

The St Michael's College Society

Tim Coles
Secretary



25 Church Street
Tenbury Wells
Worcestershire
WR15 8BP

Dear Members and Friends

Annual Reunion – September 28th, 2019

This year's SMCS Reunion will be held at the College on September 28th, and I hope that everyone will make every effort to come along at some stage during the day.

Timings for the day can be found below and there is also a booking form for the annual dinner, which will be held at the Fountain Inn.

Unfortunately, this year we have been unable to find an editor for the society magazine and therefore there will be no publication in 2019. We will be discussing the future of the magazine and other important items at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), so please make sure you attend.

We are still intending to hold the society's annual golf match this year and details will be sent out when things are confirmed. If you would like to play please contact me by e-mail.

I look forward to seeing you in September.

Yours Sincerely

Tim Coles
Secretary

E-mail: tim-coles@hotmail.co.uk
Website: www.smcociety.co.uk

If you no longer wish to be contacted by the society and want to be removed from the mailing list, please contact me and we will delete your details from the database.



President's Message

I was delighted and honoured to learn from my brother that I had been selected during its AGM in September 2018 for the job of President of the Society. That I was not in the room when the decision was made is instructive and I will return to the matter of attendance at the AGM this September, later in this foreword! I am very clear that we are in David Wells-Cole's debt for his time (double time, in fact) as President and I hope to live up to the high standards he kept and the leadership he displayed.

The Society is doing well. By this I mean it has active, loyal support, garners genuine interest and is solvent. Conversely, we have many (many) members who are unable to play a full part in Society business – or who chose not to for a variety of reasons. And we are getting no younger... This leads me to my first point: that SMCS will be best served if more of us felt able to attend the Reunion Dinner (this year on 28 September) and can come to our Annual General Meeting.

I have adjusted timings for the Reunion to allow people to cram in the AGM, a College Tour, and still have time for Choir Practice (and some tea) before attending Evensong. I should especially value the broadest spectrum of views on the matters I hope to discuss. Some are administrative but essential; others promise to spark a debate so I do hope you can make it.

We need to consider our magazine. It is pricey (not prohibitively expensive but our major annual cost), suits many in hard copy rather than in an on-line electronic format, and I for one really look forward to receiving it and tucking in. However, it is a significant task to assemble and edit annually. After a number of years producing the magazine, Charles Beresford has made the decision to stand down. His contribution has been simply outstanding and we now need to learn to cope without him.

I should be very glad to receive your thoughts on whether we continue with a 'paper' magazine; whether we should aim to produce one every two years (for example); whether to post it in hard copy format only to those who do not use email or whether to make any magazine available solely on line, or perhaps simply to have a website which hosts articles, photographs, news and 'snippets' as they are presented – a rolling journal. Whatever the best answer, I know it won't suit everyone and it will still require considerable dedication on someone's part. Please consider all this and bring thoughts to the AGM – and those who have given the Society their email address, please expect a simple online survey in the near future.

On the subject of personal information and email addresses, I know most of us will be aware of recent Data Protection legislation resulting in the General Data Protection Regulation. With a view only to staying in touch, gathering postal addresses for the SMCS members lists we publish, and asking members for their views on Society-related matters, email addresses are especially useful and can save us significant money. Provided you are content to do so, please do pass Tim Coles, the Society's Secretary, your email address. Equally, if you would prefer the Committee not to continue to hold your personal data, please let Tim know and we will delete it and note your wishes. I must say that by doing things 'electronically' this will also make Tim's life easier. After nearly twenty years as Secretary he knows the energy and commitment needed to keep the wheels turning and I think we have a duty to help him where we can. Tim, thank you.

At the Society's recent committee gathering in April we also talked about seeking new and additional committee members. While we are necessarily a pretty exclusive bunch (most people with a direct association with the College as either former pupils or as members of staff) there is still merit in getting a good cross section into the running of the Society. We are all around 50 or over, so if there are folk out there who would like to add to the discussion and share a bit of the load (which is not daunting) then Tim Coles would love to hear from you.

Last, at the AGM I intend raising the matter of planning our legacy as a society. Clearly, the Founder's legacy is the College, the parish church and the immeasurable improvement of Anglican Church music. We keep the St Michael's College flame burning but in 2030 our youngest members will be about 70 years old. What happens then? I would very much like to share some ideas and hear your thoughts.

Read on and you will find detail of the Reunion which will take place this year on Saturday 28 September. I very much look forward to seeing you there.

Christopher Coles



2019 Reunion Order of Play

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|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1:30pm | AGM in the Village Hall |
| 2:30pm | Tour of the College (TBC) |
| 3:15pm | Choir Practice in the Chapel |
| 4:15pm | Tea for the choir |
| 5:00pm | Evensong (wreath-laying afterwards) |
| 7:00pm for 7:30pm | Dinner at the Fountain Inn |

Dinner Menu Choices

£25 per head

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|----------------------|---|
| Starters | Broccoli and stilton soup Game terrine wither apple chutney and toast Prawn and crayfish salad |
| Main Courses | Topside of beef with Yorkshire pudding Breast of chicken with red wine sauce Cod fillet in parsley sauce Caramelised onions in cheese tartlets |
| Sweet Courses | Chocolate mousse with fresh cream Mixed fruit crumble and custard Lemon tart and ice cream Cheese and biscuits Coffee and mints Port |



2019 Annual Reunion Dinner Booking Form

Name

Address

.....

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Tel No

E-mail

Years at SMC: 19____ to 19_____

Annual Dinner: Please select your preferences from the menu and list your choices below along with numbers attending.

Starter:

Main Course:

Sweet:

Number attending (at £25 a head):

Please return this page along with your cheque for the Dinner **by 15th September 2019** to: (All cheques made payable to - "St Michael's College Society")

Michael Hart
The Threshing House
Bockleton
Tenbury Wells
Worcestershire
WR15 8PP