



Old Ipswichian News

The newsletter of the Old Ipswichian Club

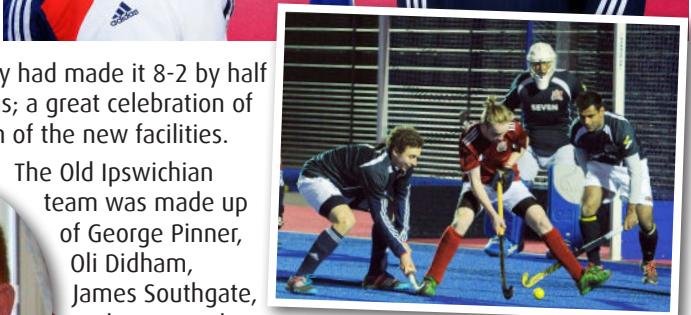
Issue 11 Spring 2015

Old Ipswichians officially open new sports centre

Old Ipswichians took centre stage, or rather centre pitch, in Rushmere to celebrate the grand opening of the Ipswich School Sports Centre in March.

George Pinner and Harry Martin, both former pupils and Team GB Olympians, officially opened the centre by unveiling a plaque. This followed an afternoon which they, along with fellow Team GB hockey players, spent coaching pupils from the Prep School and local primaries in some key hockey skills.

The event also saw a floodlit hockey exhibition match featuring a team of internationals and school players against a team of Old Ipswichians. The OIs seemed to provide a much tougher test than the Internationals had perhaps expected! Early goals from the on-form OIs put them ahead 3-0 at the end of the first quarter and they had made it 8-2 by half time. The score at the final whistle was 10-7 to the Old Ipswichians; a great celebration of hockey and a fitting launch of the new facilities.



The Old Ipswichian team was made up of George Pinner, Oli Didham, James Southgate, Shyam Patel,

Ed Driver, Nick Crouch, Matt Richardson, Tom Watson, Max Underwood, Ben Underwood, James Hodgkinson, Josh Godfrey, Harry Martin and

Tom Dunnett. Goal scorers for the victorious side were Josh Godfrey (4), Tom Watson (2), Harry Martin (1), Oli Didham (1) and Ben Underwood (1) with a final goal scored by a mysterious number 7 - hard to identify exactly who scored on a dark night, with a fast paced game and everyone wearing a 7 shirt - in recognition of event sponsors Seven Group! David Walsh, in his final year at Ipswich School before he retires in the summer, and Steve Godfrey, another mainstay of hockey at the school, were the team coaches.

The International XI, coached by GB hockey star Simon Mantell, also included some Old Ipswichians, with Bertie Mortimer and Alex Hardwick playing alongside five current school players and England and GB stars.

A message from the Chairman

Guy Main



What is the next milestone? In 2014 the OI Club celebrated (rather well) its 125th birthday. So do we have to wait 25 years for the next "big one"?

I don't think so. My observation is that when OIs meet together they are hugely supportive of each other and make their own important events. This may be by conversation, or playing sport together, or practically encouraging other OIs who are doing well, or having a rough time, or need guidance on, for example, a career change. Date type milestones are one thing. Key events are up to us, and it is never too late to create one, in a large or small way. For most of us, each day is an opportunity for a new start, perhaps big, perhaps more modest. Let's help each other hit our own milestones.

The OI programme for 2015 is full and varied. Details are on the Club's website www.ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk/oiclubevents and we will highlight various events during the year.

One might have expected the 2014 President, Trevor Woods (50-53), to be a rather remote President, as he lives in Italy. That was not the case. He was present at many events, and was active and supportive in all that went on during the year. My thanks, and the thanks of the Club, to Trevor. At the Ipswich Dinner last December Bob Clayton (75-12 (ish as he still teaches part time)) received the chain of office from Trevor. Bob is known to many generations of OIs. He was a particularly active Vice President and is already busy in his Presidential year.

I look forward to seeing you at various OI events during the year.

In this issue: Ipswich Dinner • Club news • Social events • Sport • Forthcoming events

Ipswich School and OIs remember those who died

The annual Remembrance Day service took place on Sunday 9 November – a particularly special occasion as it commemorated the 125th

anniversary of the founding of the Ipswich School Combined Cadet Force (CCF) as well as the start of World War One a hundred years ago, in which a total of 414 Ipswich School pupils fought.

Old Ipswichians and current Cadets and their families took part in the evening service in the School Chapel. Headmaster Nicholas Weaver read out the names of the 71 pupils who died in World War One before, in tribute of all who served, the trumpeters Ollie Ward, Thomas Mottershead and Toby Phillips played, either side of the minute's silence, the Last Post and Reveille.

Members of the CCF took part in the service with Juliet Farley reading a lesson and James Burn acting as wreath bearer. Chairman of the OI Club, Guy Main also read a lesson, whilst the Wreath of Remembrance was laid by Vice President, Bob Clayton on behalf of the Old Ipswichians. Rev Paul Hamlet, former chaplain and CCF padre gave the sermon.

The service also saw the presentation of a new CCF flag, carried by Oliver King. This is the first time that the Ipswich School CCF has had a flag in its 125 year history.

Many thanks also to the Chapel Choir, Sion Parry and Amanda Lockyer for their musical contributions, and to all those who attended the service to pay tribute to those who died.

OI 125th Anniversary Appeal Update



The 125th anniversary of the founding of the OI Club took place last year. The appeal in recognition of this event, and to continue and build on the Club's relationship with and support of the school, commenced some two years earlier.

You will know that our target is to raise one million pounds for the school. This is to be used for the new music school - which is under construction and the first phase should be completed during the summer - sports, and bursaries. OIs may designate where their gift is directed. To date the appeal has had pledged and banked £860,000. This is a great deal of money and a huge achievement. Many thanks to all who have contributed so far. The school is extremely grateful.

We anticipate closing the appeal later this year. The Club is not about 'hard sell' fundraising although, having said that, we



Benefactors Evensong

The service on Sunday 8 February brought together many who have contributed in various ways to the life and growth of Ipswich School. It was also an opportunity to thank God for the school's positive influence in the lives of countless young people.

The Chapel Choir's singing was to its usual high standard, and included a solo by Emily Gorham. The Chaplain, Andrew Winter preached and the lessons were read by Angus Livingstone a current pupil and OI, Leigh Belcham. The Introit was composed by a Year 11 pupil, Grace Aggett.

The evening concluded with a buffet supper in the dining hall, and words of appreciation by the headmaster, Nicholas Weaver. A good evening, enjoyed by everyone.

New staff member for OI team

We are delighted to welcome a new face to the school staff team supporting the OI Club. Vicki Spray joined Lindy Hacker and Peter Boughton in January, following the departure of Jack Devlin to new job opportunities in London.

Vicki was a dental nurse previously, as well as completing a teacher training course, and said: "I have always wanted to work in a school environment and I am really looking forward to meeting OIs and organising some exciting events for people to enjoy."

Vicki will be helping to look after the OI social media presence, and running and developing the OI database, as well as assisting Foundation Manager Lindy Hacker with the day-to-day running of the Foundation Office. You can contact Vicki via email: svs@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk



Above: New Music School under construction

would like to reach the one million pound target. Please help us to achieve this by a donation, large or small, a lump-sum or a regular payment for a period of time.

For more information and to donate please contact Peter Boughton at pvb@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk.

Old Ipswichian Club - Welcoming new faces...

The start of 2015 brings some new faces to the OI Club committee, and we're pleased to introduce some of them to you here.

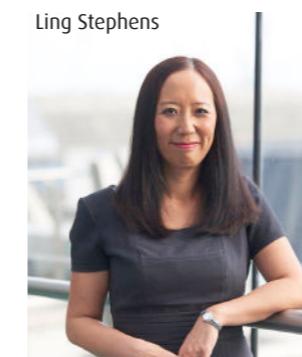
Vice-President: Ling Stephens

Ling Stephens (nee Chiang) completed her A Levels at Ipswich School between 1982-84. She followed her brother to the school, thus continuing a long family association.

She graduated with an MA in Economics from Newnham College, University of Cambridge. Ling has since worked in a number of roles across the banking, insurance and media sectors in the UK, is a qualified accountant, and Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants England and Wales. Ling has managed European equity investment funds and worked as a Financial Controller. Her core experience is in internal audit, where she has led audit teams in the banking, insurance and media sectors. Currently, Ling is Head of Audit for Digital and Telephone Banking at Lloyds Banking Group.

Ling is married with two children and lives in Surrey. Outside work, she is a keen football fan and plans many of the family holidays in the Alps for the scenery, good food and skiing.

Ling Stephens



Martin Holland



Trevor Woods - outgoing president's report

When I was honoured to be asked to become OI Club Vice President to Richard in 2013, and therefore President for 2014, I realised I was taking on a challenge, because I

live in Tuscany in bella Italia. A former class mate of mine had also cheered me up by telling me that I was probably the oldest OI Club President on record. Was this a compliment? So to my year as President in the 125th anniversary year of the formation of the OI Club.

We decided to return to the East India Club for the London Dinner, and it was the right decision after a break of some years. The dinner was a great success, and I was pleased to see that we will return there this year on the 22nd April. The Gaudy to celebrate our 125th Anniversary was a great success with our Big Band and pretty vocalists in good form. The success of this event, in spite of the weather, was the result of much hard work by Club Chairman, Guy Main and his team.

Following Richard's Presidential year was quite a challenge after his President's event celebrating Broke of the Shannon. I therefore decided to continue the music tradition, and to have a piano recital on the piano which my late wife and I, plus the Wolfson Foundation, enabled the school to purchase. When Andrew Leach retired at the end of the summer term I asked him if he would have time to prepare for this recital in November. He not only agreed but came up with a most varied programme. On the evening he demonstrated what a brilliant pianist he is, but also demonstrated what a wonderful musical instrument the school has added to its music department.

You can read more about this event on page 5, and more about the Ipswich Dinner in the centre pages of this edition of the OI News. I admit it was a relief to hand the badge of office over to Bob Clayton at the end of the dinner, and I wish him a successful and enjoyable year.

Photo: Trevor Woods and Bob Clayton at the Ipswich Dinner

Junior Vice-President: George Finch

George left the school in 2011 after attending for 14 years. He has recently returned to Suffolk after graduating from university and is now working for a global container shipping line.

Much of his spare time is taken up sailing in various locations around the United Kingdom, although he does find the time for cycling and occasionally dancing.

George is thoughtfully looking into the possibility for establishing an OI Sailing Event. He is very keen for other OIs who share the same desire to come forward!



Committee member: Martin Holland

After leaving the school in 1992, Martin studied history at the University of Birmingham. Shortly after university he went into business with another OI, Tony Harris. Their main business, Christchurch Property Co, has now been running for over 15 years.

At school Martin captained both the rugby and cricket first teams and his involvement in sport continues, particularly as a Vice President of Ipswich Rugby Club and President of Copdock and Old Ipswichians Cricket Club. He is looking forward to working on the OI committee, particularly in relation to sport.

Martin still lives in Ipswich with his wife Faye and daughter Matilda.

Ipswich Dinner

Saturday 13 December in Great School

Around 115 people attended the 2014 Ipswich Dinner, which was held in Great School after the OI Club AGM.

The guest speaker was the Chairman of Governors and past OI Chairman, Karl Daniels. Karl regaled attendees with stories of his and President Trevor Woods' school days, including an impromptu performance from HMS Pinafore by the class of '53, accompanied by Andrew Leach on the piano! Charlotte Walters (2003-2010) then entertained all with a lovely rendition of one of the more famous soprano solos from HMS Pinafore.

It was another lovely evening, with friends catching up and sharing news over good food and the odd glass of wine.

Towards the end of the evening a presentation was made by the Club to the Headmaster, on behalf of the school, to mark the end of the Club's 125th year. The Club had commissioned a painting of the school and the original was gifted to the school. To find out how you can buy a copy of this painting, please see the



back page of this edition of the OI News.

Here we share some of the photos taken during the evening as a reminder of the event.

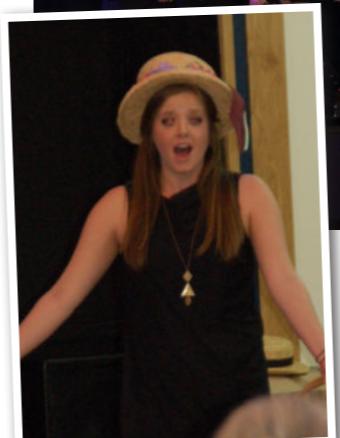


Outgoing OI President Trevor Woods writes:

When Andrew and Jackie Leach stayed with me in the summer for the Anghiari Music Festival, I mentioned that most of us who left school in 1953 were the sailors' chorus in the 1951 production of HMS Pinafore. I also mentioned it to my class mate, Karl Daniels, but told him that if I asked my bunch to sing they probably would not attend the dinner.

I should have guessed a surprise was in store for me when I had the pleasure of having John Barker on my table. When Karl finished proposing the health of the School and the Club, and then introduced John Barker, the former Captain of HMS Pinafore, and asked him to explain his role from the stage I realised what was happening, and I could see Andrew taking the covers off our piano.

John invited the crew to join him on the stage, and I was delighted to join my crewmates from 1951. John's rendition of "I am the Captain of the Pinafore" and the chorus of the crew received a standing ovation, as did a performance of "Little Buttercup" by OI Charlotte Walters, a more recent OI.



Pictured top are: Captain John Barker with Able Seamen Tony Hubbard, Alan Wyatt, Trevor Woods, Mark Grimwade and Karl Daniels, accompanied by Andrew Leach on the piano. Left: Charlotte Walters

OI President's Event

Piano Recital by Andrew Leach, Sunday 22 November

Despite the awful weather, there was a good turnout for the OI President's event last November – a piano recital by former Director of Music Andrew Leach. Putting their umbrellas and raincoats aside, visitors were warmly welcomed to the event with a 'sparkling' reception in Little School, enjoying the opportunity to chat over a glass of Prosecco. Then it was in to Great School for the main event – and what a treat!



The music was chosen by Andrew Leach with the wonderful Steinway grand piano very much in mind. The first half began with music associated with Italy, celebrating the fact that OI President, Trevor Woods, lives there and was a key player in the arrangements for the Chapel Choir tour to Tuscany and Umbria in October 2013. Music by Liszt and Chopin warmed the soul and showed off the great musicality of both the piano and the pianist. The second half featured music by two Old Ipswichians, David Sawer and Sebastian Black, plus a number of Gershwin songs amongst others.

Once the applause had died down, the audience moved back to Little School to enjoy a warming buffet supper of taster bowls with Thai chicken curry on basmati rice, Lamb Kleftico on roasted potatoes and Bangers and champ mash with red onion chutney. All followed by a selection of sweet items on platters.

The evening was raising money for the New Music School Campaign, part of the OI 125th Anniversary Appeal. Generous donations from those attending amounted to a fabulous £1,118, so many thanks to everyone who contributed.

OI Sporting Events

OI v School Fives Match – Saturday 13 December

The support for fives at the school by the OI Fives Club has clearly paid dividends with the 2nd win in 3 years for the pupils against the old boys just before Christmas. (That's the official line from OI Fives HQ).

The school first VI, despite not being at full strength, was more than a match for the OIs when the re-scheduled fixture was played on 20 December. First pair Isaac Wagland and Cameron Lyle showed that they can now play at the highest level, beating OIs Tim Gregory and David Leach by 3 games to 1. At second pair James Gray and Toryn Whitehead (U16s) were never really in trouble against Joe Hunt and Fives Coach, Tony Stubbs, winning 3-0. A whitewash was only just avoided at third pair, where Dmitri Seymour-Howell and OI Head of Fives, Peter Boughton beat Dominic Barker and Piers Prior 3-2.

So the years of encouragement, partnering pupils in the Ipswich Tournament, Graham Turnbull and Richard Barber Competitions etc has borne fruit. Of course next year, Wagland, Gale, Barker and Prior will be ours....

Ipswich Fives Tournament - Graves Cup, 3-4 January

The joy of the Graves Cup is that it is the perfect combination of firmly rooted and immovable traditions - the "flexible" nature of the format/draw (pairing OIs, pupils and guest players on a handicap basis understood only to the organiser), the magnificent Saturday night dinner (with wine kindly provided by the OI Club) and the not unrelated gentleness of the Sunday morning.



The group stages this year produced a series of humdingers, with every pair in with a shout.

The Saturday evening dinner was a highlight, as ever, with guests including Ann Shortland-Jones (widow of Martin, who restarted the game at the school in the '50s), John Caudle and Simon Woolfries and Fives Club Founder and President Mike Fenn. Will Gibbons won the Plate A Final with Will Carron (Year 9), while Tim Gregory and Oli Watts powered through the field to win Plate B in impressive style.

The final was a see saw encounter, with both pairs enjoying spells of dominance. In the end though Steve Burnell and Ralph Morgan overcame Peter Boughton and Karen Hird.

Thanks as always go to all who took part and made it such a great weekend, to Peter Boughton for his irreplaceable organisational skills, to the school for letting us have use of its facilities, the school staff for wonderful catering and the OI Club for wine for the dinner.

Gareth Hoskins, OI

OI V School Cross Country - Saturday 7 March

Perfect running conditions greeted eleven OIs and a couple of guest runners on Saturday 7 March at Finn Valley for the annual Cross Country race.

The OI team was very strong and easily beat the School team, which had been weakened by having two of their runners competing in the Inter-Counties on the same day. Gordon Irvine returned after a break of a few years, he showed his class and won easily, followed by strong runs from Tim Ballard and Tom Vellacot. Alistair Dick managed to stay ahead of the first school runner in 4th place.

It was great to see some new faces this year, the Dunnett brothers, William and James, who also brought a son along as a guest. They enjoyed it so much; they said they would be back next year. Other new runners were Matt Leung and George Unwin. Race regulars and stalwarts Marc Finch, Richard Hudson and Simon Rudland, boasting over 150 years between them also had good runs. It was great to see OI chair Guy Main and President Bob Clayton supporting us at the finish line.

It was a really good day and thanks to the school for organising the event. We headed back to the school dining room for a curry and refreshments and the OI team was awarded the trophy. As always any OI who would like to run next year is welcome, please contact Alistair Dick: alistairdick120@gmail.com

Alistair Dick, OI

OI Golf - Tuesday 23 September - Runyard Trophy

Teams from Framlingham, Greshams, Ipswich, Norwich, Woodbridge and a combined team from St Felix and RHS took part in the first playing of the "Runyard Trophy" - the Norfolk and Suffolk Old Boys and Girls Golf Challenge at Woodbridge Golf Club.

The teams consisted of six players playing for stableford points with all six scores to count. The players went out in mixed fourballs, that is to say four people from four different schools playing together. The weather held fine and it was a most pleasant afternoon with much banter swapped and no putts given.

As the groups came in and the scores went up, it proved home advantage was decisive, the OW's swept to a convincing victory to claim bragging rights and the inaugural win of the Runyard Trophy in the form of a silver claret jug.

The date for next year has been set for Tuesday September 22nd 2015 once again at Woodbridge GC.

Old Ipswichians were a creditable 2nd place the team consisting of Peter Miller, James Gardiner, Michael Hunt, Barry Squirrell, Bryan Caley and Ray Fenning.

Results: Woodbridge - 198; Ipswich - 189; St Felix/RHS Holbrook - 188; Framlingham - 186; Norwich - 174; Greshams - 164.

If you are interested in joining one of the future OI golf events, please contact Bryan Caley on caley@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk



Reunions

First five years out

This year's 'First five years out' reunion was held in the school's Sixth Form Centre on Thursday 18 December.

It was great to see a mix of faces from all of the recent leaver years. This included a good number of 2014 leavers, some back from their first term at university and others part way through gap years, sharing their first post school experiences. By 9pm there was little space left (especially around the bar...) and plenty of animated catching up going on.



This reunion continues to be a very popular get together and warm up for both the Christmas holidays and also for a longer evening of festivities in Ipswich and elsewhere!

Richard Hudson, OI Club Committee

New Year Social

Many OIs from all generations enjoyed this annual event on Friday 23 January in the relaxed atmosphere of the pavilion with our new President, Bob Clayton, serving behind the bar. A role that seemed very natural! With Christmas over and the New Year underway, it was a good opportunity for the school and the OI Club to mix and catch up.



Rugby 7s tournament returns to Notcutts

Cometh the day, after 5 years of OI Sevens absence, 7th September 2014 finally saw the reincarnation of one of the most anticipated OI events of the calendar returning to its hallowed turf of Notcutts. (Last year's event was held at Ipswich RFC.)

In true OI Sevens rugby style, with a 10:30 meet time... there was barely anyone there. However, faith restored, with a planned kick off time of 11am, the following 2 hours saw some of the most electric champagne rugby that only the Fijians could appreciate.

With 2 teams from the current School 1st XV squad and OIs; Melvyn's Army, Hooters and Pulse, it proved to be a hotly contested set of matches. The 2 School teams showed some of the incredible handling, phase play and continuity installed in them by Iain Gall, only to be pipped at the post for the tournament by the reigning champions Hooters... with a token few members of team Pulse thrown in for good measure.

The final match threw the rule book away, with a 10v10, 1st XV boys vs OIs full pitch test match, which we could only consider as being a warm up for next year's World Cup, with the select OI team running out eventual winners by just 1 try.

A hugely successful day, with special thanks going to resident referees Tim Passmore and Paul Mather, for refereeing more matches each than any player was playing. The organisation behind it from Lindy Hacker, Richard Hudson and Guy Main made it one to remember and just the start of things to come.

This year sees the Rugby World Cup land on English soil, which is a great opportunity to get the rugby OI family back together and hold the biggest tournament to date. Details will follow in the near future - the likely date is 6 September 2015.



Forthcoming 2015 events and reunions

April

Weds 22 Apr: London Dinner at the East India Club, St James's Square, London. Meet at 6.30pm in the Clive Room, with dinner served at 7pm in the East India Room.

This is a black tie event and tickets are £65 (members); £30 (2010-2014 leavers); £70 (associate members).

A booking form is available online: www.ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk/oiclubevents

May

Date TBC: Golf at Woodbridge

June

Sat 6 June: 50-55/Diamond Lunch, 11am, School Dining Hall

Fri 19 June: OI v School Cricket, School Field

July

Date TBC: Golf at Fynn Valley

August

Thurs 13 Aug: Golf at Fynn Valley

September

Sun 6 Sept: Rugby 7s Tournament, 10am, Notcutts

October

Thurs 1 Oct - Tues 6 Oct: Ipswich School Festival of Music

For more information about OI events and reunions, go to the events page on the OI website: www.ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk/oiclubevents

The OI News is the twice yearly newsletter of the Old Ipswichian Club.

Editor: Clare Lock

For more information about the OI club, please contact: Sally Webber

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www.ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk/old-ipswichians

Join the Old Ipswichian groups on Facebook and LinkedIn, and follow the Club on Twitter @oldipswichians

Commemorative painting can be yours

A highly individual painting of Ipswich School has been commissioned by the OI Club to celebrate its 125th Anniversary.

The painting was created by local artist Lorna Maxwell, author of the Amazing ABC Adventures, and 50cm x 40cm Giclee (high quality) prints are now available. Rolled and tubed prints cost just £45 each, Framed Prints in a classic frame (as shown) cost £100 each. These are available now and may be purchased via Lindy Hacker (lhx@ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk) or 01473 298961.

The picture highlights as many aspects of the school as possible and a great deal of thought and preparation went into its production. To the centre of the picture all the main buildings including Westwood House, the pavilion, library, prep buildings (current and old), plus the house logos and more are represented.

The four most recent headmasters have portraits around the edges of the picture and in the main area there are illustrations of children participating in the many wonderful sports and activities that Ipswich school has to offer. If you look carefully you may also spot a number of well-known school characters depicted amongst the pupils.

A timeless and fabulous piece which even includes the new girls uniform recently introduced so suitable for current and old Ipswichians alike. Proceeds from the prints will go towards the OI Club's 125th Anniversary appeal helping to fund the new music school, sports equipment and bursaries. This is a fabulous painting and a great way for all to enjoy as a memory of life at Ipswich School.



Excellent news for Ipswich School



The Independent Schools Inspectorate published their report on Ipswich School in January, with the school judged as 'excellent' in all areas.

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."

The team of inspectors visited the school in November and found that: "Pupils demonstrate excellent levels of knowledge, skills and understanding across all subject areas, in response to an ambitious curriculum and excellent teaching." They looked at ten areas of work, including academic and other achievements, the curriculum and teaching, pastoral care, pupils' personal development, boarding and leadership and management, and found that all were 'excellent'.

The inspectors also noted the role of the OI Club in their report, saying: "There is also a thriving alumni network that forges continued enthusiasm through generations of pupils at the school, who are active supports of the school's longer-term plans."

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. The inspection report is available to read on the Ipswich School website: www.ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk/inspection