



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

Whitgift School, Haling Park, South Croydon CR2 6YT. Tel: 020 8633 9926 www.whitgiftianassociation.co.uk

President - RICHARD BLUNDELL

Chairman - JONATHAN BUNN

Editor - RICHARD BLUNDELL

NEWSLETTER 384 - July/August 2019

PRESIDENT'S BLOG #77

Firstly an evening in the School concert hall for a delightful musical soiree when it was a pleasure to host a table of senior OW wives who thoroughly enjoyed the performances.

Next into the School junior library to be interviewed on the role and work of the WA President and reminisce on my own school days by the editor of the Junior Library Chronicle. Then into the School founders room for a WSPA committee meeting and later into the new North Entrance meeting room for an introductory meeting with the newly appointed Alumni Relations Coordinator.

On Friday 24 May it was into the immaculate School Andrew Quadrangle and magnificently set out Big School for the 124th WA Annual Dinner with 160 attendees who all enjoyed the very convivial company of their fellow OWs together with a delicious meal all the while entertained with musical interludes from the School musicians. The entertaining speeches were followed by the traditional School song except that all nine verses of the 1889 version of Carmen were heard.

Next a brief visit to the new School staff dining room to congratulate the members of the 44 Club on their 75th reunion lunch resplendent in their galleon club ties, then the 1957 leavers on their own reunion lunch the following day. Then up into the School founders room for an information meeting with the HM on the vision for the WA moving forward and a brief stop at a sunny Croham Road to view the set up for the first open air cinema event by the WSC.

A busy weekend started with a brief visit to the School founder's garden for the School boat club BBQ and to discuss the possibility of an OW rowing link up with the club, before moving into the Raeburn library for the friends' summer meeting to hear a fascinating talk on Lionel Morris OW, the Red Baron's first official kill, by his relative Jill Bush.

The next day into the Andrew Quad to meet up with the very well attended 1989 leavers reunion and up to the clubhouse to survey the Whitfest laid on by the WSC and lastly into the founders room for a main committee meeting concerning matters of state.

RICHARD BLUNDELL, OW (1956-63)



What do one Knight and three Peers of the Realm do on a Friday evening other than take wine with 150 fellow Old Whitgiftians? The 124th Annual Dinner took place in the magnificent Whitgift School Quadrangle accompanied by displaying male peacocks. When summoned by the great Ding Dong, those assembled initially failed to move into the grand Big School dining hall for a sumptuous dinner.



Once seated everyone was entertained by excellently varied musical interludes whilst enjoying a marvellous meal and accompanying wines.

Speeches followed the formal toasts of the sung National Anthem

and The Founder when the President welcomed the guests, including his contemporaries, which enabled him to reminisce on his past Whitgift career.

The President was followed by his Son who proposed Floreat Domus with his view into the future direction of the School. The Headmaster concluded with an update on the current, very sound, health of the School and the planned changes for his tenure in charge at Haling Park.



Finally, heard for the first time by many, was the full 1889 version of Carmen sung beautifully by the members of the Whitgift Cappella before members departed happily into the night courtesy of the School mini-bus shuttle service.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

Oh no no no, I'm a rocket man...

Most of you will know that flamboyant rock star Elton John's real name is actually Reggie Dwight, but how many of you are aware that he also now goes by the name Kit Connor? That's right, the twelve-year-old Elton in the recent major film, *Rocketman*, was played by none other than Whitgift fourth former, Kit Connor. This is yet another impressive role in Kit's resume, having already appeared in the BBC's *War and Peace* and Stephen Spielberg's *Ready Player One*.



Despite his busy schedule juggling school work with everything that is entailed in becoming a breakout film star, Kit has still found time to give a great deal to Whitgift drama, and indeed this term he managed a first for the school (as far as I am aware), in directing and putting on

the fourth form play, Julian Mitchell's *Another Country*, without any staff assistance whatsoever. The play is set in a 1930s boarding school, with the narrative addressing substantial topics including homophobia and political reform, as well as adolescent mental health and suicide; it was impressive to see the cast of 14-15 year olds take on the challenge so confidently.

Director of Drama, Mr Daniel Pirrie, praised the whole company, "The inaugural Fourth Form production was sensational for many reasons: Kit's superb direction was clear, sharp and pulled focus at just the right moments; the two leads (Jon Cheshire and Henry Gillard) inhabited their characters so truthfully that by the end of the show the audience could not help but feel tremendous sympathy for their respective predicaments; and the other characters were so well-drawn and their relationships so clear that the tension and claustrophobia of the play was quite palpable... I could not be prouder and the future is bright!"

Rocket man burning out his fuse up here alone...

Whilst not quite generating the speed to reach the stars, the Whitgift Racing Team nevertheless created their own version of the *Fast and the Furious* on May 12th when they travelled to Goodwood to race their Greenpower electric car. Since the start of the academic year, a group of dedicated Sixth Formers and Fifth Form helpers have been working hard to develop the car.



The annual competition challenges students to design and build an electric race car to compete against other schools, colleges and universities. The aim this year was to improve on the 12th place finish at last year's race. Whitgift started with driver Enzo Moore (First Form) who put in the best lap time of the day, before he changed with second driver Lachlan Seymour (First Form) and Hugo Stremes (Fifth Form) driving the final leg. Whitgift progressed to 3rd place with only 4 laps left, and a strong finish saw them overtake other cars struggling with depleting battery life to take 1st place.

Deputy Head of First Form and project supervisor, Mr Matthew Taylor, summarised, "It was great to see all the boys' hard work and dedication to improving the car pay off, with many of them giving up significant amounts of their own time. We can now look forward to some of the other races later in the summer and the Greenpower National Final, held at Silverstone in October."

And I'm gonna be high as a kite by then...

Anyone looking up into the sky from the Whitgift grounds on April 26th might not have seen any high-flying kites, but they certainly would have noticed members of the Wings RAF Parachute Display Team, who jumped into the grounds to round off another high quality, action-packed AGI. For this year's inspection, the school welcomed back Old Whitgiftian Brigadier, Jon Swift, OBE, as our Inspecting Officer. Pupils from Whitgift and two partner schools, St. Andrew's CE School and Thomas More Catholic School, took part in a wide range of activities from climbing to kayaking in the swimming pool, and survival tasks such as building shelters and cooking. They were also involved in military activities such as camouflage, concealment and flying on the flight simulator.

The formal Inspection of the Guard of Honour was led by Junior Under Officer, Andrew Bonner (Upper Sixth Form) and the Corps of Drums, under Drum Major

WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION SOUTH WEST OW DINNER

Saturday, 28th September, 2019 - 7pm for 8pm

The biennial South West Dinner will take place on 28th September at the Tiverton Hotel, Devon.

Three-course dinner: **£36 per person** (Drinks separate.) Dress Code: lounge suits / smart casual.

To book, contact Simon Kennedy at 'Allways', West Shepton, Shepton Mallet, BA4 5UH or email: skennedy@projectconsultants.co.uk by **24th August, 2019.**

If you wish to stay at the Tiverton Hotel, mention event no: 65234 for special rates of £100 (double), £68 (single) inc breakfast. Tel: 01884 256120.

Naveen Dhar (Lower Sixth Form). Brigadier Swift praised their performance and commented that he thought it was even better than when he had commanded the Guard of Honour 28 years ago!

Despite the intermittent rain, spirits remained high and the boys were commended for their very high standards and obvious enthusiasm as he talked to them. In his address to the boys, girls, staff and parents, Brigadier Swift spoke highly of the School and the CCF; he felt it encouraged leadership, resilience and fun, rating it as outstanding. At dinner in the evening, presentations of tankards were made to the senior boys. It was noted over 30 Old Whitgiftians had been involved in helping lay on the day, which was testament to their loyalty to the School and their CCF experiences.

I'm going back to the border...

At the end of March, two Whitgift linguists were invited to Europe House in Westminster to attend a special event for their achievements in the Juvenes Translatores contest. Five students had entered the contest of which two Upper Sixth Formers, Joshua Nurse and Adrien Chatriot, received a special mention. The trip was organised by Modern Languages teacher, Mr Benjamin Morris, who was contacted by a Language Officer for the European Commission. Mr Morris and the pupils were given a special tour of the building and attended a presentation on translation work within the EU by Ciara Colgan, Staff Translator with the European Commission based in Luxembourg. They also enjoyed a translation workshop in which the boys tackled a piece about London Cure Smoked Salmon, a UK protected food name product. Finally, they were given an excellent talk by Dr Charlotte Ryland, Lecturer of German from The Queen's College in Oxford. She spoke on literary translation and passed on a few translated German books to Joshua and Adrien at the end.

My gift is my song...

The Whitgift International Music Competition (WIMC) 2019 took place during the Easter holidays, with students from countries including Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Hong Kong and the UK competing. The competition began with an opening recital by Dan-Iulian Druac OW, the winner of the first WIMC in 2013. The competition rounds took place over three days.

During the semi-final, each competitor performed a programme of three contrasting pieces lasting 20 minutes each, and those who made it through to the final had 10 minutes to play one movement of a concerto. The prizegiving and gala concert featured performances from a selection of this year's WIMC competitors and a special guest performance by Brian Wong (Third Form), playing the harmonica. The results of the winners in each category are available on the website.

When your feet just can't keep still...

In hockey, the First XI unfortunately lost 1-0 to Reed's School in the final of the national outdoor championships, meaning they were unable to add to the indoor trophy won earlier in the year.

In cricket, the First and U15 XIs are both still going strong in their national championships. The Firsts have made an impressive start to the season, having already beaten the likes of Wellington College, Trinity and Hampton. The U15s are also going well, having won all their fixtures – both competition and friendly – thus far.

Saturday night's alright for fighting...

Obviously, the most important event to have occurred at Whitgift over the last couple of months was the wonderful WA dinner held in Big School and presided over by our illustrious President and Newsletter editor, Richard Blundell. This is covered elsewhere in these pages, but it does give me a neat opportunity to segue into

my final piece of news, which is to let you know about the charitable exploits of a couple of OW members of staff. Firstly, Jordan Lewis, who ran the London Marathon. Known as JL to his OWRFC team-mates and Monsieur Lewis, French teacher extraordinaire, to Whitgift pupils, Jordan ran the marathon in a very creditable four hours, five minutes. He was running on behalf of Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital and thus far has raised £2,381. If you would like to increase this figure, feel free to make a donation at

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jlmarathon2019>.

Finally, maths teacher, Daniel Bregman, is stepping considerably out of his comfort zone to take part in a white-collar boxing event to raise money for Pride in London. Daniel has done a huge amount to raise the profile of LGBTQ issues at Whitgift since he returned to teach. He has founded an LGBTQ society and has arranged for the school to have its first ever section in the Pride in London parade which takes place on Saturday 6 July, two days after his foray into the most gentlemanly of sports, boxing! Once again, if you would like to make a donation, please go onto Daniel's sponsorship page on gldn.gg/f/daniel-gets-punched.

DOM EDWARDS, OW (1988-96)

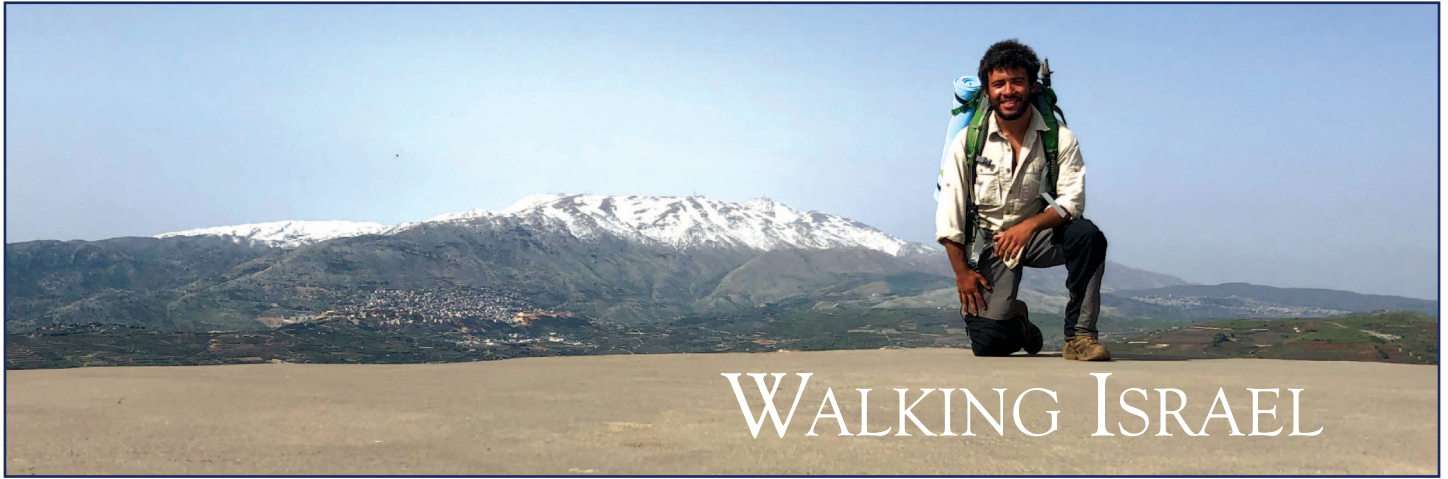
NSPCC Open Garden hosted by Whitgift

Wednesday 24 July
2-4.30pm
£4 adults, children free

Join us and enjoy the School's wonderful range of gardens, complete with exotic wildlife, bonsai trees and maze.

Ticket sale proceeds will go to the NSPCC

www.whitgift.co.uk/events



I have always been keen for adventure. My parents recall that from a young age I was obsessed with dressing up like Indiana Jones and running around the house using my belt as a lasso. Growing up, these obsessions became more extreme and were only accelerated during my time at Whitgift. I was fortunate to be able to go on lots of trips, from hiking the Atlas Mountains, to skiing in the Italian Alps. Coupled with my involvement in the CCF, I was set on joining the military, and living a life off the beaten track.

I have grown up during a time where we see the Middle East on the news every day, with yet another controversy occurring, often with a Western power involved. With its political dramas, wars which seem to be never ending, its breath-taking scenery, and beautiful, yet harsh terrain, the Middle East to me, a 21-year-old from South London, seems untouchable. It is for that reason that I wanted to travel there... as well as my burning desire to be like Lawrence of Arabia!

In May of 2018, I travelled to Israel in order to learn Krav Maga, and see some old friends. I happened to be present in

Jerusalem when Donald Trump declared the American Embassy was to move from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, and I witnessed Israel's Independence Day, also known as Nakba Day (meaning Day of the Catastrophe) to the Palestinians. Needless to say, it was a turbulent and volatile time.

Within days of being home in June 2018, I was bored of London, so travelled to Scotland, to meet my good friend, and fellow Old Whit, Gideon. Whilst there, I had the idea to return to the Middle East.

In early February I flew to Tel Aviv, Israel, and then travelled to the south of the country by public bus. From the beach, with the Red Sea behind me, and Egypt to my west, Jordan to my east, I began walking north. The journey took over 60 days, covering over 1,000 km. I would typically walk anywhere from about 20 - 45 km per day, although that would depend on the terrain. Some days were completely flat, so walking a good few kilometres wouldn't be an issue. Others may have seen me climb a mountain, or cross/avoid rivers or other obstacles.

You begin to realise how precious the simple things are. Like light. Running out of light each day was a constant battle. I would be in a race against the sun, pushing to reach my day's goal before the sun went down. Not just because it's handy to have a bit of light when you're walking through mountains, but more importantly, after dark is when the dodgy things start to come out, like wolves, hyenas, wild dogs, snakes, scorpions and Bedouins! Just to name a few.

The changing terrain was incredible, from

the harsh mountainous desert of the south, where I had to pay a local guy to cache my water in holes he'd dug out of the rocky ground, and sending me GPS coordinates to find it. To the flat and mundane farm fields of the centre of the country. All the way to the green, sometimes wet, vibrant north, where I would often hike within a stone's throw of various borders, with Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.

At one point I was attacked by a pack of wild dogs, as I unknowingly strolled into their territory. I was walking down a path with an overgrown forest on my left and a barbed wire fence line on my right. Two dogs appeared from the wood line to my left about 20 metres in front of me. I paused to debate whether or not to turn back. I decided I'd firm it, as there were only two of them, plus I'd encountered wild dogs and Bedouin dogs before along the trail, and so far had come out unscathed.

However, things were about to go south. Those two dogs became eight. Six dogs had appeared on the other side of the fence line, and by now were barking and growling viciously. By now, it was too late to turn back, but I was reassured since there was no chance those other six dogs could possibly get through/over the barbed wire fence that was separating us.

As I approached, the two dogs on the path in front of me became extremely aggressive, so I started picking up rocks and launching them at the ground in front of them. In a horrible turn of events, one by one the dogs that were inside that 'impenetrable' fence line, found a hole leading underneath it. I was now completely surrounded by wild





dogs, with my back up against the fence, and the dark and gloomy forest in front. The only things I had to fend them off were my hiking poles, the rocks on the ground, and my voice.

It took me the best part of half an hour to fight them off and get past the fence line. It was exhausting, and unrelenting. They were the ugliest and meanest looking dogs I'd ever seen in my life. Frothing from the mouth, scars and open wounds all over them. Terrifying.

I made it through, but not without injury. One dog managed to sink its teeth into the back of my hand as I reached for a rock. Thankfully, it only managed to get its top row of teeth in, as the rock in my palm had prevented it from sinking the bottom row in too. That night, I made it to a small Arabic village in the desert, which happened to have a clinic, where I was able to get my hand treated and rabies jabs injected.

I had Bedouins in the south try and steal my bag at night; sat and drank tea and coffee with some lovely Bedouins who also insisted I drank their goats' milk (and I bloody hate dairy). I nearly fell into a pit full of dead and decaying animals, which I think would've been worse than the wild dogs!

I had to sleep in a bomb shelter inside a children's nursery when Hamas were firing rockets into Israel as I happened to be walking by. When I awoke the following morning, we discovered some had landed within 100m of our position.

In Palestine, I visited Bethlehem and some of the neighbouring towns. I even managed to hitch a ride on the back of an IDF armoured vehicle, to cross a wide river, saving me the hassle of getting my boots

wet. In the north I would go to sleep in my tent with the peaceful background noise of wolves, jackals and hyenas going mental, howling their hearts out.

I was charged by a wild boar, that appeared out of nowhere as I walked through some long, overgrown grass, but managed to escape by diving over a barbed wire fence.

I was rescued from a mine field by a UN patrol vehicle, whilst hiking in the still contested and disputed, Golan Heights region, as due to the unusually heavy rain this year, the most the country has seen in 15 years, land mines have slid down hills and onto paths, as the ground turns muddy and loose. Unfortunately, two cows weren't so lucky, as they were blown up a few days before, in the same field I was in. Oh and not to mention the risk of being caught in a flash flood. Which was high due to the unusual amount of rain. Particularly in the south, as I had no choice but to walk through many vast canyons, to avoid adding more distance to my day by going around. It sure has been an adventure.

Despite these events, a majority of the walk was somewhat boring and repetitive. The hardest part was having the discipline to wake up early every single morning, put on my stinking boots and socks so filthy they became stiff. My pants, which I'd alternate between two pairs, turning them inside out to wear the next day, giving the illusion I was wearing a 'clean' pair of pants. It also became more difficult after my encounter with the wild dogs in the desert, as I had become too paranoid to wear my earphones whilst walking, so that I could remain alert.

I miss the peacefulness and freedom of being isolated in vast wilderness. Relying on no one but yourself is an extremely fulfilling feeling, particularly when you're in hairy situations. It almost becomes addictive. Since my return, I haven't had to make any life changing decisions, where being right or wrong can have some heavy consequences and I feel as though I've lost my sense of purpose. Whilst I was over there, each day brought a mission to complete, a goal to reach. Since being back, the normality of



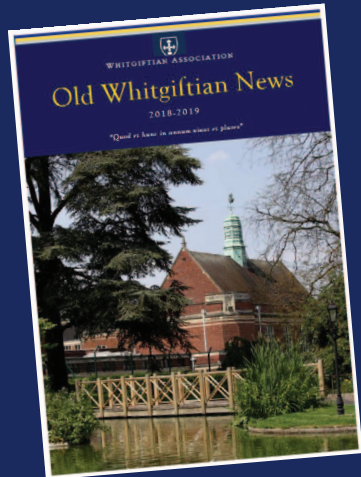
everyday life is insanely boring.

Since returning a month ago, I have taken part in an international NATO patrolling exercise in the Italian and Swiss Alps with the Officer Training Corp (OTC). Lasting five days, conducting a shooting competition, then a 48 hour 4-man patrol, navigating through the mountains and towns, conducting tasks along the way. Next I will go to Okehampton for a 3-week training camp, then in August cross Corsica on foot with a few of the guys from the OTC. As long as I keep busy and am not stuck indoors for too long, I manage to stay sane.

I intend to make a career in the military but will have to make time to walk the length of Jordan, so that I can finally have my Indiana Jones moment of reaching the ancient city of Petra. That's very high on my "To Do" list!

LUKE BAPTISTE, OW (2009-16)

OW NEWS OUT NOW!



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION
Old Whitgiftian News
2018-2019
"Quid et bene in omnibus vult et placeat"

The latest edition of the annual OW News is now available to view online at
www.whitgiftianassociation.co.uk/publications/wa-news/. Please contact the school if you'd prefer a hard copy.

30TH REUNION FOR 1989 LEAVERS

- 22ND JUNE 2019



In January 2018, Tim Newey noted in an email to 4 old school friends that the next summer would mark 30 years since they had left Whitgift. The question of whether a reunion should be organised was immediately raised and, as the distribution list grew rapidly over the following months, it was apparent that there was an overwhelmingly positive demand for a party. In fact, email traffic containing stories of wonderful memories of each other - many of which were genuinely laugh out loud tales - grew to such an extent that we had to switch to a dedicated mail system to ensure each newly discovered contact was included in every new thread started.

Finding a date and format which suited all was never going to be easy, but we knew being back at Haling Park was essential and that the event had to be as inclusive as possible. Equally important was that as many former teachers as possible were to be invited as it was clear from the outpouring of reminiscences that so many had been exceptional influences during our school years. So, the format we chose was to meet at the Old Swimming Pool for coffees around midday; into the Quad for 1pm for drinks, food and speeches; a live band whilst even more food arrived from the Chef's Theatre and then tours provided by prefects. We then transferred to the War Memorial for photos and left

Whitgift to continue the party by joining in with Whitfest at the Clubhouse.

Turning to the main event at school, whilst we wanted the reunion to be informal, we were well aware that all present wanted to hear our outstanding line up of speakers. Mark

Beard, expressing what

so many present felt, said that Whitgift had been a life-altering experience. He praised David Raeburn's leadership in creating an ethos and culture which inculcated the positive values of mutual respect, tolerance and self-esteem. Mark also noted that he considered it no coincidence that so many of our year ended up in careers in education, particularly secondary schools, following David's influence. 'Doc' Seldon was as entertaining as ever and spoke of Whitgift having a special place in his heart. When David Raeburn stood, grasped the lectern and cleared his throat, many of us were immediately taken back decades to Big School for an assembly. This time, we received a report that David and his reunited team had conducted on us for our 30 year review. The conclusion that we were all "marvellous boys" gained the greatest cheer of the afternoon!

Our thanks to Chris Ramsey for hosting us; Sarah Harvey's wonderful catering team and to Zohra Jeraj, Alumni Relations Coordinator, for acting as our point of contact over the months of planning. Your patience and good humour with us has been greatly appreciated! In all, the event welcomed 70 Old Whitgiftians, 20 former members of staff and 50 family members.

NICK SOMERS OW (1984-89)

OW CHESS CLUB REPORT

We started the season attempting to retain the Martin Cath trophy in the Croydon District Chess League Division 2.

Our first match was away against the new boys in the league Streatham. It was a tough match which we lost 3-1 to the eventual unbeaten league champions.

Following our opening defeat, we regrouped and went unbeaten for the rest of the season. We recorded wins against South Norwood & Lewisham. Drawing matches at Coulsdon, Crystal Palace & West Wickham.

Our season match total points of 3.5/6, was enough to finish a creditable 3rd in the league from 7 teams competing.

During the season we increased our squad from 7 to 9.

We are hoping at the League's AGM in September that the proposed team grading limit of 625 will be increased to 650. This will make team selection easier.

At our early June end of season curry night the consensus was to re-enter Division 2 next season. This is from September 2019 to May 2020 season.

After 2 years as Captain I have decided to take a break. Matt Hortin has kindly offered to captain the team next season. Matt would like to hear from any OWs currently retired from chess, who might like to play a couple of games next season.

Contact
matthortin@hotmail.com

NIGEL CALLOW, OW (1983-91)

OW GOLF SOCIETY

Matt Webster reports on Grafton Morrish qualifying in May. "Harvey Byers and Neill Williams, Matthew Webster and Jack Raison, Carl Hills and Nic Gates represented Whitgift on a sunny but challenging day at Royal Wimbledon in an attempt to qualify for the Grafton Morrish Finals. Amongst a competitive field of 14 schools we posted 81 points (31, 26 and 24 respectively by the above pairs) to qualify in 5th place of 6 qualifiers. Amongst the 8 unlucky schools are past winners Eton and KCS Wimbledon, so a strong result and we look forward to the finals." Those finals take place on the Norfolk courses at Hunstanton and Brancaster in October.

Five schoolmasters and five OWs combined to take on the school at Croham Hurst. Some OWs refer to this as their annual golf lesson, administered by boys fifty years younger than them but somewhat more flexible. The sight of the youngsters hitting the ball nearly 300 yards, not always in a straight line, is wonderful to behold and, of course, a testament to the success the golf academy has achieved in school golf. Very occasionally in this annual match, the masters/OWs win. Not this year; the school notched up a 3-2 success.

John Gould organised the Hornsey Walker meeting for us at West Hill. Here is his report. "There was a coach or bus on fire on M25 between Leatherhead and A3 junctions which delayed the arrival of some 6 or 7 people! It was all frantic at the start and the order and groupings had to change as and when people arrived (or hadn't). Nigel Platts (no mobile phone) arrived at 1.15 and went off in the last



group of 3 whilst our Captain, Alan Blok, joined the penultimate group on the third hole at about 1.45, muttering something about 'a meeting that over-ran'. That said, on the 3rd hole (his first) his drive went a mere 20 yards in the heather and he still managed a point. He had 3 birdies on the par 3s and a second nine of 21 points. Despite only playing 16 holes, he scored 36 points off a handicap of 9! It was not enough to win, however; he came second to Nigel Huxtable who scored 37 points, and therefore won the Hornsey Walker Cup – the society's oldest trophy – for the third time (the first being in 1987). Third was Don Anderson on count back - 32 points, enough as the highest placed player aged over 65 to win the Veterans Cup. For those who arrived in time, the West Hill brunch was superb with all the Full English contents along with kedgeree, scrambled eggs with smoked salmon and kidneys. Endless toast and limitless coffee. Top venue, fast greens, staff superb and helpful."

Early June saw the society's annual match against the OMW golf society, now known as Trinity Golf Society. In honour of the occasion, Donna Lewis, once of this parish but now working for Trinity's alumni programme, arrived at Shirley Park armed with camera and

notepad. With thanks to Donna, most of the participants on both sides are shown in the photo below. The match itself was mostly played in consistent rain, but in good spirits, rounded off by a typically wholesome Shirley Park dinner. The result was a 2-2 draw, the third in successive

years, much to Trinity's frustration because it means the OWs retain the trophy.

The hotly contested Schools Putting Competition is played on Royal Wimbledon's expansive and testing putting green, also in early June. Captain Alan Blok, alongside Hewitt players Jack Raison, Alex Atkinson and Toby Kemp, took on seven other schools in the qualifying round, and finished fifth out of eight. So we didn't make the final, but nor did we suffer the indignity of being relegated from the competition; that fate befell Epsom. Jack Raison finished third in the individual putting stats with 11 points out of 14; well done, Jack.

The annual match against the Old Alleynians was lost 8-1, almost the same result as the last time we lost this Tandridge fixture, way back in 2012. Our first defeat in seven years coincides with the arrival of a new President for the OAGS, one Nigel Farage.

The society's next meeting is Dudley Thompson's President's Day at West Sussex on Wednesday 24th July. If you wish to participate in our events, and/or join the society, you should contact the secretary at peterbgale@sky.com.

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

OW HOCKEY CLUB

The hockey club is currently preparing for the upcoming 2019/20 season and are looking to recruit new players of all standards. With 5 Men's and 3 Ladies' teams

there is hockey for all standards, including beginners.

Over the coming weeks we have lots of activities planned including Back to Hockey (sessions encouraging those that have never played before or haven't played in a while to

pick up a stick and get involved), preseason fitness and on pitch training. Please see dates on the back page for details.

If you are interested in finding out more about the hockey club please email join@cowhc.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 4 July	Whitgift Life	School	11:00
Sat 6 July	"Back to Hockey"	Monks Hill Sports Centre	14:30
Weds 17 July	Hockey Fitness Training Starts	School	19:30
Weds 24 July	NSPCC Open Gardens	School	14:00
Tues 6 August	Ladies Hockey Training Starts	Monks Hill Sports Centre	19:30
Weds 7 August	Mens Hockey Training Starts	School	19:30
Sat 21 Sept	Open Morning	School	09:00
Sat 28 Sept	WA South West Dinner	Tiverton	18:00
Weds 16 Oct	3S Music Concert	F/F Halls	19:00
Weds 30 Oct	WA Vice Presidents' Lunch	WSC	12:00
Mon 11 Nov	Remembrance Service	School	10:30
Mon 11 Nov	President's Buffet Lunch	WSC	12:00
Tues 12 Nov	Careers Convention	School	18:00
Sat 23 Nov	WA Sportsmans' Lunch	School	11:00
Sat 30 Nov	Christmas Carols	The Ritz	15:45/17:45
4-7 Dec	School Play, "Hairspray"	School	19:30
Fri 6 Dec	Christmas Concert	London	18:30
Mon 9 Dec	WA Annual General Meeting	WSC	19:00
Thurs 12 Dec	School Carol Service	Croydon Minster	19:30

FIXTURES

Tues 2 July	School 1st XI v Kent Street Perth	H	11:00
Sat 6 July	OWCC 1st XI v Kingstonians	L H	12:00
Sun 7 July	OWCC 1st XI v The Village	H	14:00
Sat 13 July	OWCC 1st XI v Epsom	L H	12:00
Sun 21 July	OWCC 1st XI v Cheam	H	14:00
Sat 27 July	OWCC 2nd XI v Leatherhead	L H	12:00
25/7-12/8	School Rugby Tour	NZ	
Sat 3 Aug	OWCC 1st XI v Woking	L H	12:00
Sat 10 Aug	OWCC 2nd XI v Ashford	L H	12:00
Sun 11 Aug	OWCC 1st XI v Badgers	H	14:00
Sat 24 Aug	OWCC 2nd XI v W/Park	L H	12:00
Sat 31 Aug	OWCC 1st XI v Addiscombe	L H	11:30
Sat 7 Sept	OWCC 2nd XI v Bank of England	L H	12:00
Sun 8 Sept	School 1st XV v Sedbergh	A	12:00

OLD WHITGIFTIAN FIVES CLUB

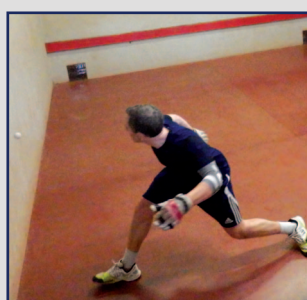
Get your gloves out (or borrow a pair!)... If you've enjoyed playing Fives - whether recently or longer ago - the OW Fives Club would be pleased to welcome you back onto court. The Club plays regularly most Thursday evenings at the school courts - with the added incentive of socialising at the Clubhouse afterwards for those who want to!

Whether you live in the area and want to play regularly, or fancy just popping down for a game during University holidays, we'd be pleased to see you.

The Club has a good mix of players of different ages and standards, and welcomes new or returning players.

Please drop a message to Nick Woolfenden (nickw5s@hotmail.com) if you'd like to play or want any more info - and feel free to ask to borrow a pair of gloves to get (re)started if yours have gone missing (or disintegrated!).

NICK WOOLFENDEN OW (1986-94), HON. SEC, OW5s CLUB



RECENT DEATHS

JOHN BOWDEN

OW (1954-57)

D. 1ST MAY 2019 AGED 80

MAURICE FOWLER

OW (1948-53)

D. 20TH MAY 2019, AGED 81

EDWARD GOSS

OW (1950-57) D. 3RD JANUARY 2015, AGED 75

WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION 500 Club

SUMMER 2019 DRAW

1st prize £100

A S Westnedge no. 13

2nd prize £50

M Harvey no. 44

3rd Prize £50

W A Newman no. 205

4th Prize £50

G Langhorne (Mrs) no. 12

Date of draw: Saturday 29th June 2019.

Independent scrutineer Peter A Dunn
FCA OW (1956-64).

To join the 500 Club and be in for a chance to win a quarterly prize, please contact

treasurer@whitgiftianassociation.co.uk.

CROYDON OLD WHITGIFTIAN HOCKEY CLUB



Looking for a new hockey club? Then look no further! Croydon Old Whitgiftian Hockey Club are currently recruiting for the 2019/20 season. All standards welcome, including beginners. With 5 Men's and 3 Ladies teams we have hockey for all.

EMAIL JOIN@COWHC.CO.UK FOR MORE DETAILS

Submissions for NEWSLETTER 385 covering September/October 2019 closes Sunday 25th August 2019. 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.