

## Secretary's Report to the 2016 AGM of the ODA

It is very fortunate that in our Association we have a number of individuals with the ability and enthusiasm to organise a successful programme of events. In particular I would refer to: -

**David Dickinson**, who organises our Annual Dinner with the greatest care and attention to detail;

**Peter Samuel**, who arranges everything for the ODA Golf Day; and

**Ken Sharpe**, who co-ordinates our participation in Balconiers' Day at St Helens.

Each of these events proceeds smoothly for those attending, which is testament to the effort that goes into their organisation.

We are lucky also to have individuals with the skills and the application to administer an association with a large and widespread membership: -

**Steve Way**, who manages our finances very efficiently and keeps on top of the tedious task of chasing membership subscriptions;

**Keith Evans**, who has taken a very active role in further developing our website and other digital communications.

**Jeff Humphreys** and **Jim Waygood** have made a great contribution to the development of TOD over the years, for which we are most grateful; but we are sad that they have both decided for personal reasons to step down.

**Tudor Price** has stepped into the breach to edit the next edition of TOD;

BUT WE DO URGENTLY NEED TO FIND A NEW EDITOR FOR TOD.

Ken Sharpe stepped down as Membership Secretary during the course of the last year, but we are most grateful that Peter Samuel has agreed to take over the role. We are grateful too that Lyn Thomas has volunteered to assist with recruitment of members in London and the South-East of England.

As always, members are encouraged to step forward to play a role in the running of the ODA, to maintain the vitality of the organisation.

### **Some notable developments over the last year:**

- All back issues of TOD are now available on our Website.
- An Obituary Section has been included on our Website, giving details of the lives and achievements of some of the notable past pupils and members of staff.
- The missing copies in the School Magazine Archive have now been digitised for us by West Glamorgan Archive Service and are included in the collection on our Website. Our thanks go to **Roger Williams** for leading this project.
- **Tudor Price's** Book 'Among some Swansea Schoolboys' is virtually sold out and it is clearly a most valuable record relating to the School during a tumultuous period of history.
- We are grateful to Tudor also that his historical research has discovered the four names missing from the ODA War Memorial, leading to their entry in the Roll of Honour and the Rededication Ceremony that took place today.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Selwyn Walters on a very successful Presidential Year. Our Best Wishes go to Ted Nield, who starts his Presidential Year tomorrow; and we are delighted that John Rees is lined up to succeed as President in 2017.

Phill Davies

Hon. Secretary

7<sup>th</sup> April, 2016