



Dear Old Ipswichian,

"The event of the year", the Gaudy to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of the OI Club, was anticipated, arrived, was excellent, and has now gone, leaving happy memories. Despite the forecast being for torrential rain and thunderstorms, we were blessed by good weather with a short shower at lunchtime to keep us on our toes. With a capacity dining hall for the Diamond lunch, time with the 6th form leavers at their graduation celebration, and the Gaudy itself, there was plenty going on. Indeed, it was a busy day.

Any organisation which lasts 125 years must be doing something right. It is good to look back, remember those who established the Club, and celebrate its many achievements. But the OI Club is about people, the comradship of OIs of all generations, enjoying their friendship and offering ours, and supporting each other, the school, and those soon to be OIs. Without the personal element, the Club has little value. And so whilst it is helpful and right to look at the past, more appropriate is to look to the future. We do so with enthusiasm and optimism.

We have celebrated 125 years in two key ways: a Gaudy, and the Old Ipswichian 125th Appeal. One is over, the other is not, so feel free to participate in it.

The next OI event is after the summer, on 7 September. The OI Rugby Sevens tournament takes place on Notcutts (the old Top Field). Do let me know if you would like to play, and anyway come and support those taking part.

This will be the last edition of the eNews until September. Have a very happy summer.

Kind Regards

Guy Main
Chairman
Old Ipswichian Club

Recent Events:

OI v School Cricket – Friday 27th June

In the cricket match between the school and the Old Ipswichians, the old boys batted first. They declared on 223 for the loss of 9 wickets. For the Old Ipswichians, James Wheaton scored 66 and Ian Swallow 49 whilst Ollie Bocking claimed 5 wickets for the school.

In reply James Hodgkinsin(80), and Ben Parker(46) shared a century opening partnership. A flurry of wickets put the school under pressure, but an extremely well paced innings of 62 by Rob Wilson secured victory for the school by 3 wickets.

Andrew Golding

OI 125th Anniversary Gaudy – Saturday 28th June

The OI 125th Anniversary Gaudy - the event of the year - took place last Saturday and was a triumph. During the build up the organising committee become increasingly apprehensive about the weather, but despite some heavy rain at lunchtime it held off for the afternoon's celebrations.

Over 150 enjoyed the Diamond Lunch, which was for those who left the school before 1964. This was a huge number: the elbow room was limited, and if the room had been bigger we would have been able to accomodate more who wanted to join the party.

During the course of the day some 400 or so people attended the Gaudy, including OIs, Upper Sixth Leavers, teachers and many other people who wished to celebrate the Club's anniversary. What a turnout!

A Suffolk girls v school U12 boys cricket match on the school field provided quality entertainment in the morning and early afternoon. A brilliant steel band played all afternoon and, as the cricket ended, various games, activities and other entertainment took over. Painted faces were not the preserve of pre-teeens, and the coconut shy with

pictures of headmasters on the targets was popular. As was the cream tea.

After some short speeches the school Big Band played two long sets and delighted everyone, as always. They provoked several of the older OIs to dance on the school field. Children made use of the bouncy castle, and there was excellent conversation amongst OIs around the much appreciated bar. The two archives displays, in the pavilion and the archives room, were popular and very busy. The catering was superb and many OIs commented on the standard of the cream teas and hog roast offered.

The consensus was that this was a brilliant day. Some photographs are shown below - more will be available later.

Many thanks to all OIs who attended and supported the Gaudy. Special thanks to the core team who planned and did the organisational work, and for those who helped in advance and on the day. Roll on the next 125 years!

Photos by James Fletcher



Chapel Choir Reunion - Farewell to Andrew Leach - Thursday 3rd July

As you will most likely know by now, Andrew Leach, Director of Music, is retiring at the end of this academic year. Andrew has been a sensational teacher, musician, conductor and personality whose contributions to Ipswich School will be thoroughly missed. To send him off the Music Department arranged for a Chapel Choir get together, to which 30 OI former Chapel Choir members were invited (As a surprise for Andrew). Around 30 OIs made it to the evening, some travelling from far and wide to be there for what was a fantastic evening.

OIs met Andrew, the music staff and current Chapel Choir members in chapel, singing hymns together before heading to Great School where Andrew was presented with gifts and his spectacular cake (picture below)! Speeches were made by OI former President Richard Wilson and ex-Headmaster Ian Galbraith and finally by Andrew, whose touching words culminated in singing.

The evening continued with a barbecue and bar, after which the whole party gathered around the Steinway piano in Great School to sing along to Andrew playing some Chapel Choir favorites.



Upcoming Events:

Rugby Sevens – Sunday 7th September

Plans are advanced for this year's Rugby Sevens Tournament, which returns to Notcutts (The old Top Field) after a year away and thus giving OIs a chance to see the recently redeveloped pavilion as well as to play on familiar pitches. We aim to build on the success of last year's tournament by having even more teams take part. We are also exploring interest in a ladies' touch rugby match. If you would be interested in playing or entering a team in either the boys or ladies' competition, please email oisports@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk . As always, early expressions of interest is a great help to the organisers.

There will be food and drinks available after the matches, and spectators are encouraged.



Last year's rugby players

Drinks in the City – Friday 3rd October – Save the date!

The next Drinks in the City event takes place in early October. More information and the central London venue will be publicised nearer the time. It will no doubt follow on from the successes of previous Drinks in the City evenings, with good conversation from many generations of OIs and initial food and drinks provided by the Club.

Big Band Night at the Ipswich School Festival of Music – Tuesday 7th October

The OI club is sponsoring the final night at this year's Festival of Music and consequently has 18 tickets to give away to OIs, on a first come, first served basis. The school's Big Band and the IMU Big Band will be performing. Please email oievents@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk or call 01473 298961 to put your name down for a ticket. Alternatively, tickets may be purchased through the Ipswich Regent www.ipswichregent.com or 01473 433100.

OIs and their guests will have a chance to meet before the concert for a drinks and canapes reception in the pavilion from 6.30pm.

Other News:

The Old Ipswichian Club 125th Anniversary Appeal

Update - two and a half years ago the Club set the target of raising £1 million in an anniversary appeal, to be split between the school's new music school, school sports and bursaries. So far OIs have generously raised over £650,000 and are well on the way to £700,000. Building work for the new music school should begin this month. We hope a fuller update will be available shortly. If you would like to contribute, and we hope you will, please contact the Foundations Director, Peter Boughton, on pvb@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

The Perkins Pavilion

Cyril Perkins, school cricket coach and groundsman from 1946 to 1977, was honoured on 28th June by the naming of the school cricket pavilion in his memory. Suffolk County Cricket Association Secretary, Toby Pound, joined Headmaster, Nick Weaver and Chairman of Governors, Karl Daniels in the ceremony of dedication.

Karl, who was coached by Cyril, led the tributes, recalling Cyril's consummate professionalism, which saw him take a record 779 wickets for Suffolk between 1939 and 1967. "I first saw Cyril in 1946 playing for the staff against the 1st XI" Karl recalled, "What I remember is that he hit a six through the pavilion window".

Cyril was included in the Minor Counties 'Team of the Century' in 2000 and was a legend in his own lifetime after taking all 10 wickets in an innings against Hertfordshire in 1960. As the school's cricket coach and groundsman from 1946 to 1977, Cyril inspired and encouraged generations of Ipswich School cricketers, of all levels of ability and established the Ivory Street wicket as the finest in the area. *Photos by James Fletcher*



OI Cricket Club Scorebooks

Ian Young (1940-1950) is very kindly researching the records of the OI Cricket Club. Whilst we have many of the scorebooks we are missing some and would be pleased to have help from anyone who has or might have a clue to the whereabouts of the books for the following years:

1983

1984

1986-90

1993-97

We are happy to copy the details if they are a treasured possession you would rather not part with. Please contact Melissa Joralemon, School Archivist on maaaj@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

OI Fives

Peter Boughton O.I. has agreed to take on the role of Regional Manager, Eastern Region, co-ordinating Eton fives activity for a 'constituency' of Cambridge University, City of Norwich School, Ipswich School and Neal Wade Academy in March. This appointment was warmly welcomed by The Board of the Eton Fives Association.
Mike Fenn

Email addresses for OIs

As time moves on the Club is delivering more and more of our invitations and correspondence through the digital sphere, to cut down on environmental and financial cost. Unfortunately, we do not have email addresses for all OIs.

If you are in contact OIs who may or do not receive emails, please ask them to contact the Club by email! at jcd@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk with their name and years at school. We would hate anyone to miss out.

OI Club Merchandising

The new OI Club merchandise is available, as are the four special 125th Anniversary items. Please contact Coes <http://www.coes.co.uk/Static/Ipswich> who have been very helpful in putting these items together and would be delighted to assist you.

Kind regards

Guy Main

Chairman

Old Ipswichian Club

<http://www.ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk/old-ipswichians/>

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