



Bond girls, stunt doubles, cast and crew at Andrew's 50th private screening of *Casino Royale*

Andrew's 50th: Pay Attention Blonde

Andrew's 50th birthday party was a private screening of the latest Bond movie *Casino Royale* at Cambridge Arts Theatre. Many thanks for all

those who showed up in swimsuits, diving knives and tuxedos, and helped us drink the vodka martinis. A truly bonding experience for us all.



Goodies



Daddy

Brolly Boating Weather: Bumps Party 2007



Takes more than a shower to stop the Coburn & Mulligan Bumps and Carnage Party

Alice's 16th birthday was accompanied by some rowing races. This year's Bumps party was occasionally wetter than the Pimms but the racing

was good, and Caius as 5-time winners now get to build a clock tower on their boathouse. AC Architects celebrated from our river bank.

Legge Family Reunion



The spoon on the nose is a traditional way of keeping us Legges together - that's Andrew's maternal lineage. We had a gathering of 36 of us at a hotel in Wales and a jolly singalong ensued.

Jerry's 50th



Jerry Bailey's masked ball in the woods

Simon's 50th



Simon Ruffle's 50 live concerts recitation

Andy's 50th



Chester FC supporters at Andy Greene's game

C.A.R.'s 20th



Steve & Maria display C.A.R.'s longevity

Andrew & Helen's 20th



Wedding Anniversary present: Tony Blair resigned



Christmas 2007

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Helen's 50th Birthday Party at Rousham House

Four Wet Parties and a Funeral

A year of milestones, memories, and passings. The rain consistently drenched most of our set-piece celebrations for a generation of 50th birthdays and 20th anniversaries. Then out of the blue we were devastated by the sudden death of Ian, Helen's brother.

Sometimes the weather in England can be really shitty. So can life. We had a series of big celebrations this year and inevitably it was the wettest summer for 240 years, drenching many of our parties.

Please Bring a Brolly

Not that we're unused to that in England. Many fine umbrellas were



Helen and Andrew's 20th wedding anniversary and then a rather wet Bumps party

sported as fashion accessories and the rain didn't dampen enthusiasm to party for Helen's 50th, our Bumps party, our 20th wedding anniversary, C.A.R.'s 20th anniversary and a round of parties with other friends.

The Loss of Big Brother

Then just as we thought we were mastering adversity, the news came through: Ian, Helen's brother, a healthy, fit, 52 year old cardiologist, had died suddenly of a heart attack while on a holiday in Cuba. Ian was a close member of our family, frequent visitor, and indeed, party enthusiast. It seemed cruel to have to say our farewells to him so soon. His send-off included a memorial at Corpus Christi, Oxford, and a wake with dancing led by his salsa dancing troupe. A British Heart Foundation trust fund in his name is

now continuing his research into heart disease. It's been tough coming to terms with it all.

Live for Today

Ian certainly lived life to the full, so set an example for everyone. Certainly makes us appreciate our family and friends all the more now. Enjoy life while it lasts.



Ian - Helen's brother - was a central member of our family and his death leaves a big, empty hole



A pod of Coburn-Mulligans basking in the pool

Life is a Beach

We didn't get much of a holiday this year, what with one thing and another, but thanks to the Jolys we were able to retreat to their holiday home and chill out on the beaches of Biarritz. We introduced the extended family of Andrew's parents and brother, and Edna, Helen's mum, to the delights of french billiards, water polo and surf-side contemplation.



The Coburn brothers take religious orders



English, actually

Oxfam Walk

Helen and Alice did the 10 mile Oxfam walk for charity again this year, raising money and a smile. We didn't even take sandwiches this year - the route came right past our door.



Cambridge tourist office now sells a jigsaw puzzle of the Bumps at Ditton Corner

Family Fortunes

Len last saw his sister Pearl at his father's funeral more than 40 years ago. Finally he tracked her down to Basildon where they swapped their old war-stories.



Len Coburn meets his long-lost sister, Pearl

**A is for Alice
And A Levels Begin**

Alice (16) sat on the riverbank revising her GCSEs when a passing white rabbit looked at his watch and exclaimed "You may begin!" A small exam paper lay on the toadstool saying 'Take Me'. So she did. And, goodness!, she found herself taking hundreds more. The Perse Taught-us was



Alice lay on the riverbank revising her GCSEs...

delighted. "Our school has come fourth in the country!" he said. "Why you'll just have take even more exams." And then he disappeared in a cloud of hookah smoke.



Helen in her kayak

Up Creek With Paddle

The Ditton Corner naval force now consists of four kayaks in an array of dayglo colours. Learning to paddle without scooping water straight up your sleeve is an art form, but being on the river at kingfisher level certainly has its compensations.

Obituary



Dr. Ian Mulligan DPHIL FRCP

Cardiologist, brother, son, uncle, great guy

Ian, brother to Helen, son to Edna, and uncle to Alice & Henry, died unexpectedly on 25 July in Havana aged 52. Ian was a cardiologist at Milton Keynes hospital and helped create a new cardiac annex there. He had wide interests outside work, enjoyed salsa dancing, and travelled widely. Recently he had become fond of Cuba, and was learning Spanish. His presence, friendship and wit will be sadly missed around the dinner table at Ditton Corner.



Henry hanging around on a school trip to France

Teenage Kicks

Henry turned 13 and moved into his final year St. John's College School. School trips took him to chocolate factories in France and rugby matches in Leicester. On the artistic side, his animation of Maxwell's Silver Hammer is a wall to wall gore-fest. And his preferred hairstyle has become decidedly Cavalier.



Birthday safari: A hands-on experience (for lemurs)



Wasp-Man in action up the kitchen chimney

**Assaults on
the Home Front**

It's been an active year in Ditton Corner. Some minor home improvements included building some new steps down to the river from the cro-



Fox cubs in the compost heap

quet lawn. But mainly we've been under seige. First it was the bees - oops I mean wasps - that made their nest in our kitchen chimney. Then our flag got torn to pieces in the winter gales and wrapped itself round



Flag of our Father: That Iwa Jima moment

the weather vane, requiring the wrong kind of pole dancing to fix. And then it was the fox family, breeding merrily in the grounds. This year the garden has played habitat to woodpeckers, pheasants, and all manner of fish and fowl



New steps on the croquet lawn



San Jose's planners have overseen the revival of their shrunken city after the dot.com bust

Honey, I Shrank the City

Helen's research network now takes in cities on the rebound

As a founder member of the Shrinking Cities International Research Network, Helen chaired the opening panel session of the Network's first symposium at the University of California, Berkeley, in

February. SCiRN has formalized its constitution to accommodate rapid growth, currently including institutions in 10 countries, and now welcomes research students to its virtual PhD academy.

MBA C'est le Business

Helen is now half way through her MBA course. Based at ESCP-EAP - the European School of Management - in Paris, the course is mainly run at the school's London campus. But, Helen has improved her knowledge of the 11th arrondissement, and Delhi and Madrid - locations of the school's satellite institutions.



Calatrava eat your heart out: an international bridge and team building exercise in Madrid

Risks of Death and Risks of Life

New areas of business for Andrew's work with RMS

RMS had its sixth successive year of high growth, and moves into a new phase with an expansion plan into other areas of risk. Andrew has helped guide several of the new opportunity areas to business investment stage, including liability and life and health insurance. Life and

Andrew has been working with life insurance clients this year to manage surges in payouts from high mortality catastrophes, and now is looking at how pension companies cope with the opposite problem - people living too long. What you and I would call the blessing of longer life, insurers refer to as 'longevity risk'. Life extension research is an interesting aspect of modelling longevity risk.



Who wants to live forever? Probabilistic models of life expectancy are useful for pension funds

health risk builds on the work done last year on pandemic influenza and has now received internal funding as a new investment area for RMS.



RMS gang scheming offsite