



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

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President - LORD DAVID FREUD

Chairman - JONATHAN BUNN

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NEWSLETTER 375 - January/February 2018

DAN WOWS WITH A VIRTUOSO PERFORMANCE! VICE PRESIDENTS' DINNER, THE OLD LIBRARY, THURSDAY 26TH OCTOBER



Old Whitgiftians enjoyed a masterful rendition of Bach's 'Chaconne' for Solo Violin by Dan-Iulian Drutec OW (2013-'15) in the Old Library at the School on 26th October. Dan had been winner of the School's International Music Competition in 2013 and left the school two years ago to study at the Guildhall School of Music. Since then he has performed the complete cycle of all ten Beethoven Violin Sonatas and has appeared frequently in concerts and festivals in Moldova, Romania and Bulgaria. This summer he played as a leader of second violins at the internationally-renowned festival for youth orchestras, the "Young Euro Classic", held in the Konzerthaus in Berlin.

The occasion was the 2017 Vice Presidents' Dinner hosted by WA President, Richard Bateman OW (1967-74) and attended by nearly thirty OWs including Past Presidents and Vice Presidents together with members of the WA Main Committee. The new Headmaster, Mr Christopher Ramsey, approaching the end of his first term at the School, was Guest of Honour.

Following drinks in the Raeburn Library, the party made its way to the nostalgic surroundings of the Old Library where the school chefs excelled themselves once again by serving a first-class four-course dinner.

Following Dan's performance, the President welcomed everyone to the occasion - especially Mr Ramsey who was attending his first WA event - and proposed a toast to the School. He then introduced WA Chairman, Jonathan Bunn OW (1980-88), who gave an up-date on WA matters whilst welcoming Mr Ramsey and assuring him that the WA would offer him every

possible assistance in the future - particularly in the area of fundraising which OWs were now beginning to accept as a priority. He concluded with a toast to the President, Past Presidents and Vice-Presidents.

The Headmaster responded by re-assuring those present that he fully intended to retain everything that is good about the School and that the "birds were safe". He went on to say how impressed he had been with both pupils and staff, who he described as being conscientious, enthusiastic and determined to give of their best. Referring to the Chairman's remarks, he said he was also looking forward to a closer, rewarding and more productive relationship with the WA, whose potential value to the School he fully appreciated and was keen to maximise.

The evening concluded with a rousing performance of 'Carmen' sung by all those present (with the possible exception of the Headmaster!)

2017 REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

With our new, larger Association flag proudly flying above the War Memorial, the WA President Dr Richard Bateman OW (1967-74) laid our red poppy wreath on Friday 10th November at 11.00am during the traditional Remembrance Service at the School.

A large number of Old Boys were in attendance and appreciated the readings, singing and music from the boys and

especially the parade of the Corps of Drums when our President commented that the last time he had participated in this Service was as the School's Drum Major.

It is hoped for an even bigger attendance of OWs at next year's larger Service on Friday 9th November 2018 to mark the end of WW1 hostilities which will be followed by a celebratory lunch at the School.



UPPER FIFTH 1952-53 REUNION



L to R: Derek Tisdall, John Hamilton, Gerald Haywood, Keith Ryde, David Brewster, Nicholas Hartley, Kenneth Rokison, Peter Warren, Roger Hilton, John Sutcliffe, Brian Halfacre, John Webb, Noel Parkinson, Ronald Bernard, John Trott and Mr Robert Schad

On 25th October past, thanks to help from the School and WA staff and the excellence of the School Caterers, we hugely enjoyed a quite superb Luncheon in the Old Library and publicly register our thanks here.

Our annual reunions began as tea parties in Cambridge in 1959 and have continued, initially as evening now lunch parties, largely thanks to the culinary skills of my wife, Angela, from 2012 our Honorary Member. At all of these, we have prided ourselves that, whilst giving due deference to our School for all the benefits we derived from our teachers, our discussions, whether at age 31 or 81, have primarily centred on the world ahead of us not behind - the futures for us, our School and the UK.

But this year (2017), in celebrating 65 years since we were the Upper Fifth of 1952-53 and, for some, 70 years since we entered the School portals together in the First Form, it was different. In a seemingly unconscious act of collegiality, we chose, unashamedly, to look back and enjoy all the memories we shared. Robert ('Bob') Schad, the sole survivor now of those who

had taught us in 1952-53 was our guest and set the standard with masterly reminiscences of his fellow Magistri, not least in their part in the Domini Club (Cricketers). Memories and conversation flowed freely; collegiality grew visibly as did the realisation of the immense amount of change we have seen. Little could epitomise that better than the vast contrast between the meal we had enjoyed and our memories of Mrs Henry's school lunches of the late 40s and 50s so stalwartly carved (forgive the pun) out of the restricted ingredients of rationed food plus bully beef, horsemeat and whale. But, lest we forget, it was her successful efforts which enabled us to play our sports with vigour and, dare I say, contributed to the longevity we have since enjoyed.

Come January all but two of us will be in our 80s and the 15 of us present (see photo) were 50% of the original class and three-quarters of those known to us as extant. Our absent colleagues, namely: Roger Brasier, Ian Brown, Geoffrey Howard, Peter Kennedy and Alan Stocks were so by reason of distance (Australia) or medical challenge/mobility or both. All sent their news and we reciprocated with

a Toast to them and remembered all our class-mates of 1952-53. To mark this unique occasion, Peter Kennedy OW (1947-54) went further and kindly let his bardic talents out from under the bushel and sent us an especially penned poem - Vincit qui Patitur, to which our resident thespian, Kenneth Rokison OW (1947-55), gave full justice in his delivery of it to us.

Here it is.

The poet envisages his regrettable absence from the Reunion:

*These are my true and my instinctive words
and thus caparison'd as you fondly are
you will your foray to the hornèd moon assay
and in its light make sport as if 'twere day;
and any man who is not of your cloth
or any man whose time is out of joint,
whose physic will not meld with that of yours,
needs must but have to hold himself aloof
and count himself accurs'd he is not there
to take his meat and sust'nance at your board,
and at your tables with fine damask draped
so to carouse with you that he might think
the dalliance gave the answer to his wish.
If only he could make the lonely travail
and journey thence to gather with you others -
if only he could join that band of brothers,
and catching hold of erudite sobriety
become elected to your bright society.*

PK October 2017

Bright? Yes, and back now to facing forward, if toward an uncertain future on many fronts. But we are optimistic enough to promise more reports yet and daring enough even to expect some to be celebrating a 70th anniversary. Who knows?

PETER WARREN OW (1947-56)

**SADLY, SINCE THIS ARTICLE WAS
WRITTEN, DAVID BREWSTER, A
MEMBER OF THE REUNION
GROUP PASSED AWAY
PEACEFULLY AT HOME, AGED 81.**

WA OXFORD DINNER 2017 AT GREEN TEMPLETON COLLEGE

The WA Oxford Dinner 2017 was held at Green Templeton College in the stunning eighteenth century Radcliffe Observatory. The dinner, in aid of the Whitgiftian Association Bursary Appeal, was hosted by Professor Paul Wordsworth OW (1965-70), a Fellow of the College.

The Observatory, designed by James Wyatt, has a distinctive tower based on the Tower of the Winds in Athens. Approaching the College, one can view Atlas and Hercules supporting a globe atop the tower. The College certainly looked beautiful as the Autumn sun faded behind the tower. Guests approached the Observatory through gardens and a cobbled courtyard before ascending to the base of the tower for drinks in the common room of the College.

Professor Wordsworth led guests to the octagonal observatory room, which is usually closed to the public. This is a remarkable space where those with a head for heights chose to climb the spiral staircase to the balcony at the very top.

Dinner was served in the semi-circular space at the base of the Tower. The room looked stunning at night, lit by candles. Guests were joined by current WA President Richard Bateman OW (1967-1974) and WA Chairman Jonathan Bunn OW (1980-88) and his wife Kate.

Four OWs currently studying at Oxford attended: Sebastian Orbell OW (2008-15), Menon Abhishek OW (2010-17), Arthur Fordham OW (2010-17), Jerry Amokwandoh OW (2009-16). We wish them the best of luck in their studies.

We had two authors in our midst, Malcolm Parlett OW (1952-59) and Martin Hoyle (1950-59), both of whom kindly donated their books to the School, for the benefit of the WA Bursary Appeal.

After dinner, Professor Wordsworth spoke about the College and provided guests with a fascinating insight into the history and architecture of the Observatory. Pip Burley OW (1955-1962) introduced the WA Bursary Appeal, explaining that the Whitgift Foundation can no longer support bursaries to the same degree it has historically. If the strong tradition of bursary support introduced by the Founder is to be maintained, fundraising is now a necessity.

We were then joined by Jerry, one of the OWs currently studying at Oxford University, and the youngest of three Croydon brothers who were educated at Whitgift with bursary support. Without bursaries, Jerry's family would have been unable to afford the fees. He explained how much it has meant to him and his family to be given this start in life with a great education. Jerry spoke very movingly and persuasively about the

need to maintain bursary provision for boys who have been selected for the School on merit but cannot afford the fees.

Pip then undertook the auction in aid of the WA Bursary Appeal. Thanks to Nick Somers OW (1984-89) for donating the signed England football shirt and for Kate Bunn for successfully bidding. Thanks also to Richard Bates OW (1963-71) for his participation in the auction and for winning the bound book "John Whitgift", donated by Dr Christopher Barnett. Many thanks also to Mr Andy Martin, Head of Football at Whitgift, for donating two other shirts for the Appeal.

The evening raised over £2,000 for the WA Bursary Appeal. Thank you to all who attended, purchased raffle tickets, participated in the auction and donated prizes and particularly to Professor Paul Wordsworth for sharing this remarkable venue and hosting a very convivial evening. Paul and Christine Wordsworth had days earlier become grandparents and with so much going on, we particularly appreciate them acting as hosts.

If you are interested in organising a regional dinner or fundraising event for the WA Bursary Appeal, please do get in touch. The WA Office is happy to help with arrangements. A lot of acquaintances are renewed as a result and it gives us the chance to raise money for the WA Bursary.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN THE OW PRAYER FELLOWSHIP

The Old Whitgiftian Prayer Fellowship (OWPF) was founded in 1952 with two main aims: to pray for one another, and to support the School Christian Union by prayer, financial aid, or in any other way required. As its name suggests, it is simply a network of Christian OWs - spread geographically across the world, and with representatives of every generation - who seek to pray faithfully for each other and for Whitgift

School. These aims are facilitated by a periodic newsletter, which is emailed to all members (and for which there is no charge).

We warmly invite you to join us in this important work. If you wish to do so, please send your contact details to the Secretary at ant.ramsey@gmail.com

EDITOR'S NOTE

We extend a warm welcome to Lord David Freud (1962-68) as our new President for 2018 and his aims for the Association.

Congratulations to our English international rugby and football members with Callum Hudson-Odoi winning the

under 17 Football World Cup and Elliot Daly and Harry Williams playing in the Autumn Internationals at Twickenham with Elliot's outrageous try turning the Australia game and his skillful brace against Samoa earning him the vote of Player of the Series. Elliot also found time to support the OWRFC Christmas fundraising lunch in London with not only his time for a frank question and

answer session but also donating valuable auction items.

The new Headmaster, Mr Chris Ramsey, has settled into Whitgift very quickly and enjoyed his first term attending all the many varied activities and meeting all the staff, boys and parents.

RICHARD BLUNDELL OW
EDITOR, WA NEWSLETTER

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

When the inspection team left the premises last year, leaving behind the documents that officially testified what we all already knew to be the case - the fact that Whitgift is an outstanding school - little did we know that one of them would find his way back! Indeed, rumours abounded when it was announced that The Government Inspector himself was to be paying us a visit during the penultimate week of term. What could this mean? What should we do? Could we get Elliot Daly to lend a hand? Luckily, all fears were quashed when Director of Drama, Mr Daniel Pirrie, explained that the aforementioned inspector was just the name of the next school play he was putting on, following on from the huge success of Hamlet last year. The play, by Russian playwright, Nikolai Gogol, was originally performed in 1836 and satirizes the extensive political corruption of Imperial Russia. I watched it on the second night and I must say, it was absolutely hilarious. Upper Sixth

pupil, Oscar Nicholson, fresh from playing Hamlet last year, shone in the main role of the Town Governor. Oscar has been a real stalwart of Whitgift drama during his time at the school. With a potential place at Cambridge to read English in the offing (he was having his interview only hours before the first performance!) we may have a future footlights star as an OW! As good as Oscar was, the real star of the show was Lower Sixth Former, Ben Goldby. He played Ivan Khlestakov, the minor government official whose mistaken identity triggers the farcical events that dominate the action of the play. Ben gave an incredibly mature, assured performance (picture a young Rick Mayall playing Lord Flashheart in Blackadder, and you get somewhere close) and surely is another name to look out for in the future.

Obviously, the school has been putting on plays such as this since the dawn of its existence, but a literary tradition that only started a couple of years ago that is gaining quite a following is Whitfest, the school's very own answer to the Hay Literary Festival. A host of children's authors are invited to give talks and workshops to the first form boys and this



year's festival had something for everyone: Steve Cole's stand-up comedy, Ciaran Murtagh's tips on Mr Bean cinematography, Kieran Ekeledo's practical advice on both book creation and money management, Nikki Sheehan's creative stimulus for poetry, Stephen Davies's infusion of history into fiction, Jamie Thomson's ruthless voice coaching on how to speak like a Dark Lord, and last but not least, Karl Nova's Spoken Word Workshop and enthusiastic Grand Finale Concert! Many of the authors' books can be seen around the School and the boys are still abuzz with inspiration from the day.

Not to be outdone by English and Drama, the Music department has also been hard at work over the last couple of months. On October 19th, Whitgift musicians were out in full force to showcase their talents in the School's highly-anticipated Autumn Collection Concert. No fewer than eight different ensembles took to the stage to perform



pieces both classical and modern, and highlights of the night included the masses of the First Form Choir singing their upbeat and moving renditions of Pharrell Williams' Happy and the Lion King classic, The Circle of Life, and The Corps of Drums performing a number of pieces, including their ever-popular glow-in-the-dark number. Two weeks later, a group of Whitgift musicians were privileged to perform a concert at the Embassy of Bulgaria ahead of the upcoming Bulgarian Presidency of the European Union. Whitgift were specially invited to take part in this event, hosted for the diplomatic corps with guests including Attachés from a number of EU and Eastern European embassies in London. The programme featured six solo pieces by renowned European composers, including Karadimchev and Vladigerov of Bulgaria, fittingly played by Bulgarians Marian Bozhidarov, Whitgift International Music Competition (WIMC) 2017 winner, on the clarinet, and violinist Hristo Dunev, former Whitgift pupil and winner of the inaugural WIMC 2013.

The Corps of Drums also played a central role in the Remembrance service on Friday 10th November. Drum Major, Philip Pestell led his players with calm authority to provide stirring support to the traditional service. The Third Form boys were joined by almost forty Old Whitgiftians to pay tribute to fallen servicemen by the War Memorial. The Last Post was played by bugler, Josh Nurse and the flag party included NCOs from the school's own CCF.

The term has been a phenomenally successful one for the school's rugby teams. Both the Firsts and the U15A teams are still going strong in the National Natwest Cups, with the former through to the semi-final – an enticing prospect against current champions, Warwick, at Allianz Park on March 3rd – and the latter in the quarter finals against Hurstpierpoint

College on January 17th. The U15s defeated old enemies, Trinity, 19-10 in a ferocious match to clinch their regional qualifier and are one of five sides to go through the term unbeaten – the others being the U12Bs, U14As, U16Bs and, last but not least, the mighty U16Cs, coached by yours truly! The Firsts, whilst suffering a couple of losses, have still had a remarkable season, including a record 46-8 victory over Millfield.

In golf, Harry Plowman Ollington and Alfie Fox have continued the school's recent success by winning the HMC Schools Singles Championships, early in October. In an exceptionally strong field of 40 boys, competing from all over the country, Whitgift won both the team and individual events. Harry shot an impressive 2 under par score of 70 on the Red Course at the Berkshire Golf Club, bringing Whitgift's individual event-winning tally to three years in a row. Alfie finished in 3rd place (on countback) in the individual, shooting a 1 under par score of 71. With the best golfing schools in the country taking part, Whitgift won by an impressive 5 shots in the team event. This performance caps off a successful few months for the Sixth Formers, who have recently accepted golfing scholarships to top American universities and have won the South East area league with the Surrey Men's 1st team. Maybe two Halford Hewitt stars of the future?

There was more success for the Whitgift Pentathletes in November, with the academy achieving three national titles and four medal finishes in the British Biathlon Championships, held in Solihull over the last weekend of the month. This, following on from the fact that four members of the academy were selected to represent Great Britain in the Laser Run World Championships in Cape Town, South Africa, highlights the huge strides the school is making in the sport. Maybe Joe Choong will face his fiercest



competition in future Olympics from a current Whitgiftian? The Whitgift table tennis team also recently received national recognition, when the U19 side, comprising of George Hazell, James Smith, Jason Kwok and Reiss Vydelingum, were chosen, against fierce competition, as the England boys' school team for the 2018 International School Sport Federation (ISF) World Schools' Table Tennis Championships, which will take place from 8-14 April, in Malta.

Finally, the term came to an end with the customary Charity Day, comprised of a series of activities that boys could pay to participate in during the day, and the infamous rock 'n roll (or should that be rap and garage?) extravaganza that is the Charity Concert in the evening. As ever, the boys enjoyed themselves immensely and raised a huge sum of money (just over £2,000 at the most recent count!) for the school's chosen charities this year: Magic Bus and Bees for Development. Also, as last year, the Duke of Edinburgh Bronze boys ran a campaign to collect gifts for the homeless – for the local charity Evolve. The boys collected a huge number of gifts from the different form groups to put into bags that will be opened by residents in the charity's hostel on Christmas day. It's good to know that despite their busy schedules, the boys can still find time to help those less fortunate than themselves. From Whitgift, that is it for 2017. Wishing a Happy New Year to all!

DOMINIC EDWARDS OW (1988-96)

OW U17 WORLD CUP CHAMPION VISITS WHITGIFT



On Thursday 9th November, Callum Hudson-Odoi OW (2012-15), visited Whitgift to meet staff and boys wishing to congratulate him on his recent FIFA U17 World Cup win. The 17-year-old represented England in the football tournament, hosted in India in October,

and took on the role of chief goal creator, helping the team achieve a 5-2 win over Spain.

Callum joined Whitgift in 2012 and played a significant part in Whitgift's Investec Independent Schools Football Association (ISFA) Cup glory. In 2013, his long-range goal in the final led Whitgift to a 5-0 win. The following year, Callum scored a hat-trick, thus ensuring a fourth consecutive ISFA U13 victory for the School. Callum left in 2015 - having scored an exceptional 113 goals in three years for the School - to pursue a full-time career with Chelsea FC.

During Callum's visit to the School he

joined a group of (very excited) Upper First Form footballers in the Marlars Halls. During a Q&A session, he recounted his best memories of Whitgift (winning trophies!) and gave some great advice to the boys: be well-behaved, work hard, enjoy your football and make the most of the opportunities available to you.

Callum met up with his classmates, now in Lower Sixth Form, and headed to Edridge Field to enjoy an U13 ISFA Round 3 match between Whitgift and Brighton College. His presence was definitely a lucky charm for the day as they won 7-0!

BEVERLEY GIBSON-PATTEUX

WA PRESIDENT 2018

At the WA's Annual General Meeting in December, WA Chairman, Jonathan Bunn, thanked retiring President, Richard Bateman, saying: "He has brought a dry wit, warmth and a deep love of the School to the role, worked diligently to attend as many WA events as possible, hosted a magnificent Annual Dinner and been generous in his time."

Richard is succeeded by Lord David Freud OW (1961-68). David moved to Selsdon in 1957 and came to Whitgift in 1962, where he followed an arts orientation. After a year travelling, he went to Merton College, Oxford, where he read Philosophy, Politics and Economics.

His first career was as a journalist, training in Cardiff on the Western Mail and then moving to the Financial Times, where he

spent his last four years writing the Lex Column.

In 1984, he began his second career, in the City, where he specialised in equity markets, IPOs and transport. His most dramatic deal was the flotation of Eurotunnel in the teeth of Black Monday. He ended up as Vice Chairman at UBS before retiring in 2003. Afterwards he wrote a book on the experience called 'Freud in the City'.

A spectacular failure as a retiree, he took up a job as CEO of the Portland Trust, which worked on both sides of the Israel / Palestine divide. He also produced a report for the Labour Government on welfare to work in 2007, called "Reducing Dependency, Increasing Opportunity". This led to a job as Conservative Minister for Welfare Reform (2010-16), where he worked to reshape the British welfare

system. In particular, he was involved in creating and shaping Universal Credit, to break the poverty and welfare traps.

David was elected President of the WA at the Association's Annual General Meeting in early December. In response he said: "We all know the wonderful work Whitgift does, providing boys with great opportunities and often changing lives. The job of the WA is to support this whenever and wherever we can and, where possible, enhance the experience that boys enjoy at our remarkable School. I am honoured to be elected your President and look forward tremendously to the year ahead."



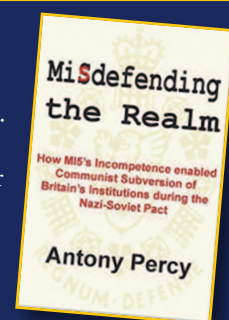
"MISDEFENDING THE REALM" BY DR ANTONY PERCY OW

OW Tony Percy OW (1956-65) is author of "Misdefending the Realm", published by the University of Buckingham Press in October. More information can be found at www.coldspur.com or via the copy in the School Library.

An extract from the book's PR reads... "Research is revealed for the first time in new book Misdefending the Realm, a shocking account of MI5's failings during the era of the Nazi-Soviet Pact. Its author, historian Dr Antony

Percy, is the world's leading authority on Russian espionage within MI5 during the Nazi-Soviet Pact. He spent four years piecing together the untold extent of Communist infiltration of MI5 and other government departments during the Second World War."

Both digital and hard copies are available via Amazon.



1962 PREFECTS' REUNION



Back (L to R) Robin Holt, Tony Bairstow, Gordon Brackstone, Brian Councill, David Goodwin, Ray Knight, Graham Hill, Tony Stockwell, Allan George, David Penfold. Front (L to R) Ken Ellis, Grant Eustace, Mike Wilkinson, Peter Cox, Robert Kibble, Peter Souster, Pip Burley, Michael Symes.

Eighteen increasingly wizened prefects from 1962 met in London on Remembrance Day, suitably enough, to celebrate surviving 55 years. Rounded up once more by the tireless Peter Souster, we met again at the Horse and Groom in Belgravia, a weekday pub opened specially for us on a Saturday, which has hosted in recent years reunions of several groups of early Sixties veterans. Not that the Sixties had yet impinged on the school in any way. Haircuts were still short-back-and-sides, and caps were definitely to be worn. A conservative government had been in power for a decade: we had 'never had it so good'. The following year, the Beatles would storm onto the music scene. The Profumo affair hastened the resignation of prime minister Harold MacMillan. And one-day cricket was at last introduced to the first-class game, which in the same year lost for good its Gentlemen v Players match and its 'shamateurism'. We were 'post war' no longer.

So we were in a real sense the last of a generation, but a pretty healthy and well-educated one, to judge by our animation and appetite. Several had

flown in from distance: Robert Kibble from San Diego and Gordon Brackstone from Ottawa, while Graham Hill had hopped over from Montpellier. They swelled the numbers from that year's all-conquering 1st XV, joining Mike Wilkinson, Peter Souster, Brian Councill, Grant Eustace and Robin Holt. That would have made a pretty good seven-a-side team, and what they'd lost in speed most had made up for in weight. They were reminded of that season when they won every game when Peter Cox read from his *Memories of Whitgift – the Boys' Own Tales* (£20, still available from all good Whitgiftian offices) – the Guardian review of the hard-fought Dulwich match, watched by a 'fantastic crowd of 2000'. Whitgift won with the game's only try, when Kibble took Wilkinson's scoring pass and raced through to score under the posts with 'a huge theatrical joyful leap'. His leap may now be missing but his smile is still as broad.

Pip Burley then joined Cox in reading extracts from the story of what became known as The Great Desk Swap of March 1960, in the week of the Martin Jarvis's memorable

Hamlet. An earlier generation of senior prefects, led (it could now be revealed) by the school captain Peter Stevens himself, hatched an intricate plan to swap masters' desks over in the middle of the night. Nowadays the desks are flimsy affairs, and masters don't own them. Back then they were extremely heavy kneehole desks, and the team – who'd have been infants in the wartime blackout, and were hardened by years of rugby training – moved them stealthily in the dark down corridors and up and down stairs. All 27 were moved without a hitch, and next morning the ensuing chaos delighted the whole school, enraged some masters and amused others. The urbane headmaster Geoffrey Marlar admired the audacity too much to attempt to identify the culprits, beyond telling Stevens, whom he clearly suspected: "Funniest thing I've seen for years. But we don't want that sort of thing to become a habit, do we?"

Eight of the attendees were in the Prefects' play of that summer, an uproarious Whitehall farce wittily reviewed by Dick Glynne-Jones: "Miss Archdale (Souster) was quite glamorous in a rural sort of way, although her legs were rather hairy and her padding rather loose... Kibble, that splendid old warhorse, had no difficulty in projecting his irascibility and fuddled bewilderment... Eustace's years in the jazz group must have facilitated his practised look of vacuity... while Burley hid his guile behind as impregnable a façade of geniality as ever made a Captain of the Third XI formidable." The school audience lapped it up, and the cast manfully battled to keep straight faces. Yes, those were indeed the Days.

PETER COX OW (1955-64)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 27 Jan	OWRFC Supporters lunch	WSC	12.00
Sat 3 Feb	OWRFC Supporters lunch	WSC	12.00
Wed 7 Feb	WAT Bursary Appeal Dinner	London	18.30
Sat 17 Feb	OWRFC Supporters lunch	WSC	12.00
Sat 17 Feb	Comedy Night	WSC	20.30
Sat 3 Mar	OWRFC Supporters lunch	WSC	12.00
7-10 Mar	Guys and Dolls	School	19.30
Sat 10 Mar	OWRFC Supporters lunch	WSC	12.00
Tues 13 Mar	OW Golf Soc. AGM & Annual Dinner	tbc	tbc
Fri 16 Mar	OW Corps of Drums	WSC	20:00
15-17 Mar	A Few Good Men	School	19.30
Thurs 22 Mar	Founders Day Service and breakfast	Whitgift House	0700
Wed 28 Mar	School Music Concert	London	19.00
5-8 Apr	Halford Hewitt Golf	Deal	
Fri 22 June	WA Annual Dinner	The Lords	18.30

FIXTURES

Fri 5 Jan	OW Chess v School	A	16.00
Sat 6 Jan	School 1st XV v Brent wood	H	10.30
Sat 13 Jan	OWRFC 1stXV v Old Mid-W hits	L A	14.00
Sat 13 Jan	School 1st XV v St Benedict's	H	10.30
Wed 17 Jan	School U15 XV v Hurstpierpoint	Cup A	13.00
Sat 20 Jan	School 1stXV v CL Freeman's	A	10.30
Sat 27 Jan	OWRFC 1st XV v Old Freemans	L H	14.00
Sat 27 Jan	School 1stXV v St Joseph's	H	10.30
Wed 31 Jan	School 1stXV v Hampton	A	19.30
Sat 3 Feb	OWRFC 1stXV v Law Society	L H	14.30
Sat 17 Feb	OWRFC 1stXV v Old Georgians	L H	14.30
Sat 3 Mar	OWRFC 1stXV v Old Walcountians	L H	15.00
Sat 3 Mar	School 1stXV v Warwick	Cup Semi-final A	17.00
Sat 10 Mar	OWRFC Wands XV v Cobham	L H	15.00

RECENT DEATHS

ERIC BEDBROOK OW (1937-43)
D. 7 NOVEMBER 2017, AGED 91

DAVID BREWSTER OW (1948-54),
D. 4 DECEMBER 2017, AGED 81

RONALD (RON) BUSTIN
OW (1953-1959),
D. 2 DECEMBER 2017, AGED 76

JOHN A COLLET OW (1948-53)
D. 6 OCTOBER 2017, AGED 81

JULIAN COWARD OW (1957-1964),
D. 5 SEPTEMBER 2017, AGED 71

DAVID CROSSLEY OW (1949-1956),
D. 2 DECEMBER 2017, AGED 79

GEOFFREY DOWN OW (1945-49),
D. 22 SEPTEMBER 2017, AGED 86

MARTIN DUBOIS OW (1937-1939),
D. 1 DECEMBER 2017, AGED 90

TIMOTHY GUDGIN OW (1944-48),
D. 8 NOVEMBER 2017, AGED 87

DEREK HUIH OW (1960-69),
D. 9 OCTOBER 2017, AGED 65

JOHN LOVIS OW (1941-49),
D. 5 SEPTEMBER 2017, AGED 87

ROBERT VINCENT MUSIC MASTER
(1980-95), AGED 76

MICHAEL WOOD OW (1937-44)
D. 19TH JULY 2017, AGED 90

OW GOLF SOCIETY REPORT

In the last playing action of the 2017 season, Paul Harrup overcame last year's winner, David Hughes, in the final of the annual knockout competition. Paul's name is therefore added to the honours board for the year, which otherwise reads as follows –

Captain's Cup, Langley Park Robert Hollidge
Hornsey Walker Cup, Wildernes John Butler
Veterans' Cup, Wildernes John Gould
President's Putter, Piltown Mike Berners Price
Autumn Cup, Walton Heath Tony Harris

This is the time of year when we start looking forward to next season. For those readers who wish to fill in their 2018 diaries, our open meetings are scheduled as below –

April 19th Captain's Day meeting, Kingswood
May 23rd Hornsey Walker Cup meeting, Banstead Downs,

May 23rd Veterans' Cup meeting, Banstead Downs
July 18th President's meeting, The Addington
August 31st Autumn Cup meeting, Betchworth Park

The above are played off full handicap. However, the lower handicappers in particular might also want to add in a new entry in our calendar, a meeting at Royal Cinque Ports GC in Deal which is planned for 25th February. This is open to anyone but is to be played off scratch, and will be a chance for captain Nic Gates to assess candidates for his team at the 2018 Halford Hewitt in April.

The AGM and annual dinner is scheduled for 13th March 2018. This is a great chance for potential new members to learn about the society and enjoy dinner with friends in the Old Library.

Anyone wishing to play with and/or join the society should contact the secretary at mailto: peterbgale@sky.com.

PETER GALE (HON SEC)

Submissions for NEWSLETTER 376 covering March/April 2018 closes on Sunday 18th February 2018. 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.