

OMS AGM President's Report March 2023

It is hard to believe that my year as President is reaching its conclusion; as they say 'time flies when you are enjoying yourself'! I think I am the 113th President of the Old Maidstonian Society, the first one dating back to 1884, so I feel privileged to have played a part in such a distinguished and historic institution.

Some key moments from the past year to remember and reflect on at the AGM are:

- The society has welcomed the return of face-to-face meetings and social gatherings.
- The inaugural 'Super Sports Saturday' was held late March 2022 where many Old Maidstonians returned to play in, or watch, the football tournament and rugby matches. They enjoyed experiencing the tremendous new sports facilities and impressive Ron McCormick Pavilion.
- The London Gathering of OMs at the George Inn by London Bridge in November 2022 was a very entertaining evening, with over 40 OMs, spanning 6 decades, exchanging memories and anecdotes.
- The OMS has re-launched its 'Inform and Inspire' mentoring scheme to assist current and future MGS generations with their subject, university, and career choices. Nearly 100 OMs have already offered their assistance; some helped publicise the scheme to MGS students in assemblies during January 2023 and a number have been invited to assist with the school's planned careers fair. Hopefully these foundations can be built on so the scheme can make a significant contribution to MGS.
- I will be handing the presidency on to a former student Daniel Abnett, who I had the pleasure to teach in the 1980s. I wish him all the best for his tenure as President as the school builds towards celebrating its 475th anniversary in 2024.

I send my best wishes to all OM's, and sincerely thank the dedicated OM committee for their constant hard work and support.

Graham Walker