

The Old Papplewickian

— No. 20 — 2020 —



THE HEADMASTER WRITES

As I write, the UK and most of the world are in lockdown due to the coronavirus, yet strangely there is still an air of optimism around Papplewick despite the sadness elsewhere. We are back at school for the Summer term and it really does feel as if school life is carrying on remarkably normally. Thanks to the wonders of modern technology, we are delivering a full timetable of 'live' lessons to our boys across no less than thirteen time zones from New York to Seoul. As I wander about the school, it sounds like normal lessons are being taught with both staff and boys' voices emanating from classrooms, which makes it all the more surprising to find that when one looks into a form, there is not a boy in sight! The First Choir are still practising (the Hallelujah Chorus will be performed remotely soon), Twelfth Night will still go ahead as a 'radio broadcast', the House Race continues (St George currently in the lead!), and we even have virtual cricket matches taking place every Wednesday and Saturday! The ability to evolve in order to respond positively to changing times has always been,

I feel, a hallmark of Papplewick, and I hope Old Boys will be proud of the fact that their former school has risen to the challenge of the coronavirus by keeping everything as normal as possible for our boys.

Sadly though, not everything can take place as planned this summer, and I am particularly sorry that Mike Watt's brilliantly put together reunion based around the triumphant 1958 Sevens winning side has had to be postponed for twelve months. We will now though look forward to seeing Mike and his contemporaries all the more in July 2021, by which time I hope Papplewick boys will have completed as successful a year as they have had this year when an extremely talented group of senior boys won a record haul of sixteen awards to major public schools. In the meantime, once the world returns to normal, or even a 'new normal', Sallie and I would be more delighted than ever to see any Old Boy who wishes to reconnect to his prep school days...and all the better for it being a visit in person to Papplewick rather than via a computer screen!



Mike Watt (back left) and other members of the winning 1958 team at the Rosslyn Park Prep Schools' Sevens tournament plan to pay a visit to Papplewick on Old Boys' Day (see back page)



2019 Trip to Iceland

SPEECH DAY 2019

Having first welcomed David, Bishop of Basingstoke, to Papplewick and thanking him for agreeing to give out the prizes, the Headmaster embarked on his address by reminding those parents and visitors present that within eight days of the start of Michaelmas term 2018 Papplewick was named *Tatler's* Prep School of the Year – leaving him wondering for the next twelve months 'how on earth did we pull that one off?' Deciding to try to work it out he went online and after some googling he found its publisher Conde Nast's strapline about *Tatler*, containing the following telling clause '...*Tatler's* powerful mix of glamour, fashion, society, features and fun makes the brand unique....' Tom Bunbury continued, "But this led to more questions than answers initially, as any of you who've dared to enter the boys' changing room will know that a prep school boy's world is not exactly a 'glamorous' one. And when a Year 8 boy's idea of 'fashion' for a social with the girls of Heathfield is to wear the same clothes he's been wearing all afternoon but to make them fashionable by giving himself a 20-second Linx deodorant shower, you know the answer lies elsewhere. For 'society' I soon realised that *Tatler* must have been referring to you parents rather than to me; it made sense, and with 'features' possibly meaning things like herpetology, or ripsticks, or bibliomaniacs, perhaps *Tatler* was on to something after all."



Head Chorister in recording studio last October laying some new tracks.

The Headmaster said that he certainly agreed with the 'fun' bit, for he had always maintained that the formative period between the ages of six and thirteen was a wonderful time of life. He made no apology for putting the happiness of the boys first "because we believe in it, and we believe in its importance all the more in a world that is seeking to minimise the length of any boy's childhood, and, criminally in my view, in a world where the senior school entry system seems to be seeking to do exactly the same thing. This leaves the parents having to start worrying about senior school entry from Year 5 onwards or, worse still, the boys from the age of just nine onwards. We will of course continue to do everything we can to give Papplewick boys the edge in this entry system, but we are not going to abandon our principles of putting their happiness first." He said he hoped that parents would not just see Papplewick as a 'gateway experience' to senior schools, but as an experience to be valued in itself, for itself. The grounding, the values, the



Bugsy Malone 2019

positive outlook on life and even the fun, were worth having in their own right.

He said he understood the concern that this pressure was putting upon parents of such young boys, but he urged them not to worry unduly about this; the important thing was to give the boys confidence that it was about finding the school that was right for them. "Parents should also bear in mind that the crazy non-system of senior school applications rarely actually does end at the end of Year 6 as it claims. Indeed they can be reassured by the fact that in this current year, thirteen out of our forty-two leavers gained admission to schools, among them Eton, Winchester, Tonbridge and Wellington during the course of their final year."

At this point the Headmaster reminded parents that amidst all the fun, the business end of academic life must continue to be done, and in this respect the Year 8 boys had once again produced excellent results. He congratulated the five boys who had gained academic awards to their senior schools, to those who had gained Scholars' Entrance and to the two boys who had passed Winchester's challenging entrance exams with flying colours. Tom Bunbury reported that all the Common Entrance candidates had once again successfully passed into their senior schools and he drew particular attention to the boy who had achieved a 'starred pass' to Eton as one of their top thirty candidates, and to the boy who had gained a remarkable set of straight As, most of them A*s, to Sevenoaks.

"However," he continued, "we don't just want our boys to be like a 'lighthouse in a desert, brilliant but completely useless'.



Auschwitz Survivor Ivor Perl with Year 8 boys when he visited Papplewick in 2019

They must also be boys who have embedded in them certain values and I was recently pleased to receive an email from a prospective parent after an Open Day, which perhaps summed up well all we are trying to achieve here. 'We thoroughly enjoyed our visit. The two boys who showed us around were impressive ambassadors for Papplewick, such warm, friendly, grounded boys who are also clearly achieving outstanding academic and sporting results. We were impressed by every boy we encountered and in particular how they interacted with their peers and our son. The effect of the focus you place on ensuring polite, considerate and thoughtful behaviour was unmistakable throughout our visit. The staff we met demonstrated all the attributes we're looking for to support our son's development – not only a contagious enthusiasm for their subjects but also a sincere, deep bond between staff and boys. The overall result was a very cosy environment conducive to learning and development.'"



Donated Papplewick mattresses arrive at a Senagalese orphanage

Tom Bunbury said that nowhere at Papplewick did 'contagious enthusiasm for their subjects' apply better than in the Fine Arts and he congratulated the five boys who had gained Music awards, the four with Art awards and the boy who had won a Drama scholarship. He also remarked on a truly astonishing Art Show that had been running for the last few weeks of the Summer term, with more than one prospective parent honestly believing that the boys' work was that of a visiting professional exhibition.

The Headmaster mentioned that the Director of Music at Eton had recently commented on what well balanced and motivated boys Papplewick had sent to them and Tom Bunbury went on to say that as well as art, drama and music, sport had of course also provided daily and vital balance for our boys and he made special mention of the boy who had been awarded a Sports Scholarship to Charterhouse. He said that on the sports field Papplewick had had a very successful year, especially in football, where, uniquely so far as he could remember, four tournaments had been won at different levels. Contributing too to the 'balance' should be added the large number of boys who had tried so hard on the extra-curricular, leadership and service



Otto Lazar, Joshua Cowley, Sam Frost, Stuart Mackenzie and Arthur Barnett back for the Hog Roast

fronts, winning their gold award ties during the course of the year.

Tom Bunbury thanked the parents for their support once again in various fields: for the overseas tours that the School had undertaken over the past year which had seen the Year 7 in Burgundy, the choir in Malta, the ski trip in the Alps, the cricketers in South Africa, and the Leavers' Camp on the Mediterranean. He also thanked parents for their continued and generous support of the School's charity events which had raised over £1,000 from the Macmillan Coffee Morning and nearly £14,000 from the Sponsored Walk. He thanked them for their wonderful support for all the social events including the 80s disco, the quiz night, the Hog Roast and the Summer Ball. And the Headmaster expressed his gratitude to the School Governors, and the academic and the domestic staff, who shared a quite extraordinary passion, commitment, experience, expertise and compassion for all the boys.

"So now that our *Tatler* reign is effectively over, with its claim to be that 'powerful mix of glamour, fashion, society, features and fun which makes the brand unique', we should now go back to the beginning and ask, 'Was the *Tatler* award the high point of the year, and has it been downhill ever since?' The answer is an emphatic 'No', not with the Year 8 boys doing us proud and demonstrating that luxuriating in the extraordinary comfort of our new Willow House is not a mutually exclusive concept with success, as they've proved by achieving a Papplewick record haul of sixteen awards to their senior schools between them. And nor are we going to rest on our laurels. So if my wife Sallie can bring *the glamour and the fashion* to the School, and if the parents can continue to provide *the society*, we will do everything we can to make *the features and the fun* even better next year, and though I dislike the concept of brand, I promise that we will remain true to our brand, while committing to make another year at Papplewick as unique an experience as possible once again for all your boys."



U11 Winners at the Bradfield Soccer Tournament

AWARDS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Abdulrahman Akinade	Sports Scholarship	Charterhouse
George Baldwin	Music Exhibition	Eton College
Felix Boegh-Nielsen	Academic Scholarship	Harrow School
	Art Scholarship	
James Choi	Art Exhibition	St. Edward's, Oxford
Christopher Douglas	Music Scholarship	Reading Blue Coat School
Rei Ishikawa	Art Scholarship	Harrow School
Harry Jang	Music Scholarship	Harrow School
Tonwyn Li	Music Scholarship	Eton College
Alex Newell	Academic Exhibition	Wellington College
Boyan Petkov	Art Scholarship	Charterhouse
Raphael Shires	Academic Exhibition	St. Edward's, Oxford
Mikael Tariq	Academic Scholarship	Charterhouse
Sebastian Veliu	Academic Exhibition	Wellington College
Archie Wooldridge	Drama Scholarship	Luckley House School
	Singing Exhibition	



Farewell

Lucy Williams leaves Papplewick after six and a half years with us. Ever positive and ever smiling, she has been a member of staff who has just perfectly epitomised the energy and positivity of Papplewick.

During her time with us she has been able to turn her hand to almost anything, including being Head of Geography, organiser of the Arts Festival and Papplewick's Got Talent, introducer of PALs, coach of hockey, Head of Co-Curriculum, Director of Pastoral Support and last but not least, a brilliant and much sought-after tutor. She did try to leave us two years ago but we managed to persuade her to stay then. She leaves now to become Deputy Head of Channing Junior School in Highgate, where we wish her every success and happiness and with our thanks for all she has contributed to the life of the school.

Music

Inspiring, even awe-inspiring are not out of place to describe the music department this year. It has been wonderful to witness our boys taking their voices out and about whether to Sonning Village Church, the O2 Arena or to Malta on a very successful choir tour. We have also had some wonderful music concerts to round off the year that most senior schools would be proud of, with ten ensembles running simultaneously, many of which, including the jazz collective, that could certainly earn a bob or two at Oxbridge Summer Balls. Well done to the boys.

School Choir Tour to Malta 2019

The first ever Papplewick overseas choir tour saw sixteen boys and three members of staff head off to Malta in February half-term. At the heart of the tour were three concerts given at Ta'Xbiexx, Hal-Lija and Marsaxlokk churches. Preparing an hour of music had required a great deal of rehearsing for a choir more used to singing a weekly anthem of less than five minutes and the boys rose to the challenge absolutely magnificently.

The concerts were arranged in association with the Jean Paul II Foundation and our audiences were extensive and most appreciative. The elaborately decorated, domed churches had impressively reverberant acoustics, not at all what the boys are

used to at school, but they quickly took this in their stride and our six soloists in particular enjoyed filling the space with their voices. We were especially fortunate to have one of our violinists with us and his haunting playing of Massenet's Meditation from Thais and his technical wizardry in the exuberant Polonaise by Wieniawski delighted the audiences.

Drama

Drama is flourishing, with over sixty boys taking Lamda lessons, and with something for everyone this year from the bottom up with the inspirational Year 2, 3 and 4 Variety Show, the sublime Year 5 Variety Performance, the totally madcap Year 6 production of *Ye-Ha!*, the simultaneously rousing and moving production of *Henry V* for Years 7 and 8, to levels of professionalism worthy of the West End, brought to us by the Christmas musical of *Bugsy Malone*.

Bugsy Malone

The Papplewick musical this year was *Bugsy Malone*, set in New York City in the early 1930s during prohibition. Rival gangs are vying for control of the nightclub scene and gun-smuggling, illicit alcohol production and a myriad of other nefarious activities associated with the New York gangster milieu are in full swing! Boys in Years 7 and 8 had a lot of fun singing, dancing and acting and if the enthusiastic applause was anything to go by this show hit the spot!



School Choir Tour to Malta 2019

Art

This has been another successful and most productive year in the Art Room. We had a record number of twenty-nine Year 6, 7 and 8 boys involved in the Art Scholars' workshops. With over seventy canvases on display in the Art Show there was a fine array of talent to be seen.

This year has produced an exceptionally talented group of Year 7 and 8 Artists and once again we have an equally keen band of Year 6 boys ready to take on the challenges that lie ahead.

Papplewick supported a local Litter Art Competition in an attempt to highlight overuse of plastic and the benefits of recycling. Some very imaginative and thought-provoking pieces were created. The Year 5 category winner, with his Litter Bugs, was displayed on a background created by the Photography Club and the boy who won the Year 7 category created a mythical creature totally made of old recycled materials. Two other boys had theirs exhibited in local offices as they were considered inspirational pieces. Prime Minister Theresa May visited the exhibition and spoke to the boys about their work. It was certainly an event to remember.

The Green Stag Report

The Eco-Committee is a mixed group consisting of boys from all the year groups, staff (both teaching and non-teaching) and parents, who meet to discuss ways of keeping the school more green and to see what needs to be done in our School Action Plan.

We have arranged eco days for boys and Staff on topics such as food waste and we have concentrated this year on the distribution of reusable water bottles in an effort to cut down on the usage of single-use plastics. During the academic year we also have several eco days' topics in the curriculum, such as energy saving, healthy living, global citizenship, biodiversity and anti-litter campaigns. Willow House (the year 8 boarding house) is more eco friendly than other areas, with timed light switches installed.

The food in our kitchen comes from a sustainable source, the sports hall roof is equipped with solar panels and most of the school doors are self-shutting. The committee all voted to put in a request for some bird hotels and more bird feeds to attract wildlife and our groundsman grows several bee friendly plants.

During the summer term, we applied for our Green Flag assessment, which took place in the Michaelmas term.



Some of our artists with Theresa May



South Africa Cricket Tour

Our cricket tour to South Africa in the Easter holidays was our eleventh and one that we have done biannually since 2003. We played five matches with rain badly affecting our first two games - though we did manage to fit in one T20 match, which we lost. Our third fixture, played in lovely weather, saw us batting first and scoring a fine 186 in our 25 overs, producing our only win of the tour, by 120 runs. In our final two matches, both Twenty20 games, we were outclassed by the opposition.

Aside from the cricket we fitted in some good safaris, visiting the notable reptile collection not far from Durban, which included crocodiles and the infamous black mamba. Seeing traditional Zulu dancing when we were there was one of the highlights. We also went on a launch cruise in St Lucia estuary, after which we spent two nights in Hluhluwe National Park. Here the highlights were a sighting of a pride of lions with three juvenile cubs, a herd of elephants and the very rare honey badger.

And when we were in Capetown we visited Robben Island of course, with its prison; seeing Nelson Mandela's cell we found a very moving experience.

Cake Sale for Indonesian Earthquake Survivors

Three enterprising Year Eight boys, all of whom have Indonesian heritage, had the wonderful idea last October of setting up a stall for Palu, in response to the dreadful earthquake and tsunami in Sulawesi. They held a bake sale, raising a huge £2,206 to send to Red Cross Indonesia. The boys produced posters to publicise the event beforehand and encouraged parents, teachers and students to attend. The latest casualty figures are staggering, with more than 100,000 displaced people and 2,500 dead. The government eventually stopped the search so we will never know the final number of those who died, but they believe it will be in the region of 5,000. It was heart-warming to see the boys in action and the generosity of parents, teachers and students alike.



David Harrison, right, at Papplewick with his predecessor Geoffrey Morgan in 2007

DAVID HARRISON

Director of Music (1976-1998)

David arrived at Papplewick in 1976 to take over from Geoffrey Morgan, a director of music who had attained almost deific status. It was an unenviable task for anyone, but DRH was entirely qualified to take up the reins, having taught in prep schools for many years and being a gifted organist, pianist and choirmaster he immediately set about taking things forward in his own inimitable way.

Although David was not one to suffer fools, he cared much more about his charges than people might have realised. He would often be the first to offer a comforting word to a boy or a colleague who was genuinely distressed. He was never afraid to speak his mind either, and if he felt that something needed to be said, his outstanding command of the English language enabled him to convey his opinions courteously but firmly and meaningfully.

David's credentials were considerable. Educated at Brentwood School, he was a prizewinner in the Royal College of Organists' Fellowship diploma examination and had studied at the Royal College of Music, from where he had obtained the college's Associate Diploma in Organ Performance. He had worked alongside some of the finest organists in the United Kingdom and he contributed to a compilation record that was made collectively by them in the 1970s. Prior to joining the staff of Papplewick he had been the Organist and Choirmaster at Dunfermline Abbey and I believe that he was among the finest organists in the country at that time.

It was David who gave me the opportunity of accompanying the Papplewick choir for my first cathedral service, an opportunity that provided me with the confidence to go ever further, and I will always remain in David's debt for that. I suspect that many musical Papplewickians of the 70s, 80s and 90s will have equal reason to be thankful to him too for his help and encouragement in their musical endeavours.

P.R.C.

IAN GRAY (1951-1958)

Old Boys of the 1950s will be sorry to hear of the death of Ian last November, following a heart attack and a subsequent stroke. At Papplewick he was head boy and greatly enjoyed his time at the School. When the new Chapel was built in 1957, the architect appointed was Ian's Father who subsequently

David Harrison:

A personal reflection

The news of DRH's death in October has brought much sadness to us but it has also given us a chance to reflect on all he achieved at Papplewick. My first meeting with the Old Boy was at Ascot station as he collected me for my job interview in 1985. The short journey to school was spent sorting out my football allegiance to Liverpool FC and indeed Liverpool FC's chances in the 2019-20 season was one of our main topics of conversation when I visited him for the last time, just before his death.

David had many loves in life: family, music, classic radio comedy, car-boot sales, sport, and computing. Indeed, putting a twist on the old canine saying and apologising for any shortfall he felt he had in his organ technique, he said that his gravestone should read "His Bach was worse than his byte!" That hugely under-estimates his ability on both types of keyboard. I remember hearing him play fiendish pieces with stylish panache, but he would always claim his technique was like someone wearing skies and boxing gloves; perhaps he never realised the pleasure his playing brought to so many. He once said that my Papplewick appointment had been a bad idea as he didn't play the organ now as much as he used to so his technique had got rusty: to a young graduate, it sparkled, impressed and inspired. David had many fine years at Papplewick, taking over from Geoffrey Morgan and then passing the baton onto me some twenty-two years later. As a schoolmaster, he aimed high and could sometimes appear brusque and demanding. He expected boys to work hard and to be proud of all they achieved and never more so than in the Choir performances in some of our greatest buildings, including Westminster Abbey, Salisbury Cathedral and St George's Chapel, Windsor. The repertoire and singing was always cathedral standard: 10-minute anthems would follow challenging settings of the canticles, and this often left the congregation in disbelief that it was a prep school from Ascot and not the resident choir performing. I was certainly proud to play my part at the organ and I never took his firm but polite requests for tweaks in my dynamic level or chosen timbres as criticism – this was DRH in his natural environment. He did not suffer fools either, or to be more correct, he did not suffer those who played the fool and seemed not to care. His approach was old-fashioned and there is something rather reassuring about that. Once he claimed to have written a boy's report which read "Performs entirely to his own satisfaction." I suspect that the following term's report would have read, "He has learnt his lesson and is making good progress...at last!"

On retiring, the Old Boy moved, with his lovely wife Mary, to just outside Worcester where the husband of one of their daughters was Cathedral Organist. He built up various church choirs within his local benefice, and even got me to play for them once: "Ladies and gentlemen," he started the rehearsal, "we are very fortunate to have Gareth playing. He was my assistant at Papplewick and I learnt so much from him." How wrong he was; it was very much the other way round! GJJP

donated an old ship's bell to the School which was originally intended to be rung by the Prefects and Monitors to summon the boys to chapel and to signal the end of each lesson. It was in use for the next forty years. Ian had a nostalgic return to Papplewick in 2016 to the reunion of Old Boys of the 40s, 50s and 60s on Old Boys' Day.



CHRISTOPHER HOLMES

(1955-1959)

Chris passed away in Corfu, Greece in January of 2018.

It is sixty years since Chris and I were good friends at Papplewick, and between then and now we never met. Yet when I learnt of his death I felt a genuine sense of loss. Chris Holmes, or 'Ching' as we knew him, was such

good company. He radiated a bubbly, cheerful joie de vivre that could lift the spirits of those around him. Much could be told about him, stories of his devastating leg-spin googly and those gifts for friends he brought back from Hong Kong where his mum and dad resided, but space only allows mention of his uke, as it encapsulates both man and boy.

My father had always fancied himself as a latter-day George Formby, so when Chris joined us on those Exeat Sundays, he and dad connected brilliantly. Remember those duelling

banjos from the 1972 film *Deliverance*? Well that's dad on Banjolele and Chris on Ukelele... well almost!

But Chris was more than a musician, he was a singer-songwriter. If only I could recall more than this snatch from his multi-verse satirical ditty about the Papplewick staff: "Zachariah Ozanne (Staff 1958) from his dwelling has come to see if he can join in with the fun...."

If you, as I, want to know more about how Chris spent his life and ended his days, thanks to the internet and the brilliant investigatory prowess of Mike Watt (1955-1959), check out these links:

<http://www.moronicox.com/dinner-with-percephone-review.html>
<http://ramsbury.blogspot.com/2006/06/ripdavid-ronald-holmes-kt-cmg-cbe-mc.html> or <https://vimeo.com/busker>

All I can add is that by the end 'Ching' had become 'Confucius', the uke a guitar, and his lyrical skills had matured from 'Zachariah Ozanne...', etc, to: "And the legs on you woman make the preacher lay the good book down."

But for me, Chris was still Chris. RIP.

RHDS



JOHN C HARTONG

(1956-1960)

Gifted singer, cricketer and it won't surprise anyone reading this brief tribute to John "JC" Hartong that this free spirit,

independent thinker and somewhat eccentric chap, lived his life his own way, right up until his death last September.

After Papplewick, he had a very successful time at Hurstpierpoint where he distinguished himself on the tennis court and the rifle range. Following his university time in America, he ended up in Sebastapol, California, where he had a long career as a commercial illustrator, graphic designer and artist. In the 1960s, JC "turned on, tuned in and dropped out"

with a spiritual journey to India, participation in the Summer of Love in San Francisco and protesting at the 1968 Democratic convention in Chicago.

Born in 1946 in Rio de Janeiro, JC was part of a group of about twenty Americans (whose fathers were all Pan Am pilots) who arrived at Papplewick in the early 1950s, helping populate the school for a decade.

For the last twenty years of his life, he focused on painting what might be called "far-out, trippy" landscapes based on dreams, psychedelic experiences and the larger-than-life natural landscapes that surrounded him in Northern California. Many of his US Papplewick contemporaries will be at this year's Old Boys' Day, and J.C. had fully intended to join them.

John's younger brother, Dougie (1961-67, pictured here on the right,) predeceased him in 2013.

MW



ANGUS BAINBRIGGE

(Former Staff 1969-74)

Any Papplewickian who was at the school in the mid-1960s or early 70s will recognise the name and the face, even without the ubiquitous pipe! Angus was a larger-than-life schoolmaster, with a wicked sense

of humour which could often try the patience of authority but give rise to great hilarity in and out of the classroom.

After graduating from Trinity College Dublin, Angus decided to try his hand at accountancy, but when still a young man his life changed for ever, as he inherited a painting by Velazquez, which, after much legal wrangling, he sold to the National Gallery. This provided Angus with financial freedom for the

rest of his life, so he bought a lovely house on the Wentworth Estate and a bright yellow Audi Coupé, decided on a career change and was appointed at Papplewick by PMK-H to teach maths. Angus's lessons were always enlivened by his idiosyncratic approach and mathematical problems featuring fictitious characters whose names bore a striking resemblance to members of the community. He was not usually prone to diplomacy in the staff room, especially if he disagreed with anything; one often witnessed sparkling dialogue between Angus and others, which usually centred around religious fervour, for which he had little time. All who knew or taught with him will have their own memories of Angus, and whether it was as a gifted teacher of maths, rugby coach or as a colleague, it is impossible to remember him with anything other than affection – and a wry smile!

PRC



IAN BELL

(Former Staff 1976-80)

Gifted singer, cricketer and table-tennis supremo, military historian, modeller and chef extraordinaire, Ian Bell was a genuinely all-round schoolmaster. I shared a flat with

Ian in the so-called 'new building' in the late 1970s and I would often be aware, from the aromas emanating from the kitchen, that he was cooking up another exotic curry, of which I was often invited to partake! Ian had little patience with the recidivist, but he was always fair and supportive of any pupil or colleague to whom he felt an injustice had been done. Nor was he keen on what he regarded as educational nonsense, dismissing classroom displays as 'vandal-fodder' and expressing great frustration at any kind of

marketing that contained anything other than correct spelling and grammar. ('Beanz meanz Heinz' was a particular irritation!)

His passion, however, was for the choral tradition of the cathedral world; he joined Pappplewick after qualifying as a teacher at Durham where he had been a lay clerk in the cathedral choir, and he ended his days as a lay clerk in the choir of Worcester Cathedral, where he had become a very popular and greatly respected member of the community.

As a sportsman, Ian was more than competent, even if his bowling action was somewhat unusual and his table tennis prowess bore considerable resemblance to an Olympic player, as he hurled his not unsubstantial frame around the hall!

Although Ian's time at Papplewick was relatively brief, there will be many who will owe him a great debt of appreciation. He never married, but he was close to his family and we offer them our condolences.

PRC

OLD BOYS' NEWS

Edward Andrew - achieved 3A*s and an A at his A levels in Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Further Maths respectively last summer at Radley and started studying at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, reading Chemistry in September.

William Andrew, on the back of D1, D2, D3, D3 pre-U results (equivalent to A*+, A*, A, A in Physics, Maths, Chemistry and Further Maths) is now in his second year reading Physics at Durham, having taking a year off after his Pre-Us to work in a research lab at Culham Science Park with novel battery makers, Oxis Energy.

Charles Atkinson (1970-74) was head boy in his final year at Papplewick before going on to Wellington. He was appointed at the end of September 2019 as head of institutional client management for Europe at RBC Capital Markets. He is no stranger to responsibility for after attending the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, he served as a tank commander with the Royal Hussars for six years before joining UBS. He has since held managing director roles at Bear Stearns, JP Morgan and, until May last year, Nomura.

Ruben, Ryan and Robert Banks (2013) - Ruben has been working hard both academically, where he has achieved a 4.1 GPA, and athletically at the throwing events where, at the time of writing, he was rated #1 hammer thrower in the USA. He has received a full scholarship from the University of Arkansas.

Robbie is at the University of Cincinnati as a Pre Med student and will transfer to Dartmouth College this summer. He is still playing Div 1 Basketball. **Ryan** currently still has one more school year to do, at Kimball Union Prep School NH.



Jojo Regan, Will Cowley, Will Harrison, Ranbir Singh and guest back for Old Boys' Day last year.

Ward Buckingham (1952-55) has published three books over the past four years. The first is about his younger brother who was victim of a drunk driving accident and very severely burned before he was thirty. He subsequently went on to speak throughout North America for thirty-two years on personal responsibility and drugs and driving.

Ward's second book was about his Father, who after many years as a senior Pan Am captain, went on to be a key player in the 1970s' transformation of how US airlines and the FAA regulators dealt with alcohol dependent airline pilots.

Ward's third book is a memoir/devotional about events from his own life.

Edward Carter (1977-80) has now moved to the heart of Norwich where he is the Vicar at St Peter Mancroft Church.

Jamie Chandler (2009) went to Harrow after Papplewick and graduated last year from Bristol with a first in Cancer Biology and Immunology with Study in Industry. He was looking for research assistant roles focussed on immunology to get more experience

Hope for Challenged Airline Pilots

An Untold Success Story

Ward Buckingham



Ward Buckingham's book about his Father

and was hoping to secure a PhD programme for this year.

Finlay Dunning was awarded the Spicer Prize for Theology and Philosophy in his final year at Harrow.

Richard Griffiths (1962-68) was honoured to be awarded with the Music Industry Trusts award last November and this was presented to him by **Richard Curtis (1965-70)** at the dinner celebrating the award.



Leo Hadjisavaas, Kenneth Panteleev, Ramses Cottle, Christopher Lee and William Woodward in their final year at Eton - 2019

James Haskell (1992-98) has retired from playing rugby, having gained 77 caps for England. He took part in 'I'm a Celebrity, get me out of here' last November and December. **Dominic Ivison (2003-08)** spent some months living in Berlin, having gained sponsorship from the Axel Springer/Porsche Foundation.

Cuthbert Kendall (1987-93) has written in to say how sorry he was to hear that Enid Vose had died. "I am sure that when one recalls memories of Papplewick back in the 80s and early 90s as a boarder, Enid's care for all the boys really sticks out. While she could be stern when needed, she had an almost 'grand-motherly' approach that was particularly reassuring to a young boy away from home, especially when one was stuck in sick bay unwell, or upset for one reason or another. I saw her a few times at Chobham cricket club after she had retired and she was always very happy and cheery. She will be missed by many."

Cuthbert says he is still working at Barclays, where he's been for twelve and a half years, leading the team that looks after Equity Capital Markets and broader capital markets regulation. He has two daughters aged seven and five.



Mhina Mhina with his wife and two children.

Aidan Kendall (1988-95) has had a second daughter to go with her four and a half year old elder sister. He continues to work at Wavemaker, part of the WPP group, on the south bank at Southwark, but a couple of years ago he moved to Banbury so he has a long commute.

Wilf La Fontaine Jackson and **Zain Malik** have been playing some good cricket at Winchester, scoring their maiden centuries there at the beginning of May (112 and 101 respectively), as opening batsmen in a 35 over match against Dauntseys. They put on 237 off 31 overs. Winchester Yearlings played St Edwards Oxford later in the term, which proved a happy reunion for Wilf and Zain for they met up with **Ted Cole**, **Egor Varivoda** and **Sam Morris** who were playing for Teddies. In June, Wilf captained Hampshire to a comprehensive U14 win against a Millfield U16 side, where he was run out on 99. It seems he took his disappointment out on Eton the following Thursday with a score of 108 not out.

Antonio Lantero (1993-99) lives and works in Marbella. He is the General Manager at a private country golf club.

Ignacio Lantero (1993-95) lives in Munich with his German wife Constanze and their two daughters. As a documentary producer and director he is hoping to do a motion picture sometime in the near future. They often return to Spain as they have a lovely house by the sea. The youngest Lantero brother, **Cristóbal (2002-04)**, is living and working in Madrid.



Danny Price, Michael and Blair Taberer, Robbie Thomas and Philip Taberer in South Africa

Mhina Mhina (1998-2000) and his brother **Philip** own a private logistics company together with their mother. He keeps in touch with **Freddie Sherlock** and **Musa Daura** on facebook.

Kenneth Pantelev did very well in his A levels at Eton, coming away with 4A*s. He is now at Imperial, where he is happy and enthusiastic reading Biomedical Engineering.

Yusuf Perwaz did very well at Cheltenham last year, gaining a Head's Award for Outstanding Commitment. The day of presentation is something of an ordeal to have to face as it takes a good deal of hard work and determination to give a talk in front of an audience of over 1,600 parents, pupils, staff and friends.

Danny Price (1997-2003) wrote in at the end of last year to say that he and **Robbie Thomas (1991-98)** recently met up in South Africa when they were in Cape Town at the same time and enjoyed an impromptu reunion with the Taberer family on their estate there. Robbie was in South Africa for the week and Danny was there on business. Danny tells us that both **Philip (1996-2003)** and **Michael Taberer (1992-97)** live in South Africa and now run the Taberer estate (wine and horse stud farm). Their elder brother **Blair (1992-96)** lives down the road and is an entrepreneur, running his own Africa trade finance company and still singing and doing gigs. Michael has three young children and Philip became engaged in 2019 with plans to get married this year. Robbie, who is also married and has a baby called Finn, is taking on a new job in insurance.



Zain Malik and Wilf La Fontaine Jackson scored well at Dauntseys last year

Mike Purcell (1965-69) and his wife Olga continue to grow their property portfolio from their London home overlooking the Thames. He says they are about to start their next exciting venture - the refurbishment of a dilapidated old barn in France that sits in the centre of a tiny hamlet inside a National Park. Due to the barn having two-foot (600mm) thick walls and an earth floor, they plan to haul over a seven metre long caravan to their French barn in order to supervise the build and probably roll up their sleeves and get stuck in as well.

Richard Purcell (1963-68) has handed over the running of the old family business and stepped aside into a quieter pace of life. He is now a semi-retired businessman spending his time with his wife in London growing grapes in the garden, then back over to Wales to his home in Caernarfon overlooking the harbour.

Tim (1965-69) and Chris Purcell (1966-71) continue to live in America and watch their children develop their careers. They both have lakeside homes on the same lake so the boys continue to be competitive fishermen when out fishing together. In addition Chris brews a very mean brew in his cellar and Tim has got into bee keeping in a modest way. Both are in great shape and doing well.



Yusuf Perwaz, William Bovill, Alex Fergal and Harry Bunbury

Jacob Roskrow took his GCSEs at Winchester last year scoring the top grade in all ten subjects. After this he spent four weeks travelling through several European countries indulging his love for all things military - lots of museums and monuments etc. He loved every minute of it. Now back at work he is studying geography, history, biology and maths at pre-u level.

Tariq Sinnetamby (2014) did well in his final years at Winchester where he worked hard without letting that affect his extra-curricular activities. He won an academic scholarship and achieved three D2s in his Cambridge Pre-Us. As a result he has qualified for a place at Trinity College, Oxford, to read English.

Wen Tan (1983-86) After Papplewick he went to Harrow, and then moved on to read geography at Sidney Sussex Cambridge. He started his career at KPMG where he qualified as a chartered accountant before moving into investment banking in the City. He eventually returned to Asia in 2002, though to Hong Kong rather than KL, given the former's de facto status as the financial capital of Asia, and has been there ever since. For the past fifteen years he has been in the investment management world and it has also been a busy time personally, having married back in 2009; he says he is now constantly exhausted by his five year old son and two year old daughter.



Richard Kim, Aakash Gupta, Alex Wisbey, Andrew Russell, Ally Calder, Miles Bishop, Mark Burley and Sam Russell at Eton

Rory Tanner (2005-08) graduated from Nottingham with a BA in English and American Literature three years ago and now works in policy and lobbying after two years working in the House of Commons.

Edward Whipp (1986-91) graduated from London City University and is a chartered accountant, working mostly from home. He is married and living on the Isle of Wight, where he has been for some five years.

Charlie Whipp (1988-93) went to Sherborne after leaving Papplewick and moved to Cats in Cambridge for his final year before reading law in London. He began practising law at home on the Isle of Man before moving back to London. He subsequently moved out of law and bought a pub on the island while embarking on other business enterprises. He is married with one daughter.

Henry Whipp (1988-93) was also at Sherborne after Papplewick before moving on to Edinburgh University to read Geography. From there he went to London where he worked as a chartered surveyor for Strutts for several years. He then moved to Auckland, NZ, where he enrolled at Auckland University for a year doing a post graduate teaching course. He is now teaching in a girls' school in the city. He lives in a house by the beach and loves it there, married with two sons aged nine and seven.



Pogo Parvatneneni and Dara Fagbemi playing for King's Canterbury and Tonbridge respectively

Ex Staff News

Paul Cheater (1973-89) continues to keep occupied as tutor/mentor at Milton Abbey and also at teaching the piano and organ to a handful of students. He runs his local village choir, which is doing very well. He says that he misses his tri-annual recitals at Sherborne Abbey, which he gave up last year.

Gareth Price (1986-2002), Director of Music (1998-2002) has been working very hard for several years towards a PhD and he is to be congratulated on his success. The doctorate addressed the issues of playing French organ music of the 1920s/30s on British instruments with their different sounds, different layouts of consoles, different expectations in terms of their use within worship and, often, simply the fundamental difference of the position for the organ within a building. It included a performance element which was a 90 minute recital demonstrating what he had learnt and applying it in a concert which took place at Llandaff Cathedral.



Dr Gareth Price

More Reminiscences

Richard Smith (1952-56), who last year sent in an article about the production of *HMS Pinafore*, has written in with some reminiscences from the past, based on recent contributions of other Old Boys of the '50s. He said that **Tony Bearman (1948-55)** had contacted him about the *Pinafore* in which he had acted and Tony had added, "The only other production I recall is *Toad of Toad Hall* where I played the front end of the horse, equipped with a battery to flash its eyes and a pump with French chalk to snort out of its nostrils!" Richard refers to the incident **Mike Stone (1953-57)** mentioned in the last newsletter about the caretaker killing and eating rabbits before stoking the coke furnace in the morning. Richard says he knew the coke furnaces well. "The school at this time seemed to have some problem recruiting and retaining a caretaker. My friend **Peter George (1955)**

and I used to watch the caretaker tend to the boilers. The procedures involved removing the ash, shovelling in the coke, setting the air vents and dampers, and, most dramatic of all, hooking out the red-hot clinker when necessary. At a time when the school had no caretaker Peter and I volunteered to do the boiler stoking job. We said we had watched to see what was necessary and to our surprise we were actually allowed to do it – without supervision. This involved the boilers in not only the main school but in the Lodge and Cottage as well. We 'kept the home fires burning' for several days until the arrival of a new caretaker. I seem to remember that we had more than one episode of boiler maintenance to deal with and Health and Safety just didn't seem to come into these 'exciting' employments! Such enterprises came under the 'catch-all' of 'Pioneering', one of our regular activities.

"On this theme of Pioneering, some years ago in 'The Old Papplewickian' Tony Bearman had recalled that on the 'new field' before the roller was put into use, all the stones had to be removed by the 'chain gangs' filling baskets with stones. Richard doesn't remember whether the chain gangs were conscripts or volunteers but a huge amount of outdoor labour was done by boy-power at great saving to the school expenses. "Pioneering also involved the removal of tree stumps outside the area near The Lodge. The work was supervised by two members of staff, Trevor Martin and Howard Clough and involved the use of a hand powered winch which I believe was called a Monkey winch. A steel cable was wrapped around a nearby standing tree to secure the winch while a further steel cable from the winding drum of the winch was passed around the stump which was to be removed. Two boys then swung the operating lever back and forth which, via a ratchet mechanism, slowly turned the winding drum. Numerous stumps were removed in this way and very satisfying work it was too. "We used The Trolley to transport the felled tree trunks which were sawn into logs by Howard Clough with a huge, as I remember it, two handed saw. He was on one end and a boy or couple of boys on the other, always with a team of replacement, willing volunteers. No chain saw in those days. How he was able to cope with individuals of limited reach and strength on the other end of his saw I really don't know. Neither do I know where all the hundreds of logs sawn ended up. There were far too many to be used only on the open fires of members of staff. Perhaps there was another school cash-raising enterprise in the firewood business."



Pioneering Activity – Brick Making

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Outdoor Education

The penultimate week in the Summer Term saw Year 8 off on Leavers' Camp and the rest of the school getting the opportunity to do some hard work for up to three days, experiencing all that the outdoors has to offer. The youngest years were introduced to the basics of survival outdoors such as how to make shelters and how to make a fire. Those a bit older got to test their skills on climbing walls and rope walks while the next year focused for a couple of days on teamwork and taking part in a range of activities from the Zip Line to the very scary tunnels, navigating in small, dark spaces. This led to an all out experience for the next group, which demonstrated through the outdoors how teamwork and leadership can be combined to solve problems and achieve goals. The Year 7 boys experienced survival at a tougher level, learning how to prepare fish and then how to cook it on their fires. Mapping and navigation skills were also covered, with the main theme of the trip being leadership.



Mrs Magrath with Welsh support on European Day

The Olympic Park Geography Trip 2019

As part of the Year 7 syllabus the boys are challenged to consider their carbon footprint, not only on an individual level, but also to see how development can be sustainable in industry and construction on a larger scale. This year they again visited the Olympic Park and East Village to investigate whether they thought the site had actually been successful in its mission; to see first-hand the old gas pipes that had been used for the Olympic Stadium, the gabions filled with rubble from the old buildings, the biodiversity corridor that has been constructed and the multiple other ways the area endeavours to be environmentally friendly and sustainable. The boys took the 76m high lift up to the top of the Orbit and saw the incredible 360 degree view of London from the viewing platform. This will be a trip that Year 7 remembers for a while and hopefully they will be able to use their knowledge in the future.

The Kart Club 2019

This summer Papplewick sent three go-karting teams to race at two Greenpower Educational Trust organised events. The electric karts were designed and constructed by the boys in their afternoon activity sessions by three Year 6 teams, who raced them against dozens of others. All teams were required to compete in six drag races, six slalom races and in the final

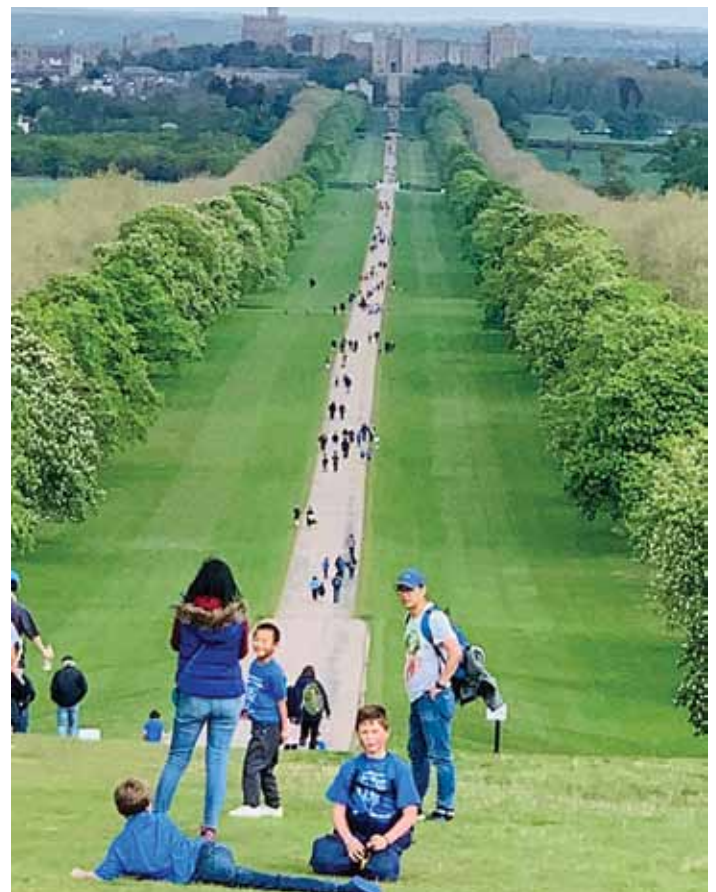


Wilf La Fontaine Jackson, Ted Cole, Egor Varivoda, and Zain Malik meet up for the Winchester vs St. Edward's, Oxford, match

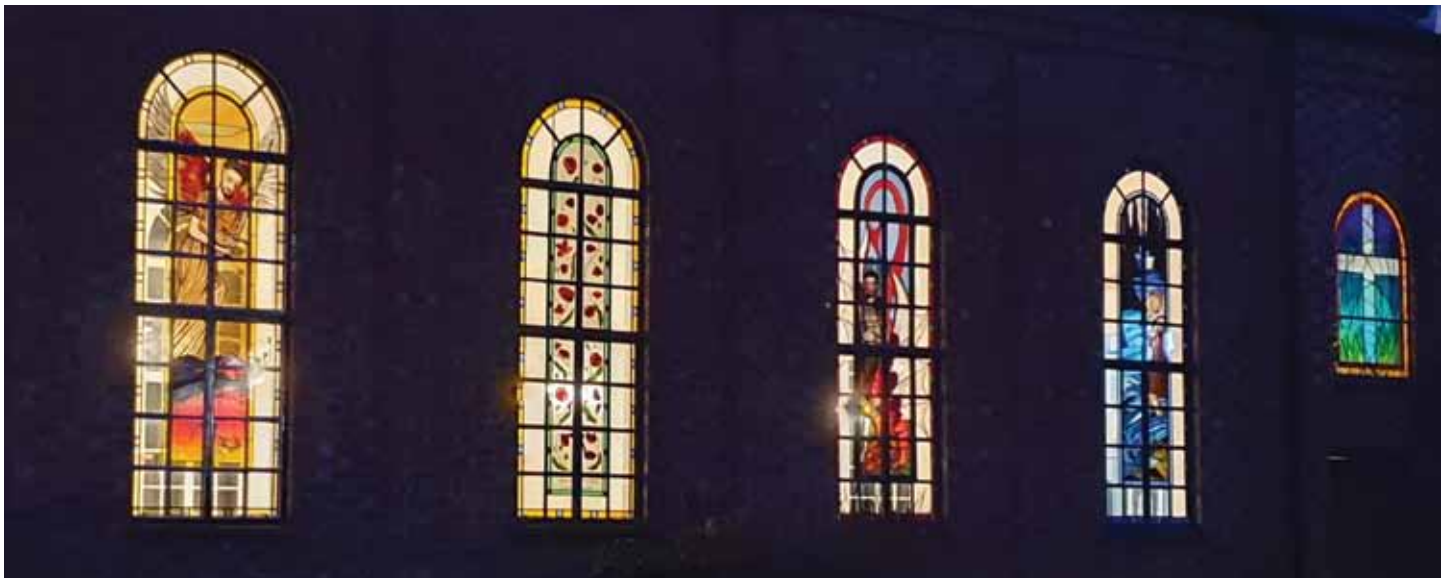
elimination race – 'The race of Champions'. Despite not winning many trophies, the boys can be proud of their driving skills and their impressive teamwork.

Taekwondo Team Demonstration

Around eighty-five young South Korean students known as the Taeroes visited Papplewick in November last year. They were there to demonstrate their skills in Taekwondo, the traditional South Korean martial art. Taeroes stands for Taekwondo Heroes Team, which has 5,000 members in South Korea, China and the USA. The group has performed Taekwondo in over seventy countries around the world. Their demonstrations aim to provide a cultural experience about South Korea, in particular to support South Korean children who come to the UK for their education.



Sponsored Walk 2019, on the way to Windsor Castle



Papplewick chapel windows

Papplewick features once again in *The Tatler Good Schools Guide 2020!*

“The main criteria for admission to joyful Papplewick is character. Head Tom Bunbury is actively looking to recruit kind boys who fit in with the ethos of the school, where all the staff are excited to be teaching and guiding boys to their next stage of life. Every sporting ability is catered for and staff are careful to find a sport to suit the abilities of every boy. Science is particularly inspirational, aided by the legendary herpetology club (the study of amphibians and reptiles), and boys continue to love the subject once they head off to schools such as Eton (one with a King’s Scholarship in 2018) and Winchester after a highly anticipated leavers’ trip to the South of France.”

Papplewick’s Got Talent 2019

This year’s show was a great one, with plenty of fine performances and with the usual wide range of acts. Among the best included one boy showing us all how to recycle and another singing a song from *Hamilton*, acting as the rather eccentric King George III. All the competitors did themselves proud and left us in no doubt that Papplewick still in fact does have talent! However the gold medal act which most impressed the judges was the group which sang *These Days*.

Ski Trip to Alpe d’Huez

With a monstrous ninety-one in the party, we took to the slopes in five groups and made the resort our own. The conditions were near-tropical, with temperatures rising to over 10c by the late morning and staying there until sundown. Under the superb tutelage of our instructors all boys made incredible improvements, meaning that by the end of the week all but the novice group were able to tackle La Sarenne, Europe’s longest black run, at 16km. Well done to all who came on the trip.

Henry V

Last year’s group of Papplewick Players, made up of Year 7 and Year 8 boys, put on Shakespeare’s *Henry V* in the Summer Term. The play is a swashbuckling romp through 15th Century Normandy, that culminates in the Battle of Agincourt, an English victory that still resonates today. The lead role was played with understated aplomb and successfully captured the shrewd and determined character of the English King. The cast

of twenty-one, resplendent in period costume, trod the boards - a simple stage with Gothic flats - with great enthusiasm and were nigh on word perfect, reciting their difficult lines in true Shakespearean fashion.

Arts Festival 2019 – ‘Imagination’

The annual Arts Festival during the last week of the Lent Term was another huge success, with all aspects of the arts being celebrated around the theme ‘Imagination.’ The week produced finalists for all of the different arts, ranging from poetry and spoken word to music and debating and on the final day of the Festival all the boys had the opportunity to experience a range of different activities based on the Festival theme. These ranged from ballet and judo to street dance and bubble making workshops. In the evening there was the final celebration of the week with the Variety Show, with all of the week’s winners on stage, with a few special acts included. This was another fantastic show and a great way to finish a week which had celebrated all that the arts have to offer.

Singers’ Successes

In January two boys won through to the Berkshire Young Singer of the Year Finals, one qualifying in the Folk Finals and the other in the Classical Finals to be held in March as part of the Windsor Festival.



Congratulations to Mark and Katie Burley on the safe arrival of a baby sister for Leo



These boys won the Rosslyn Park Prep School Sevens Tournament in 1954. Does anyone know who their opposition was, in the front line?

Football

First XI - Played 18, Won 11, Drew 2, Lost 5. Won Hall Grove Tournament

The 1st XI Football Team has had a very good season and can be very pleased with both the performances and the results they have achieved. They have gone from strength to strength and without fail gave high intensity performances on match days. Training has been intense and productive and the boys have maximised the time available in order to develop and improve as much as possible. There has been a huge emphasis on technical ability in order to improve every player's confidence on the ball. The boys have also worked on individual and isolated skills such as dribbling, passing, shooting, control, turning and heading. This season will serve the Year 7 boys well for next year when they move to the top of the school.

Cricket

First XI - Played 10, Won 4, Tied 1, Lost 5

This was a rather varied season with the desolation of the Edgeborough defeat being raised by the jubilation of the Lambrook victory and the not really knowing how to feel about the tie in the final game against Hall Grove. On the whole it was the bowling that was our strength, with the opening bowlers making the break through and the later ones putting the squeeze on – backed up by some good fielding. The highlight of the season was our victory over Lambrook. Batting first on a wet pitch, we started slowly, before making the most of some slightly wayward bowling with a stand of 64. From here we didn't quite accelerate as much as we would have liked to, leaving us on 129/5 from 25 overs. This score was about par and gave us something to defend. We started again tightly, with one bowler getting two quick wickets and we continued by keeping the rate down, with the bowling well backed up by the fielders, with two important run outs which saw us over the

line. Our performance was pretty close to the blueprint for how to play, having batted sensibly but positively and then tried to accelerate towards the end with wickets in hand. With the ball we tried to avoid giving them any easy runs, and the dot balls built up the pressure, which brought the wickets. It was an aesthetically pleasing victory.

The USA and B teams once again both did well, winning all four of their matches.

Rugby

U13 A - Played 19, Won 10, Drew 2, Lost 7

In retrospect one could say that what made this a successful season was not so much because results were better than anticipated as the fact that every player thoroughly enjoyed himself, stayed motivated, worked hard in training and improved his skill and fitness levels through sheer hard work. The season had its lows – losing 70-0 to Cheam away in driving rain – and its highs - a hard fought victory at home over local rivals, and hitherto nemesis, Lambrook, which will go down in the books as one of the greats! The boys will hopefully go on to their public schools with an ingrained love for rugby.



Ben Smith-Bannister, Manvir Dhaliwal, Sehaj Dhaliwal and Yusuf Perwaz .



Will Harrison, Jojo Regan and Will Cowley waiting to bat against the HM's team

Swimming

The swimming team began its summer campaign with a triangular fixture against Lambrook and Sunningdale. The hosts, Lambrook, continued to reign supreme but we managed to hold off Sunningdale once again, snatching second place from them in the final race of the day. What a nail-biter! In this match there were some excellent races swum by some of our youngest competitors.

In the next away match Papplewick kept within touching distance of the always strong Caldicott team largely through fine swimming by one of our own boys who had a good day. The final result saw us come a much more respectable second this year, 109 points to 129.

The Aldro fixture was very close and the lead swapped between the two schools four times during the afternoon. In the Heathfield match the girls put our Year 7 and 8 swimmers through their paces in the final fixture of our season, largely because of the fact that we needed five Year 5 and 6 boys helping us out, due to a dearth of Year 7 swimmers.

Athletics

Unfortunately the dreadful weather conditions from April through to July hampered both training and, subsequently, performances for the vast majority of our athletes. However, there were a few shining lights poking out from behind the ever-present rainclouds. There were two juniors in their first season's running, one of whom threw himself into everything on offer, frequently finding the podium, while the other's gold-bronze double at the West Surrey's was exceptional. The Year Five boys also look strong coming through, with three good sprinters making a handy trio - one short of an exceptional relay quartet. The next year up also had some very keen, handy performers, with one in particular who tried, and usually succeeded, at everything, and was a breath of fresh air with his positive approach to competition. Another was a very competent jumper, who should develop well next season and yet another demonstrated real ability showing that he could well be the next Spanish middle distance maestro. But it was the current Year 7 athletes who shone brightest with one winning two West Surrey silver medals before coming fourth - the most frustrating position to finish - at the National Championships later in Birmingham. And the sprint relay quartet produced some blistering displays in the relay, winning gold at the West

Surreys and missing out on gold by 0.08 of a second in the Nationals. Their disappointment said it all: these boys are not happy with second place. Let's see what next year brings.

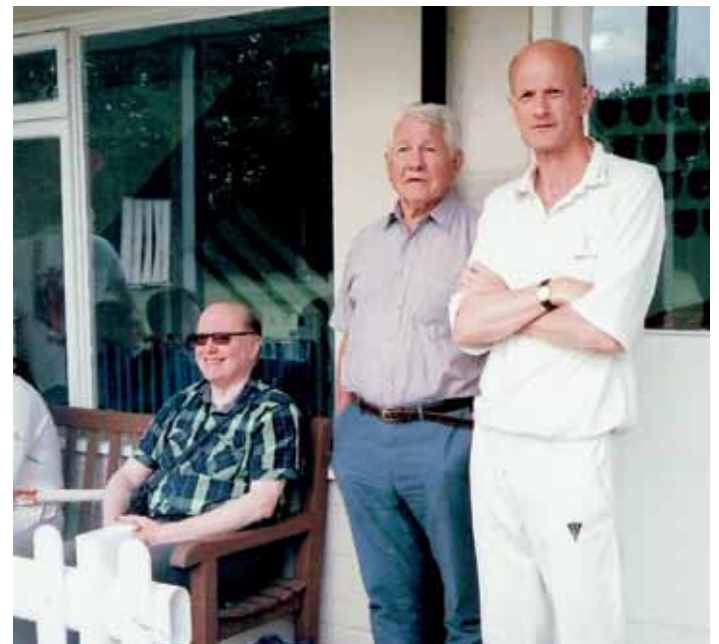
Golf

The Papplewick golfers have had an excellent year of golf. With regular lessons at The Windlesham Golf Club, The Bird Hills Golf Academy and at The Berkshire, as well as practising on the school's putting green and with matches against other schools, the boys' golfing skills have certainly improved considerably. This year some of our golfers have also represented Papplewick in ISGA competitions at Radley and Wellington. The golf team's highlight was undoubtedly their away winning performance against Ludgrove where the team played with impressive composure whilst exhibiting appropriate golfing etiquette.

St Christopher's were winners of the House Golf Competition, played at Sunningdale Heath.

Basketball

The Papplewick Pistons had another wonderful season with more boys than ever representing the school and displaying their skills in a few fast and furious fixtures. The boys from Years 5 - 8 who make up the 1st and Colts teams enjoy training once a week; for many they are rookies, learning new skills for the first time.



The Headmaster talking to Peter Scoble (1948-51) and Augur Pearce (1964-70)

Tennis

Under 13 - Won 0, Drew 0, Lost 4

It wasn't the easiest time for the senior side who came up against some tough opposition and struggled to get the victories that they deserved. There were a lot of tight matches and on another day they could have gone another way. Despite the rather disappointing results, the boys should hold their heads up high.

Under 11 - Won 1, Drew 2, Lost 1

The under 11s had a good season on the courts and played some encouraging tennis. There were a lot of close matches and they could have won even more with a bit of luck. It was great to see a number of Year 5 boys playing a side up, hopefully meaning the future is bright for next year. Our No 1 pair finished the season playing some excellent tennis.



Old Boys' Day cricket teams 2019

OLD BOYS' DAY 2019

The poor weather at the start of the Old Boys' cricket match against the Headmaster's XI last year meant a late start, but in less than an hour the Old Boys' team were out in the field, the sun emerged and it stayed hot for the remainder of the day.

Our bowlers proved less effective than in recent years against a strong HM's team, in spite of the efforts of Ranvir Singh, Sehaj Dhaliwal and Alexander Bovill who took a couple of wickets apiece. Sadly the Old Boys put down too many catches with the result that runs kept coming as the HM's team brought its total to a close at 225-9.

When the Old Boys batted they never really got off the mark. The opposition bowlers kept a tight grip on the game with the result that there were few long batting partnerships from the Old Boys, though William Bovill's innings of 35 gave us hope when he was at the crease. But only four of our batsmen reached double figures, which resulted in our being dismissed for 124 - 102 short of the target.

In spite of the margin of the defeat it was an enjoyable game both to watch and play and the spectators were well entertained. It was also a pleasant surprise to welcome back Peter Scoble, who was a boy at Papplewick between the years 1948-51. In the 1970s he joined the Governing Body, serving two stints as Chairman, then and again in the '90s.

OLD BOYS' DAY 2020 Sun. July 5

At the moment of going to press it is impossible to publicise any definitive plans for this year's Old Boys' Day. The School is hoping to be back in the classrooms some time before the end of term and we are therefore making plans for the possibility of some sort of activity on 5th July. The practicability of such an activity will become clearer as the term progresses and we can only say at this stage that we shall keep you informed of progress on the Old Boys' page of the website (www.papplewick.org.uk). Just click on About Papplewick and Old Boys

Old Boys who left Papplewick in 2010, ten years on from leaving the School, are particularly invited on this day and you will be receiving a personal invitation with this newsletter. If we get the 'go-ahead', do come if you can, perhaps arriving in time for something to eat. It will be good to meet up with your contemporaries, watch some cricket and have a look around the School once again.

Good Idea

At the end of August last year Mike Watt (1955-59) sent in an email saying, "This is an early-forming idea, but I am thinking about trying to round up that 1958 seven-a-side rugby team that Roger Smith sent in to the Newsletter in 2008 and get them to come to a reunion at Papplewick next year. Is this possible?"



Mike Watt is organising the reunion of 1950s Old Boys

At the time such a suggestion seemed far from possible, but Mike stuck to his guns and has worked on it tirelessly since August from his home in the USA. Such was his success that amazingly he managed to locate all those who played in the Sevens team, not to mention many others of his contemporaries from as far away as Seattle and New Zealand, and persuaded them to agree to come in principle and revisit their School of sixty years ago on this Old Boys' Day – July 5th.

Unfortunately a cruel stroke of misfortune, in the shape of the coronavirus pandemic, has seen to it that all Mike's hard work has come to nought for this year, with the result that former arrangements have had to be abandoned. However, such great enthusiasm for the reunion has been aroused over the past nine months that plans are now afoot not to cancel but merely to postpone it by a year, and we now greatly look forward to hosting the event at Papplewick in 2021 on July 11th. We hope to see you there. It will be worth the wait.