OLA

➤ All OLs and their Partners Most Welcome

*Burton Hall, May 20, 2006*

*Black Tie*

*£26.50 per person*

The popular Loughborough Dinner will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2006 in the Burton Hall at the School.

We intend to continue with last years format where canapés were served during pre-dinner drinks so that there was more time for socialising before sitting down for the meal. It was certainly well received by everyone last year.

More details will be distributed with The Old Loughburian next Easter and also via Web Alumnus.

**Put 20<sup>th</sup> May 2006 into your diary now. Better still - why not put together a table! It is sure to be another excellent evening.**

## The Chairman's Letter

*Graham Freckleton (1964 - 1972)*

Welcome to our December 2005 Newsletter.

The OLA Committee has had another busy year under the Chairmanship of N J Barry Hackett. Barry retired at the AGM in October and we pass onto him our sincere thanks for all his hard work.

We have managed to recruit Neil Rowbotham onto the Committee. Neil retired as Deputy Head in July this year and we are looking forward to his considerable input and knowledge of OL members over the coming years. There is no doubt that Neil, who will join other members of staff on the Committee, will provide an important link to OLs, particularly through Web Alumnus. The Committee extends a warm welcome to him.

Everything is progressing well with the Old Loughburian Magazine due out in April 2006. Peter Hopkins and Ed Thorpe are already collecting articles and old boys notes. Please let them have copies of all your news items for inclusion in the magazine. We are indebted to Peter and Ed for producing a magazine of such high quality and consistency and are looking forward to the 2006 edition.

Some of the Committee members attended the LGS Founder's Dinner this year and were entertained by members of the Sixth Form. I also attended the Leavers' Barbecue in September. As

usual, our Committee member John Weitzel arranged a splendid evening, which both leavers from the Grammar School and High School enjoyed – in spite of the slightly chilly conditions!

We continue to promote the benefits of the OLA to the parents of all new boys. They are now asked to pay a subscription of £6.00 per term throughout their schooling to fund the Association’s long-term commitment to the membership. The Committee feels that it is important to advertise the added value the OLA offers to all pupils at the school and their parents.

Arrangements for the Loughborough Dinner to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2006 and the London Dinner on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2006 are already well in hand. Scott Charlish is again arranging the Loughborough Dinner, following an excellent event earlier this year. As usual Roy Wood will be in charge of the London Dinner and we offer our sincere thanks to both of them for their continued work on your behalf.

If you have not yet contacted us, please register on the Web Alumnus website today. You can access it through the school website on [www.loughgs.leics.sch.uk](http://www.loughgs.leics.sch.uk) and follow the links to Old Boys. Please let us have your email addresses and news.

Finally, may I wish you a Happy Christmas and hope that the New year brings good health and happiness to you and your families. I look forward to meeting as many as possible of you in the coming year.

## Contacting LGS

**Loughborough Grammar School**  
Burton Walks, Loughborough, Leics  
LE11 2DU  
Telephone: 01509 233 233  
Office [admin@loughgs.co.uk](mailto:admin@loughgs.co.uk)

# OLs Reach Final in Grafton Morrish Golf Tournament

*Dave Barnett*

The Grafton Morrish is a scratch foursomes competition held annually in Norfolk, following regional qualifying, which takes place throughout Britain during Spring. It is organised by the Public School Old Boys Golf Association and 48 school teams of 6 qualify for the final stages from an overall field of 150 schools.

The Old Loughburian Association Golfers (Old LAGS) battled hard this year and reached the final of the Committee Bowl trophy held at the

Wainwright / Ian Anderson, Jon Soars/ Peter Cadenhead and Dave Barnett/ Simon Martin then took on the might of Eton School on Sunday morning in the semi-finals at Hunstanton, coming out victors 2/1 to reach the final against Millfield, who earlier knocked out The Leys.

This was the first time LGS had reached a final in either of the Grafton Competitions. The team was desperate to finish the weekend in style and walk off with the silverware. Sadly it wasn’t to be as Millfield, sporting 6 low handicappers and very eye catching team colours, managed a 2 and 1 victory to win the Committee Bowl, a trophy they have won many times in the past. David “Disco” Barnett, LGS Captain, wasn’t too downhearted though, remarking “We have proved



Brancaster and Hunstanton links courses in Norfolk on the weekend of 29 September to 2 October.

Despite an early exit from the main knock out competition on the Friday, losing to St Georges School, Weybridge 2 / 1, LGS pulled out a top performance in high winds to qualify in the top 4 from 27 schools in a scratch stableford competition. The pairings of Nick

ourselves as a school to be reckoned with in this competition and we look forward to doing battle on the Norfolk coast again next year”.

For more information, please contact:  
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## LGS CCF Annual Review, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2006

Review By Brigadier  
**Dougie Rowlinson, OL 1964-1972**

*Simon Lane*  
*O.C. LGS CCF*

Old Loughburians are cordially invited to attend. The parade will start at 9.30 am in the Quad and finish about 12 noon.

As I am due to retire at the end of the Summer term 2006 and Tony Payne, will also be retiring from teaching, though he expects to continue helping with sailing, we would like to round off the morning's activities with refreshments, probably a buffet style lunch in the Burton Hall. We would like to invite any Old Loughburians, particularly those who are or have been involved with the cadets or Armed Forces, to join us for the occasion, at a cost of £12 per person for the lunch.

Please contact me at the school or by email to [simon\\_lane@bigfoot.com](mailto:simon_lane@bigfoot.com) if you wish to stay on for refreshments, so we can send you an invitation and cater accordingly.

**Register on WebAlumnus today**

**You can access it through the school website on [www.loughgs.leics.sch.uk](http://www.loughgs.leics.sch.uk) and follow the links to Old Boys.**

## Felix Buxton of Basement Jaxx Presented LGS Prizes

Felix Buxton, LGS 1981-1987, of the Grammy Award winning dance music group Basement Jaxx, presented the prizes at Loughborough Grammar School Prize Giving on 26 September 2005.



This photo shows Felix to the right of Simon Ratcliffe accepting the Grammy Award for Kish Kash, the best dance album in 2004.

After handing out the prizes to the successful students, Felix admitted that he was more relaxed performing in front of 50,000 people than making a speech at his old school. He advised the boys to have confidence in themselves and to work hard because success only came with hard work in any field.

After completing the formalities Felix socialised with the boys and parents, as well as signing copies of his CDs.

## Next AGM

The 2006 AGM will be held at Friesland House, 4 Burton Walks on September 18, 2006 at 7.30pm. All OLs are most welcome.

## Ties and Cuff-Links

The new style Old Loughburian ties have a modern "chequer board" design, with the association logo scattered across the material. Produced in silk, the tie costs £17.00. There are still a few of the more traditional style OLA ties available, displaying only a single association crest. These ties are available at only £12.00

OLA Cuff Links are also available for only £10.00.

The ties and cuff links can be purchased by sending a cheque for the appropriate amount to the Old Loughburians' Association, c/o Loughborough Grammar School, Burton Walks, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 2DU

## 2005 London Dinner

*Roy Wood*

As usual, the members who attended this event said that they very much enjoyed the chatting and reminiscing in the congenial surroundings of the RAF Club in central London. After an enjoyable meal a presentation was made to Jim Crookes (1988-2005) on his appointment as Deputy head of Welbeck College after seventeen years as geography Master and head of geography at the Grammar School. In his presentation, John Weitzel (1978 - ) asked members present to say in what school trips they had participated during their days at school. He did this to stress their extremely ambitious nature and the success of the many expeditions to many countries which Jim has led

during his years at Loughborough. An example of this was the trekking expedition to Nepal in 1993. On the way to the base camp of Everest they met Sir Edmund Hillary, presenting £4,000 worth of medical and education equipment for the local hospital and school. Jim replied with his own memories.

The downside of the occasion was the reduction in numbers. There were only 47 OLs which is the lowest number we have ever had at the RAF Club. We were missing several of our usual table groups organised by certain faithful members. We really do rely on a number of you to take the initiative and persuade friends and contemporaries to join you at these reunions. The London Dinner was originally initiated for the large number of members living in and around London. There must be far more in that category now than ever before. A good number of us still travel to the dinner from Loughborough and elsewhere in the country.

If any member has a suggestion for ensuring the continued success of these events it would be helpful to let us know. The charges at the RAF Club are reasonable for London but we only managed to maintain the price of £45.00 per head by limiting the "free bar" before the meal to a single drink (not easy to organise). We do of course include the (generous) dinner wines and port within the price. We could consider the more moderately priced menus of those offered by the Club if price is seen as a significant factor in attendance.

**Next year's dinner is booked at the Club for Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2006 and the second Friday in October is pencilled in for the following two years.**

## The Old Loughburian

*Peter Hopkins and Ed Thorpe*

Deadline for the receipt of material for next April's issue of the Old Loughburian is 1<sup>st</sup> February 2006.

Undoubtedly, the most popular parts of your Old Boys' magazine are those which give news of other OLs: we all like to hear what our former classmates and team-mates are doing, where they are now living, whether they have families – and so on. Write to Ed Thorpe (32 Avon Vale Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 2AA), especially if you have not been in touch for some time: news of you will certainly create ripples of interest in your contemporaries all over the country – in fact, probably all round the world!

We also like to receive short articles which you think may be of interest: some of your professional experiences, perhaps, or reminiscences of LGS. This kind of item is greatly enhanced if you can also supply a photograph or two. A single column in the Old Loughburian is about 600 words.

## OGA Bonfire Ball Great Success



Nearly 180 Old Boys, Old Girls, LES staff and their partners enjoyed a fantastic evening at the Bonfire Ball, which was organised by the OGA for past pupils of both schools. The Deputy Mayor of Charnwood opened the evening which consisted of a delicious four course meal accompanied by jazz from Opus 3, a charity auction, a professional firework display and a disco until 1am. During the meal close-up magic was performed at the tables and afterwards guests had caricatures drawn. The general consensus was that the evening was "fabulous".

The Bonfire Ball also raised a considerable amount of money for charity. The British Red Cross (Leicestershire and Rutland Branch) was the beneficiary of the auction which raised £1,049, including a donation of £80 after the auction to take the proceeds over the £1,000 mark. The raffle raised £111 for Epilepsy Action in memory of Helena Robinson (LHS 1992-1999) who died from an epileptic fit earlier this year.

### Email Contacts

#### Don Wood

You can contact Don Wood, the Honorary Secretary, by email on [honsecola.les@webalumnus.com](mailto:honsecola.les@webalumnus.com)

#### Web Admin

You can contact the web administrator for WebAlumnus on [olachairman.les@webalumnus.com](mailto:olachairman.les@webalumnus.com)

