#### A LEVELS 2013



85 candidates sat 267 A levels this summer.
The results show very close alignment with our predictions (made in October 2012) and against our 'best ever' results of 2011. Well done to you all and good luck at university!

### **200 YEARS AGO TODAY**



The drawing above shows the London Tavern in Bishopsgate with pupils passing among the benefactors and fundraisers for the School.

In 1813 Lord John Russell entered Parliament as an MP at the age of 21. He was later fwice to become Prime Minister and our School's first President from 1854 till his death in 1878. He wrote the 1832 Reform Bill, a primary step in taking Britain along the road to democracy. He was credited with the Parliamentary Acts on factory reform, education and public health, liberalising trade and reducing women's working hours. He was so impressed by the textile trade starting a school to house, educate and take its own orphans out of poverty that he agreed to become our President, persuading the Prince of Wales (later King Edward VII) to open "Russell Hill School" at Purley on 18 June 1866. Russell then enlisted more support for the school from other friends, reformers and Whigs, notably Charles Dickens and the 8th Duke of Devonshire, who succeeded Russell as our President for 30 years from 1878.

### **HYMN BOOKS**

Those Old Russellians who kindly donated money for hymn books back in 2011 will be delighted that our new Chaplain has now purchased copies of 'Ancient and Modern: Hymns and Songs for Refreshing Worship'.



This is the world's most famous hymn book and has been completely revised and now offers the broadest ever range of traditional hymns and modern compositions. The Old Russellians Society have donated £500 to this worthy venture. O.R.s who donated themselves will have their names inscribed on the inside of a hymn book. Anyone still wishing to donate in this way, should please contact us.

#### **BIENNIAL REUNION - MAY 2013**



Chris Gough (1951-1955) pictured centre with Chris Hutchinson (Headmaster) and John Piggin (recently retired Cambridge Housemaster) at the May Reunion 2013.

# **AGM - 2013**

As last year, all Reports will be placed on the website 14 days prior to the AGM. Please let us know if you would be interested in joining our friendly committee.

# **CONDOLENCES**



Eileen Isobel Sarll (married name: Fitzgerald) at school 1937 - 1946 We are sorry to announce that Eileen FitzGerald (née Sarll) passed away peacefully at home with her family on 6 June 2013, following a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. Eileen married Desmond and returned to her home town, Cambridge. She had four children and eight grandchildren, and kept in contact with former members of the School. Her brother, Donald (1939 - 1943), also attended the School and lives in High Wycombe. Eileen is pictured top left.

We were also sorry to hear that Laura Clifford (née Coward) at school 1934-1939 sadly passed away on 23rd July 2013 at her residential home at Sunrise Senior Living, Purley, also in Russell Hill Road, just a few doors from Russell Hill School (now Thomas More School). Laura visited RRS in December 2012 and was most impressed with the new buildings and how friendly the Sixth Form were toward her. She can be seen here looking at her entry in the school register from 1934.

In September 2013, ex St Andrew's boy, Derek Green (at school 1942-1948), sadly died. An obituary will be available to view on the website very soon.

