

Our Website

The Past

(From the 2010 OSA Magazine)

OUR WEB SITE

Strangely the story of the Old Scholars' web site goes back to the year 2000. When I first signed up with NTL (now Virgin), part of the deal was free web space. At the time it seemed like a good idea to set up a family website and then, as a temporary measure, piggyback an Old Scholars' web site onto it.

Nowadays no organisation would want to be without a web site, but at that time the potential had not been fully appreciated. I raised the matter with the Old Scholars but, there being no enthusiasm for such a project, I lost heart, parked the photos on Friends Reunited, and gave up the idea.

The subject bubbled up from time to time but nothing concrete ever happened and so I decided to just get on and do it. My priority has been to get something up and running quickly and concentrate on content rather than cosmetics. At first I thought that a few pages should cover everything but as I got enthused I thought of more and more things which should be included.

At the time of writing, apart from the Home page, there are pages for Presidents, Committee, Constitution, Events, Gallery, Publications and links to other relevant sites. Please visit the site and explore it for yourself. ...

It's not my web site, it's yours and so if you have any suggestions for improvements please email me using the link on the Home page.

The Present

Since then the website has grown and grown thanks to its many contributors, particularly Annie Goodhall, Jack Hayward and David Hatton. Additionally, Janet's reports have chronicled the history of the OSA since she became its chair. It is truly multimedia with many galleries, videos and recordings, and with books and magazines which can be viewed online.

There are over 200 web pages and documents, and over 1000 pictures. At the time of writing, the website has had over 15,000 visits.

The Future

Unfortunately, now that I am nearing 80, I'm finding I spend more time correcting my errors than further enhancing the website. I think therefore the time has come to hand it over to younger hands whilst I am still compos mentis.

Finally

Thanks to all the old scholars and staff who have made the website a success and such a personal pleasure to maintain.



Cheers!

Ian Sowerby 1957-1960