



Circa 1399

Old Ipswichian Journal

The Journal of the Old Ipswichian Club | *Issue 7 Summer 2016*



In this issue

Club news • Features • Members' news • Births, marriages, deaths and obituaries
OI Club events • School news • From the archives • Programme of events

Life Members

Year 13	Hacker Abby	Rule Cameron
.....	Hare Beth	Rumsey Megan
Angel Fergus	Head Christopher	Seifert Henry
Aulsebrook Gigi	Hopkins Sam	Sexton Sophie
Badman Harry	Hoskyns Chandos	Shaikly Jonathan
Bailey Thomas	Hoskyns Wilf	Sinha Kanishk
Barker Dominic	Howlett Olivia	Taylor Shannon
Beavan Harry	Huang Jeremy	Temple McCune Nicholas
Betterton Moné	Hughes Thomas	Wagland Isaac
Bolton William	Keeble Tim	Wainer Robert
Bowditch Lily	Lawson Oliver	Ward Ollie
Buckley Liam	Lee Jackie	White Tom
Burn James	Livingstone Angus	Wilding Josh
Cattermole Ben	Lo Rebecca	Woods Ballard Alexandra
Chang Hoff	Louch Harry	Wyer Emily
Conway Alice	Macdonald Lily	Yap Krystal
Cowie Sam	Marshall Jess	Yeap Joo Yee
Cubitt Penny	Martin Tom	Yu Chu Chen
Dade Megan	Maser-Clarke Tabitha	Zhang Jason
Davey Alexander Robert	McAllister Charlie	Zhou Jack
De Silva Meegahawatte Avishka	McGuire Jamie	
Dereve Matthew	Mead James	Year 12
Dong Elaine	Mercer Holly
Dosanjh Amardev	Mottershead Thomas	Chamberlain Katie
Edwards Will	Mullholland Joe	Clark Samuel
Fairhead Emma	Osman-Wiggan Steffan	Pescott Frost Oliver
Farley Juliet	Pace Sam	
Farley Nick	Parker Ben	Year 11
French Matthew	Parry Edward
Frost Barrett	Phillips Jack	Ayling George
Gale Tom	Powell Rhys	Azarmi Anahita
Gillott Isobel	Prescott-Smith Sarah	Bishop Charlotte
Goble Tom	Prior Piers	Devlin Alfie
Godfrey Tom	Raymond Freddie	Duley Elizabeth
Gurton William	Regan Holly	Eagle Sam

Garnham Lauren	Lo Thomas	Patten Louis
Gemmel Molly	MacDonald Hamish	Phillips Olivia
Hewitt Edie	Mahoney Elizabeth	Raven Max
Hopkins Connie	Marfoh-Gillings Laurence	Watkins Rupert
James Henry	Morgan Tom	Wilson James
Jamieson Sonia	Parsons Abbie	

Associate Members

Anderson Sam	Year 11
Beeson Hollie
Culley Charlie	Bolton Oliver
Dudley Will	Chiddicks Polly
France Thomas	Clarke Juliette
Kenworthy Charlie	Dean Blake
King Oliver	Gray James
Lee Christopher	Leung Vanessa
Lynch Claude	Matthew Bethan
Marven Charlie	Morgan Pastora
Owens James	Pandya Keshav
Renshaw Sam	Parker Zoe
Sarson George	Smith Oliver
Turner George	Wheeler Hector
	Whitehead Toryn
Year 12	
.....	
Loeffler Matthew	
McConnell Heather	
Murrell James	



The Old Ipswichian Journal 2016
The Old Ipswichian Journal is published annually by the Old Ipswichian Club as a summary of the previous year's events and news. The views expressed therein are not necessarily those of the OI Club.

Editor: Clare Lock (oieditor@ipswich.school) For more information about the Old Ipswichians and to receive the twice-yearly OI news, please telephone **01473 298961** or email: **oldipswichians@ipswich.school** • Visit **www.oldipswichians.org.uk**, Follow us on Twitter **@OldIpswichians** and join the OI groups on LinkedIn and Facebook.

August 2016		
Tues 16th	Golf	Fynn Valley
September 2016		
Mon 5th	Golf	Thetford
Fri 30th	Presidents Event	House of Commons
October 2016		
Fri 7th	Drinks in the City	
Thurs 6th – Tues 11th	School’s Festival of Music	School
Sat 8th – Sun 9th	OI Fives 50th Anniversary Festival	School
November 2016		
Sun 13th	Remembrance Service	School Chapel
December 2016		
Thurs 15th	‘First Five Years Out’ Reunion (2011 – 2016 leavers)	Sixth Form Centre
Sat 17th	Ipswich Dinner and AGM	Great & Little Schools

Details of the above events can also be found on the Old Ipswichian Website: www.ipswich.school/old-ipswichians/ or contact oievents@ipswich.school. In addition to these events the Club should be delighted to help in the setting up and running of milestone anniversary reunions such as 10th, 20th, 25th, 30th and 40th. If you would like to talk about this in general or specifically, please contact us through oievents@ipswich.school or telephone (01473) 298964.

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Club Officers and Committee for 2016



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Ex-officio
Headmaster
Nick Weaver
London Dinner Secretary
James Mansfield
Foundation Manager
Lindy Hacker

Committee

To retire end 2016
Tom Edwards
Benson Ho
James Davey
To retire end 2017
Martin Holland
Chris Warnes
To retire end 2018
Bob Clayton
Florence Milner
Trevor Woods

Co-opted

OI Webmaster
Guy Main
OI Sports Liaison
Richard Hudson



Ling Stephens

(OI 1982-1984)

I believe that the OI Club is about keeping in touch, reconnecting with old friends and meeting new ones based on our ties with Ipswich School. We are connected by common memories of school and especially the people there: our network of friends, teachers and staff. It is with this objective in mind that the OI Club works actively to make sure that we keep in touch, even years after we have left school.

I'd like to start by thanking Bob Clayton, who was a really popular President in 2015 and a he is a hard act to follow. In particular, his long-standing support of the OI Club as he remains central to the organisation of the many OI sports events that we hold across the year. Bob also hosted a very successful wine-tasting President's Event in October, raising valuable funds for The Alzheimer's Society. Speaking to those who know or were taught by Bob, I know that he is very widely known and with affection, for his warmth, support and friendship.

This year, I'd like to note a couple of developments that are remarkable and worth celebrating. Firstly, for the first time, we have a Committee steered by women. Sally Webber and Clare Lock (our Chair and Secretary respectively) and I are delighted to be in our roles and thinking about this, it is an achievement for Ipswich School, which has been literally the "boys' school" until quite recently. I know the school is now fully, co-educational and it is a milestone that we should reflect on, demonstrating the change and progress that has occurred and something to be proud of.

"We had a record attendance at the lively, Ipswich Dinner in December. I have also had the pleasure of meeting many of our younger members at the City Drinks in London."

I also want to mention the work that we are beginning to do on careers. Having worked in London since leaving school, I am keen that members of the OI Club should have a role to play in supporting our younger members or current students at Ipswich School, as they make their career choices for their working lives. In the Committee, we are just beginning our journey to work out what is needed and how best to do this. We have many ideas, that include providing access to OIs who wish to volunteer,

via the Careers' Database on the school website, mentoring or helping to provide work experience. This is a work in progress, but I can anticipate that we will be reaching out to OIs in the future, for those who wish to volunteer and support this worthwhile venture.

"Working with the OI Club this year has been an eye-opener for me and I am impressed by the energy and commitment shown by the OI Club Committee, its supporting groups, as well as the staff from the school ..."

On the social front, I have also attended a couple of OI events this year. We had a record attendance at the lively, Ipswich Dinner in December. I have also had the pleasure of meeting many of our younger members at the City Drinks in London. In April, we enjoyed a very social, London Dinner at the Oxford and Cambridge Club and Peter Florence, the Founder of the Hay Festival inspired us with his insights on this famous literary festival.

Working with the OI Club this year has been an eye-opener for me and I am impressed by the energy and commitment shown by the OI Club Committee, its supporting groups, as well as the staff from the school (particularly the Foundation Office) who work hard to make sure that we hold interesting events that meet the needs of our membership.

It's been a privilege being President of the OI Club for 2016 and I am looking forward to the rest of my year as President, getting to meet and know more of you and hearing of the interesting lives that you have been leading since leaving school.

– Ling Stephens
OI Club President 2016



Sally Webber

(OI 1993-1995)

Being part of a school community is a real privilege. As I write this, I am preparing to attend Speech Day and to welcome a new set of Old Ipswichians to the Club, a Club that continues to be a vibrant and active body, much like the school community it works with.

The last year has seen a mixture of reunions, sporting events and dinners, bringing together OIs from across the generations, and culminated in a sell out Ipswich Dinner in the Great School. The evening saw much laughter as OIs enjoyed a wonderful meal, the after dinner speaker Simon Ballard, and honoured the memory of John Blatchly.

We also thanked Guy Main for his time as Chairman. Guy has been an amazing person to work with, and his drive and determination that the role of the OI Club be recognised and

enhanced has moved us forward. He will continue to give his time in updating and maintaining the Club's website, but in the meantime, we thank him for his time and dedication.

Detailed reports of all of the past year's events can be found in this publication, and as always, if you feel there is something your club should be doing, please do get in touch.

– Sally Webber
OI Club Chairman 2016

Foundation Office News

2015 was another busy year for the Foundation Office, supporting the OI Club and also School projects including the Music School campaign, events with the Friends of Ipswich School, and helping organise the behind-the-scenes work of countless events, dinners and reunions.

Also in the autumn it was good to see the Britten Faculty of Music move into the new Music School, thanks to the generous support of the Ipswich School community, including of course, the many OIs who had donated to the campaign. The names of all the donors are now inscribed on pebbles in a mural on the main staircase of the school, spelling out the Playful Pizzicato from Britten's Simple Symphony.

As we write now in 2016, we have said farewell to both Peter Boughton and Lindy Hacker, who have both left the Foundation Office, to retirement in Peter's case, and a new part of the country in Lindy's. We wish them all the best for the future, and are delighted to welcome Heather Bush to the staff team as Development Director, joining Foundation Assistant Vicki Spray.

There will be more about Heather in a future OI News, but she can be contacted at the school by email: hmb@ipswich.school or by phone: **01473 408324**.





Past Chairman's Reflections

Three years is a short period of time. Or a long time. Rather, the journey can seem fast or slow, depending on the smoothness or otherwise of the ride.

My period as Chairman of the OI Club has at different times seemed brief, and at others the opposite. Which is good, although it wasn't always comfortable.

To clarify: for much of the time the path was smooth as the Club, with the support and encouragement of many OIs and a great committee, and help from the School, went from strength to strength. There have though been bumpy periods. This may be a good thing if it happens occasionally as, with the Club challenged in various ways, I and your committee were obliged to test carefully the appropriate way forward.

Big challenges should not happen too often as this would oblige the then current Chairman and committee to work in a different and more cautious way,

likely impacting negatively on the offering to OIs. I never did think the role was going to be a bed of roses, and I was right. Was I disappointed? Not at all. There were some wonderful times. Others were a little rough. As so often the better times predominated, especially when looking back over the three-year term.

“My aim, with the support of your committee, has always been to keep the Club relevant and contemporary.”

There have been changes during my Chairmanship. Some I introduced, and some came through natural development and circumstances. I hope you will agree that there has been no change for change's sake. My aim, with the support of your committee, has always been to

keep the Club relevant and contemporary for its members, in line with the Objects stated in the Rules.

Most memorable was my “middle” year. This was 2014 and the 125th anniversary year of the founding of the OI Club. Whilst there were many highlights of that notable year, three stand out. The first was set in motion by James Davey, my predecessor as Chairman and a wise and constant counsel during my term.

The OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal sought to raise £1,000,000 for the School and, although we didn't achieve that figure during the anniversary year, we came pretty close (some £20,000 short) by the time the appeal sort of closed (you may still donate) last December. How good and how appropriate to celebrate the Club's anniversary with a significant gift to the School. The relationship



between the Club and School is an interesting dynamic which has changed over the years. I am delighted that the links are currently strong, with the School supporting the Club in many ways and the Club and individual OIs helping the School. Both the School and the Club need to ensure that this continues by working together realistically: there have been periods during the last 125 years when it has not been the case.

The Sports Festival in 2014 saw some 200 OIs and School pupils playing hockey, netball, five-a-side football and table-tennis at the School's Sports Centre at Rushmere. This is a wonderful facility with, now, three artificial hockey pitches and much more besides. With dry weather, over 50 spectators, good food and a huge dollop of goodwill, we had a memorable day.

The third highlight of 2014 was the 125th anniversary Gaudy. A small sub-committee of OIs plus two members of the School's Development Office worked hard to organise a fitting and memorable event. They succeeded. It was tremendous to work with such a dedicated team. The regular planning meetings were missed after the Gaudy was over. The Gaudy combined the traditional summer lunch, for OIs who left the school more years ago than most of them believe let alone care to remember, with the School leavers' Graduation Service and reception, the renaming of the cricket pavilion as the Cyril Perkins Pavilion, and the main event on the

school field. Over 400 OIs and family members, plus staff and former staff, enjoyed food, music (provided by the School's Big Band) and conversation long into the evening.

“Balancing a full time job with the role of Chairman of the OI Club is interesting. Especially when the job is based in London...”

There are many other positive memories too, of course. The Drinks in the City evenings started before I began my term and have grown and remain popular. I'm pleased to say that, so far, I have been able to attend every one. The London and Ipswich (formal) dinners continue to draw OIs. Last December's dinner at Great School was attended by over 180 guests: a logistical challenge, but what a good one to have.

It has been clear for a while that some long-standing events were less appealing to OIs. As a result, the School v OIs tennis and rounders matches were pulled from the programme. I had hoped to include both at the Sports Festival, but there has (so far) been no demand. The numbers for the OI rugby event are poor. And last year the Sports Festival had fewer participants. Reflection and controlled change is always necessary, as any committee Chairman knows.

Some things were not possible during my Chairmanship. My intention to organise an event for OI musicians to take part in, as a trial to perhaps holding such an event regularly, did not happen despite some outline plans and plenty of interest. Likewise, for an arts event. On the plus side, music was a key feature for two of the President's events during my term. Both were well supported, so this is an area to explore further.

In the area of careers, individual OIs and the Club have always supported and helped each other and current pupils, via the School. The offering needs to be enhanced and freshened, and work on this is well underway with a good team, but finalisation of some new plans has been slower than I hoped. This is an important area which I am optimistic will be developed successfully in the near future.

Balancing a full time job with the role of Chairman of the OI Club is interesting. Especially when the job is based in London and so much liaison needs to take place in Ipswich. The role is time hungry, and yet to make a worthwhile contribution, which was my intention, it is difficult to cut corners. Even arranging the regular eNews take time, although that can be done on the move. Whilst I knew beforehand that the Club has a dedicated committee, I had not fully appreciated just how much they give. Whilst the committee changes to some extent every year, I have been struck by the energy and commitment of the vast majority of the committee members who have served during my time as Chairman. They do not take the easy option in seeking to serve OIs. I have expressed my thanks to them and record it again here.

“The Club is in a good place.”

Service is at the heart of committee work. This is why the focus of the Club's 125th anniversary was an appeal to raise money for our alma mater. The service given by many OIs to ensure that the OI Club is active and relevant should not be underestimated. Nor should the assistance of the School's Development Office. The Club is in a good place. Inevitably there is work to do to move it forward. This is as it should be: the OI Club like any other is made up of its members, and they are all different. Nothing stays the same and one of the reasons the OI Club is so active, effective and relevant is that it does not stand still.

There are many people who have given me wonderful support during my three years as Chairman. If I sought to name them all I would miss a few, which would be wrong. Likewise, to mention just some would be difficult. I will repeat, though, what I said at the last AGM and Ipswich Dinner: without the support, wisdom and encouragement of Sally Webber, Club Secretary during my term as Chairman, and my wife, Helen, I would not have been able to fulfil my term as Chairman of our Club.

– Guy Main
(OI 1969–1979)

OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal



My predecessor as Chairman of the OI Club, James Davey, launched an appeal in June 2012. The 125th anniversary of the founding of the Club was, at that time, two years hence and the appeal looked to mark the event by raising a significant sum from OIs for the School. The original idea as I understand it was to reach the target figure in the anniversary year.

The Club has always aimed to support the School. Indeed, that is one of the Objects of the Club. Due to hard work on the part of a number of people, the School and Club currently have a good rapport. Of course, as individual OIs we owe the School a great deal, and the Club and School continue to offer support to each other.

OIs have given generously to the School over many years. In addition to gifts of money – allowing, for example, the Cyril Perkins Pavilion to be built and, years later, modernised and refurbished – OIs have given their time and skills, and made other resources available. One area in which this is particularly evident is in the careers service the School provides to pupils. Many youngsters have benefitted from the insight provided by OIs at talks and forums, as well as in work experience opportunities set-up by OIs.

The 125th Anniversary Appeal's aim was to raise £1,000,000 for the School. This is a large sum of money, and the task of raising it was not made easier by the general state of the economy, and the sentiment for the near future, at the time of the launch. The sum raised was to be used for sport, bursaries and to assist in building the new music school. Donors were encouraged to nominate one of these three areas for their donation, or to leave the decision to the School on a "greatest need" basis.

As for many fixed assets, constant upgrading is necessary in various areas of the School, and replacement of equipment is often needed. After all, the resources are well used by many pupils,

present and past. Inevitably there are plenty of projects for which funds are required or desired, and the School is to be applauded on regularly looking to improve the facilities available. Of course, sports equipment is always needed, and sums have been donated for this.

The Club and the School recognise that buildings and equipment alone do not constitute a good school. These resources, though, should allow excellent teaching and coaching to give pupils the maximum benefit.

The most immediate requirement for money during most of the period of the OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal has been for the new music school. The School's main music room and the music practice rooms were, until November 2015, in the older part of the Henley Road buildings and were those that I used as a schoolboy. In an earlier times these rooms were I think a boarding house dormitory and part of the Headmaster's house. In any event a new purpose built music school with modern facilities was

badly needed. It is now open and a fine and practical building it is too. A concert hall will be added as phase two of the project, just as soon as the money to complete the construction is available.

As with many schools, there is an increasing desire to assist with the funding of fees for appropriate pupils who would otherwise not be able to join Ipswich School. This is an ongoing and long-term project, and the money so far donated for bursaries is already being used.

Your committee decided late in 2015 that as the new music school – albeit without the concert hall – was built and in full operation, it was time to close the appeal. Deciding the appropriate time to shut an appeal when, as with this one, it had not quite hit the target set, is difficult. A (natural) inclination was to let the appeal run and run, especially as we were optimistic of hitting the target, but appeal fatigue (or something similar) had, we felt, begun to appear. The view was taken that the end of 2015 was an appropriate time to close the appeal but, of course



any further donations will be and are being accepted. Indeed, the donations funding the pavours – stones with the names of OIs which will make a path to the new music school – will go to the appeal, and they are still being sold. The first set of pavours should be laid within 2016, and so if you would like to buy one now would be a good time.

I announced at the Ipswich Dinner in December 2015 that the OI Club had, for some years, been setting aside some funds in preparation for making a donation just before the formal closing of the 125th appeal. At the dinner your immediate past President, Bob Clayton, presented the Headmaster, Nicholas Weaver, with a cheque from the OI Club for £44,000. This is a significant contribution to the OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal and is a demonstration of the commitment of the Club to the School.

The total of money paid and pledged to the School under the appeal was, in December 2015, a magnificent £982,201. Further pavours have been purchased since, and so the total is higher although the exact figure is not yet available from the Foundation Office.

The total raised as at December 2015 was therefore all but £1,000,000 which is a fantastic achievement. By now, we may have reached the target, and we are



all keen to know if we have. Many, many thanks to all OIs who have donated so generously. Quite clearly, the appeal would have failed without you. So thank you very much.

What of the future? The OI Club Committee – either the present one or another (or others) yet to be elected – will have to consider whether or not a similar appeal, or a fundraising initiative on an alternate or different basis, is appropriate and merited at some stage in the future. Now of course is not the occasion for another appeal as such events should, as the 125th appeal was, be exceptional.

The support of the Club for the School will not change although the approach of the Club to raising money for the School may. There are a number of reasons for saying this, of which key is the School's recent (and (I think) first) telephone

campaign to OIs (and others). This has altered the landscape for a Club initiated appeal. Whilst the OI Club is committed to supporting and promoting the School it is not simply a fundraising organisation. Your committee is committed to running OI events, and providing a framework for OIs to meet and support each other, as well as the School. With the School currently seeking funds directly from OIs it would in my view be inappropriate for the Club to also seek to do so.

The OI Club's 125th Anniversary Appeal has been a great success. Huge thanks to all who have donated. The legacy of the appeal is real, in buildings and lives.

– Guy Main
(OI 1969–79)

School House (1955 – 1958)

School House was certainly a harsher regime and could not match the ‘homely’ feel of Westwood. The old school buildings were rather cold with long dark Victorian passages and dormitories were freezing in the winter, no central heating in those days. It was not unknown for toothbrushes to freeze in their cups in Junior Dorm.

My bed was by the fire escape which we regularly shinned down in the evenings to go swimming-all well before the days of health and safety. In Middle Dorm, which consisted of two small rooms separated by a short corridor, I recall snow settling on the end of the beds as windows at both ends of the dormitories had to remain open even in the coldest spells of weather. Unlike Junior Dorm, which had a row of wash basins, washing in Middle Dorm was rather primitive using Victorian bowls on tables in the passageway, water being collected from downstairs.

Beatings by the prefects were a regular occurrence and I was fortunate to only suffer this fate once for misbehaving in prep. Juniors were expected to fag for them. Fagging consisted of making toast on the study passage gas ring, cleaning shoes, making beds, tidying studies and running errands on request. If you were lucky you might receive 10 bob at the end of the term. Under the regime of Senior Prefects the clock was turned back to Rugby School Days when a shout of ‘Fag’ was heard the nearest junior was expected to re-act. In many ways I was fairly lucky as I was allocated as fag to the housemaster ‘Sammy’ Saunders. I recall making his bed every day, running errands to the town (always a good excuse to escape from the boarding house).

“Food was at times pretty awful and rarely seconds..”

Pocket money of one shilling a week



round the walls. The table was used to apply blanco to our CCF kit of belts and gaiters, a weekly chore, and trouser pressing took place in a small room along the corridor. It was this room that led up to a small attic where one of the more dangerous pastimes took place. Dabit Off cleaner was sprinkled on to a handkerchief, the recipient spun violently round before the handkerchief was placed on his nose. I recall it created quite a high with several boys passing

“During 1955 I received cricket coaching from Cyril Perkins and Ian Hammond; took up the trumpet before changing to the piano which I was to abandon two years later; and was put on Sats report by Martin Shortland-Jones for getting 0 out of 50 for a Latin test.”

As a junior one of the roster duties was to ring the bell for meals and another was to participate in the common room fire lighting roster. The worst part of the latter was humping the heavy coals from the bunkers behind the Headmaster’s garage up to the common room. We were allowed to make toast and roasted chestnuts. The common rooms with views to the Arboretum were sparse containing a wooden table in the centre of the room and individual locker seats



out. Junior boys sat near the servers at meal times and plates were passed down the table and back again when empty. Food was at times pretty awful and rarely seconds. We were however at weekends allowed to use up the gravy with bread, a habit that I still enjoy. One of my few dislikes is beetroot. The reason may well go back to the time that one of the caterers, Mildred by name, was dishing out the beetroot from a large cauldron and her nose dripped into it.

“... the assistant housemaster, often stuffed food he didn’t like into an envelope concealed in his pocket.”

Another awful incident was the day that Mermagen, the Headmaster, noticed that scraps of left over gristly meat from boys plates had been piled on to one plate at the end of a table. He made each boy take a plate back and the meat was divided between them. I recall that Clissold, the assistant housemaster,

often stuffed food he didn’t like into an envelope concealed in his pocket.

School assemblies took place in the quadrangle on Mondays and Fridays at about 4.20pm when the Headmaster would address the boys. It was pretty miserable in the cold winter months especially as we would be standing there in semi-darkness. We were summoned, I think, by the ringing of the manual bell. The same bell that at the end of one term we strung a small thread from it across the quad to middle dorm and rang it from time to time during the night.

“At one time I worked in the pavilion operating the small cricket scoreboard and can remember being flattened in the boxing ring.”

During 1955 I received cricket coaching from Cyril Perkins and Ian Hammond; took up the trumpet before changing to the piano which I was to abandon two years later; and was put on Sats report by Martin Shortland-Jones for getting 0 out of 50 for a Latin test. A funny old world as we both now have one of the School Eton Fives courts named after us! Grandfather Fenn often came down to watch the 1st XI school cricket matches against his old school Framlingham. In those days the whole school watched the important matches and I used to get special permission to join him in the avenue. At one time I worked in the pavilion operating the small cricket scoreboard and can remember being flattened in the boxing ring. All School Houseboys were made to enter in order to secure a standards point - School House always won all the sports.

In 1955 I went to H.M.S. Ganges with a party of boys on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary Celebrations. It was also the year in which I first met my to be life-long pal ‘Gaucho’ Jeffery. He was new to boarding and like me had difficulty in relating to some of the harsher aspects of boarding house life. He and I on at least two occasions road our bikes from Ipswich along the A12 to my mother’s bungalow at Dedham a journey that one would not contemplate today.

At the end of the summer term ‘Sammy’ Saunders left the school and ‘Bounce’ Thornbury took over as

House Tutor for School House assisted by Clissold. Saunders made three resolutions before he left - to rub all the Latin names off Stonex’s detention blackboard, drive his car across the ‘sacred’ turf of cricket square and throw a brick through the window of the Headmaster’s garage. I understand that he completed all three tasks although the garage window was open at the time! Thornbury was so called because of his bounce as he walked and upset the Head for regularly wearing shorts when teaching. I remember Clissold coming in to Junior Dorm after lights out carrying a lighted candle to read to us ghost stories.

Academically I finally seemed to wake up and once in the 4th form reports improved term by term - “coming on well, much improved”. Increased maturity and the realisation of the nearness of ‘O’ Levels must have done the trick. German and Maths remained the least impressive and O levels were to prove difficult failing once in English Language and it took several attempts to pass in Maths. Initial success was History, Geography and English Literature.

1956 stands out for several reasons. On 5th February the whole School visited the Odeon cinema to see Sir Laurence Olivier’s film version of Shakespeare’s ‘Richard III’. On March 16th of that year I was confirmed in the School Chapel. It was a big occasion with the Bishop of St Edmundsbury the Rt. Rev. Dr A H Morris conducting the service and tea and cake served in the School Dining Hall.

I remember that mother and I and my three godparents stood by the door from the Headmasters House and were the first to be presented to the Bishop when



he and Headmaster (Patrick Mermagen) entered the room. A few weeks later occurred one of the greater moments in the School’s history when on the 1st of May the Duke of Edinburgh laid the foundation stone of the new Great School.

I remember the rehearsals before the big day which determined where we would all be sitting for the ceremony itself and on the day chasing here there and everywhere with my Brownie box camera - what excitement! The camera was used again in the summer when visiting Paris on a School trip led by Martin Shortland-Jones and Tony Badcock.

1956/57 was at the beginnings of the rock and roll era and although frowned upon by many Thornbury allowed us to listen to the occasional r & r record in between each classical record at his Sunday musical evenings. ‘Rock around the Clock’ with Bill Haley and his Comets and ‘Won’t you bring a Little Water Sylvie’ by Lonnie Donegan spring to mind. Even the headmaster organised an annual musical evening in his drawing room at which the house skiffle group performed. Life in School House was good and by then I had my own study sharing with two other boys and was resident in senior dorm. The only hiccup was I slept through a middle of the night fire drill and some wag answered for me in the roll call.

“On the worst day 178 schoolboys and 7 masters were absent from school.”

1957 was the year of the Asian Flu epidemic when almost half the school became ill. Junior Dorm was full of sick boys and rooms in Mermagen’s private quarters were brought in to use. On the worst day 178 schoolboys and 7 masters were absent from school. This was the year that I ended up in hospital to have a testicle lowered - all rather embarrassing - I recall being visited in hospital by Matron Dixon wearing her full nurses outfit. Geography trips with Spud Marsden were made on Saturday afternoons to the clay pits around Claydon, Bawdsey and Dunwich searching for sharks teeth. In August I went to the Dordogne with Martin Shortland-Jones and Badcock staying in Souillac. Eric Shipton, of Everest fame

visited the School towards the end of the year.

It was during my last few years at the School encouraged by Spud Marsden that I widen my interests from cinema and stamp club to the Scientific Club; Puppet Club run by the Clark twins; 6th form film society; chess club; Literary & Dramatic Society; Geographic Society (I was Treasurer in 1959); and the Farming Association. Spud even persuaded me to take a small part in 'Timon of Athens'.

Chapel played an important part in my school life with form and house services each term, usually attended by mother. Masters always paraded in their gowns and sat at the end of the aisle facing the altar. Prayers in the Lower School were held daily in Donachers and the Seniors in the Chapel. Woe betide any boy who went in to Chapel with dirty shoes or with shoes without toe caps across the front of the shoe. I failed to get in to the choir but was co-opted to pump the Willis organ, look after the choir library and often rang the chapel bell.

Life in the CCF was fun playing soldiers with the Enfield rifles of the First War and stripping and re-assembling Bren guns. I even got to fire a Bren on one of the field trips. I managed to reach the dizzy height of corporal and specialised in teaching map reading. It was always great fun marching the section up Henley Road to the brick fields off Dale Hall Lane where various section activities took place. My old pal John Nash was unable to control his section and I can see them now marching down the Lime Avenue in quick time and him chasing after them trying to catch up. We all undertook regular shooting practice often in the School swimming baths and each term attended a Field Day and each year an Annual Inspection.

I attended two summer camps one in



Bates, Fenn, Hitchcock, Burch

Norfolk at Bodney involving a day/night operation and the other at Catterick in Yorkshire where I had a reasonably cushy number helping Norman, the quarter master, with the stores, a job that I had back at school.

“Being a 6th former somehow gave a feeling of importance.”

Mother always did her best to attend the Commemoration Services, Speech and Sports days and she was particularly proud of me when I received the Senior Geography Prize on Speech Day on the day of the official opening of the new Great School.

I was present when Tubby Clayton, the founder of TOC H, visited the School in January 1958 and preached in the Chapel; Oak Apple Day, an annual event on Charles I's birthday to celebrate his escape from the Roundheads by hiding in an oak tree, took place on 30th May and involved boys not wearing oak apples being thrashed on their bare legs with stinging nettles; and a School Fete was held in the summer.

“With his kind, gentle and thoughtful manner he was a hit with several High School Girls and in particular Lesley Leader.”

By then I was well into my A level History and Geography studies, two of my favourite subjects. The April Geography field trip to the Isle of Skye was to form an important part of our A level necessitating the writing of a 'thesis' about the island. This was to lead to an epic journey in the summer when John Nash and I hitch hiked back to Skye staying at Youth Hostels. The extra material that we gleaned not only helped to secure A level passes but contributed to us receiving jointly the Senior Geography prize.

Being a 6th former somehow gave one a feeling of importance. With 6 O Levels one was entitled to wear a gown, could wear a boater rather than a cap and trusted with free study periods. I often wore a gown when going down in to the town thus avoiding the need to wear a boater.

My diary of the time records that on the 2nd of May 1958 I played my first game of Fives. This was to be the start of my love of this wonderful game, a

game that was to play such an important part in my adult life. Fives, tennis, sailing, rugby and hockey were to be my games options. It was also in 1958 that my partner and I reached the second round of the Suffolk Hardcourt Tennis Championships in the Mixed Doubles held at the Ipswich Lawn Tennis Club. Hockey was not considered a main sport and was played in a voluntary capacity after rugby. A 'privilege' as a 6th former was to patrol the touch line when the school were assembled to watch important inter-school 1st XV rugby matches or 1st XI cricket matches.

One escapade that I got away with was that through a trapdoor in the passage near the new physics laboratory several of us were able to crawl under the school library and then to gain access to the area under the master's common room. I still have a Victorian magazine that had somehow found its way into the space below the library.

School reports were by now quite positive and encouraging "Another steady term. He is developing well as a reliable senior member of the House"

(Thornbury). "Very good all round effort and progress" (Headmaster).

Girls were about to appear on the horizon thanks to my old pal Gaucho. With his kind, gentle and thoughtful manner he was a hit with several High School Girls and in particular Lesley Leader from the Northgate. He was known on occasion to escape from top dorm after lights out! I guess he was the one who introduced me to Delia in July 1958 just before he left the School and my move back to Westwood. I recall that he, Lesley, Delia and I walked round Christchurch Park and that it was the third time round the park before I plucked up enough courage to hold Delia's hand! We were never to become serious boy and girlfriend but we remained good friends and I was always made welcome by her parents in Cotswold Avenue.

Mike Fenn
(OI 1948 – 59)

Carrot or Stick?

Leigh Belcham reflects on past and present approaches to discipline at Ipswich School

Taking the Sherwood Block stairs two at a time, I arrived at the bottom with my eyes fixed on the prefects' noticeboard outside Room 3. And there it was, my worst fears realised. "The following are wanted in the Prefects' Room today at 11.15am: ..." There were only two names, mine and that of a friend with whom I had been caught the previous day, bashing one another with knotted rugger socks. The dull pain in my stomach increased as I walked the walk of the condemned across to Donachers.

“I have to report [Y] to the H M for gross idleness and mischievous conduct. I have caused him to sit by himself to learn his Greek grammar, of which he has not succeeded in learning six anomalous verbs in two entire days...”

It was sometime in 1952, and shortly afterwards the pain in my stomach was replaced by one in my backside. A panel

Approaches to discipline, in both independent and state schools, have certainly changed over the past fifty years. And it seems to me that the change reflects differing approaches to education. An independent school headmaster recently summed it up: "In those days the focus was on keeping pupils under control," he said. "Today we are more concerned with encouraging individual development."

The Ipswich School archives provide fascinating glimpses of an earlier disciplinary regime. Punishment books record all punishments meted out since 1875, together with the offences to which they relate. "Lateness", "idleness", "absent without leave", "disorder", "cribbing", "disgraceful work", and "damaging lockers" were all in evidence in days gone by, and not infrequently merited corporal punishment.

For many years canings were only given by the headmaster. An entry for 1876 reads: "I must earnestly beg the Revd the Head-Master to administer

“Misbehaviour early last century was often recorded in rather general terms such as “bunking off”, “cribbing”, “fooling”...”

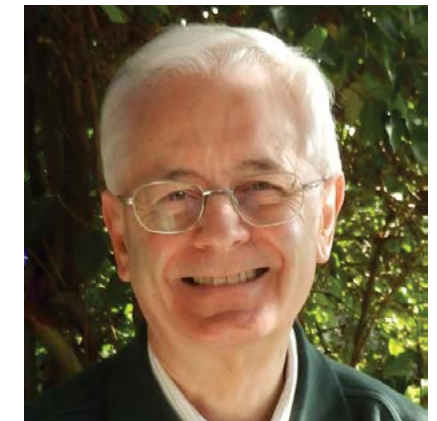
of three prefects determined that we were guilty of fighting, and the prefect who had caught us in the act administered four strokes with a gym shoe.

Several years ago I bumped into that prefect again.

"You probably won't remember," I said, "but you have the distinction of being the only prefect who beat me."

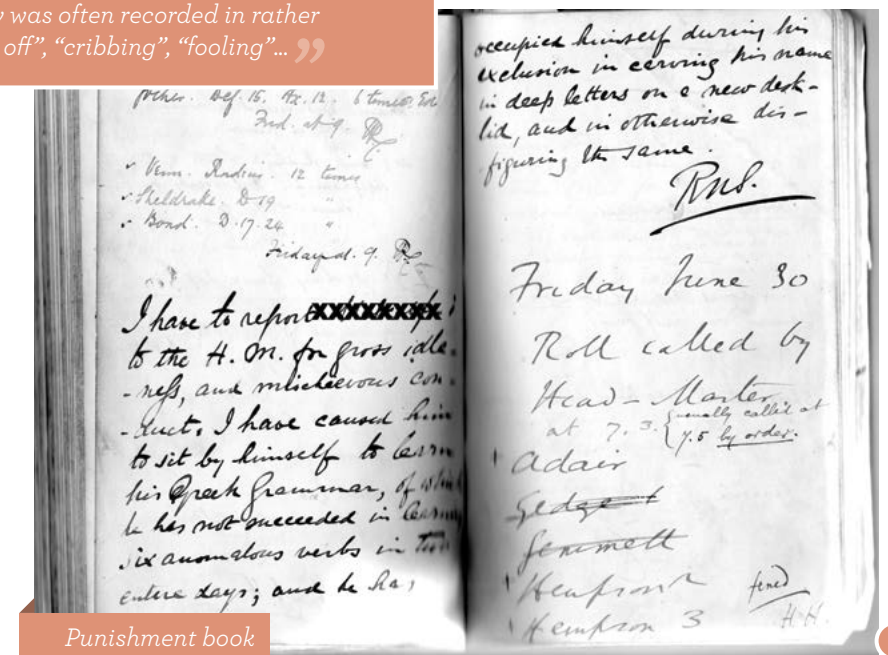
"Well, it didn't do you any harm, did it?" was the quick reply.

That set me thinking. Did it do me any harm? How would I have turned out without the strong discipline we received at school? Were others right in airily dismissing it all as "okay for the time. No-once questioned it."



a caning to [X] for his unsatisfactory work in general (French and German) and for slovenly work in his arithmetic, wherein he makes no progress. I make this request in the conviction that this alone will wake him out of his apathy and indolence." Another master wrote: "I have to report [Y] to the H M for gross idleness and mischievous conduct. I have caused him to sit by himself to learn his Greek grammar, of which he has not succeeded in learning six anomalous verbs in two entire days; and he has occupied himself during his exclusion in carving his name in deep letters on a new desk-lid, and in otherwise disfiguring the same."

“That boy became Charles Sherrington OM, GBE, President of the Royal Society, and noted neurophysiologist and Nobel Prizewinner.”



Punishment book

Writing details of an imposition must sometimes have taken as long as the imposition itself! During 1875, six pupils were required “to translate Livy ix.xxxviii paras 2 – 8 inclusive by 2.30, and to conjugate at full in all tenses and persons every verb in the lesson done this morning. The latter part of this imposition to be given up, half at 9 tomorrow and half at roll-call. Slovenly work or inaccuracy will be rewarded by a similar imposition at roll-call on Saturday.”

What impact – apart from the obvious – did these sanctions have on pupils? How many recognised the error of their ways, applied themselves afresh to study, and achieved success? How many were discouraged, becoming resentful and uncooperative, and failed to achieve their potential?

We can never know for sure, although it was intriguing to read an entry for 1876. A boy was expected to write out “the formula required for the solution of triangles without logarithms 100 times.” Four days later, “the impositions for Tuesday last [were] doubled for neglect.” That boy became Charles Sherrington OM, GBE, President of the Royal Society, and noted neurophysiologist and Nobel Prizewinner.

Edmund Denham Spurrell, who arrived in 1874, had 81 entries between October 1875 and October 1876 and a further 45 between then and March 1877. He was apparently no academic but captained the school cricket 1st XI, and later became a member of the Norfolk Yeomanry, a local councillor and magistrate.

Misbehaviour early last century was often recorded in rather general terms such as “bunking off”, “cribbing”, “fooling”, “slacking”, “bumptiousness” and “vulgarity”. More specific offences included “pea-shooting”, “using catapult”, and “chalking master’s seat”, with a lot of throwing – “throwing sneezing powder about in class”, “throwing explosive caps”, “throwing wood about in Manual [the carpentry workshop]”, and “preparing to throw wet blotting paper”.

Chemistry inspired several illicit

activities. Some were described euphemistically as “unauthorised experiments”, and included “using a pipette as a water pistol”, and “blowing air into the gas system”. Others were “attempting to take chemicals from lab”, “carbide in inkwell”, “having phosphorous in changing room”, and “stealing magnesium ribbon and firing it in changing room”. Other changing room incidents were recorded as “indecent”, “misbehaviour in changing room” and “changing room offence”. One pupil was discovered “reading filthy literature”; another was caught “reading Bible in class”.

“*Pupils will always nibble away at the edges of some rules, with hair alternately too long or too short.*”

Several offences involved an element of danger: “climbing through window of locked classroom”, “putting a red-hot needle on someone’s neck”, “exploding cartridge in Manual”, and “reported by police for dangerous riding”. Finally, in January 1956, someone was punished for an “excessive number of pants worn to the Prefects’ Room”, for which he received a further three strokes of the cane.

Not all misdeeds led to beatings, although boys on the receiving end of some of the sanctions would probably have preferred it if they had. One entry required two boys, “who failed to show up their 200 lines at roll-call on Wednesday, to show up 400 of the viith book of the Aeneid tomorrow at 4 o’clock.” Another was given “100 lines for talking; 100 lines for arguing the point,” and another “300 lines of Homer’s Iliad 23rd Book for bullying by Saturday at 4 o’clock”. As for failing to treat spiritual matters with suitable gravitas, the punishments would probably have proved counter-productive. Seven boys, “absent from Chapel” in December 1875, had to “write out Morning Psalms and give them to me in person at 9.” Let’s hope the boy who, in 1875, had to “write out Psalm 1” really did heed the last verse: “...the Lord watches over the way of

the righteous, but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.”

Corporal punishment was maintained until well after the Second World War, but seems to have dropped off steadily during the late 1960s and very early 1970s. Prefects ceased beating boys on 21st October 1968, although a Prefects’ Punishment Book was maintained after that date with details of punishments given and certified periodically by the headmaster. After the late John Blatchly’s appointment as head in 1972, canings by staff dwindled significantly. The last two canings seem to have been in 1978, with the final entry for “repeated misconduct and dishonesty ...Three strokes of a cane were witnessed by another member of staff and the culprit examined afterwards by Matron.”

During John Blatchly’s headship the school further developed what might be termed the liberalisation of its approach to disciplinary matters. This continued under Ian Galbraith, who succeeded John in 1992.

“Self-discipline based on a desire to ‘do the right thing’”, said Ian, “was overwhelmingly more important at Ipswich School in the ‘nineties and



Collection of canes

‘noughties’ than a them-and-us atmosphere.

“Pupils will always nibble away at the edges of some rules, with hair alternately too long or too short, shirts not tucked in, and ties at half-mast being some of the favourites of this period. A consistent approach from teachers, who may naturally be at the firm or soft end of the disciplinary spectrum, was a target, but always with an understanding of individual circumstances. Pupils respect sensible and fairly-applied rules, and respect teachers more if they feel this respect is reciprocated. This is in marked contrast to the dismissive way in which teachers sometimes thought of (and addressed) their pupils when I started in the profession in the 1970s.”

“In the nineties, Headmaster’s Detention on a Saturday morning was the most severe sanction, other than rarely used temporary or permanent exclusions,” said Ian, adding that the most significant challenge during his time as head was probably the emergence of cyber-bullying, “an ongoing issue for all schools.” But he was sure that work-related sanctions for homework not handed in and the like were far more common during that period than sanctions for bad behaviour, and paid tribute to “the very considerate and sensible behaviour of Ipswich School pupils”. He also explained that in an era of increased regulation, when there apparently had to be a policy for everything, the school drew up (and from time to time, amended) a Discipline Policy. This list of prohibitions was balanced, following consultation with staff and pupils, with a Code of Conduct setting out the good behaviour and attitudes aspired to.

Ian concluded, “One of the delights of being a Headmaster at Ipswich School was that, although serious disciplinary incidents inevitably occurred from time to time, the school’s friendly atmosphere meant that we could almost always focus on far more positive – and important – matters.”

The school’s present head, Nick Weaver, agreed. “Sanctions today are rather more humane than formerly,” he said. “There is, of course, some element of deterrent, but it is also important that we use any ‘punishment’ as an

opportunity for reflection and a chance to correct a pattern of unacceptable behaviour.

“Where a pupil had appeared frequently in punishment books in the past, today we would be looking at a more general intervention, trying to understand why a pattern of behaviour was not being corrected. This may well expose other issues,” said Nick, “such as problems at home, self-esteem or peer group issues, which are working themselves out in bad behaviour. Through our pastoral care system, we have many ways of supporting our youngsters in getting back on an even keel. The approach is very much, ‘love the person, hate the sin.’”

So did that beating in 1952 do me any harm? It’s hard to say. However, I suspect that the disciplinary regime at that time led many of us to regard teachers and

prefects more as authority figures than people who had our best interests at heart. The motivation for learning for some was all too often keeping on the right side of those in authority; for others it was the challenge of getting away with as much as possible! Both hindered our entering fully into the learning experience, acutely aware of its lifetime benefits.

“*...they were probably expecting a caning.*”

One thing I do know for sure: If we saw someone standing outside the headmaster’s study in the 1950s, they were probably expecting a caning. Today they would more likely anticipate congratulation for academic or sporting achievement.

A Far Cry

Year 12 pupil Rupert Everett-Beecham finds some surprises in the school’s historic punishment books.

There were certainly a few ‘original’ punishments in the 19th Century, which I think it’s fair to say we’re glad we don’t see today – “canings administered for slovenly arithmetic,” “writing 70 lines of Shakespeare,” “conjugating all tenses and persons for every Latin verb in the previous lesson”. In all honesty, late PSC [homework] seems a fairly rational reason for a punishment, when compared with the terrible habit of “retiring to their dormitories for the night without putting on slippers” by some in June 1876. Writing out bible readings was the punishment for those who dared to not put on the appropriate footwear!

For “gross idleness and mischievous conduct,” instead of perhaps a red card or a detention which would be expected today, the unfortunate few who behaved in such a way in June 1876 suffered through writing out bible

readings and divinity papers. Other interesting entries, which included “throwing potatoes out of bus” and “driving my car,” along with “reading the bible in lesson” would not appear in a punishment book today.

During the 1930s there were on average 6 to 10 beatings per term, but it seems quite a number misbehaved in the Easter term of 1945 as 46 beatings were given. Slowly, however, beatings became less common, and by the late 1960s there were very few. So it remained until 1978 when the last entry was made for “repeated misconduct and dishonesty” with two strokes of the cane witnessed. It was all a far cry from the more reasonable Ipswich School of today, where a Headmaster’s Detention on a Saturday is reserved for the most serious offences.

'It's the Freakiest Show...' – the David Bowie tribute that went viral

"What does it feel like to go viral?"

A question that I never thought I would have the experience to answer.

Yet, following the passing of David Bowie in January, a video of me performing Life on Mars on the organ in his memory, filmed by a colleague at St Albans Cathedral, was viewed millions of times across the world on social media. The video became a global news story, appearing in Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, India, America and across Europe. The entire affair led me to reflect on how fortunate I am to be pursuing a career as an organist, following a passion for church music that began at Ipswich School.

"I am very grateful to Andrew Leach and William Saunders for all the opportunities they gave me during my time at school."

I started to learn the organ with William Saunders in Year 8. I quickly fell in love with the instrument, and William gave me much encouragement. His first piece of advice for me was to join the Chapel Choir, and it is there that I encountered the Anglican choral tradition for the first time. It was an unknown language to me at first: the concept of the many different settings of the canticles, beginning to understand Anglican chant and becoming used to the structure of the service of Choral Evensong. Two years later, I joined the choir at St Mary-le-Tower, which continued to broaden my knowledge of music within the liturgy. Throughout my time at Ipswich School, I was given a number of opportunities to develop my skills: playing for weekly chapel services, accompanying the Chapel Choir on a regular basis and taking sectional rehearsals. The annual Chapel Choir tour, especially week-long residencies at Winchester and Salisbury Cathedrals, cemented the feeling that

this – making music in a liturgical context, inside a wonderful Cathedral building and as part of a centuries-old tradition – was something that I would love to consider my profession. I am very grateful to Andrew Leach and William Saunders for all the opportunities they gave me during my time at school. Their encouragement to me gave me a platform for all that I have experienced in the last six years.

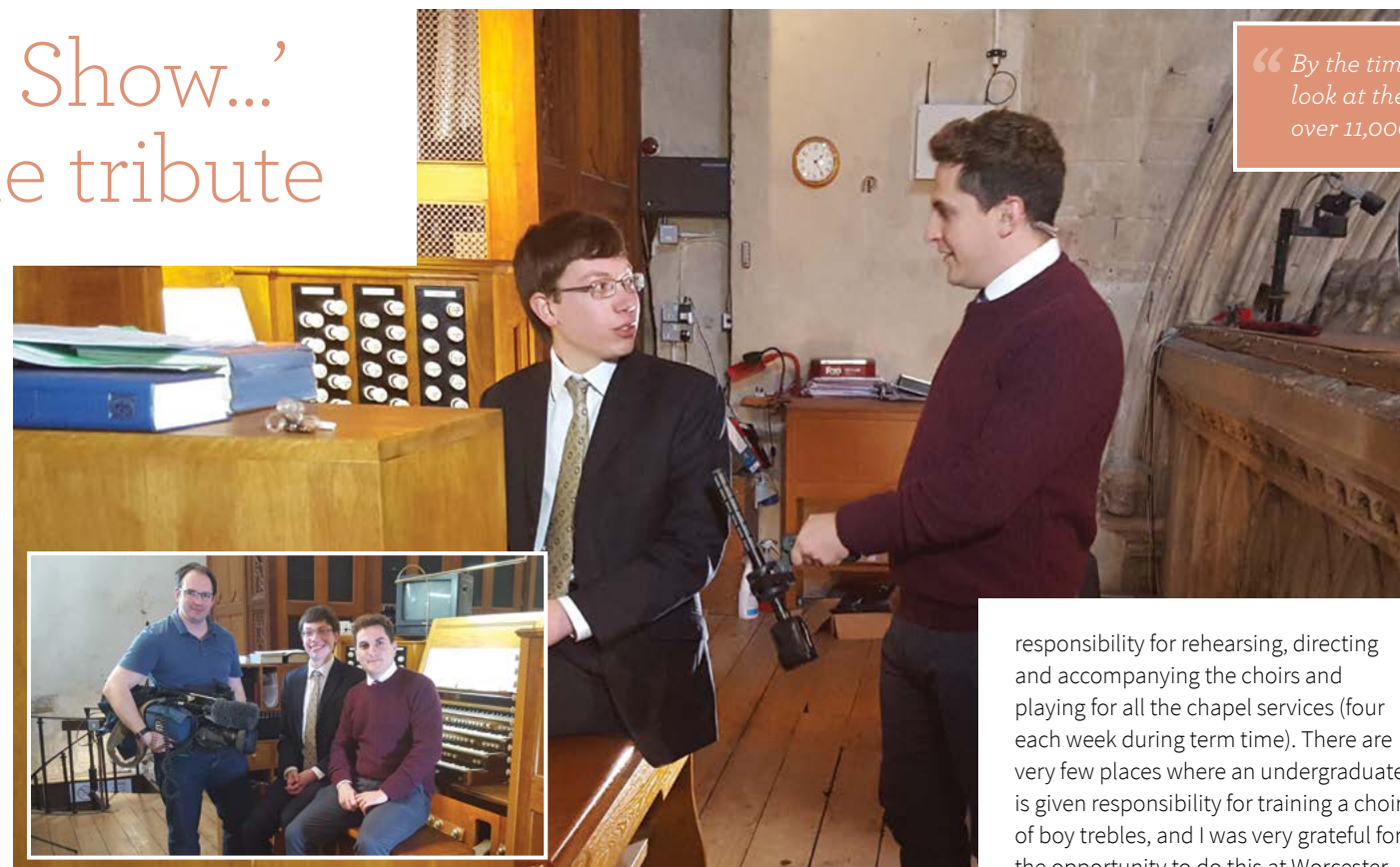
Upon leaving school in the summer of 2010, I took up the gap-year position of Organ Scholar at Tewkesbury Abbey. Tewkesbury Abbey has a unique



choral set-up: the choir school is located over ten miles away from the Abbey, in Cheltenham. My job involved working in the Dean Close School music department during the day, before travelling with the choristers to Tewkesbury for Evensong. I played for services in Tewkesbury Abbey and Dean Close School Chapel, took chorister rehearsals and took on many other duties within the thriving music department.

"There are very few places where an undergraduate is given responsibility for training a choir of boy trebles, and I was very grateful for the opportunity to do this at Worcester."

I was next appointed to the Organ Scholarship at Worcester College, Oxford, where I read for a degree in music between 2011 and 2014. Alongside the rigour of the Oxford music course, which brought me a great deal of knowledge in many different areas, the college organ scholarship gave me the opportunity to work very closely with two choirs: one of boy trebles and one of undergraduates. The three organ scholars took complete



"By the time that I logged onto Facebook to look at the video, it had already been viewed over 11,000 times."

responsibility for rehearsing, directing and accompanying the choirs and playing for all the chapel services (four each week during term time). There are very few places where an undergraduate is given responsibility for training a choir of boy trebles, and I was very grateful for the opportunity to do this at Worcester. My final year (when I was Senior Organ Scholar and thus had responsibility for administering the choir's year) coincided with the college's tercentenary, which led to a number of very exciting projects: tours to Germany and Italy, two CD recordings (one of which received the accolade of BBC Music Magazine Christmas Choice), a broadcast on BBC Radio 4 and a celebratory concert in St John's Smith Square.

I have continued to work in cathedral music since graduating, first as Senior Organ Scholar at Wells Cathedral and now at St Albans Cathedral. My current role in St Albans sees me accompany the Abbey Girls Choir and assist in the accompaniment of the Cathedral Choir. I also accompany the Parish Singers and direct the Abbey Singers, a choir of teenage former choristers.

"... the idea was raised that we could put on a musical tribute to David Bowie."

When I woke up on the morning of Monday 11th January, the first week of a new Cathedral term, I had no hint of how the week ahead would turn out. As I was about to leave the house for the

morning chorister practice, I heard the news break on the radio that David Bowie had died. I immediately recognised the significance of this news: Bowie was a musician who had transcended genre, pushed all artistic boundaries and written some of the best songs that would ever be written.

Later that morning, in conversation with a couple of colleagues, the idea was raised that we could put on a musical tribute to David Bowie. This would be a reflection of the mood of the local community that St Albans (uniquely placed as both a Cathedral and parish church) serves. Our very talented marketing department suggested that it would be a good idea to film the performance and share it on the Cathedral's social media channels. With the relevant permissions sought (I would not have wanted to play David Bowie on the Cathedral organ without permission from the Dean and the Master of the Music!), the performance was planned: at 4pm I would play Life on Mars in this most unusual context. The performance was attended by a number of cathedral staff and visitors around the building stopped in their tracks to listen to the music emanating from the organ.

It was only when I got home after Evensong that I had any idea what was transpiring on social media. By the time that I logged onto Facebook to look at the video, it had already been viewed over 11,000 times. It was rapidly being shared and there were many appreciative comments. Amongst a number of comments asking the identity of the organist, I left a comment from my personal Facebook account identifying myself. By the end of the week, that comment would have over 7,000 likes and over 900 replies. It quickly became apparent that our tribute was being appreciated by David Bowie fans across the globe and had touched a chord with many people grieving the loss of a musical icon. The video was eventually viewed over 4 million times across Facebook and YouTube, and the 'reach' of the Facebook video was over 12 million.

The following morning, I awoke to find my phone bombarded by Facebook messages. Some were from Bowie fans who had wanted to get in touch with me personally to thank me for the tribute, whilst many others were from journalists who wanted an interview. The video was now a news story, part of the Bowie tributes that were leading the news cycle. ITV News came to the Cathedral to film me playing the piece live on the lunchtime news. I gave a number of interviews to BBC Local Radio stations, including one package that was played out nationally as part of BBC Local's religious programming. The video was featured on all the major British newspaper websites and the BBC website. A search on Google News proved staggering – media outlets on no fewer than four continents were reporting on the video.

"My phone was lit up with notifications from Facebook, Twitter..."

So, what does it feel like to go viral? I found that events moved so quickly that the enormity of the reaction did not sink in. Within hours of recording the video, it had been viewed thousands of times and been shared by the likes of Classic FM, the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music and Channel 4 News. My phone was lit up with notifications from Facebook, Twitter and personal messages for days on end. The entire week was incredibly surreal and I feel that I won't truly recognise its significance for some time yet.

But right from the start, I felt honoured and humbled that so many people saw the video and felt it a suitable tribute for such an important artist. It makes me incredibly grateful to be working in such an inspiring place with talented and passionate colleagues. It also makes me reflect on the career I have had since leaving Ipswich School and my gratitude to all I encountered there who gave me the best possible start to what has been a wonderful journey.

– Nicholas Freestone
(OI 2003 – 2010)



2016 Marathon des Sables

257km is a long way. Or, to put it in context, Ipswich to Bath as the crow flies. To drive 257km takes a while, to cycle it takes absolutely ages and to run it...well, it's about six-and-a-half marathons.

The Marathon des Sables (MdS) – billed as the toughest footrace on earth – is 257km. And it is six-and-a-half marathons, back-to-back, over six-and-a-half days. It's also through the Sahara desert, up and down sand dunes, carrying all your food and equipment. 4,000 people have climbed Everest; 11,000 have made it to the finish of the MdS. And, despite my other career in the GBR Speed Ski team, I don't fancy Everest. But the MdS, for some reason, did appeal as a challenge.

“Each day starts with Patrick dancing on top of a Land Rover, while AC/DC's 'Highway to Hell' pumps out of the PA system.”

Started in 1984 by a French concert promoter called Patrick Bauer who wandered off into the desert (one suspects as a very extreme form of cold turkey), the race has grown, with 1250 people being accepted for the 2016 edition. Only 1150 made it to the start line and 973 made it to the finish line. This edition was also the longest-ever run, and had a particularly uncomfortable combination of sandstorms with 50mph winds and 43C temperatures.

Despite being started by a Frenchman, run by a French company, located in Morocco, and open to competitors from all around the world, the UK is massively over-represented. I'm told that the number of Brits is artificially capped, otherwise we'd crowd out all the other nations. A tribute to the particular British psyche, and an endorsement of Englishmen being Mad Dogs.

Each day starts with Patrick dancing on top of a Land Rover, while AC/DC's 'Highway to Hell' pumps out of the PA system. Then the gun, and off you disappear into the unforgiving desert carrying your rucksack and three litres of



water to get you to the first checkpoint. Water management is key to the race – it is strictly rationed – and there is a fine line to getting it right. If you run too fast, there's a chance of overcooking and getting your body temperature so high that it spirals out of control and you're out of the race, with the hefty entry fee and a year of training wasted. Too slow, and you will either not make the checkpoint cut-off deadlines and be retired, or you'll spend too much time in the baking sun and use up all your water before the next checkpoint.

“The huge generosity of friends and family (including many OIs) meant we didn't want to let anyone down by not finishing.”

I've never been much of a runner. I always suffered through the Fynn Valley cross-country at school. I was a sprinter,



and after 200m I tended to run out of puff. But since school, I've got into triathlons as a typical mid-life crisis response. When I found I started enjoying them, I began to increase the challenge. Olympic triathlon: check. Half-Ironman (a double Olympic): check. Full Ironman (4km swim, 180km cycle then a marathon): double check. The danger of upping the stakes continually on these events is that there is always one harder. And for me, the ultimate challenge was the MdS.

Standing on the start line in April, I was confident that Ossy, my running partner, and I could make it to the end. While we were far from the sinewy frames of the pro ultra-runners surrounding



us, we're both reasonably fit and very determined. We knew we weren't going to challenge for the lead, our priority was to finish. We were raising money for Macmillan Cancer Nurses, as both our fathers have suffered with cancer, and my dad was going through chemotherapy for a particularly aggressive case while I was running. The huge generosity of friends and family (including many OIs) meant we didn't want to let anyone down by not finishing.

“Ossy and I were slurring our words from a combination of sleep and energy deprivation, and we'd had to down all our remaining painkillers to get us across the line.”

While not distance runners, both Ossy and I could knock out a flat UK marathon in about 3 hours 45 min or so, but the reality in the desert is very different. In the heat of the Sahara, each marathon was taking us around eight hours. To put it in context, the time limit per day was around thirteen hours, and the winners were doing them in an incredible four hours.

One benefit each successive day was weight, or the reduction thereof. While our packs started off weighing 10kg, they got lighter as we ate through the food we had to carry with us. And we were also losing body weight fast: the effort meant we were burning around 7000 calories a

day, but to save weight we only had 2,700 or so in food supplies.

The downside was that our health suffered. It's one thing to run a marathon; it's another to get up after four hours' sleep in a sandstorm and do it all over again. And, despite all the preparation, customised shoes, foot strapping and sand repelling gators, the blisters still came. Mine started on Day Two and I suffered badly. My right knee and left ankle also started to give up halfway through and became progressively more painful and debilitating, and I'd had a desert thorn punch straight through the sole of my right trainer and puncture my foot on Day 2.

Then there was the ultimate test: the 'Ultra'. On Day Four we were doing two marathons back to back – a distance of 85km, with 1000m of vertical climb – basically climbing to the top of Snowdon from sea level. Starting at 9am, we arrived at 5am the next day, and it was brutal.

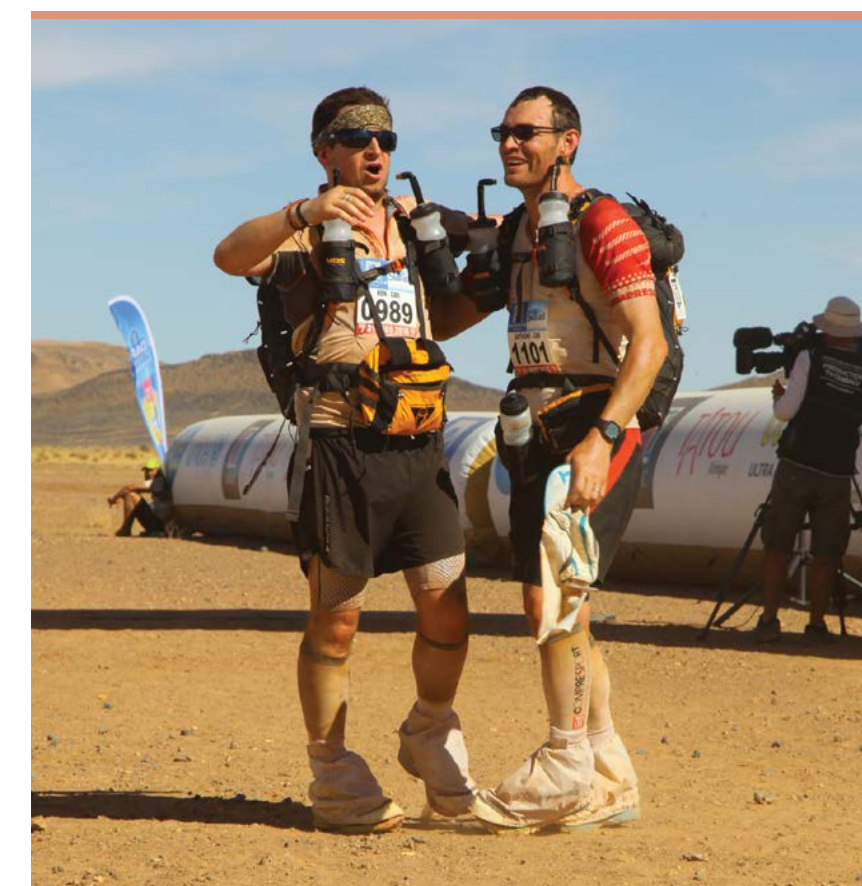
Some people were still arriving at 5pm that day. The final marathon and a half almost felt like an afterthought, and my worsening injuries meant they were particularly painful, but once we had done the Ultra, the finish was in sight.

Crossing the line was a mixture of exhilaration and relief. We ran the last few km and while we could see the finish from 8km away, it seemed to take an age to get there. Both my feet were agony, Ossy and I were slurring our words from a combination of sleep and energy deprivation, and we'd had to down all our remaining painkillers to get us across the line. A live webcam meant friends and family could see us stagger across the finish after more than 53 hours of running, we embraced and I think we both shed a small tear. I don't know if it was relief, pride or something else entirely.

So we made it. In the top 600 of the 1150 starters, which was beyond our wildest dreams. Would I recommend it? As an experience, a resounding 'Yes', but you need to go into it with your eyes wide open which we did. For fun? Definitely not. Would I do it again? No chance.

And finally - the one question everyone asks is: 'What's next?'. Watch this space...

– Ben Hedley
(OI 1983 – 95)



2016 London Marathon

Everyone has a different motive for running their first marathon. Indeed, any subsequent marathon too.

The London Marathon perhaps attracts more people who would not usually consider themselves runners. The event is shamelessly one of the biggest charity fundraising days of the year. That is reason enough to take part for many people, some of whom have amazing stories which explain their motivation. For others the challenge is completing the course, or beating a certain time. And there are other reasons too.

I ran the London Marathon in 2016. My reason was simple. I wanted to know if I could. For quite a number of years I have wanted to run or, rather, attempt to run, a marathon, and it had to be London's



event. I have worked in London for most of my life. I lived there for a long time. The attraction of the legendary crowd support and carnival atmosphere meant that for my first marathon I was not going to contemplate anywhere else.

Every year some quarter of a million people apply for a place via the ballot. When, after some 6 years of seeking one, I was given such a place there was plenty of motivation to use it well. Which was necessary. My first two mile run 6 months before the "big day" hurt a good deal. The build up to being able to run a far enough distance that allowed me to think that I might actually be able to get round the marathon course took time. A long time. I'm not as young as I was. Winter early mornings were cold, dark and uninviting. The ground was too hard, soft or mud. But as my daughter kindly reminded me once in a while: "no pain, no gain". There was pain.

"Towards the end of the course I saw people who could barely stand gathered firmly between two other runners, who ensured that the sufferer completed the course."

There is a rumour that Suffolk is flat. Much of it isn't. This rumour sometimes extends to the area of the Essex/Suffolk borders, where we live. The rumour is just that. Still, the hills are useful for endurance training, or so I was told. The London Marathon course is largely flat, and on the day that came as a welcome relief to the inclines of some of my training runs. The endurance comment turned out to be true.

What else did I learn in preparation and training? That the need for proper running shoes is real. Wow, they help. I also discovered that people are so,

so supportive, runners, ex-runners and non-runners alike. The tips I received saved pain and effort: many thanks to you all. A frequently asked question was: "Who are you running for". When I explained that I wanted to know if I could get round the course, the usual response was: "Yes, but which charity are you supporting". I therefore changed my initial plan and instead raised some money for Colchester Street Pastors, with whom I am involved and which is a great local cause. Many thanks to all those who generously donated. You have funded a huge chunk of a year's activities of Colchester Street Pastors.

In advance, the publicity for the 2016 London Marathon was greater than usual. The organisers knew that the one millionth finisher since the first London Marathon in 1981 would cross the finish line on 24 April this year. So why not push the publicity under the hashtag #oneinamillion? I wasn't the one millionth finisher: that person finished an hour after me.

What of the day itself? The organisation of the event is exceptionally good. My fellow runners were friendly, understanding when bumped into, and encouraging. Those (me included) who at times found the going tough received kind words and an entreaty to push on from other runners. Towards the end of the course I saw people who could barely stand gathered firmly between two other runners, who ensured that the sufferer completed the course. And the supporting crowds were just magnificent. From the start to the finish people lined the route, often several deep. In Greenwich, for example, there was just small "tunnel" left for the runners: it was almost overwhelming.

"...the London Marathon transformed people into kind, encouraging and supportive people."

The sweets, drinks and above all the noise of the huge vocal support provided over 26.2 miles was phenomenal. Especially the noise. Support for individual runners was amazing. I received a great deal, helped entirely by my shirt which named me as "The Main Guy". The crowd liked that! And on

top was the noise of singers and bands down the route of the course. The run was one thing and yet despite all the training the carnival atmosphere and support was at a much higher level. For both runners and those watching, the London Marathon transformed people into kind, encouraging and supportive people. It was uplifting to experience.

"...marathon running could be addictive... but I have not fallen for it."

You will have gathered that I finished the course and so became #oneinamillion. That was my aim, and so I was (and am) quite happy. My running time is not important. Really. And yet, I now know that if I had trained a little differently I could have completed the course 20 to 30 minutes quicker. But that would demand a huge number of hours running the non-flat roads and lanes of Constable country and its environs. I persuaded myself not to enter the ballot for the 2017 London Marathon, but my younger son is now inspired to run the course when he hits the minimum age allowed, so that might (only might) be the time for me to have another go. Or it might not.

I can see that marathon running could be addictive. It's quite a good addiction, but I have not fallen for it. Yes, I have kept running, but not so frequently now there is no target. So I need another challenge, perhaps.

During the past few months I have learned a great deal and perhaps been reminded of a number of things I had not thought about for a while. Such as, things that initially seem daunting, if not impossible, are achievable with the right approach and training. That the support of family is crucial. That the right footwear is essential. And that over 39,000 runners plus countless thousands supporting them can give each other a huge lift by their positive, encouraging and noisy (or quiet) vocal support.

That, above all, is my London Marathon memory to run with.

– Guy Main
(OI 1969–1979)

Richard Staines recalls life, school and otherwise, in the Fifties.

Peter Boughton, Development Director, nodded encouragingly.

In a weak moment and over a drink or two at Bob Duncan's President's Party I suggested offering some written personal reminiscences of School in the 1950s.

Later, having arrived home, I privately demurred; the task would demand patient trawling through obscure corners of personal long-term memory banks. Moreover, others had written on the area so what could I contribute to this overworked genre that had not been previously stated?

People tell me I possess a very good memory. Being a musician by training and education – I have worked in eight different schools, all highly variegated in atmosphere, aspiration and temperament – might well, of itself, have helped to promote this capability. Although not primarily a performing pianist there were numerous occasions that did demand the memorising of specific pieces some technically easy, others less so. Maybe these junctures helped to develop the memorising capacity. I can't be sure about that. But recall operates highly selectively, for while it's easy to bring to mind the content and details of lectures and lessons given at the Royal Academy of Music in the 1960s and subsequently at the Middlesex Polytechnic and the Institute of Education in the 1980s and 1990s and later, I am ashamed to admit I have only the haziest of recollections of the lessons personally given for over three decades to pupils.

Memories of the 1950s fade only reluctantly, if at all. As those who lived through it will tell, the era possessed a singular quality. By the early part of the decade the rationing of food, clothing and other luxury goods had become a way of life, and to some extent the cultural values of a pre-War society remained intact. A social and cultural hierarchy, mostly self-policed with members of different classes rarely willing or able to move into

alternative social groupings, remained normative. Particularly noticeable, and for the most part also unquestioned, was the sharp division existing between high culture and mass culture, a disjunction which tended to reflect class-based differences. It was only by the late 1950s and 1960s that these features came under critical scrutiny.

Who would want to re-live that decade? Open any fashion magazine of the time and somewhere there will be a certain sinister silhouette: men with unbelievable hair like that of the younger Kingsley Amis, crimped in tight waves across their skulls; gigantic adults, wide thick trousers, bumpy feet in wide open-work sandals, women of the decade, with their New Look skirts and perky accessories – little hat, matching gloves – their existence on a par with cats: attractive, silent, unsuited to public life. These fragmentary, infantile and panic-inducing images as I remember of a fifties Britain inevitably recall a miasma of tedium emanating almost from the pavement. It was a decade whose restoration one does not pine for. Others, finding today's bewildering incertitude hard to stomach, will disagree.

My life at Ipswich School lasted from 1951 to 1963. Twelve years is a long time to spend in any one school, and to some such a span might appear excessive, perhaps, to use the word pejoratively, an 'eternity'. To me it did seem very long, but to a child, half a decade feels like half a century. I knew little else in those days but the twin micro worlds of school and home, and it never occurred to me at the time to 'assess' the merit or otherwise of what School was offering as lacking were any available and applicable criteria with which to do so; no objective, externally based measuring yardstick was readily at hand, no Archimedean point. In the main,

the time there was spent enjoyably and I remain grateful to those who taught me and for what I learnt. Main School fees in 1953 were £75 per annum. Later, and coinciding with entry to upper school in September 1955, the termly outlay for tuition amounted to £52. A small mental gallery of disconnected static images, mostly recurring flash-backs of trivia, have proved stubbornly imperishable: Form B2's inspection of catkins in Christchurch Park in Miss Mitten's 1951 Prep school Nature Study classes; the telephone bell obtrusively disturbing the peace of Mr. Gleave's morning prayers in the main hall of 35 Henley Road; the imperturbable brown-coated caretaker, Mr. Clutterham, who rang another bell punctuating the day into lesson times, and whose wife dispensed cream buns in break and after school; Mr. Grice in 1956 at the Sports Day heats repeatedly calling out 'no jump' to first and second formers by the long jump pit at the top of School Field; playing rugby, admittedly half-heartedly, in a team called 'Spartans' on the 'Top Field' in blizzards and horizontal hail; the sudden appearance of the reflecting telescope carried out from the Physics department to the Quad by 'Puffy' Briden to observe the partial solar eclipse of February 15, 1961; the stifling heat of Speech Day and the red-faced Chairman of the Governors, Sir Frank Mason tapping and testing the microphone on the Great School stage with the timorously posed inquiry put to the audience: 'Can you hear me?'; the Annual CCF Inspection and the juvenile paltriness of a hastily manufactured reply to the somewhat disarming question unexpectedly posed whilst on parade by Field-Marshal Sir Claude Auchinleck: 'Do you enjoy being in the CCF?'; 'Well, I like camp'; an afternoon visit to Cliff Quay generating station, then only its fourteenth year of operation – did we

play makeshift cricket on the roof in the shadow of the three big chimneys, now alas demolished?

In front of me are my school reports for those years I spent in Upper School, whilst those pertaining to the years spent in the Preparatory Department were donated to Archives some time ago. What is aphoristically written on these surviving relics conveys an unmistakeable tone, a period style. They are very much of their time. In having remained the principal pedagogical mainstay of traditional classrooms and traditional teachers, the didactic teacher-centered model was the dominant mode of instruction: a pedagogy of immutable facts, of right and wrong answers, embodying a disciplined approach to knowledge and enquiry that was to be found in every classroom and always with the balance of agency weighing heavily towards the man [sic] in the front.

Reports for the first three years in History say it all: 'He has done quite well in his quiet way', a verdict followed in the next term by 'fair progress; I think he could do a little better', and then for Michaelmas 1957, when I was 13.7 years old, the appearance of Holden Housemaster Donald Pegg's devastating broadsides: 'poor results generally, unless he has unlimited time; tests during term on work supposed to have been learnt have been bad. One detention', together with the observation relating to time spent in Form III E1: 'he showed considerable inventive talent of an unhistorical nature in his examination'. Seeing this comment again over fifty-seven years later reminds me of the report the actor Peter Ustinov received in 1939 from Westminster: 'He shows great originality, which must be curbed at all costs'. My problems with Mathematics

were considerable, and according to Clissold, the manual instructor who taught it to the lower set, the subject remained 'a great burden to him'. Even my performance in music, when only 12.7 years old, left something to be desired, John Ince, the then Director of Music opining: 'he really must make an effort to breathe properly and develop more tone. Quality must come before quantity, but this can be overdone'. Brian Mills in Geography noted that 'he travels along with us, but too often seems to get left behind by the way'. 'I have,' noted Pegg in the Lent Term, 1958, 'seen him putting up a performance on the Athletics track much better than he would have led me to expect,' and: 'he is to be congratulated on his effort in the Athletics Standards'.

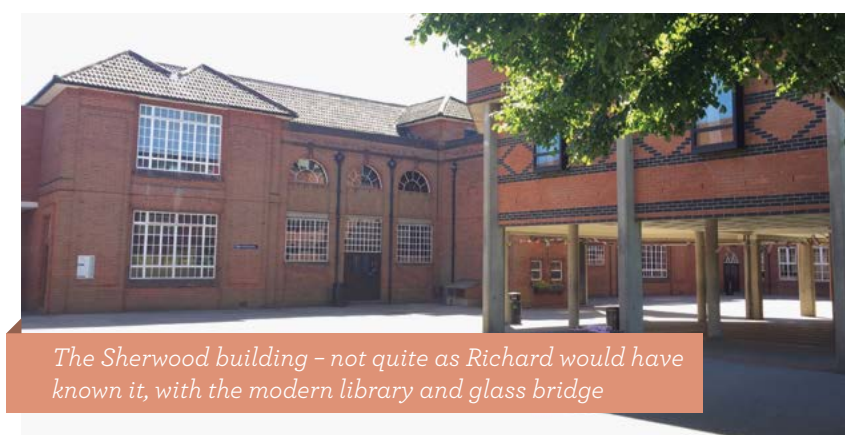
Why do I keep these ancient period pieces whose various scripts stare back accusingly with a mixture of reproach and irrelevance? Documents of remoteness, they bespeak a world and a set of experiences antipodean and wholly unallied to the life that was to come. In their way, of course, they were intended at the time to be well-meaning sources of advice and encouragement as well as of criticism, and they do contain favourable comments. But styles of school reporting have undoubtedly vastly changed, certainly for the better. These terse, elliptical vignettes that my parents received and over which they puzzled three times a year were snap-shots – and like all snap-shots they quickly dated: the hasty, reactive, possibly insufficiently thought-out quip commenting on, or even dismissing a pupil's work has become, I suspect, a thing of the past.

Sherwood Block, which became fully operational in January, 1934, was where most of it happened. These days, when

I visit School, Cloisters is almost always inaccessible and locked, but a brief indulgence in private quasi-Proustian time-travelling is just possible if one can muster enough courage to stare westwards in wonderment along the entire length of the ground corridor through the window of the door by the Ivory Street entrance. The allocation of rooms – who taught what, and where – seems to have been etched in eternity: classrooms 1 to 5 on the ground floor were occupied, in numerical order, by 'Cabby' Stonex (Latin and Classics); Peter Hill (History and Broke House); the Chaplain, 'Taffy' R. Jones, then Bill Hussey (Divinity and History); James Young and Martin Shortland-Jones (Latin, Classics and Rigaud House) and finally Donald Pegg (History, Current Affairs and Holden House). On the first floor were 6 to 10, ruled over by 'Spud' Peter Marsden (Geography), Brian Mills (Geography), 'Poppa' T.B. Job (French and Sherrington House), 'Narky' Sullivan (French and Felaw House) and lastly Martin Southwood, followed later by the urbane Trevor Stratford (English). An obscure, little-visited and intriguing corridor, out of bounds to boys, structurally connected Room 10 to the gymnasium (George Notcutt and John Nicholson), the place where, on the final lesson of the term, we played 'Shipwrecks', an activity presented as a treat and involving the use of every item of apparatus around and over which we tore around, trying to eschew both touching the floor and physical contact with two 'pirates' both of whom wore sashes and no doubt selected for their mercurial qualities. Otherwise there was much accent on obedience and drill – 'running on the spot' – with disciplined team line-outs, and then later, from the Fourth Form upwards, on 'high gymnastics'. More generally the underlying principle of these lessons was the need for all boys to overcome reserve in the use of ropes and wall-bars and to relish immersions in basketball, volleyball and boxing. Whatever might have been the theoretical aspects of these and other physical activities, they certainly never came our way.

– Richard Staines
(OI 1951 – 63)

Part Two will be published in next year's edition.



The Sherwood building – not quite as Richard would have known it, with the modern library and glass bridge

Beethoven's Third

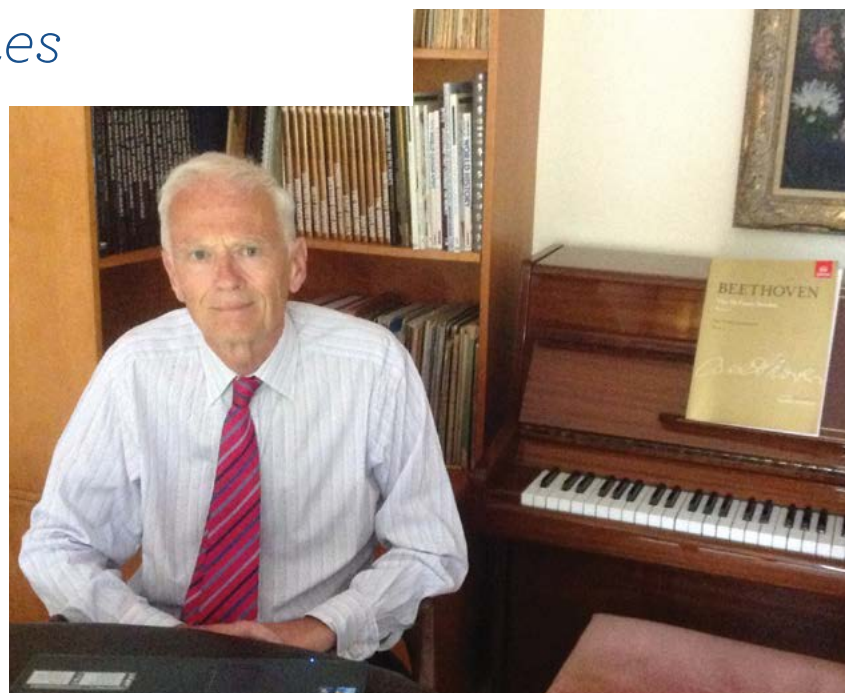
– by Gareth Jones

Kindle Book

– available from Amazon

Biography and background to the novel:

Dr Gareth Jones was head of Chemistry at Ipswich School from 1982 to 2006. He was born in Bristol and brought up in Cardiff. His interest in chemistry started early since his father was a chemistry teacher and brought occasional chemicals home from school to experiment with. At grammar school his chemistry teacher's eccentric enthusiasm – pools of concentrated hydrochloric acid and ammonia fuming together on the lab floor – helped steer him towards a chemistry degree at Bristol followed by research for a doctorate. He always sensed that he would become a teacher and never regretted his career choice - 'it was a lot of fun - a chemistry laboratory is a wonderful intellectual



“ *Nothing happened for a couple of years but the idea would not go away and on holiday in Lanzarote the writing began.* ”

playground.’ His first teaching post was at Merchant Taylors’ School in north London, followed by five years as head of department at a comprehensive school in Newcastle-on-Tyne. He then moved to a similar post at Ipswich School before enjoying four years free of managerial responsibility in London prior to retiring in 2010. Both his sons were educated at Ipswich and his wife was Headteacher of Ipswich Prep from 1999 to 2009.

Gareth’s main hobby was (and still is) classical music but books and theatre continue to be important. Thomas Hardy was a favourite at Bristol but the writer who has consistently provided pleasure on many levels is Graham Greene.

In retirement, and with no particular thought of writing a novel, Gareth was working his way through piano reductions of Beethoven’s symphonies – something of a Himalayan task. At least the first few bars of the third, the Eroica, weren’t too difficult – two big Eflat chords followed by a gently rocking arpeggio. Suddenly he became

aware of someone standing outside his house, possibly listening to the music. Or perhaps not – but in that moment the idea of a story, perhaps a novel, was born. Nothing happened for a couple of years but the idea would not go away and on holiday in Lanzarote the writing began. Perhaps surprisingly, for someone with no experience of extended writing, the novel proceeded relatively smoothly, though not quickly, but within two years it was finished.

“ *...the chances of getting anywhere near publication in the traditional sense were virtually nil but there was, of course, Amazon and Kindle.* ”

A little research made it clear that the chances of getting anywhere near publication in the traditional sense were virtually nil but there was, of course, Amazon and Kindle. Amazon’s tax affairs may be one thing but being able to put one’s novel in the public domain is to their considerable credit. And they pay royalties!

Sales have been modest so far but feedback much more encouraging. A recurring theme has been ‘an enjoyable read ... keeps you interested’.

BEETHOVEN'S THIRD



“ *An enjoyable read ...keeps you interested.* ”

Reviews

Anja Seaton | Former parent at School

It's not often one meets a novelist! Quite by chance I came across 'Dr Jones' whom I recognised as having been head of chemistry in the days that our three boys were at Ipswich School. My relationship with our sons' teachers had always felt rather uncomfortable. However Dr Jones, who I now dare to address as Gareth, was retired and to my surprise told me that he's just finished writing a novel!

I bought a copy through Amazon and thoroughly enjoyed reading it. It is centred on a young mother going through a mid-life crisis who hears

“ *Carefully crafted and full of the chemistry of human relationships.* ”

somebody playing the piano from one the houses in her neighbourhood. She stops walking to listen and becomes

completely mesmerised.

Every time she walks past this house the same piece is being practiced and she becomes obsessed with wanting to find out more about the music and who the stranger playing it so beautifully could be? Eventually she plucks up the courage to ring the doorbell.

Carefully crafted and full of the chemistry of human relationships.

Meryl Smith

“ *...a well observed and thoughtful study of temptation and human relationships, with a musical accompaniment...* ”

Love strikes when we least expect it and that's certainly what happened to the lead character, Sarah, in this emotionally intelligent exploration of a suburban woman's midlife crisis after a chance exposure to the opening chords of Beethoven's Eroica Symphony turns her safe and predictable life upside down.

But is she in love with the music or the musician? Or is she simply craving a release from the mundanities of her everyday life with her sensible but rather dull husband and her unfulfilling work? Will she follow her heart or her head?

This is a gentle and intriguing read, not a rip roaring bonk buster, but like the music which inspired it, this book has a lyricism to it which keeps the pages turning as Sarah's growing discovery of the joy of music awakens other passions she had long suppressed. Torn between the responsibilities of family life and the thrill of the unknown she wrestles with these long lost emotions as her relationship with the widowed pianist quickly deepens. Clearly written by a music lover, the book is like a symphony itself with the changes of rhythm and pace building to a crescendo of expectation and then a sudden change of key as Sarah's careful plans go awry leads to an unexpected finale and all sorts of complications for Sarah to try to resolve,

but at the end of it all she knows her life has changed for the better.

This is a well observed and thoughtful study of temptation and human relationships with a musical accompaniment which will please musicians and non-musicians alike.

Christine Pestell

“ *An enjoyable and thought-provoking read.* ”

The story is delightful and believable, with characters who come to life. The incidental, bit-part players provide interesting comment on some current attitudes and the reader can feel the enjoyment and embarrassments of the characters. An enjoyable and thought-provoking read - but not at all heavy or pompous!

John Shea

“ *Well written and holds your attention.* ”

Interesting tale about suburban mid-life crisis. Excellent read. Well written and holds your attention. Couldn't wait to see how the story would unfold.

Mike Fenn (OI 1948 – 59)

Mike Fenn has recently been presented with a lifetime achievement award from the Eton Fives Association very much an accolade for the School and Club. As you can see from the certificate Gareth Hoskins OI continues to play a very important role in the Eton Fives Association as Secretary. At the EFA AGM in October Simon Woolfries OI is to be elected as a Director of the Association and with three OIs then attending Board meetings the Old Ipswichians join the Old Etonians as the two Eton Fives Clubs with most representatives at Board Level. Other Directors/Vice Presidents are

from Shrewsbury, Lancing, Westminster, Wolverhampton, Harrow, Stowe, Berkhamsted, Charterhouse, Repton, City of London and Highgate.

At the end of April after ten years as President of the Old Ipswichian Eton Fives Club I have handed over this responsibility to Peter Boughton. Peter has been a stalwart of the Fives Club for some 40 years. 2016 is also the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Old Ipswichian Eton Fives Club. John Caudle is our Treasurer and Tom Fletcher Secretary – slight guess but serving for about 40 and 10 years respectively.



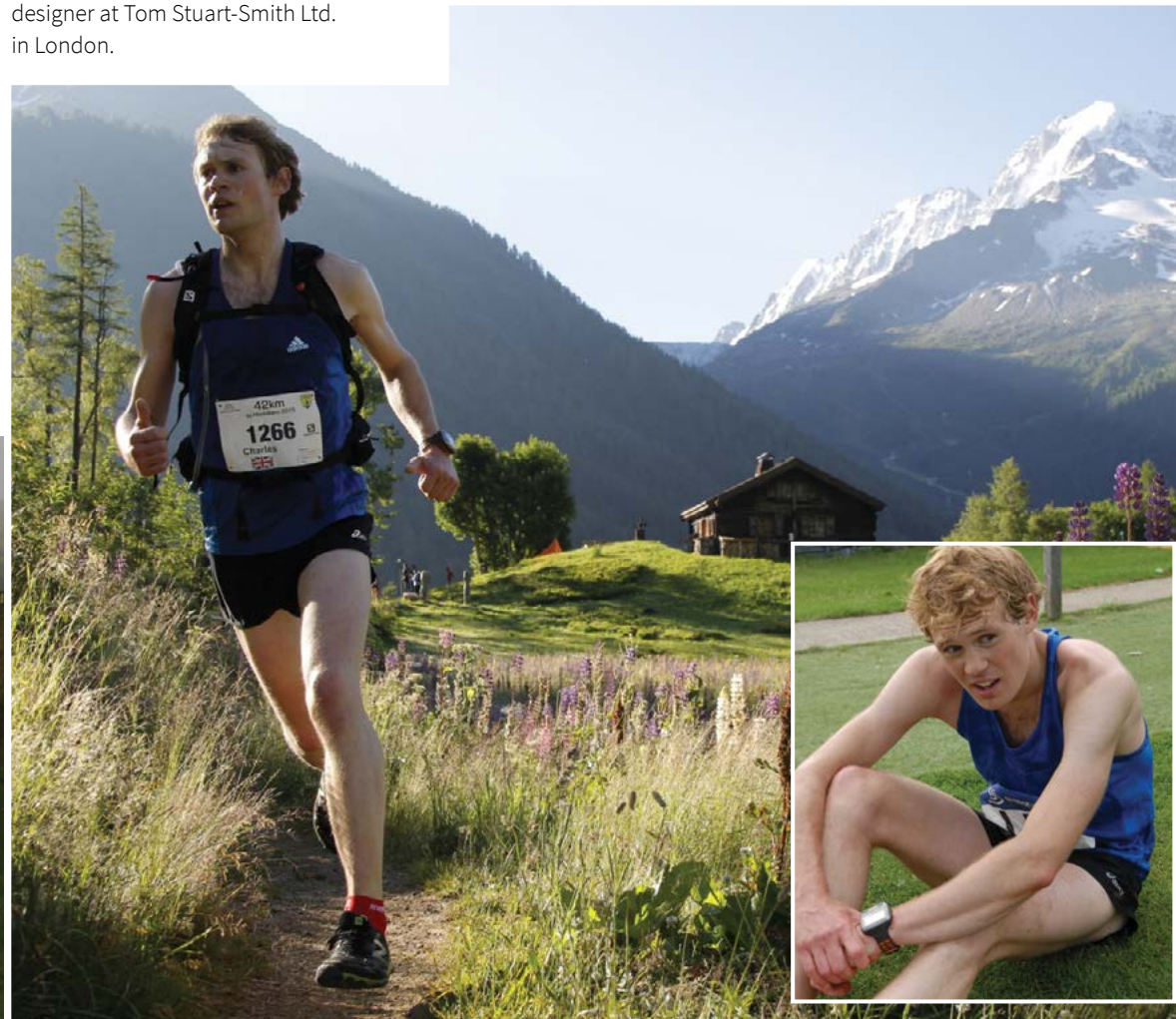
Mike Fenn, who was unable to receive his lifetime achievement award at the EFA Dinner recently, has now been presented it in person by EFA President Richard Barber and EFA Chairman Richard Black

Charlie Harpur (OI 2001 – 08)

2015 was a successful trail-running year for Charlie Harpur. Charlie won the 27-mile Stour Valley Marathon in June, setting a new course record by 17 minutes, and then continued his record breaking streak in August by winning the 100km SVP Ultramarathon (running from Newmarket to Manningtree) taking 11 minutes off of the previous course record in a time of 9hrs and 27min.

Charlie also competed in the international Marathon du Mont-Blanc in Chamonix where he was 10th British athlete, and the CTS Dorset Coastal Ultramarathon where he came in 3rd place, qualifying him for the 101km Courmayeur-Champex-Chamonix ultramarathon in the Alps this August. This April he swapped the trail for flat tarmac for the London Marathon finishing in a time of 2hrs 43min.

At the moment, Charlie is a landscape designer at Tom Stuart-Smith Ltd. in London.



Leigh Belcham (OI 1951 – 58)

Having retired to Felixstowe from Coventry in 2002, Jill and I moved back to the Midlands in March this year to be nearer to family. We're presently staying in Ludlow, enjoying the beautiful Shropshire hills, and waiting to complete the purchase of a property in Warwick.

We miss the Suffolk coast, sailing and easy access to OI events, as well as friends in the school archives and the Foundation Office. But we are looking forward to exploring the ancient town and its castle, as well as the Cotswolds. Having downtown Birmingham on our doorstep is a plus, too. We did youth work there in the 1960s, and are thinking of arranging a 50-year reunion of youth club members next year.

Nicholas Bowman-Scargill (OI 1997 – 05)

Following five years of training at Rolex as a watchmaker I am now working on re-starting my family's 170-year-old watch company, FEARS. As the great-great-great-grandson of the original founder, Edwin Fear, I have been busy over the past year designing the new watch, which is now being manufactured in Switzerland. The business hasn't been trading for 60 years and the re-launch is set to take place in late 2016 at the SalonQP watch show in London.



Professor Michael Beaney (OI 1966 – 77)

I have recently moved to Berlin, where my wife Sharon Macdonald and I have taken up Professorships at the Humboldt University (in the Institutes for European Ethnology and for Philosophy, respectively). I also have a part-time post at King's College London, however, so have not altogether severed my links with the UK. The British Journal for the History of Philosophy, which I edit, is based at King's College London.

Mark Bailey (OI 1972 – 79)

Currently High Master of St Paul's School, London, but retains links with the University of East Anglia as Professor of Late Medieval History. He has been invited to deliver the Ford Lectures in British History at the University of Oxford in 2019.



Lady Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Simon Jarrold, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire.

Simon Jarrold (OI 1981 – 88)

Simon was presented with the British Empire Medal by the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire in October 2014. His citation states that he raised around £52,000 by spending time organising, arranging and promoting charities in the Leeds area for which he volunteers such as Candle Lighters, a Childrens Cancer Charity, the NSPCC and Macmillan.

Lee Paul Abrahams (OI 1999 – 06)

Recently qualified from dental school. Practicing general dentistry in Cornwall, after spending some time in the US. Best regards to old friends.

Piers Stennett-Howard (OI 2006 – 10)

I have just passed my Bachelors in Dental Surgery (BDS) at the University of Bristol, with merits in Oral Medicine/ Surgery/Pathology/Microbiology and Restorative Dentistry.

It has been 6 years since I left my alma mater, and the requirements of the degree has prevented me from attending many OI events. I look forward to catching up with old school chums at a reunion soon.

Philip Marshall (OI 1957 – 67)

I am still working as a Chartered Accountant. I was a founding and managing partner at a small accountancy partnership in Gloucester until I sold up in 2001, since then I have been working from home as a sole trader. It keeps me off the streets and out of my wife's hair!

My younger brother Tim Marshall (OI 1958-68) was made a Professor of Planning at Oxford Brookes University last year, at the tender age of 64 (perhaps there's hope for us all). He had been a Reader at that University for some years before. He would not thank me for writing to you disapproving as he does of private education and being generally far-left politically. He hopes to continue working well into grey old age.



Matthew Brooks (OI 1982 – 93)

Matthew Brooks completed the Ironman UK challenge in Bolton Lancs on the 19th July 2015.

After a really early morning start, he completed the challenge as follows:

- **2.4 mile swim in 1.13 hours**
- **Followed by a 112 mile cycle in 6.45 hours**
- **And finally a marathon of 24 miles in 4.58 hours**
- **His overall time was 13 hours and 15 minutes**

- **Position 700th out of 2600 competitors.**

His entire family turned up to cheer him along, including his wife, Rachel and their two young children, Jasper and Tess.

Matthew wanted to complete the challenge before his 40th birthday and was successful in doing so by exactly one month!

Matthew and family now live in Esher Surrey.

Tom Rash (OI 1994 – 01)

Copdock and Old Ipswichian Cricket Club's EAPL Vice captain Tom Rash has been selected to tour SA with the MCC. Tom mentions that the opportunity came about after showing good early season form last year, I was taking wicket and scoring runs in the league about the time the tour was selected in May (the less said about the second half of the season the better). I have also done reasonably when playing for MCC in some of the higher level fixtures (against Ireland A, Loughborough MCCU, Wales etc) that combined with doing pretty well on my last tour to Thailand. I was selected from the members that had applied to go on the tour, all bar two or three going are full MCC members.

I am really excited about playing with, and against first class and international

players at test match grounds. We play kwazulu natal on NY eve at kings ear so there is a good chance I could end up playing against Cody! Not only that but getting the chance to learn from them, seeing how they go about their business and how they prepare for cricket.

Editor – we will catch up with Tom next year to find out how he got on.



Daniel Brooks (OI 1984 – 95)

To Daniel and Melanie on 8th March 2016 a daughter, Evie Alexandra Elizabeth, a welcome baby sister for twins Isobel and Myla now all living in Cheshire.



Charlotte Mulock (OI 1993 – 95)

Charlotte Mulock (née Spencer) (OI 1993 – 95) and her husband Ben are pleased to announce the arrival of Mabel Isabella Constance Mulock, born on 8th December 2015 weighing 7lb 12oz.



Richard Prentice (OI 1985 – 96)

I am living in Battisford with my wife Sally and my three children Alice, George and Hattie. I still work as a Chartered Surveyor for Durrants in Diss specialising in Agricultural Property and Auctioneering. I am lucky to work throughout Norfolk and Suffolk and I bump into a few OIs during my travels. I am playing hockey for Bury St Edmunds and am involved with the junior training on a Sunday morning. David Lord (OI) and I recently went to watch England in European Hockey action at Lea Valley, which gave us a good chance to catch up on life and ponder where some of our school colleagues were now!

Daren Wilding (OI 1988 – 95)

Congratulations to Daren Wilding (OI 1988 – 95) who has recently got engaged to Jen Hare in Varenna, Lake Como. We look forward to following up with some wedding pictures in a future journal.



A tribute to Professor JM Blatchly MBE, PhD, LittD, FSA 1932 – 2015

A Personal Tribute by Nicholas Allen,
Headmaster, Ipswich Preparatory School,
1987 – 1994 and Revd David Warnes, Third
Master, Chaplain and Head of History,
Ipswich School 1980 – 2010



John Blatchly died on 3rd September 2015 at the age of 82 after a short illness. He had led a rich life in which idleness played no part. His many interests and enthusiasms crossed the disciplines of art and science and included, chemistry, music, history, the Church of England, ecclesiastical architecture and ex libris (the study of bookplates, ancient and modern), to name but a few.

“To this list could be added his skills as an oboist of professional standard, choral and orchestral conductor, singer, actor and, above all, prolific author.”

John was many things in his life: devoted husband, father and grandfather; good friend to many; mentor and example to many more; a gifted teacher and a headmaster who inspired loyalty and hard work in those privileged to work closely with him, and not a little awe in those whose professional dedication and appetite for work did not match his own. To this list could be added his skills as an oboist of professional standard, choral and orchestral conductor, singer, actor and, above all, prolific author. Polymath is a word hardly strong and rich enough in meaning to describe John's range of interests and his profound understanding and knowledge of many of life's finer things.

John was, without question, an intellectual of the highest intelligence. A product of the grammar school system (where one of his contemporaries at Sutton Grammar School was Dr David Bellamy), Christ's College, Cambridge, where he read for the Natural Sciences Tripos, was followed by National Service as an Instructor Lieutenant in the Royal

Navy at HMS Ganges, an opportunity which fuelled his enthusiasm for and growing love of Suffolk and its historic county town, Ipswich. At HMS Ganges he was unafraid to climb the mast and to stand on the 'button' at its top. Young seamen were taken to concerts in the Corn Exchange to broaden their cultural experience, though John was not so naive as to think that all of those in the concert party devoted their attention solely to the music when the other attractions of the town were made accessible on Sunday afternoons.

John's civilian teaching career began at the King's School, Bruton, where he was Head of Science. He then moved to Eastbourne College, where he also served as Acting Director of Music during an interregnum. It was during his years there that, in 1965, he became the first chemist to be awarded a Cambridge PhD on submission of a dozen publications of original work in organic chemistry carried out with the assistance of his sixth form students. He was soon promoted

to be Head of Chemistry at Charterhouse where he came under the influence of Oliver Van Oss, one of the outstanding headmasters of his generation.

“John never ceased teaching and always took a Year 7 chemistry class each of which would be thrilled by his spectacular practical demonstrations...”

In 1972, John became Headmaster of Ipswich School. John's 21 year tenure was characterised by a significant rise in the school's status, academic focus, cultural breadth and richness of opportunity for generations of pupils. Headmasters are often remembered by their building works, but in John's case, his contribution



With the Duke of Edinburgh on his visit to open the Leggett Technical Studies Centre in 1973

to the building stock of Ipswich School, while significant, forms only a small part of his legacy. His sketch provided the inspiration for the school's octagonal library, built on stilts to provide a useful sheltered space beneath. The library was enhanced, at John's insistence, by stained glass windows commissioned from John Piper.

A sports hall and a laboratory block, later named the Blatchly Laboratories, were to follow, together with a major refurbishment of the Great School and the building of the new Little School. The school took its first step towards co-education with the admission of girls to the sixth form, and the far-sighted purchase by the school governors of part of the site of the former Anglesea Road Hospital made possible the move to full co-education under his successor, Ian Galbraith, and the construction of modern buildings to house the Nursery, Pre-preparatory and Preparatory Schools. At the centre of the school was the Headmaster's Study, lined with the ancient volumes of The Old Town Library, founded in the 17th Century by one of John's predecessors and which in the 1980s John had found languishing in a strong room beneath the Borough Library. This collection of rare books was lovingly catalogued by John in one of his many publications, and made fully accessible to scholars from around the world.

“John was happy to put his trust in others...”

John never ceased teaching and always took a Year 7 chemistry class each of which would be thrilled by his spectacular practical demonstrations: a gas and air explosion which fired a tin lid at great speed without warning up to the ceiling being a particular favourite. The pupil quick enough to catch the lid before it hit the floor was recommended to the cricket master as a potential slip fielder in the First XI. Each Sunday evening in term time, the most talented musicians in the school gathered in the Blatchlys' drawing room to rehearse baroque chamber music to be performed under John's baton in a concert in an historic church towards the end of term. He took a lively interest in school sport and was an

enthusiastic and regular presence on the boundary and the touchline. Never bored himself, he found boredom in other people incomprehensible and once, in a school assembly, threatened to impose a 50p fine on any pupil who was overheard saying that he or she was bored.

“His encouragement of young scholars, together with his own extensive publications led to him being appointed as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.”

As Headmaster, John was happy to put his trust in others and was a most effective delegator; once a responsibility had been passed on, he did not interfere, but was always ready with sage advice when asked. John was instrumental in advancing the careers of younger staff who showed promise. He taught them many good habits: the frequent thanking and praise of colleagues, in writing, for services rendered; the prompt reply to questions asked and memos sent (before the days of email) and enthusiasm for and encouragement of good ideas. Many went on to become heads themselves. He had a great knowledge and understanding of his pupils and a driving ambition for their progress and success. Few colleagues will forget John's energetic chairing of the monthly meeting at which each pupil's effort and achievement were regularly reviewed, a gathering characterised by John's acerbic but nevertheless sympathetic comments.

John played his part too in the wider field of education. Through the project 'Education 2000' in the 1980s and 1990s, he worked hard to bring maintained and independent schools in Ipswich closer together through the sharing of expertise and building of relationships between the heads of the fifteen or so schools involved. Within HMC, he was a leading light of the East Anglian Division and for many years edited HMC's journal, 'Conference and

Common Room', a publication renowned for being both informative, learned and amusing. He was made an Honorary Life Member of HMC for his dedicated service as Treasurer, supporting three successive chairmen. John was energetically involved in the early work of the Independent Schools Inspectorate, leading many inspections both as a serving head and in the early years of his retirement. His inspection reports were always a joy to read and were characterised by their vivid language before 'educational bleak-speak' drowned out individuality. "If punctuality is the courtesy of kings, there's not much royalty at School X" was one remark that made it to the final draft of one of his inspection reports.

In retirement, John continued to contribute to the educational scene through his work as a governor at Oakham, Norwich, Chigwell and the British School in Paris. He had long been involved in the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, whose President he was, the Suffolk Records Society, which he chaired for a quarter of a century, and the Ipswich Historic Churches Trust, which he also chaired. His encouragement of young scholars, together with his own extensive publications led to him being appointed as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. In retirement his attention became increasingly focused on local history and higher education.

In 1993 he was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Letters by the University of East Anglia for services to history and education in the region, and for six years he chaired the advisory committee of Medallist of the International Federation of Ex Libris Societies for outstanding contributions to bookplate scholarship.

John was appointed MBE for services to local history and his work with the Heritage Lottery Fund in the East of England. His enthusiasm and abilities as

“We owe John a huge debt of gratitude for all that he did for Ipswich School, and indeed, Ipswich. His wisdom as a Headmaster, his extensive knowledge as our Archivist Emeritus and his unbridled enthusiasm for life will live long in all of our memories.”

– Nicholas Weaver, Headmaster

a fund-raiser played a considerable part in the commissioning of a statue of Cardinal Wolsey, Ipswich's and Ipswich School's most famous son, now situated close to site of the great man's birthplace. He worked closely with the distinguished sculptor David Annand to bring this project to fruition in 2011.

From its inception, John was a strong supporter and advocate of University Campus Suffolk and, in particular, of the History department, to whose staff and students he made himself generously available. He was delighted to be elected as Honorary Wolsey Professor and Visiting Professor of History and to welcome distinguished scholars and musicians, some of whom were his former pupils or protégés, to deliver the annual Wolsey Lecture.

“His faith and trust in God brought him comfort always and especially at the end of his life and in his final illness. He did not fear death.”

Throughout John's long and energetic career, he was loyally supported by his devoted wife, Pam, who herself contributed

“John proffered... wise words and encouragement... quietly and without fuss at just the right time to numerous students and OIs.”

– Guy Main, Past OI Chairman

an enormous amount to the school and wider community, particularly through her work as a JP on the Ipswich Bench. John and Pam's daughter Janet lives and works in Ipswich and their son Mark is a musician and housemaster at Charterhouse.

John enjoyed the finer things in life: opera, chamber music and the theatre; cultivating the great and good to the benefit of Ipswich School; good food and fine wines (ABC - Anything But Chardonnay); the company of family and friends; holidays in Crete and, latterly, some adventurous cruises in the Mediterranean and the Baltic.

Central to John's life was his religion. A devout Anglican who found solace in the dignity of the traditional liturgy, for many years he attended Ipswich's civic church, St Mary-le-Tower. He was very supportive of a succession of incumbents, and delighted when they achieved preferment. His faith and trust in God brought him comfort always and especially at the end of his life and in his final illness. He did not fear death.

“I don't like to let anyone down,” he remarked, despite the fatigue and physical weakness brought on by his condition.”

Shortly before he was overcome by his final illness, John asked to be driven into Ipswich so that he could photograph some architectural details of the Captains' Houses for what he must have known would be his final weekly article for The East Anglian Daily Times. “I don't like to let anyone down,” he remarked, despite the fatigue and physical weakness brought on by his condition. The article, and its accompanying photographs, reached the paper well before the final deadline, as was only to be expected.



John at a community event



With the Princess Royal on her visit in 1990

Eulogy of Dr John Blatchly by Diarmaid MacCulloch and given at the Memorial Service held on 21st November 2015

John Blatchly was a man of exceptional vision who had a genius for getting things done. He was one of those rare people who not only seem to relish chairing committees, but who are also absolutely the right choice to do so. He was for twenty-six years President of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History, President of the Suffolk Records Society for nearly half the Society's existence to 2013, was involved in the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust almost from its foundation in 1973 (for many years as Vice-President), from 1993 was Chairman of the Ipswich Historic Churches Trust and for the last three years of his life was President of the Bookplate Society. This by no means exhausts his contribution to history. It is safe to say no one individual has ever equalled his part in the preservation of East Anglia's historic heritage.

John was an adopted son of Suffolk, for he was born in Newport, in Gwent, in 1932, and went to Sutton Grammar School in Surrey. The influence of inspired teachers at school had nurtured John's lasting enthusiasm for both science and music, and in 1951 he went up to Christ's College, Cambridge to read chemistry. Three years followed in the Royal Navy instructor branch, but at the same time he was teaching musical appreciation to junior musicians of the Royal Marines (he was

himself a talented instrumentalist). His doctorate also came from the University of Cambridge, and he worked on it while he was teaching at the King's School, Bruton. This was the first chemistry doctorate which Cambridge had awarded on the basis of published work: he had made a clutch of original discoveries in organic chemistry, in which his sixth-formers helped him in the school laboratories. It was the first of many collaborative works in his long career. Later John taught at Eastbourne and Charterhouse, where the family connection happily continues through his son Mark.

Two talents might be enough for most people, but there was also a third strand in his remarkable breadth of interest, that passion for history, which led him at first particularly to active membership of the Monumental Brass Society. It was in this connection that I first met him soon after his arrival at Headmaster of Ipswich School in 1972, when we collaborated in finishing a mammoth listing of all Suffolk brasses and brass indents sponsored by the MBS, which revised a much earlier national survey. Straight away on arrival in Ipswich, he had involved himself in county archaeological and historical circles, and his talent for leadership was welcomed and soon put to good use.

Looking back over John's historical work, I realise how important those other founding interests, chemistry and music, were in what he achieved. From science came the rigour, the concern for exact evidence and the cutting through lazy or imprecise thinking, that every historian needs. From music came the creativity, the imagination, the ability to make conceptual leaps and make unexpected connections. Unlike some historians, John understood fully that archaeology, architecture and visual evidence are all part of the historical canvas; he had a rare visual sense, and delighted in old pictures as a mosaic of windows on lost worlds. His memory was phenomenal, particularly for the handwriting of a host of previous East Anglian historians stretching back to the sixteenth century. Only ten days before he died, when illness had sapped much of his old energy, he was able instantly to identify the artist of an early nineteenth-century drawing and thus restore a richer meaning to this little fragment of the past.

It was a natural recognition of his energies that John was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1975, and there have been further signs of public esteem: his Doctorate of Letters from the University of East Anglia in 1993, a tribute to his benevolent involvement in its work, his MBE in 2007, and an honour which I think particularly pleased him, his Honorary Wolsey Professorship at University College Suffolk (2014). That was a mark of gratitude for the way in which he encouraged the teaching of history to flourish in a university setting in the county. The Wolsey Lectures which he founded will continue as a very appropriate memorial to him at UCS.

John's years of achievement at Ipswich School, as Headmaster until 1993, were marked by institutional expansion and encouragement of a vigorous cultural life. During that time, he was also making a contribution to national education as an inspector at Headmasters' Conference schools and as treasurer of the HMC for several years. In retirement, retaining a role as Ipswich School's Archivist, he wrote A Famous Antient Seed-plot of Learning (2003), an honest and artfully-illustrated history

of the School, and he could also enjoy the continued safe retirement of the ancient Town Library, rescued from decay and neglect, in its natural home the Headmaster's study.

John loved books as much as he loved pictures. Books are so fragile and vulnerable, and a collection of books loses all its meaning if it is split up. John did not just rescue the books, but by exercise of that rigorous scientific mind, he picked up the visual clues which showed just how they had originally been displayed on their shelves according to the seventeenth-century painted design uniting the fore-edges of the collection. Now they proudly sit safe and sound in the headmaster's study at Ipswich School, restoring the relationship which had been part of their origins back in the seventeenth century. Not only that, but John inspired a catalogue which is far more than a list of what is in the library holdings; it's a commentary on the national significance of this ancient collection.

Out of John's intense scrutiny of those precious volumes came a new enthusiasm: the bookplates which he found in them from their original owners, some of them among the earliest bookplates ever made in this country. Really this united his two interests, books and pictures, for the best bookplates are deeply satisfying miniature pictures. Behind all of them lurked people from the past, and John revelled in teasing out these personal stories from his encounters with long-dead book-owners in this little works of art. In his eightieth year, he was elected President of the Bookplate Society, and among his many honours was a Udo Ivask Certificate of Honour and Medal from the International Federation of Ex-Libris Societies. Naturally he took great delight in the design of successive bookplates for himself.

I've mentioned in passing some of John's publications, but when I turned to the catalogue of the Bodleian Library, I identified no fewer than sixteen separate items involving his name, not counting reprints. To that we must add a swathe of articles in journals, and more than fifty individual articles on East Anglian worthies in the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. And the publication

record danced out of the academic world, to delight all those who read the East Anglian Daily Times. His series It Happened When ... has summed up so much out-of-the-way or excitingly important facets of our region's history. John had decided to call that enterprise a day after 400 issues, but in fact he and the paper could not resist continuing it, and some of the last appeared only this year.

I have already mentioned a special ability which is not as common as it might be among historians: John's zest for collaboration. He and I hugely enjoyed ourselves producing a long run of historical articles from 1978 onwards; at first we worked by phone-call and chatty letter, but really we were waiting for email to be invented. One of the latest of these collaborations was conceived as a few paragraphs for his It Happened When series, but characteristically for him, after many a cheerful email exchange, it ended up as a book of more than 100 pages, Miracles in Lady Lane: the Ipswich Shrine at the Westgate (2013). The final handsome form of this book owed much to another fruitful collaboration, with Martin Sanford. That brought John great satisfaction in later years, and produced inter alia last year his charming and learned Isaac Johnson of Woodbridge: Georgian Surveyor and Artist. Here was an Indian Summer celebration of another of his talents as an antiquary: a keen eye and the discriminating instinct of a collector. The lovely house to which he and Pam retired in central Ipswich was a treasure-house of beautiful things.



The unveiling of the statue of Thomas Wolsey in Ipswich in 2011

A common theme runs through all his various good works for the borough of Ipswich: a prophetic ability to see value in what has been neglected, and convince the rest of the world. Where John found neglect or the possibility of ruin or dispersal, he galvanised campaigns to put things right. In later years, this would have spectacular results: the restoration of the bells of the church of St Lawrence within sight of this church, the oldest peal of bells in all England. It was a delightful tribute to his efforts when those bells rang out for the whole country on the 'Today Programme' one week-day morning. The future Cardinal Wolsey had heard those same bells as a boy, and soon after the St Lawrence achievement, John made sure that Wolsey was given proper honour in his home town with a statue. It has become a great favourite with festive young folk in the later stages of their evenings out: perhaps it is the Cardinal's cat which attracts them. The project was a gleam in John's eye from 1999, but once he started actively promoting the Cardinal's statue, it was an astonishingly short time before in 2011 David Annand's inspired image was gracing the street where Wolsey's family had lived and where he was born.

There is so much more. Besides the ancient Ipswich Town Library lovingly restored, the surplus medieval churches of the borough are still cared for and will go on being loved because they continue serving their community in various helpful ways. In the Suffolk Record Office, where he spent so many happy hours,

and which he cherished and supported through difficult times, the magnificent collection of ancient manuscripts from Elveden Hall is now permanently preserved for the county, thanks to his fund-raising efforts.

All this could have been done by a man fleeing from the world and from human society by a pedantic immersion in antiquities. All those who know John can witness how far that is from the truth. He was one of the sanest people I have known, because he knew how to laugh, at the glorious idiocy of everyday life. He who was so precise and competent in his scholarship and professional life could relax by delighting in incompetence. Mark his son tells me fondly of his taste for what he called 'bad telly'. His favourite example was that truly dreadful 1970s soap series Crossroads, where he would sit 'howling with laughter when the actors forgot their lines and the scenery wobbled'. Those who have only known him chairing a committee with straight-faced dispatch may find it a revelation to learn that the telly character with whom he most identified was the cartoon dog Muttley from The Whacky Races. In private, he could do a fine imitation of Muttley's unforgettable sly and mischievous snigger. Sanity is often best attained by inner silliness. But above all I remember a kind, witty and generous friend: shrewd in his judgements of people and slow to anger, while along with Pam, unfailingly generous and hospitable. John was a Renaissance Man who gave an example of how it was possible to make the world a better and more beautiful place. He was tremendous fun to be with, because of his zest for life. I suspect that words he chose to adorn the statue of Cardinal Wolsey apply to himself rather more accurately than to that pleasure-loving Prince of the Church: 'A teacher who believed that pleasure should mingle with study so that the child may think learning an amusement rather than a toil'. Not long before his death, he wrote to me 'I wake daily to the thrill of another day of interest and discovery, and long may that continue.' It is a fine epitaph. Our deep sympathy goes out to Pam and to their children Janet and Mark; and all of us who knew him share keenly in their loss. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

Memories of Dr Blatchly:

John made a difference to many people's lives for many different reasons. I for one will always remember him for the very great and positive effect he had on mine by being open minded, such an important attribute for a headmaster and at that time almost revolutionary.

**– Kate Kincaid
(OI 1975 – 77)**

At my brief time at the School, after my more ordinary Secondary education, I barely troubled him, apart from one occasion when I was ordered to his office after one particularly ignominious end of Summer term evening gatecrashing the School grounds - I think we had been a little naughty! In his usually kind but firm way, I was very gently put in my place- and learned my lesson.

I remember bumping into John and his wife on the train to London and spending one of the most informative journeys learning so much history from him, making me rather regret some of the advantages and opportunities he and the School gave me and which I may not have fully grasped.

He was a great man and leaves a great legacy. His loss will be felt by many.

**– Ewan Dodds
(OI 1976 – 78)**

He was a great man and I have extremely fond memories of the chemistry lessons we had. The best ones were certainly the ones we had when games were cancelled due to bad weather. We were all taught stuff not quite on the curriculum!

**– Iain Faulds
(OI 1985 – 93)**

One of the most influential figures in my life. Pleasure to have known him

**– Andy Waters
(OI 1968 – 75)**

This is a small selection of the many tributes we received for Dr Blatchly

Most of my time at the school was under Mermagen, but John Blatchly arrived in time for my Oxbridge Entrance term, and I stayed for the rest of the year, partly to take an additional A-level in Music, and to take Grade 8 on the piano. The Blatchlys very generously allowed me to practise on their grand piano rather than the rather weary uprights in the practice rooms, and I was one of the group invited round on Sunday's to play chamber music. I know some regarded this group as rather a clique, but for me it was the introduction to much music that I had never before encountered, some of which pieces remain among my favourites: it also made me work at learning to act as an accompanist, not an easy skill, which has stood me in good stead over the years. He also started a concert band (who played, among other times, on the occasion of the Duke of Edinburgh's visit on 1973) in which I played: there were girls from the High School in it, too, and thus he was indirectly responsible for an early romance!

He was pleased that I applied to Christ's, Cambridge, as that was his old college, and both during my time there and over the years afterwards we often coincided at college dinners and other functions, and he would always insist on my joining him and asking about my family and career. The last time I met him was at the 2012 concert in Nacton Church, when he seemed the same as ever. I shall always be grateful to him for the encouragement (sometimes accompanied by brutal criticism!) he gave me in my musical development, and I am very saddened by his passing.

**– Andrew Turner
(OI 1960 – 72)**

Melvin Sullivan (OI 1956 – 68)

Died 22nd April 2015

Melvin Sullivan, died on Friday 9th October 2015 following a near-decade-long battle with leukaemia. Melvin was a Town fan since the Ramsey era, and remembered playing rugby for Ipswich School on a Saturday, then cycling furiously down to Portman Road, throwing his bike down on Alderman rec, and sneaking in through the exit gates as soon as they opened. Later he ran the youth set-up at Bedford Town FC, and had an amazing career in theatre management, in Cambridge (where he ran the Footlights show in its glory years) and then in the West End. Typically, I had known him for years before I had any sense of how well connected he was with the stars of the stage.

“The idea was simple – give Hackney kids something positive to do, to keep them off the streets.”

His retirement project, started in 2006, was a little football club called Lea Valley FC. Sounds rural, but was based in Hackney, where Melvin lived. With adult and junior sides, LVFC are an established part of London amateur football, the adults progressing well in the Amateur Football Combination, and the youth sides (mostly) in the Cheshunt Youth League. The idea was simple - give Hackney kids something positive to do, to keep them off the streets. Many hundreds of kids have passed through the club, and their parents (mostly mums, of course), have repeatedly credited the club with

keeping them out of the reach of the gang culture. Some of the lads have even progressed into professional academies.

“Although he had to hand over responsibilities, he still received progress reports every week, and had constant calls for advice and help as he lay in his bed.”

It's fair to say that, having LVFC as a focus truly helped Melvin following his leukaemia diagnosis, giving him purpose to direct his energies. Although he had to hand over responsibilities (the club is in good hands), he still received progress reports every week, and had constant calls for advice and help as he lay in his bed. He had also done great work with the regional Football Association, organising leagues, sorting our disciplinary issues, and all entirely voluntary. A world away from the Blatters and Platinis.

“The measure of a life worth lived is that you improve the lives of others, in whatever way you can.”

The measure of a life worth lived is that you improve the lives of others, in whatever way you can. Melvin epitomised this. I'm proud to have been a friend.

– Linhdi TWDI
(OI 1943 - 53)

Memories of Melvin:

I am very sorry to hear this although I knew that Melvin had been in poor health for some years since he contacted me out of the blue a few years back - I think when he had been diagnosed. We were in a school play together - The Emperor's Nightingale - and he was of course the son of Noel Sullivan - the School's French Master all those years ago.

I believe he lived in London. Melvin told me he taught football to youngsters as part of his recreation and thoroughly enjoyed it; at the time he got in touch his team were doing quite well and despite his illness I know he carried on with that for some while; I invited him to a re-union which we were having of some OIs at the time - but sadly he couldn't make it.

“Melvin told me he taught football to youngsters as part of his recreation and thoroughly enjoyed it; at the time he got in touch his team were doing quite well and despite his illness I know he carried on with that for some while.”

He was a good bloke and although we had not seen each other since school he was great friends then with me and others like Rick Phillips and Michael Hatch.

– Mike Simpson
(OI 1957 – 68)

Anthony Wardell Lyon (OI 1939 – 47)

Died 08.04.2016



Tony Lyon attended Ipswich School during the war years and was a member of the Officer Cadet Training Unit. Two years of National Service was spent as a private in the army.

Tony attended college in London prior to becoming a teacher and spent a while in Round Table. I introduced him to camping and the highlands of Scotland in mid-winter.

He was proud of his very slightly frost bitten ear after traversing the Lairig Ghru from Aviemore to Braemar. In turn later we met in Chamonix and spent most of our time Gran Paradiso with the three glaciers and we have both been back several times.

Tony was my best man at our London wedding and we attended his wedding also in London. We had many children

Eric William Gale (OI 1988 – 95)

Born 1924, died June 2016, aged 92



1940s assembly in the old Big School, Martin Squirrel

Eric was at Ipswich School from 1937-1939, and held very fond memories of his time at School, and often talked about them to his wife Rosemary.

After school, he joined the RAF, and trained as a navigator. He then joined Bomber Command, and flew numerous missions across occupied Europe. As well as dropping bombs, he was involved in the legendary food drops over occupied Holland. After wartime service, Eric studied accountancy, and joined Exxon-Mobil, where he was involved in motorsports sponsorship. His leisure passion was sailing, and he kept a yacht in Lymington, from where he would explore the English Channel.

In retirement, Eric and wife Rosemary moved from Sway in Hampshire to Brixham where Eric continued to enjoy his yachting exploits.

He is survived by Rosemary and daughter Antonia.

Evan Davies (OI 1939 – 46)

Evan passed away on 8th May 2016 following a sudden illness aged 86. He was the beloved husband of Ann and father to Sally, Gillian and Michael and grandfather to Dominic who died in 2014. Evan was well known for his 30 year career as a pharmacist in Ipswich until his retirement in 1986. He was a very keen golfer and member at Woodbridge, Purdis Heath and Felixstowe golf clubs.

Evan was the second of three children. His father was a pharmacist who owned a chemist's shop in Ipswich. His older brother John (now deceased) also attended Ipswich School while his younger sister Mary attended Ipswich High School for Girls.

Evan joined the Preparatory School

before the outbreak of war -possibly September 1938. He was a member of Form A when it was displaced by the requisition of the Preparatory School and so spent the bitter winter of 1939-40 in the unheated Victorian gymnasium (now demolished) which was used as a classroom.

Evan joined the Main School in September 1940 and enjoyed playing rugby where he became a proficient scrum half. He was a member of the outstanding Colts XV which admirably coached by Mr Stonex, won every match in the season 1943-44. He was a successful boxer in the annual competitions and also won several events in the in the swimming pool each



year. He progressed through the School and left in 1947. On leaving School he did National Service in the Army and later trained as a pharmacist. He then worked for his father eventually taking over the business which expanded by taking over shops in the town.

but they did not. Our paths drifted apart with all credit a brutally cruelly traumatised African boy was adopted and very much loving care and attention was lavished on the child. He became a teacher, headmaster and now a group headmaster. Tony's wife died and Tony spent many years involved with Evesham Council work and holidays worldwide.

– By William Patrick

Memories of Anthony:

Anthony Lyon, or Tony as I knew him, was in my class throughout my time in the "Upper School", as it was then known, I was "called up" in 1945 but we still saw each other from time to time.

I cannot remember any particular incidents occurring during this period, since it is some 70 years ago, but Tony was a keen photographer and cyclist, touring much of Western Europe on his own.

On one evening we invited him to dinner after which he gave us a slide show of photographs taken on his various trips, which I recall amounted to some 100 or more scenes! Tony moved away from Ipswich shortly after and we lost touch.

– John Northfield
(OI 1938 – 45)



Bernard Rozier (OI 1944 – 52)

Bernard Rozier sadly passed away on 21st December 2015. From the archives we have found a picture of him as a prefect in 1952. We have also learned that he was in Sherrington House, Captain of Athletics. Additionally, a review of the 'Christmas Term' school production of HMS Pinafore in the school magazine of March 1952 wrote: 'The most efficient performance was that of JR Catchpole and BJ Rozier as the two marines, who never on one occasion failed to salute in time.'

Dr Robert Henry Gooding (OI 1941 – 50)

Robert as a prefect in 1950



Robert (15/9/1931- 06/5/2016) grew up in Ipswich, winning a Scholarship to Ipswich School. He won a Scholarship to Emmanuel College, Cambridge. Graduating in 1953 with a First Class Honours degree in Pure Mathematics and later obtained a PhD in 1967.

He was a researcher at Orford Ness Research Station initially 1954-1958. Then transferred to the Royal Aerospace Establishment, Farnborough, Hampshire in 1958 until he retired in 1992. His last position was as Visiting Research Fellow at the University of Surrey, Centre of Satellite Engineering.

Robert's achievements included research on Orbit Dynamics and Orbit Determination. The Solution of the Kepler and Lambert problems in particular.

He contributed papers to a variety of Scientific Journals and continued writing until ill health prevented him in 2012.

Robert married Sylvia in 1955 and had three daughters, Jennie, Caroline and Rosemary. After her death, he married Marian and had a son, Jeremy. He lived in Farnham from 1958 until his death.

Memories of Robert:

'Robert and I were the youngest two of our "Sixth Form, Science" group from September 1946 with his expertise in Mathematics and mine in Physics. As a boy I was impressed by his being a "Scholar" coming from the town, as did

about 8 boys per year, not paying fees like the rest of us. I knew Robert was Scholarship standard for Cambridge and he stayed a third year in the sixth form to achieve this. He and I shared Mr Grice, an excellent Mathematics teacher and Mr Grimwade from whom I learned a lot of Physics but also a lot about life. I would have liked to go to Cambridge and could do the Physics and Mathematics but failed the Latin, which was obligatory then, so was excluded and joined London University in 1948. My parents, having lived in Ipswich all through the war, had to move back to London afterwards and I joined School House in January 1947. As I left Ipswich when I left School in July 1948 I lost contact with the School and my fellow students.

I wondered how Robert got on at Cambridge and by chance we met in the 1980's so I asked him. He said he regretted spending so much time playing Bridge rather than studying. He was working at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, calculating satellite orbits.'

– Tony Belk
(OI 1940 – 48)

Rod Cadman (OI 1943 – 50) kindly sent an extract of Robert as a prefect in 1950.

Rosemary Le Mare (1932 – 2015)



Rosemary Le Mare died on 9th September 2015 at the age of 83 after a short illness. She was never idle and had many interests which she participated in right up until the final weeks; including being a keen season ticket holder and supporter of ITFC.

Rosemary was a dedicated wife, mother, sister, grandmother and great grandmother; good friend to many and played a part in the lives of countless students both as house mother and matron and in the CCF.

Rosemary began her illustrious career at Ipswich School in Junior House, the boarding house for the young boys in 1963, when her husband John took over the boarding house. She was a spirited and enthusiastic "mother" encouraging

the boarders to always eat their vegetables, write weekly letters home, wash behind their ears and generally make the most of their boarding lives.

When John got promotion at the School, Junior House was no longer an option, but Rosemary just moved boarding houses and became Matron at Highwood, encouraging the older boys in exactly the same way. After Highwood closed, she moved across the road to Westwood.

After leaving Westwood, Rosemary helped out the day students' matron as relief mainly at lunch times. She was a keen and eager member of the CCF: she enjoyed the Camps and her flight in a helicopter from the School field and rose to rank of Captain, always on hand to

help out – ask Bob Clayton.

In her latter years she still couldn't leave the School behind and became an Invigilator for the external exams well into her seventies.

Rosemary always had time for everybody – whether a pupil, parent, member of staff, cleaner, cook or the other Matrons. Over her half a century's involvement in the life of Ipswich School, she witnessed many changes from the introduction of girls to the expansion and development of the buildings.

Rosemary always supported the School and what it stood for: helping out at Teas for various sporting events in the Cricket Pavilion or Great School; creating various floral displays and table decorations for different functions; supporting all the Arts events, plays, concerts, recitals; attending Speech Days and Commemoration Services to name a few. She sang in various Staff choirs throughout her years at the School and thoroughly enjoyed John Nicholson's fitness sessions in the Gym.

Throughout Rosemary's long and active association with Ipswich School, she loyally supported her husband John, who also contributed a vast amount to the school and wider community, and to the raising of their five children. She is sorely missed by all who knew and loved her for who she was and what she stood for.

Memories of Rosemary:

I attended Ipswich School from 1967 to 1972 as a boarder, first at Junior House and then at Highwood before moving to the U.S. in the summer of 1972. Mrs. Le Mare was the one who taught me how to tie a tie. I still remember that morning after I put on my new school uniform for the first time, her standing before me instructing me on how to tie the four-in-hand knot. Then she put my new school cap on my head to ensure that it fit properly, adjusted my tie, stood back, looked at me and said "very smart." For some reason this memory has remained indelibly etched in my mind. I always remember her as a kind person. May she

rest in peace. My deepest condolences to her family and loved ones.

– Hani Bibi
(OI 1967 - 72)

I was fortunate enough to meet up with Rosemary and John Le Mare at the CCF anniversary last year. Rosemary remembered my mother and spoke kindly of her. Not too surprising I suppose for Rosemary to remember, as she and John had the unenviable task of being house parents to four Spivey brothers; from 1967 to 1977. Then; so I understand, they lived just round the corner from our Ipswich home on Dale Hall Lane. A lovely lady, a wonderful couple actually.

Nothing but fond memories of my time in Junior House. After 40 plus years, I am so glad that I was able to meet up with Rosemary and to have a few minutes to reminisce.

– Michael Spivey
(OI 1967 – 74)

In my first term with Highwood (also my first term in England for that matter), Mrs Le Mare was the house matron at Highwood. At first I was rather in awe of her because of her somewhat imposing demeanour. But she turned out to be the kindest person I knew at Ipswich School. She was extremely kind to me and nursed me to health when I was bedridden for

more than a week in my first term. I also have fond memory of her taking us boys to the doctors/dentists in her car with her toddler son Christopher sitting in the backseat.

– **Raymond Tang**
(OI 1976 – 80)

When Rosemary finally retired after many years of loyal service (in many different roles) from Ipswich School, Mike Scogin Head of Art (retired) drew /painted a leaving card for us all to signit was a picture of Rosemary “ Superwomen “flying through the air along with her beloved screwdriver pliers and mini hammer ...Rosemary could fix and mend anything.

I was told by a reliable source that one day when they went up to Westwood they encountered Rosemary carrying a large wardrobe on her back as she staggered downstairs ...Rosemary never asked for help she just got on with it!

I got to know Rosemary when I started at Ipswich School...she was a breath of fresh air...she would come down to the Surgery to cover for me as I had a lunch break. Her professionalism kindness and

stern face was much loved by many an O.I. Pupils would often say to me “you can never read Mrs Le Mare” ...she liked to keep them on their toes. Rosemary was well able to pick out the “skivers” the pupils trying to get “off games” on a cold winters day. However, when a child was ill or in pain they were treated with great empathy Rosemary had a dry wicked sense of humour...and so very kind...in the Summer months she would often bring me a bunch of sweet peas from her garden tomatoes from the greenhouse and wind fall apples...”don’t you waste those ...make chutney”

One of my lasting memories of Rosemary as Matron at Westwood was on the occasion I had driven up to drop off the Surgery bedding ...and there she was surrounded by dozens and dozens of rugby boots , trainers ,school shoes...she had scrubbed and polished them all and had left them in the sun to dry!

Rosemary was an unsung hero a hard working Matron...and I for one will miss her wisdom.

– **Jean L Masser**
(OI 1996 – 12)

Robert Emuss (OI 1946 – 56)

Died 14th September 2015

Robert died on Monday 14th September 2015. He had developed yet another chest infection and it was just too much for him. He had said many times in recent weeks that he had had enough now that the pulmonary fibrosis had got worse, but he kept going for me. We were very lucky that we were all able to say goodbye to him and he died with us holding his hand.

– **Marian Emuss**

Sad to hear this news. Robert was a couple of years younger than I and I have had no contact since leaving school. However he was in the Holden House XV that won the House cup in 1956 and is sitting on the ground, right hand side holding the house flag in the attached photo. I had previously sent in this picture following the death of J.D Ballam a year

or two ago (in the back row). Robert’s father was of course very involved with Ipswich RFC (Secretary) and his sister and husband were next door neighbours of ours in Felixstowe in the 1970s.

– **Jeremy Barr**
(OI 1946 – 56)

(sitting in the middle holding the ball)



John Elton Aubertin (OI 1940 – 47)

Died 25th November 2015

John first attended St Matthew’s School for six years. On winning a scholarship, he moved to Ipswich School in September 1940. John was keen on sporting activities, particularly gymnastics and these interests helped guide him to his subsequent career. On leaving school in 1947 he was called up for National Service and joined the Army Education Corps. He was posted to Austria and enjoyed his time there because of the opportunities for hiking and climbing. On leaving the Army, John studied for two years at Goldsmith’s College, London followed by three years at Carnegie College, Leeds to become a physical fitness teacher. His first teaching post was at a school in Crawley where he met his future wife Marjorie, who was also a physical fitness teacher. They married in 1956 and a year later moved to Hull where they joined the staff of Hull Teacher Training College as lecturers. John was later promoted to principal lecturer. While there he became involved in training members of the local Police Force to become Life Saving Instructors and through this was invited to lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace. To his extreme embarrassment, it was noticed that he was wearing odd socks!

“ *John spent one very enjoyable New Year’s Eve on Snowdon with Sir John Hunt.* ”

In 1978 John retired from lecturing and together with his wife bought a hotel on the north Yorkshire Moors. Here they were able to indulge their love of walking and climbing. On another occasion, John spent one very enjoyable New Year’s Eve on Snowdon with Sir John Hunt.

In 1987 they sold the hotel and he finally retired. John leaves a widow, a daughter Judy and two grandsons.

– **Margaret Watson**
(née Aubertin)



Tony Jaques (OI 1929 – 38)

Died 22nd April 2015

In the cricket pavilion is a picture of the school first XV dated 1937, its most successful and unbeaten rugby team. What you cannot see is the story behind a remarkable generation of boys who were soon to be young men at war. Their achievements on the rugby field were a harbinger of something much more remarkable - of this small group of boys one died during the second world war and incredibly four won gallantry awards – three military crosses and one distinguished flying cross. It is sometimes said that our grandparents’ generation were the most remarkable in our history as a nation, and certainly the thirties generation of pupils deserve a special place in the history of Ipswich school.

Scrum half Tony Jaques was born at home on 7th November 1919 at Red House Farm in Westerfield. Going to school in a trap drawn by Peter the pony, he recalled the first time a master arrived in a car in the 1920s, bringing the school to a standstill as everyone trooped out to view it!

In 1939, Tony could have avoided military service on either of two grounds working in a reserved occupation – agriculture – or education – he gave up a place at Cambridge to sign up. He joined up because he felt not to would be letting down his pals in the Territorial Army. Twice wounded, mentioned in despatches, the war saw one great benefit of meeting Dinah, his future wife, who was a WRAF plotter he met in Sussex, and again later when she was stationed at Darsham in Suffolk.

He began six years’ war service and joined the Suffolk regiment, which soon converted to tanks, the Royal Armoured Corps 142 Regiment. He was part of the first Allied landings in North Africa, travelling by troop ship from Scotland to Canada, down the East Coast of the United States and then to Morocco, the route to avoid German U-boats. He fought in Churchill tanks that were outgunned and less well armoured than the feared German Tiger tanks. On Easter Friday 1943 the regiment began the day

with 60 tanks and ended it with just 8 functioning. He fought alongside Ted Forrest, one of his rugby backs.

In Easter 1943, he was asked to take three tanks to defend an advanced position in the mountains east of Tunis, protecting the infantry of the Lancashire fusiliers. His tank disabled and facing a large German formation including some Tiger tanks, he walked at night through German lines to get further orders, inconveniently forgetting his revolver, and then back. His three-tank troop held the position for three days and nights under constant fire. Although no infantry reinforcements could be spared to help protect him, the three tanks held the position to protect the front line troops. A remarkable part of this story is that when he announced he was staying to fight he offered each of the 14 men under his command the opportunity to leave or stay without prejudice. All but one chose to do so, the position held, and all the men survived. For this action King George VI awarded him his Military Cross.

Later in Tunis a picket of a few German officer on the road and asked to surrender to his troop of three tanks, he agreed at which point they then waved on another 2000 heavily armed Italian and German soldiers from around a corner to do the same! Tony's trepidation and amazement was quickly mitigated by the fact that he got to swank around Tunis in the German officers' staff car he commandeered – pinched - until the Military Police confiscated it.

In Italy, he joined some of the bitterest fighting of the war, at Monte Casino. Like most of his generation, he only spoke willingly about the lighter side of his war experiences, loving that his regiment smuggled a stolen pig past the Military police inside the regimental piano, and later being billeted inside a winery! Promoted to major and commanding a squadron of 18 tanks, he was wounded in 1944, withdrawn from combat and attached as military intelligence officer

to the Free Polish corps in the Middle East, visiting the sites of Egypt and the Holy land.

The return to England was followed by his marriage in December 1945 in Wales to Dinah whose 48 year long marriage began inauspiciously with a three-month “honeymoon” – Tony in the hospital in Edinburgh Castle military hospital suffering from double pneumonia! He had flown back to the UK from Italy in an open turret of a British bomber!

Married life coincided with a new partnership with Leonard Pipe, moving to the remote and often bleak marshes at Boyton to farm. Farming in the decade after the war was hard, cut off for weeks by snowfall in the 1949 winter, the sea reaching the house in the great floods of 1953. Tony continued a great family tradition of Suffolk agriculture, his own grandfather being the largest breeder of the Suffolk Trinity – Suffolk punch, Red Poll and black face sheep back in the

19th century. He continued framing until retirement in 1984. His connection with Ipswich School continued, his son Richard Jaques (left 1980) and grandson Tom Godfrey (left 2015) also playing for the first fifteen. All three members of Holden House.

The war history of Ted Forrest has previously been described in the magazine. Tony Jaques also maintained a lifelong friendship with Duncan Sutor, another teammate in the picture, who served in the Far East and suffered terrible privations as a prisoner of war of the Japanese.

Wouldn't it be great if some of the current generation could research the histories of the entire team?

Tony Jaques died on 22nd April at his son Richard's home in Coddtenham, Suffolk.

– Steve Godfrey



John Snowball (OI 1950 – 61)

I remember JSP (Paul) Snowball quite well, but never really knew him as he was a couple of years ahead of me. I'd like to make a couple of corrections to John Berry's addition to his obituary; on adoption by Peter & Margaret Hill, Paul became known as Snowball-Hill, and of course Peter Hill was Housemaster of Westwood then, not Broke, as Westwood was at that time, still, very proudly, a separate house. “Spud” Marsden was the Housemaster when I went there from Junior House, and Peter Hill took over a couple of years later.

– RGW (Dixie) Hughes (OI 1956-63)

James (Jim) Sanders (OI 1946 – 54)

Passed away peacefully on April 24, 2016 in Ipswich Hospital aged 80 years. Loving husband of Sheila, much loved dad to Caroline and Mark, Sally and John, David and Alan and grandad to six grandchildren and eight great granddaughters.

It is with great sadness that I have just heard that Jim Sanders has died. He was younger than me at school, but in the same rugby XV and later, we both played together for Ipswich, Suffolk & the Eastern Counties. He was an extremely strong front row forward & a stalwart playing the sport he loved.

Jim was a lovely man, with a great sense of humour & he epitomised the word “gentleman”. Even though I haven't seen him for quite a few years, he looks down on me from my photos, on my office wall. He will be sadly missed.

– Brian Rolph (OI 1943 - 53)

I have so many happy and amusing memories of Jim (as he was known

to most people) which I cherish. I was at the School 1944 to 1955 so I was a contemporary of him and we were both selected for the rugby1st XV with Jim as loose head prop and me as hooker and this was the start of a relationship playing in the same positions for almost 20 years going from the School to the Army (Suffolk Regt, national service), Ipswich Rugby Club, Suffolk and Eastern Counties and I can honestly say that he was by far the best prop I ever played with.

“ He was awarded the Eastern Counties honours cap. ”

In the mid '60's he was awarded the Eastern Counties honours cap and at that time only 4 other Suffolk players had received this honour since the start of the awards in 1921 with one of the others being his elder brother Don (Sandy) Sanders. Away from the pitches he could be found at the club bar relating stories & anecdotes keeping all around him in fits.

– Mike Wootton (OI 1944 - 55)

Christopher Akester (OI 1941 – 53) Died 25th February 2016 aged 81

After initial education in the kindergarten of Ipswich High School, he joined Ipswich Prep School in September 1941, then moved into the ‘Upper School’ in 1944. As a day boy, he was placed in Sherrington house. “Poppa” Job with his House Master and his French master up to School Certificate level in 1949.

He was never a games player, but he was a member of the Scouts Group Wolf Club (with Miss Affleck), Scouts (“Poppa” Job was his Scout Master in the Junior Troop) and finally a Senior Scout (under “Cubby” Stonex). He became a King's / later Queen's scout in 1951 and attended the World Jamboree in Austria that summer. He was also a member of the Combined Cadet Force, ending with the rank of CQMS (under Jimmy Young, Bill Dodd and Peter Hill).

He was appointed a School Prefect by Headmaster Patrick Mermagen, then he was Head of School in his last year (1952/1953).

He acquired a lifelong enjoyment of classical music, largely thanks to “Spud” Peter Marsden who played gramophone records (78s) to a group of sixth formers on Sunday evenings.

From 1953 to 1955 he did National Service in the Royal Army Service Corps.

After training in Aldershot, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in April 1954. He was appointed to an Air Despatch training unit at joint Army / RAF Corps in Watchfield in Wiltshire.

In October 1955 he went up to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and obtained a degree (second) in 1958. He stayed up for a fourth year to take a Dip. Ed. in 1959.

He taught oral English for a year at the Lycee Victor Hugo at Besançon in Eastern France. From 1960 he taught French in England, initially a public school level, then, after five years, he taught at prep school level; most of his career was spent at Dover College Junior School.

After redundancy and injury in a house fire in 1987, he taught for a year at St Edmund's School Hindhead. He then took early retirement in 1989 and remained living in Hampshire until he returned to Suffolk in 1994. He lived at the family home at Hundon in West Suffolk and became a churchwarden until he had to retire in 2002, following the onset of Parkinson's Disease and osteoporosis in 2001. After a major stroke in October 2015, he spent a few months in hospital and a nursing home before dying peacefully on 25 February 2016.

Peter Graham Shaw (OI 1964 – 68)

Died aged 64. He was a Westwood Boarder at the time of Peter Hill. He was born in 1951 and left the School c1966 in the 4th or 5th form when his father's business in Sheffield collapsed. He never joined the O.I. Club spending much of his adulthood in France.

Derek Ryder (School Chaplain 1972 – 77)

School Chaplain, '72-'77), and later Canon and Prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral died on 6th September 2015 at the age of 78. Tim Briden (OI 1958 – 70) writes “He was Chaplain during my father's later years as a Master, which is how I came to know him. A truly delightful man, married to the sister of an OI (but sadly I cannot remember the name of his brother-in-law).”

Death Announcements

We are sad to learn of the following:

James Alec Williamson (OI 1950 – 60)
Died 23rd June 2015

Maurice Gribble (OI 1931 – 39)
Died 25th March 2016 aged 93 years

Terry Paul English (OI 1938 – 45)
Died 10th September 2015

Frank Gower (OI 1932 – 39)
Died April 2016

Julia Woodcraft (former registrar 1980 – 94)
Died September 2015

Peter Cropper (OI 1953 – 59)
Died May 2015

Gerald Cooper (OI 1940 – 45)
Died 26th January 2015



"Pupils demonstrate excellent levels of knowledge, skills and understanding across all subject areas"

Ipswich School is excellent in *all* areas

Ipswich School was judged as 'excellent' – the highest possible grading - in all areas by the team from the Independent Schools Inspectorate after they visited the school in November 2014.

The report on their findings was published in January 2015, and the inspectors found that: "Pupils demonstrate excellent levels of knowledge, skills and understanding across all subject areas, in response to an ambitious curriculum and excellent teaching."

In response to the report, Headmaster Nicholas Weaver said: "We are absolutely delighted that all aspects of Ipswich School have been rated as excellent."

This is a wonderful endorsement of all that we do here to enthuse young people with a passion for learning, helping them

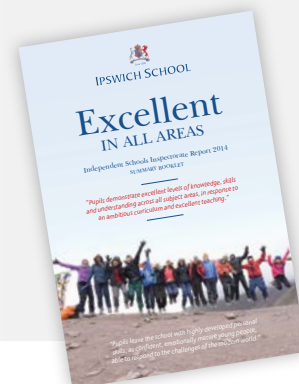
to reach their full potential. As a school inspector myself I know how rare it is to get such excellent results across the board, and I am extremely proud of what we have achieved."

"Pupils leave the school with highly developed person skills, as confident, emotionally mature young people."

Karl Daniels, Chairman of Governors, added: "I would like to pay tribute to the hard work and dedication of all members of staff, governors, parents and pupils

They found that the following key areas were all excellent:

- The quality of the pupils' achievements and learning
- The contribution of the curriculum
- The provision of extra-curricular activities
- The contribution of teaching
- The personal development of pupils
- The contribution of arrangements for pastoral care
- The arrangements to ensure the welfare, health and safety of pupils
- The quality of boarding
- The quality of governance
- The quality of leadership and management, including links with parents, carers and guardians



who have contributed to this outstanding report. The inspectors spent a lot of time investigating all aspects of Ipswich School, and to have such a positive report really is excellent news."

In addition they made the following judgements:

"Pupils consistently achieve at all levels well beyond those expected of their age."

"Pupils make excellent progress in response to the particularly vibrant curriculum which includes an exciting and extensive array of activities and sports."

Ipswich School provides a "learning environment which is characterised by thorough enjoyment and good humour."

"The curriculum provides very effectively for all areas of learning and contributes significantly to the pupils' achievements."

"The pupils' personal development is excellent, supported by an extremely effective and well-organised pastoral care system."

"Pupils show high levels of confidence, are thoroughly articulate, and demonstrate very strong moral and cultural awareness."

"Pupils show a generosity of spirit and appreciate the circumstances of those less fortunate than themselves. Their strong commitment to community service is evident with high levels of participation in volunteering and charitable fundraising."

"Boarding makes an excellent contribution to boarders' personal development."

"Leadership, management and governance are excellent, promoting the school's aims very strongly."

The inspection team found that the school "has made significant progress since the previous inspection" with all recommendations being met. The inspectors said: "Pupils leave the school with highly developed person skills, as confident, emotionally mature young people, able to respond to the challenges of the modern world."

There was one area recommended for further improvement – ensuring consistency of practice across all departments – an area which is already in the school's development plan.



Ipswich School Sports Centre official opening

Former Ipswich School pupils, including England and GB hockey internationals Harry Martin and George Pinner, and a host of other top England hockey players took centre stage, or rather centre pitch on Friday 13 March 2015, to celebrate the inauguration of the new Ipswich School Sports Centre facilities at Rushmere.

The grand opening of these new state-of-the-art pitches and netball courts was sponsored by Seven Group and Medpac, and saw hundreds of spectators and over 40 elite sportsmen and women in attendance. There were coaching sessions and

exhibition matches, and Harry Martin and George Pinner were given the honour of revealing the inaugural plaque and officially opening Rushmere, signalling the start of a rich and hopefully long vein of sporting history at Ipswich School.

During the afternoon, sporting masterclasses were held, run by Surrey Storm netball professionals and the hockey internationals. Year 5 pupils from local primary schools and Ipswich Prep School were given the opportunity to take part and around 100 pupils seized the chance to find inspiration in the excellent coaching.

“The atmosphere all evening was electric, despite the cold weather.”

Following this, Ipswich School first team netball players joined forces with the Surrey Storm professionals to play a top quality, fast-paced netball game. With a mix of pupils and pros on each team, the match resulted in a 44-19 scoreline.

A number of hockey players of all ages then had the opportunity to watch as the England and GB hockey players, including Ashley Jackson, took to the brilliant ‘smurf turf’ to show off their skills and give pointers to the pupils as they tested England and GB goalkeeper George Pinner.

The final spectacle to end the night of all nights was a showdown of epic proportions between the Old Ipswichian

XI and the International XI. Before this began, the recent indoor hockey national winners and runners up, the U18 girls and U16 boys, were presented to the crowd. There was also an emotional presentation to long serving maths teacher and hockey inspiration David Walsh, who was due to retire in the summer, with Harry Martin and George Pinner presented him with their Commonwealth Games playing shirts, as a tribute to the work that he has done to drive hockey at the school.

The OI XI, coached by David Walsh and Steve Godfrey, then proceeded to earn a glorious victory in the match, triumphing 10-7 against school first team players alongside the likes of Ashley Jackson and crowd favourite, Director of Sport David

Hacker, who showed he definitely still has it with a cheeky dummy and a reverse aerial which he won’t be forgetting in a hurry!

“To see Ipswichians go toe to toe with professionals was a pleasure for all involved.”

The atmosphere all evening was electric, despite the cold weather. Around 400 spectators turned out to witness this wonderful event and to experience sport played at an extremely high level by masters of their disciplines. To see Ipswichians go toe to toe with professionals was a pleasure for all involved.



England and GB hockey players take to the ‘smurf turf’

Chapel Choir carries out first tour of New York



50 pupils accompanied by staff performed at a number of churches

Members of Ipswich School’s Chapel Choir took part in the choir’s first tour of New York during the October half term break.

50 pupils accompanied by staff performed at a number of churches and cathedrals in the city, giving concerts of choral music and singing as part of the services there. The Chapel Choir performed in venues including the modern St Peter’s Lutheran Church and St John the Divine Cathedral, which is the longest cathedral in the world. They sang a mixed repertoire including Faure’s Cantique de Jean Racine, Wood’s O Thou the Central Orb and Lennon and McCartney’s Back in the USSR.

The choir also enjoyed sight-seeing tours to the Empire State Building, Central Park and the Guggenheim Museum and saw Les Miserables on Broadway. They also paid a moving visit to the 9/11 Memorial Museum.

“We had so much praise after the events, and were even followed to the different concerts by Harry the dog and his owner!”

While in New York, Ipswich School hosted a dinner at the Penn Club for School parents, staff and Old Ipswichians who are now based in the New York area.

The Chapel Choir performed four songs for the dinner guests, who were a very appreciative audience.

Sion Parry, Director of Music and the tour leader said that there had been considerable excitement from the students from the moment they boarded the coach at 4am in Ipswich to travel to New York. Mr Parry said: “We had so much praise after the events, and were even followed to the different concerts by Harry the dog and his owner! The choir were a credit to the school and thanks must go to them all for their immaculate

behaviour and to all the staff who accompanied them to make the tour a real success.”

Headmaster Nicholas Weaver added: “The Chapel Choir is one of Ipswich School’s flagship music ensembles. I was able to listen to them perform in New York, and it was very pleasing to see the choir sing with such passion, and to experience the positive reaction of the audiences and congregations to our young people. They were great ambassadors for the school and for Ipswich.”

“I was able to listen to them perform in New York, and it was very pleasing to see the choir sing with such passion.”



National champions!

The indoor hockey campaign of 2014-2015 saw four Ipswich School teams reach the national finals, with the U18 girls victorious as national champions, and the U16 boys taking the runners-up spot in their competition.

The 11-strong U18 girls’ team won five games, losing only one game in the pool matches to Repton. Ipswich then went on to beat Repton in the final, winning 2-1. This stopped Derbyshire team Repton



U18 girls with the national indoor hockey championship trophy.

from taking the U18 girls indoor title for the sixth consecutive year, a great achievement for Ipswich.

The U16 boys battled through to the semi-final, where they beat a strong Whitgift side 3-2. In the final they were unlucky to lose to Trent College, after unsuccessfully appealing for a penalty

in the final seconds, which could have seen them level the score and force a penalty shoot-out.

Ipswich School was the only school in the country to have four teams in the indoor finals, in each of the competitions. Against tough opposition, the U16 girls came fourth in their group, having won

one game and lost three and the U18 boys came third in their group, winning two games and losing two games.

Stu Field, Head of Hockey, said: "We are very proud of all four of our teams that made it to the national finals and proud of their achievements at the

events. A special mention must go to the U16 boys who finished runners-up in their competition and our U18 girls who were crowned national indoor champions. I'm so pleased for the girls that they reached their potential and under incredible circumstances.

Their performance improved with every game and they showed great mental strength in the final. This was tournament play at its best! A huge thank you to all the coaches involved and to parents for their support."



Unveiling the portrait of Benjamin Britten

Portrait of Benjamin Britten unveiled



In the week commemorating the birth of Suffolk composer Benjamin Britten, Ipswich School celebrated its links with the musician by unveiling a portrait of him in the foyer of the school's new Music School, home of the Britten Faculty of Music.

The portrait, by Mariusz Kaldowski, was unveiled on Friday 20 November 2015 by Alan Britten, one of the composer's nephews.

The school's senior brass ensemble performed Fanfare by John Jermy to herald the unveiling, and one of the school's string quartets performed Playful Pizzicato from Benjamin Britten's Simple Symphony to celebrate Ipswich School's links with Britten.

"The school's senior brass ensemble performed Fanfare by John Jermy to herald the unveiling, and one of the school's string quartets performed Playful Pizzicato."

In May 2013 the music department at Ipswich School became the Britten Faculty of Music at Ipswich School - in honour of the Suffolk composer's centenary year. The new portrait displays this link for all visitors to see.

Green Team's new noticeboard

Ipswich School's Green Team took part in the unveiling of the noticeboard for Christchurch Park's David Mapus-Smith Orchard in April 2015.

The orchard was planted in 2013 in memory of David Mapus-Smith, a worker in Ipswich Borough Council's Property Services Department, who passed away in 2009. It is recreated in the style of a typical eighteenth century Suffolk orchard, similar to the original orchard on the Christchurch Mansion estate, and has trees planted in diagonals and surrounded by a hedgerow.

The Green Team helped to produce the noticeboard, which was sponsored by Landex Living. It is on show in Christchurch Park, and includes a history of Suffolk orchards and details of the Fonnereau Tree Nursery which featured many of the fruit trees found around the Park area, as well as information on the plants and wildlife that can typically be found in orchards.

Members of Ipswich Borough Council, Landex and the Mapus-Smith family were present at the unveiling and were able to see the development of the orchard and the plants within it.

Ipswich Prep School raises money to open doors

Fundraising efforts by young pupils at Ipswich Preparatory School have boosted a local school's campaign for their pupils to move more independently around school.

The total raised by the Prep School through a number of charity events for Thomas Wolsey School's "Open Doors" campaign was £7,490. This money will help to fund their campaign for modern, automatic doors to allow the children with physical disabilities full access around the school without the need for constant helpers.

The Prep School pupils raised their money through events including a non-stop sponsored line dance event and a



"ties and tights for Thomas Wolsey" day, where pupils paid to wear a "wacky tie or wacky tights" with collection pots being replaced with woolly tights.

Ipswich School raises over £11,000 for charity in one term

Thanks to the generosity of the whole Ipswich School community, over £11,000 was raised during the Michaelmas Term for local, national and international charities.

Events such as a Refugee Week Campaign and a Christmas Hamper Raffle in the Senior School, and collections for the Prep School's appeal to raise money for an orphanage in Africa, brought in a total of £11,574.

This has now been distributed to charities including the Red Cross, Unicef and East Anglia Children's Hospices, with representatives from EACH and the Red Cross coming into the school last week to take part in a photocall to celebrate the charity total.

Headmaster Nicholas Weaver said: "Care for the community outside Ipswich School is one of our core values, and it

is very pleasing to see this embodied in all our pupils and staff, and those in the wider school family, who have given so generously to our fundraising efforts. I know that this will make a difference to so many people for whom life is challenging in one way or another."

As well as raising money for various charities, the Ipswich School campaigns have provided opportunities for pupils to learn more about some of the issues facing the people supported by the charities. The Refugee Week in the Senior School included swapping lunch choices for a simpler lunch of rice, lentils and vegetables, special assemblies with

speakers from Suffolk Refugee Support, and English classes writing poems about refugees in response to the issues raised. In the Prep School, food was collected for the local charity Families in Need (FIND) who provide a food bank for families in Ipswich. The children have also learnt about older people in the local community who live in residential homes and how lonely this can be for them. The school regularly goes to visit to entertain with singing or poetry reading, or just to have a chat.

Head of Ipswich Prep Amanda Childs added: "We are very lucky to be part of such a generous community, but our charity work is not just about the amount of money raised, it is also about helping our pupils understand that there are many people in the world who need our support. Raising awareness of what happens in the wider world and how pupils can help now and in the future is an important part of the education we offer here."



Inaugural Young Musician of the Year competition

In March 2015, Ipswich School crowned its first Young Musician of the Year, in a new twist to the annual music competition.



Musician of the Year finalists

The Grand Final event saw the advanced class winners and those who were highly commended in a range of musical disciplines including strings, piano, singing, woodwind and brass, battle it out for the chance to win the prestigious title of Young Musician of the Year.

The adjudicator Julian Broughton, an accomplished pianist and composer, said to the Grand Final audience that he was seriously impressed by the remarkably successful performances which had been a delight to listen to, and that it had been very difficult to choose between the finalists. He singled out four of the finalists for particular note - Max Raven, Finn Collinson, Ollie Ward and Oliver Pigram - before awarding the title to Finn from Year 12 for his outstanding performances on the recorder.

Departing staff during the 2014/15 school year included:

Chris Boucher
Maths Teacher

Alexandra Davis
English Teacher

Gill Dodd
Prep Teacher

Ray East
Grounds Manager

David Hacker
Director of Sport

James Hutchinson
Art Teacher

Sue Kennedy
Prep teacher

Lyn Parker
Chemistry Technician

Malcolm Saunders
Chemistry Technician

David Walsh
Maths Teacher

Annika Wieckowska
Deputy Head - Prep

Rev Andrew Winter
Chaplain

Mary Winter
Prep Teacher



David Walsh

Maths Teacher (and so much more!)

David's retirement from Ipswich School this summer really does mark the end of an era. His first association with Ipswich School started in the second half of the seventies, when he was a pupil in Broke House.

In 1992, David was appointed by John Blatchly as the Lower School Master, and much of what we take for granted as the cornerstone of our pastoral work here in the school was introduced by David, including chairing the school's first Anti-Bullying Committee and introducing PSHE into the curriculum for pupils in Years 7 to 9. David was also a key figure in modernising the school's pastoral routines with the introduction of tutor time, and extending the induction programme for Year 7 pupils. He had a brief in 1995 to restructure the school's assessment, recording and reporting policy, which is a job he returned to in 2010. In 1997, the introduction of girls into Year 7 was another major change for the school in which David played a central part.

David served as Head of Lower School until 2010, a stint of eighteen years, in what has to be one of the key positions

here, being the very public face of Ipswich School as pupils start the Senior School. In this role he was an expert in managing parental expectations, inculcating in his pupils a love of the school, whilst establishing himself as a most distinguished 'all-rounder' schoolmaster. In this role, David established his formidable reputation as someone who would regularly go above and beyond, for the pupils, the parents, the staff, and the school, instilling in pupils a confidence in themselves. He evidently cared about the quality of school life for all those pupils he knew, and he made a real difference for them.

David's daily bread at school was of course as a gifted Maths teacher. Adept at getting the best out of all those he taught, from stretching the most able further mathematicians at A level, to nurturing those for whom Maths was one of life's

great challenges, David's classroom craft has been inspirational over the years. With so many other interests in school life, David takes his teaching very seriously, and has always made time for his pupils.

As a pupil at the school, David was a keen sportsman. As a member of staff, many pupils found David to be an inspiration on the hockey field, not just as a coach, but also as a manager of the players. Whilst he went on to be a Suffolk and East of England hockey coach, initially David had virtually no coaching background at all in hockey. Keen to build up a new sport in the school, he started coaching hockey at the school in the absence of football. In his opening season, with hockey as very much the 'third' boys' sport, his team lost every match, scoring one goal. Yet it is true to say that Ipswich School's illustrious hockey pedigree was built on David's work, and the school's current reputation on the national stage comes, in a large part, as a result of his work, with Steve Godfrey and others, over the years. David encouraged an ethos where everyone had a chance, developing not just A and B team fixtures, but also the C, D and E teams.

“David was the coach who started Ipswich School's participation in the Gresham's Festival...”

It is revealing that Ipswich School's two favourite hockey sons, George Pinner and Harry Martin, listed in their 2012 Olympics match-day programmes that David was the person who encouraged them to keep playing hockey. Whilst at Ipswich, David's U13s were county finalists for 20 consecutive seasons, winning 16 county championships. Clearly David had a winning formation, and so why change it? His teams were East of England champions five times, reaching the national finals nine times, and winning them three times. David was the coach who started Ipswich School's participation in the Gresham's Festival, an annual event which the pupils looked forward to almost as much as they did to the Cumbria trip. He has coached cricket to A and B teams for 23 years, again ensuring that everyone gets to go home happy, having had a bat or a bowl.



George Pinner and Harry Martin present their players' shirts to David Walsh

Of course David's keen passion for birding has been something he has been more than happy to share with Ipswich School pupils over the years. He has continued to inspire a generation of pupils at the school with his expertise, and a couple of his former pupils have gone on to conservation jobs. More recently in an evening lecture at the school, David shared his experiences whilst on sabbatical in Vietnam of his search for the white-eared night heron.

“As David retires from Ipswich School, he faces the exciting prospect of leading occasional bird tours across the world, unconstrained by school term dates.”

David has also made an invaluable contribution to the musical side of the school. As an excellent and very experienced singer, and also a conductor of note, David has been a member of the School's Chapel Choir for over twenty years; he adopted the informal role of Master in Charge of Processions and Seating, at St Mary le Tower and elsewhere. He quickly became a vital member of the choir, not only as “shepherd of the basses”, but also as a mentor, demonstrating the ability to combine sporting and musical achievement for the pupils. Not only a faithful supporter of Sunday services at the school, David also accompanied a number of choir tours, where he narrowly avoided floods in Siena, and introduced pupils to peregrine falcons high up in the tower of Exeter Cathedral.

As David retires from Ipswich School, he faces the exciting prospect of leading occasional bird tours across the world, unconstrained by school term dates. His retirement leaves a huge gap on the School's staff as a mathematician, sports coach, chorister, expert in assembly bingo, much-loved colleague and friend, and general go-to person by whom ‘unknown unknowns’ should be checked. We will miss David hugely, but it may take some time for us to appreciate quite how much we do miss him. *#gonewell*

Andrew Bradshaw
Head of Middle School

Annika Wieckowska

Deputy Head, Prep School

Annika joined Ipswich Prep School as Director of Studies in September 2001 and was appointed to the role of Deputy Head when Amanda Childs joined in 2009. But before her life at the Prep she had been busy in various roles in state schools including working with the county advisory team in RE and PSE.

Annika has been highly respected amongst the Prep staff, showing sensitivity to everyone's needs and yet still challenging what was not necessarily right and supporting everyone to move forward. Nothing has ever been too much trouble for her, even if she had many things to deal with herself. Even being stuck in Sweden when the ash cloud stopped planes flying, she continued to work remotely. It is rare to find someone who has worked as hard as Annika and with such dedication.

Annika has been a great colleague to work with and she could easily put a smile on both children's and adults' faces alike, especially when dressed as

a Christmas elf or some book character. She would always go that extra mile, and it would seem that she rather enjoys dressing up!

It would always be Annika who would be the last at events, helping clear up, locking the gates and making sure the child who had been forgotten was safe. It would always be Annika who sent the funny illustrations to de-stress tired teachers and it would always be Annika who remembered the little things that could sometimes go unnoticed – like the need for extra biscuits in the staff room.

“Annika has been an integral part of helping Ipswich Prep become an excellent school.”

Annika has been an integral part of helping Ipswich Prep become an excellent school which is truly exceptional in many ways. Being the Deputy is an extremely tough job, trying to be all things to all people, but she has done this in an extraordinary way. She is a very special person and we will really miss her.

Amanda Childs
Head of Ipswich Prep



David Hacker

Director of Sport

David Hacker joined us in 2011 from Millfield School, with a background in playing sport at the highest level, coaching and inspiring young people to achieve their best, and generally encouraging sport and fitness in all.

“David is very modest about his Olympic background and playing days, except on tour...”

His colleagues say he is one of the most relaxed and laid back people

they know. He is able to offer calming words in frantic times. He is a talented sportsman playing a high level of cricket as well as hockey. David is very modest about his Olympic background and playing days, except on tour when he rolls out his GB backpack and sandals from Sydney 2000 and pretends they are still in fashion. He is also very good at haggling with beach vendors to buy essential items like panama hats, which are needed to finish the look.

Here at Ipswich School he introduced sports testing sessions to help improve

pupils' fitness and help prevent sports injuries, with the results of the screening tests fed into the development of PE lessons. He also oversaw the launch of the Ipswich School Sports Centre at Rushmere, working with Ols George Pinner and Harry Martin to cajole a number of Team GB hockey players and Ols to take part in the exhibition hockey match with the promise of a souvenir shirt and a curry afterwards. Of course he took to the pitch himself to show that he could still mix it with the best of them!

“We wish David all the best for his new school – and perhaps we'll see him coaching his new teams in a national hockey final...”

David also enjoys his golf and was quoted trying to convince certain members of PE that it was the ‘greatest game in the world’, although we're not sure how this ranks alongside his beloved hockey! We wish David all the best for his new school – and perhaps we'll see him coaching his new teams in a national hockey final...



Ray East

Grounds Manager and Cricket Coach

Ray East was one of the old school, an immensely popular cricketer who always conveyed a sense of fun whenever he played. That often overshadowed his ability - he took over 1000 wickets in his 19 seasons whilst he was serving Essex. These are the words of one of the greatest cricket commentators of all time – John Arlott. John also described Ray as one of the game's spontaneously funny men and the same could be said of his time at the school. Pupils coached by Ray have gone on to a cricket career with first class counties, and the number of Ols



James Hutchinson

Art Teacher

When we asked Year 8 pupils to think of a word to describe James Hutchinson, a few they came up with were: fun, enthusiastic, experimental, thoughtful, kind, generous, understanding, artistic, inspirational, helpful, relaxed, friendly, special, legendary, patient, calm and supportive.

“The environment that James creates oozes creativity, organisation and passion.”

James is a truly inspirational teacher, he is calm and patient and can instil confidence within our students to have a go and be creative. The environment that James creates oozes creativity, organisation and passion. This

combination has made him a true asset to the Art department and to the school.

“He has the rare talent of balancing his own creative needs as an artist with his teaching commitments.”

He has the rare talent of balancing his own creative needs as an artist with his teaching commitments, allowing him to share with the students both his wealth of knowledge experience and his artistic style. This, coupled with the exceptional quality of his teaching, enables him to inspire the students.

Maggie Davis
Director of Art

the country and the cricket square at the school would not look out of place at a test match.

“Legend is a term bandied about far too often in particular when it comes to sport – but there is no doubt that Ray is not only an Essex legend, an East Bergholt legend, but also an Ipswich School legend.”

Legend is a term bandied about far too often in particular when it comes to sport – but there is no doubt that Ray is not only an Essex legend, an East Bergholt legend, but also an Ipswich School legend. We may praise him for coaching those who have played county cricket but a far greater achievement should be the fact that thousands of pupils have left this school with a great love for the glorious summer sport of cricket.



450

1200 - 1566 - 2016

On the 18th of March 1566, Queen Elizabeth I, by Letters Patent, reaffirmed the royal charter granted to the school by her father, Henry VIII.

Our education today is anchored in the year 1200, when the Guild Merchant of Ipswich was licensed by the civic charter granted to the town by King John. The chaplains of the Guild, later to become the Guild of Corpus Christi, are believed to have been entrusted with the education of the sons of the leading townsmen.

The Story of the Letters Patent



In 1566, our school, which has had many homes over the centuries, was located on Foundation Street, not far from the bustling docks, in a house willed to it by Richard Felaw, a town worthy, about 70 years earlier. The headmaster, unusually for those days, was a layman, John Scott.

By this time, the delays caused by waiting for the monarch to approve the appointment of headmasters were becoming a major frustration for the town bailiffs and corporation, as it meant the boys were often left untaught. Late payment by the Crown of stipends to the (head) Master and Usher (deputy master) was also affecting their reliability and attendance.

It is possible that the subject had been raised during the visit of Good Queen Bess to Ipswich in 1561. Now, the town clerk, one John Hawys, made an application to the monarch for

confirmation of the charter given to the school by her father, Henry VIII and undertook the legal negotiations in London. The Queen assented and on the 18th of March, the royal Letters Patent were issued and a copy of the vellum manuscript was dispatched to Ipswich.



What are Letters Patent or itterae patentis?

The purpose of Letters Patent, always plural, was to proclaim publicly the granting of rights or status to an individual or body. Initially the royal seal might have been attached to the open document so that the contents were public, not private.

It is possible that such Letters were displayed for courtiers to see and the news would spread thence throughout the country by word of mouth.

Our Letters Patent

Our Letters served a number of purposes for the school. Most importantly for some, the foundation 'of our most dear father, Henry VIII' was recognised and its links to the Crown confirmed, despite Henry's break with Cardinal Wolsey and the fall of the grand home he had built for his old school.

The royal annuity for the salaries of the Master and Usher, granted by Henry's charter, was also safeguarded to ensure 'their diligence in instructing such boys in learning' as was 'the pious and good intention of the aforesaid founder'. Future Masters, to be chosen by 'our beloved subjects the Bailiffs and Corporation', were to be ratified by the Bishop of Norwich rather than by the Crown, as the delays had meant pupils 'have spent the time aforesaid idly'. The Borough was also empowered to 'make fit and wholesome statutes and ordinances' for the governance and running of the school, these to be approved by the Bishop of Norwich. These statutes and ordinances were to be 'inviolably observed for ever'. Today, the reigning monarch, as the school's 'Visitor', is the ultimate arbiter of disputes. Our chapel choir wear red cassocks as a sign of this royal connection.

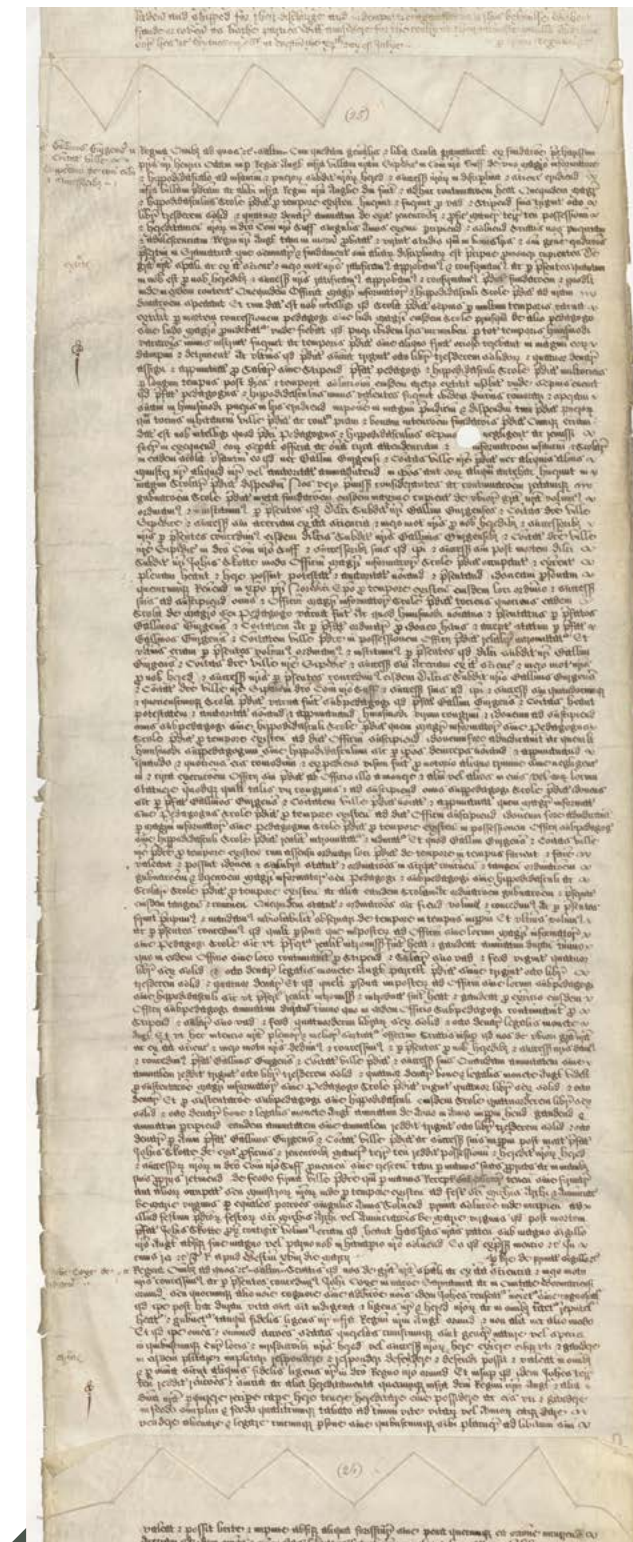


Where are they now?

No copy of Henry VIII's charter is known to exist today and we no longer have our copy of Elizabeth's Letters Patent.

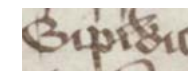
We do know that when headmaster John King retired in 1798, for reasons now, and perhaps then, unknown he made an enormous pile of books and papers in the schoolyard and burned them. Perhaps thus they were lost. Happily, the Patent Rolls of 1566 are preserved today in the National Archives. All Queen Elizabeth's Letters Patent of that year, including her copy of our own, were stitched together to make one long roll of vellum.

The sixteenth century Latin is rather different from the Classical Latin studied today and is written in a difficult and heavily abbreviated chancery script, something that is typical for Letters Patent.



Copy of our Letters Patent

Held in the National Archives, written in 'Neo-Latin' in chancery script. The stitching above and below joins our vellum to other letters patent of that year. Some words are fairly easy to pick out, such as *Gipisvic* or *Gipiswic* (Ipswich)



Translation of Letters Patent

Elizabeth, Dei gratia &c. Whereas there hath for a long time been, and still continues to be, a certain General and Free Grammar School, founded by our most dear Father Henry VIII, late King of England, within our Town of Ipswich, in our County of Suffolk, consisting of a Master and Usher (*Magistro Informatore & Hypodascalo*) to instruct the children of our subjects, and of the subjects of our heirs and successors, in learning and knowledge, within the Town aforesaid, and elsewhere within our Kingdom of England: Which offices of Master and Usher are in our disposal; and the said Master and Usher of the School aforesaid have had and were to have for their wages and stipend £38 13s. 4d. *per annum*, to be received and paid every year out of the issues and profits of our manors, lands, teneements, possessions and hereditaments, in our said County of Suffolk.

Know ye, &c. That we especially desiring that the children and youth of our Kingdom of England should be instructed as well in probity of manners, and the study of virtue, as in good letters and all kind of erudition, especially in Grammar, which is the beginning and foundation of all other learning, of our especial grace (etc.) have ratified, approved, and confirmed, and by these presents, as much as in us lieth, for Us, our heirs, and successors, do ratify, approve, and confirm the aforesaid Foundation, and every thing therein contained.

And whereas We are given to understand that the School aforesaid hath often been vacant by the death or cession of the Master of the said School for a long time before it has been provided with another Master, from whence it has happened that the boys there at school, during all the time of such vacancy, have not been instructed, and have spent the time aforesaid idly, without any benefit, to their great loss and detriment; and further, that the aforesaid sum of £38 13s. 4d. assign'd and appointed for the salary or stipend of the aforesaid Master and Usher of the said School, has very often for a long time after the days and times of payment of the same been behind and unpaid, from whence it has often happened that the said Master and Usher have been the less able to stay there any longer, and give their diligence in instructing such boys in learning, to the great prejudice and loss, as well of the said boys, as of the inhabitants of the whole Town aforesaid, and contrary to the pious and good intention of the aforesaid Founder: And whereas We are given to understand that the aforesaid Master and Usher have often been remiss and negligent in executing their several offices in all things relating to their attendance and instruction of the children and scholars of the said School, because neither the Bailiffs, Burgesses, and Commonalty of our Town aforesaid, nor any other our magistrates had any right or authority to animadvert upon them or any of them, to the great detriment of the scholars aforesaid.

We, considering the premises, and very much desiring the continuance and right government of the aforesaid School, according to the foundation of the same, of our more abundant grace have willed, ordained, and constituted by these presents, that our beloved subjects the Bailiffs, &c., of Ipswich, and their successors, and also (etc.) for us, our heirs and successors, by these presents do grant to our said beloved subjects the Bailiffs, &c., and their successors, that they and their successors, after the death of our beloved subject John Soot, who now possesses and exercises the office of Headmaster of the said School, shall and may have full power and authority of naming and presenting any fit person to the Reverend Father in Christ the Bishop of Norwich for the time being, Ordinary of the said place, and his successors, to undertake the burden and office of Headmaster of the School aforesaid, as often as the said School shall be in want of a Master, and that the person so nominated and presented by the said Bailiffs, (etc.) and by the said Ordinary adjudged and accepted as fit, shall immediately by the said Bailiffs, &c., of the said Town be actually admitted into possession of the said office.

And further, by these presents, We have willed, ordained and instituted that our said beloved subjects the Bailiffs, &c., of Ipswich, and their successors, and also (etc.) by these presents, We do, for us, our heirs and successors, grant to our said beloved subjects the Bailiffs, &c., and their Successors, that they and their successors, whosoever, and as often as the School aforesaid shall be vacant of an Usher, shall have power and authority of naming and appointing such a fit and proper man to undertake the burden of an Usher of the School aforesaid, as the Master of the School aforesaid for the time being shall have adjudged to be fit to undertake the said office; And to remove every such Usher, so by them nominated and appointed, from his office, for any notorious crime or negligence in and about the execution of his said office, and as often as it shall seem to them fit and expedient; and another, or others, to appoint in his or their places. And that every such proper man fit to undertake the burden of Usher of the School aforesaid, and by the said Bailiffs, &c., named and appointed, as the Master of the School for the time being shall have adjudged fit to undertake the said office, shall be admitted and actually introduced to the possession of the office of Usher of the School aforesaid, by the Master of the said School.

And that the Bailiffs, &c., with the consent of the Ordinary of the place aforesaid, shall and may make fit and wholesome statutes and ordinances in writing, concerning and touching the ordering governance and direction of the Master and Usher, and of the Scholars of the said School for the time being, and other things concerning the ordering, governance, and preservation of the same. And We do will and grant, and by these presents do strictly charge and command, that the said statutes and ordinances so to be made, be from time to time inviolably observed for ever.

And further our will is, and by these presents We do grant, that every person which hereafter shall actually be introduced to the office or place of Master aforesaid, shall have and enjoy every year during the time of his continuance in the said office or place, for his wages, salary and fee, £24 6s. 8d. of lawful English money, parcel of the sum of £38 13s. 4d. aforesaid: And that every person who for the future shall be actually admitted and introduced as aforesaid to the office or place of Usher, shall have and enjoy (etc.) for his wages and salary, the stipend and fee of £14 6s. 8d. of lawful English money.

And that this our intention may have the fuller and better effect, Know Ye, that We of our more abundant grace etc., have given and granted, and by these presents for Us, our heirs and successors, do give and grant to the said Bailiffs, &c., and their successors, a certain annuity or annual rent, of £38 13s. 4d. of good and lawful English money; that is to say, for the support of the Master of the said School, £24 6s. 8d. and for the support of the Usher of the said School, £14 6s. 8d. of good and lawful English money yearly, from year to year, for ever; to have and to enjoy, and yearly to receive the said annuity of £38 13s. 4d. *per annum* to the said Bailiffs, &c. and their successors for ever, after the death of the aforesaid John Soot, out of the rents, profits and revenues growing and arising out of our manors, lands, (etc.) and those of our heirs and successors, in our said County of Suffolk, as well by their own proper hands, and in their proper hands to be detained out of the Fee Farm of the Town aforesaid, as by the hands of our receivers, bailiffs, collectors, tenants, or farmers, or other our occupiers, or officers for the time being, to be paid at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel and the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by equal portions every year, the first payment to begin at that Feast of the Feasts above mentioned which shall first happen after the death of the aforesaid John Soot.

Our will is also, that they shall have these our Letters Patent under our Great Seal of England, without fine great or small to be paid in our Exchequer to Us (etc.). Witness Myself at Westminster, 18 March in the Eighth Year of Our Reign.



‘Semper Eadem’ Our motto - what’s it all about?

For years, ‘always the same’ has rolled off the tongues of pupils asked to translate our motto.

But what does it really mean and how did it come to be part of the school's coat of arms? As with much of our history, accounts differ but we do know that semper eadem was the motto of Queen Elizabeth I, who in 1566 renewed the school's royal charter, previously granted

by her father, Henry VIII.

The Latin translation of *semper* is *always*, while *eadem* is the feminine form of *idem*, meaning *the same*. We often see *idem* in texts, referring back to a word or concept mentioned earlier on. It is a phrase used by Cicero, the Roman

philosopher whose influence on Latin and European languages was profound.

One theory as to why Queen Elizabeth took this as her motto is that as a young princess she had a governess named Lady Elizabeth Tyrwhit who taught her various sayings, such as ‘Kill anger with

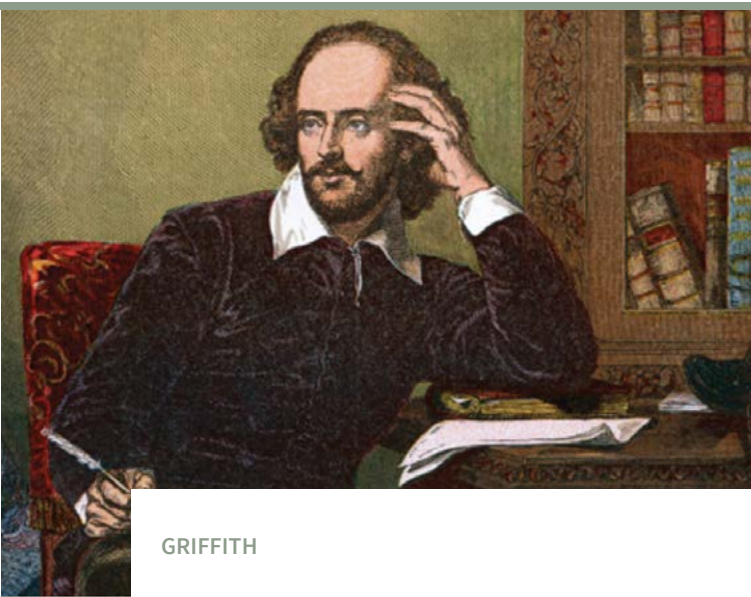
patience, Make much of modestie, Harbour a harmlesse hart’ and ‘Be always one’. The latter, which might be translated into Latin as semper eadem, could be taken to imply constancy.

Another theory is that the Queen took the motto from her mother, Anne Boleyn, who, like Elizabeth, had been a Protestant - Henry VIII had broken with Catholicism and the Pope, creating the Church of England, over the annulment of his first marriage and his second marriage to Anne. It is possible that Elizabeth saw herself as upholding the religion of her mother or perhaps she simply wished to link herself to Anne, who was executed when her daughter was just two years old.

The motto was later used by Queen Anne, who reigned from 1702-1714 and who liked to compare herself with Elizabeth . In more recent years, the school has chosen to translate semper eadem as ‘always constant’, which, as Headmaster Nicholas Weaver notes, is felt to reflect the spirit of this motto as applied to Ipswich School.

The Bard & The School

Four hundred years ago, on the 25th of April 1616, William Shakespeare was laid to rest in Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon.



GRIFFITH

The great Bard (poet), as he is often called, wrote during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and both she and he shared a familiarity with our school. The Queen issued Letters Patent in 1566 to reaffirm the royal charter given to us by Henry VIII, while Shakespeare went much further and put our school on the world stage, even though today most people are unlikely to recognise it. His play Henry VIII immortalises Ipswich School thus:

*Those twins of Learning that he raised in you,
Ipswich and Oxford.*

The reference in Henry VIII to Wolsey and his colleges comes in Act IV, Scene ii, when the former queen, Catherine, or Katherine, of Aragon is speaking of Wolsey's death with her attendant Griffith in her apartments at Kenilworth. Katherine describes what she sees as the corruption of the man responsible for her divorce from the King. Griffith, however, speaks well of Wolsey and describes his commitment to education:

William Camden's 1597 biography of Elizabeth mentions both of the above:

‘The Protestant Religion being now by authority of Parliament established, Queene Elizabeths first and chieftest care was for the most constant defence thereof, against all the practises of all men amidst the enemies in that behalf, neither indeed did she ever suffer the least innovation therein. Her second care was to hold an even course in her whole life, and all her actions; whereupon she tooke for her Motto, SEMPER EADEM, that is ALWAYS THE SAME’.

*This Cardinal,
Though from an humble stock, undoubtedly
Was fashion'd to much honour from his cradle.
He was a scholar, and a ripe and good one;
Exceeding wise, fair-spoken, and persuading:
Lofty and sour to them that loved him not;
But, to those men that sought him, sweet as summer.
And though he were unsatisfied in getting,
(Which was a sin) yet in bestowing, madam,
He was most princely: ever witness for him
Those twins of Learning that he raised in you,
Ipswich and Oxford: one of which fell with him,
Unwilling to outlive the good that did it;
The other, though unfinish'd, yet so famous,
So excellent in art, and still so rising,
That Christendom shall ever speak his virtue.
His overthrow heap'd happiness upon him;
For then, and not till then, he felt himself,
And found the blessedness of being little:
And, to add greater honours to his age
Than man could give him, he died, fearing God.*

Tribute to a Headmaster

Dr Blatchly was my headmaster for two years in the 1980s, when I was one of the few girls in the Sixth Form. I didn't know him well then, although I knew of him as my brother had been at the school since sometime in the Prep.

My memories are few and mixed. A tall begowned figure sweeping down Lime Avenue. A stern face. The same stern face with a glimpse of hidden (but probably huge) amusement at goings on around him. JMB certainly considered himself lucky to have been a headmaster in those days before health, safety and oversight regulated every move. His was a more leisurely time, of indulgence in the school and its pupils, immersion in the school community, without the unending chain of obligations and regulations involved in running a school today. Today's demands, he felt, must surely sap a large proportion of a headteacher's lifeblood and he was full of admiration for those who could manage them.

It was a little odd when a few years ago Peter Boughton suggested I pop up to the archives to meet Dr Blatchly.



A begowned figure – in his element with Princess Anne, 1990



From 'Conference and Common Room

I returned his greeting with 'Hello Dr Blatchly, it's lovely to see you' or something like that. He replied 'Oh don't call me that, call me John'; and I followed stupidly with, 'Oh, alright, Sir! It got easier though and soon it was hard to think of him as anything other than John.

“I never expected to become friends with my old headmaster but life takes strange turns.”

I didn't realise until I had lunch with John, Pam (Mrs Blatchly) and son Mark at the Greyhound a couple of years ago, that John had known so much about all the pupils during his tenure. Be warned, OIs of that generation. Your lurkings and skulkings, trysts and misdemeanours were not as secret as you thought.

John, Mark and I had just been in the headmaster's study to make a DVD about the Old Town Library housed there. It had been fun to watch the interaction between father and son. I think John was desperately proud. As we sat in the sun with the geraniums, I began to feel that my every Sixth Form move had been observed and noted. I knew JMB had written to my mother saying there was no need for quite such flamboyant clothes and hairstyle (it was the Eighties), but I myself didn't remember

the entrance interview I had had with him in his study, nor was I aware he knew far too many details about boyfriends playing truant and who did what and with whom at the Sixth Form party. I can't imagine the school today would dare allow Sixth Formers, loud music and alcohol late into the night in the Sixth Form centre, with no restrictions on trips to and from the Greyhound. Maybe that was the only such party and that was enough as far as the school was concerned. But JMB knew things! And while he didn't spill the beans on my peers - don't worry! - it was plain he knew just as much about them as he did about me. It must be said of course that he also remembered the good things pupils did, not just their questionable behaviour, but also details about performance in academics, music and sport. But if he was as laid back then as he was in his latter years, then we really had nothing to worry about.



John, second from left, as Kaspar in Amahl and the night visitors

Perhaps though, age softened him. I don't know; as I said, I didn't know him well back then. But certainly when I reconnected with him these few years ago, he seemed content, cheerful and for the most part relaxed. Having said this, John could be highly dismissive of what he considered low standards. For example, I learnt a great deal about the school's history during the time I came in to the archives just to help out, things about which I had previously had no idea. But I hadn't learned all 800-years-plus of it quite fast enough, apparently and

I began to dread him bringing up some very specific event or person and having to choose between trying to conceal my ignorance or come clean and feel somewhat of an idiot.

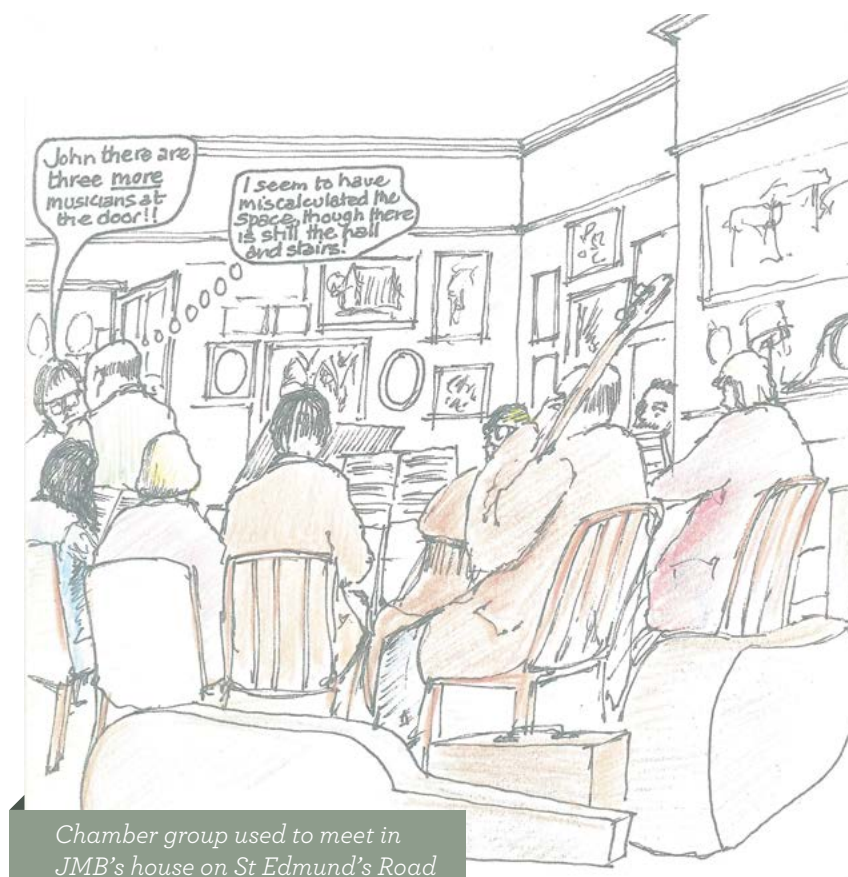
One thing I noticed about JMB was his seeming absolute lack of any patronizing attitude at all towards women. I have, not surprisingly, while working in the school archives and museum, met many men of his generation and even in my own generation, like it or not, there can still be differences in the way we look or estimate at women and men in the professional

and academic fields. It wasn't that I didn't notice this with JMB, but rather that I noticed clearly that it simply didn't seem to exist. This is something I absolutely loved about him and which has to be mentioned in this piece. It stood out and was completely refreshing.

Another thing I feel compelled to tell here is what I saw of John after Pam/Mrs Blatchly had a bad fall. Looking back this seems a significant moment. Pam was in hospital for some time and when she came out she needed a great deal of care. For a while it seemed as if there might be little improvement. I am sure it comes as no surprise that John maintained a very brave face and, at least in my presence, didn't complain but rather told me interesting things regarding doctors and hospital staff.

“Not an ounce of frustration, just encouragement and an appreciation of every small measure of progress.”

What really got me though and which brings tears to my eyes now writing about it was what I saw when I went to visit them. I'm sure it must have been horribly hard for John and yet when I was there in Plantation House, he was so incredibly kind and patient with Pam. Not an ounce of frustration, just encouragement and an appreciation of every small measure of progress. He appeared to have adapted himself to the changed circumstances in the most incredible way. He was gentle and patient in his care and attention and when we took hesitant walks around the garden with Pam, his joy at her recovery was visible. I was simply overwhelmed



Chamber group used to meet in JMB's house on St Edmund's Road

by what I saw; it really was the most beautiful insight into a love, support and devotion that many never experience to that degree.

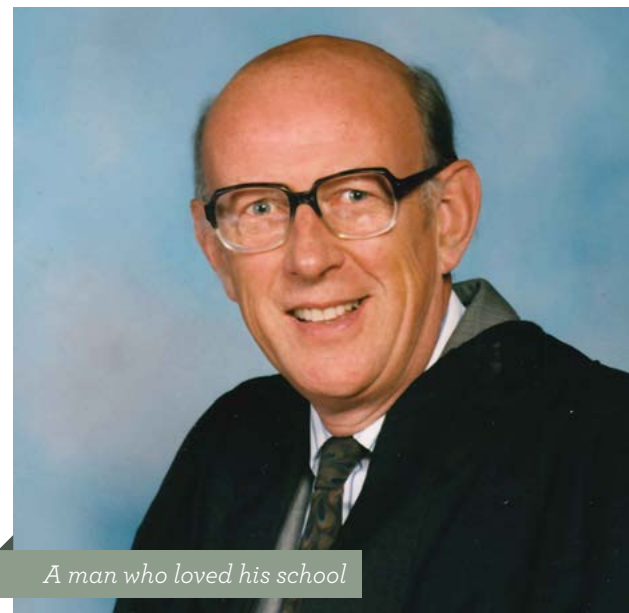
“He was gentle and patient in his care and attention and when we took hesitant walks around the garden with Pam, his joy at her recovery was visible.”

What else? What can I say? I never expected to become friends with my old headmaster but life takes strange turns.

I did get frustrated when John didn't understand that unlike him, I couldn't answer emails immediately because I had piles of laundry or too many children's things to do. But he sat happily on the sofa in our house next to a pile of washing, told me that the latest concern I had about my children was normal, spoke to them happily and wasn't in the slightest put out by the fact that they weren't as affable as he was.



John's love for his adopted County never waned



A man who loved his school

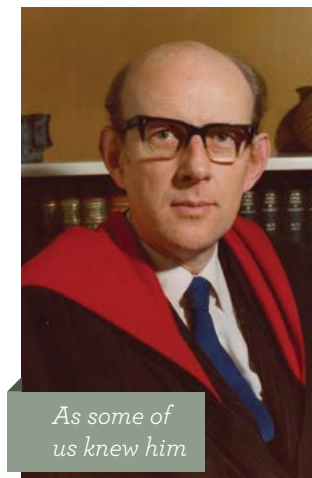
He simply carried on talking and it was lovely to have someone around who had obviously seen so many children grow up and pass through so many phases. I used to get annoyed that John often seemed to focus on the aristocracy of British history, the lords and ladies, the barons and nobles, the monarchy.

We had a little to-do about an article in the East Anglian which I liked and he didn't, more of a social history piece from either World War One or Two. He didn't back down and I didn't either. He was fine with that, there was no preaching whatsoever. But that was pretty much it on disagreements. I'm sure he had his opinions on how I had run my life but he kept these to himself.

As we all are, I am so very sorry for all John's family. As for the rest of us, everyone has their stories about him. I was sad at first



Enjoying things immensely, Prince Philip's visit, 1973



As some of us knew him



John on his eightieth birthday, so recent!

that I couldn't go to the memorial service at St Mary-le-Tower, but then I was glad. He was such a very public figure and I had a friendship with him which didn't fit into any box and which I realised I was more comfortable in remembering by myself.

Had I had any doubts about attendance at the event, I would certainly have gone, but I was (obviously!) right in expecting that it would be packed. I was also a coward – I didn't really know how to deal with the enormous sadness I was feeling at the loss of someone I realised I had come to rely on so much and in so many unexpected ways. I don't think he'd mind though. He wasn't that kind of a person.

*– Melissa Joralemon
(OI 1982 – 84)*



And even this!

Loyalty and dedication – farewell to the Belchams

The Belchams. Leigh and Jill. What a wonderful couple to work with over the past few years!

Regarding Leigh, a colleague described him as being like a stick of rock, the ones we used to get at the seaside or other holiday places, with the school arms running right through him. As OI Secretary, Leigh would come in with his briefcase and OI tie once a week on a Thursday. Jill, however, has no Ipswich schooldays in her past, yet came in for the same period every fortnight and gave herself for several hours entirely to the task of cataloguing, researching, anything and everything to enhance the school museum and its collection. I miss her terribly. Her insights were sharp and her

eyes would often sparkle with humour if she, being from a generation of far better manners and decorum, was not quite willing to voice comments or thoughts which came to mind. Jill praised and encouraged, fussed like a hen if one was ill and remembered what was important to those around her. She and Leigh have moved on to what we all hope will be a more relaxing and, maybe, possibly – although not very likely – a more self-centred life in Warwick. They go and leave a void behind them. Thank you to both of you and we wish you every happiness in your new home.



*Thank you to both of you and
we wish you every happiness
in your new home.
– X –*

Ipswich Dinner Saturday 19th December 2015

One of the key events in the OI year is the Ipswich Dinner.

This year on the allocated day of the dinner the weather was warm and dry which was good news as, only a few years ago, attendance at the dinner was severely hit by icy conditions.

One of the key events in the OI year is the Ipswich Dinner. This year on the allocated day of the dinner the weather was warm and dry which was good news as, only a few years ago, attendance at the dinner was severely hit by icy conditions. In 2015 OIs, partners, and guests assembled in the school's Great School for pre-dinner drinks, followed by dinner. In addition to the usual tables in the main body of Great School, three tables were set-up on the stage as the numbers attending this year were considerably higher than they have been for some time. A logistical challenge, but what a good one to have! A total of

176 (yes, really) enjoyed a particularly delicious meal - it really was good - conversation and speeches. For those who were too late to book a seat, sorry there was no more room. Particularly pleasing was the wide generation range of OIs present at the dinner: truly an event with appeal across the generations. We were joined by the Year 13 Heads of School and Heads of each House, who were excellent guests.

The Club President, Bob Clayton, hosted the evening and his guest speaker was Simon Ballard (OI 81-89). Simon, a Training Captain on long-haul routes with British Airway's 777 fleet, had plenty of stories from his experiences with which to entertain everyone present. The Headmaster then spoke about aspects of the school, and emphasized the wonderful all round education offered

to pupils. The President spoke about his time at Ipswich School before handing the chain of office and the "chief's seal" to his successor as President, Ling Stephens.

This was an enjoyable and memorable evening. What a great event to complete the OI Club year. Congratulations and many, many thanks to John Ward for organising and running such an enjoyable evening for so many.



New York Dinner Wednesday 21st October 2015

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 – 71)

London Dinner at the East India Club, St James's Square Wednesday 22nd April 2015

On 22 April we returned to the East India Club for the London Dinner. As in 2014, we were treated extremely well.

Dinner was delicious, and the venue was as bright this year as it had been dull a decade or so ago.

Your President, Bob Clayton, hosted an enthusiastic group of OIs. His guest speaker, Ray East, cricketer, groundsman and legend, entertained us all with appropriate stories of his cricketing life, as well as reminiscences of his

time at Ipswich School. He was keen to mention that he had outlasted several headmasters, and he was pleased to toast the health of the OI Club.

The (current) Headmaster, Nick Weaver, responded and gave a report on events at the school. For many OIs, the evening continued after the formal event, with friendships enhanced or developed.



OI Summer Lunch at School

What used to be the Diamond Lunch has become the Summer Lunch.

This incorporated the celebrations of the Class of 65 (see below). OIs who left the school at least 50 years ago, plus their partners, toured parts of the school and lunched together. This is always a convivial and enthusiastic gathering, made more so by a special archives display arranged and hosted by Melissa Joralemon, Leigh Belcham and Jill Belcham. This was very well received: our thanks to the three of them. The Chairman of the school governors, the Headmaster and the Club Chairman spoke.





Sports Festival - 29th March 2015



*Ipswich Dinner
19th December 2015*

Remembrance Service, 8th November 2015



50th Anniversary for the 1965 leavers



Drinks in the City - 6th March 2015



OI v School Cross Country, 12th March 2015



Rugby 7s - 6th September 2015



School v MCC, 19th May 2015



Leavers Service and Reception, 3rd July 2015



Drinks in the City, 2nd October 2015

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Little School at Ipswich School at 6.30pm on Saturday 19th December 2015.

1.0 Apologies for absence:

Apologies for absence were received from: Mike Fenn, Julian Fenn, Lewis Tyler, Terry Cracknall, Chris Fallon. Members were welcomed to the AGM by the President, Bob Clayton.

2.0 Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting:

Minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a correct record Proposed by Trevor Woods and Seconded by James Davey. **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.

3.0 Chairman’s report

Guy Main presented his Chairman’s Report for 2015 as follows: Mr President, Headmaster, fellow OIs. In 2014 we celebrated the 125th anniversary of the founding of the OI Club. It was a year of celebration, culminating in the Gaudy (held at School) which saw over 400 OIs and their families partying together. That was an achievement and a great event. So, has 2015 been a let-down? Not at all. The impetus provided by the 125th anniversary has been a springboard for the further development of the OI Club. As I come to the end of my 3 year term as Chairman, the firm foundations of the Club are more evident than ever. The Club has a strong heritage, an active core membership, and a dedicated committee. The Club is financially sound, and it has a clear purpose.

Membership: On membership, 85% of the year 13 school leavers (88/105) joined the Club. This sits well with recent years: in 2014 it was 80%, 2013 89% and in 2012 it was 81%. Fewer year 11 leavers joined the Club, and this is somewhat of a trait for those leaving at this stage. This year it was 60% (23/39) and in the previous few years it was: 76% in 2014 (39 leavers), 84% in 2013 (45 leavers) and 81% in 2012. I am grateful to the Headmaster and the Head of Sixth Form for inviting me to speak, respectively, at the new parents evening and to the sixth form. These events, and others, introduce the Club to parents and pupils at an early stage, which is helpful. Awareness of the Club, its role and what it does is rising in the School, and we are working for more opportunities to show the benefits of membership of the OI Club.

Links with the school: The Club’s link with the School has developed positively during my term as Chairman. One of my aims was to improve it. We now have a better understanding of how we can help each other and, importantly, how to approach and achieve this. Important and major discussions recently have been on data sharing, and a letter is en-route to all OIs on this subject, and the Club’s role is proposing a governor to serve on the School’s governing body. In my opinion the relationship was reasonably strong, and it much stronger now. For the future, I am optimistic that we can build on the work done, the understanding gained, and the relationships forged. The Foundation Office of the School, which started the year as the Development Office, has once again assisted the Club greatly. Much of what the Club does, certainly the bigger events, would be difficult without the assistance of the office and its team. I propose a vote of thanks to Lindy Hacker and Vicki Spray for

all their work [adopted by the Members present]. Peter Boughton has just completed his role as Foundation Director. In that capacity and as bursar of the School before Peter has done much to help the Club. My thanks, and that of the Club, to Peter. [Adopted by the Members present.

Links with the school: The OI Club has once again communicated well with OIs and the Club has produced some excellent publication. Significant help has been provided by Moira Bryan, the School’s press and public relations manager to the OI News and OI Journal. The star for these publication is the OI Club Editor, Clare Lock, who puts in a huge amount of work, time, energy and overall commitment to make these publication so appealing and widely read. My grateful thanks to her. This year’s OI Journal had a fresh approach, all down to Clare’s initiative and work, and it has, rightly received much praise. Be ready to receive the next edition of the OI News, which is about to be delivered to all OIs for whom we have postal addresses. The Club continues to send an eNews most months, and Tweet once in a while. I hope you follow the Club on Twitter, and are signed up to the Facebook page (no run by Vicki Spray) and the LinkedIn page.

Highlights of Events 2015

London dinner – his was again held at the East India Club, largely due to the food last year being so good. The President’s guest speaker was Ray East, on the staff at Ipswich School for over 20 years and before that an Essex County cricketer of note. OIs were entertained by Ray who had a cricket story for every occasion.

Drinks in the City – We held two sets of London drinks, one at The Water Poet in Spitalfields and the other at The Habit in the City. Both venues were full, which underlines the popularity of these gatherings.

Diamond Lunch – Renamed the Summer Lunch – this took place at School and also included a reunion of those who left 50 years ago, and the Speech Day reunion. We learnt from the Gaudy last year that one big event was a better dynamic, with a great atmosphere. The dining hall was again full, but not quite bursting. As we have for many years, the Club sponsored one night of the School’s Festival of Music. The Club did not, this year, hold a reception beforehand as the evening was arranged in a cafe style, with food and drink at tables whilst those assembled were entertained with some beautiful music. On the music theme, the School’s Chapel Choir toured New York in October and the Headmaster hosted a dinner for Parents of the choristers and OIs now based in the USA. The Club were represented and this was a really positive event, reaching out to part of the worldwide community of OIs, in tandem with the School.

President’s Event – Bob Clayton, for his President’s Event, arranged a hugely enjoyable wine and food tasting evening. This was supported by OIs of all generations. The evening raised over £1,000 for the Alzheimer’s Society. The Remembrance Service in Chapel was well attended by the School’s CCF and OIs, with a reception in the dining hall afterwards. The gathering of OIs who left School during the past 5 years – First Five Years Out – was held in the Sixth Form Centre last week.

Sport: 2015 was another busy year for the Club sports-wise with cross country, cricket (the school won the match against the OIs on a beautiful June day, despite the high target set by the OIs in

their innings), rugby (a sevens tournament at Notcutt’s (the old Top Field), which was good but with few OI teams, and so we will try a new format next year), and golf. I am delighted to report that, earlier today, the OIs beat the School in the annual Fives match. The Sports Festival was again held at the fantastic School facilities at Rushmere. The weather was appalling and perhaps due to this the atmosphere was upbeat and everyone was in great spirits. OIs and School teams competed in hockey, football and netball. I formally record my thanks and I hope yours to many who have made this year so successful for the OI Club.

Conclusion – My particular thanks to those on the committee who have completed their term of service and contributed so much: President Bob Clayton (who I hope will be voted back on as a committee member), Junior President Liz Pope, committee member Richard Hudson (who the committee plan to co-opt back on to continue his fine sports liaison role), and committee member Clare Lock (who will remain OI Editor and take on the Secretary role). As Chairman, I see early on news of OIs who have died. This year there have been many of these, and we remember with gratitude OIs we knew who have died in the last year, as well as their families. We pay special tribute to those who have given so much to pupils of Ipswich School and to OIs. This year there are two names that stand out amongst those who have died. They are Rosemary Le Mare, and John Blatchly. John arrived as Headmaster as I entered the senior school, so I see him as my Headmaster. Many people help the Club. My thanks to the School, the Headmaster in particular as well as many of his staff including the majority of the Sports Department. As I have already said, the Club owes so much to the Foundation Office. My thanks to the officers and committee of the Club. This year’s President, Bob Clayton, has been a dream to work with. But over the past 3 years all the appointed officers and committee have given time and service and been hugely supportive. I am grateful. I want you all to know that running the OI Club is a team effort. If you have liked what your committee has done, it is due to them. If not, it means I have not led them well. And apologies for that. No-one should be singled out – but I am going to mention two people. They have made the last three years possible. They are Sally Webber, the Club Secretary, who has been unstinting in her wise advice - which has been straight and direct – as well as her support and friendship. And Helen, my wonderful wife. My involvement would have been impossible without her support, encouragement, understanding and love – thank you. The OI Club is about, in part, fellowship, staying in contact with OIs and building new friendship with other OIs, links with and supporting the School (and at the dinner we are about to enjoy I will update you with exciting news on the OI Club’s 125th Anniversary Appeal), and running functions to enable OIs to meet. The Club has momentum, excellent events, good communications, and ambition to be better. The future is bright.

4.0 Treasurer’s report

Steve Runnacles circulated copies of the Annual Accounts for the year ended July 31st 2015, noting that these had been published on the Club’s website for over two weeks prior to the meeting. A copy is attached to these minutes. The Treasurer reported that the Club’s finances were in a healthy state, with a good surplus. John Skeets was pleased with the Club’s financial position, and suggested that a chunk of the surplus be put into a fixed term bank account

to raise more interest. The interest could then be used to subsidise the Ipswich Dinner next year. The Treasurer agreed to take the issue back to the Committee. Proposed by Karl Daniels and Seconded by Trevor Woods, the Annual Accounts and Treasurer’s Report for the year ended 31st July 2015 were received and approved.

5.0 Election of President for 2015

Proposed by Guy Main and Seconded by John Ward, Ling Stephens was elected President for 2016. This was approved by the AGM.

6.0 Election of Vice President for 2015

Proposed by Mike Graham and Seconded by Eddie Alcock, John Graham was elected Vice President for 2016. This was approved by the AGM.

7.0 Election of Junior President for 2015

Proposed by Ian Galbraith and seconded by Clare Lock, George Finch was elected Junior President for 2016. This was approved by the AGM.

8.0 Election of Junior Vice President for 2015

Proposed by Steve Runnacles and seconded by Guy Main, Nick Ransome was elected as Junior Vice President for 2016. This was approved by the AGM.

9.0 Appointment of Officers

Proposed by Karl Daniels and seconded by John Skeets. Sally Webber was elected as Chairman, Clare Lock was elected as Secretary, and Steve Runnacles as Treasurer. This was approved by the AGM.

10.0 Election of New Committee Members

Proposed by Bob Clayton and seconded by Sally Webber, Florence Milner was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2016 to 2018. Proposed by James Davey and seconded by Steve Runnacles, Trevor Woods was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2016 to 2018. Proposed by Guy Main and seconded by Martin Holland, Bob Clayton was elected as a Committee member for the three years 2016 to 2018. These were approved by the AGM.

11.0 Approval of amendments to the Club Rules

The amendments to the Club Rules to allow for the recent changes in the Development Office were proposed by the Prof Wyatt and Seconded by Richard Hudson. This was approved by the AGM.

12.0 Any other business

It being their last AGM in their current roles, a vote of thanks was recorded to Guy Main, Sally Webber and Bob Clayton, for their work over the last year.

All business being concluded the meeting closed at 7.05pm

“ We are lucky as a Club that our link with the School is strong, and we are aiming for it to be stronger. ”

Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31st July 2015

Income	2015	2014
Subscriptions Received	26,824	27,262
Interest on Investments and other income	145	107
Total Income	26,969	27,369
Less Expenditure		
Social Expenditure	—	—
Friday Night Socials and reunions	4,682	8,651
President's Event	1,500	1,500
Subsidies for Ipswich, London & Regional Dinners	736	706
	6,919	10,857
Other Expenditure		
Postage	—	—
Miscellaneous Expenditure & Admin support costs	3,357	1,065
Website expenditure	2,000	2,000
Chairman's Honorarium	800	800
Additional Colour Printing Costs for magazine	3,200	3,200
Purchase and engraving of Trophies	320	320
Total Expenditure	16,595	18,242
Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenditure for Period	£10,374	£9,127

Balance sheet as at 31st July 2015

Assets	31/07/2015	31/07/2014
Bank and Building Society Accounts	99,175	81,502
Books	—	279
Total	99,175	81,781
Less Creditors		
	28,749	21,729
Total	£70,426	£60,052
Accumulated Reserves		
Brought Forward	60,052	50,925
Surplus of Income over Expenditure for Period	10,374	9,127
Total	£70,426	£60,052

IPSWICH SCHOOL

FESTIVAL OF
MUSIC 2016



Joe Stilgoe

Thurs 6 Oct

7.30pm

Great School, Ivory St

Tickets: £18/ £15/ £5

"Songs at the piano don't get
much sharper than this"
The Observer



FESTIVAL ALSO INCLUDES:

The Swingles - Fri 7 Oct, 7.30pm

Family Concert - Sun 9 Oct, 2pm - bring your teddy bear!

Ipswich School Big Band and Ipswich Musicians' Union Big Band - Mon 10 Oct, 7.30pm

Royal College of Music Strings - Tues 11 Oct, 7.30pm

www.ipswichschoolfestival.org.uk



Festival sponsor



Education sponsor



TICKETS

Ipswich Regent Box Office

01473 433100

www.ipswichregent.com

