

# THE 2016 REUNION DINNER

will be held in the Main Club House.  
Exeter Golf and Country Club  
Topsham road, Exeter EX2 7AE  
On Saturday 23 April 2016

## Timetable

5.00pm	Pre-dinner drinks in the Lounge Bar
6.00pm	Annual General Meeting
7.00pm	Dinner will be served in the "Topsham Suite"

## OLD RADFORDIANS DINNER

### Menu



SPRING VEGETABLE SOUP,  
CHIVE CRÈME FRAICHE



SUPREME OF CHICKEN, LEEK & MASCARPONE  
RISOTTO, CHARRED BABY LEEKS,  
MUSHROOMS DUXCELLE AND A LIGHT CHICKEN JUS.  
SERVED WITH SEPARATE VEGETABLES.



RHUBARD CRÈME BRULEE AND GINGER SNAP BISCUIT



COFFEE AND MINTS

DATE OF THE DINNER  
SATURDAY 23 APRIL 2016

# Old Radfordians Association

SPES MEA IN DEO

*Hon. Vice-Presidents:*

J.Domaille, OBE. D.A.Harris G.N.Potbury K.Potter K.Bovey BEM

*Hon. Active-President:*

Tony.E.Lethridge. 6 Lower Kings Avenue, Exeter EX4 6JT  
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## NEWSLETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Old Radfordians

The 23th April is always an important day being both St George's Day and Shakespeare's Birthday. This year it is even more special as it is the ORA's Annual Reunion Dinner. I am looking forward very much to welcoming you to The Exeter Golf and Country Club for another evening of good fellowship in the tradition set by Mr Vine many years ago. Indeed the Association is approaching some major landmarks. 2017 will mark 50 years since sadly Mount Radford School closed and the following year we shall be celebrating the 90th anniversary of our much loved Association. That we continue to meet so long after the School's demise says a great deal. I often wonder what Mr Vine would make of life in 2016. Perhaps Mount Radford School was not the greatest educational establishment but it created something very special. I think that was highlighted at last year's dinner by our speaker Nigel Darby who told us that after trying his hand at farming he went on to become headmaster of the largest school in Essex.

As always we are extremely grateful to all the Old Radfordians who generously sent donations. As you will see from the Treasurer's Report this generosity ensures that we balance the books. However it was suggested at our recent committee meeting that the time has come for the Annual Dinner to be self-financing. This would mean that the cost of tickets would have to be increased to cover all the costs. A proposal was placed for the suggestion to be discussed at the AGM, when all your views will be welcomed.

I have to say that we were a little disappointed by the rather low attendance in 2015 which seems to have been due in no small part to a lack of contact. It seems that many members did not receive their newsletters and invitations either by post or e-mail. Particularly worrying was the number of local members who did not receive their invitations through the post. I was extremely annoyed as I was the one who posted them! Your committee have looked closely at situation, indeed a special committee meeting was instigated, so hopefully these difficulties will have been overcome. We shall see.

Unfortunately the change of management at the Golf Club also created a few problems. We have now ordered a more traditional menu in which the vegetables will come separately, and also asked for assurance that the bar will stay open until 11pm. Hopefully this will help to overcome last year's disappointments to some extent.

A year ago we were contacted by Cameron Merriweather, whose father's name appears on the School War Memorial, asking if we could obtain a photograph of the Memorial for him. Chris Passingham and I duly visited St Leonards Church to take some up to date pictures. We were saddened to discover that the part of the church where the Memorials are mounted has now become a storage area. As Leonard Vowler's name also needs to be added to the Second World War memorial we asked if it would be possible to take the memorials down. This we were told could not be done without going before a Diocesan committee. Given the situation, which I felt was disrespectful, it may be time to move both the Memorials to somewhere more appropriate and less forgotten, therefore this matter will also be added to the agenda for the Annual General Meeting to explore the membership's feelings on the situation.

Sadly as always we have lost members during the last twelve months. Peter Scott was one of most senior members and passed away last spring. The ORA was well represented at his funeral and some of his school photos were displayed at the reception afterwards. We also lost Cyril.A.S.Brooks another regular at the dinner. Cyril was in his hundredth year. Those of us who attended the School in the latter years were saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs Barbara Howard. Barbara taught art, French, and was form mistress of the Remove, the 'Baby Boomers' extension to Lower Three. She was a very popular teacher and it was a delight to welcome her to our Dinner on the occasions she was able to attend. Barbara actually died about four years ago in Canada where she lived but we only learned of her passing when Andy Holt discovered an obituary on the internet. I shall always be grateful to Barbara who, when our coach broke down in Paris for several hours during the 1963 School holiday, took a few of us off to the Louvre where I saw the Mona Lisa for the first time. An afternoon I have never forgotten.

On a brighter note another of our Senior Boys, Tom Turner, after missing last year's dinner, felt that a whole year was too long time to wait for the next so suggested we should meet more frequently. Unfortunately this is not viable given the distance some chaps have to travel, but a few of us now meet for lunch every month. These are totally unofficial but extremely enjoyable gatherings which take place on the third Wednesday at the Devon Hotel on the old Exeter by pass. If any member cares to join us, either regularly or occasionally, they will be very welcome. I just ask that you give me a call on 01392 272471 in advance so that I can inform the restaurant manager as to how big a table we require.

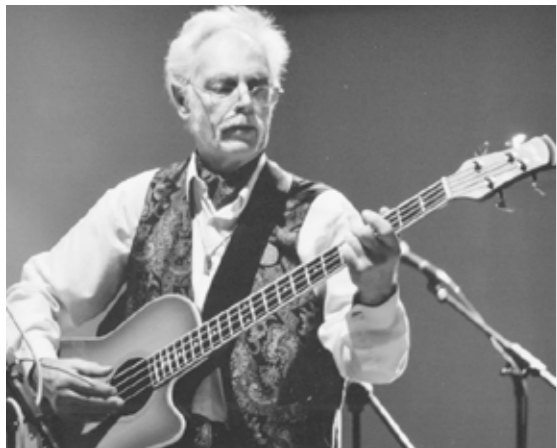
Our ORA website continues to attract new members and also queries from outsiders about MRS. The latest enquiry has come from a local architect who is researching the buildings in Mount Radford Place particularly No.4 which is known as The Cedars. To Old Radfordians this was also the site of the Art Room. Does anyone know how or why this became part of the School? Your memories and knowledge on this subject would be gratefully received.

I look forward very much to meeting you again at the Reunion Dinner. Please return your invitation forms as soon as possible. Don't forget the date, Saturday 23 April 2016.

Yours most sincerely  
Tony Lethbridge



Any ideas when this group photo was taken? We believe it may be late 1930s or early 1940s.



Jim King playing his acoustic bass along with other musicians to 80 guests at his 70th birthday gig.



Mrs Barbara Howard congratulation C.R. Cottingham on winning an art competition.



Mr Tuckwell, of outfitters Pinder and Tuckwells, raising the school flag at the opening of the Salmon Pool Lane pavilion, 1929.



Opening the Pavilion. Mr Vine and Mr Angwin look on.

**TREASURER'S REPORT as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.**

Thank you again to all those who contributed so generously by means of donations during the last 12 months. As you will see from the accounts, they amount to £238.

Ken Potter  
Hon. Treasurer

**THE OLD RADFORDIANS ASSOCIATION INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER, 2015.**

<i>INCOME</i>		<i>EXPENDITURE</i>	
Donations	238.00	Newsletter	111.00
New life members	10.00	Postage	86.95
Dinner fund	34.00	Secretary's expenses	47.32
Bank interest	0.65	Website	-
		Profit	37.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>282.65</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>282.65</b>

<i>BALANCE SHEET</i>	
General fund	1270.14
Profit	37.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>1307.52</b>
Represented by:	
Current account	1192.33
Deposit account	115.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>1307.52</b>