



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

Notice of Annual General Meeting and Annual Report & Accounts 2014-15

The Annual General Meeting of the Association
will be held in the Old Library, Whitgift School
Haling Park, South Croydon, CR2 6YT

ON SATURDAY, 12th DECEMBER AT 11 AM



THE PRESIDENT, SIR KEITH LINDBLOM, WILL TAKE THE CHAIR

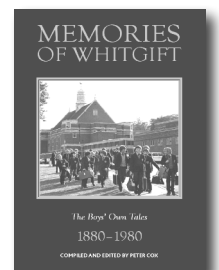
A G E N D A

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|---|--|--------------|---|------------|-------------------------------|--|------------|--------------|---|------------|-----------------|---|------------|---------------|---|--------------|-------------|---|--|----------------|--|--------------|
| <p>1 Apologies for Absence</p> <p>2 To confirm the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Dec 13th, 2014.</p> <p>3 To consider matters arising</p> <p>4 To receive and adopt the Chairman's report</p> <p>5 To receive and adopt the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st August 2015</p> <p>6 To elect the President for the year commencing January 1st, 2016. The Committee proposes that Lord Graham Tope be elected.</p> <p>7 To elect Vice Presidents for the period until the next AGM. The Committee proposes that the existing Vice Presidents be re-elected and that Sam Barke be elected.</p> <p>8 To elect the Chairman for the period until the next AGM. The Committee proposes that Philip Burley be re-elected.</p> <p>9 To elect the Deputy Chairman for the period until the next AGM. The Committee proposes that Nick Somers be re-elected.</p> <p>10 To elect the remaining officers and other members of the Main Committee for the period until the next AGM. The Committee proposes that the following be re-elected and elected:</p> <p><i>Hon Sec:</i> Ms Vicky Burley
 <i>Hon Treasurer:</i> Mark Endersby
 <i>Elected Members:</i> Richard Blundell, Keith Hopkins, Sam Barke, Jonathan Bunn, David Stranack, Stuart Woodrow.</p> <p>OW Trustees Ltd nominated member (<i>not to be elected</i>): Ian Flanagan
 Whitgift Sports Club nominated member (<i>not to be elected</i>): Alan Cowing</p> <p>11 To elect the directors of OW Trustees Ltd for the period until the next AGM. The Committee proposes that Chris Jenkins,</p> | <p>David Straw, Nick Flood, Mike Irwin, Richard Blundell, Ian Flanagan and Jonathan Bunn be re-elected.</p> <p>12 To elect a member of the WA Main Committee to sit on the Committee of the Whitgiftian Benevolent Society. The Committee proposes that Nick Somers be re-elected.</p> <p>13 To approve the Trustees of the Whitgiftian Association Trust Ltd. The proposed Trustees are: Ian Flanagan (Chairman), Mark Endersby (Company Secretary), Alan Cowing, Pip Burley, Nick Somers, Stuart Woodrow, Jonathan Bunn and David Stranack.</p> <p>14 To approve Membership Categories & Subscriptions as follows:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Full</td> <td>Residing within 20 miles of Haling Park</td> <td>£50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Country & Overseas</td> <td>Residing more than 20 miles from Haling Park</td> <td>£40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Staff</td> <td>Past and present staff of Whitgift School</td> <td>£40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Under 28</td> <td>Under the age of 28 on Sept 1st of the current year</td> <td>£30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sports</td> <td>Full Playing OW members of the Whitgift Sports Club</td> <td>(nil)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Life</td> <td>Members who have paid a lump sum in advance
(Currently standing at £2,000)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Student</td> <td>Open to any current 6th Former
(All rates subject to a Hard Copy Supplement if member requires correspondence by post -£12 UK, £20 Europe, £25 rest of the world)</td> <td>(nil)</td> </tr> </table> <p>15 Any other business.
 <i>Note: McCays have resigned as reporting accountants and have been replaced by Thornton Springer LLP.</i></p> | Full | Residing within 20 miles of Haling Park | £50 | Country & Overseas | Residing more than 20 miles from Haling Park | £40 | Staff | Past and present staff of Whitgift School | £40 | Under 28 | Under the age of 28 on Sept 1st of the current year | £30 | Sports | Full Playing OW members of the Whitgift Sports Club | (nil) | Life | Members who have paid a lump sum in advance
(Currently standing at £2,000) | | Student | Open to any current 6th Former
(All rates subject to a Hard Copy Supplement if member requires correspondence by post -£12 UK, £20 Europe, £25 rest of the world) | (nil) |
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The meeting will be followed by Lunch at Croham Road at approximately 12.30pm

“MEMORIES OF WHITGIFT” *The Boys' Own Tales...*

Much to our surprise we have learnt that there are still a number of OWs who have not purchased their copy of *Memories of Whitgift*, compiled and edited by **Peter Cox** (1955-64). This splendid volume of contributions and anecdotes from OWs, plus photographs and items culled from *The Whitgiftian*, gives a lively account in their own words of what life was like for boys at the School for the century from 1880. Memories of masters, sport, the arts, war and peace, school lunches and the facts behind the Great Desk Swap of 1960 are all there. We still have a few remaining copies for sale. *No OW should fail to buy a copy.* **Hardback Price: £20 (plus postage).** **Secure your copy now from the Whitgiftian Association, Haling Park, South Croydon, CR2 6YT**
TEL: 020 8633 9926 E-mail: office@whitgiftianassociation.co.uk



OUR PRESIDENT DESIGNATE - LORD GRAHAM TOPE, CBE



Graham Tope (Baron Tope, CBE) was at Whitgift from 1953 to 1961. After a spell in industry, his political career took off in 1972, when he won the seat of Sutton and Cheam in a parliamentary bi-election.

Amongst many offices held, he is a member of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union and is the only person in the country to have served as a member of a European Institution, a member of the UK Parliament, a member of a regional government structure and as a borough councillor all at the same time. At the London Assembly, he was leader of the Liberal Democrat Group until 2006, member of the Audit Panel, and member of the Transport Committee. He was also a member of the Metropolitan Police Authority, which oversees the Metropolitan Police. Having been appointed a Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the 1991 Birthday Honours, he was created a life peer as Baron Tope of Sutton three years later.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 2015

THIS report covers the second full year of operation of the WA since the establishment of our office at the School. During 2015 we have built steadily on the very successful start we made last year, continuing to cater for a wide range of members' interests and recruiting members at an encouraging rate. We continue to enjoy a strong relationship with the Foundation who, themselves, are projecting an increasingly impressive public presence, especially in Croydon with their continuing commitment to the Croydon Festival and other local initiatives.

Whilst our intended foray into the area of fundraising for the School has been delayed for a number of reasons, we have now presented a fully integrated plan to be implemented early in 2016 with the objective of raising £250,000 for a new Bursary Scheme via the Whitgiftian Association Trust, a charitable company approved by the Charities Commission and the Inland Revenue. With the Foundation's support we will be taking on a new fundraising assistant to work with Vicky in the WA office and Simon Beck in the Admissions Office at the School. As soon as this appointment is finalised, we will let members have more details.

It is also intended to utilise WAT to process donations to the Whitgift Sports Club which, under the sound stewardship of Alan Cowing, ably assisted by Richard Veldeman, his management board and the staff at Croham Road, continues to make excellent progress. Should you be interested in learning more about giving (including mentoring and assisting with careers advice), please refer to the WA website or, if you would rather, speak to me personally (01372 363689).

Events and reunions continue to be a principal activity and in February we held another enjoyable Music Soiree at the School. These events are unusual in that they combine the efforts of students, OWs, staff and parents both as performers and in the audience. Our thanks to Richard Blundell for handling arrangements with the School's music department. In March our small but distinguished coterie of OWs residing in New Zealand held a Founder's Day Reunion, which, judging from the photographs, appears to have been greatly enjoyed by those taking part. It has become clear that OWs living and/or working overseas are invariably keen to stay in touch and we probably need to do more work in this area.

This year our Annual Dinner was held on June 12th at the Caledonian Club and transpired to be a splendid evening. Hosted by President, Sir Keith Lindblom, it provided the opportunity for a hundred or so OWs and their partners to enjoy an excellent meal, some brilliant speeches and a stunning musical interlude performed on solo violin by schoolboy Dan Julian Drutac - not to mention the privilege of tasting the Club's unrivalled collection of malt whiskies

afterwards. Also in June we enjoyed a second visit to the Whitgift Almshouses in George Street, which again brought home to us how little we know about our Founder and, indeed, the history of the Alms Houses, a building we saw so often from the outside but never ventured into. Incidentally, the Headmaster's recent book about John Whitgift is to be highly recommended. Copies are available from the WA office.

In July we held a dinner for OW Liverymen and Guild members, hosted by our President aboard 'HQS Wellington', the Hall of the Hon Company of Master Mariners. Dinner was preceded by a tour of this historic vessel and we enjoyed an excellent address by guest of honour, Sheriff Fiona Adler. It was also a pleasure to have with us OW Jeff Mathieson OBE (1936-1940) who had just celebrated his 90th birthday.

In October our immediate past-President, David Stranack, organised a highly enjoyable South Western reunion dinner in Tiverton and, on November 13th, we held a Vice-Presidents' Dinner in the Old Library at the School.

Richard Blundell continues to organise splendid Sportsman's Lunches at the School, the most recent being in late November when the School 1st XV played old rivals Millfield. As usual, the rugby was accompanied by lunch in the Old Library.

We have also hosted events for school leavers and prefects at Croham Road, all well attended and serving to remind them of everything the WA has to offer. I must also thank Nick Somers for spearheading the WA's presence at the Careers Conversazione - I was there, too, and, as usual, was greatly impressed with the calibre of those boys who attended.

None of the above would be possible without the help and support of many others and, on behalf of all WA members, I would again like to thank Vicky for running things so efficiently and conscientiously in the office.

With Christmas only just around the corner, don't forget to take advantage of the many member offers on our website including discounted theatre tickets, booking and paying for events online - plus our on-line shop. You will also find a Members' log-in section where you can quickly trace old friends and schoolday colleagues. Please check the website for details of everything on offer - including our delicious and popular WA Claret (www.whitgiftianassociation.co.uk).

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to Sir Keith Lindblom who we have been privileged to have as President during 2015. He has worked hard to promote the WA both publicly and in his day-to-day dealings with those around him. On November 4th he was sworn in as a Lord Justice of Appeal and now sits on the Court of Appeal. I know that all OWs will join with me in congratulating him. Thank you, Keith.

PIP BURLEY, Chairman, Whitgiftian Association, November 2015

HALING PARK - PETER ELLIS OW (1991-98), SECOND MASTER

GOING into my second year as Second Master at Whitgift, I am excited to be able to report on the remarkable activities and achievements of 2014/15.

Once again, the School achieved outstanding record academic grades; a result of the dedication and hard work of the students and the staff. Record highs were seen in the Fifth Form GCSE results with 87% A*-A, and in the Sixth Form A2 results with 92% of grades marked at A*-B. In the IB, Whitgift students achieved an average score of 38 points. 117 boys gained places at their first choice universities and a record 24 boys are off to study at Oxbridge colleges.

Boarding at Whitgift is continuing in its popularity and we remain full with demand far outweighing supply. The Founder's House is mainly home to full and weekly boarders and flexi-boarding is available at the White House. There are currently 23 different nationalities represented which ensures a welcomed diversity to the House.

Once the boarders left in July 2015, the doors to the new Whitgift Summer School opened to welcome 168 students from 16 different countries over six weeks of the holiday period. In addition to the overseas students, many Whitgift and Old Palace pupils joined the daily programme at the Summer School. The international students were able to develop their English and participate in a number of exciting activities. Feedback was excellent, so much so that we have already started taking bookings for 2016. If you would like to help in any way with the Summer School then do get in touch.

Performing Arts events at Whitgift remain outstanding and popular. Last March we experienced a fantastic production of *Spamalot* which was a thoroughly enjoyable and high-energy show. In June, Paul Wilson directed a talented cast of First to Lower Sixth Formers in a performance of *Summer's Last Will and Testament*, held in the Founder's Garden with all performers dressed for the occasion in Elizabethan costume. The occasion also served to mark the launch of the Headmaster's long-awaited book about the life of John Whitgift. Drama to look forward to this year includes a First Form collection of short plays, Upper School's interpretation of R. C. Sherriff's *Journey's End* and the major production, the dark and demonic *Sweeney Todd*. In Music, we enjoyed a full programme of events including Evensongs at Trinity College and Westminster Abbey and a Chamber Choir Concert Tour to Germany over the summer. In March, the Whitgift Chamber Orchestra collaborated with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra to perform at the Royal Festival Hall. The event was outstanding and demonstrated the immense talents of our musicians and singers. The music programme continues to delight and, having already performed at Chichester Cathedral this year, the Chamber Choir will join the Whitgift Choristers to celebrate Christmas with a concert at St George's in Hanover Square. The Choristers will be starting the festive season by singing traditional carols at The Ritz while guests enjoy afternoon tea!

We have enjoyed many visitors to the School over the past twelve months including the Ambassador of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, officials from the Haiti Embassy, poets Inua Ellams and BREIS and a range of writers including Tony Bradman, Steve Cole, Jonathan Stroud, Bali Rai and David Gatward. An inspirational talk was given by Jeremy Paxman who discussed his book *Great Britain's Great War* and, most recently, we welcomed Lord Professor Robert Winston who gave



us a fascinating insight into the role of science in today's society.

As the Academic Enrichment programme gets underway, we look forward to many more interesting guest speakers coming to Whitgift.

Preparations are underway for the World War One exhibition 'Remembering 1916' which will be open to the public from 12 March – 31 August 2016. This major exhibition will be housed in the Performing Arts

Centre and will feature more than 500 display items, many of which have rarely or never been seen by the public. The Opening will be on the evening of 10 March 2016 by Professor Margaret MacMillan, the great granddaughter of David Lloyd George, Prime Minister in 1916. More information is available on the website www.remembering1916.co.uk. There will be many opportunities to be involved so do let us know if you are interested.

Whitgift opened its gardens to the public in June 2015 for the National Gardens Scheme Open Day and the London Open Garden Squares Weekend. Over 500 visitors were able to enjoy the full range of gardens and wildlife areas at the School. £2,300 was raised through admissions and plant sales which went to the scheme charities.

Whitgift students have experienced tremendous success in sport this year. Our portfolio of National titles continues to grow and many pupils, current and past, have represented their country in their chosen sports.

In Hockey, the 1st XI had seven players represent the England U18 team with a large number also heavily involved in national league clubs. This includes recent OWs, Ore Ogunlana, Rhys Smith and Jack Waller. Rhys and Jack, along with current student, Tendo Kimuli (L6) all played for England U21 vs Germany. The 1st XI also won, for the fourth time in five years, the U18 National Hockey Indoor Championships. In Rugby, the 1st XV and 2nd XV toured New Zealand and Australia where they encountered challenging but rewarding matches, winning all games they played. Whitgift footballers achieved success with the U11 and U13 squads crowned champions in the Investec ISFA National Cup. Notably, Callum Hudson-Odoi was selected for the England U15 a year young and has now moved on from Whitgift to play on a full-time basis for Chelsea Academy. Cricket at Whitgift went from strength to strength last year. Tyler Meyer (L6) was selected to represent the MCC at Lords whilst Nico Reifer (L5) was selected for the West Indies U15 (a year young) on a recent tour of England.

In Fencing, Connor Head (U5) is currently number two in Great Britain and received an official invitation to the GB Epee team for the first European U17 event in Germany. Connor has since been confirmed for both the Epee and Foil National Teams. An amazing achievement for Connor as he is the only Fencer in Britain to have made it into both teams this year. With Tariq Roach (L5) as the number nine, Whitgift now has two fencers in the top 10 in the country. The U13 Athletics squad gained bronze in the English Schools Track and Field Cup National final. In Swimming, Tanglin Ireland won bronze in the U15 National ASA 200m Breaststroke. In Golf, the School's first-team golfers were victorious in the HMC National Foursomes Finals, the first time Whitgift has won this prestigious trophy. Additionally, Harvey Byers (L6) was instrumental in the England U16 team win against Wales over the summer. Whitgift students continue to excel in Modern Pentathlon with three individual and two team medals won at

the British Tetrathlon Championships in September. Last year, Whitgift's junior boys won the prestigious parallel slalom competition at the Independent Schools Ski and Snowboard Championships in Les Deux Alpes. The senior boys impressed to win bronze in the team Giant Slalom and Slalom competitions. The boys also performed excellently in individual races and Bertie Robinson (U1) was labelled in the prize ceremony as 'one to watch'. Cycling is increasingly popular with individual and team gold medals achieved at the Inter-School

Track Cycling event in May.

I do hope this summary has given you some insight into the goings-on at the School and the activities we can look forward to over the next year. As ever, Old Whitgiftians are always very welcome to revisit Whitgift at any time and I would encourage you to do so - please contact the WA Office. School events are open to all and are published on our website www.whitgift.co.uk/events. In particular, we hope to see you at the WWI exhibition in Spring/Summer 2016.

CONTACTS & GENERAL INFORMATION

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HOME AND OVERSEAS

CORRESPONDENT

We currently have OWs scattered around the globe, and if you wish to be put in touch with an OW in a particular country or continent, we will do our best to put you in contact.
Tel: 020 8633 9926

ADDRESS CHANGES

Of our 8,909 registered OWs, 1,793 are currently "lost". If we do not know your address and contact details, particularly e-mail, we cannot invite you to Reunions or keep you in touch with other news and events, so when you move house, please do remember to let us know. You can update your contact details at any time by writing to or telephoning the office or by sending an e-mail to: office@whitgiftianassociation.co.uk. Please e-mail the office if you know the whereabouts of any other OWs who you think we may not know about.

STANDING ORDERS

Some members may have standing orders that have to be identified individually from the WA bank statements and entered manually into our computer system. Direct

debits and PayPal subscriptions are processed automatically and save the WA both time and bank charges. Please make the move this year from standing order to direct debit. If you have an antipathy to direct debits, at least please ensure your SO is updated to reflect current subscription rates (see page 1). Direct Debit forms may be obtained from the website or from the office.

E-MAIL DISTRIBUTION

In view of ever increasing postal charges, we have expanded our use of e-mail distribution facilities where possible. This Annual Report has been sent to you as a pdf attachment and is available on the WA Members' area of the website. If you know any members who are unable or unwilling to receive e-mail attachments, it may be downloaded from the WA website. ***Please ensure we have your e-mail address.***

DATA PROTECTION ACT 1998

As we maintain personal records of members on a computer database, we have to comply with the rules of the Act, although we are exempt from "Notification". We do not pass members' data to commercial organisations.

WA ON THE NET

You will find the WA website at: www.whitgiftianassociation.co.uk. The site contains a current calendar of events, news, recent and past issues of the WA Newsletter, and WA News, membership details and subscription rates, the Constitution, together with a list of officers, past Presidents & Vice Presidents and celebrated Alumni. You can also book and purchase tickets for WA and School events and take advantage of the generous Members' Discounts that apply via the Members' Log-In area and WA Shop. You can also pay subscriptions online as well as take advantage of offers and promotions. Please e-mail any comments or contributions to: office@whitgiftianassociation.co.uk

WHITGIFT BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

We ask all Old Whitgiftians to consider a legacy to the Society, as we continue to strive to help the less fortunate in the wider Whitgift family. All OWs are encouraged to contact the Secretary c/o: the WA Office if they hear of or suspect that an Old Whitgiftian could be in need of help.