



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

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NEWSLETTER 379 - September/October 2018

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Your intrepid Editor has been travelling even outside the bounds of South Croydon!

Firstly, to The Hepworth Gallery in Wakefield to experience Anthony McCall's (OW 1956-64) exhibition of solid light works using projected light and time to create ever-shifting sculptural installations of light that move slowly through precisely mapped sequences. The modern building's rooms were ideal to fill with thin synthetic haze to reveal the sculptural qualities of the light installations each comprised of a complex choreography of linear elements.

Following that quite extraordinary day out it was then onto Southwark SE1 to witness George Jaques's (OW 2010-18) latest play 'Breathe' written by him and acted out by him and his fellow teenage actors at The Bunker Theatre. A very modern, thought-provoking play concerning the mental health issues of today's youth and its suicidal consequences. It was a pleasure to join his family in the front row together with Brian Lay OW (1944-51) supporting the production in his Childline capacity, as was HM Christopher Ramsey in his patron's role.

Finally it was to board the HQS Wellington afloat the River Thames to enjoy an evening of happy OW companionship at the Liveryman's Dinner hosted by Patrick Marsland-Roberts OW (1953-60) the current Master of the Worshipful Company of Carmen.

Looking forward, there will be a large Remembrance Service with the whole School on Friday 9th November 2018, which the WA trust will be supported by very many OWs and followed by a lunch at the School.

On Saturday 17th November, prior to the School 1stXV match against Dulwich, there will be the Sportsman's Lunch at the School, possibly the last one on a purely rugby basis now that the School plays many, many different sports on a Saturday afternoon, so blazers on please chaps!

Both sets of details will be clarified when the School returns next term.

RICHARD BLUNDELL OW (1956-63)

WA LIVERYMEN'S DINNER SATURDAY, JULY 14TH

Despite the closure of London's bridges and streets, not to mention demonstrations and protests against Donald Trump, forty-two OWs and guests managed to gather onboard HQS Wellington moored on the Thames Embankment to enjoy the second OW Liverymen's Dinner.

With pre-dinner drinks and canapes served on the quarter deck in delightful weather and with magnificent views across the river, dinner was served below decks in the Master Mariners' Court Room.

The evening was hosted by the senior OW Liveryman Patrick Marsland-Roberts (1953-60), current Master of the Worshipful Company of Carmen. He was ably supported by other OW Liverymen including: Barry Woodman (1956-64), past Master Mason, Simon Fleet (1950-57), past Master Farrier and Dr Peter Warren (1947-56), past Master Educator. Other Liverymen - and women - included current Masters Dr Elizabeth Goodwin, Educators, wife of OW David Goodwin (1955-62) and Ian Spring, Master of the Bowyers.

The Whitgift Foundation was represented by its Chairman, Christopher Houlding accompanied by his wife Caroline and Chief Executive, Martin Corney with his wife Judy.



Amongst other guests were members of the Croydon Dining Club, many with strong family connections to Whitgift and, keeping everybody above board and shipshape was OW, Lt Cdr Noel Atkins (1954-62), attending in full naval regalia.

Following the customary Livery toasts, the host formally welcomed everybody and followed with a brief outline of the evening ahead as well as a plea for those present to help identify other OW Liverymen whose details are currently unknown. He went on to toast the health of the guests. Responding, multi-Liveryman Nigel Israel gave a most interesting talk, full of information about the history of the City of London Livery Companies.

As with all OW gatherings this highly convivial summer's evening was rounded off by a fulsome rendition of the School song 'Carmen', coincidentally, on this occasion also the name of our host's Livery Company!

CLASS OF 1970 REUNIONS

A very warm Tuesday 3rd July saw the latest of the Class of 1970 reunions at the Skimmington Castle in Reigate. Our contact list is now over 30 strong and 16 of us gathered for another bout of banter and reminiscing, making it the largest gathering to date.



In the picture from left to right are Keith Towers, Ed Andrews, Peter Chesterton, Dale Mockford, Chris Whitfield, Nick Chatham, Jim Mon, Mike Livesey, Tony Legat, Brian Lovering, Ali Randall, Travis McCall, Martin Stanton, Adrian Figgess and Peter Gale. Sadly, Dave "Mad Dog" Mason missed the photo-op but was there for the meal!

If you would like to be included on our email list, Whatsapp or Facebook group, please contact Dale on 07718 904223. He would love to hear from you.

DALE MOCKFORD OW (1962-70)

PAST MASTER CELEBRATES 60TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Dick and Anne Glynne-Jones celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary on Saturday, August 4th with a reception at Piltdown Golf Club in East Sussex, a stone's throw from the home where they have lived for the past twenty-six years.



The day was hot and sunny with clear blue skies as more than a hundred guests, including a fair sprinkling of past colleagues and OWs, crowded into a cool, open-ended marquee to enjoy drinks and a buffet lunch.

The couple's two sons, Jeremy and Tim, provided the entertainment and - clearly inheriting their father's talent with words - performed a specially composed song in their parents' honour. At Dick's prior request, this was followed by a sing-along of the couple's favourite songs spanning the past sixty years, led and accompanied by Pip Burley on piano. The party concluded with an impromptu rendition of "A Penny a Kiss, a Penny a Hug" sung by Dick and Anne, who rightly received a standing ovation from an appreciative and affectionate audience.

Dick taught at Whitgift from 1955 to 1995, where he was Head of English and Head of Careers. He has been a keen sportsman all his life and for most of his career at the School played for the Domini Cricket Club (comprised of Whitgift teaching staff). He remains a member of Piltdown Golf Club and the Old Whitgiftian Golf Society - although, at the age of eighty-eight, is less often seen strolling fairways and greens.

The OW community, many of whom were taught by Dick during those forty years, will join in congratulating the couple for their long and successful marriage and wish them all the best in the years to come.

PIP BURLEY OW (1955-62)

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

STOP PRESS! Andrew's House win the House Championship for the first time ever! Yes, that's right, the mighty purple took the lead early in October and never relinquished it, meaning that the Mason's / Cross's hegemony at the top was broken for the first time in 8 years. This means that since its inception in 1996, Dodd's are now the only House never to have won the overall title. Hopefully they will be inspired by Andrew's success this year and seek to put an end to this barren run in the not too distant future.

Given that Andrew's maiden success coincided with the end of Mr Ramsey's first year as Headmaster of Whitgift, is it an omen that major changes are afoot in the school? Are we to be steered into unknown waters by our new captain and leave behind the tried and trusted anchors of our success and very identity from the previous stewardship? Well, on the surface of things, I would have to say no. You only had to attend the the magnificent Celebration of Whitgift Life (COWL) that occurred, as it has done for the last decade, in the Barnett Sports and Conference Centre, to see that the school is in very familiar waters.

The ceremony showcased the huge amount of co-curricular and academic success that has occurred over the past year (and, indeed, has been documented in these pages): rugby, hockey and football players were invited up onto stage to receive national titles; the musical and dramatic interludes were, as ever, of the highest quality, with 'Sue Me' from Guys and Dolls standing out in particular; and the elite academics were also encouraged to revel in their success, with honours being awarded for everything from Biology and Chemistry Olympiad Gold medal winners to the finalist of the National Spanish Spelling Bee! This year's guest speaker, Mr Chris Cook (BBC Policy Editor, Newsnight and Old Whitgiftian) could not help but be impressed by the sheer diversity of talent on show and he said as much in his closing address.



The very next day after COWL, the school received the latest batch of IB results, which were once again outstanding, with an average score of 37.2 and no fewer than five boys achieving a mark of 40 or higher.

So it would seem that very little has changed at Whitgift during Mr Ramsey's first year in charge, but I can reveal this is most certainly not the case; scratch beneath the surface and there are a huge amount of developments underway which are set to make the school a more harmonious and invigorating place to learn and work for boys and staff alike, and which should ultimately lead to even greater levels of success.

Over the past twelve months, Mr Ramsey has interviewed every single member of staff working at the school to ask us our opinions about Whitgift. During Trinity term, two after school staff inset sessions took place in which the following areas of discussion were mulled over:

1. Achieving a more harmonious school experience;
2. Achieving a more distinctive learning ethos. In addition, questionnaires were sent out parents to canvas their opinion on key issues.

Following all this, the general consensus is that whilst the school is clearly flourishing with the provision for boys excellent on all levels, the day-to-day life of a typical Whitgift boy is somewhat hectic, what with the sheer amount they actually do and the fact the student / staff body has outgrown the school buildings' capacity. In response to this, a team of architects have been employed to take an overall look at the school's infrastructure and propose major changes for the future. Also, discussions have begun in earnest about the make up of the daily timetable and the subject provision, with a view to creating more time for independent learning. So all in all, very exciting times lie ahead for Whitgift! Mr Ramsey has made it clear that while he wants to hold onto what is currently great about the school and maintain our incredible co-

curricular success, he also wants to provide new challenges for the boys and make the necessary changes for this to happen.

In my last report, I commented that the second eleven cricket team were looking for their first unbeaten season in quite some time. Well, I can reveal that whilst they did remain unbeaten against all English opposition, they unfortunately lost their final game of the season to a touring South African side. As for the other sides, the U13A were the only team this year to enjoy success at a national level, reaching the final of their national cup. The match was played during the summer holidays and as yet, the result is unknown.

In golf, third Form pupils Ollie Stanley, Rocky Chapman and Aidan Millham won the ISGA Junior Open on Wednesday 20 June. The competition is for U14s, and is an Independent Schools one day 18 hole stroke play event. The final was played at Sunningdale Heath, where the team competed against schools from all over the country, and saw Whitgift lift the trophy with a winning total of 127, four shots better than the runners up.

In addition to all the national team titles that have been won this year, three boys have achieved some outstanding individual success. Upper Sixth Former, James Wyatt should be congratulated on captaining the England Junior Squash team to the final of the recent World Cup, in which they lost to Egypt. James has been an excellent ambassador of Whitgift sport over the last few years and a real success story all round. Indeed, he leaves the school with a scholarship to Columbia University in New York, where he hopes to further his squash career as he moves into the adult categories.

At the other end of the school, Lower First pupil, Ollie Maric-Murray, was crowned England Table Tennis Association U11 National Champion in June. Ollie played a record number of 16 matches in one day to come away with the U11 National title, U13 Silver Medal and U13 Doubles Bronze Medal. He also

competed the following day in the U12 tournament, securing a Silver Medal. A big thank you must go to Ollie's coaches as well as to fellow Whitgiftian and England U19 player, James Smith, whose guidance, coaching and support throughout the tournament was a huge boost. Ollie, who represents England U11, will now have the opportunity to compete for his country this Summer at the Eurominis.

Lastly, Upper First Former, Femi Owolade-Coombes, has been awarded one of the Prime Minister's Points of Light.

This award was launched in the Cabinet Room at 10 Downing Street in April 2014 and was developed in partnership with a US programme that was first established by President George H. W. Bush in 1990. Points of Light are given to outstanding individual volunteers – people who are making a change in their community. Femi is a talented 12-year-old coder and his exploits have been commented upon in this pages before, including being one of 20 people globally to be awarded 'The Diana Award' in 2017 from TRH Duke of Cambridge and Duke of Sussex. Femi has undertaken far reaching work to help bring coding to young people from underrepresented backgrounds and his efforts have resulted in this talented and community minded student being recognised. In her personal letter to Femi, Prime Minister Theresa May said, "Through your passion for coding, you have created events and workshops which are benefitting thousands of young people. You are inspiring people from all walks of life to have fun learning new computing and web design skills which will help them in their future careers."

The notion of community and society was not something particularly prevalent in



NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL CONTINUED

the school's summer Junior School Play. Indeed, William Golding's haunting

allegory, *Lord of the Flies*, (adapted for stage by playwright, Nigel Williams) depicts the opposite, focussing on mankind's relentless, selfish drive and our innate capacity for evil, whatever background we come from. The tale of a group of English schoolboys, who crash on a tropical island when being evacuated during the Second World War, is perfect for a cast of young boys and Whitgift's production was really quite something to behold.

For a start, the stage was incredible; production team (Mr Crook, Mr Hill and Mr Jenkinson) are well-known for their innovations and boundary pushing, but they really outdid themselves this time, dumping tonnes of sand into the centre of Big School and turning it into a beach. The performances from the young cast were equally impressive, with the whole ensemble rising to the occasion. The leads gave particularly sensitive performances, with Leo Castledine (known to many of you as the face of the Whitgift Foundation from the recent promotional video and posters) brilliantly conveying 'leader', Ralph's increasing sense of powerlessness as fear and hedonism begin to take their grip on the rest of the boys, and Kit Connor utilising everything he has learnt from being a professional actor (having starred thus far in both television, the BBC's *War and Peace*, and cinema, Stephen Spielberg's *Ready Player One*) to go full Gollum in his brilliant, if rather disturbing portrayal of Simon battling his inner 'beast'!



Director, Mr Daniel Pirrie, performed in the very first production of the play in the early 1990s, and he must have impressed, as he managed to persuade the

playwright to come to our opening night and then stay afterwards to speak to the cast and audience. Nigel answered questions and gave insight into his interpretations of some of the play's major themes – a real inspiration for the boys involved. He commented; "I really thought it was a brilliant show....you made the language come alive.....The team effect was as good as anything I've ever seen (in relation to this play) in the professional theatre."

DOMINIC EDWARDS OW (1988-96)

OW HOCKEY CLUB NEWS

The hockey section had another fantastic year in the 2017/18 season. Two promotions were won by the Men's 2nd XI and Men's 3rd XI, as well as the Men being crowned Surrey Indoor Champions.



The Men's 1st XI following back to back promotions in the 2015/16 and 2016/17 seasons had a year of consolidation finishing mid table in Hampshire/Surrey - Regional 1. Links with the school and old boys remain strong with the 1st XI squad having over 10 players who attended Whitgift as well as being coached by Martin Scanlon (current Whitgift hockey coach). Top goal scorer Dominic Coe-O'Brien (Trinity(!) 2005-12) scored a phenomenal 45 league goals, not only topping the tables within the club, but also the whole of the South Leagues. This season under the captaincy of Ben Bernard OW (2005-11) and management of Jon Foley OW (1975-80) the Men's 1st XI will be looking at building on the foundations established over the last few years and setting their sights on the Southern Premier leagues.

Last season saw the formation of a new Men's side, the "COW Rustlers", a more sociable team comprising of some of our "ageing" stalwarts with an occasional injection of youth. They finished a credible 3rd in their first year of competitive league hockey and can't wait to get back into action in the new season.

The Ladies are also going from strength to strength. With a new coaching structure in place under the leadership of David Roche they are also aiming for promotions in the upcoming season as well as establishing a new Ladies development team.

Both the Men's and Ladies' sections are looking for new players to join us this season, if you, or any OWs that you know, friends or family are interested in playing hockey then look no further! Old/young, male/female, experienced player or just want to try something new - we pride ourselves on offering hockey for all as well as a great social scene. Running 5 Mens, 2 Ladies and a Mixed team there really is something for everyone.

With huge success on the pitch Croydon & Old Whitgiftian Hockey Club clearly are emerging as the best hockey club in the Croydon area and we want to keep building on this success.

If you are interested in becoming involved please contact join@cowhc.co.uk.

Pre-season training has already started with the Ladies section training at Trinity School on Tuesday evenings 19:30-21:00 and Men's at Whitgift School on Wednesday evenings 19:30-21:00.

SCOTT NETHERWAY OW (1990-97)

GOLF SOCIETY NEWS

This is always the busiest period of the year on which to report, with a flurry of matches and competitions around the months of June and July. 2018 has been no exception.

In June, the society played matches against the OMWs and the Old Alleynians. Robert Hollidge led the team against the OMWs for the last time after many many years of tireless commitment and energy, for which we are all very grateful; he has now retired to Canterbury and whilst he is still able to join us for some of our meetings, he is not able to manage this fixture for us going forward. However his swansong saw us retain the trophy in a drawn match, 2-2, this time at Shirley Park, the second successive year we have done this following our win in 2016. The match against Old Alleynians takes place annually at Tandridge, which is well populated with OWs and OAs as members, as well as being renowned for the quality of its post-match catering. The result was yet another win for the OWs, this time by 4.5-3.5; the last time we lost this fixture was in 2012!

We were not so lucky against KCS Old Boys in July. A match that is always played on their home turf, Royal Wimbledon GC, is never going to be our most successful, but we had won the previous year by 4-0, and so it was disappointing to go down 1.5-2.5; indeed this was the first match lost under John Butler's two-year captaincy, not that he is claiming much credit for the winning run! Also scheduled for July was the reinstatement of our match against Croham Hurst GC, last contested in 2013. Unfortunately, it was postponed – because of the heat! There is a first time for everything.

The Cyril Gray is a scratch competition for over-50s, competed for by the same 32 schools each year. Our team this year was captained again by Tony Mason, who had the unusual, but welcome, experience of being able to call on two new recruits, Roddy Sage and Ian Chicken. Our prospects looked good after a narrow but well-earned first round victory against one of the stronger schools, Fettes. Unfortunately, as is the nature of things with older golfers, Roddy had to withdraw from the second round match with an injury, and the reassembled team lost narrowly to Chigwell, the deciding match going down the 18th.

The one competition during the period which was open to all members was the President's meeting held at The Addington, and hosted of course by our President, Dudley Thompson. This was another very hot day, and The Addington proved a tricky venue for most of the participants, with parched fairways providing some unpredictable and sometimes unkind bounces. However the conditions were the same for all, and some in our number produced some very creditable scores, none more so than David Mason, who scored a warmly-welcomed maiden victory with an excellent 33 points. I did take a photograph of David receiving his prize from the President but the breadth and brilliance of his smile clearly proved too much for my phone! Also to be commended for their performances are Tony Fuller, who took runners-up honours with 32 points, and David Hughes, third, with 31.

In announcing the winners at The Addington, the Captain noted with sadness the passing of David Pearce, recently an active member of the society, who will be missed by all of us.

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

PETER GALE (HON SEC), OW (1963-69)

FOOTBALL CLUB REPORT

After World Cup fever swept the nation, we are all looking forward to hitting the ground running when our seasons start again in September.

Last year was another successful season for the club as the 1ST XI secured back-to-back promotions. Having won South Division 3 South in 2016-17, the boys led the way in South Division 2 for most of the season. Cruelly, we finished as runner up on goal difference after our Woking rivals won their remaining five matches. The 2nd XI continued their push for promotion but a few unfortunate results towards the end of the season took this opportunity away. However, both teams had the best defensive record in their respective leagues, which shows our Wednesday evening training sessions are paying dividends from an organisational perspective!

Ahead of our 20th season as a club, there were a few changes to the Committee. Mike Ferguson stood down as Chair after a dedicated four years. He can now solely focus on his duties as 2XI coach. Sean Barnett OW (2003-10) added the position of Fixture Secretary to his 1XI coaching role. Matt Hilton OW (2003-10) and Jack Penny OW (2005-12) took new positions. Notably, our first ever woman member, Colette Mooney, was also elected our first ever woman committee member, taking over as Treasurer from club founder Mike Tarlton OW (1984-91).

We began our pre-season in July and have friendly matches organised over the next few weekends. We know it will be another competitive season for both teams but we hope some new joiners providing healthy competition for our core group of committed players will drive the team forward to further successes!

If you or any of you of your friends are interested in joining please email oldwhits@gmail.com for more information.

ALEXANDER PROWSE OW (2001-09)
OWAFC CHAIRMAN

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 22 Sept	School Open Morning	School	09:00
Sat 22 Sept	1978 Leavers Reunion Dinner	Oxford	19:00
Sun 23 Sept	1983 Leavers Reunion Lunch	School	12:00
Thurs 18 Oct	Autumn Concert	School	19:00
Fri 19 Oct	OW Corps of Drums Music Evening	WSC	19:30
Mon 5 Nov	OW Corps of Drums	Lewes Bonfire Night	17:00
Tues 6 Nov	WA Bursary Appeal Dinner	Newbury	19:30
Fri 9 Nov	Remembrance Service	School	10:30
Fri 9 Nov	OW Remembrance Lunch	School	13:00
Sat 1 Dec	School Carols	The Ritz	pm
6-8 Dec	Macbeth	School	19:30
Fri 7 Dec	School Music Concert	London	18:30
Tues 13 Dec	School Carol Service	Croydon Minster	19:30
Sat 17 Nov	Sportsman's Lunch	School	12:00
Mon 10 Dec	WA AGM	WSC	19:00

FIXTURES

Sat 1 Sept	OWCC 1st XI v Walton on Thames	L	H	11:30
Sat 8 Sept	Teddington v OWRFC 1st XV	L	A	15:00
Sat 8 Sept	School 1st XV v Sedbergh		H	12:00
Sat 15 Sept	OWRFC 1st XV v Warlingham	L	H	15:00
Sat 15 Sept	School 1st XV v Seaford		A	14:30
Sat 22 Sept	Portsmouth v OWRFC 1st XV	L	A	15:00
Sat 22 Sept	School 1st XV v Wellington		H	14:30
Sat 29 Sept	OWRFC 1st XV v United Services Portsmouth	L	H	15:00
Sat 29 Sept	School 1st XV v Warwick		A	13:00
WED 3 Oct	School 1st XV v John Fisher		A	14:30
Sat 6 Oct	Andover v OWRFC 1st XV	L	A	15:00
Sat 13 Oct	School 1st XV v Chislehurst		H	10:30
Sun 14 Oct	OWGS v School		A	12:30
Sat 20 Oct	OWRFC 1st XV v Old Georgians	L	H	15:00
Sat 20 Oct	School 1st XV v Bishop Wordsworth		H	12:00
Sat 27 Oct	Battersea Ironsides v OWRFC 1st XV	L	A	15:00
Sat 3 Nov	OWRFC 1st XV v Winchester	L	H	14:30

Following the league promotion of the OWRFC 1st XV to London 3 SW DIV, they will be travelling to far flung destinations so the away fixtures have been published to give our country members the opportunity of supporting the team.

RECENT DEATHS

CHRISTOPHER HORNE

OW (1951-58), D. 24TH JUNE, AGED 78

ROD MILSOM

OW (1950-56), D. 9TH JULY, AGED 80

DAVID PEARCE

OW (1962-68) D. 16 JULY 2018, AGED 68

JEFFREY WEBB

OW (1946-52) D. 4TH JULY 2018, AGED 83

DENYS WILD OBE

OW (1937-43) D. 13TH JULY 2018, AGED 93

WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION 500 Club SUMMER DRAW

1st	Dr Peter Warren	£100
2nd	Mrs Gerry Langhorne	£50
3rd	Mr Derek Tullett	£50
4th	Mr John Branston	£50

Independent Scrutineer Peter A Dunn,
FCA OW (1956-1964)



Congratulations to Joe Choong OW (2008-13) for his Bronze medal in the recent European Modern Pentathlon Championships.

Submissions for NEWSLETTER 380 covering November/December closes on Sunday 21st October 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.