



Dear OI,

OIs are, of course, inextricably linked to Ipswich School. The rapport between the School and OI Club has been through different phases over the years, as in any relationship. I have worked for closer links as, it seems to me, this is in the interest of both the School and the Club. The experience of the last few years is that we can work well together, and both the School and OIs (and future OIs and their parents, so good marketing) have benefitted. Of course, this dynamic needs constant work, monitoring and review so that our goals, many of which are shared, are achieved. Presumption is dangerous and dialogue is key.

Recent gatherings of OIs have been diverse and vibrant, as you will read below (if you were not fortunate enough to have experienced them directly). There are more to come in 2015, and plans for 2016 are in place.

I hope that many OIs will be able to attend the memorial service for John Blatchly, former headmaster of Ipswich School and a friend to many of us. Details are below. We will be remembering his life by way of another tribute in the soon to be published autumn 2015 OI News.

Of course, it would be great if you could all come to every OI event, but that is unrealistic. I should, though, be particularly pleased if this year's Ipswich Dinner is attended by a greater number of OIs and their partners than ever before. Your hard working President, Bob Clayton, will preside and this will be his last event in that role (as it will be my last event as Chairman). Please give us a great send off.

I hope to see many of you before the end of the year.

Kind Regards

Guy Main

OI Club Chairman

Recent Events

President's Event – Friday 16th October

The President's Event this year was a wine and food tasting evening. Apart from sharing good company, wine and food the evening raised funds for Alzheimer's research. Over sixty OIs attended the evening generating in excess of £1000 towards this very worthwhile charity.

The whole evening was a great success with food and wine from four different European countries, England, Spain, Italy and France. The food was prepared by OI Jon Marriott's Bouquet Garni catering company. They presented very tasty food which complimented all the wines on offer.

OI Simon Gotelee represented the Wine Company at Colchester and described the wines as they were served. Generous gifts were donated towards the raffle from many local businesses which, again, generated money towards the charity.

I would personally like to thank all who attended as I believe a good night was had by all I agree – OI Chairman). I also appreciate all the help and support provided by Vicki Spray and Lindy Hacker in the Foundation department.

Bob Clayton, OI President 2015





A number of your OI Committee



Bob Clayton, Derek Wilding from the Alzheimer's Society and Guy Main

New York Dinner – Wednesday 21st October

My wife and I were delighted to hear that the Ipswich School Chapel Choir was coming to New York City. Truly a first for the School's choir and a delight for me, having lived in New York City for 35 years and seen little Ipswich School activity or OI activity this side of the Atlantic.

We were able to attend one of their concerts at St Bartholomew's Church. "St. Bart's" as it is known locally, is a famous Episcopal church on Park Ave. in the heart of mid-town Manhattan. The choir sang during the Eucharist service at 6pm. The local congregation and the presiding minister gave the school choir a warm welcome and a standing ovation at the end of the service.

Later the same evening, the School hosted a dinner at the Penn Club for School parents and staff and kindly invited OI's to join as well. It was a pleasure to meet the Headmaster, Guy Main and Sally Webber. Several other OI's from the New York area attended as well as some parents who had taken advantage of the School Choir tour to come to New York during half term. The evening turned out to be a wonderful opportunity to hear about the current activities at the School from the Headmaster as well as relive memories about my time at the school in the 1960's. Having been fed delightful food and excellent wine, the highlight of the evening was the re-appearance of the school choir who performed 4 songs for the dinner guests. Ably led by Director of Music Sion Parry, the children sang their hearts out for us, a clear sign that they had thoroughly enjoyed every aspect of the stay in New York City.

A big thank you from this New York based OI to everyone involved in making the Ipswich School Chapel Choir tour such a success.

Alastair Merrick, OI (1962-1971)



Guests L to R:

Alastair Merrick (OI), Helen Main, Guy Main (OI Chairman), Trevor Woods (OI), Caroline Pfeffer, Rolf Althen, Tracey Dedrick, Fiona Coe, Keith Nelson (OI), Nick Weaver (Headmaster), Richard Waterman(OI), Christine Nelson, William Coe (OI)

Remembrance Service – Sunday 8th November 2015

It was standing room only on Sunday 8th November when many of the local OI community gathered for the annual Remembrance Service in the School Chapel. OI President, Bob Clayton, laid the wreath to commemorate those who lost their lives in conflict, and OI Committee member and School Governor, John Caudle, gave the reading. After the service, which also saw wonderful performances from the Chapel Choir, many of the congregation retired for refreshments in the new School dining room, to reflect and catch up with familiar faces.

Sally Webber, OI Secretary



Forthcoming Events:

John Blatchly's Memorial Service – Saturday 21st November

A memorial service for Dr John Blatchly, who died on 3 September 2015, is being held in St Mary Le Tower Church, Ipswich at 12 noon on Saturday 21 November 2015. John was headmaster of Ipswich School from 1972 until 1993 and a great friend of the School and countless OIs.

Drinks and refreshments will be served in the School's dining halls after the service. All OIs and their guests are very welcome. We should appreciate knowing if you plan to attend – please send an email to oldipswichians@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

First Five Year's Out Reunion – For OIs who left 2010 – 2015 – Wednesday 16th December

This popular annual event is open to all OIs who have left School in the last five years (so currently covering 2010 – 2015 leavers). Drinks and finger food will be served in the Sixth Form Centre between 7.30 – 9.30pm. Details will also be on the OI Facebook page. We look forward to welcoming many of you back to school. Please let us know through oievents@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk if you plan to come along so we can make sure there is enough food and drink available.

OI v School Fives Match – Saturday 19th December

This will take place during the morning on Saturday 19 December. Spectators are welcome – indeed, encouraged. Some of the games in recent years have been tight and compelling viewing. More details of timings will follow. If you are a Fives player or if you would like to spectate & stay for lunch please ensure we know this by confirming with a short email to oisports@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

OI Club AGM and Ipswich Dinner – Saturday 19th December

Our annual AGM and Ipswich Dinner will take place this year on Saturday 19th December in Little School and Great School. Partners are very welcome to the lively and fun dinner, enjoyed by OIs of all ages. Full details for these two events have been sent to you as part of our recent mailing, however, in brief, the AGM takes place at 6pm and the dinner, 7pm for 7:30pm. For convenience copy of the Dinner form is attached – please do apply now for tickets (can you put together a table?) to help with the planning. The OI Chairman is hoping for a record number of OIs this year as it is his last event as Chairman. For further details please contact Vicki Spray at oievents@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk

New Year Gathering – end of January/early February – date to be agreed

Yes, we are looking to 2016 already. The date for this event will be fixed soon. It will take place in the Pavilion, and is a good chance to meet for warm chat during a cold winters evening once the New Year has settled in.

OI News

We were sad to hear of the death of Julia Woodcraft, Former Registrar here at School from 1980-1994. Several OIs will remember Julia from her involvement with the drama department. If you know of any stories or memories, please pass them on so we could put them together and pass them on to her family. Address any contributions to me through oldipswichians@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk.

Anthony Howe (OI 1983 – 1990) appointed chaplain and priest in charge at The Chapel Royal at Hampton Court Palace
http://www.eadt.co.uk/news/former_ipswich_school_boy_raised_in_suffolk_gets_regal_appointment_at_the_chapel_royal_1_4268515

Kind Regards

Guy Main

Chairman

OI Club

oldipswichians@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk