



WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION

Whitgift School, Haling Park, South Croydon CR2 6YT. Tel: 020 8688 9222 www.whitgiftianassociation.co.uk

President - RICHARD BLUNDELL

Chairman - JOHN ETHERIDGE

Editor - RICHARD BLUNDELL

NEWSLETTER 395 - MAY / JUNE 2021

FROM YOUR CHAIRMAN

As regular readers of the WA Newsletter will know, this is our last!

Going forward, the School's alumni office, under the stewardship of Thomas Northcote, is to assume responsibility for the production and dissemination of all news and magazine content, as part of a wider undertaking to fundamentally reset the School's relationship with its alumni. We wish him and the School every success in their endeavours.

Such future output as is generated by the School – to be primarily digital in format, we understand - will be addressed to you an Old Whitgiftian in the wider sense, not as a member of WA.

At this time, then, it is wholly fitting for me to thank all of those who have contributed to making this and previous editions of the Newsletter so interesting and informative. Particular thanks must go to its editor, our President, Richard Blundell, and to our publishers, [Smarter Reach](#), under the stalwart stewardship of Vicky Burley.

So, whither now WA?

We have long recognised that the School's intent to fulfil on a universal basis the functions previously occupied by WA on a subscriber-only basis would ultimately mean the demise of the latter. Equally, whilst WA has a proud history and has served its purposes and members exceedingly well, the reset to which I have referred is an exciting prospect and deserves to command the widest possible support.

The direction of travel, that is to say a managed dissolution of WA, is therefore clear. However, that leaves us with big decisions around the commencement and timing of that process and WA's asset base, not least the Clubhouse and grounds at Croham Road.

One of WA's primary objects is the "[promotion of] the interests of former and current Whitgiftians and of the School". In pursuance of this object we have publicly stated our preference for a settlement at Croham Road involving a form of joint endeavour with John Whitgift Foundation ('JWF'). We are currently engaged in dialogue with JWF with a

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



The light at the end of the tunnel burns ever brighter and I really hope we are on the last lap out of this lockdown nightmare back to normality and OW action.

But change is on the way with an exciting new chapter starting in the

life of our Old Boys Association with the establishment of the Alumni Office at the School. The changes are being fully discussed in the main committee and slowly implemented with the first one being the transfer to the School of this newsletter. So after 395 editions over some 56 years it is Goodbye from us Old Boys and Hello to the new team of the Alumni Office now comfortably housed in the front drive gatehouse.

Thomas Northcote, the new Alumni Director, has asked that all members make sure that their email address is known to the Alumni Office to facilitate the electronic transmission of the new format newsletter so as to keep abreast of all the news, forthcoming alumni events and reunions. One immediate benefit from the new team is the tracing of over 1,000 email addresses of "lost" OWs, bringing them back into contact.

Please bear in mind that the SW Dinner is still planned to go ahead on Saturday 9th October in Tiverton and all OWs in the greater vicinity are welcome, with the details due to be sent out in the near future. I am pleased to report that Thomas Northcote has agreed to attend and update everyone on the current status of the department. Also please note the Keith Smith Memorial Dinner being held to celebrate his involvement, leadership and success with the School CCF.

RICHARD BLUNDELL OW (1956-63)
WA PRESIDENT

view to determining the nature and extent of its interest and the basis upon which, if at all, it might be prepared to make an investment in the site.

We and any other interested parties who might be looking to JWF to make such an investment must bear in mind that while it has charitable status, it is not a grant-making organisation. It will only commit funding to Croham Road if it can be demonstrated to be in its commercial interests to do so (which will involve more than the occasional use of the rugby pitches by Whitgift School boys).

Equally, JWF understands that WA cannot sanction a 'mere giveaway' of the site. These parameters established and respected, we remain hopeful that a mutually agreeable set of arrangements can be negotiated, for the benefit of all existing and future users of the site. For obvious reasons, not least out of respect for our negotiating partners, we are not going to provide a running commentary of our discussions. If we are able to agree terms, those terms will be put to you for agreement at an AGM or EGM. Other stakeholders, including the playing sections of Whitgift Sports Club Limited, will also have an opportunity to express their support or disapproval of any such terms.

In truth, then, it is the pace and nature of our deliberations in respect of Croham Road that are likely to determine our approach to WA's winding-up. Your committee will ensure you are kept informed of all material developments as they arise. These next few months are likely to be WA's last as an active organisation, but will without doubt be among its most important. Your Committee greatly values your interest and support at this crucial time.

JOHN ETHERIDGE OW (1981-88)

KEITH SMITH MBE, RIP

It is with great sadness that we bring you news of the passing of Mr Keith Smith, Head of History and Politics, after a brave battle with cancer.

He had been Head of History and Politics for many years, and a greatly loved colleague at Whitgift since the 1980s. Current and former Whitgiftians will have known him for his leadership of the CCF, Fencing, his Housemastership and his wonderful teaching and mentoring.

A live-streamed funeral took place at St. Bernard's Church, Lingfield on Tuesday 4 May at 1.30pm, limited due to current Covid restrictions.

The funeral can be viewed via www.eastgrinsteadcatholicparish.com (or directly at www.youtube.com/watch?v=LyCmU2pItJM).

You are invited to leave a message of condolence at www.whitgift.co.uk/keith-smith-mbe-condolence-messages. If you would like to make a donation in Keith's memory, his wife, Karina, has arranged for any such gifts to be donated to the Whitgift Benevolent Society. We would like to express our gratitude that the Society is to benefit in this way. A Just Giving page has been set up in Keith's memory, which can be found at: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/keith-smithmbe

In due course, once Corona restrictions are lifted, there will be a memorial event to enable Keith's many friends, colleagues and former colleagues and former pupils to celebrate and pay respects to his remarkable life and legacy.



A NOTE FROM KEITH'S WIFE, KARINA

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has taken the time to post heart-warming memories and lovely comments about my husband on the Whitgift School and British Fencing pages.

We lived under the cloud of Keith's diagnosis for a considerable time but even then, the end came shockingly fast. Everyone's kind words have been a great comfort at such a distressing time. They have helped replace some of the sadness with wonderful memories of what he achieved during his life and the profound influence he had on so many people, especially his students and CCF cadets.

Donations in memory of Keith will be to The Whitgift Benevolent Society and can be made on this just giving page <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/keith-smithmbe>.

Much love,

Karina

CCF MEMORIAL DINNER

in honour of

**LT. COL.
KEITH SMITH MBE**

on Friday 2nd July 2021 at



7.00pm

HAC, Armoury House, City
Road, EC1Y 2BQ

Dress-Black Tie with Medals,
Tickets £65

from Nick Croker Whitgift
School

*email: njc@whitgift.co.uk
Tel: 07515 898884*



THE WHITGIFT SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI OFFICE

I write to you sitting in the glorious sunshine in Andrew Quad with the School very much alive after a busy and successful first week. I hope that you and your families are well since I last wrote to you in this Newsletter.

This Term promises to be a busy one not just for the wider School but for us in the Alumni Relations and Development Office too. We are now almost a completely new Team with Zohra Jeraj having gone on maternity leave we welcome Carla Giusti as her maternity cover. Carla will be the first point of contact for you as OWs as restrictions lift and we are able to welcome you onto the School site. The first alumni event we hope to have on site will be the Class of 1991 Reunion on Saturday 3 July. Further details will be circulated in due course, but the event will run in the afternoon and hopefully we will be able to come together and enjoy the easing of restrictions and hopefully some cricket on North Field too!

As we take on production of this Newsletter if you wish to continue receiving it, we will

need an Email address on file so that we can send it to you electronically. Please do send this to Carla at alumni@whitgift.co.uk. It will also be available on Whitgift Connect (<https://whitgiftconnect.co.uk/>) which I strongly encourage you to register for if you haven't done so already. This will form part of an extensive alumni relations programme with a wide range of events and activities for OWs around the globe. If you have suggestions for events we would be delighted to receive them at alumni@whitgift.co.uk as lockdown continues to ease we all look forward to being able to welcome you onto the site and getting to know as many of you as possible.

I would like to thank Richard Blundell and everyone else involved for all their dedicated hard work in production of this Newsletter to date and for all the advice and guidance they have given me in my short time at the School.

THOMAS NORTHCOTE
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

WHOOSH (CONT...)

Remarkably the Eckenhoff family (who are in fact all eminent medics) have been back in contact from the States via the good offices of Nigel Platts (OW archivist extraordinaire), reminiscing over the time Ben spent at Whitgift although sadly he himself has passed away.

So to complete the story here is the explanation of this clever rugby move:- At an attacking penalty inside the 25 John Spanswick would stand over the ball whilst gathering his pack of forwards behind him which would arouse the interest of the opposition defence, but when he took the tap penalty, he quickly threw the ball backwards, torpedo style across the field into the waiting arms of the centre who could then stroll over the try line unopposed. At the next penalty while John stood over the ball, the centre would draw attention to himself again arousing the

interest of the defence, but when he took the tap he held the ball aloft behind him from where the second row would collect it at speed and crash over the try line. And at the next penalty the opposition were, shall we say, confused as to what to do for the best!

Thankfully Gerwyn's legacy to Rugby lives on with his hooker throw into the lineout, the 10/12-man pushover try and of course the scrummaging machine which tragically he did not patent for himself.

Mention must also be made of his introduction of the post-match, fabulous spectators' teas initially held in the North Field pavilion which were of such high quality, thanks to the 1stXV team's mothers, that Whitgift hospitality became legendary around the circuit.

Happy days

RICHARD BLUNDELL OW (1956-63)

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL

It is with great sadness that I report the death of Keith Smith, one of the school's longest standing teachers, having first arrived as a fresh-faced, young history teacher well over thirty years ago in the 1980s. During his time at Whitgift, Keith accomplished a huge amount, having led the History and Politics department, the CCF, Fencing and Dodd's House. In addition to this, he has been the school's representative on the Whitgift Benevolent Society for the past few years, a role which has enabled him to help a multitude of Whitgiftians in need.

Keith passed away early in April after a brave battle with cancer and he will be sorely missed by thousands of Whitgiftians who will remember the time they spent with him with gratitude, humour and love.

Keith was my Housemaster and A-Level history teacher, as well as being my colleague for the past twenty years, and so I can say first hand that he was one of the most natural teachers that I have ever come across: when we thought he was going off on another light-hearted digression in the classroom, he was actually deepening our understanding through a brilliantly thought-through anecdote; when we thought he was bluffing his way into the U.S. Capitol Building on a school trip to Washington, what we did not appreciate was the months of correspondence he had entered into with the Alaskan senator just to afford Whitgift boys the opportunity to broaden their appreciation and understanding of American politics by talking to a real, live U.S. Senator in his office; when we thought he was trying to put the usual assortment of 'sportsmen' and boys grabbed from the library and gym that Housemasters had paraded in front of him in the yearly carnage that is the House Fencing competition at ease, "This is the pointy bit; be very careful

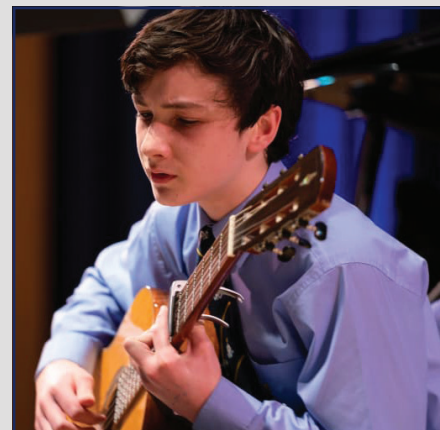
what you do with it!", what we did not realise was that Keith was talent-spotting, keeping his eagle eye out for future school fencers who would continue Whitgift's outstanding legacy in his favourite sport.

For Keith, being a school master was effortless – a way of life rather than a profession – and ultimately the reason for this was that he really cared, something none better exemplified by the fact that on the morning of the day he died, he was emailing the Whitgift Benevolent Society Committee to make sure that one of the boys he was responsible for was getting the correct provision for the new term. A caring, selfless school master right to the end; Keith Smith, RIP.

The music department has really embraced the digital learning platform, running two remote competitions for boys to take part in. The first of these, a piano event, saw no fewer than 55 videos of boys' performances sent in. The piano competition ran in four classes and was open to any style of piece being performed, with entries being marked by specialist external adjudicators.

Winners were selected across all age-groups and prizes were awarded when the boys returned to school in March. Head of Keyboards, Mr Lane, had this to say of the event: "It was a step into the unknown this year with a competition held completely online, but I was extremely impressed by both the quality and number of entries... I have had so many positive comments from both the students and the parents - it seems it was a real highlight at the end of a long period of online learning from home!" A montage of the winning performances is available to view on the school website.

The other competition was a singing one and this was an event that was actually able to be concluded in school with a



live audience! The final was a fantastic event to mark the end of the Lent Term, providing the competition finalists a welcome opportunity to sing live in the Concert Hall.

The quality of singing and vocal repertoire chosen by the students was a diverse showcase of Whitgift talent and kept judges, Mr Wilson for the Junior class and Jon Stainsby, who visited the School as our guest adjudicator for the Intermediate and Senior classes, on their toes, with a selection of music ranging from Beyoncé to Handel! Once again, a montage of the winning performances is available to view on the school website. Keep your eye out for Mason's own, Adedamola Amusa, who won the Senior event and is surely destined for great things!

With the Olympics being postponed for a year due to Covid, members of the Whitgift community have had to bide their time waiting to see how the school fares in the games in the form of Joe Choong OW (2008-13), who is set to star in the Modern Pentathlon. However, some of the boys at school could obviously not wait that long and so took part in Olympiads themselves, although of the more academic variety.

The UK Linguistics and British Physics Olympiads took place in February and March respectively and the school entered an impressive number of competitors.

In the former, a national competition in which students of any age or ability level are required to solve fiendishly difficult



linguistics puzzles, 12 brave Whitgiftians took part. The pupils competed in the Advanced Competition, challenging themselves in this head-scratching and intellectually rigorous test of code-breaking and linguistic aptitude. Visit the UKLO website for a flavour of the problems: Congratulations should go to all the boys who took part, but in particular to Lower Sixth Former, Khinley Trott, who attained a Silver medal – an impressive feat considering how many students take part nationally.

The British Physics Olympiad (BPhO) encourages the study of physics, running annual competitions to recognise excellence in students across the UK. Over the course of the Lent Term, budding physicists in the Fifth Form and Lower Sixth took part in the Intermediate Physics Challenge (Year 11) and Senior Physics Challenge events (Year 12), respectively.

With covid restrictions in place, these events were moved online this year. However, this did not dampen students' enthusiasm and efforts which were reflected in an impressive 16 Gold, 22 Silver and 1 Bronze awards in the Intermediate Challenge. A special mention should go to Fifth Former, Harvey Rendall, who achieved Gold with a score of 38/40, placing him in the top 15 of almost 5,000 entries and putting

him in the 0.3% nationally.

In the Senior Physics Challenge 3 Gold, 9 Silver and 3 Bronze awards were achieved, with this event being completed as part of Whitgift's Physics Enrichment programme. Furthermore, subsequent to finishing in the top 100 nationally in the British Physics Olympiad round

1 event, Upper Sixth Former, Anant Gupta, was invited to take part in the ever more challenging round 2 event for a place on the British Physics Olympiad team.

If you are interested to learn more about what the school does to give back to the local community, then you should head onto the news section of the website where you will find a link to the first edition of Giving Together, a newsletter celebrating Whitgift's community activities and charitable work.

The newsletter includes articles which have been written by students and staff, including the launch of our Primary Maths videos, gifts for NHS Staff at Croydon University Hospital and our online Charity Concert. Many students have given time to volunteer or organise fundraising events in their local areas and you may well be surprised to read just how much we have managed to achieve as a school community.

To conclude, I am happy to report that despite everything that has been going on, the school has not forgotten its heritage. Indeed, this

year marks the 425th anniversary of our Founder, John Whitgift, laying the stone that represented his vision for supporting the people of Croydon through a hospital and access to education and, hence, starting the John Whitgift Foundation.

The school has undertaken a variety of initiatives to mark this anniversary. If restrictions lighten and you get the opportunity to come onto the school grounds, you will see 425 flowers adorn the Whitgift name stone to the right of the driveway. You might see boys sporting the winning entry of the Foundation's design a commemorative 425 pin badge competition on their lapels.

Finally, you will be able to see a montage of artwork and graphic design placed on the walls of the newly pedestrianised fountain quad that can be found between the science and CCF blocks and which opens out towards Bigside. These are currently being designed by boys taking part in the 425 Design Competition, the theme of which is: a celebration of our history and looking to the future.

Talking of the future, I sincerely hope that I am able to report back on some sports fixtures in the near future. Plans are afoot for a full programme of cricket, hockey, rugby and football fixtures in the Summer term, but then that was the case at the end of Michaelmas term and we all know what happened at the start of the year, so I wouldn't get too excited yet. I am crossing my fingers, though!

DOMINIC EDWARDS OW (1988-96)



GOLF SOCIETY – SPRING REPORT



April was generally bright but cold, and so it was for the society's first open meeting of the new season. The venue was West Hill, one of the renowned Three Ws in the Woking area (the others being Woking GC and Worplesdon GC), and a former haunt of Surrey cricket's spin twins, the Bedser brothers, who could often be found on the terrace behind the 18th green.

It is a beautiful course, laid in a softly undulating landscape with hundreds of pine trees, perfectly manicured fairways, large and impeccable greens, and just a hint of water amongst acres of heather. But therein lies the 'Fatal Attraction' for golfers. For all its seductive charm, the course also carries significant threats to any unsuspecting golfer, namely those very same hundreds of pine trees, water, heather, and greens which were lightning fast. Certainly a number of us suffered at its hands, seeking to extract ourselves from the numerous hazards and, when reaching the supposed security of the putting surface, watching putts that looked certain to finish either in or at the side of the hole, carry on rolling a good five or six feet past, leaving a treacherous return. Alternatively, your reporter witnessed one uphill putt that fell agonisingly short of its target, only to roll slowly and cruelly back towards its maker's feet. Death by a thousand putts.

Amidst the carnage surrounding them, a few of the 29 starters kept a cool head and negotiated the challenge with very respectable scores. Six reached at least 30 points. Top of the pile, not for the first time, was Don Anderson, who accumulated steadily

as he went round and finished with 37 points, to win for the second time the Captain's Cup (pictured receiving the Cup from Alan Blok, last year's captain, who hosted the meeting for us after the postponement caused by Covid last year). In second place was Paul Harrup (also pictured), who made a mockery of the difficulties described above, shooting level par for the back nine and scoring 35 points. Roddy Sage, participating in his first event, certainly for many years, also scored 35 and finished third. Well done to all concerned, and many thanks to Alan Blok who organised the day and generously donated the prizes.

Also making its debut at West Hill was the new World Handicap Index, being used for the first time by the society after its introduction late in 2020. Bafflement abounded amongst society

members as to how it was that West Hill, with all its attractive menace, has a much lower slope rating (difficulty factor) than many of their own courses, giving them a lower handicap for the day. There are a few wrinkles in the system to be ironed out.

At the society AGM, held online in March because of the current lockdown, Jeremy Stanyard was elected Captain for the next two years, to take over from Alan Blok, whose two years were eventful in a sense that none of us could have anticipated, and John Butler was elected Treasurer, to take over from Nigel Huxtable, who steps down from the committee after an incredible 37 years of work on our behalf. A sincere thank you, Alan and Nigel. Also stepping down and worthy of considerable thanks are Nic Gates, who has captained the Hewitt side for the last five years, and Mike Spanswick, a former President and Captain. Newly elected committee members are Richard Gibson, now Hewitt captain, and three members in, or scarcely out of, their twenties, Joe Marchbank, Toby Kemp and Tom Bloxsome.

Amongst other things, the AGM recommended that the society's centenary event, postponed from June 2020 because of Covid, should now take place in June 2022 when, one hopes, lockdown and its aftermath will be out of the way.

A full calendar of events for this year is set out in the society's brand new website, which can be found at oldwhitsgolf.com.

Those interested in joining the society can also find out how to do this on the website. And if, as I understand it, this is to be the last WA newsletter, then anyone interested will be able to find news of the society on the website news page. Give us a try!

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



THE 44 CLUB

In the early 1950s, when leaving Whitgift, a number of boys who had entered forms 1A and 1A2 in 1944, and others who had joined them as they progressed, formed the 44 Club. I came from Collingwood School which has formed a very important part of my life.

We have always had a President, changing annually, and a Secretary. Changing the Secretary was not ideal but fortunately Piers Hubbard took on this role permanently. He had been at our core since the start. Sadly he died in December 2019 and James Thomas

(also ex Collingwood) who had become President in 2018 took on this role also and continues as President.

Since 1953 we have always had an annual dinner (now lunch) and for over 50 years this has been at the Royal Air Force Club of which I am also a member. For many years the number present was in excess of 20. Sadly, but inevitably, the numbers have decreased over time. On our 68th occasion, on 6th March 2020, the number present was just 5. We hope there will be a similar number for our lunch later this year.

Every summer, the President has invited us, together with wives and widows, to his

home, a golf club or other similar venue. James Thomas kindly invited us all to Whitgift on 30th May 2019, a beautiful day and 24 of us including 13 girls thoroughly enjoyed the excellent lunch and tours of the School and grounds which were in superb condition – particularly interesting for those who had not seen Haling Park for 60 years. We have 19 Old Boys and 14 widows on our present lists with full communication details.

We all owe so much to Whitgift for our education in difficult years at the end of World War II and for the lasting friendships we formed there.

BRIAN LAY VP, OW (1944-51)

NEWS FROM THE WHITGIFT VETERANS RIFLES CLUB

Well here we are, our last issue. It's times like these I wonder what my predecessor, Alan Hunter, would have thought of the current circumstances with Covid, the changes at the school and within the WA. This year, as I mentioned in the last issue, marks 125 years from the formation of the Whitgift Veterans Rifle Club, and not only that but those particularly astute will have noticed that this year also marks the 425th anniversary of Whitgift School! I'm immensely proud to not only be an Old Whitgiftian but being in a position to write about a club that is one of the oldest school shooting clubs in the country, and a founding member of the Ashburton Shield among other competitions.

So far this year, we've been very lucky to have already begun shooting at Bisley, competing in the London and Middlesex Rifle Association Public School's Veterans match, fielding 2 teams, however unfortunately not placing in the top 3 despite incredible shots by our A Team (Doug Stewart, Guy Hart, Nick Harman and Maxim Gennari) all of whom shot over 145/150.

It goes to show that even after a year of no shooting, the skills remain the same. We then were lucky enough to all have lunch together thanks to the hospitality of the LMRA. Looking slightly further back than last

weekend, in March we had our AGM, and said thank you to our outgoing secretary Guy Riches OW (1980-88), who has been in post for the second time, for 5 years, and we welcome myself to the post of Honorary Secretary for the next 5 years! Our deepest wishes of thanks go to Guy for his dedication and service over the past few years, especially during the difficulty that Covid-19 has caused us.

It's with great excitement that we can announce we will be recommencing shooting on the 18th of May at the school range, at 19:00 as usual, and we look forward to the gradual relaxing of restrictions that will mean we can once again go for evening meals and beers after shooting!

I wanted to take this moment, our last in this format, to reflect on the past many years of shooting. I had a brief delve into the depths of the WA's archive to drudge up a few articles from 2012 (the earliest online) only to find the regular writings of Alan reminding me of how far we've come in the last 10 years, as well as how lucky we are.

We are well supported as always by the school and the WA, and are lucky enough to have a steady flow of new members to the club, keeping us fresh and active!

We have, on the range, a score card from 90 years ago, the first shots ever

fired on the new range at the then recently moved Whitgift School, signed by none other than a Furtado, the uncle I believe of our own Jack Furtado OW (1951-56) who was shooting with us last weekend, with a very respectable score in our Veterans Match.

I'm looking forward to welcoming as many of you as possible who've shot with us in the past, and who may shoot with us in the future for some of our anniversary events which we are planning for later this year when we can.

If you're interested in attending or being involved, or even getting back into shooting/starting your shooting career, you can always find me via secretary@wvrc.org.uk. We now have social media too, so please find us on Facebook and Instagram. This then is farewell, but I hope you will hear from me again soon, the final thing to do is wish you all a wonderful day, and I hope to see you soon.

Henry Parritt, OW (2009-2016)



SIGNIFICANT DATES

2021 - A Significant Year

1596 - 425 years of The John Whitgift Foundation

1871 - 150 years of Whitgift Grammar / Middle / Trinity School at North End

1906 - 115 years of the Old Boys Association

1931 - 90 years of Whitgift School at Haling Park

1991 - 30 years as newsletter editor

2021 - A change of direction for the Association working with the School Alumni Office and the newsletter also coming from a different base.

The Association is very grateful to all the voluntary editors for all their efforts in keeping the membership up to date with OW news and events over the years.

Ken Rokison	January 1965 - March 1970	(01-61)
Richard Arcscott	April 1970 - July 1971	(62-71)
Jonny Wright	August 1971 - December 1974	(72-111)
Tony Percy	January 1975 - December 1979	(112-147)
Robin Holt	February 1980 - August 1984	(148-175)
Geoff Austin	October 1984 - October 1987	(176-193)
Alan Older	November 1987	(194)
Christina Hallet	January 1988 - July 1991	(195-216)
Richard Blundell	August 1991 - May 2021	(217-395)

FOUNDERS DAY – 22ND MARCH 2021

Needless to say, there was no alumni early morning Service at the Whitgift House chapel nor the later pupil Service at Croydon Minster this year.

However, the Foundation pre-recorded a virtual Service which included participation from all three Schools and Care Homes, with the prayers led by our Visitor the most Revd Justin

Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury. This was sent out by email to alumni two days prior and is still available on the Foundation website.

Also an OW toast, proposed by the President, was drunk to honour our founder John Whitgift at a 'hobo' zoom meeting, which was attended by members of our Australian section.

OW ARCHIVES

I am pleased to report that the OW archives have recently received kind donations of School colours blazers, shields and photographs, all of which are very welcome. One blazer relates to the famous unbeaten rugby 1st XV team of 1961 which interestingly arrived on its original hanger of the Hotel Kreuz, Lenk, Switzerland, "borrowed" by its owner as a reminder of the infamous School skiing trips run by Bert Parsons and Bob Schad back then.

Members are reminded that ALL Whitgift memorabilia is always welcome at the OW archives housed at the School.

VINCIT QUI PATITUR

Many congratulations to Elliot Daly on his selection for the British Lions Tour of South Africa. I greatly admired the enormous confidence shown when he DROPPED KICKED his conversion, from out wide, of the last England try in Dublin (having missed the previous place kick). Just one great example of true "WHITGIFT GRIT" I feel.

RECENT DEATHS

MIKE E BIBBY

OW (1953-61),
D. 9TH JANUARY 2021, AGED 78

PETER CRANE

OW (1946-53),
D. 20TH DECEMBER 2020, AGED 85

STUART FRANK ELFORD

WHITGIFT STAFF (1985-1992),
D. 5TH APRIL 2021, AGED. 66

PETER R R HABGOOD

OW (1960-68),
D. 21ST MARCH 2021, AGED 71

LT. COL. KEITH "BAS" SMITH MBE

WHITGIFT STAFF (1985-2021),
D. 4TH APRIL 2021, AGED 58

ALUN TUN

OW (1969-76),
D. 10TH MARCH 2021, AGED 62

ARTHUR WRIGGLESWORTH

OW (1930-36),
D. 6TH JULY 2018, AGED 98

WHITGIFTIAN ASSOCIATION 500 Club SPRING DRAW 2021

1st prize £100

MJ Spanswick, Ticket 49

2nd prize £50

P Champness, Ticket 151

3rd Prize £50

MJ Spanswick, Ticket 68

4th Prize £50

MA Thorn, Ticket 93

Independent Scrutineer:

S M Hooker MA

(Staff 1986 – 2015)

Date of draw: 25th April 2021

To join the 500 Club and be in for a chance to win a quarterly prize, please contact treasurer@whitgiftianassociation.co.uk

If any of the undernoted would care to contact me, he will hear something to his advantage:

Cooper D, Cummings M, Hunter DC, Jones R, Newman WI, Oliver AP, Rhodes K

Andrew M Gayler, OW (1956-1964)

Honorary Treasurer

Email: amgayler@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 020 8660 5562