

West of England Supper – 9 July 2011

The West of England Supper was again held at the Angel Inn in Hindon on Saturday 9 July 2011. As always we were made extremely welcome by the convivial owner/host Doug.



We had a record 16 OFs and partners present, including our new President and his wife and son Philip (see picture left).

We were also delighted to see **Duncan Miller (R47-54)** present at his first OF Supper since leaving the College 57 years ago and we hope to see him in future year (see pictured right with Madeleine Williams, Bob's wife, who last

year was sadly unable to make it due to a fall down stairs at Brandeston)



The full list of those able to be present were : **Rodney Walker (G45-48)**, **Duncan Miller (R47-54)**, **Nigel & Christine Hyde (R55-60)**, **Simon & Margaret Dougherty (President, G60-67)**, **Charles & Clare Carter (R61-69)**, **Ian & Christina Hardaker-Jones (R64-69)**, **Nick Innell (S67-75)**, **Chris & Eryl Essex (Organiser, K69-75)**, **Philip Dougherty (G85-95)**, **Bob & Madeleine Williams (Hon OF)**.

As always there were a number of apologies, including **Andrew Baker (G59-67)** who was attending until a couple of days earlier but then had a better off to be in New York – must have been a difficult decision!! We look forward to seeing Andrew next year.

The award for best reason for not being able to make it this year went to **Charles Blackmore (K65-75)**, who had to be in Southern Sudan joining in with the independence celebrations of the world's newest country.



Chris also gave an update on the amazing exploits of Brian Pretty (S52-56), grandson of the founder of the SOF 111 years ago. Each year he tries to come, but each time his commitment to helping others around the world stops him. This year he was in Uganda after spending the previous 3 months in Australia building a Church for a remote tribe of Aborigines, miles from nowhere deep in the outback. He's amazing for a man in his 70s and we wished him well and a safe trip to Uganda.

Chris also mentioned that he must be breaking some sort of record. The West of England Supper was his 2nd in a week and he was due to meet up with OFs in Hong Kong, Melbourne, Cairns, Brisbane and Sydney over the next 6 weeks! Chris finished with a toast to the College and Brandeston.

After Chris's words, the president gave an update on OF events and what's been happening at the College, followed by a toast to the Society. After further coffee and drink we all made our way off around midnight, with the lucky ones only needing to climb upstairs!



During the evening **Nick Innell (S67-75)** (pictured with **Charles Carter OBE (R61-69)**) mentioned that he had a busy year ahead of him, as he has recently been appointed head of security operations at the O2 Arena for the 2012 Olympic Games.

Thanks to Bob for taking some pictures on the night.