

# The Old Papplewickian

— No. 13 — 2013 —



## THE HEADMASTER WRITES

Old Boys who have visited the school since our new Front Entrance Hall was completed in September 2012 have all commented on how this new development, located in the heart of the school, has given Papplewick a completely new 'feel'...and I'm delighted to say that this seems to have been in an entirely positive way! However, Papplewick will always be more about people than buildings, and it is in this spirit that we are keen to continue to develop our links with Old Boys over the coming twelve months. The launch of an official Old Boys Facebook site is now imminent - I hope this will enable the school to organise social evenings for Old Boys in London while also helping Old Boys to network more easily amongst yourselves. A reunion for the first major overseas rugby tour to New Zealand in 1994 will take place at Papplewick in the summer, together with a reunion in Madrid for our Spanish families in May. We also intend to hold our first Old Boys versus Staff football match in the autumn although it may disappoint some of you that a similar rugby fixture is still some way off! With the school in good heart, I hope such events will only help to strengthen the bond between Old Boys and Papplewick, and the school was in no better heart than in 2012 when senior boys won thirteen scholarships, including two academic scholarships to Eton and one to Winchester amongst a record haul of seven academic scholarships in total. As ever,



*The Headmaster in Seoul for the Korean reunion last year, talking to Simon Kim (2004-06).*

do please drop in whenever you feel inspired to do so – Sallie and I would be absolutely delighted to see you either at Papplewick or at one of the forthcoming social events during the course of the next twelve months.



*The new Foyer, built last year, has been a great success*

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## SPEECH DAY 2012

In his report on the 2011-12 year at Papplewick, the Headmaster fastened on a comment made by Mark Twain, who once said, 'All you need in this life is ignorance and confidence, and then success is sure.' Tom Bunbury concentrated on the second of the two needs: "If there was one quality for life I would want to build in our boys, it would have to be confidence. If all the right ingredients are in place, and if they are all perfectly balanced and in tune with one another, a confidence can be built in our young men that will undoubtedly provide an unshakeable rock upon which success really is sure. And I hope it is one of Papplewick's most attractive features that the school manages to build that confidence and does so without self-confidence ever tipping over into arrogance."

The Headmaster went on to highlight what he considered to be the key ingredients that go into building such confidence, starting with his certainty that success breeds confidence both collectively and individually: there had been no better example of that at Papplewick during the past year than on the academic front, from an outstanding group of Year 8 boys. In winning seven academic scholarships to the very top schools in the country, this group of boys had certainly set a new record for Papplewick in its 64 year history. And the Headmaster hoped they would also have inspired year groups below them to even greater heights in years to come.



Amber

The Common Entrance candidates also had harvested a glut of A grades in their recent exams. Two boys had achieved an unprecedented eleven and twelve A grades respectively in Common Entrance to no lesser school than Tonbridge. It was important, however, that such academic success should not be achieved in a pressure cooker atmosphere. A balanced approach was key in this and the Headmaster said that 2011-12 had been another tremendous year in the art department, with remarkable work from all year groups on display in the hall and fabulous portfolios put together by the scholarship boys. Tom Bunbury singled out in particular the work of one boy who had submitted a portrait of his dog, Amber, in a portfolio which won an art scholarship to Radley.



*'Ebenezer', the 2011 Christmas Musical*

All the Arts had met with similar success, with opportunities for all boys to perform, mainly for its own sake, and to entertain, but critically, too, in the building of self-confidence. The Headmaster said he could not remember a year when there had been more drama, with enterprising productions from all year groups at Papplewick. There had been another very professional production with the girls of St. Mary's, Ascot, this time of 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe', and the brilliant extravaganza, 'Ebenezer', which was the year's Christmas musical.

The musicians had had another wonderful year, with two fantastic concerts, singing in chapel that was commented on by two visiting preachers as being the best they had ever heard in prep schools, and three music award winners, one of whose success completed an unprecedented hat-trick of scholarships for him to Uppingham.

The Headmaster thanked the parents for all the support that they had given to the school over the year, stemming from the special relationship that existed at Papplewick between parents and staff, which he valued so much. He cited the activities they had been involved in – the Hog Roast, the Father/Sons' Camp Out, the Christmas Fair, the Sponsored Walk, the Staff/ Fathers' cricket match, Grandparents' Day, the Golf between Staff and



*The Choir lining up to process into Chapel*

Fathers, and of course the splendid Summer Ball. And above all, the new Front Entrance and Hall, so generously funded by the support of parents, which he hoped would only strengthen the relationship between parents and staff.

The Headmaster considered that broad horizons also bred confidence and that Papplewick was facing up to the increasingly international environment presented by the outside world, both in its mix and in its touring culture. "Overseas sporting tours bring success, measured not just on the field but also with the opportunities which travel brings for the boys to maintain Facebook contact with the families who host them, thousands of miles away perhaps. The Year 7 trip to Burgundy, the Ski Trip, the Leavers' Camp, and of course the unique and incomparable Kids for Africa offer the same confidence-building opportunities."

The Headmaster paid tribute to the whole Staff team. "Staff are instrumental in inculcating in the boys the fundamental values of honesty, integrity, compassion, empathy, decency, and kindness which will make them successful in later life as human beings, as contributing members of society, as husbands and as fathers. Of all those values, you know that we place a huge emphasis here at Papplewick on kindness; and I believe kindness is unlikely to occur without an inner confidence, or conversely, an unkind boy is never one who is really confident in who he is."

Tom Bunbury ended his speech by talking about boarding, which he considered a great confidence-builder. "Boarding provides boys with an intense sense of belonging – a belonging that says 'We've been happy together and now we can go out



*Fathers and sons camping out*

into the world or on to our senior schools full of confidence.' Mark Twain once said, 'Cauliflower is nothing but cabbage with a College education'. After a Papplewick education, armed with a Papplewick education and all the confidence that comes with it, I hope that our boys only ever leave us as cauliflowers, like the particularly outstanding group of Year 8 cauliflowers whose company we've had the privilege to enjoy this year."



*The Scholars of 2012*

## SCHOOL NEWS

*"Papplewick staff knows that self-esteem comes from competence not compliments – they understand that self-esteem is built by inspiring boys to be good at something, and not by handing out the mindless praise that comes at the worst end of those 'everyone's a winner' cultures. With such staff about, it always makes it doubly sad to say goodbye at this time of year, but I do so at least safe in the knowledge that the next generation of inspirational Papplewick staff is ready and raring to join us in September."*

*Speech Day 2012*

**Jo Magrath** is leaving Papplewick for the second time. Her first was in 2007 after fifteen years as an inspirational Year 3 form teacher and an exceptional games coach to the youngest boys, teaching them the elements of rugby and cricket, and nurturing in them a love for games. Jo now leaves once again, after a further four years as a quite outstanding teacher of Common Entrance English and History, as well as being the ultimate confidence booster in her one-on-one extra tuition capacity. She has given Papplewick so much, but this time she really is off for good, moving to Cheltenham with her husband Des, also one of Papplewick's greatest supporters, to be closer to her parents. A more loyal member of staff it would be hard to find and if anyone has Papplewick Blue racing through their veins, it would undoubtedly have to be Jo Magrath.



*Jo and Des Magrath move to Cheltenham*

**Sadie James** joined the art department in 1998 and together with Caroline Brooks has been one half of what must be the strongest art team in the prep school world. Over the fourteen years Sadie has been at Papplewick, she has been a key player in the department, producing 32 art scholarships, an incredible record in such a subjective subject. Not only that, her unique and magical murals, painted when Artist in Residence, have transformed the feel of the dormitories and the common rooms for the boys. Although only ever working at the School on a part time basis, such has been her commitment to the cause, she has always seemed to be a full time member of the team. Papplewick can consider itself incredibly lucky to have had Sadie here for fourteen years, and we wish her every success and happiness in the future as she emigrates to Australia.

**Freddie Auld** departs after seven years at Papplewick and seven years of playing the quintessential English gentleman. At one staff party Freddie's theme was appropriately 'croquet and cravats', and one could obviously add 'cricket' (where he has



*Sadie James leaves for Australia*

been an annual thorn in the flesh of the Old Boys) to that list. He has been a fine role model for the boys. Freddie's talents are many and varied, some more obvious and reflected in the numerous jobs he has done here, including Director of Sport, Head of English and Head of the Middle School, but some less obvious like his talent on the drums or his penchant for wearing lurid pink sweaters. But the common thread is that Freddie has done all his jobs hugely well, and all done without even a hint of fuss or bother – a truly modest gentleman and compassionate tutor, to whom we all wish the very best of luck as he takes up the role of Head of the Middle School at Chafyn Grove in Salisbury.



*Freddie Auld moves to become Head of the Middle School at Chafyn Grove, in Salisbury*



*Robin Bleakley leaves to go to Northcote Lodge, in London*

**Robin Bleakley** joined the Maths Department in 2007 and has produced outstanding results at Common Entrance level, particularly with those who find life hard going in the Maths room. And he has given great encouragement to all the teams he has so ably coached on the football, cricket and rugby fields and to the divers in the swimming pool, enabling boys to gain their PADI diving certificates. As a tutor, Robin has looked after his tutees with great empathy, and he will surely do exactly the same as he heads into the day school world of Northcote Lodge in London in September, where we wish him every possible success.

**Victoria Bownes** joined us in 2008 from St. John's Beaumont, and has made a huge impact on the School. She is an enthusiast like no other – her talents covered every area of school life from the classroom to the rugby field, but she was always at her best when hosting big set piece events such as Sports Day, Grandparents' Day and of course her very own Papplewick's Got Talent. She leaves to become Head of Girls' Games at Lambrook, and we wish her well.



*Victoria Bownes moves just down the road to Lambrook*

**ART** The new entrance to the School has provided the perfect showcase for some amazing work produced by the boys. The Art Scholars have worked with terrific effort and dedication to create some outstanding pieces during the course of the year and especial mention must be made of the highly talented winner of the Top Art Scholarship to Radley, whose portrait of his dog, Amber, has met with universal acclaim. There is also a very promising group of Year 7 Scholars, and it will be interesting to see how they progress. Some very encouraging work, too, has come from the junior and middle schools, so the future of art looks bright in Papplewick.

After fourteen years at the school, Sadie James has now moved to Western Australia where she plans to pursue her dream to write, illustrate, publish and promote her books. We extend a warm welcome to her replacement, Miss Holly Drewett, who is now inspiring the boys with new and exciting challenges, in particular printing techniques. A practising artist, as well as a teacher, she comes with valuable experience.



*Alterations in the Square*

## AWARDS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2012

Kit Delamain	Top Academic Scholarship	Sherborne
David Edevbie	Outstanding Talent in Sport Scholarship	Harrow
Alexander Hanbury-Tenison	Academic Scholarship	Winchester
James Hill	King's Scholarship	Eton
Alex Howard-Vyse	Academic Scholarship	Uppingham
Alex Howard-Vyse	Music Scholarship	Uppingham
Alex Howard-Vyse	Thring Scholarship	Uppingham
Ga Kitada	Academic Scholarship	Harrow
Ga Kitada	Music Scholarship	Harrow
Henry Parkin	Art Scholarship	Radley
Ted Wallace	King's Scholarship	Eton
Ted Wallace	Music Exhibition	Eton
Alex Yi	Academic Scholarship	Harrow



*Mrs Kim from Korea talking on the European Day of Languages*

### YEAR 7 FRENCH TRIP

Every October the French department takes the whole of Year 7 on a week's trip to Burgundy. The aim of the trip is to improve spoken French and at the same time to have plenty of fun.

Each morning started with a French lesson which lasted one and a half hours! These lessons covered a wide range of topics, puzzles and quizzes, which produced lots of ideas and gave confidence to explore further in French. One day there was a lesson about a château which the boys would visit later on in the week. The activities included archery (shooting at balloons), kayaking, learning circus acts, doing mosaic work and cooking. One evening the group was taken to a restaurant for dinner and the boys were surprised at how much their confidence had grown as they found they could use their increasing French vocabulary to order their food. Another day they enjoyed their visit to the market where they went to buy their own food,

which they would cook later on for the evening meal. There was a good deal of productive learning during the course of the week as well as much entertainment.

### KOREAN VISIT 2012

In February last year the Headmaster and School Bursar went on a short visit to Korea to meet up with Old Boys and the parents of past and present Papplewick boys. They were given a memorable reception and Tom Bunbury comments on the trip:

"It was a great pleasure to host a reunion for past and present Papplewick families from Korea in February 2012. The hospitality that the Bursar and I received during our 48 hour whistle stop tour of Seoul was second to none. In that connection, I would particularly like to thank Mr and Mrs Chung (Woon Son's parents) and Mr and Mrs Yi (Alex's parents). A most convivial reception was held in Pony Chung Hall followed by a presentation in which the remarkable achievements of our Korean boys over the last 18 years were recognised. The reception ended with June-Ho Chung, Andy Yoon, and Simon Kim reminiscing about their time at Papplewick, and particularly about their first impressions of the school, which seemed to centre largely on a deep disquiet in getting to grips with English school food!"



*Michelle Doling, on maternity leave, with Emma*



*Year 7 in the Big Top in Burgundy*



*Families of past and present Papplewick boys from Korea gather in Seoul for a reunion*



*Gardeners at work*

**European Day of Languages** is celebrated on the 26th September every year, demonstrating the importance and need for languages, as it is estimated that twenty languages die every year. So annual workshops are set up by the French department to promote languages. Since many boys at Papplewick come from a wide variety of countries like China, Japan, Russia and Malaysia all the workshops can be led by parents of such boys. They included lessons on Japan, Thailand, Nigeria, Korea and Senegal, which entailed some writing in Japanese using special pens, like paintbrushes, and writing on rice paper.



*Learning about Nigerian music on Language Day*

There was also an introduction to the cultural side of Japan, with the tasting of different foods - nori (seaweed) and pickled plums. Both of them were delicious! Boys also had a chance to taste some food from China and Germany, such as Haribos and Kinder Chocolate, and to play some Nigerian drums – which went down very well. The boys had a really fantastic day and are looking forward to doing it again next year!

## Drama

'**Ebenezer**', a musical version of 'The Christmas Carol', by Malcolm Sircom, was the School play at the end of the Michaelmas Term. It had a great script and plenty of catchy tunes to welcome in the Christmas spirit, the plot was easy to follow and the healthy pace kept the crowds on the edge of their seats. The cast revealed plenty of talent and masses of

enthusiasm as cameo performance after cameo performance created suspense, comedy, tragedy and adventure, all in the space of an hour. The casting was excellent, the singing first class as usual and the artistic choreography and clever staging polished off a wonderful theatrical event, which was immensely enjoyed by all the spectators.

'**Fantastic Mr Fox**' by Roald Dahl was performed in the Lent Term 2012, when Year Six took to the stage. The play opened with the disgusting farmer, Boggis, with his side kicks, Bunce and Bean, who slipped easily into their greedy and cruel farmer roles. The starring performer, Mr Fox, lived up to his name and he effortlessly learnt his lines and held the play together. His adoring wife, Mrs Fox, played a convincing part and the young foxes grew into their respective personalities as the play progressed. Badger was effortlessly crusty and the audience was transported to the subterranean world of Mr Fox's den, and to the shenanigans above ground, by the excellent acting of one and all.

**Papplewick's Got Talent** - This was Variety in its purest form, not just in terms of content but also quality. The judges were genuinely impressed by the gusto with which every line was sung or danced to, and in the end only half a point separated the top two. The acts all oozed quality from every pore and after a recount **Seven Up**, with keyboards, bassoons, percussion and vocals carried the day, with a most entertaining performance.



*Papplewick's Got Talent in Year 5*

# OBITUARIES

## Rodie Peters 1951-1969

Old boys of the early days will be sorry to hear of the death of Rodie Peters on May 3rd last year, at the age of 94. Those who were at Papplewick with him will truly appreciate the great contribution he made to the School over the eighteen years that he was Director of Music, for he began the tradition of excellence in choral and instrumental music that continues to this day. It was particularly gratifying to see him back at Papplewick in November 2007 at the 50th anniversary service commemorating the dedication of the Chapel. He had been instrumental in purchasing the organ in 1957, and he enjoyed playing it once again after the service, fifty years later.

Rodie came to Papplewick in 1951, a year after Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen took over as headmaster, teaching science as well as being in charge of the music department. Looking back, some twenty years ago, on his early time at Papplewick, Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen recalled that shortly after the School had received recognition by the Ministry of Education in 1951, "some remarkable men had joined the staff: Terrence Roddy, Howard Clough, Trevor Martin and Rodie Peters. These men were to be exemplars of the highest standards, raising the School to heights that were to be maintained in the ensuing years."

On leaving Papplewick in 1969, Rodie and his wife, Cecil, who also taught some music at Papplewick, retired to Norfolk, where a very appropriate memorial service to celebrate his life was held last September.

## The 'Stag' of December 1969 contains the following entry:

"At the last assembly of the Michaelmas Term the School said "Good-bye" to Mr Rodie Peters. He came to Papplewick in September 1951 when there were seventy boys in the School. Sunday services were held in what is now the science laboratory and Rodie accompanied a choir of ten boys on a harmonium. He organised an orchestra and together with Mr Roddy produced Gilbert and Sullivan operas and other musical plays. To mark the appreciation for all that he had done for the School, particularly in music, and as a sign of everybody's affection for him, Mr Peters was presented with a watch from the boys and a reading lamp from his colleagues on the staff. Appropriately Mr. Peters sang his good-bye."



*Rodie Peters (Right) at Papplewick with three of the Directors of Music who succeeded him*



*The Choir singing in the old Chapel, accompanied on the harmonium by Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen*



## Affectionate reminiscences of Rodie from those at Papplewick who came under his influence paint a good picture of the man:

**Derek Sisson (1950 – 56)** I have recollections of a quiet, gentle man, utterly dedicated to the life of the School, who established the Music Department under Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen's headship and was involved in many other areas of the curriculum. He left a wonderful musical legacy to Papplewick. I took part in the outstanding productions of the Gilbert and Sullivan operettas in the 1950s, under Terrence Roddy, with Rodie Peters in charge of music, and they still have fond memories for me. They took place in an old Nissen hut where many activities, including Church services, were conducted in those days. One year Sir John Mills and his wife came for a performance and stated that it was the best school production that he had ever seen. I remain a keen G & S fan!

**David Stewart (1950-56)** I do remember Mr. Peters quite well... in particular transforming all of us young boys into girls as the chorus for 'H.M.S. Pinafore.'

**John Anderson (1962-66)** I have fond memories of Mr Peters, who was instrumental in developing my interest in music. It was in no small part down to him that my early interest in learning to play the piano flourished and my desire to learn the organ was encouraged. Not being a great one for field sports, I always tried to schedule my music lessons to avoid games. I remember being allowed to play the organ in chapel during a service – hands only as I recall, because my legs couldn't reach the pedals!!

I also remember being asked to play an encore on piano at a school concert. My mother was worried that I would make a mistake second time around but fortunately all went faultlessly. After having won the music prize several times in succession I was asked whether I would mind foregoing it so as to give others a chance. I took that as a real compliment. It was thanks to Rodie's encouragement that I ended up with a music scholarship to Rugby and was able to develop my interest in the organ, playing for chapel services and recitals.

**Richard Smith (1952-56)** I heard, with sadness, of Rodie's death from my uncle and aunt, Trevor and Anne Martin, who were both teachers at Papplewick during my own time at the

School. I started at Papplewick in 1952, and if I remember correctly there were just sixty-three boys on the roll at that time. Rodie was the Music master, whom I remember as a kind and sensitive person. Having previously been in a church choir in my home town I soon found myself as a member of the school choir. The standard of singing of the choir under Rodie's direction was amazing considering our youth and inexperience. We tackled anthems, chorales and carols of considerable complexity. The chapel at that time was a green painted corrugated steel building which had a stage at one end and a small pipe organ at the other. Rodie was able to get 110% out of this modest instrument. The Christmas carol service was always a masterpiece, which I feel must have been based on the King's College service of nine lessons and carols.

As well as being Director of Music, Rodie was also the Science master. He certainly stimulated my interest in science, a subject I always enjoyed. I later went on to study Electronics as the major subject of a Design and Technology degree course at Loughborough University. Although we did little chemistry at Papplewick, science was always called 'stinks'.

Mention must be made of the pivotal part Rodie played in the extraordinarily lavish school play productions that Papplewick put on at the time. He and Mr Roddy, the Senior Master, with support from many other members of staff, produced musical extravaganza of Gilbert and Sullivan's 'Mikado' and 'HMS Pinafore' in which I played minor chorus line parts. Nevertheless this was a never to be forgotten experience for an eleven to twelve year old, and part of the rich prep school experience provided for me by Rodie and other staff members at Papplewick sixty or so years ago.

**Bridget Cobb (née Dent) Assistant Matron (1950s)** I remember Rodie Peters played the organ, and the other matron, Eva, used to go and listen to him practising. At the first Christmas Carol Service with the new organ the atmosphere was magic, with low lighting and excitement. It was all tingling, waiting for Christmas! Rodie had mumps very badly when I was at Papplewick.

**Angelo Economou (1960-65)** I was RP's worst pupil without a doubt. I was never meant to play any musical instrument but probably due to parental pressure I took up the violin when I was 7 and in my first term. I soldiered on for a year; RP was very



*HMS Pinafore in the 1950s*



*Bridget Cobb (née Dent) and Eva Dehlinger, Assistant Matrons (1950s)*

patient but during a school play, I think it was 'The Pirates of Penzance', I dropped my violin which broke and which was subsequently found to have woodworm. RP said he had only heard of this once before and the instrument was not worth repairing. That was the end of my career in music.

**Peter Hopkinson (1965–1969)** I regret that being tone deaf and singing in a similar style to Eric Morecambe's piano playing - all the right notes but not necessarily, and in my case never, in the right order - I drove Rodie Peters almost to distraction. So much so that he threw a triangle at me and banned me from singing in the singing lessons! However, conversely, Rodie was very patient with, and full of encouragement for, a musically ungifted little boy's attempts to learn to play the piano, which helped me reach a standard marginally better than my singing. Nearly fifty years later I still have fond memories of him.

## **Foster Watson (FFW) 1963-1974**

Foster Watson was in many ways one of the great reformers of Papplewick. Like others of that era in the school's history, he was one who saw beyond the pupil behind the desk to the person behind the mask, and to him, every boy mattered. His kindly manner and his slightly liberal take on educational methodology ensured that he was always regarded highly by his charges, and although such progressive thinking was not always brooked by all of his colleagues, he was universally respected.

Foster's contribution to the school was considerable. He ran a successful geography department in the room adjoining the Chapel and he oversaw St Michael's with distinction. As the School's Fire Chief he ensured that fire practices were organised properly, and he was a leading member of the Choir, where in addition to holding a secure tenor line he would occasionally act as assistant conductor, most notably in Guildford Cathedral when the choir sang the Evensong service, as GDM had disappeared up into the organ loft!

He was blessed with the gift of a clever and sardonic wit: many a staff supper would be enlivened by his pithy one-liners, and he would not hesitate to cut an arrogant youngster down to size if he felt that his juniors were becoming a little forward.

My own memories of FFW are of his walking across the Square to his room in the lodge, pipe in mouth and immaculately-kept mark book in hand; of seeing him still hard at work at his desk late at night, and of his moment of devilment on his final night, when he rang the fire bell at one o'clock in the morning and then hid behind the doors of the geography room as the school filed into the Hall. We waited anxiously for the response to

**Graham Pack (1964-70)** Whilst I was a boy at Papplewick, Rodie Peters showed he had an amazing ear for music. He picked me out of the whole school, one assembly, saying at the top of his voice "Will Pack at the back kindly stop singing?" I think that perhaps I was a little out of tune! His request has been supported by my wife for over 30 years.

**Roger Smith (1956-59)** I remember Rodie giving my parents and me a private demonstration of the organ in the new chapel. At our request he played Bach's toccata and fugue in D minor, no sheet music, no hesitation, just off the top of his head and quite brilliantly too. As you see, it is still a vivid memory.

I also remember Rodie purchasing a brand spanking new beige Standard 8. At a time when most cars had mudguards, separate headlights and running boards, the all-enveloping bodywork impressed us boys greatly.



*A 'Spanking New Standard 8' like the beige one Rodie bought*



*Foster Watson, far right, at Papplewick in 2007*

PMK-H's demand to know 'which boy has done this'. After a wait of what seemed an eternity but was probably only a few minutes, the geography room doors parted and FFW emerged from his hiding-place.

"Headmaster, boys: this is my parting gift to you all."

It certainly was, and one can only imagine the valedictory exchange that took place in the study thereafter.

Foster married Pam Withey, former Matron II at the School and they formed a great partnership during Foster's tenure as Headmaster of the Woodhouse Grove Junior School, where they went on leaving Papplewick. We extend our sympathy to Pam and to their children following the loss of one of Papplewick's genuine, sincere and dedicated servants.

PRC

## OLD BOYS' NEWS



*James Coyne, runner-up in the British Open Rackets Championships*

**Jeremy Baker (1991-97)** has found that he is enjoying Australian life so much that he has decided to stay there permanently. He returns to the UK to marry an English girl this year and then he and his wife will return to Australia to work.

**Jonny Baker (1991-97)** married his American girlfriend in May last year and they have returned to the States, where Jonny is managing a race track in Florida.

**Samih Batchelor (1999-2002)** spent last year at Papplewick as an assistant teacher, which he enjoyed.

**Jules Briscoe (1972-77)** is married with two children under ten and lives on the Isle of Wight. He graduated from Goldsmiths with a 2:1 at the age of 40 and is currently working for himself as a landscaper in Ryde. Since leaving Papplewick he has dropped the 'Hamilton' from his surname.

**James Brooks (1999-06)** is in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year at UWE in Bristol reading Architectural Technology and is currently trying to find a placement for next year. He has had a very successful season playing rugby for Berkshire and the South-West Counties' U20s squads at scrum half but just missed out on an England U20s selection.

**Heewon Cho (2002-03)** is reading Maths at Brasenose College, Oxford, in his 3<sup>rd</sup> year. Last year he won a boxing Blue and he played rugby sevens for Brasenose. The tournament, which took place in a single day, involved 24 college teams. The final, against Pembroke College, proved to be a one-sided affair, with Heewon scoring a try in their 26-7



*Heewon Cho (front row, green socks) and the Brasenose sevens squad*

victory. He was subsequently selected for the University squad for the December rugby match v Cambridge, which they won.

**Bridget Cobb (née Dent) – Assistant Matron (1950s)** remembers the dining hall at the time when poor de Courtais COULD NOT eat his macaroni cheese and roasted onions for lunch "and we had it nearly every week. I'm afraid I wasn't very gentle, but in those post war years of deprivation we all had to eat everything. Another little chap call Willmer used to eat his porridge absentmindedly with a knife and fork."

**Edward Coode (1984-88)** We understand that Edward was one of past Olympic Gold Medalist oarsmen in the Gloriana, conducting the Royal Party along the Thames during the Jubilee Parade last June.

**James Coyne (1992-98)** and his partner from Eton successfully defended their British Open Rackets Doubles title at the end of last season. James also reached the final of the British Open Rackets Singles championships at Queens in what was anticipated as "a mouth-watering prospect with two of the hardest hitters in the game going head to head". It was an exciting match, but in spite of some excellent serving and brilliant killing of the ball, James finally went down, to emerge as the runner up.



*Rhidian Llewellyn and Old Boy guests at Max Gore's wedding*

**Tom Elliott (1988-94)** has applied for a Master's degree in prosodontics at King's College, London. He is a full time student but he has two days off a week in which he can continue working.

**Charlie Foster (1995-02)** graduated in biology and management from Edinburgh, just missing a First by a whisker!

**Simon Foster (1999-05)** is now studying Spanish at St Andrews. He spent last Summer in Costa Rica, improving his Spanish and doing a temporary internship with a law firm there.

**Max Gore (1993-98)** married Sybil last Summer and, as one can imagine, when a Gore marries a Wilmot-Smith a lot of Papplewick boys were involved at various parts of the celebrations, including Alex Neaves, James Coyne, Charlie Hunt, their Headmaster and many others.

**Andrew Gooden (1961-64)** read last year's 'Old Papplewickian' whilst watching Royal Ascot on the television and recalling that when he was at Papplewick there was a tradition of the boys lining the course on the first afternoon.



*Rory and Louisa Magrath, with the Best Man and Chief Bridesmaid*

He has fond memories of those days. He has now retired from teaching but he has discovered the truism that life gets busier. His brother, **Eddie**, aka **Kim** in his days at Papplewick, continues to work in conveyancing in the Thames Valley.

**Per Hagarðt (1975-81)** After leaving Papplewick, he moved back to Sweden and Göteborg. He wonders if he is still the only Swede Papplewick has ever had. After finishing school in Sweden he did his military service for 15 months in the Navy before going to University in Lund. Thereafter he started working in banking, which took him to Brussels in 1996-1997 where he met his wife, Maria. Moving back to Stockholm in 1997, they have settled on Lidingö island, just outside Stockholm, where today they live with their three children. He is currently working in a global consumer goods company and is very active, doing cross country running, participating in triathlon, playing squash and trying to play golf. He still has strong memories of roller skating, judo in Bracknell with Mr Werner, rugby, tuck and the choir.

**James Haskell (1993-1998)** is now back in the UK playing rugby for Wasps once more. Having spent a year playing in Japan and New Zealand, he returned to the UK at the beginning of this past season and earned a place on the England bench in the autumn, coming on for the last half hour against South Africa and for the whole of the second half in the great win against New Zealand. He also played in the Six Nations matches, putting in some very good performances.

**Thomas Hwang (1999-04)** left Papplewick with a scholarship to Winchester and then on to Oxford. There he gained a First in Maths and he is now working as an analyst at Barclays.

**Jaewook Jung (2003-06)** really got his head down in his first

year at Imperial College and he was awarded a First for his year of study.

**Moin Karim Khan (1979-81)** has moved to Copenhagen and is working in the UN as Deputy Regional Director for Europe and the Middle East. He is finding Denmark most pleasant after four years in Iraq.

**Alexander Khan** left Malvern College last June and after a gap year is still undecided where his future might lie. He has gone to Austria taking a ski instructorship course, also studying German, and has qualified as an instructor. He is in St Anton teaching at the ski school there throughout the season, until mid-April, thoroughly enjoying it. His younger brother **James** is in the 4th form at Milton Abbey, where he is working well and earning good progress reports all round.

**Poom Kunplin (1998-02)** went on to Harrow after Papplewick with an Art Scholarship. He graduated last year from Central Saint Martins in Graphic Design: Creative Advertising and has been working as a freelance brand development consultant / graphic designer, as well as a part-time student events promoter. He is currently working at a new start-up business called Execruns (customer service / human resourcing.)

**Max Lahiff (2001-03)** is now playing professional rugby for London Irish.

**William Liney (2005-07)** is at Exeter University reading Spanish and International Relations and his brother, **Thomas**, has now left Marlborough and was interviewing for medicine at Oxford when we heard of him in January.

**Rory Magrath (1994-99)** was married to Louisa in Surrey, in July last year, with his brother **Stof (1995-2001)** being Best Man and the sister of the bride the Chief Bridesmaid. They spent their honeymoon in Italy and Sicily.

**Charles Neale (1998 - 2004)** graduated from Trinity College, Oxford, in June with a 2.1 in Economics. Partially financed by travel grants from Eton and Trinity, he travelled to Sri Lanka in October to work for a children's charity for a month, before



*Alexander Khan ready for ski instruction*



*Jordan Paragapuri relaxing*

starting in Chennai on a clockwise circumnavigation of India by train, which he hoped to complete in seven weeks. Then would begin the serious task of job-hunting in London.

**Jordan Paragapuri (2004-07)** After leaving Papplewick, Jordan went on to Eton, where he was very involved with life in the School and with developing his writing and drawing skills. While still at Papplewick he had written and published a story and this story-telling continued to develop, to the extent that at Eton he won the Headmaster's Short Story prize, revived the Fielding Society for short story writing and was a founding member of the Manga Anime and Science Fiction and Comic Book Society. Having left Eton with 4 A\*s at A level, he decided to take a year out to study for an Art Foundation Degree at Camberwell College of Arts, hugely enjoying both his course and discovering London's art scene, where he has been spending a fair amount of his spare time exploring the galleries and exhibitions in London. The extra year has also given him time to reflect on what he wants to do at university. He has applied to read English at Queen's College, Cambridge, and he is delighted to have been offered a place there for the coming academic year.

**Statis Porfyrtis (1970-72)** is living in Greece and is enjoying life. He is married with three children, the elder two of whom are at university in the UK. He would like to hear news of some of the friends of his Papplewick days.

**David Stewart (1950-56)** recalls some names of boys at Papplewick of his time there: Derek Sisson, Ali 1, II and III, Kelly II, J.D.C. Cartwright (Carats), Kramet, Stevenson, E.A.L. Stuart-Jones, Brind and on and on. He was living in Windsor at the time and remembers an incident there "when the Duke and Queen came rocketing out of the entrance to Windsor Castle in a Daimler, cutting my dad off in his car. As my dad was cursing this 'bloody fool' for his driving, he realized who it was! There was no security in those days. We saw the Queen shopping on Pescod Street quite often."

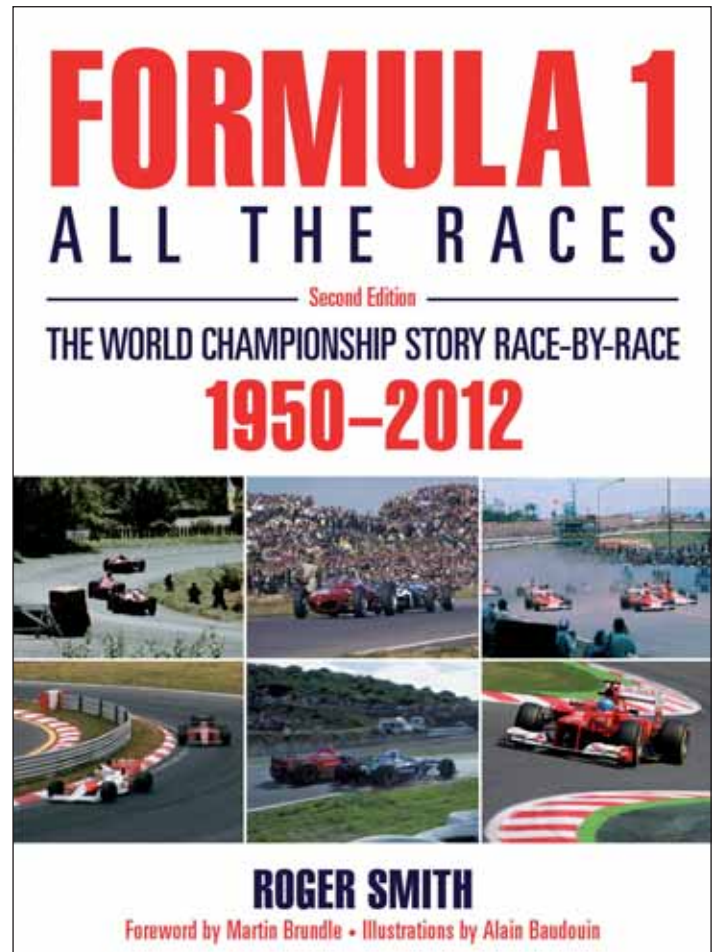
**Yunus Sert (2001-06)** is at Durham University studying Business and Management and clearly thoroughly enjoys it - both academically and sport-wise. He is still playing his cricket (now an MCC Probationer) and soccer for the College.

**Roger Smith (1956-59)** had his third Formula 1 book published last year, which has done rather well, going into reprint; a second edition was scheduled to come out in March this year.

**Vijay Tandon (1975-80)** currently works in the City as an investment banker, focussed on Natural Resources. He has visited Papplewick several times since leaving and he comments that the school has changed a good deal since he was there, but all in a good way, whilst retaining the core essence of what Papplewick is all about. He is married with a son aged 6, whom he has entered for Papplewick.

**Dale Taylor (1994-99)** is working in insurance in London as a Property Underwriter for one of the Lloyd's insurance market syndicates.

**Duncan Thomson (1991-1997)** In April 2012 he completed the 27<sup>th</sup> Sultan Marathon des Sables, an annual event which takes place in the Sahara Desert in Morocco, and is one of the hardest tests there is of human endurance. During the race he experienced sandstorms, hail and rain, running in temperatures of up to 54 degrees C for a total of 39 hr 7 min 8 sec, spread out over only one week. Over the seven days the competitors covered over 150 miles, each one carrying his own food and equipment. Only water and tents were provided. Duncan and his running partner (age 66 in August!) raised almost £20,000 for two charities - Facing Africa and Mercy Ships. Duncan finished strongly, completing the 82 km much feared 4<sup>th</sup> stage in the dark, in 13 hr 21min 19 sec of continuous running. Then on the final day, after 16 km in searing heat over huge sand dunes, he crossed the finishing line 255<sup>th</sup> out of the 795 who completed the event. 60 of those who started failed to finish.



*Roger Smith's latest Formula 1 book*

**Chris Thorne (1983-88)** After Papplewick he went to Radley and then to Oxford Brookes where he graduated in 1997 in Mechanical Engineering. Since 1999 he has been employed at Honda of the UK Manufacturing, initially as a Quality Engineer. He has recently been promoted to Section Manager of Block Machining, managing 48 people across three shifts, machining the cylinder blocks for the petrol engines installed in the Honda Jazz, Civic and CRV models. He married in 2003 and has two young boys aged 7 and 5 who keep him on his toes. He is still playing rugby (30<sup>th</sup> year!) for Cirencester RFC and is the current Club Captain and U8s coach.

**Giles Timms (1979-82)** married in 2009 and he and his wife had their first child (Evelyn) in South Africa, where he is currently based with the British Army. He is due to move back to the UK this year to take Command of 4th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Parachute Regiment. His sister currently lives in Sunningdale so Giles will try to attend a reunion or Old Boys' day in the not-too-distant future.

**George Tysoe (1992-98)** hasn't been playing much rackets or cricket over the past twelve months, but he has changed jobs. He is now working at a London media agency called Carat and he is managing Vauxhall's sponsorship of Home Nations football.

**James Watson (1999-06)** has returned from his gap year in Sri Lanka, which he found was a very interesting experience indeed! While there he worked in a small village called Seenigama, which sadly hit the headlines during the Asian Tsunami of 2004, when a packed train was destroyed by an 18 ft swell. James worked for a relief organization called the Foundation of Goodness, which was striving to restore the village to its original way of life and get the villagers out of poverty. In particular, he was working on the website for their Dive Centre, which is currently moving towards opening itself up for tourism in the hope of creating a self-sustainable



*Duncan Thomson kitted out for his Marathon des Sables run*

business there and ensuring it can continue to train the locals for careers in commercial diving. He found that people there are unbelievably friendly and will always have a smile when you pass them.

**Daniel West (1994-96)** is very much enjoying his job in advertising in London.

**Andrew West (1994-98)** went to Leeds University and is now a qualified doctor working in the city, where he wishes to specialise in Accident and Emergency.



*James Watson with some of his charges in Seenigama*

## NEWS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**BRADFIELD** – **Robert Tyler** is currently Deputy Head of his House at the School.

**CHARTERHOUSE** – **Emil Calder** recently had one of the starring roles in 'Cabaret' as the Emcee, and was watched by his former HM and Nigel Ramage, who say he was superb! As a result of his performance he was subsequently awarded School Colours for Culture. **Peter Chownsmith** spends a lot of time with his art and had work on display in their Art Scholars' Exhibition in January.

**ETON** - **Henry Eaton-Mercer** is in his second year, having had an enjoyable and busy first one. He was part of the School play production team and they had to stay on over short leave to build the stage set. It was a great team building experience as they all had to move out of their own house and move in together near the theatre. The play went really well. After that he took part in the Lower Boys' play - back on stage this time rather than behind it. He is also really enjoying his rowing, spending many sunny days on the river. From the academic standpoint, his report card has been very satisfactory, proving that the Theatre hasn't got in the way of his work. **Ben Burgess-Smith** was one of the eight Eton schoolboys who travelled to Everest last year in a bid to fly an Olympic flag from the mountain. The idea came about after the boys said they wanted to do an Everest base camp trip. When they heard that the British embassy in Nepal wanted to take a flag to the top of the mountain they decided to combine the two ideas.

They were greeted by the British ambassador in the Nepalese capital before beginning an 18-day trek to Everest base camp, a journey which they all completed. There the flag was handed to a sherpa who was going to plant it on the summit. But unfortunately he had to pull out in bad weather and the flag only made it to its destination after another climber, Paul Keleher, stepped in. He said that he really liked the story behind the flag and he was glad to be able to finish off something that otherwise wouldn't be completed. The flag is the first Olympic symbol to be flown from the highest peak.



*Eton schoolboys at Everest base camp. Ben Burgess-Smith (Centre), and next to him on the right, his brother Magnus, and above, the flag on the way up.*



*Peter Chownsmith at work.*

#### HARROW

Papplewick has some 25 Old Boys at Harrow. In his final year **Chiyun Ho** ran the 20 mile Long Ducker in under 3 hours and was also a member of the cross country relays team. Within his house he organised the Art competition and sang in the House 12. An outstanding artist himself, he was awarded his Guild Colours for Art, his Senior House Colours and the Head Master's Harrow Prize. **Richard Oh**, in his final year at Harrow, achieved Distinction in the British Maths Olympiad Round 1 and scored perfect marks in two of the three sections of the Finals of the National Team Maths Competition. He has accepted a place at Cambridge to read Maths from Sept 2013. **Aarush Selvan** was one of four Harrovians who last year had the opportunity to work with the Red Bull Racing Formula One team as part of the Engineering Education Scheme, which is designed to give Sixth form pupils the chance to work on a



*Jamie and Andrew D'Alton are at St Edward's, Oxford*

real life engineering project. Working closely with the Red Bull's Head of Racing Strategy, the team was set the task of improving Red Bull's wet weather race strategy. They were able to develop a formula which improved the strategy that Red Bull was previously using, and it was implemented into its strategy programme. Elsewhere, in Prague, Aarush also won an award in an International debating competition, in which the Harrow team received general acclaim from organisers and other competitors alike. **Jeremy Ogilvie-Harris** won the bronze medal at the London University and Colleges Senior Open Judo Championships last year. **Matthew Carter** played a stunning trumpet solo in the aria 'The Trumpet shall Sound' from 'The Messiah' in a Come and Sing charity concert the School put on. In another context, he was also one of four boys who swam 400 lengths of the swimming pool for charity.



*Story time on Roald Dahl Day*

#### SHERBORNE

**Daniel Versloot** is a Prefect in the School. He joined two other boys in organising and planning their own charity cycle ride during the Summer holidays, from John O'Groats to Lands End.

#### ST EDWARD'S, OXFORD

**Jamie D'Alton** scored well in his GCSEs last year and is very much into Maths and Computer Studies in the VI form. He is continuing to turn in good athletic performances: in the County Finals last year he won first place in the triple jump and also gained a medal in the long jump with a personal best performance.

#### STOWE

**William Hulbert** has put in some good performances on the Colts B rugby field and has been pressing for a place in the A side. **Orlando Whitehead** and a partner were joint winners of the McElwee award with a project to investigate the Moorish influence on the Iberian peninsula through a visit to Seville, Granada and Cordoba. He was also a member of his house team that won the inter-House Coldstream Cup competition. His younger brother, **Caspar**, achieved a gold award in the Senior Maths Challenge.



## UPPINGHAM

**Marcus Howard-Vyse** had a good cross-country season last year, showing great determination and securing excellent positions in all the fixtures.

## WELLINGTON

**Lorcan Treacy** has been doing some acting in his house play, performing in a student-led production of 'Macbeth'. On the academic front, he has been offered a place at Durham University to read Combined Honours in Arts. His brother, **Myles**, has GCSEs this year. He is playing lots of rugby and has been selected to go on the College tour to New Zealand this summer. **Charlie Skipworth-Button** has left the College and has been offered a place at Loughborough to read Information Management and Business Studies. In his final year he was Deputy Head of House and an impressive Vice-Captain of the College Rugby XV. He also played the part of one of the Ugly Sisters in his House pantomime, 'Cinderella', where he demonstrated outstanding comic timing and sense of fun. **Jakob Holder** was part of a dance troupe celebrating 150 years of Wellington College, sharing a stage that night with other Old Boys, **Sebastian Faulks**, **Rory Bremner**, and **Will Young**.



*Jakob Holder being held aloft by his dance troupe*

## OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

### CHARITY

#### Sponsored Walk 2012

Last year the boys walked for an overseas charity - the Hope and Aid Direct charity in Kosovo. This charity organises trucks full of clothes, food and toys to go from England out to Eastern Europe and when they arrive it distributes them to the families out there. These are some of the poorest people in Europe, and when those from the charity first meet them, some have little more than a loaf of bread and a bottle of water between them.

The sponsored walk took place as usual on the first Sunday of the Summer term and it was a lovely sunny day. Throughout the morning people walked, jogged or ran the ten mile course through Windsor Great Park with the boys enjoying all the flowers, and the waterfall, as well as lots of deer. They managed to secure sponsorship of more than £10,000, which was a huge help for Hope and Aid Direct as the journey to Kosovo itself costs about £3,500. It was all for a great cause, all the more



*The Sponsored Walk 2012*

personal and pleasing because of the fact that a Mother of a Papplewick Year 7 boy goes out to Kosovo each year with a truckload of clothes, food and toys to distribute to those in such desperate need.



*Vicky Credland at the end of her 7 hour swim*

#### Sponsored Swim

One day last year one of the Year 4 Form teachers, Vicky Credland, spent from 9 am to 4 pm in the swimming pool to raise money for two charities close to her heart, Help for Heroes and CRY (Cardiac Risk in the Young). This continuous swim realized over £1,500 for each of these two charities. While swimming, Vicky had plenty of poolside support and an impressive number of Papplewick mothers volunteered to swim half hour slots alongside her. Apart from some pins and needles in her fingers in the final hour and being a bit cold at the end, she suffered no other ill effects.



*The author Simon Mayo visiting Papplewick*

## **Bethany Orphanage, Uganda**

This Orphanage is the charity that every boy in years 5, 6 and 7 at Papplewick sponsors, with boys from there and here exchanging letters every term. Last October, two boys from Year 6 managed to raise £1,500 for their pen pals in the Ugandan orphanage, through sponsorship, when they completed the Glynn Sheffield Memorial Run in Windsor Great Park. The boys entered the run on their own initiative and were the youngest entrants, finishing 7th and 15th in a field of about 50 entrants in the 2.5 mile event. The orphanage has earmarked the money for buying desperately needed tables, which can be used as dining tables, or for drawing and painting, games, jigsaws and building Lego.

## **Dorset Geography Trip**

In January, the whole of Year 8 journeyed to the Jurassic Coast in Dorset in order to gather the data necessary to complete their Scholarship and Common Entrance enquiries. What a natural classroom it turned out to be! The party could not have been luckier with the weather, with two perfect winter days in which to study the power of wave erosion on the differing beaches of Durdle Door and Man O'War. The resulting projects were very satisfactory indeed and were surely stepping stones to success in their exams.

## **Authors' Visits**

In 2012 Simon Mayo, the Radio 2 DJ, visited Papplewick to talk about his debut novel, "ITCH", a story of a boy who loves science and whose life is changed when he discovers an unusual rock. Simon amused the boys when he demonstrated the "app" which brought the book jacket to life. The School also received a visit from Barry Hutchison, who entertained the boys with tales of his Invisible Fiends books. Both authors were inundated with questions from an enthusiastic audience, and as usual they left a buzz around school when they had departed - and numerous boys engrossed in their new reading material.

## **Bibliomania**

The Bibliomaniacs are a small group of boys, aged between ten and thirteen, who are interested in the history and culture associated with antiquarian books. 2012 was a year full of visits to second-hand bookshops, the Eton College Library and the British Library. These trips enabled the boys to see in person examples of what they had been studying. For instance a matter of weeks after



*Visiting Old Boys, back for the Hog Roast last year*



*Year 8 Geographers at Durdle Door, on the Jurassic Coast*

learning about the King James Bible, they travelled to Eton and saw the real thing. But the outstanding experience was undoubtedly the trip to New York City, where the bibliomaniacs learned a great deal about books, manuscripts and art from two experts who catalogue books and manuscripts on behalf of Arader Galleries. Over the four days the boys were there, they were shown several examples of ancient atlases, they visited the New York Society Library, they had a bookbinding session and they took a trip to the National History Museum Library.

### **Ascot Day Centre**

For some years now boys in Years 7 and 8 have spent one afternoon a week visiting elderly people in the Ascot Day Centre. There they enjoy playing darts with them, talking to them and listening to what the residents have to say about their days in school or about their experiences during the Second World War. It is always an interesting exchange, greatly enjoyed by both age groups, and of great educational value to the Papplewick boys.

### **Kids for Africa**

Last year the sixteen boys on the Kids for Africa trip went to Brits, in the Northern Province of South Africa, using the Ukutula Lodge as their base for the duration of the stay. The group had a really fabulous time there with a programme full of excitement, activity and sightseeing - a real educational holiday. They had a chance to see some of the animals at very close quarters, and each of the boys will have come away with his own favourite moments; the bottle feeding sessions with some very young lion cubs must have come pretty near the top of the list. Most days ended with some fishing in the afternoon at the game reserve dam, closely watched by a three metre Nile crocodile!

An international football match was arranged against a local school on the reserve and a morning was spent seeing how their school worked and chatting with the children. The Papplewick party handed over clothes, shoes, bags and kit to these deprived children and made a lot of friends.

Other visits included the one to the Bush Baby and Monkey Sanctuary, where the boys were met by the pickpocket monkey, and the day at the Pilansberg Game Reserve with all its hippo, elephant and lots of smaller game. They also had a morning of rafting on the Crocodile River and a visit to Sun



*Happy memories of the trip to South Africa*

City - South Africa's most famous resort – where they visited the crocodile farm. The last full day was spent at the Lesedi Cultural Village, where the boys learnt about local tribes in typical villages. This was followed by traditional dancing and singing, which rounded off a wonderful 2012 trip.



*Controlled ski jump in Alpe D'Huez*



*Herpetology is going from strength to strength*

## Design Technology

In 2012 the boys had many challenges and plenty of fun as they completed their project work. In Year 3 they wrote a short play and then went on to make hand puppets to bring their imagination to life. The older year groups made and tested rocket cars in the sports hall, made some fabulous, aggressive jitterbugs, did computer aided design work and made steady-hand games. Year 7 boys were challenged to use any material they liked in order to design and make an aesthetically pleasing clock, while Year 8 boys made their own amplifier circuit, for which they were then set the task of making a suitable and eye-catching casing.

## Lions' Den

Special mention must be made of three boys in Year 7 who went to Monkton Combe for the inaugural 'Into the Lions' Den' competition, a similar set-up to the BBC programme 'Dragons' Den'. The boys pitched their unique waveboard stabiliser design in front of a packed audience, which included business



*Year 7 boys being interviewed by Lord MacLaurin in the Lions' Den competition*

luminaries Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, Robin Totterman, Toby Davies and Andrew Livingston. The boys did very well, coming fourth out of twelve schools, and were complimented by the Lions on the uniqueness of the product they had designed, made and pitched.

## Ski Trip 2012 Alpe D'Huez

The Ski trip went to the French Alps last year and had a tremendous time. There was sun, there was some amazing snow and there were some glorious days en piste. There were entertaining evenings, mini-golf, treasure hunts and a lot of food out on the slopes and in the town. The group had a few beginner skiers this trip and it was good to see how much progress they made in such a short space of time. But this memorable trip will go down in history because it was the one where everyone got sick!



*Halloween*

## Herpetology

This has been another very busy year for the herpetiles with many baby beardies (bearded dragons) and leopard geckos being born and rehomed. The Yemen Chameleon has grown into a beautiful female and we are looking for a male. The African land snails have been very prolific, as have the Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches. There are plans afoot to introduce new blood lines to the leopard geckos and snakes and see what colours we can produce next year. The delight, fascination and enthusiasm for this club ensured that there was a record number of boys joining in 2012.

## RUGBY TOUR

### 1st XV Rugby Tour to South America

Sunshine and sizzling steaks in Uruguay were a mouth-watering prospect after a long, wet and cold term in the UK. It was hot and balmy in Montevideo when we arrived and it took a day or two for us to acclimatise. Unfortunately, our first match against Stella Maris was cancelled because our match kit failed to arrive – left on the tarmac at Heathrow. However, the next day we travelled to the British Schools in Carrasco, a plush suburb in the city, who hosted us for two matches: one against an U12/13 team and one against an U13/14 team. Having emerged victorious in both games the boys were taken off by their hosting parents for a myriad of activities, including discos, asado (barbecue), football matches, parties, swimming and chilling out with friends and family. During the day our boys were invited to attend classes, which provided a wonderful opportunity for them to mix with the locals, as well as brush up on a little Spanish. A trip to the historic national football stadium, Estadio Centenario, and its museum was a memorable outing and the boys were treated to a talk and tour of the stadium which had hosted the inaugural football World Cup in 1930.

Later that day we boarded a ferry that took us across the Plate Estuary, from Montevideo to Buenos Aires. Our first match in Argentina was against St. Catherine's Moorlands, well-known visitors to our school, having played a number of football matches against Papplewick when on tour in the UK. We struggled against a hefty side of mostly U14s, losing 32-7 but won our next back-to-back game decisively against a younger U13 side. After two days in Buenos Aires we travelled by coach north to Rosario, the heart of Argentine rugby. Club Atlético de Rosario dates back to the late 19th Century, when the British community, living and working on the railways at the time, introduced rugby to the locals. The game is now played there with great pride and passion. This meant that we were pummeled by their U14 juniors and given a serious lesson in rugby, losing our match by 40 odd points to 0! Our final fixture against St. Andrew's Scots School, saw us beaten narrowly 45-40,



*Argentinian hospitality on the rugby tour*

but it was a great game and the boys played some superb rugby to finish the tour.

Prior to our return to the UK, we enjoyed two days and a night on a traditional estancia (ranch) unwinding after a hectic twelve days on the road. Throughout the tour the boys were good company and excellent ambassadors for their school and country.

## FOOTBALL

### 1st XI Won 2 Drew 2 Lost 9

On paper, this was a very good side with strengths in the majority of areas and with real talent through the spine of the team. It was unfortunate that the opposition sides were also strong and so the boys had a tough season. Slow starts sometimes left too much to do in the second half. But the team showed pluck and determination and it ground out some great results at times, with some outstanding team performances. Considerable strides forward were made as the season developed and the players worked well as a team, considerably improving their knowledge and understanding of the game.



*The rugby squad in Montevideo*



Year 7 visits Lords

## CRICKET

The 1st XI were certainly a stronger side in the field than with the bat, with plenty of bowlers to choose from, all of whom managed to achieve some success. But it did struggle with its batting and never really put together an innings that would test an opposition. The side endeavoured to address this with some long and hard work in the nets, but to little avail. While it did produce some individual improvement, the team still struggled to get any real partnerships going and it was only towards the end of the season that one began to see some real 'team' efforts, with several players chipping in with respectable scores of 40+ or so. The one area in which this side did shine, however, was in the field, where the boys were often quite inspirational in their ability to stretch to make a catch or to chase down a ball in the field. Some strong arms also saw a number of opposition batsmen caught stranded, with some excellent run-outs. Despite the results then, it was a season that saw the boys finally grow into a unit that gave of its best in any situation.



Nasser Hussain comes to Papplewick

## RUGBY

1st XV - The prospect of a rugby tour to South America was the perfect incentive to train hard and play enterprising rugby over the season. Weather conditions decimated the fixture list but it was a busy and prolonged season nevertheless. On paper, the side had a good balance of pace, brain and brawn and when on form it played some impressive rugby. The forwards displayed genuine belligerence at times and dominated up front. Astute decision-making from the halfbacks kept the opposition on the back foot and the hard running three-quarters could outstrip even the most stubborn of defenders. Inconsistency was a problem, however, with underperformance when it really

counted. That said, the 50% win rate, reaching the finals of the Wellington Prep Schools' Rugby Tournament and an enjoyable rugby tour, made for a rewarding season overall.



Papplewick needs to win this lineout

## ATHLETICS

This season the School had some very promising athletes and a full list of fixtures on the horizon, including the inaugural Papplewick Pentathlon, so when the boys returned in April the term appeared full of promise. However, the washout weather dictated that every inter-school meeting bar the last one, hosted by Aldro, was lost to the elements, which was a great pity as the squad boasted strength in nearly every department.

The best performances came from the senior group, with a very good 1,500m runner, an athlete who threw the shot and discus as most mortals throw marbles, another who starred as a hurdler (reaching the finals of the National Championships) and who was also a very good triple jumper. To go with these class performers, special mention must be reserved for the captain, who, during the season, posted two sub-25 second 200m races (a simply astonishing feat) and broke a twelve year long jump record, going close to six metres.



A new record – by a distance!



*The victorious croquet team*

## CROQUET

After three years of pain and abject defeat, in 2012 the Papplewick croquet team finally managed to vanquish their arch-rivals from Ludgrove, to secure the coveted Nigel Havers trophy. The same team of players as last year, bolstered by the addition of a sixth member, returned to seek revenge, and they came away victorious at long last.

The first two rounds of doubles finished neck and neck and this was followed by the all-important singles round. Even though two of the Papplewick players were in a strong position, they somehow gave away their advantage after a loose shot or two, to leave the scores level once again. With the final doubles round before them and with everything to play for, the two Papplewick pairs embraced the moment with faultless croquet, to finish first and second and to give them a well-earned victory.



*The Christmas Fair*

## SWIMMING

In recent years the team has struggled to retain boys as they move up the school, making fielding a team for fixtures that bit more challenging. Over the past year the boys competed against just three schools, with an encouraging influx of new swimmers to the team. In February they faced St. John's Beaumont, who fielded a mixed A/B team to make things more competitive. Although the result was the same, the races were far more evenly balanced, which made for some nail-biting races. The summer term saw two fixtures: Caldicott proved too strong for us and we struggled to keep pace, but our fortunes were reversed for the Aldro fixture, which resulted in a fairly comfortably victory.

## GOLF

Last year was a very successful one for Papplewick and the future of golf at the School looks bright, with some impressive pairs coming on. The boys have been developing their skills through weekly summer term lessons at the Berkshire and Thursday afternoon practice sessions at Wellington College and their confidence has grown throughout the term. The additions of some able Spanish golfers have ensured that Papplewick entered golf matches with a tidy looking team. The highlight of the fixture calendar must be the wins over Danes Hill and Aldro. The Wellington course is not an easy one to get around but the skilful performances of the team ensured that it came away as victors. At the annual Prep School Challenge, Papplewick came 4th out of 12 teams.



*Winter fun*

## BASKETBALL

An outstanding season saw the 1st and Colts V teams both remain unbeaten, with 100% home and away records remaining intact. The 1st team had a very good season, playing six matches and winning them all, with their strongest performance coming against Caldicott, the current IAPS National Champions, in the final game of the season, winning by 31-10. The Papplewick squad was not at full strength at the National Tournament, and it was knocked out in the semi-finals. But it will be looking to do better in 2013, with a potentially strong group once again.

The Colts squad had five fixtures and put in some excellent performances. The best of those was against Yateley Manor with a 31-3 victory. The successful season came as a result of considerable skill, hard work and a good deal of determination.



*Basketball is becoming increasingly popular*

## OLD BOYS' DAY 2012

### Cricket Match v the Headmaster's XI

For the first time for more than twelve years the annual cricket match v the Headmaster's XI had to be cancelled because of the weather. It was not actually raining on the day, but it had been doing so during the night and for several days prior to the match and unfortunately the outfield was just not playable. This was a great pity because it meant that the Old Boys' Reunion of 2002 could not take place either, after William Hollis and Samih Batchelor had worked hard in rounding up their contemporaries and ensuring a potentially respectable turnout of their year.

### NEWS UPDATE

We are always looking for news from Old Boys about what they have been doing recently – or over the years since they have left Papplewick – so do please contact us to keep us informed. Any news of Old Boys is always of interest and if it comes with a photograph it is all the more welcome! So please send any news or comments that you might have to A.R. Sparshott, c/o Papplewick, Windsor Road, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 7LH, or email it to sparsant@gmail.com.



Samih Batchelor, student teacher, preparing his lessons.

### Missing Old Boys

May I make my annual plea for Old Boys who read this to go to the Old Boys' Page of the School web site ([www.papplewick.org.uk](http://www.papplewick.org.uk) and click on About Papplewick and Old Boys.) If you click on the 'Missing Old Boys' icon you will have an opportunity to help locate those Old Boys with whom we have lost contact and whose addresses you may know. Sadly, each year we lose more than we gain.



Does anyone recognize any of these roller skaters?

## OLD BOYS' DAY 2013

### Old Boys' Day this year will be on Sunday July 7th

Please make a note of this in your diary. Once again we shall be having our customary cricket match against the Headmaster's XI. Since we have beaten the opposition more often than not over the last few years, we hope to be able to do so once again in 2013. The game will start at 11.00 a.m., lunch for teams and visitors will be at 1.00 o'clock in the marquee, and tea will be in the pavilion at 4.00 p.m. The swimming pool and tennis courts will be available for families and friends, and at 6 o'clock there will be end-of-match drinks to conclude the day's activities. We shall be delighted to see you there.

*Old Boys who left Papplewick in 2003 are particularly invited this year, ten years on, and you will be receiving a personal invitation with this newsletter. Do come if you can, perhaps arriving for tea at 4.00 p.m. – or even for lunch at 1 o'clock. It will be good to meet up with your contemporaries, watch some cricket and have a look around. You will be surprised at the changes, if you have not been back since you left.*

We shall be posting last minute details on the morning of July 7th, by 9.00 a.m. on the School website ([www.papplewick.org.uk](http://www.papplewick.org.uk)). Just click on 'About Papplewick' and 'Old Boys'. In the event of uncertain weather it is important to do this, as all activities may have to be cancelled at the last minute as they were, sadly, last year.