

A M D G



Beaumont Union Review

Autumn 2013

From The Editor:



I am glad to say that I have not fallen at the first fence and in general terms the Website has been well received. Understandably, there are those who do not like change but over the last thirty years or so communication has altered dramatically and with it the access to information. In our advancing years The Union does not need to become a dinosaur and I am determined to maintain the high standard that Guy set with The Review for as long as possible.

This does require some effort on your behalf as well – a new look requires a new sense of purpose and I do need your help not only with letters but with articles, reviews and recommendations. The vast majority of us are now retired but “not yet passed our sell by date”. We still travel, enjoy the arts and entertainment and even actively participate in sport in some form or another which could be of mutual interest.

There is also our spiritual and Catholic side of life which is why I now have a LINK to the Second Sight Blog of **Quentin de la Bedoyere**.

For those that dislike this “online format” why not print it off – it is available in PDF and you can read it at your leisure.

Further Expansion:

www.secondsightblog.net

Quentin de La Bedoyere’s discussion site reflects his work as science editor of the Catholic Herald. His regular posting of Catholic matters is followed by many contributions. He would dearly love to see Beaumont wisdom salting the discussions.”



I have also included his personal site - The opportunity to appreciate art, poetry and topical comment. www.quentindelabedoyere.webspace.virginmedia.com.

Also added to the list is www.mwigan.com the site of **Marcus Wigan (57)** Professor, transport expert, speculative fiction writer, motorcycle enthusiast and TT rider to mention a few of his many attributes.



Marcus Wigan



Francis Beckett

Last but not least, our own controversial **Francis Beckett (62)** at www.francisbeckett.co.uk some would describe his site as “sanctimonious hypocritical humbug” but others would say “a good, honest and sincere man with whom one disagrees on the way of getting things done and on matters of religion”. - After all Jesus allowed the Devil to give his views an airing; I think Francis would find this comment amusing.

Among the Videos you will find a new entry; “Flights of Learning” **Mark Lacayo (16)** landing his plane at Runnymede in 1927.

I am grateful to those of you who have sent me photos and other material – particularly my brother **Chris Wilkinson (54)**, **John Boocock (54)** and **Drostan Stileman (62)**. The latter enclosed two copies of the RUDS A magazine “The Phoenix” of ‘58 and ‘61; extracts will appear in due course – be prepared to be pleasantly surprised or mildly embarrassed.

VRIL

Leading on from Quentin’s ideas, I have also decided to include the odd article on matters of interest or concern to which I hope you will contribute. For the moment I do not envisage it to be a discussion forum – more pieces of interest. (with the odd comment by the Ed). VRIL was of course the journal of the Quodlibetarians, the school society founded by Hugh Dinwiddy that discussed philosophy, theology and literature but I would welcome any short article on a

topic that you might feel of interest to others. This is a departure from The Reviews since the school's closure when naturally size of the publication and cost and time were key factors – we can now be a little more expansionist. The old College Review was described by the late **Peter Levi** as being a cross between The Tatler and the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and certainly the BU Reviews have run along the lines of a chatty newsletter more in keeping with the first named magazine. As to the Chronicle, it has been described as often biased, with scribes omitting events, telling one-sided versions and then contradicting each other. It sounds like members of the Beaumont XV of '53 deciding who, or who was not, responsible for tackling Tony O'Reilly.

MONGREL JOTTINGS of 57 years ago.

Finally, I thought it would be fun to go back and visit the College Reviews of the past and glean a few facts from both school and BU news. Most would expect me to start Fifty, Sixty or Seventy years ago. I have opted for 57 for no other reason than my collection of Reviews start in October 1956. Beaumont was different from any other school and very individualistic and so to continue the tradition - 57 it is. It is also apt that with Heinz in front, it is often used to describe mongrels and a hotch-potch which is what this offering will be.

AMDG

John Boocock (54) wrote to me concerning the use of AMDG and LDS which we always used on our school written work. Guy continued the tradition with The Review and I have done likewise. However at John's behest, I have also placed them now on the Home page, as he says, to single us out as Beaumont Alumni.

APOLOGY

We failed to give due notice for the Mass and Reception at Farm Street on the Feast of St Ignatius 31st July and said for the Alumni of the Jesuit Schools – Mea Culpa. **Peter Moss (51)** and **David Liston (50)** were among an exclusive group of 5 OBs (others were **Jeremy Atlee, Duncan Grant and Francois Neckar**) that attended. We will try and give greater notice for next year and probably arrange a BU supper afterwards. **David** reported "that the church was full – remarkable for a Wednesday 6pm. There were 24 J's co-celebrating mass with the choir singing Schubert's Mass in B minor. There were many sporting Stonyhurst ties. It was lovely occasion and we enjoyed the hospitality of the Community afterwards.

THE LUNCH AT THE CALEDONIAN CLUB 7th October



May I remind you of the **7th October** so please look at the Events Page and complete the proforma and let John Flood know as soon as possible. This is a new venture by your Committee and it deserves your support. It is the one occasion in the year when we all gather together and see old friends and possibly make the acquaintance of others.

On a personal note I have twice with my old Regiments had to move from a Dinner to a Lunch – moves strongly resisted at the time but now much appreciated. None of us like change and what seems like the “slippery slope” but there are benefits.

We appreciate that costs are increasing but the meal should be worthy of the name and the price is the same as the Dinner last year. I certainly pay the equivalent if not considerably more to attend Regimental reunions.

The Menu; This will include Loch Var Smoked Salmon, Classic Fillet of Beef and a trio of Scottish Deserts.

Wines: Club Macon Villages White. Chateau Beaumont (of which it is written)

Château Beaumont, located in Cussac-Fort-Médoc (between Margaux and Saint-Julien), has 114 hectares of vineyards in one block. It lies just inland from the ruins of a fortress built by Vauban on the banks of the Gironde estuary. The present château, built by Mr. Bonnin in 1854, is a lovely example of mansart-style architecture. The vicissitudes of fate brought the estate a succession of 12 owners, including such unlikely characters as a Breton nobleman, a Honduran government minister, a Parisian industrialist, some Italians from Milan, a lieutenant colonel from Caracas, and a Venezuelan senator. It is not unreasonable to suppose that this accounts for Beaumont's being served on tables in several continents. By the late nineteenth century, Château Beaumont was considered to be one of the best Crus Bourgeois in the Médoc and the wine won 10 gold medals between 1882 and 1907. Recent major investments in the vineyards and winemaking installations have enabled the estate to recover its former reputation.

A charming colour here, a nice depth at the core, and a vibrant raspberry-pink rim. The nose has a similar vivacity, with plenty of crunchy fruit apparent, with a fresh and crisp raspberry, blackberry and blueberry character, all with a leafy streak. These fruit flavours are backed up by a smoky, charcoaly, cedary quality which gives much pleasure.

Cash Bar Before and After Lunch

We Look Forward to seeing you all at 12 Noon

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10th November

Mass will be said at the War Memorial at 11.45 am Sunday 10th November. After which The BU are generously invited by Giles Delaney the Headmaster of St John's to lunch at the School. If I may remind you that one of purposes of the BU is to arrange Masses to be said for our deceased – in this instance not just for those that gave their lives in two World Wars but for other friends especially those that have died during the year. This is the one time we come together to pray for the departed.

Details on the EVENT page.

BEAUMONT UNION FUNDS

In the last edition of The Review I made a plea for Funds:

When I was a young officer and I received my tailors account I put it at the bottom of the pile, and when they resubmitted their account a month or so later I would write to them along the lines “Thank you for this untimely and unwarranted reminder – your account had just arrived at the top of the pile but in view of this request for payment it has returned from whence it started”.

I therefore hesitate to issue a reminder, but to say that the response to the “invitation” has been minimal with a very small “m” would not be an overstatement. I leave the matter in your good hands and merely reiterate that donations made payable to the Beaumont Union should be sent to:

**John Paton Walsh
Tan House, Tanyard Lane, Bridge Street,
Kington. HR5 3DX**

THANK YOU

I should add that this WEBSITE has not come free of expense and has to be maintained. If you would like to support me in this then consider buying my latest book on OBs “ONCE MORE TO RUNNYMEDE” details under SHOP. All proceeds to the Beaumont Union. Price £15, p& p UK £4, Europe £7, World £10. Naturally, I would hope that you would like a copy anyway. I may be able to bring a limited number to the Lunch and considerably more to Remembrance Sunday.

If you are starting to feel a bit impoverished what with the cost of the Lunch and the call for funds, I am afraid I have not finished as HCPT RACE NIGHT takes place in November.



A “Just Giving Page “ for Donations to the Beaumont Region of HCPT together with details of Raffle Tickets will be published separately on the website in due course.

Please do not forget this most worthy cause

THE DUBLIN DINNER



The Carmen

“The Gathering Ireland 2013 is about the people of Ireland throwing open their arms and inviting anyone with a connection to the country to come and visit.

It’s about asking anyone who has Irish blood, a link to Ireland, or even just a love of the country – to join with them for a series of amazing and diverse events throughout 2013”.

I don’t know about the “amazing and diverse” but how appropriate then that The Beaumont Union held our first dinner in Dublin since 1961.

A very big “thank you” to **John Flood** for dreaming up the idea, **Richard Sheehan** for organising it and **Kevin Kenny** for acting as host at the Kildare Street Club. All I can say to those who did not come – “You missed a great party” which later moved to the Shelbourne till the early hours. It was one of those events when Terry O’Brien arrived by motorbike from Edinburgh, Judie Barry and Simone Kenny discovered they were cousins and the ED met up again with Janet - old rivals in the Pony Club events of the Fifties.

Those that attended Tim (55) and Judie Barry, Ian Swabey (60) and Janet MacKay, Tim Fitzgerald-O’Connor (61), Tom Haren (61) Julian Coliero (62) Robert (62) and Annie Wilkinson, David Chapman (63), Richard (63) and Marylu Sheehan, Rosie Cargin, Kevin (64) and Simone Kenny, Ian Bangham (65), John (65) and Celia Flood and Terry O’Brien (65).

PHOTOS in the **EVENTS GALLERY** (any blurring pays tribute to the evening)

Terry O’Brien Wrote

I much enjoyed the dinner and its select gathering, ten days ago - many thanks for your hard work. Good company, and nice food.

And as an Edinburgh resident, so happily in the Celtic fringe, I found it easy enough to get on my motorbike for the adventure to Dublin.

Had I wished to add to the speeches at the dinner, I might have thought to get to my feet, albeit briefly, to mention two things: I remain the proud possessor of my pair of rowing socks, and indeed on the morning of the Dublin dinner I had run my usual Saturday-morning 5 kilometres - at Marley Park, one of the Park runs organised in Dublin. And my usual supply of running socks being unavailable, I ran in those Beaumont socks!

Those runs to the Copper Horse were not my strong point, but I guess the distance we had to run approximated to three and a half miles, in old money! Quite interesting that nowadays, in Edinburgh, I do that 5k run with as many as 500 others, most Saturday mornings!

My other point: you will recall that the Kennedy Memorial on Runnymede was opened in 1965, and on the day those of us in the sixth form acted as Escorts for the VIPs and guests. Time moves on, and this year or next I plan to visit the memorial and write up the visit as part of a garden history course I am doing. Does it seem like history - a one-acre part of the USA made in 1965, and overlooking the Thames, that we had a modest role in opening?

“GIS – GOS”



CAN ANY ONE HELP

Roger Johansen (62) resident in France wishes to join the Oxford & Cambridge Club in Pall Mall. He needs a sponsor. If there is a BU member of the club that can help would you please contact me and I will pass on the relative details.

HIGH SHERRIF OF WEST SUSSEX GARDEN PARTY

Yours Truly was invited along with the dignitaries and worthies of the county to the garden party hosted by **Patrick and Maggie Burgess**. Apart from **Michael Burgess** and the brothers in law of **Robert Bruce, Michael Wortley and John Flood, Richard Sheehan** was there and also **Ollie Hawkins** and like myself lacked a chain of office. We discussed Ollie's love of art and it was good to hear him say how much he owed Major Roddy for his teaching and individual tuition.

I recall Major Roddy saying to me amongst many things “that if I wished to go into the army, I must master perspective – all great soldiers have been excellent artists”. From which you can glean that perspective was not my forte.

Major Roddy should be remembered for the years he spent overseeing some of the halcyon days of Beaumont Boxing and for many of his maxims that included “always march towards the Guns” – in other words never run away from your problems; confront them head on.

There was also his great pride in the school Corps which I reflected on, when being “dazzled” in the reception line by the shine on **Robert Bruce's** shoes. The Photograph below of the

General's Inspection of 1954 depicts exactly what I mean.



“The Bull on those boots”

While on the subject of the military; congratulations to **Richard Sheehan OSJB** and Eton and the son of **Richard (65)** on his commission into The Royal Scots Dragoon Guards. Beaumont had little connection with “The Greys” part of this amalgamated Regiment but with the “Carabiniers” **Major Mark Desmond Murphy (36)** was one such.

He was the youngest of six brothers that passed through the school, the sons of **Francis (96)** and left in 1936 for Hertford Oxford where he had a trial for the Varsity Boat. He married Marie-Christian the daughter of Count Richard Van Cutsem and served throughout the War in the Burma campaign and was awarded an MC.

Three of his sons were at Beaumont in the Sixties – **Shaun, Kevin and Dermot**. The elder two predeceased their father who died in 2010 Can any of their contemporaries shed further light on what happened to them?

HENLEY

Mention of Hertford and among the usual OB contingent at Henley this year was **Marcus Wigan (56)** visiting from Australia and wearing his Oxford College boating Jacket. I noticed in the programme that various Vllls were rowing the course in the tea or lunch intervals to celebrate various anniversaries: -

So here is the challenge - can we put together a BU VIII; on age it would probably one for the Guinness Book of Records, to row one last time at the Regatta and be cheered home past the Stewards' Enclosure. Step forward the volunteers.



Not wishing to be “cheeky” to my elders and betters but this group of languid young men (2nd VIII) of 1954 seem better suited to enjoying the comfort of Leander than “raising the stroke” coming up to the enclosures.

John Boocock (54) sent me the photograph which includes himself together with **Richardson, Clasen, Whyatt, Unsworth, Schulte, Henry and Wall.**

I hesitate to say that we were a bunch of “posers” at Beaumont but a look at the **GALLERY photos** does show a remarkable number of groups adopting a style reminiscent of Edwardian or late Victorian times. I think we were greatly influenced by our surroundings – the outdated décor, the country house atmosphere, leisured activity and individual endeavour.

THE GREAT WAR

I had a telephone call from **Philip Brown (54)** who had just returned from the Great War battlefields to say that he was amazed at the number of wreaths that had been laid at the Memorials by various schools and would The Union be doing likewise in the Centenary year. The reply is certainly YES. I did lay a wreath at Thiepval for our fallen on the Somme a few years back - I will talk with **Philip Stevens (63)** our expert.

In the meantime if any other OB is intending to make a visit would you let me know. It is also my intention to run a War Diary concerning the OB involvement on the Website starting next summer with the preparations for the conflict.

COINCIDENCES

Returning to my conversation with **Philip Brown** – it soon bounced off battlefields to horses. Philip told me that he keeps his young stock at the Lavington Stud not far from my temporary residence. He was not aware of the connection of two OBs to this centre of breeding excellence. Started by Ld Woolavington (Buchanan Whisky), he engaged **Hector MacDonald (17)** as his racing and stud manager. Hector produced two Derby winners – Captain Cuttle and Coronach and several other classics horses as well as the champion sire – Hurry On. Hector’s brother **Reginald (15)** married Woolavington’s daughter (see OBs list) and although they moved their main interests to Newmarket, Lavington remains within the family.

I use the same vet as do Lavington – a young Australian lady named Paula. Last year by way of conversation I asked her what she was doing for a holiday (No, not a **Hollamby** chat up line). She replied that she was going back to W Australia. I remarked that I knew nothing of the region but with my elder brothers we had good school friends who had settled in a small settlement in the “outback” called Boyup Brook.

“I’m from Boyup Brook” says Paula. “Then you must know the **Embrys**”. More than that they are best mates of my parents and I’m a Goddaughter”.

(this is the second occasion when the Wilkinsons have met inhabitants of this agricultural community of just a few hundred – I’m now wary of asking Australians where they come from – too many coincidences).

Mark (53) is now retired from farming but is Captain of the local golf Club. His younger brother **Paddy OSJB (56)** apart from farming also goes by the title of The Hon Patrick Embry MLC JP member of the State Legislature 2001-5. On the right of politics, Paddy stood for the One Nation Party, then as an Independent and finally for the New Country Party “A voice crying in the wilderness against increased immigration”.

WILF TOLHURST MEMORIAL GOLF MATCH

I heard from **Philip Tolhurst (67)** to say that he will be unable to attend the BU Lunch as it is the same day as they hold a Memorial Day’s Golf in Wilfred’s name to raise money for various charities. Philip wishes the Lunch every success; let’s hope we don’t have a clash of dates next year.

Tony Newling-Ward will be on the high seas in early October (and is at this moment) taking a boat from the Caribbean to Australia

LETTERS (from Abroad)

Guy Chamberlain (61); Malta

I have sent a cheque for Stg 50.00 to **John Paton Walsh**; not very much but I suppose if a hundred people pay a similar amount, then the BU will be a little better off.

Like yourself, I went to Sandhurst and The Royal Dragoons, then followed by the Royal Armoured Corps Parachute Squadron. I never returned to my Regiment and left in 1968 shortly before the amalgamation.

I worked for a short while in UK but couldn’t afford the next bottle of Gin so I went to Australia; I was probably the last of the ‘ten pounders’!! I loved the country however for unexplained reasons found myself back in UK some ten years later.

I have lived and worked here in Malta for 24 years, it is an easy and welcoming Island with convenient access to all places. I don’t think **Anthony de Trafford** (an OB) is very well, I met his wife Charlotte the other day and she explained that he had been in and out of hospital since April. As a point of interest I met his father many years ago and he was in the Royals during the First World War. He married Mabel Strickland’s sister and lived in Villa Bologna behind the President’s Palace, Anthony and his wife still live there.

I met **Tony Outred** briefly the other day, his brother has a house in Malta not far from where I live and he was staying with them.

Following my reading of your Beaumont Union website and the achievements of so many Old Boys I regret I have nothing to report. I am recently retired and even more recently celebrated my 45th wedding anniversary. Three years ago after reading a book by a chap named Ewart Grogan who travelled this route in around 1899 I went overland from Cape to Cairo, always

travelling by public bus or truck, except the train from Khartoum which Kitchener built to avenge Gordon's death. I actually did it in two bites, first to Dar es Salaam which took about 7 weeks and then the following year continued the journey to Cairo, another 7 or 8 weeks, mind you on both occasions I did make a number of interesting detours.

The other trip I have recently done again by public bus is up the Great Lakes of Africa, starting in Zambia and finishing in Rwanda. I was going to take the boat up Lake Tanganyika but missed it and had to make do with the busses. The boat I missed is the MV Liemba formerly the Graf von Goetzen, which the Germans scuttled in 1915 and the Brits and Belgians resurrected it in the early 20's; still the same boat which plies the East coast of the Lake. Another tit bit of useless information! (ED. A descendent of the Graf left the school in '65)

Thank you for your efforts, it is a remarkable website and thank Guy Bailey for his wonderful Reviews.



Father and son: Maxwell Chamberlain Captain of Boxing 1936 and Guy 1961

Nick Brooks (64); Canada

You will probably find my brother Greg on BU records. He would pass on copies of Guy Bailey's stuff to me from time to time. He lives in Christchurch.

I looked up Hornpayne. (ED named for OB in N Ontario) It is about a long day's drive from here and the sort of countryside where my youngest might be working. She is an archaeologist and spends her summer time digging and her winter time writing reports for a variety of private and public developers. An awful lot of development is going on in that neck of the woods by mining operatives, new bridges, new railway lines, new hydro (electricity) etc and all the lands need to be "cleared" by archaeologists and the local native population to ensure they are not building highways over the top of ancient burial grounds etc.

At least she no longer needs money as she is making plenty. Now if she could just learn to take her dogs with her

As for me I was doing first year a-levels in English Lit and what (French Lit?) I had a mad teacher called O'Malley who was a Phd in Philosophy and had "rewritten" Macbeth in philosophical terms. My marks were appalling. In hindsight O'Malley was teaching post-graduate stuff to a 15 year old audience. I did not like Macbeth or Shakespeare then, and still do not .

O.K., I can enjoy Shakespeare in the park, if it is a comedy and they do not talk too fast.

We decided I should leave Beaumont though it was thought then that this would be disastrous

for my career. The last few days were really enhanced when these three French young women (15 years old?) turned up at the raft in the later part of the afternoon. My French was at least as good as their English. We met in the evening. We talked, that was all. Frankly, if they had stripped naked I would not have had the least idea what to do with them. (I suppose I might have thought of something but it never arose . . .)

I do not know how I was rumbled, but I do know they (the Js) were not certain. They offered to expel me.

That left a very bad taste in my mouth. The Js were very judgemental. If one had no chance of a first or second at Oxford/Cambridge then one was just so much cannon fodder. I was dismissed as untalented. Ironically I now know I could have - I am doing history at York University as one of the oldest students.

I regarded Beaumont as a prison. Ironically, I came across an essay by Conan-Doyle that, to my great annoyance, I cannot now locate where he describes his schooldays. Before I read his essay I did not know where he was educated but after reading it I had no doubt that it had to be Stonyhurst (Beaumont was not yet open). Little of the cruel regime had changed in 100 years.

Then I was sent by my parents (I am sure they talked to me first) to Highbury Technical College in Pompey. It was 6 miles from my home in Old Portsmouth and I was to do an Ordinary National Diploma in Business Studies. Day one I arrived at the college to find 2,000 other students of which 2/3rds were female, without a single ugly one in sight. 90% of the guys were marine engineers. I thought I had died and gone to heaven.

My marks at Beaumont were in the 14% range. At college, in spite of behaviour that would make a Jesuit's hair curl, my average was 75%!

A lot has happened in between. I am now retired and an orphan - my mother having died in 2006 and my father in 2010. I have a wife, of 41 years, who (another long and boring story) is a school principal (headmistress) near here. We have three children, the eldest is the recent mother of twins and who has a house in Alcona 15 km south of here, and is a teacher married to a mechanic (nowadays called a technician). They have a place in Newfoundland where they are spending the summer. Just for once Newfoundland is having a hot summer. One just does not associate Newfoundland with any weather that does not involve force five and up gales.

My son is in the Royal Canadian Navy teaching putative weapons technicians to be proper weapons techs. He has a son aged 11 and a baby due momentarily.

Youngest - the dog owning archaeologist.

We have lived in Kent, Toronto, Bahamas, Barrie, Cayman Islands and Barrie again. I think we are now settled!

You won't get too much from me too often. We are in the midst of a "heat alert" so while my wife is away the dogs and I are confined to quarters with the air conditioning running flat out.

ED: Nick's comments appear harsh about the school but in another Email he wrote:

"I hate to think that Beaumont and its history may disappear".

Marcus Wigan (56): Australia

(ED; in IT speak)

Anyway I'm pleased to see the BU website appearing at last! Perhaps you could get BU people to put their own websites on it? Mine is www.mwigan.com

You might find it rather boring, but I've left some fun bits in (try first word processed thesis perhaps!)

I've been asked to put a few more of the more colourful anecdotes up, and may well do so, but I'm a bit busy right now having just come back from seven weeks in Europe and starting my two concurrent Masters degrees next week.. One dies dig holes fir oneself does one not? (FYI Professional and Applied Ethics at Melbourne Uni, Research Masters in a musicology at Monash)

And most important finally replacing my motorcycle with probably a bmw1200gs/w.. And getting the live computer museum on Tracy fir swinburne university.. All good fun fir a septuagenarian...

Finally got to Finals Day at Henley this year absolutely frying in my 51 year old Hertford College first eight blazer.. And hid in the Stewards covered grandstand until the welcome announcement of 'men may remove their jackets' in the heat...

Looking at guys swan song issue, I could identify **Dudley, Barry Martin and John Roberts** in the picture of our class on top right of p8,

I remember the savagely unkind attitudes of Fr Coventry in particular. He earned my permanent disrespect in several well earned ways. More than made up fir by the quite brilliant Fr Kybe, to whom I owe much to my valuing intellectual integrity most highly in my whole life. I tell a specific story about him to many students in support of this Mr Sinclair's Maths teaching set me on a course that won a State Scholarship from Chichester high school later (now there was an amazingly good academic school.. One of best fir the sixth firm that I have ever encountered)

Dinwiddy fired my writing so well that I became a motorcycle journalist as a side interest fir twenty five years..

I remember **Tim Harmer** well. A rare and truly civilized young person. And remember his sad death.

I made contact with **Rory O'Sullivan** after he left the world bank, and **John Cronly** via email. I was sad that my friend **Terry Legett** had died a year before I made I direct contact via **Anthony Legett** after he won his Nobel Prize. **Jeremy Attlee** I'd love to know what happened to him and where he is now.

Patrick Coffey (54); Tenerife



Every good wish and success in your new role as the BU standardbearer.

Sad to hear of **Patrick Parkers** death. Seeing his picture in the last issue, brought back happy memories of the 1953 Irish cricket tour. The photo was taken in Dublin before our match

with Belvedere. **Brian Gubbins** was our umpire, yours truly just behind Patrick, and an eejit, in the background. Belvedere sported the great Tony O'Reilly, more famous for rugby than his cricket. We won, the game and went down to Cork, where the BU were well represented. Names like **Harrington, Dwyer and Morrogh** to name a few. 60 years on I'm afraid the memory begins to fade as *am certain there were many more.*

I'm still living here on Tenerife after nearly 30 years, and would welcome anyone passing through. We saw **Tim and Judy Barry** earlier this year, which was great as we were classmates way back

John Schulte (52): Belgium

Wrote to Guy

Thank you for your mail dated July 4th informing us that you have decided to stop caring for the BU Review after having for so many years kept us "au fait" of all the happenings of the large BU family.

I have always had so much pleasure in reading all the articles on the many old boys, many of which have had interesting lives and careers.

The latest photo concerning the funeral of King George VI at Windsor Castle also brought memories since I was present in the second platoon, as a lance corporal, and I remember hearing the Duke of Edinburgh telling the young Duke of Kent to keep straight!!

I live in the South of Brussels in an estate where another BU member lives, **Eric van Damme (52)**, with whom my wife Evelyn and myself socialize.

I made nearly all my career with the Royal Nedlloyd Group, a very large transport group and ended as MD of one of their numerous subsidiaries all over the world.

Well Guy, thank you so much for the formidable job you carried out for the pleasure of so many OBs.

I wish you many enjoyable years of leisure and pleasure, plus of course good health.

LETTERS (From Home)

Christopher Wilkinson (54) Isle of Man

Splendid effort on the web! Hilly spent ages examining the photos. Not only was she acquainted with some of **Roger's (Unwin '49)** contemporaries but also with some of those who attended the Beaumont/Farnborough dances in the late 1950s.

Incidentally, I can match your story of Billy Brogan and the caterpillar. Salad was served for lunch one day and on our table a small slug was found nestling in the lettuce. Following an outcry Brother Doyle arrived from the kitchen and was chided about the slug, which he promptly ate with relish remarking that we should be grateful for the chance of extra protein! - Total collapse of protestors!

ED. In view of the fine array of OBs in various states of ceremonial dress in the last edition, Chris sent me this one for "THE ROBES GALLERY"; -



The Grand Commandeur Confrerie du Sacavins d'Anjou 1988 – 95

Chris who served in the Royal Marines mainly with 45 Commando during National Service in Suez and the Cyprus troubles, spent his career with “fine wine”. He has now slimmed down a little since his “Rabelaisian Heydays”.

Paul Raymond-Barker (52) Powys

Like Patrick Coffey wrote about the sad death of Patrick Parker.

Patrick was a natural cricketer, a fluent bat and a very penetrating medium fast bowler. We played together in the Colts and later on in the First. I have a copy of the Lord's 1952 Beaumont v Orsatory score card in front of me. Patrick scored 33 and then went on to take 2 crucial wickets, one of which was the oratory captain – Arandel. Others who excelled in the match were Patrick Stow who took 5 wickets for 48 with sizzling leg breaks and the Gubbins brothers scored 125 runs between them.

Patrick of course went on the following year to captain a very successful side.



Three Colts: Dudley Heathcote, PRB, and Patrick Parker

Charles Halliday (61)

as for me....after Beaumont I went to Sandhurst, realised it had been a family decision not my own (Hallidays had been soldiers or marines or naval men for generations).....and left after a term....taught at Avisford (RC prep school) for two terms....spent 4 years at Trinity, Dublin (Classics)....did the Diploma in Education at Oxford.....married the wife I spent 27 years with (mostly v happy!)....and had two sons (now 44 and 42)....taught Classics at Eton, followed by years at Eastbourne College...became a Housemaster there....had a year in a Canadian school not far from Montreal....became Head of Loretto's prep school just outside Edinburgh...did that for 5 years....since have taught at Stonyhurst's prep school St Mary's Hall, and at another Catholic school near Ludlow called Moor Park....now being really rather idle.....so you see it's been not so much a career, more a way of life....and I have spent hours and hours in all my schools coaching cricket and rugby....and done quite a bit of choral singing.

I have mostly very affectionate memories of those 5 years at Beaumont....I think it was a good school, even if some of the teaching was not very good! Yes I hope we meet up....please keep me informed of likely dates....a Lunch this year rather than a Dinner?

OTHER NEWS



NO –I am not proposing a BU Morris Dancing Team. The photo is of the late **Bill Holt (38)** dancing in Krakow and Left of stage. He was “the Father of the Side” of the Bathampton Morris Men and at 92 **the oldest Morris dancer in England** and I should imagine the only OB to don” bellpads and clogs” (at least while sober).

We must also record the deaths of **Geoffrey Auty (43), Patrick Dudding (38), Peter Horsfield (50), Julian Kwolek (67), Edmund McIlvenna (59), John Iversen (56), David Henry (59).**

Please See **OBITUARIES.**

From Geoffrey Kelly

Town honour for RAF hero

Weybridge: Family attends Belgian ceremony for Second World War Squadron Leader killed in action

by **Charlotte Talbot**

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THE nephew of a RAF pilot killed in a plane crash has spoken of the 'emotional' moment he was awarded a posthumous Freedom of the City award where his uncle died.

More than 70 years after RAF Wellington Bomber pilot, Squadron Leader Dermot Kelly and his five crew were involved in a crash returning from a raid over Germany in June 1941, he was granted the posthumous certificate of Freedom of Hamont-Achel, in the Belgian town where he died.

All of his nephews and nieces, along with their spouses were present at the ceremony to receive the award last month, including Geoffrey and Tina Kelly from Oatlands, in Weybridge.

Announcing the award at the town hall, the mayor of Hamont-Achel, Theo Schuurmans, said: "On the night of June 16 1941, the Wellington Bomber N2849 of 103 Squadron of the RAF crashed at Hamont-Achel and all six crew members died.



Geoffrey Kelly thanks Hamont-Achel mayor Theo Schuurmans for the honour on behalf of Squadron Leader Dermot Kelly.

"For his distinctive efforts to liberate Belgium and for sacrificing his life, Squadron Leader Dermot Kelly has earned this certificate from the town of Hamont-Achel."

All of the aircrews killed in three separate bomber crashes in the town during the Second World War are remembered each year by the citizens of Hamont-Achel at ceremonies that take place at two commemorative chapels specially built after the war.

Mr Kelly, 67, from Broom Way, said: "I never met my

father's brother as he died before I was born but I knew he was close to him. They were both in the RAF.

"My father was in the Battle of Britain and survived, but being a bomber in bomber command was different.

"All we knew was that they were very close as their parents lived in India and they were brought up by their aunts.

"We discovered about this business because my sister went on a genealogy forum and found a message from 2009 looking for relatives.

"We replied in 2012 and they were hoping to see us at the annual ceremony. Eight of us went over for the ceremony on June 22.

"We didn't know what they would do but they asked us to come to the town hall and presented us with the certificate. It was very emotional."

This year the remembrances were attended by embassy representatives from Australia, Canada and South Africa as well as Belgian Army Veterans and schoolchildren who arrived in a convoy of Second World War Army vehicles.

Further to this Geoffrey sent on the Following:



My recent visit to Belgium has got me working on old family photo albums and I came across this picture of **Dermot Kelly** (seated) with my father **Dillon Piers Kelly** looking over his shoulder. This picture of them in the Beaumont uniform says on the back that it was taken in a studio in Folkestone probably around 1931 or 1932 because my father was born in August 1915 and Dermot was born in 1918 which would mean that they are about 13 and 15+ when the picture was taken.

Ed: Geoffrey's father **Dillon (33)** went to Cranwell a couple of years before **Dermot(35)**. In 1939, he was a spitfire pilot with 74 Squadron (The Tigers). From Hornchurch, they were in action over France and then took part in the Battle of Britain from Wittering, Coltishall and Biggin Hill. In 1941, he was posted to 255 Sqn in The Middle East. Dillon became an expert in night fighter operations with the Beaufighter and later the Mosquito and was promoted Wing Commander and awarded the DFC. At the end of the War, he was appointed to the Allied Soviet Control Commission in Finland and later at Supreme Allied HQ NATO. He retired in 1961 as a Group Captain. RIP 1987

Geoffrey's other Uncles –**The McCartan Mooneys (36)**: Eamon was killed as a Flt Lt RAFVR and Jimmy served with the Royal Ulster Rifles and after the War became an artist:

Jimmy Mooney taught at the Royal College of Art. One of his paintings – “The Fall” is in the V&A Collection. “ a watercolour, a relatively early work, shows eroticised, possibly mythic, figures in a landscape, prefiguring the themes of his later work, which foreground ideas about touch and intimacy”.

From René Cobb (42)

Gregory Cobb the son of René sent through some photographs including the one below of the Corps of Drums in which René was a side drummer.

Now apart from visiting the School in 1961, the Queen has had several connections with Beaumont - the gift of the Tea Service for the Centenary Raffle being one, but I wonder if she recalls a certain school band playing for herself and Princess Margaret in the grounds of Windsor Castle in 1939. René certainly remembers parading and playing for the young princesses. If the Queen does not remember then it also seems to have been forgotten by the

school over the years. The History of the Corps of Drums will be amended to note their most important parade and audience.



René is second row foreground

WW2 Escapee's Link to an OB

The death was announced in July of Lt General Baron Mike Donnet, a senior Belgian airforce commander.

On the 4th July 1941, Donnet and another Belgian pilot purloined the Stamp SV4 belonging to Baron Thierry d'Huart (OB) from under the noses of the Germans and flew the plane to England.

Thierry was at Beaumont during the Great War and became a flying enthusiast during the Thirties when he had a landing strip laid out on the lawns at his home – the Chateau Ter Block near Brussels. He used to fly his plane down to Nivelles where he commanded an airforce squadron. With the outbreak of war, he mothballed the Stamp in a shed at the Chateau and removed the instruments.

In 1941, Donnet released from a POW camp heard about the plane and decided to try and use it as a method of escape. The Germans occupied the Chateau as a military HQ but were unaware of the plane's existence. Donnet and his co-pilot had no way of asking Thierry's permission as he was still incarcerated in Germany so they took matters into their own hands and replaced the instruments, found some fuel and after a couple of false starts took off on the "front lawn". Despite the risk of fighter attack and ack-ack, they made it across the Channel to land safely in England. They took with them photos and plans of all the principal German airfields in Belgium provided by the Resistance.

Thierry's plane survived the War and was returned to him at the end of hostilities. He later donated it to the Brussels Military Museum and a monument to this remarkable escape was placed at Ter Block.

Donnet spent the War as a spitfire pilot and was one of his Country's most decorated war veterans.

LOST CONTACTS

I have had a number of Emails returned; Any help to find the following would be appreciated –

Dominic Moore-Jones (Houston)
Rory O'Sullivan (New York)
David Tye
Michael Sykes-Balls.
Bill Thompson.
Stephen Garrard.
Paddy Doyle
Richard Cree

LOWER LINE PLAY: THE SPORT OF KINGS 1952



PLAYS and PANTOMIME were part of the life blood of Beaumont and sadly we lack photos of many of these memorable performances.

Here at least is one;-

Between Chris Wilkinson (cook) and John Boocock (typist right) they have recognised the following Left to right – Michael Shields and Chris Cafferata (on sofa), Laver Oliver (tallest bowler), John Rossage (maid), Christopher Dickens (waiter), James Rait (at desk), John Hanrahan (gallery), Simon Burrough, (lady on stairs).

Can anyone come up with the remaining members of the cast?

Dr RAYMOND REES (39)

One OB that sadly could not make it to the Dublin Dinner was **Raymond Rees** who is now in a convent nursing home at Dalkey. He is seen here with **John Flood** and **Ian Bangham** who called on him after the event. Ian together with his wife Deidre regularly visit Raymond and his wife Miriam.

Raymond was a good oar at Beaumont and At TCD he rowed in the boat that won both the junior and senior eights and was on the team that won the National Senior Championships. He qualified as a doctor and saw war service with the RAMC. At the end of hostilities he went into general practice but specialised in Paediatric Nephrourology and was Secretary of the Irish Paediatric Association.



John Flood

Raymond Rees

Ian Bangham

The Delectable Angela

Finally; No one has been able to respond to my query in the last issue “What ever became of Angela Found”.

I remain in expectation, Your Editor.

L D S