



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

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President - Sir KEITH LINDBLOM

Chairman - PIP BURLEY

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NEWSLETTER 362 - November / December 2015

SOUTH WEST OW DINNER



The Tiverton Hotel – a small, modest establishment on the outskirts of town – had treated us well two years ago, so that was where we returned.

So soon after 7 pm our South Western contingent of OWs

began to gather in the bar and immediately faces were recognised and conversation flowed.

We moved on to dine in the attractively laid out Topaz Room where organiser David Stranack said a few words of welcome and encouraged guests to minimise formality and maximise enjoyment. The hotel staff looked after us well and served an enjoyable meal as wine and conversation flowed.

As coffee was served, WA Chairman, Pip Burley (OW 1955-62) gave the gathering an update on Association affairs, commenting particularly on a recent encouraging growth in membership after some years of little movement.

Pip was followed by Alan Cowing (OW 1953-59), Chairman of the Whitgift Sports Club, who provided a summary of the Club's recent achievements, commenting particularly on the very large numbers of youngsters in the youth sections of the OWRFC and OWCC who are currently enjoying sport at Croham Road.

As the formal part of the evening drew to a close there was a general migration of members towards the hotel bar, where conversation, reminiscing and beer continued to flow.

DAVID STRANACK, OW (1949-55)

Saturday 17th October saw Old Whitgiftians and their partners from all over the West Country – Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and Dorset – gather for a very sociable evening at the Tiverton Hotel.

The SWOW (South West Old Whitgiftian) Dinner had been missing from the OW calendar for a number of years until it was resurrected in 2013 and that event proved to be such a success that a proposal to repeat the occasion this year was received with enthusiasm by the SWOW community.



Sir Keith Lindblom, OW (1966-74)
with his father, John Lindblom OW
(1945-48)

IN JULY 2015 HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN APPROVED THE APPOINTMENT OF WA PRESIDENT, SIR KEITH LINDBLOM (THE HON. MR JUSTICE LINDBLOM) AS A LORD JUSTICE OF APPEAL. SIR KEITH WILL BE SWORN IN AT THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE ON 4 NOVEMBER 2015, AND WILL THEN SIT IN THE COURT OF APPEAL AS THE RT. HON. LORD JUSTICE LINDBLOM.

BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS NOW!

10% off all online purchases with code **WAMem15***

Available online at www.whitgiftianassociation.co.uk/shop
or phone the WA Office on 020 8633 9926 to place your order.



WA CLARET

The specially selected WA claret is available for the 3rd year running. Just £65 for six bottles, or £125 for a case of 12



WA SILVER CUFFLINKS



WA BOW TIE



WA BLAZER



CHRISTMAS CARDS



WA FLEECE

OW DRINKS IN THE CITY

On Thursday 17th September, more than 30 Old Whitgiftians met at the Market Porter Pub, in Borough Market (a stone's throw from London Bridge Station), at what has now become a regular meet-up for OWs who work in or near the City of London.

The event, which is organised mostly through Facebook by OW Nick Somers (1984-1989) has been growing year on year but always hopes to welcome new faces.

If you'd be interested in joining the meet-up in the future, register your interest by joining the "Old Whitgiftians in the City" Facebook page.

1960 PREFECTS REUNION



The first reunion of the 1960 (summer) Prefects' Room was the 50th, in 2010, following the precedent set the previous year by the 1959 prefects (who have also had their 55th). All these reunions, and others held by the prefects of subsequent years, have taken place at the same tavern, which is quiet, easy to reach, and highly hospitable under the genial and generous management of Aiden Ganly.

In both cases the turn-out for the 55th was smaller than that for the 50th; in the case

of the 1960 group, all 21 survivors came along in 2010 – sadly, one of our number was by then too unwell to attend and has subsequently died – whereas this year ill-health prevented two from coming and others had other commitments.

It is notable that John Higham (OW 1953-60) and Robert Kibble (OW 1953-62) both came from California, Tim Forbes (OW 1955-60) from New Zealand and Stephen Potter (OW 1952-59) from France, so the need to travel was not a deterrent. No fewer than four of those present had also been in the 1959 room and attended both that year's reunions.

For the 50th anniversary meeting those attending had prepared in advance brief summaries of their lives since leaving school. These were not updated for the 55th (since it seemed that most people's lives had not changed that much) but it did not take long for any new developments to be described. Several of those present were still economically active, while others had embraced retirement with gusto. There

were, inevitably, reminiscences about life and characters at Haling Park, nearly all recounted with pleasure and approval of our alma mater.

At the conclusion of the lunch, before we all departed, we discussed "the next time", and there was general, if slightly pessimistic, agreement that our 60th anniversary was too long to wait. So we hope that Aiden will still be there to welcome us in 2018.

PETER STEVENS (OW, 1951-60)

WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

WA AGM

**SATURDAY 12TH
DECEMBER
THE OLD LIBRARY**

**Lunch will be available after
for £10. Please contact the
office if you intend to stay
for lunch.**

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL



In my last missive, I made reference to how the Celebration of Whitgift Life was fast becoming a new tradition at Whitgift. Another tradition that highlights all that is best about the school and its old boys is The Charlie Hutton Hockey Festival. Charlie tragically lost his life in a boating accident during the Summer of 2012, having just completed the Third Form at the school. Each September since then, his family, in conjunction with the Whitgift hockey community, has run a hockey festival in his name. The purpose of this event is both to celebrate his life through his greatest passion and to raise money for the RNLI, which was instrumental in helping his family and friends who were involved in the incident.

This year, the festival helped Old Whitgiftians Tom and Sam Hutton and their family exceed their RNLI fundraising target of £30,000 that they set for 2015. With lots of help, generous prize donations, the raffle and silent auction, the grand total raised on the day was £4,033. This took the total on their giving page to over £32,000. If you'd like to find out more and donate, search for "Team Hutton" at <http://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/giving/>

The festival was a fantastic day and there was even a 5km fun run around the grounds in Challenge Charlie T-Shirts. The winners of the adult exhibition match were The All Stars, beating Team Hutton OWs in the closing stages of the second half. There was also a tournament contested by eight school teams of mixed ages, the winners led by Jamie Bobowicz.

In other hockey news, the first team put their disappointment at their early exit from last year's National Cup behind them and started the season at breakneck pace, winning their first five games at a canter. Currently, their goal difference makes for pleasant reading, having scored 41 and conceded 5, and their wins have included a 7-1 rout of Oxford University and a 10-1 drubbing of Millfield. The old boys are

not letting the side down either, with no fewer than four of them - Rhys Smith (2007-2015), Jack Waller (2013-2015), Luke Taylor (2009-2013) and Jonty Griffiths (2007-2013) - having recently been selected to represent England Hockey to be part of the GBU21 squad competing in the Sultan of Johor Cup.

Over the Summer, a senior rugby squad of forty-nine boys and seven staff undertook a grueling tour of New Zealand and Australia to give them the optimum run-in to the new season, and it turned out to be quite a trip. The first fifteen won all five of their fixtures - quite some feat for a British school touring down under - and the second fifteen won three and lost two. The benefits from this trip have been enormous, with the firsts winning the Esher President's Cup and enjoying a fantastic first half term results wise, sweeping all before them other than Sedbergh and Wellington away - arguably the two toughest fixtures in English schoolboy rugby. Indeed, the school's fixture list is potentially the toughest in the land: In addition to the two aforementioned schools, they also now play renowned giants of the game such as Millfield, Warwick and Dulwich. There really are no easy fixtures anymore... well, I suppose they do still play John Fisher - a 32-0 trouncing being the result in this year's 'friendly' fixture!



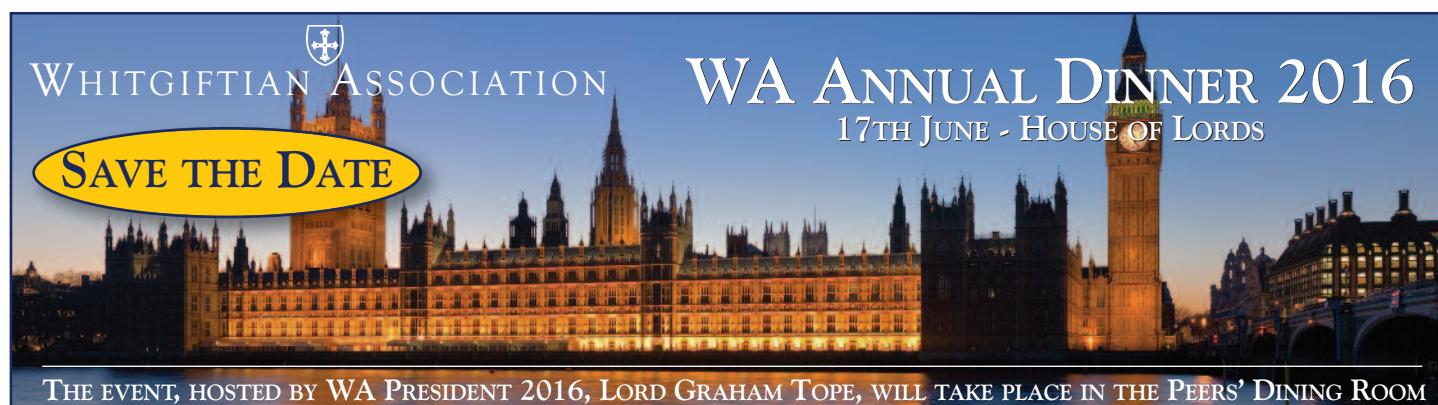


WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

WA ANNUAL DINNER 2016

17TH JUNE - HOUSE OF LORDS

SAVE THE DATE



THE EVENT, HOSTED BY WA PRESIDENT 2016, LORD GRAHAM TOPE, WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE PEERS' DINING ROOM

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL CONTINUED

In other sports news, the U11 football team should be congratulated on reaching the ISFA finals again. U13 footballer and member of Chelsea FC Academy, Jamal Musiala, represented his club at the U14 Boys Madrid Football Cup 2015, which took place between 18-20 September. The 12-year-old pupil was in fine form for the competition, finishing as top scorer, with 13 goals in seven matches, against opponents such as Juventus FC, Paris Saint-Germain FC, Real Madrid CF, SV Werder Bremen and Sporting Lisbon.

In fencing, Upper Fifth pupil, Connor Head, enjoyed a successful weekend with the U17 and U20 selection competitions. The events were in foil this time. Connor secured 14th place in the U17 event and went up in the GB ranking to 11th place which will be enough to secure a spot in the first international event in Foil. Connor has already been nominated for the GB team in Epee and now awaits an official invitation into the Foil team.

Lastly, another sportsman making quite a splash is Upper Fifth former Piers Brown,

who was awarded a bronze medal in the 10 metre diving competition at the 4th Open International Croatian Summer Cadet and Junior Championship in July in Croatia. As a member of Crystal Palace Diving Team, Piers participated in the five day international competition, where 12 nations were represented with 415 entries from 24 teams. Piers was competing against some of Europe's top national youth divers.

In amongst all this sporting triumph and celebration, the boys have still been keeping their noses to the grindstone in order to maintain the school's strong academic tradition. 2015 saw record-breaking exam results for Whitgift. An unsurpassed 87% of GCSE grades were A*-A, and it was another year of superb Upper Sixth Form results with 92.6% A*-B for A Level and IB combined. In the Languages Faculty, 89% of GCSE grades were awarded at A*-A. Special mention should go to the nine linguists who sat three or four Language GCSE subjects and achieved A* in all of them. Vincit qui patitur indeed!

DOMINIC EDWARDS, OW (1988-1996)

RICHARD THORPE, OW PLAYS FOR CANADA

Congratulations to OW flanker Richard Thorpe (1997-2003) who represented Canada in the World Cup against France on 1st October in Milton Keynes.



Thorpe, who qualifies for Canada through his mother, made his international debut in November 2014, featuring against Samoa and Romania. He added three more caps in the Pacific Nations Cup, including making his first start against Japan. Canada, currently ranked 18th in the world and lowest among Pool D members, had their best finish at a World Cup in 1991, when the team reached the quarter-finals.

OW GOLF SOCIETY REPORT

BARNETT TROPHY

On Sunday 13th September, the OW Golf Society took on the school in the annual Barnett Trophy match. Given the strength of the golfers available to the school nowadays, this is a match where we try to field our strongest available side, and this year it included five players from the Halford Hewitt squad and three others with handicaps at 10 or less. Not bad.

Not bad either was the result; we won the trophy for the first time in several years and, your reporter believes, only the second time ever. After a very enjoyable afternoon, the score was 3-1 to the old boys, with victories recorded by Messrs Scovell/Bloxsome and Blundell/Down, and halved matches by Gates/Beck and Ufton/Blok.

ROYAL ASHDOWN IN THE SUN

Royal Ashdown in the sun, with the West course greens in fabulous condition but as difficult to negotiate as ever; it provided a great setting for our last major outing of the season.

26 took part (including Tim Forbes, who was visiting from NZ) and enjoyed not only the good weather but also Ashdown's excellent catering.

The golf itself was preceded by an interesting little excursion to the club's simulator, where everyone had the chance to enter a 'nearest the pin' competition, playing the famous 'Postage Stamp' at Troon. Robert Hollidge finished 10 foot away with a 'thinned' 11-wood and took the honours! Robert made good use of his

full set of woods (irons are SO last year!) out on the course too, finishing with 36 points and the Autumn Cup. This is his second triumph in the society's four meetings this year which, if you will allow the comparison, puts him somewhere near level terms with Jordan Speith. The Hollidge Slam in 2016, maybe? Paul Harrup (34 pts) and Nick Matthews (33) took second and third places respectively."

**PETER GALE, HONORARY SECRETARY,
OW (1963-69)**





It was spring last time I updated you all on the football club, at the time both our sides were battling relegation in their respective leagues. Our first team managed to beat the drop and remain in what is now called the Amateur Football Combination South 3 division, whilst our second team were less successful and find themselves in South 9. Both sides are only four games into their seasons, but both appear to be on course for a fruitful year.

The first eleven have been boosted by the arrivals of several old boys. Max Kirchner (OW 2002-10) and Sean Barnett (OW 2003-10) have boosted our attacking options with Max scoring four goals in his first four appearances for the club. At the back Nick Diesel (OW 2004-2008) has joined regular old boys Jon Higgins (OW 1984-95), Jordan Clarke (OW 2001-08) and Luke Fisher in a strong back four who have conceded no more than two in one game. At this level that is certainly respectable. Farhan Rahman (OW 2001-08) and John Mensah (OW 2001-08) continue to share captain and managerial duties between them, both successfully using the roll on roll off subs rule (on trial in our league system) to keep all players happy.

Our second team have had an even

better start than the firsts! After two very tough seasons suffering successive relegations, the squad found themselves top of the league with four wins from four and a six point lead. Captain Richard Ferguson (OW 2000-08) has formed a dynamic and energetic central midfield partnership with Alex Prowse (OW 2001-2009) which has completely outrun and outperformed all challengers so far.

Club founder Mike Tarlton (OW 1984-91) is still going strong at centre back and new boys from last season Jack Drawbridge (OW 2006-12) and Jack Sealy (OW 2007-14) are now regulars at left back and in goal respectively. Veteran Rafael Walton (OW 1989-95) who was challenging for our golden boot last year is still to get off the mark but making great progress after suffering a fracture to his hip in the summer. Most of our goals so far this year have come from a couple of Old Mid-Whits, Ligan Gnanasekeran with 4 and Jay Patel with 9! Just imagine how good they could have been if they had gone to the right school!

We are of course always on the lookout for new quality players, ideally with eleven a-side experience. If you or friends are interested in joining please email oldwhits@gmail for more details.

MICHAEL FERGUSON, CHAIRMAN

OWs MOVE INTO CONCUSSION MANAGEMENT

Dr Sam Barke OW (2000-05) and Nick Somers OW (1984-89) have founded "Return2Play", a company which helps schools and clubs effectively manage a player's return to play after a concussion.

Concussion is a hot topic in contact sports, where increased awareness of its effects and the potential risks if poorly managed have rightly brought it to the attention of the press.

Return2Play is a web-based system that allows parents, coaches and medical staff to track a players progress along a return to play pathway before linking them with a sport-friendly doctor to certify that they have made a full recovery.

OWs are welcome to be amongst the first to view the introductory video at www.return2play.org.uk.

If you have any business news you'd like to share, do please contact the WA Office.



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION
invites you to
SPORTSMAN'S LUNCH
SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2015, 11AM
(Please note change of date)

WHITGIFT'S 1ST XV VS. MILLFIELD



Closing date for bookings is Monday 23rd November .
Tickets are £35 per head for members of the WA, staff and parents of current Whitgiftians, £25 per head for students and £40 for all others.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 11 Nov	Remembrance Service	School	10:30
Thurs 12 Nov	Careers Conversazione	School	19:00
Sat 14 Nov	OWRFC supporters lunch	WSC	12:00
Thurs 19 Nov	School music concert	Fairfield Halls	19:00
Sat 21 Nov	OWRFC supporters lunch	WSC	12:00
Sat 28 Nov	Sportsman's Lunch	School	11:00
Fri 4 Dec	Comedy Night	WSC	19:00
Sat 5 Dec	School Choristers	The Ritz	15:45
9-11 Dec	Journey's End	School	19:30
Fri 11 Dec	School Christmas Concert	Hanover Square	18:30
Sat 12 Dec	OWRFC supporters lunch	WSC	12:00
Sat 12 Dec	WA AGM	School	11:00
Tues 15 Dec	School Carol Service	Croydon Minster	19:30
Fri 31 Dec	New Year's Eve Party	WSC	19:30
Fri 17 June	WA Annual Dinner	The Lords	tbc

FIXTURES

Sat 7 Nov	Wands XV v Effingham	H	L	14:30
Sat 7 Nov	School 1st XV v High Wycombe	H		14:00
Sat 14 Nov	OWRFC 1st XV v Old Wellingtonians	H	L	14:30
Sat 14 Nov	School 1st XV v Dulwich	H		14:30
Sat 21 Nov	OWRFC 1st XV v Old Emanuel	H	L	14:30
Sat 21 Nov	School 1st XV v Langley Park	H		10:30
Sat 28 Nov	School 1st XV v Millfield	H		13:30
Sat 5 Dec	Wands XV v Warlingham	H	L	14:00
Sat 5 Dec	School 1st XV v Cranleigh	A		14:30
Sat 12 Dec	OWRFC 1st XV v Law Society	H	L	14:00
Sat 12 Dec	School 1st XV v Glyn	H		10:00
Sat 26 Dec	OWRFC 1st XV v Old Alleynians	A		14:00

RECENT DEATHS

RON MILLEN

(OW 1954-62) died 29/08/2015, aged 71

MR JAMES WILTSHIRE

(OW 1946-1950), died 15/08/15, aged 81

MR JAMES MACER WRIGHT

(OW 1929-1938), died August 2015, aged 95

MR JOHN ANTHONY RAWLING

(OW 1948-1955), died 25/08/15, aged 77

MR GEORGE WILLIAM ELLIOTT

(OW 2002-2009), died August 2015, aged 23

MR ROBERT PENNELLS

(OW 1959-66), died 2014, aged 67

WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION 500 Club AUTUMN DRAW

1st	D Moulton	£100
2nd	J Straw	£50
3rd	R Bateman	£50
4th	A P Oliver	£50

"CALL IT MGA" In 2002, Roger Martin contacted MGA Register historian and Old Whitgiftian, Piers Hubbard (OW, 1944-52) with the intention of putting together a book celebrating the 50th anniversary of MGA. The first edition of the resulting book, titled "Call it MGA" was published in late 2004. A second edition, which continues the story, was published last year.

The book is a story of what the MGA is and how it has evolved over the past 60 years. In addition

to information on development and manufacture, it follows MGA owners around the world, tracks celebrity associations, records its on-going racing heritage and talks of the MGA's position amongst other vintage British cars.

Hardbound and published in larger format with 176 pages, the book is profusely illustrated with many photographs in full colour. Interested OWs may order a copy from the MGA Register of the MG Car Club (UK) via

www.mgcc.co.uk/mga-register/merchandise-shop



Submissions for NEWSLETTER 363 covering January/February 2016 closes on Friday 18th December. All news and photographs should be sent to editor@whitgiftianassociation.co.uk or via the WA Office at Haling Park. Tel: 020 8633 9926 if you have any queries.