



John Keenan was born in 1937. His family lived in Clapham Park, and were stalwarts in St. Bede's Parish. John went to St. Mary's Primary School, Clapham, and then on to Clapham College in 1948 (his brother, Peter, followed him to the College, his two sisters, Mary and Margaret, went to La Retraite.) His contemporaries at Clapham were -Brian Sanders, Peter Dixon, Derek Lane, Mick Weir, Paddy Gooch, Colin Luke, Will Pepper, Nick Ocleppo, Dave Rowles, Tony Insole, Ron Tomasina, Tim Higgins. While at the College, John was a slow bowler, but Joe Church, his cricket coach, encouraged him to bowl fast, John never looked back. He became, in many people's eyes, the best bowler they had seen, outside the county game. After leaving Clapham, John did National Service in the RAF. It was here that he gained that priceless statistic on his CV - he opened the bowling for Bomber Command !!!!! John then entered the world of Stockbroking, working as manager of the back office for his firm, then for a firm of Fund Managers. He married Ann, and settled down in Clapham Park, they had Jane, Matthew and Victoria. John really was a devoted family man. He became active in the PTA of St. Bede's School and St Joseph's College. He was on the Parish Council of St. Bede's. John played cricket for the Old Boys, but soon moved on to Old Thorntonians, who played the top club sides in Surrey. His fast bowling became legendary - he once took 9 wickets in an innings. He played for the CCC on many occasions. As an observer, I would say it wasn't just his skill as a bowler that made him the cricketer he was, it was also his temperament - steely determination, impeccable sportsmanship. John was also a fine footballer, and was centre back and captain of the Old Boys' 1st X1, that won the League 3 years running. with Tony Amura scoring 30 goals a season and Phil Leeder running the midfield. John became Chairman of COXA, and was an ever -present at the Remembrance Day Mass, and the Chairman's Lunch. John became ill last year and died in May, 2014. He was sincere, loyal, friendly, kind. COXA, have lost a great friend.

Our condolences to Ann and the family.

Colin Garvey

At the end of May the Association "lost" another prominent Clapham Xaverian - Michael Aldrich died of cancer aged 72;

Michael was the inventor of the concept of online shopping, when in the late 1970s he hooked a humble Rediffusion TV to a computer to process shopping transactions. Fast -forward to 1984 and Jane Snowhall, a 72 year old grandmother in Gateshead, was chosen as a guinea pig for the project, she picked up her remote control and ordered margarine, cornflakes and eggs from her local Tesco's. The online revolution had started. A decade later Amazon & E-Bay picked up on Michael's idea and the world changed forever. Michael had started e-commerce, after a slow start it exploded in the 1990s and mushroomed into the 21st Century.

Michael was born in 1942 in Brocket Hall in Herts, he joined Clapham College in 1952 and left in 1959, he was in the Alpha Form and a stalwart of Canterbury; when he went on to Hull University studying Arts. Michael had been in touch with the Association in recent times, contributing to the project on recreating class registers, he generously donated to the Chapel Restoration Fund and offered his services to SFX for student mentoring. Michael is survived by his wife Sandy and his four children, Tobin, Philippa, Gabrielle and Luke. Rediffusion's Old Computer Company [ROCC] was acquired by Michael in 1994 and he "bought out" the other shareholders and inserted his son Luke as CEO in the year 2000. Michael stood as a Labour Candidate for Richmond in Yorkshire [unsuccessfully] in the 1970 General Election and was also Chairman of Brighton Polytechnic and oversaw its transition into a University in 1992.



Aldrich wanted to take the tedium out of the weekly grocery shop

Later the University dedicated a new library to Michael Aldrich and in 1994 the Aldrich collection of contemporary art was opened. His archive of research papers are housed at the University; as are copies of papers and books he wrote. Being a cowboy fanatic, he had a collection of 500 cowboy movies, Michael owned a home in Arizona for a number of years, where he became an accomplished rider of American quarter horses, the breed used in rodeos. But above all Michael was a family man he doted on his grandchildren and his passing is a great loss. [Parts of this this tribute to Michael have been taken from a much longer obituary posted in The Times on 20th June 2014. ++++++ May He Rest in Peace ++++++]