



Graham Ernest Reynolds

12.02.36 – 19.07.18

Pupil OT 47 East from 1948 to 1954 - Master from January 1960 to July 1967.

On Thursday 19 July, Graham Reynolds, a much-loved former pupil and teacher, passed away. Poignantly, it was on the same day as the '60s Group of Old Boys had their annual summer gathering at The Castle pub in Ottershaw. Although the news of his passing only reached the Society after that event, many of the conversations touched on Graham.

Almost immediately, Old Boys began sharing their recollections of Graham. Not surprisingly given his athletic prowess, many people recalled Graham's crucial role in their sporting achievements. For Khalil Lawry, it was an outstanding performance in the schools country cross country championships. Kevin Harris also described how Graham helped him to excel at athletics. For Pip Mossdrop it was rugby.

Peter White, who referred to himself as probably the worst PE pupil Graham had seen, also recalls him with affection. (This is probably the moment for me to mention the time when he told me I was "totally uncoordinated". I did not mind as it was true! When I light-heartedly recalled this remark while talking to him at an Old Boys' function about 15 years ago, he seemed mortified, but we then laughed about it. I only met him about twice between that time and the day in August 2014 when I visited him and his wife Janet in Kent in order to interview him for an article in *The Gazette*.)

Graham's school role was not limited to sport. He also taught Geography. His methods worked for John Burrow, who to this day "can draw where all the coalfields in the USA are".

Among the tributes to Graham was this priceless recollection from Peter Mackey of how Graham ordered coffee: "Black, with milk"!

Khalil Lawry took on the job of collating these tributes and made them available to Graham's daughter Anita, who kept in touch with the Society concerning the arrangements for the funeral and related matters.

The funeral took place on 13 August at Hawkinge Crematorium in Folkestone, followed by a reception at Graham's golf club, Sene Valley Golf Club in Hythe. The following six Old Boys were there: David Tilleard (OT 66), Peter Jones (OT 311), Ewen Summers (OT 702), Malcolm Alison (OT 742), Robin Wills (OT 880) and Paul Zmitrowicz (OT 936). At that gathering David Tilleard presented Graham's son Danny with a ruler of Graham's that he had kept since his schooldays. The photo shows (from L to R) Paul Zmitrowicz, Robin Wills (back to camera), Danny Reynolds and Peter Jones.

Please visit <https://www.osobs.com/other/graham-reynolds> if you would like to read the tributes from Old Boys, the speeches at the funeral and the articles about Graham in the Autumn 2014 edition of *The Gazette*.

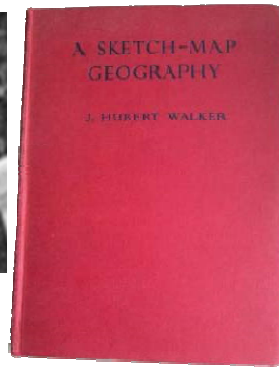
Stephen Turner



Memories of Graham from Ottershaw days



Graham OT 47 from early school photos



As a teacher in the '60s and in 1980 on closing day



Mentioned at the funeral service — in early 1960, Graham and boys having fun in the snow.



Graham and his wife in Kandersteg on the first school ski trip

Snippets from (O)TTER SHAW WEEKLY NEWS

Changes in the Staff.

The School welcomes this term several new additions to the staff. Mr. Reynolds joins the staff to take P.E. for all, and geography and history for the lower forms.

Finally, our thanks must go to Mr. Reynolds. When he commented after the wins at Motspur Park that that day was second only to his marriage day in happiness, the team realised that without him they could never have fully achieved the results they did.

R. Pennington.

Other staff changes of importance were the departure of Mr. Hindley, Mr. Bob White, Mr. Stowell and Mr. Reynolds, who has featured in school life for 13 years. Miss Twinem had also left after 7 years of service.

And with Old Boys in more recent times



Top – In 2014 with the 1960s group in Ottershaw – clutching his famous Sketch Map Geography

Bottom Left – Graham at home with Stephen Turner in 2014

Bottom right – The Mansion visit in 2013 – Graham talking to the late Roger King in what was the North House changing rooms



Bill Minett remembered

I was very sorry to hear of the death of my contemporary Bill Minett (OT 317 – North). I recall Bill best as the leading light of the school's termly general knowledge quiz. Ottershavians may remember that a couple of weeks before the end of term a list of 100 general knowledge questions would be handed out. We then had about ten days to look up the answers in the library, complete and hand in our answers. I was quite keen on this quiz and had plenty of time to spare in the library since there was never any question of my being asked to participate in school sporting matches.

On reflection, that is not quite true. On one occasion I was sitting contently in the library in the warm

when the door flew open and Jake Buttery pointed at me and one or two others sheltering in there from the cold outside. "You boys, get into your rugger kit. The Charterhouse first fifteen have turned up for a match. They have got the date wrong but we have said we will put up a scratch team to play them." I think they beat us 162-0 or something, but at least I could say then that I had played rugby for the school against Charterhouse. That looked good on my c.v.

Anyhow, I digress. If I remember correctly, the reward for getting 98% or better in the GK quiz was a signature in the Honours Book. It was here that Bill Minett played an

essential role. If you could establish yourself as a GK specialist then Bill might swap an answer with you. If you had an answer that he needed then he would swap with you for one you needed. But agreeing the swap was no easy matter. He would require you to produce your full list of answers (except for the one he needed). If he was satisfied that you did indeed have, say, 96 correct answers, then he might agree the swap. Thanks to him I got three Honours Book signatures for GK (and none for anything else). However, I never did score more highly in the school general knowledge quiz than Bill Minett.

Angus Palmer
OT 330 - East