

Jesus Old Members' Group (XL Network)

Chairman's Report

2016 may be viewed as the calm before the storm in the political arena but, for our Group, 2016 was a very successful year, which will be challenged by the prospects for 2017.

The highlight of 2016 was the unveiling at St. Mary's Priory, Abergavenny of a commemorative plaque to David Lewis, the first principal of our College. Strongly supported by the Priory, our Principal and the Development Office, the event attracted alumni, many beyond our membership mandate, local officials including the Mayor, an enthusiastic array of local people and the international press! We enjoyed both the company and an address by Lord Murphy of Torfaen, who has inspired SEREN- an endeavour to encourage more students from South Wales to aspire to University education. Indeed, Clive Jenkins and Stephen Parry-Jones are working alongside the Group to use the SEREN initiative to this end in the near future.

This event was preceded by a three day visit to Shrewsbury in May 2016. The initiative of Byron Grainger Jones resulted in 25 alumni and friends enjoying a most enjoyable and informative visit. The support by the Mayor and University demonstrates the intensity of effort behind the scenes. We thank and congratulate Byron for his initiative.

Both these multi-day events show just how strong our College links are with time and distance issues vanquished. Many Group events have been the initiative of a member who lives close to the attraction and is willing (with support from the committee) to undertake the local organisation. If you can suggest an event, not necessarily in your area, Chris Hicks would be delighted to hear from you.

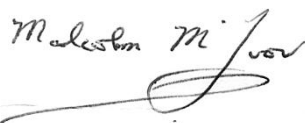
During the year, the Committee lost Alan Shore, who became victim of other responsibilities, but gained Peter May. Peter is working hard to make publication of our news more timely but e-mail and the website (many thanks to Norman Wright) remain key for Group updates.

The work of the other Committee members, Paul Seward, Richard Cosier, Chris Hicks and George Reah has been much appreciated. The strength of the Group has again been a reflection of the ideas proposed by members. The whole membership is indebted to all those contributing.

In prospect for 2017 we have:

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| 31 March | All Alumni Dinner (formerly known as Jesus College Society Dinner), with presentations and a catch-up for the Group on the following morning |
| 15-17 May | Group visit to Caernarfon |
| 24 June | Old Members Day: Ashmolean Inside Story, at the Museum and College. |

Do read the e-mails, do use the web-site www.jomg.org and do enjoy the events.



Malcolm McIvor