In this issue

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

Life Members

Year 13

Angel Fergus
Aulsebrook Gigi
Badman Harry
Bailey Thomas
Barker Dominic
Bevan Harry
Betterton Moné
Bolton William
Bowditch Lily
Buckley Liam
Burn James
Cattermole Ben
Chang Hoff
Conway Alice
Cowie Sam
Cubitt Penny
Dade Megan
Davey Alexander Robert
De Silva Megahawatte Avishka
Dereve Matthew
Dong Elaine
Dosañj Amardev
Edwards Will
Fairhead Emma
Farley Juliet
Farley Nick
French Matthew
Frost Barrett
Gale Tom
Gillett Isabel
Goble Tom
Godfrey Tom
Gorton William

Hacker Abby
Hare Beth
Head Christopher
Hogkins Sam
Hogkins Chandos
Hogkins Wilf
Howlett Olivia
Huang Jeremy
Hughes Thomas
Keble Tim
Lawson Oliver
Lee Jackie
Livingstone Angus
Lo Rebecca
Louch Harry
Macdonald Lily
Marshall Jess
Martin Tom
Macer-Clarke Tabitha
McAllister Charlie
McGuire Jamie
Mead James
Mercer Holly
Motteshead Thomas
Mulholland Joe
Osman-Wiggin Steffan
Pace Sam
Parker Ben
Parry Edward
Phillips Jack
Powell Rhys
Prescott-Smith Sarah
Prior Piers
Raymond Freddie
Regan Holly

Rule Cameron
Rumsey Megan
Seifert Henry
Sexton Sophie
Shakespeare Jonathan
Sinha Kanishk
Taylor Shannon
Temple McCune Nicholas
Wagland Isaac
Wainer Robert
Ward Ollie
White Tom
Wilding Josh
Woods Ballard Alexandra
Wyer Emily
Yap Krystal
Yeap Joo Yee
Yu Cha Chen
Zhang Jason
Zhou Jiac

Year 12

Chamberlain Katie
Clark Samuel
Prescott Frost Oliver

Year 11

Aylling George
Azarmi Anahita
Bishop Charlotte
Devlin Alfe
Doley Elizabeth
Eagle Sam

Year 11

Anderson Sam
Beeson Hollie
Culley Charlie
Dudley Will
France Thomas
Kenworthy Charlie
King Oliver
Lee Christopher
Lynch Claude
Marven Charlie
Owens James
Renshaw Sam
Sarson George
Turner George

Year 12

Loeffler Matthew
McConnell Heather
Murrell James

Patten Louis
Philips Olivia
Raven Max
Watkins Rupert
Wilson James

Associate Members

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### Programme of Events

#### August 2016
- **Sat 17th**: Ipswich Dinner and AGM
  - **Fynn Valley**

#### September 2016
- **Mon 5th**: Golf
  - **Thatford**
- **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](http://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) 298064.

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### Officers & Committee Members / Contents

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#### OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal

#### Features

#### Book Review

#### Members’ News

#### Obituaries

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#### Staff Leavers

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#### Old Ipswichian Club

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### Club Officers and Committee for 2016

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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Steve Runcalcs</td>
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<td>Clare Lock</td>
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### Governing Body Representative

- **John Caudle**
  - jcaudle@2bedfordrow.co.uk

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### Committee

- **To retire end 2016**
  - Tom Edwards
  - Benson Ho
  - James Davey

- **To retire end 2017**
  - Martin Holland
  - Chris Warner

- **To retire end 2018**
  - Bob Clayton
  - Florence Milner
  - Trevor Woods

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### Ex-officio

- **Headmaster**
  - Nick Weaver

- **London Dinner Secretary**
  - James Mansfield

- **Foundation Manager**
  - Lindy Hacker

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### Co-opted

- **OI Webmaster**
  - Guy Main

- **OI Sports Liaison**
  - Richard Hudson

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### From the Archives

- **November 2016**
  - **Sun 13th**: Remembrance Service
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- **OI Webmaster**
  - Guy Main

- **OI Sports Liaison**
  - Richard Hudson
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 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. 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...

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... .

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.

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.

From the President

Ling Stephens

(OI 1982–1984)

From the Chairman / Foundation Office News

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
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 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’s 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 refreshed, 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 to which I am optimistic will be developed successfully in the near future.

“The Club 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
(0I 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 benefited 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 the appeal was launched in June 2012. The 125th anniversary of the founding of the OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal and is a key milestone for the OI Club 125th Anniversary Appeal.

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. 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 pavions – 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 pavions 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 £962,001. Further pavions 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 125th Appeal

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School House was certainly a harsher regime and features unusually long dark Victorian passages and dormitories were divided between them. I recall that scraps of left over gristly meat from the beetroot from a large cauldron were dished out by the headmaster most of which would be spent in the tuck shop or the bun queue. Mrs Clutterham sold the buns and biscuits at break time through a school dining room window and the half rounded holes gouged with a penny by boys can still be seen to this day. My bed was by the fire escape which we regularly shimmied 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 dorms 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.

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 lugging the heavy coals from the bunks 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 round the walls. The table was used to apply blance 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 Dull 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 out the beetroot from a large cauldron.

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I have to report [Y] to the Head 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.

I remember it was in 1952, and shortly afterwards the pain in my stomach was relieved by one in my backside. A panel approach to discipline, in both independent and state schools, has 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 1815, together with the offences to which they relate. “Laziness,” “idleness,” “absent without leave”, “disorder”, “crawling”, “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 a caning to [X] for his unsatisfactory behaviour in [Y].”

I was sometimes able to avoid the caning by some ingenuity. Being a 6th former somehow gave one a feeling of importance.

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

Mike Fenn

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visited the School towards the end of the year. It was during my last few years at the School encouraged by Spud Marsden who I would later come to Cinematography and 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. Mothers also attended the services in groups 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 into Chapel with dirty shoes or with shoes without toe caps across the front of the shoe. I failed to get into 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 World War and 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 of corporals, and often rang the chapel bell.

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“THAT boy became Charles Sherrington OM, GBE, President of the Royal Society, and noted neurophysiologist and Nobel Prize winner.”

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...and 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”, “exploiting 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 third book of the Amelot tomorrow at 4 o’clock”. Another was given “100 lines for talking; 100 lines for arguing the point”, and another “300 lines of Honor’s R.I. 23rd Book for bullying by Saturday at 4 o’clock”. As far as dealing to treating material 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 1940s and very early 1950s. Prefects ceased beating boys on 21st October 1948, 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 Batley’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 Batley’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. True self-discipline based on a desire “to do the right thing”, said Ian, “was overwhelmingly more important at Ipswich School in the nineties and...”

There were certainly a few “original” punishments in the 19th Century, which I think it’s fair to say we’re expected today, the unfortunate few 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 10 Lines of Shakespeare,” “conjuring all tenses and persons for every Latin verb in the previous lesson”. In all honesty, late PSC (homework), which I think it’s fair to say we’re 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 would be that the school does not have a large number of serious disciplinary incidents inevitably occurred from time to time, the school’s friendly atmosphere meant that we could almost always focus on the good part of behaviour – and important – matters.”

The school’s present head, Nick Weaver, agreed. “Sanctions today are much more human than formerly,” he said. “There is, of course, some element of deterrence, 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.”

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 as authorites rather than mere boys and girls, or people who had our best interests at heart. The motivation for learning for some boys was to avoid being a target for the cane or other punishments. If a boy 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’.”

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.

Carrot or Stick?
‘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. Their encouragement to me gave me a memory, filmed by a colleague at St Albans Cathedral, was eventually viewed over 11,000 times. It was rapidly discovered by many people grieving the loss of a musical icon. The video was eventually 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 so far, 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)
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 suspect 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 43°C 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.

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| Marathon des Sables |

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.

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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 in 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 unwelcoming. 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. The supporting crowds were just magnificent. From the start to 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 line on 24 April this year.

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.
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 promiscuous reminiscences. I did 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, possessions were at a premium, coinciding with entry to upper school in September 1955, the termly outlay for tuition amounted to £52. I remember quite distinctly the small mental gallery of disconnected static images, mutually recurring flash-backs of trivia, have proved stubbornly imperishable: Form II historical studies, 1855 and the Churchwarden in Miss Witten’s 1953 Prep school Nature class studies; the telephone bell obtrusively disturbing the peace of Mr. Glave’s morning prayers in the main hall of 38 Henley Road; the imperturbable brown-coated caretaker, Mr. Clutterham, who rang another bell punctuating the day into intermission 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 howling gales; 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 13, 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 poised inquiry put to the audience: ‘Can you hear me?’; the Annual CCF Inspection and the juvenile paternity of a hastily manufactured reply to the somewhat disarming question ‘What School was offering as lacking were the theoretical aspects of these and other physical activities, they certainly never came our way.

I visited School, Cloisters is almost always inaccessible and locked, but a brief indulgence in private quasi-Preobstian time-travelling is just possible if one can muster enough courage to stare westwards in ponderous along the entire length of the ground corridor through the window of the door by the Ivy Street entrance. The allocation of rooms – where 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’ Stone (Latin and Classics); Peter Hill (History and Broke House); the late 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 6 to 10, ruled over by ‘Spud’ Peter Manden (Geography), Brian Mills (Geography), ‘Poppe’ T. B. Job (French and Sherington House), ‘Nairy’ Sullivan (French and Felaw House) and lastly Martin Clissold, the manual instructor who switched from Ivry Street entrance. The allocation of rooms – who taught what, and where – seems to have been etched in eternity.
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 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 E flat 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’.

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!

Carefully crafted and full of the chemistry of human relationships.

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... somebody playing the piano from one of 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 life upside down.

...a well observed and thoughtful study of temptation and human relationships...

It’s not often one meets a novelist!

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.

Editorial comments:

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 E flat 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.

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“...a well observed and thoughtful study of temptation and human relationships, with a musical accompaniment...”
Mike Fenn (OI 1948 – 59)

Mike Fenn has recently been presented with a lifetime achievement award from the Eton Fives Association due to his outstanding contribution to the sport and the Club. As you can see from the certificate, Mike Fenn 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/Coaches are from Shrewsbury, Lancing, Westminster, Wolverhampton, Harrow, Stowe, Berkhamsted, Charterhouse, Repton, City of London and Highgate.

2015 was a successful trail-running year for Charlie Harpur. Charlie won the 21-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 106km 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.

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.

Nicholas Bowman-Sargiell (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.

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 Medieval History. He has been invited to deliver the Ford Lectures in British History at the University of Oxford in 2019.
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.

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:

- 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 Teo.
- 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.

Philip Marshall (OI 1957 – 67)

I am still working as a Chartered Accountant. I was a founding and managing partner to 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.

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 (he less said about the second half of the season the better). I have also done reasonably well 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 N’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.

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 lump into a few Dis 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.

Charlotte Mulock (OI 1993 – 95)

Charlotte Mulock (nee 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.

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.

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

Charlotte was presented with the Empire Medal by the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Simon Jarrold, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire.

Tom Rash was presented with the British Empire Medal by the Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Simon Jarrold, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire.

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Members News | Births & Marriages

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Members News

Lady, Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire, Simon Jarrold, Deputy Lord Lieutenant of West Yorkshire.
A tribute to Professor JM Blatchly MBE, PhD, LittD, FSA

1932 – 2015


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, choir and orchestral conductor, singer, actor and, above all, prolific author.

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 unwilling to climb the mast and to stand on the ‘button’ at 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 the Head of Chemistry at Charterhouse where he came under the influence of Oliver Van Oss, one of the outstanding headmasters of his generation.

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 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 Anglessea Road Hospital made possible the move to full co-education under his successor, Ian Galbraith, and the construction of modern buildings to house the Nunnery, Pre-preparatory and Preparatory Schools. At the centre of the school was the Headmaster’s Study, lined with his many publications, and made fully accessible to scholars from around the world.

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

In retirement his attention became increasingly focused on local history and higher education. In 1995 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 Independent Schools Inspectorate, the Independent Schools Inspectorate, and the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the Independent Schools Inspectorate, the

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
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 1989 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 to 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 first he met soon after his arrival at Headmaster of Ipswich, where we collaborated in finishing a mammoth listing of all Suffolk brasses and brass indentors 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 1979, 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 Wostley 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 Wostley 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 examiner 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 to this little fragment of the past. The journal of the Old Ipswichian Club

With the Princess Royal on her visit in 1990

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

Throughout John’s long and energetic career, he was loyally supported by his devoted wife, Pam, who herself contributed 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 is a career musician. Her son Mark is a musician and housemaster at Charterhouse. 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 examiner 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 to this little fragment of the past.

“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’s intense scrutiny of those precious volumes came a new enthusiasm: the bookplates which he found in them from their original owners, and of 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. 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 it started actively promoting the Cardinal’s statue, it was an astonishingly short time before in 2011 David Annand’s inspired image graced 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 Evedon 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 of 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 Muttley’s unforgettable sly and mischievous snigger. Sanity is often best possible to make the world a better and man who gave an example of how it was preserved for the county, thanks to his collection of ancient manuscripts and which he cherished and supported.

And the publication record danced out of the academic world, to delight all those who read the East Anglian Daily Times. His series ‘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 1976 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 a letter alias last year his charming and learned Isaiah. 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.

He was a great man and I have extremely fond memories of the chemistry lessons we had. The best ones were certainly the ones who 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

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 usual 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.

– Ewain Doodly

(OI 1976 – 78)

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 re-energised playing rugby for Ipswich School on a Saturday, then cycling furiously down to Portman Road, throwing his bike down on Aldermary 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, U16s 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 Amateur Football Combination. 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.

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.

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

– Linhdi TWDI (OI 1943 - 53)  
– 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 Abergwesyn 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 but they did not. Our paths drifted apart with all credit to 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.

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.

– John Northfield (OI 1938 – 45)

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.

Eric William Gale (OI 1988 – 95)

Born 1924, died June 2016, aged 92

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 RAAF, 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 accounting, 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 Seaview, in Hampshire to Birmham where Eric continued to enjoy his yachting exploits. He is survived by Rosemary and daughter Antonia.

Memories of Eric:
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.

– By William Patrick

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 Stone, 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.

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Obituaries

Dr Robert Henry Gooding (OI 1941 – 50)

Dr Robert Henry Gooding (OI 1941 – 50) 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 Establishment, Farnborough, Hampshire in 1958 until he retired in 1993. 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.

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

Robert was a prefect in 1952. We have also learned that he was in Sherrottngton House, Captain of Athletics. Additionally, a review of the “Christmas Term” school production of 1952 wrote: “The most efficient performance was that of JR Catchpole and BI Rozier as the two marines, who never on one occasion failed to salute in time.”

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)

Robert as a prefect in 1950

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 Sherrottngton House, Captain of Athletics.

Memories of Bernard Rozier:

‘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.

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– Tony Belk

(OI 1940 – 48)

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

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.

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 the moment 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 unwelcome 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 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 choirs throughout her years at the School and thoroughly enjoyed John Nicholson’s fitness sessions in the Gym.

There were a few who, like me, long and active association with Ipswich School, 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.
more than a week in my first term. I also had fond memory of her taking us boys to the doctor/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 Scoigin Head of Art (retired) drew (painted a leaving card for us all to sign … it was a picture of Rosemary “ Superwomen “flying through the air along with her beloved screwedriver 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! She 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 the Surgery to cover for me as I had a lunch break. Her professionalism kindness and empathy Rosemary had a dry wicked sense of humour…

– Jean L Masser

(OI 1996 – 12)

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 military star.

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In 1937, 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.

– Jeremy Barr

(OI 1946 – 56)

(sitting in the middle holding the ball)

In Easter 1943, he was asked to take the position for three days and nights to protect the front line troops. A remarkable part of this story is that when he announced he was staying to do so, the position held, and all the men survived. For this action King George VI awarded him his Military Cross.

Robert Emuss (OI 1946 – 56)

Died 14th September 2015

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.B 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.

– Marian Emuss

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 dispatches, 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 Danham in Suffolk.

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

– Margaret Watson

(née Aubertin)

In 1978 John retired from lecturing and through this was invited to lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace. and through this was invited to lunch with the Queen at Buckingham Palace.

John Elton Aubertin

(01 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 Cailey 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.

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Tony Jaques (OI 1929 – 38)

Died 22nd April 2015

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– Margaret Watson

(née Aubertin)
Obituaries

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 grandchildren.

It was 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, both played for Ipswich, Suffolk & 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) 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 rugby 1st 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 & Eastern Counties and I can honestly say that he was by far the best prop I ever played with.

~ Mike Wootton (OI 1944 – 55)

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

I have so many happy and amusing memories of Jim (as he was known 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 surrey of a British bomber.

Married life coincided with a new partnership with Leonard Pipe, moving to the remote and often bleak marshes of Suffolk. 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 Triforc – 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 1963) 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 Coddenham, 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. “Spuddy” Mansden was the Housemaster when I went there from Junior House, and Peter Hill took over a couple of years later.

~ ROW (Dixie) Hughes (OI 1956-63)

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

After initial education in the kindergarden 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 1945! 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” Stone). 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 Nerrmann, then he was Head of School in his last year (1952). He acquired a lifelong enjoyment of classical music, largely thanks to “Spud” Peter Mansden who played gramophone records, 3,000 to 4,000 of such 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 1944. 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 Lyceo Victor Hugo at Besancon 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.

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

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 Bridon (OI 1956 – 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).”

Peter Graham Shaw (OI 1964 – 68)

Died 23rd June 2015

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

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

The journal of the Old Ipswichian Club

Issue 7 – A Journal of 2015

Derek Ryder

~ Peter Graham Shaw

~ John Snowball

~ Steve Godfrey

Obituaries
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.”

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 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.”

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

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 46 elite sportsmen and women in attendance. There were coaching sessions and

**Pupils demonstrate excellent levels of knowledge, skills and understanding across all subject areas.**
admission 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.

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 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...
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 Alani 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.

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.

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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.

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, Fin Pollard, 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:

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<th>Chris Boucher</th>
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<th>Annika Wieckowska</th>
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<td>Maths Teacher</td>
<td>Art Teacher</td>
<td>Deputy Head – Prep</td>
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<td>Alexandra Davis</td>
<td>Sue Kennedy</td>
<td>Rev Andrew Winter</td>
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<td>English Teacher</td>
<td>Prep teacher</td>
<td>Chaplain</td>
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<td>Gill Dodd</td>
<td>Lyn Parker</td>
<td>Mary Winter</td>
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<td>Prep Teacher</td>
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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 1972, 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 which David played a central part. David served as Head of Lower School until 2010, a stint of eighteen years, in which David played a central part.

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. David was the person who encouraged them to keep playing hockey. Whilst at Ipswich, David’s U13s were county finalists in 1991, Ipswich School’s participation in Gresham’s Festival, an annual event which the pupils looked forward to almost as much as they did to the Cumbria trip. 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. David was the person who encouraged them to keep playing hockey. Whilst at Ipswich, David’s U13s were county finalists in 1991.

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enjoy his golf and was an enthusiastic supporter of Sunday services, for example, as a member of the School’s Chapel Choir. He has been an integral part of helping Ipswich Prep become an excellent school.

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 Martin-le-Strand. 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 was a faithful supporter of Sunday services at the school. Pupils coached by Ray have 1000 wickets in his 19 seasons whilst overshadowed his ability - he took over fun whenever he played. That often 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 love for the glorious summer sport.

**James East**

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.

**Maggie Davis**

Director of Art

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.

**Annikka Wieckowska**

Deputy Head, Prep School

Annikka 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. Annikka has been highly regarded 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 Annikka and with such dedication.

Annikka 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 doing it.

It would always be Annikka who sent anonymous requests for extra biscuits in the staff room. It would always be Annikka who sent the funny illustrations to de-stress tired teachers and it would always be Annikka who remembered the little things that could sometimes go unnoticed – like the need for extra biscuits in the staff room.

Annikka has been an integral part of helping Ipswich Prep become an excellent school.

**Amanda Childs**

Head of Ipswich Prep

Annikka 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 do 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.

**David Hacker**

Director of Sport

David Hacker joined us in 2011 from Mildfield 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 its forms. It is rare to find someone who has worked as hard as Annikka and with such dedication.

David has spent some time 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 golf clubs, which are needed to finish the look.

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 golf clubs, 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!

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 love for the glorious summer sport.

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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.

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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. 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.

What are Letters Patent or litterae patentes?

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 pius 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.

Who 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.

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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. 

The great Bard (poet), as he is often called, wrote during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and both he and she shared a familiarity with our school. The Queen was known for her love of theatre and literature, and Shakespeare's plays often featured characters who were well-versed in Latin and Greek literature. In fact, one of the most famous lines from Shakespeare's "Henry VIII" was inspired by our school:

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

Perhaps the most famous line of all, "To be or not to be, that is the question," could be seen as a reflection of the school's motto, "Semper eadem," or "Always the same." This phrase is often translated to mean "Always constant," which is felt to reflect the spirit of this motto as applied to Ipswich School.

The reference in "Henry VIII" to Wolsey and his colleges comes in Act IV, Scene ii, when the former queen, Catherine of Aragon is speaking of Wolsey's death with her attendant Griffith in her apartments at Kenilworth. Catherine 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:

"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 it is clear 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.

"Semper Eadem," the Latin translation of our motto, means "Always the same," and has been used by the school for centuries. For years, "always the same" has rolled off the tongues of pupils asked to translate our motto.

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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 bearded 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 approach to the school's history during the time I came in to the archives just to help out, things of which I had previously had no idea.

Perhaps though, age softened him. I don't know; as I said, I didn't know him well back then. But certainly when I reconvened 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 time, like it or not, there can still be differences in the way we look or estimate things in 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.

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. He warned, OIs of that generation. Your lurkings and skulkings, your trysts and misdemeanours were not as secret as you thought.

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, I return his greeting with ‘Hello Dr Blatchly, it’s lovely to see you’ or something like that. He replied ‘Oh don’t call me that, 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. He warned, OIs of that generation. Your lurkings and skulkings, your 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
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 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.

Loyalty and dedication – farewell to the Belchams

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.

– Melissa Joralemon
(1982 – 84)

Enjoying things immensely, Prince Philip’s visit, 1973

A man who loved his school
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 Airways’ 777 fleet, had plenty of stories from his experiences with which to entertain everyone present. The Headmaster then spoke about aspects of 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 OIs to join as well. It was a pleasure to meet the Headmaster, Guy Main and Sally Webster. Several other OIs 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 1980s. 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.

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.

IO 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.
**Club Events | In Pictures**

**Sports Festival – 29th March 2015**

**Drinks in the City – 6th March 2015**

**50th Anniversary for the 1965 leavers**

**School v MCC, 19th May 2015**

**Leavers Service and Reception, 3rd July 2015**

**Club Events | In Pictures**

**Ipswich Dinner, 19th December 2015**

**Remembrance Service, 8th November 2015**

**Ol v School Cross Country, 12th March 2015**

**Drinks in the City, 21st October 2015**

**Rugby 7s – 6th September 2015**

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**Drinks in the City, 21st October 2015**

**Rugby 7s – 6th September 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: Read, confirmed and agreed as a correct record.

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 at the Gatsby (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 vision.

Membership: On membership, 89% 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%/23/35 and in the previous few years it was: 76% in 2014 (39 leavers), 84% in 2013 (41 leavers) and 87% in 2012. I am grateful to the Headmaster and the Head of Sixth Form for inviting me to speak, respectively, at the next 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: 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.

Significant help has been provided by Moira Ryan, the School’s press and public relations manager to the OI News and OI Journal. The star for this publication is the OI Club Editor, Claire Lock, who puts in a huge amount of work, time, energy and overall commitment to make these publication so appealing and widely read. My gratitude to Claire for all her hard work, and to all the members of OI Club, plus all those OIs who give so much time and effort to produce and maintain these publications.

Proposed by Trevor Woods and Seconded by James Davy.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

3.100 Chairman’s report

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 sporting liaison role), and committee member Clare Lock (who will remain as 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 know 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 Maire, and John Blatchly. John joined 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 for that I am sorry. 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) 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 31st July 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 Skeats was pleased with the Club’s financial position, and suspected 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 Aitcock, 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 Claire 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 Ramsone was elected Junior Vice President for 2016. This was approved by the AGM.

9.0 Appointment of Officers

Proposed by Bob Clayton and seconded by John Skeats, 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 Dowey 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

None being the 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 businesses being concluded the meeting closed at 7.30pm
Income & expenditure account for the year ended 31st July 2015

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

Balance sheet as at 31st July 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>31/07/2015</th>
<th>31/07/2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank and Building Society Accounts</td>
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<td>81,502</td>
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<tr>
<td>Books</td>
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<td>279</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>81,781</td>
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<tr>
<th>Less Creditors</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>28,749</td>
<td>21,729</td>
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<tr>
<th>Accumulated Reserves</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brought Forward</td>
<td>60,052</td>
<td>50,925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surplus of income over Expenditure for Period</td>
<td>10,374</td>
<td>9,127</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>70,426</td>
<td>60,052</td>
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