

PRESIDENTS END OF YEAR REPORT 2020

It is an understatement to say it been a strange year but the OSA has risen to the challenges and been working hard. One of the results of that work has been the recent Newsletter done by our Chairman. May I echo his words in saying; “Communications” have to be at the forefront of everything we do. It was neither disinterest or a lack of enthusiasm that delayed regular Newsletters but a combination of issues which we have now resolved. I know the Committee are firmly committed to improving our communications, but it also requires your help in ensuring we have your up to date details.

One of the Highlights of the year was the March Reunion for all those at the College between 1945 and 1969. Despite the challenges of this Virus we had 163 attendees over the two days at the Spa and whilst none were under the age of 60, more importantly, no-one suffered any ill effects, despite the National Lockdown that followed 3 days later.

One of the many benefits of that Reunion was the taken opportunity for many Old Scardeburgians’ to re-connect, many after more than 50 years. It highlighted to me the importance of the OSA in allowing people to contact those with whom they were at School but not seen for many years. We have an extensive database now and we are always happy to put people back in touch. All you must do is, ask.

It is disappointing that due to the Virus we had to cancel the Ball and Reunion weekend this year. I believe it was the right decision and whilst there is no certainty on when we will have our next Reunion together, you can be sure it will be a bumper celebration.

Leading a team of Volunteers is never easy but I do thank the Committee for continuing to do what they have in helping to keep the OSA going. We have so much more we both want and need to do and suggestions are always welcomed. One of these areas, if approved at the AGM will enable us to fulfil one of those obligations.

As many of you know, I stand down this year as President. It has been an honour to serve both as President and former Chairman since 2010. Whilst I wish my successor every success in continuing to drive the OSA forward, I am remaining on the Committee to continue not just my work in the Archives role but to assist the Chairman in every way I can. I can only thank you all for your support over the last 10 years and I thank you for that most sincerely.

JOHN ISLES

12th October 2020