

# OLD BUCKWELLIANS NEWS



## Life After Death

THE APPOINTMENTS of our first bishop and our first QC are helping to keep alive the glittering reputation of BHCHS. One day soon, I have little doubt, an Old Buck will be honoured with a knighthood. How poignant then that news of such elevation in the Church and the legal profession should coincide with the distressing revelations we publish today about how the school perished. Death by a Thousand Cuts (page 12) tells of its demise and answers the question posed by innumerable old boys with whom I have been in contact over the years: what happened?

The sad truth of how one of the finest schools in the country was forced to close its doors after such a short life is now finally

emerging after exhaustive inquiries among official and unofficial sources. It is not a pretty story but one that needs to be told.

I have been delighted to hear from so many of the "silent majority" who have made some excellent contributions, reminding us that OB News is not just about the great and the good. News, features, letters from fellow mere mortals are just as important.

Once again, travel in its various forms seems to be a predominant topic. Was it something to do with attending a school set in countryside that has given so many Old Bucks a lifetime interest in trains, bikes and cars? We have the usual mix of nostalgic reminiscences of

school trips (pages 14 and 15), as well as much more recent reports of how Old Bucks have built railways (page 9), written books on cars (page 4) and promoted cycling (page 7). And not forgetting how, thanks to the indefatigable Stuart Low, transcontinental reunions of Old Bucks have now become a reality (page 4).

Some brief items of committee news. We have been pleased to welcome Peter Sharp to the committee as our new Treasurer. His experience in helping to keep Ford's finances under control gives us great confidence, and he has been carefully reviewing our expenditure and reserves. The OBA committee is considering whether we should recommend to the next AGM a modest increase in the annual subscription. The level has been unchanged for at least twenty years. No need to panic just yet – if we need more bucks from Bucks in 2010 we will write and let you know.

Finally, I hope you will find much to interest you in this edition and I look forward to hearing your comments, or indeed your own news or ideas for future editions.

**Graham Frankel**



Our first Bishop

See p3



Cross-country champs

See p10



Stuart's reunions now go transcontinental

See p4



Jim Arnold - first on the list!

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