

CAMBRIDGE BRANCH REUNION

The 2017 Cambridge Branch Reunion was held on 15th July, once again at the Gonville Hotel. 25 OBs and their partners or guests attended.

Despite the smaller gathering, the cloudy skies and the very conventional jacket worn by the new Secretary, the occasion was a happy one, and everyone enjoyed good food, company and conversation.

During the meal Chairman Sue Shilladay took wine with a number of persons or groups, including those who enjoy speaking foreign languages, anyone who had attended a Lake District camp and all who had watched or taken part in a Masters' Concert, the latter bringing three-quarters of the company to its feet.

After the meal and the Loyal Toast, Sue invested Jim Ezard as Chairman for the coming year, passing on to him our splendid chain of office, with its gilded pendant bearing the enamelled crests of both the OB Club and Cambridge University.

Following his investiture, Jim proposed the toast to the Old Bridlingtonian Club in a witty and entertaining speech.

This was responded to by Club President Tony Sugdon, who despite having fooled the Secretary earlier into thinking he had known nothing about it, was clearly well prepared and gave an informative account of his time in office so far this year.

The toast to the School and Staff was proposed by the new Chairman Elect (and recently retired Club President), Andrew Calvert, who gave an absorbing and at times impassioned account both of his own schooldays and of the School now.

At this very busy time of the year, new Headteacher Kate Parker-Randall was not able to be with us to respond to Andrew's toast, but she had kindly sent a report chronicling activities at School during the past few months, which was ably read out by Club Chairman John Blythe.

Once the formal proceedings were concluded, the assembled company stayed and chatted, eventually making their way outside to the Hotel garden. The sun was not shining but the afternoon was warm and dry, the Pimm's flowed freely (thanks to JCB and PMG), and conversation continued until into the evening.

We look forward to meeting again at Cambridge on 14th July next year.

Those present at the reunion were: Sue Shilladay (Branch Chairman 2016-17), Jim Ezard (Branch Chairman 2017-18), Andrew Calvert (Branch Chairman Elect), Tony Sugdon (OB Club President), John Allison, John Blythe, Trish Blythe, Thomas Burton, Jean Bell, Hazel Calvert, Mike Eveleigh, Jane Eveleigh, Paul Gibson, Peter Hardy, Alison Harvey, Mike Horah, Graham Housam, Anna Colbourn, Tim Kench, Lindsey Ratcliffe, Peter Thompson, Sue Thompson, Alistair Watson, Roddy Watson and John Wresdell.