



Old Edwardians Association
Sheffield

November Newsletter 2025



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Annual Dinner 2026

As previously announced, following this year's successful dinner at Bramall Lane (reported in April Newsletter [CLICK HERE](#)). It was a simple decision for us to use the same venue again for next year's event.

Below you will find details of the forthcoming annual dinner. Reservation details are on the website. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to make your reservations. It would help us enormously if you could book as early as possible so we can get an idea of numbers well in advance. Your cooperation is very much appreciated and, as ever, we look forward to seeing you there!

Friday 13th March 2026

1889 Suite

Sheffield United FC

Bramall Lane S2 4SU

Dress: Smart/Casual

Time: 7.00 for 7.30pm

Price: £45

Parking on Cherry St

Flight From Prague – Michael Lewis Book Launch

The Old Edwardians' Association and the School came up trumps for the launch of "Flight from Prague - the Making of a Refugee", the family story of how my father found refuge in the UK in 1939.

My thanks go to John Parr and Peter Kersh who generously championed the launch and to Linda Gooden and Jo Jackson at the School who made the event happen.

None of us anticipated that 220 people would be in the Hall on Friday 19 September for an emotionally charged event. OEs, former colleagues and present staff at the School, some of my former students going back to the 1970s, friends from far afield as well as from Sheffield, came together to welcome the book with warmth and enthusiasm.

Questions from the audience ranged widely, including about the history of the period and the contemporary relevance of a story about refugees and how we talk about them.

Copies of the book sold rapidly but in case you missed the opportunity or are looking for a stocking-filler, you should still be able to track it down.

Comments and feedback are welcome if you want to contact me on:

michael@flightfromprague.com

Michael Lewis

Flight from Prague - the Making of a Refugee

Published by Haythorp Books

Many thanks Michael and congratulations on both a wonderful turn out and a wonderful book!

Bernard Knowles

Many of you will remember Bernard Knowles Physics Dept Teacher 1960-69 and also keen cricket master. He has sent us a lovely email saying... "I am still round at the age of 91 and am pleased to hear from any of the OEs I taught".

I'm sure there will be a fair few of you out there wanting to remember Bernard. His email address for those wishing to contact him directly is:

bernard.knowles@btopenworld.com

Thank you, Bernard!

Wesley College and Newcastle upon Tyne!

Many thanks to David Cook 56-63, for bringing us some highly interesting news of links between KES, Wesley College, Mayors of Newcastle and a highly eminent artist!! Who would ever have believed that the school would such strong links to Newcastle upon Tyne and some highly distinguished students to count amongst our alumni!!

David was Lord Mayor of Newcastle upon Tyne from 2019-21 – and during his time as Lord Mayor he came across three distinguished alumni from Wesley College!

I've set the article up as a link as it's a full account and contains some lovely graphics

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full story which is also logged on the website news page.

OBITUARIES

John Haworth 1960-67

It is with heavy heart that I report the passing of Jonathan Mayo Haworth on September 28th 2025, just a few days before his 77th birthday.

John studied law at King's College London and went on to have a highly successful career as a barrister, recorder and, for almost two decades, judge at Cambridge Crown Court. He was also my best friend of 64 years.

The funeral took place at Cam Valley Crematorium, Great Chesterford on Friday 24th October.

Many thanks to Mike Atherton 1960-62 for these lovely words.

David Plews 1965-72

We are very sad to report the death of Dave Plews in September. Dave was a teacher, passionate about coaching children with SEMH difficulties. He played rugby still and refereed into his 70th year and raised significant amounts of money for charitable causes through triathlon events.

Dave was diagnosed with terminal cancer earlier this year. He was extremely keen to come to the dinner once again next year and, fittingly, was the first to reserve his place!

Thank to John Robins 1965-72 for this news.

Mike Ogglesby 1950-58

Mike Ogglesby died in Bristol on 15th September 2025 from complications following major surgery, following three falls and two broken legs. He was 86.

Mike did National Service having left Sheffield University and went on to serve over 30 years in the Royal Artillery and the Intelligence Corps. He served around the world in the Far East, Central America, Europe and Northern Ireland, retiring as a Major. He then became the Deputy Director of Security at Aldermaston before retiring to Salisbury and latterly Bristol.

Mike is survived by Deanna, his wife of 64 years, his son James, and grandson.

I know dad was a great fan of your group and desperately wanted to attend the next dinner!

James Ogglesby

We are very sorry to hear the news James but many thanks for such a thoughtful remembrance of Mike for the Old Edwardians!

Don Nicolson 1959-66 and curator of the OEs archive www.olderdwardians.org.uk (which is full of facts/figures and photos and very much worth a browse) has very kindly advised of the following OEs for this obituary column:

Martin (MTJ) Axford 1964-70 English teacher, St John's Cambridge, died aged 91

Steve Harrison 1959-66 Prefect and captain of rugby. Steve was one of the foremost health policy scholars of his generation and an accomplished folk musician. He died 27th July 2018 aged 71.

Anthony (Tony) Haws 1957-65(??) Tony died in 2024 aged 77. He went on to Wadham College, Oxford to study Maths and a PhD in Operational Research at the University of Birmingham in 1971. He will be especially remembered for his pivotal role in the merger of the Institute of Statisticians and the Royal Statistical Society in 1993. Alongside his successful career as a statistician Tony served as a church minister in County Durham and Ealing before retiring in 2013.

Membership

It's very pleasing to report that new members continue to join the Association and the recent hike (!!!) in subscriptions from £5 to £10 minimum (after remaining static for c. 40 years!) has not put anyone off!

Welcome to new subscribers this year: John Addy 63-69, Doug Black 65-72, John Blackburn 68-75, Phil Brookes 68-76, Dave Butler 67-71, Grant Creasey 96-98, John Fox 66-72, Kevan Judge 64-71, John Little 67-74, Bill Manville 61-66, Clive Porter 67-73, Alan Senior 54-61, Bernard Watts 65-71, Richard Wragg 59-66.

It's easy to subscribe – [CLICK HERE](#) for the website page with application form and bank details for your standing order!

Distinguished Alumni

Following your suggestions we have added some new names to our distinguished alumni listing on the website. [CLICK HERE](#) for web page:

Anthony (Tony) Haws	1947-2024
Steve Harrison	1947-2018
Martin Elliott	1951-
Thomas Bowman Stephenson	1839-1912
Sir William Haswell Stephenson	1836-1918
Henry Perlee Parker	1795-1873
David Cook	1956-

Please let me know if you have any further suggestions for inclusion!!

Meeting with Linda Gooden

John Parr had an excellent meeting with Linda Gooden at the school at the end of September.

Linda and the school remain massively supportive of the Association. We discussed how, together, we could make the OEs more relevant to younger OES and current students. Linda is to discuss further with the school Leadership Team and will give us feedback shortly to help us finalise our strategy going forward. The Leadership Team will hopefully take a table at the forthcoming Annual Dinner in March and hope to invite some guests as well.

More to come next month!

STOP PRESS

John Parr, our President, is delighted to announce that he has invited Terry Sweet 1970-75 to join the committee and he has duly accepted which I'm pleased to say will bring the average age down by a considerable amount! Welcome to Terry and more on him in the next newsletter!

Final thought

I said last time....who would ever have thought there would be so much going on with the OEs!! Long may it continue!!And it certainly does as you can see!!

Thanks to you all

Pete Kersh

Check out our new website

Old Edwardians Association

John Parr 1968-74

President

president@old-edwardians-sheffield.com

Pete Kersh 1967-73

Secretary

info@old-edwardians-sheffield.com

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