



The Old Eastbournian 2021

The Journal of The Eastbournian Society



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All Old Eastbournians, parents, College staff and other members of the Eastbournian Society are cordially invited to

The Annual London Dinner

Celebrating Eastbournian achievement

Tuesday 22 March 2022

**The Waldorf Hilton Hotel, Aldwych, WC2B 4DD
In the Palm Court and Adelphi Suite**

- Formal evening wear ('Black tie')
- Reception drinks from 6.30pm
- Dinner from 7.30pm
- Three-course meal
- Half bottle of wine per person
- Tea or coffee
- Places cost £85 per person (£50 for OEs aged 29 and under)

Prices are subsidised by the Eastbournian Society and the Old Eastbournian Association

Guest of honour: David Stewart



This year we are honouring David Stewart, who retired in 2021 after 37 years' service to the College: English teacher 1984-98, master in charge of rugby 1984-2006, housemaster of Wargrave 1989-98, deputy head 1998-2008, and development director 2008-21.



We also welcome as a special guest Christine Todd, who worked at the College as foundation administrator for 21 years from 1999 to 2021.

To book your place(s) please contact us on 01323 452316 or hcmcdlycott@eastbourne-college.co.uk
You can also write to: Eastbournian Society (London dinner), Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX

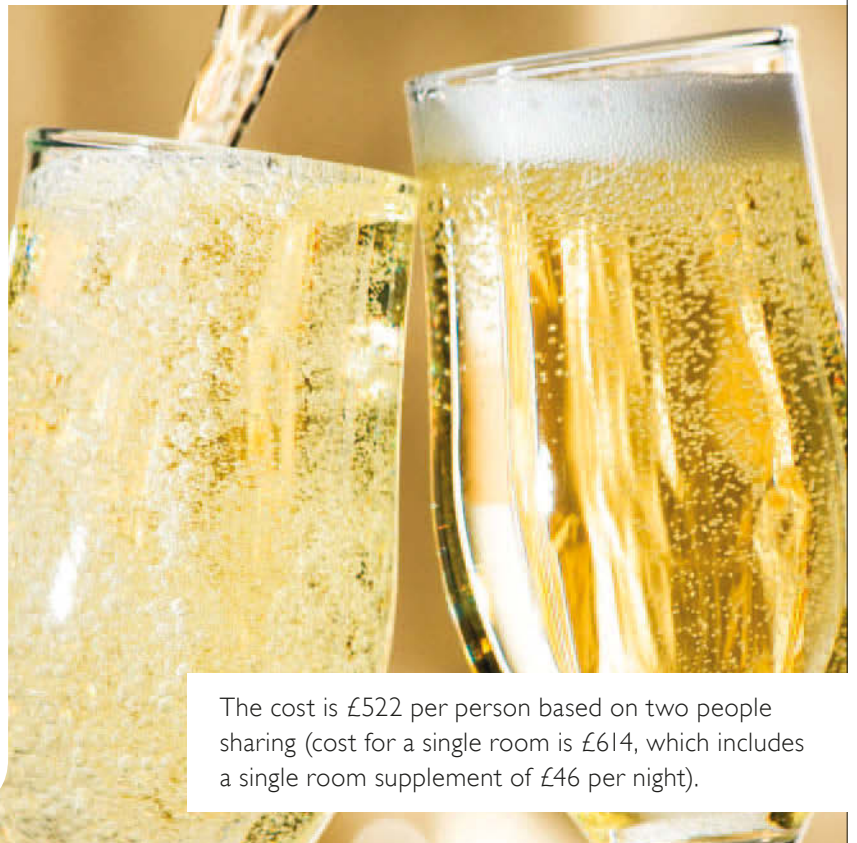
Champagne cultural and tasting tour

Tuesday 26 to Thursday 28 April 2022

An exclusive three-day trip for Eastbournian Society members to enjoy champagne tasting and cultural highlights in and around Reims

The trip includes:

- Return luxury coach travel from Eastbourne, including Eurotunnel crossing
- Two nights' four-star accommodation with breakfast
- Three lunches and one dinner
- Tastings at a number of champagne houses
- Conducted visit to old Grand Prix circuit at Reims Tinquex
- Visit to a barrel maker or a champagne chocolate producer
- Stop on return journey at Guy Boursot's wine cellar in Ardres for wine purchases



The cost is £522 per person based on two people sharing (cost for a single room is £614, which includes a single room supplement of £46 per night).

For further details and to reserve your place(s) please contact us on 01323 452316 or hcmcdlycott@eastbourne-college.co.uk



The Old Eastbournian Reunion 2022

Saturday 10 September



This year the reunion is open to all Old Eastbournians and former members of staff. Husbands, wives and partners are also welcome as guests.

You can come to as many or as few of the day's events as you wish. There will be a £25 charge for the evening dinner but lunch and tea are free.

The day's activities include:

- Lunch
- Guided tour of the College
- 1st XV and OE rugby
- Tea
- Visits to former houses
- Evensong in Chapel
- Evening drinks reception and dinner

IMPORTANT: PLACES FOR LUNCH, TEA AND/OR DINNER MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE.

To book your place(s) please contact us on 01323 452316 or hmedlycott@eastbourne-college.co.uk
You can also write to: Eastbournian Society (Reunion), Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

New Eastbournian Society events are regularly added to our events list at www.eastbourniansociety.org/forthcoming-events. This is a list of events that are planned at the time of publication, but please check the website for the latest details or call us on 01323 452316. Events are at the College unless otherwise indicated.

Tue 22 Feb
Shipping industry networking
Bury Court, 38 St Mary Axe, London

Thu 3 Mar
OECC social evening
Sixes Cricket, Fulham

Fri 4 Mar
Futures convention

Sat 5 Mar
Eastbournian Society AGM

Sat 19 Mar
Annual quiz and dinner

Tue 22 Mar
Eastbournian Society annual London dinner
The Waldorf Hilton, London

Thu 21 to Sun 24 Apr
Circus: mini arts festival

Tue 26 to Thu 28 Apr
Cultural and tasting tour of the Champagne region
Coach trip to Reims

Sun 8 May
Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra Spring
Choral Concert: Haydn The Creation
St Saviour's Church, Eastbourne

Mon 9 May
The Over-60s lunch
St George's Hill Club, Weybridge

Thu 19 May
Theatre trip: *My Fair Lady*
The London Coliseum

Sat 28 May
Hockey festival

Sun 29 May
Nugent House lunch

Sat 11 Jun
Foundation Day for benefactors and
Devonshire Society members

Sun 12 Jun
Cricketer Cup first round
College Field

Sat 18 Jun
Tour and reception for grandparents

Thu 23 Jun
Cricket: 1st XI v MCC and evening cricket
dinner with guest speaker Roger Knight

Thu 7 Jul
The annual Foundation Golf Challenge
Royal Eastbourne GC

Sat 10 Sep
Old Eastbournian reunion day

Sun 11 Sep
Eddie Izzard: *Great Expectations*

Sat 17 Sep
Reception for parents and grandparents of
new pupils

Wed 28 Sep
OE military dinner

Sat 8 Oct
Medical networking event

Wed 9 Nov
Banking, broking and asset management
networking
PwC, More London Riverside, SE1 2RT



2021 was a year of change for the Eastbournian Society.

At the end of March both David Stewart and Christine Todd retired, two stalwarts of the College who have done so much in building long-lasting relationships in the College community, in turn generating substantial funds which have proved transformative for the lives of many young people. You can read tributes to David and Christine on pages 12 to 14.

At the end of the year Lulu Brown also decided to move on from her role as events organiser, although at the time of writing she is still with us, helping out with a few extra days in January as she prepares to hand over her role. Lulu has already done a lot of work in organising the London dinner which will be held on Tuesday 22 March at the Waldorf Hilton. David and Christine will be guests of honour and we hope that as many of you as possible will join us in our celebrations.

Lulu has also done all the groundwork for the ES trip to the Champagne region, originally planned for April 2020. This of course had to be cancelled but, with travel restrictions to France now eased, we are planning to go back from 26 to 28 April. Details of this and the London dinner are at the front of the magazine.

We have welcomed two new faces at the ES offices this year. Firstly, Emma Garrett, who joined us in April as the College's new development director. Emma, who is an OE and has lifelong family connections with the College, introduces herself on page 11. She has lots of exciting ideas about moving the society forward, and those of you who receive our emails will have already heard about some of them. As you can see in her report Emma is always pleased to receive visitors so please do pop by and see us if you can.

In September Helen Medlycott joined as our community and alumni engagement officer, and has been extremely busy already with a number of initiatives helping to build and maintain relationships with both OEs and other members of the society. She also has strong connections to the College which you can read about on page 4.

We are pleased that our programme of events resumed in the summer and you will see from the list of diary dates opposite that we are planning a full programme in 2022. Remember that a regularly updated list of events is on the Eastbournian Society website at www.eastbourniansociety.org and more will be added throughout the year, so do please check it regularly. We also send out a monthly email newsletter which will alert you about new events as they are scheduled. If you do not receive our emails please send us your email address to es@eastbourne-college.co.uk and we will add you to our mailing database.

This time last year we were wondering when we would return to some sort of normality. As we start 2022, with some fresh faces and new ideas, there is a renewed feeling of confidence and we are looking forward to an exciting future.

David Blake, Editor



The ES team wish Lulu well on her departure:
John Thornley,
Helen Medlycott (holding Mavis), Lulu Brown,
Emma Garrett and
David Blake

We welcome contributions to the magazine, whether items of news, recollections, obituaries, reports of social gatherings and reunions, or longer articles which may be of interest to our readers. Photographs are welcome too. Please do get in touch with us at es@eastbourne-college.co.uk if you would like to submit something and we can advise on the length of the article.



Cover images

Educational excellence (page 18)
Les Misérables reception (page 7)
OE reunion dinner (page 28)
Reunion guests in Tim's (page 28)
Leavers at the Waldorf (page 48)

The *Old Eastbournian* 2021 was compiled and edited by David Blake. Editorial contributions are credited in the magazine. It was designed by Martin Bannon (martinbannon.design@hotmail.co.uk) and printed and distributed by Halcyon (www.halcyon-uk.com).

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Hugh Price, left, at the insurance networking event on Wednesday 24 November

It was difficult enough having to write my report at the end of 2020, a year which as far as Eastbournian Society events were concerned finished at the end of March with the first Covid lockdown, but I have to report now that 2021 did not start much better. However, things began to ease up as the summer term finished and the ES office started to organise events for the remaining months of the year.

These, of course, would be without David Stewart, whose tenure as development director ceased with his retirement at the end of March. Christine Todd, the foundation administrator and PA for the past 21 years, also retired at the same time. The Eastbournian Society and the OEA pays tribute to them for the fantastic contribution that they have both made to the College and its achievements, particularly over the past 10 years. I am very pleased to advise that David has accepted the role of vice chairman and ES ambassador, so we will continue to have the benefit of his exceptional networking knowledge and abilities coupled with his infectious good humour for a few years yet.

We will honour David's contribution and retirement at the annual London dinner at the Waldorf hotel on 22 March 2022 and we sincerely hope many of you will attend what promises to be a great evening.

On 1 April we welcomed Emma Garrett (née Le Brocq, Nugent 1984-86) who replaces David in the Foundation and Development office, and she in turn has recruited Helen Medlycott, who started in September as the new alumni and community engagement officer. Helen is married to College teacher and OE Jon Medlycott (Pennell 1989-94), and they have two children, one at the College and one at St Andrew's. The connections that Emma and Helen have with both schools make them ideal recruits to the ES office team in representing the wide constituency of ES members.

Events resumed in earnest at the end of the summer, with a drinks reception at the Waldorf Hotel on Friday 27 August for 2020 and 2021 College leavers. This was followed two weeks later

on 11 September with a very successful reunion day. The reunion was opened to all cohorts which enabled many more Eastbournians to attend, all probably as fed up as the rest of us of living under the Covid restrictions. They were entertained



College leavers at the Waldorf drinks reception

to a fine OE Stags rugby match on College Field which was followed by dinner in the Winn Building. The 2022 reunion will be held on Saturday 10 September, another date for your diaries.

I am delighted to advise that James Potter, who is captain of the Stags and led them on reunion day, has taken charge of all OE sports on the ES

committee. His input to our sporting activities will be very welcome and I hope he will be able to attract our OE Stags, cricketers and golfers, as well as players of tennis, netball and hockey, to attend the London dinner in March to honour David Stewart, who did so much to promote both College and OE sport.

October saw an inaugural evensong and harvest supper, and the delayed memorial service for Donald Perrins which was attended by 150 guests. A fitting tribute to a College legend. Two networking events, one for banking hosted by Darren Meek at PwC, and one for insurance then took place in November.

The final event of the year was to have been the Winter Ball at the College on 18 December but this had to be cancelled just two weeks beforehand. Unfortunately general caution for gatherings and the latest outbreak of the Omicron variant was enough to deter many from a good pre-Christmas jig about. Maybe next year!

While not as busy at organising events as they would have liked to have been, the Eastbournian Society office has nevertheless worked tirelessly during 2021 on everything relating to ES matters for which I and all of you should be extremely grateful. John Thornley promotes, organises and attends many ES events and is ever present with his camera. David Blake continues to amaze us with the quality of this publication, the envy of many other schools, and the ES website, which contains all the latest ES and OE news and pictures and is very easy to navigate. Please take the opportunity to go to <https://eastbourniansociety.org> and see for yourself.

Sadly our brilliant events organiser Lulu Brown left the ES office at the end of the year, and we wish her the best of luck in the future and thank her for the tremendous job she has done for us since 2013.

I said at the end of my 2020 report that we hoped 2021 would see a return to some sort of normality but sadly that was not to be. Surely 2022 will see an improvement as I do not want to be repeating myself yet again this time next year, but in the meantime I trust you will enjoy reading this excellent magazine.

**Hugh Price (School 1961-66)
Chairman, Eastbournian Society**



The Stags on reunion day

THE EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY COMMITTEE

The AGM of the Eastbournian Society was held via Zoom on Saturday 6 March 2021. At the meeting the accounts for the year ended 31 July 2020 were approved and the existing officers re-elected unanimously.

With David Stewart's retirement effective from 26 March 2021, his position as Development Director on the committee became vacant and has now been filled by Emma Garrett. However, David remains on the committee and was elected *nem con* as a vice-chairman and ES ambassador.

All other members of the committee remained *in situ*.

Helen Medlycott joined the ES office as Alumni and Community Engagement Officer on 1 September 2021, and her addition to the committee was recognised in the committee meeting held in London on 28 September 2021.

Officers

President	Vacant
Chairman	Hugh Price (School 1961–66)
Vice Chairman and Treasurer	Darren Meek (Blackwater 1982–87)
Vice Chairman and ES Ambassador	David Stewart
Development Director	Emma Garrett (Nugent 1984–86)
Headmaster	Tom Lawson

Committee

Alumni and Community Engagement Officer	Helen Medlycott
Charity	Eric Koops (Gonville 1959–63)
Database and Communications	David Blake
Events Organiser	Vacant
Events	John Thornley
Events	Alex Brown (Blackwater 1980–85)
Futures	Sarah Gordon
Parents	Alexandra Byatt, Sharon Leek, Helen Ridge
Sports	James Potter (Reeves 2012–14)
U29s Liaison Officer	Georgia Yarnall (Nugent 2013–18)

THE EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY OFFICE

The Eastbournian Society team – who we are, what we do and how to contact us



Emma Garrett

Development Director

Emma is an Old Eastbournian (Nugent 1984–86) and grew up in the College as her father was housemaster of School House. She runs the College Foundation and the Eastbournian Society. Please contact Emma if you are interested in making a gift or leaving a legacy, or wish to discuss how you can help with the College's development projects.

Emma is keen to promote the many activities of the ES and maintain close links with any person or organisation who wishes to be associated with the College and St Andrew's Prep.

01323 452308

ecbgarrett@eastbourne-college.co.uk



David Blake

Database and Communications Manager

David manages the Eastbournian Society database, updates our web pages, processes registrations on the web site and sends emails about future events. He is part of the editorial team of the *Old Eastbournian* magazine and welcomes news items and photos for the 'News of OEs' section. Please contact David with changes of address or if you would like to contact a fellow OE.

01323 452262

drblake@eastbourne-college.co.uk



John Thornley

Eastbournian Society Events

John taught modern languages at the College for 41 years from 1978 to 2019 and is a former OEA Secretary. He continues to have a number of school administrative roles, alongside which he plans, organises and helps host our cultural events, including theatre trips, talks, London walks and visits to places of interest.

01323 452314

jt@eastbourne-college.co.uk



Helen Medlycott

Alumni and Community Engagement Officer

Helen joined the team in September 2021, and her role is centred on building, maintaining and improving relations with our alumni on a local, regional and international scale. This is largely facilitated by creating an active, vibrant and strong network of OEs and OAs, led by volunteer ambassadors. Helen is married to Jonathan, an OE and maths teacher at the College, and has two children, one at St Andrew's and one at the College.

01323 452316

hcmmedlycott@eastbourne-college.co.uk

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EASTBOURNIAN SOCIETY EVENTS

With the country returning to lockdown at the beginning of the year it wasn't until the summer that we were able to resume our programme of social and cultural trips, talks and walks. All ES members are welcome to come along to these events, all of which are advertised on the ES website and in our monthly email newsletters.



Margaret Thatcher tour

On Thursday 1 July Blue Badge guide Rick Jones led two separate groups of ES members on a tour of Chelsea, starting at Sloane Square. The two groups (one in the morning, one in the afternoon), visited places with relevance to the life and career of Lady Thatcher.



Greenwich walk

This year's London walk, led by an expert guide, took a group of ES members around the streets and green spaces of historic Greenwich on Saturday 25 September. Starting by the Cutty Sark, the two-hour walk included a visit to the Old Royal Naval College, where the group, pictured here, enjoyed a visit to the Painted Hall and Chapel.



Speech Day reception

Speech Day was held on Saturday 26 June and the Eastbournian Society was pleased to host an alfresco drinks reception for ES members, parents, governors and other friends, some of whom are pictured here outside the pavilion.



Anything Goes

With theatres finally reopening, we were able to enjoy a matinee performance of the Cole Porter musical *Anything Goes* at the Barbican Theatre on Thursday 16 September, and some of the group who went along are pictured here.



Reception for parents

A reception for parents of new pupils who joined the College in 2020 and 2021 was held on Saturday 18 September in the Warren Atrium of the Nugee Building. They were welcomed by Headmaster Tom Lawson and Development Director Emma Garrett, who explained that all parents are automatically members of the Eastbournian Society and are welcome to come to our diverse range of events.



Leopoldstadt

Our next theatre trip was to see Tom Stoppard's latest play *Leopoldstadt* at London's Wyndham's Theatre on Thursday 7 October. We had originally intended to see the play, which tells an epic saga of a Jewish family in Vienna in the first half of the twentieth century, in spring 2020, but had to postpone the trip because of the Covid lockdown. Some of the ES group who went along are pictured here with Emma Garrett.



Reception for ES members

A group of long-standing Eastbournian Society members had a chance to meet Emma Garrett on Wednesday 17 November. For many it was the first time they had visited Tim's, the College café on Old Wish Road, where they enjoyed teas and coffees along with Emma (standing left), John Thornley (standing right) and Helen Medlycott, the latest recruit to the ES team (seated far right).



Pantoland at the Palladium

Our final theatrical outing was to see *Pantoland* at the London Palladium on Wednesday 8 December. The show celebrated the best of pantomime, with comedy in abundance and big show-stopping numbers.



Eastbourne pub evening

The first pub evening we have been able to hold for two years was at the Stage Door in Eastbourne on Thursday 11 November, with OEs, staff and College parents all coming along for a convivial drink.



The Mirror and the Light

A theatre trip to see *The Mirror and the Light* at the Gielgud Theatre was held on Wednesday 24 November. The play is the final chapter of Hilary Mantel's Wolf Hall Trilogy, and one of the cast was OE Giles Taylor (Gonville 1981–86), who played Archbishop Cranmer. He caught up with Emma Garrett before the performance and they reminisced about their times on stage together when they were contemporaries at the College.



Les Misérables reception

This year's College drama production was the musical *Les Misérables*, and we held a pre-show reception on Friday 10 December for a number of OEs who have gone on to make their careers in acting and entertainment. Pictured here are, left to right, Patti Clare (Nugent 1983–85), who plays Mary Taylor in *Coronation Street*; Headmaster Tom Lawson; actor and comedian Eddie Izzard (Pennell 1975–80); Chairman of Governors Philip Broadley; and Development Director Emma Garrett. Other pictures from the evening are on page 47.

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEADMASTER



The Two Toms: Tom Lawson and Tom Gregory

Perhaps, like me, you find it hard to recall the timeline of the various lockdowns, restrictions, tiers (and tears) of the last twelve months. I went back to the last OE magazine to see what I wrote in December 2020 and note that we were back in school and full of hope that we had seen the last of government shutting the door on the education of young people. Indeed, it was in the spirit of optimism that I brought the College back on the evening of 3 January 2021 only to have national lockdown imposed the following day, necessitating everyone being packed off back home on the 5th. For the new housemistresses in Blackwater and School, Hannah Simmons and Carla Whiddett-Adams, it was a unique opportunity to experience the first and last day of term in their first week in the job!

Overall, though, experience meant that operation during the second lockdown was relatively manageable. Certainly, the College's investment in IT coupled with the lessons learned the first time around meant that we could provide excellent remote learning. Even the last-minute decision-making by the government about exams and how to replace them with teacher-assessed grades was less onerous because at least this time it was expected. For the record, our pupils achieved superb results. Once the decision was made by

the Department for Education to publish the papers that would be used for assessment months in advance it was inevitable there would be many more high grades across the country. It turns out that you can do better if you know what questions will be coming up... However, we believe the grade improvement at the College contains evidence of the continuation of improved results we have seen over the last five years as well as inflationary effects, and I thank the teachers and the pupils for their tremendous hard work.

Fate had in store for us one further twist in the last part of that Covid-disrupted school year – an unanticipated ISI inspection of both regulatory compliance and educational quality. I am delighted to tell you that the College received the best possible grading of 'excellent' in both educational quality and quality of personal development, the two components of the inspection. It speaks volumes for the loyalty of the current parents, as well as pupils, that the questionnaire component gave overwhelming support and admiration for the standard of care and education at the College. Inspection did not stop us having a good season of summer sport with notable successes, as always, in cricket and tennis. Our cricketers, with modern bats, are now hitting the ball regularly from College Field onto Grange Road. Health and

safety concerns have inevitably been raised and I may be calling on you to 'save cricket' from leaving College Field in the form of raising funds for much bigger netting along that boundary. I will keep you apprised when we have more information on the planning and costing.

Gareth Jones, headmaster of St Andrew's Prep, left at the end of the school year to take up the headship of Bilton Grange school near his old Oxfordshire stomping ground. A thorough search was undertaken by Odgers Berndstn and I am delighted to tell you that the best candidate was OA and OE Tom Gregory (Powell 1988-93), who has made an excellent start this term to the headship of the prep. In line with the direction of travel towards unity between the two schools, I now have oversight responsibility for St Andrew's Prep and the more unified management structure is already creating greater opportunities for improvement. You will have noted from the Eastbournian Society newsletters that Emma Garrett (Nugent 1984-86) has taken over from David Stewart with overall responsibility for OAs, OEs, and all society members. I am delighted that those difficult shoes to fill have been taken by someone with such a deep personal connection to the College.

So we started the academic year 2021-22 with fresh new talent and great hope for the future. The last two years have seen income significantly hit, owing to Covid, but judicious management and cost-control has meant that the Charity is well positioned to move forwards, with demand for places at a record high.

You will already be aware that we held the memorial service for Donald Perrens this term – a solemn but also joyous occasion to mark one the College's most remarkable and heroic figures. If you were not here to witness it yourself, you would be very proud to have seen the Spitfire fly-past of College Field in his honour. The spontaneous cessation of the scrum by the 1st XV, and applause as it went overhead, was incredibly poignant. And the opposition was sufficiently stunned by the whole escapade that we immediately scored the match-winning try...

Thank you as always for all your support, and I look forward now to welcoming back OEs to College events and meeting you anew.

Tom Lawson,
Headmaster



A socially-distanced Speech Day at the Congress Theatre...



...and 1st XI v OE cricket on College Field



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REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS

The governors approved the charity's annual report when they met in December. The report sets out the achievements of College and St Andrew's pupils and the charity's financial performance in the second academic year affected by the pandemic.

Pupils and staff alike demonstrated great resilience as they faced another year that brought another term of remote learning, social distancing, a restricted programme of co-curricular activities and the routine of twice-weekly lateral flow testing. My chairman's introduction to the annual report follows. The full report is available on the College website at www.eastbourne-college.co.uk/about-us/structure-of-the-school. Please get in touch with me via the Eastbourne Society office if you would like to know more about what the College is doing or how you can support us.



Philip Broadley speaking in the Congress Theatre on Speech Day 2021

I am pleased to introduce the Charity's Annual Report describing the activities of our two schools, Eastbourne College and St Andrew's Prep, over the year. For the second successive year the Charity's pupils and staff, its educational provision and its financial performance were affected by the pandemic.

Everything we do as a charity is for the benefit of those we educate. We proudly devote much of the Annual Report to setting out the achievements of our approximately 1,000 pupils over another extraordinary year. Whether dealing with the uncertainties of the format of public exams, or in national academic and sporting competition, our pupils, through their achievement and resilience, continued to show the value of the education we have long sought to provide.

Both the College and St Andrew's Prep were inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in June. The two separate inspection teams reported that both schools met all the relevant compliance standards, and that the quality of the pupils' academic and other achievements and their personal development are 'excellent', the highest possible rating. I was delighted to read in the detail of the reports the inspectors' sense of the ethos of both schools.

The defining event of the academic year was the government's decision to close schools on the day the Lent term started. Building on the experience of last year, the College and St Andrew's Prep both immediately provided full programmes of remote teaching for all year groups, taking advantage of the investment made in technology in recent years. Both schools remained open for those boarders who had already returned and the children of key workers to attend in person. The Governors recognise the extraordinary efforts of all of our teachers to respond quickly to these circumstances, thank our pupils for once again embracing remote learning with enthusiasm, and our parents for their support.

The Governors decided to offer a reduction in the fees for the Lent term to reflect the lack of normal boarding and day provision, including co-curricular activities. Furthermore, continuing travel restrictions reduced the amount we were able to earn from summer lettings, much of which comes from overseas language schools. After maintaining tight control over all costs, the Charity recorded an operational surplus of £631k, compared to the prior year surplus of £115k. This is a very good result in testing circumstances, although continued prudent financial management will be needed over the coming years to build reserves and achieve the target operating margin we set ourselves of 5% in order to fund reinvestment in our existing facilities.

The Charity is financially resilient, and its education continues to be in demand: the 2021-22 academic year started with 985 pupils across all ages in the two schools. Nonetheless, the reduction in surplus generated over the last two years requires the Governors to defer some capital expenditure, and to look once again at the costs of providing every aspect of the Charity's education. Three years ago, the Governors and the Heads agreed a five-year strategic plan looking forward to 2023. The Annual Report sets out our progress in achieving the objectives of this plan in its third year as we aim to deliver the best for our pupils. We are about to begin the process of setting the next strategic plan reflecting not only the financial effects of the pandemic but also what we have learned from it in the better use of technology and in the art of being flexible.

The Charity plays an important role in the Coastal Schools Partnership (CSP), previously known as the Eastbourne Schools Partnership (ESP), an organisation that brings together the maintained and independent schools in Eastbourne and the surrounding area. The Annual Report sets out how the activities of the CSP

operated, despite challenging circumstances, and how it provided a range of opportunities for our pupils and teachers to work together with other schools to mutual benefit.

The College was established in 1867 'to provide a general education of the highest class'. Both schools strive to live up to that founding principle. We want to increase our ability to provide support to those pupils who cannot afford our full fees. Through legacies we have added £3.5m to our bursary funds in the last five years. Our long-term target is to increase our restricted and endowed funds from £11m currently to £30m. During the year 234 pupils, 25% of the total, received some assistance with their fees through means-tested bursaries. The Governors greatly appreciate the support of a number of trusts and individuals who, in addition, contribute to the fees of seven current pupils. We also value the commitment of our Devonshire Society members who have promised to support the Charity in their wills. It is the generosity of Devonshire Society members that has been the source of our recent bursary funding.

The Right Reverend Monsignor John Klyberg's estate was fully realised during the year and a further £346k has been recognised in the accounts and added to the John Klyberg Bursary Fund. The Charity is his principal beneficiary, and his wish was for his legacy to be used in support of providing education at the College for those, including the children of Old Eastbournians, otherwise unable to afford it. John's remarkable generosity to his former school will add significantly to our Bursary provision.

During the year we received a donation of £450k from the Richard Holliday Foundation in memory of Richard Durden Holliday, OE, and his wife Gillian. The Richard Holliday Fund has been set up as an expendable endowment and will fund one new sixth form entrant per annum for the next twenty-five years.

Taking account of the Charity's income from educational and letting activities, and supplemented by investment income, donations and legacies, the Charity's total funds increased by £1.2m during the year. As we are a charitable company, all our funds are used to support the education we provide at the College and St Andrew's Prep.

On behalf of the Governors, I thank Tom Lawson and Gareth Jones, our two Heads, Abbey Gough, our Chief Operating Officer, and the over four hundred staff who teach at and support the two schools. I also thank all those who continue to support our fundraising. Without them all we would not be able to provide the education we do. At the end of the summer term, we said farewell to Gareth Jones who left St Andrew's Prep after six successful years to take up the headship of Bilton Grange Preparatory School in Warwickshire. The Governors were pleased to be able to appoint Tom Gregory as his successor and welcomed him and his family to St Andrew's at the start of the academic year.

Philip Broadley
8 December 2021

FOUNDATION AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT



Emma in Tim's, the College café

Development Director Emma Garrett writes:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued interest in, and support of the College, particularly in these extraordinary times.

I would also like to introduce myself to those of you who have not yet met me. As you have probably gathered, I have replaced David Stewart in the Foundation and Development Office, which is responsible for both the 'friendraising' and fundraising crucial to the continued success of our schools. My connection to the College spans over 50 years; the daughter of Philip and Sally Le Brocq (my father 'Jock' taught at the school from before I was born until I was 20 years old) and an OE myself, I am well-placed to continue the sterling work of my predecessors.

In taking over from David, I have found one of the hardest things that I have to deal with is being the first point of contact when one of our community dies; sadly, this is not a rare occurrence. Indeed, some of you may well be reading this page having already scanned the obituaries at the back of the magazine. I know many of our alumni turn to those pages first, in order to see which of their friends, peers or teachers have died in the past 12 months, many of them tragically way before their time. Our heartfelt thanks to those who have so lovingly put together these tributes, it is neither an enviable, nor an easy task, however it does give us a unique insight into the lives of fellow Old Eastbournians, often highlighting the impact the school had on that particular person, and vice versa.

We are aware of 37 OEs who died during 2021 and I wanted to focus here on one particular man, Peter Homburger (School 1942-47), who died in hospital on 10 June 2021 aged 93, after a short illness. As you may already have read in his obituary on page 70, in 1939, Peter and his brothers, Walter (School 1939-40) and Wolf (School 1941-44), were sent to England on the penultimate Kindertransport train, having escaped Nazi Germany.

After five years at the College, Peter moved to the USA where he was drafted in the 45th Infantry Division and served as a chaplain's assistant

in Japan and Korea. He later married and raised four boys, settling in Denver, Colorado, where he worked for the local electric utility company until his retirement. He was always a loyal and enthusiastic advocate of the College which had given him refuge during the war. For him 'Ex Oriente Salus' wasn't just a school motto but had real resonance. His salvation was literally coming to the College as a boy – 'Salvation from the East[bourne]'.

While the school made a significant impact on Peter's life, he in turn was certainly one of those OEs who returned the favour. He was one of our longest-serving OE worldwide representatives and a frequent and substantial contributor to Foundation appeals.

In the Foundation and Development Office we are reminded every day that the College would not be here without the vision of people like Peter and our founders – the first of whom in 1867 was Dr Charles Christopher Hayman 'to him rather than to any other single person should belong the honour of being counted as the school's founder', as written in *A Centenary History of Eastbourne College* by Vin Allom, a member of staff at the school for 37 years.

Peter Homburger was a proud member of the Devonshire Society, our legacy club which celebrates its 20th birthday this year, and we will be marking this and showing our appreciation on Foundation Day on 11 June, toasting Peter Homburger, a year and a day after his death. The

generosity of people like Peter means that the Charity can help fund more pupils who would otherwise not be able to come to the College – offering life-changing support.

My thanks go not only to our generous benefactors and their families, but also to those who volunteer their time, encourage friends to engage and organise tables at events and gatherings. Particular thanks to Hugh Price and John Maidens in their capacities as chairs of the Eastbournian Society and Foundation and Development Advisory Board committees. Also to my team in the office; David Blake, Helen Medlycott, John Thornley, Paul Jordan and of course Lulu Brown who has now moved on to pastures new.

David Stewart, like Vin Allom, was a member of staff at the college for an incredible 37 years and we will be thanking him for his steadfast and loyal service at the Annual Dinner in London on 22 March - I do hope as many of you as possible will join us to mark this occasion.

The Foundation and Development Office is poised to emerge all guns blazing from the forced hibernation of the last two years with a vast range of ES events, a new Living Legacy programme, a celebration of 20 years of giving, a revolutionary online community platform and increased opportunities to support pupils with transformational crowdfunding bursaries. We look forward with optimism to the coming year and to reconnecting with you – the life blood of our school.



Just a few of the many visitors whom Emma has welcomed back to the College in 2021

DAVID STEWART



David Stewart retired as development director at the end of March 2021, after nearly 13 years in the role. In total he spent 37 years at the College, as English teacher from 1984 to 1998, housemaster of Wargrave from 1989 to 1998, deputy head from 1998 to 2008 and development director from 2008 until his retirement. He was also master in charge of rugby for 22 years, from 1984 to 2006.

keen to thank in person all those generous enough to pledge a legacy for bursary funds.

Over the years David built up many friendships with people associated with the school, not only former pupils, but parents, staff and other supporters. Out of those friendships came loyalty, affection and generosity towards the College, for which we should all be grateful.

Unfortunately, as we were in the middle of the Covid pandemic David was unable to have a big send-off at the time of his retirement, but the Common Room did say farewell via Zoom. Ian Sands (Powell 1988-93), himself a member of the teaching staff since 2002, paid tribute to David:

David has made an immense contribution to school life at Eastbourne College. He comes from good schoolmastering stock: his father was headmaster of Brighton College and Haileybury. David himself is an old boy of Uppingham and a sportsman of real pedigree. A schoolboy international for Scotland at rugby, single-figure golfer and an outstanding cricketer. He played 2nd XI cricket for Sussex in the era of Tony Greig and I believe completed his qualification for the MCC with

good communicator who inspired you to do your best. He was an outstanding rugby coach who was master in charge for 22 years and took the school's rugby to new heights. He produced a number of impressive sides that 'punched above their weight' on a very strong fixture list against top schools such as Dulwich, Whitgift and Epsom, as well as Cranleigh and Tonbridge.

His sides were fit, skilled, and could find ways of winning. David's attention to detail and ability to

house concerts: the boys had to sing the house song at full beans before the house tuck shop was allowed to open – a man-management classic!

A deceptively fast runner, he once sprinted the length of Blackwater Road, waving his cricket bat, cheered on by the boys, when he caught a thief in the process of stealing a stereo through a ground floor window. The official version is that David caught him, but other accounts... 'vary'... He was fondly remembered too for his crazy dog,

Under his leadership the Eastbournian Society was created in 2012, and it now brings together our extended family of Old Eastbournians, Old Androvians, Old Aschamians, parents of both current and former pupils, current and former staff, and local people and businesses and other friends and supporters. One of his initiatives was to develop the series of business and career networking events, allowing current pupils to meet OEs, parents and others in specific professions, helping with their career choices and personal development.

He oversaw major fundraising campaigns which resulted in the Birley Centre and the Project 150 development, as well as continuing to increase the number and value of pupil bursaries. A regular at the annual Foundation Golf Challenge even before he was development director, he proved to be a highly



David, left, with the unbeaten 1st XV squad of 1996

develop spirited sides was legendary. There are a couple of unbeaten seasons that stand out, and he produced half a dozen or so junior and senior rugby internationals. He has been an excellent cricket coach working with the first team as well as age group sides. He and Nigel, along with professionals Ted James and John Shepherd, were a fantastic talent pool of experience for young cricketers to learn from.

David's star was quick to rise: in 1989 he was appointed as housemaster of Wargrave. He was superb in this role, recruiting some top families and talented lads from far afield, in the days before sports scholarships existed. He persuaded the school to join the two Wargrave buildings together with a link common room. Along with Anthea and his growing family of three fantastic kids, Bella, Becky and Angus, not to mention his dog (the rugby-inspired Dooley), Wargrave was transformed from house to a home. David, the housemaster, was renowned for singing loudly in Chapel, playing *Hey Jude* on the piano in the common room and had a genius tactic to prepare for

Dooley. Mrs Southwell memorably reports, that on a prospective tour of Wargrave, 'Dooley's head was in her crotch, before the family had



Housemaster of Wargrave in the early 1990s

even made it through the door to look around.' An unconventional greeting, but they were charmed in the moments that followed, instinctively knowing that their boys would feel right at home in David's care. He was in his element as housemaster and it was easy to see why he was so popular.

In 1998, after nine years in Wargrave, David was appointed as



Stewie's All Stars at the Foundation Golf Challenge in 2019

effective auctioneer at the evening dinner, persuading the golfers to part with large amounts of money for auction items, which helped fund the Peter Bibby Bursary. The other major event in the Foundation calendar was the lunch for Devonshire Society members and other benefactors, and David was always

five successive hundreds. With this background he would offer a school a great deal as a schoolmaster.

In September 1984 David was recruited from Hurst by Chris Saunders and Nigel Wheeler, to join a dynamic English department. I know from first-hand experience that he was a superb teacher of English, a

second master, to take over from Forbes Wastie – big shoes to fill. He handled the transition masterfully and his star continued to rise. He was a huge support for Charlie Bush and invaluable in helping settle Simon Davies into his new post. He had an excellent knowledge of the pupils in the school, trusted his hsms, and was supportive and decisive when things needed to be passed up the line to him. He is a man of integrity and was an impressive second master. This was in an era when it was still possible to run the school, overseeing pastoral care, while being good value in the classroom and be the sports coach that boys aspired to play for. On his watch, he oversaw the change to make Eastbourne fully co-ed, the development of four girls houses and a better gender balance within the staff. He even coached girls UI5C netball in the Lent term. He led by example and was widely respected by staff, parents and pupils for possessing sound judgement, perspective and a good sense of humour.

For many in common room they will recognise David in his most recent role. An impressive figure who has led Foundation Office initiatives to support the school as it modernises its academic plant through developments such as the Birley Centre and the game-changing PI50 build. He has played a pivotal role in securing significant finance, from generous benefactors, to enable the school to have facilities to

be proud of; to allow us to impress and recruit prospective pupils and staff in a highly competitive market place. More than that, his current role has seen him develop funds to provide bursaries to give opportunities for pupils that would otherwise not be possible. He has facilitated the investing in people as well as the bricks and mortar – surely the most valuable part of any good school.

David, more than most, appreciates the value of a good education, and he epitomises Eastbournian spirit. For those of you that have seen David in action, networking at events or hosting charity auctions, he is a master of his art who people want to help. I cannot think of anyone better for the OE community and we have been lucky to have him in this role, at such a key time in the

College's history. As the director of the Foundation with very extensive connections, his jet-set travels have taken him to different corners of the globe. He is always touched by the warmth of the welcome so far from home – something which emphasises how much people value his advice and friendship, well beyond their years at the school. He has always been a firm believer of giving quality staff, quality time with good children. How fitting it is, that in his final career at the school, he has enabled all this, while contributing to the provision of some top-class facilities. He leaves a legacy for generations of future Eastbournians to enjoy, not just those he influenced as the consummate schoolmaster.

His time at the College is marked out by exceptional service and com-

mitment to a school, as well as a set of values which he passionately believes in. Thirty-seven years is a long time to make such consistent and telling contributions. There will have been very few staff in the College's recent history that could make such a significant impact, as David has done, in his four different roles.

For those in common rooms past and present, he has been good to work with: approachable, supportive and inspiring. These next few cricketing analogies may well make him a little uncomfortable. But for the man who amassed 6,770 runs and is the President of Uppingham Rovers, this would be how I would assess his career at Eastbourne:

'David is a class act and a consummate team player. He was always quick to assess the wicket he was playing on, he would keep his eye on the ball and play to his strengths. He would know which deliveries he should play at, and what he could leave. He plays with a straight bat and has demonstrated test match application. But his career has not been about occupying the crease or trading in singles. David has been a match winner and a game changer. He has played one hell of an innings and has simply smashed it out of the park.'

David, from all of us in the common room, a heartfelt thank you for everything you have done for our school, over your remarkable career. We wish you a wonderful retirement and next chapter.



At a presentation in the Birley Centre to raise funds for Project 150 in 2015

David replied:

Thank you Ian for those extremely kind words. It's acutely embarrassing hearing someone say nice things about you. The truth is that I feel very lucky to have been part of a great school and worked with so many talented colleagues.

Wrapping up 37 years in a few minutes is a tough call. I could spend the time taking the mickey out of Dusty which would be easy enough, and possibly funny, but it would be unfair to do that to a younger man with even less hair than I have. So instead I'm going to play Captain Sensible and try and summarise why I think this is such a good school. Indeed I want to go a step further and say this is a great school. If you judge a school or any organisation on its product then having met literally thousands of OEs over the last 12 years the only conclusion that I can reach is that so many great people must have been educated at a great school. And with that in mind I've never understood why we are inclined to be so modest and understated... almost lacking confidence in who we are and what we do. I suspect we've always secretly enjoyed being the underdog and if that helps make us tick and motivate us, then so be it.... the danger is that if that becomes too deeply embedded in our psyche it can become a self-fulfilling prophesy.

So, surprise surprise, my acronym for the five reasons why this is a great school is the word GREAT!

G is for Generosity... and I mean specifically generosity of spirit. From my first day here the warmth of welcome and the friendliness of everyone around the place was striking and very special. Over the years we've always prided ourselves on the quality of pastoral care – and rightly so – and that happens because of the generosity of spirit and the kindness and humanity and care that staff show. But it's also generosity of spirit that explains why College staff, teaching and support staff, are prepared to go the extra mile for the pupils over and over again. That generosity of spirit and humanity makes this a great school and long may that continue.

R is for Resilience – a term that's very much flavour of the month. Tom has coined a neat phrase which is that 'Eastbournians are good people who others want to be around'. In my experience Eastbournians are down-to-earth, determined types who don't take themselves too seriously, who have a sense of humour and who most importantly don't or won't give up. Where that resilience comes from is interesting – some of it probably comes from the brickwork and crenellations on the Memorial Block and some

from our history; we are certainly not a school that was born with a silver spoon in its mouth. Perhaps Eastbournians are instinctively 'doers and not spectators' who know that doing things for others is more rewarding and fulfilling than focusing on oneself and becoming addicted to social media? I hope so. You have all shown bucket loads of resilience in getting through the last year and taking your pupils with you – well done and long may that continue – it makes us a great school.

E is not for excellence as you might be expecting... that is a given bearing in mind the fees parents pay. E is for Eclectic. The eclectic nature of our intake means that we've always had a broad and diverse range of pupils and that is a thoroughly desirable thing. It makes the school a realistic and healthy environment where everyone understands that the world is not exclusively made up of A* people. Our pupils have to learn quickly that the world is made up of all sorts of different types and talents. This eclecticism is a strength and makes this a good place for kids, to grow up in – rather than being a detraction in some way, it's another part of what makes this a great school.

A is for Ambition. I have absolutely loved working in a school which has been so keenly competitive and in which everyone wants the

best for everyone else. We have a track record second to none in squeezing the very best from our pupils, Surely what parents want to know is that their children are in a school where they are happy and which will add as much value to their child as possible. As staff you move heaven and earth to encourage and support them with endless extra lessons and practices. They may not say thank you at the time but one day some will.

T inevitably is for Teamwork. Working in an organisation where results and outcomes have always been greater than the sum of its parts has been exciting and a privilege. Long may your superb teamwork continue. And whilst on the subject of teams I would like to publicly thank my team in the Foundation and Eastbournian Society office who have patiently engaged with,

and looked after the wider College community. They have done it in such a way that OEs and other friends of the College generously support the development of facilities and bursaries; they have become an integral part of your team and together we've come a long way.

So there you have it – a special combination of qualities that makes this a great school. Perhaps as we emerge from the pandemic, using Project 150 and new technical expertise at our finger tips as a launch pad, we can begin to promote with even greater confidence the benefits of an Eastbourne College education. The College has so much of which to be proud and so much to look forward. Good luck with everything, thank you again and I look forward to cheering you on from somewhere along the coast in Kent.



David with Christine Todd and Lulu Brown on the ES trip to Champagne country in May 2016

CHRISTINE TODD AND LULU BROWN



Christine was the longest-serving member of the Foundation and Eastbournian Society team when she retired as foundation administrator in March 2021, having worked at the College for over 21 years.

She joined the College in 1999 as appeal administrator alongside the appeal chairman Forbes Wastie. The development appeal at the time successfully raised funds towards the building of the new science centre, which opened in 2002, and the conversion of the old science building into a modern design and technology centre.

Christine was there at the start of the Devonshire Society, the College's legacy club, in 2002, which has gone from strength to strength. She built up a personal rapport with the society's members and was always delighted to meet them at the annual Devonshire Society Day, later Foundation Day. The day took a lot of organising and it was down to Christine's efficiency and professionalism that the attendees always had such an enjoyable time, with a Chapel service, a musical interlude provided by pupils, a delicious lunch and often an afternoon's cricket to watch afterwards.

Christine also built up the first computerised database of Old Eastbournians, which was used as the basis for appeal and fundraising mailings. We still have in the office the original card index on a giant rolodex! Christine's work in transferring this to an Access database meant that later transfers of data, which have ultimately been imported to our current system, were made considerably easier.

Another regular event which Christine helped organise was the annual Foundation Golf Challenge at the Royal Eastbourne Golf Club, which started in July 2005. Again, this took a lot of organising, not only with the administration of teams of players, but sorting out prizes, sponsors and auction items, liaising with the golf course and working out a seating plan for the evening dinner. These days were always great successes and raised considerable sums for bursary funds.

Throughout her time at the College Christine also helped organise a number of receptions and other fund-raising events, dealt with the administration of keeping track of various donations, whether they be from legacies, direct debits, standing orders or one-off payments, and ensured that donors were aware of the tax benefits (to the College) of making a Gift Aid declaration.

Over the years Christine worked with three Foundation/Development Directors: Forbes Wastie, Kim Deshayes and David Stewart. They all valued her calm, unflappable manner, her organisational skills and above all her easy-going and friendly nature which was much appreciated by the many OEs and others that she would regularly meet.

Christine showed great loyalty and dedication to the College, and her work – often done quietly and in the background – has helped make

the College a better place today. She was a real pleasure to have as a colleague and she is greatly missed. We wish her well in her retirement.



We are very sad to say goodbye to Lulu Brown, after almost nine years as the Eastbournian Society events organiser. Lulu joined us in 2013 as the number and variety of our events started to expand and, although only part-time (two days a week during term time), she always worked above and beyond to ensure that events ran smoothly. Attendees would often see only the end result and not be aware of all the organising that went on beforehand: finding and booking venues, taking reservations and payments, drawing up seating plans and dealing with those last-minute changes that required extra name badges to be printed even as guests were arriving.

Lulu can be proud of the many business and career networking events that she helped organise, putting current pupils in touch with OEs and parents in different professions, setting a number of them off on the first step towards their future careers. In recent years she also helped with the annual careers evening (now the futures conven-

tion), which saw OEs return to the College to pass on advice to pupils. Then there were the big events: the annual London dinner, the OE reunion and the 2018 Winter Ball, which saw nearly 270 guests pack into the Dining Hall for a spectacular party to celebrate the end of our 150th anniversary year.

Lulu's favourite events to organise were the ES coach trips to Europe: the First World War battlefields tours in 2014 and 2019, the wine-tasting and heritage tour to the Champagne region of France in 2016 and the trip to Normandy to the site of the D-Day landings in 2018. A return visit to the Champagne region is planned for 2022 and this time Lulu hopes to enjoy it as a participant rather than an organiser!

Many will know that Lulu is an OE (Nugent 1982-84), as are her brother Alex (Blackwater 1980-85) and father Robin (Pennell 1945-49), so we were always assured of extra attendees, with school friends and family coming along to many events. Lulu's commitment to making sure that every event, no matter how small, was as enjoyable and smoothly run as possible, was paramount in their increasing popularity, and she was always pleased when OEs would re-engage with the College, some of whom we had lost touch with and who hadn't been back for many years.

Lulu will be missed by the rest of the ES team, not only for her (occasionally) fruity language and her propensity suddenly to do 100 squats as part of a charity fundraising challenge, but also for her sense of fun. We know that we have not seen the last of Lulu, as she is bound to be back at a future dinner or party, but we'll just have to make sure that she doesn't start helping to clear the glasses at the end of the evening...

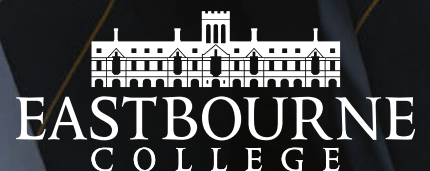
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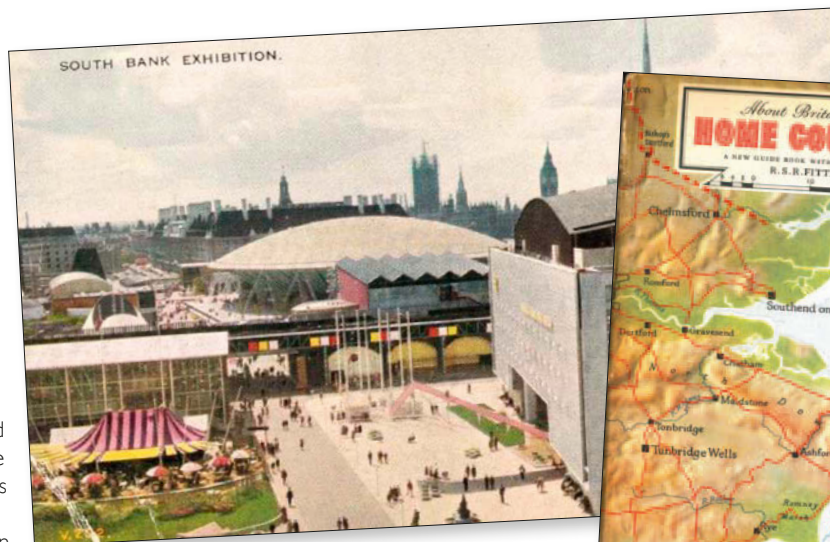
THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN

What do OEs Sir Hugh Casson (School 1924–27) and Richard Fitter (Pennell 1926–29) have in common?

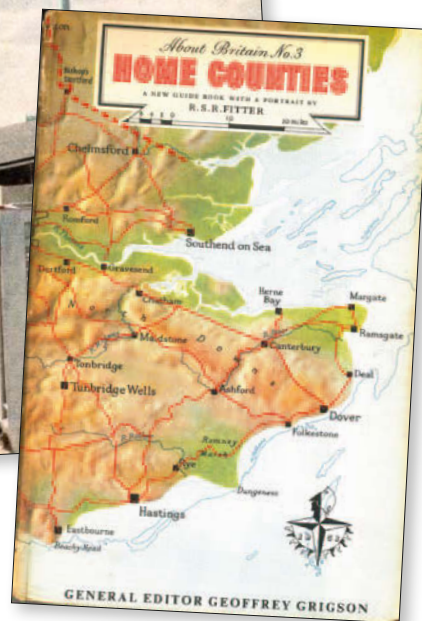
Both Casson and Fitter were involved in the design and promotion of the Festival of Britain, which celebrated its seventieth anniversary in 2021.

Planned to show off the best in British art and design, the festival opened on the South Bank of the Thames on 4 May 1951. Casson, who designed the Second World War memorial at the College Memorial Ground and opened the new College art school in 1980, was director of architecture for the exhibition. He visited the College in October 1950 and 'gave a most interesting talk' about his work at the festival site.

Another OE, Richard Fitter (Pennell 1926-29), a noted naturalist, was also involved. A series of guide books entitled *About Britain* were published as a contribution to the festival and Fitter was chosen to write about the Home Counties. Not only did he describe the counties' flora and fauna but he also detailed the development of urban and suburban areas and the growth of industry in



The Festival of Britain site on the South Bank



The Home Counties edition of *About Britain*, written by Richard Fitter

the various regions.

These guide books were celebrated in a book, *About Britain – A Journey of Seventy Years and 1,345 Miles*, published in 2021, to celebrate the anniversary of the festival. Author Tim Cole follows the original routes taken by Fitter and the other writers as he seeks to explore the continuity of Britain over 70 years.

In the Ascham section of the November 1951 *Eastbournian* magazine, Michael Calvert (Ascham 1946-52), described the prep school's visit to the festival on 24 May. Having first had breakfast at

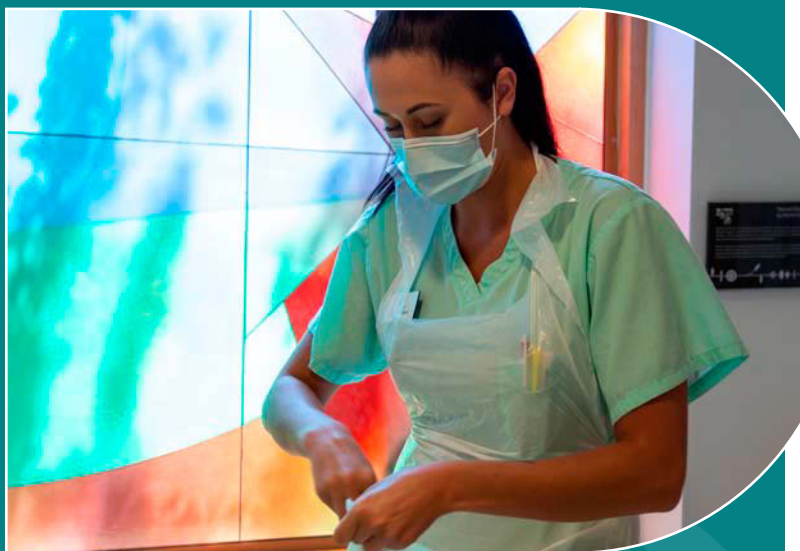
a Lyons Corner House, they proceeded to the exhibition:

'We saw huge railway locomotives and very small models of ships, factories, machinery and aeroplanes. We also saw china being hand painted and paper being made and a man making glass. It was fascinating to watch the little birds and fragile glasses being produced under his skilful hands. We had a picnic lunch, and then we saw the Dome of Discovery'.

Paul Jordan

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SOCIAL GATHERINGS

London lunch



A number of Old Eastbournians met for lunch at Santini restaurant in Ebury Street, London on Thursday 24 June. Organised by Nicholas Cooper CBE (School 1964-68), it was an opportunity for old friends to have an informal get-together after many months of lockdown restrictions. They also gave thanks to David Stewart for his dedicated work as Foundation Director and his commitment to the College. Seated around the table from left to right are: Keith Gill (Wargrave 1989-94), Nicholas Cooper, Martin Gill (Wargrave 1987-92), Tony Muskat (Blackwater 1965-70), David Stewart and Iqui Gelu (Pennell 1964-69).

Class of 1979 reunion



The annual reunion lunch for College leavers in 1979 was held on Thursday 28 October at Davy's in Plantation Place in the City of London. With last year's get-together not taking place because of the Covid pandemic, this was the first time the group had all met up for nearly two years. Organiser Chris Porter (Gonville 1974-79) said: 'The Class of '79 had a thoroughly enjoyable reunion lunch... it was great to see everyone looking so well after such a long time away with restrictions.'

1993 leavers in Eastbourne



A group of leavers from 1993 met up in Eastbourne in November for a reunion which involved visiting a number of pubs in South Street. They also had a chance to watch rugby on College Field and catch up with Jon Medlycott (Pennell 1989-94), who teaches maths at the College. Picture here, left to right, are: Chris Sharpe (Blackwater 1988-93), Chris Bott (Reeves 1988-93), Steve Darko (Blackwater 1988-93), Chris Sampson (Blackwater 1988-93), Mike Duck (Blackwater 1988-93), James Merrington (School 1988-93) and James Hopper (Blackwater 1988-93).

Reunion for 2011 leavers



The class of 2011 got together on Saturday 18 September for a reunion to mark ten years since they left the College. The group met up at the Falcon pub in Clapham to enjoy a drink and a lot of reminiscing about their school years. Emma Garrett was on hand to buy a few drinks on behalf of the Eastbournian Society. One of the OEs there said afterwards: 'People hugely enjoyed it and it's sparked a lot of old connections.'

Stags reunion for David Stewart



A number of OEs, including players from the unbeaten 1st XV sides of 1996 and 1997, got together to celebrate with recently retired David Stewart, who was master in charge of rugby at the College for 22 years, from 1984 to 2006. They had a meal at No 1 Lombard Street in the City of London on Friday 19 November. Seated round the table from left to right are: James Bennett (Craig 1993-98), Charlie Sargent (Wargrave 1992-97), Simon Whitton (Pennell 1992-97), Nigel Wheeler (College staff 1976-2006), Basil El-Titi (Reeves and Gonville 1993-98), Johnny Rogerson (Wargrave 1993-98), Alex Simcox (Powell 1993-98), Tom Grover (Wargrave 1994-99), John Groenen (Craig 1997-99), David Stewart, Harry Porter (Pennell 1993-98) and Paul Stewart (Wargrave 1994-99).

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The College has achieved the best possible rating for quality of education in its latest inspection report, ranking as excellent for pupils' academic and other achievements as well as their personal development.

The Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI), the body which inspects independent schools in England, awarded the co-educational independent school the highest ranking available across both parts of its Educational Quality Inspection. The inspection was carried out over four days in June 2021 and the report was published as A-level and GCSE results soared for the fourth year running.

The ISI report praised the school for enabling pupils to be themselves and achieve their best, and said they demonstrate 'remarkably high levels of self-confidence, self-reliance and resilience.' Pupils were also found to have excellent communication skills, purposeful and supportive relationships with each other and great respect for diversity in the school community.

Headmaster Tom Lawson said: 'I am absolutely delighted with our latest ISI report, which very much reflects the outcome we strive to deliver – pupils enjoy learning, they are ambitious and equipped with the skills to lead happy, fulfilling lives as they progress to adulthood.

'Despite the challenges of the past year, we have shown how our holistic approach to education is having the best possible impact on our pupils' personal development as well as their academic work. To achieve the top ranking of excellent in both these categories is quite rare. The report's findings are testament to our core values of participation, kindness, integrity and the pursuit of excellence.'

Strong exam results

In the summer, the College celebrated another year of strong A-level results, which were up for the fourth year in a row. Over 82 per cent



Pupils celebrate their A-level results in August

of grades awarded were A*–B, an 11 per cent increase when compared to the average from the last four years.

Some of the top grades were achieved across art, chemistry and further mathematics. The school is particularly proud of its girls' success in STEM subjects, as the number of girls taking these subjects remains low nationally. Girls represent half of the top achievers at the school, and this year six of our young women are leaving the College to read degrees at Oxford and Cambridge.

In addition, six Year 12 pupils received scholarships to the Immerse Education summer school

programme in Cambridge and Oxford to study a subject of their own choice. These residential summer programmes are taught by world-class academics covering some twenty subject areas, and provide supplemental learning for sixth formers looking to further their understanding in specific disciplines. All six gained their scholarships by entering an essay competition in which they had to write 500 words on a pre-set question relating to their chosen subject. They also each received a Headmaster's Commendation for their efforts.

OE WOMEN TAKE UP OXBRIDGE PLACES

Monday 8 March 2021 marked International Women's Day, one of the core missions of which was 'to shine a spotlight on activity encouraging and uplifting women to pursue goals without bias or barriers'. This article was originally published on the College website in March and shows that good co-educational / mixed schooling is an excellent environment for girls to achieve at the highest level. We are pleased to publish a slightly revised version here.

It goes without saying that competition for Oxbridge places is fierce. The universities receive, on average, between five and seven applications for every place available. To make matters more challenging, according to their 2019 admissions reports, around 69 per cent of Oxford's UK offers go to students from the state sector. The same is true for Cambridge, give or take a few per cent, and this year was no exception.

Proving that girls can thrive in a supportive co-educational setting, enter Isabel, Isobel, Katharine, Natasha, Sandra, and Tianlu, six girls who have received an offer to study at one of these prestigious higher education establishments. What stands out about this group of girls is the sheer breadth of subject areas in the places offered.

Comment from the headmaster

As an advocate of mixed education 'with the vigour of a convert', Headmaster Tom Lawson sees the girls' success as a by-product of delivering a gold-standard education that moves with the times.

'These six women of the future are role models for pupils at Eastbourne College, demonstrating what can be achieved by accessing the inclusive, balanced and ambitious education provided here. I am proud that we, yet again, have proven that happy, healthy co-education is a brilliant environment for girls to achieve at the highest possible level in STEM subjects as well as across a wide range of humanities.'



Isabel Stead

Isabel enrolled into the sixth form at Eastbourne College after many happy years at local state-maintained school Cavendish. She studied A-levels in biology, chemistry, further mathematics, physics, and Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), and supplemented her STEM focus by being a member of the College's large pre-medicine school. Isabel applied for the Professor Soddy Award (a 100 per cent funded place for particularly talented pupils from state education) and was successful. Isabel joined Trinity College, Cambridge, this year to study medicine.

'I moved to Eastbourne College from state education for sixth form. I never thought I would have the opportunity to study at the College but receiving the Professor Soddy Scholarship made it possible. The highly tailored timetable has really helped me focus on my core subjects and my love of maths was a huge factor in applying to Cambridge to study medicine. I still can't believe I got a place and I'd like to say a massive thank you to all the staff who helped me along the way.'

Sandra Fuhrmann



Oxbridge entrant Sandra hails from Germany and came to Eastbourne on a one-year placement to study at another school in the Eastbourne Schools Partnership (ESP). She enjoyed it so much she stayed on. What started as

a twelve-month UK education experience, led to an offer to join Eastbourne College's sixth form and an offer from Cambridge to study French and Spanish where she will be based at Pembroke College.

Sandra continues to enjoy the independence that Eastbourne College's collegiate-style boarding system provides and speaks highly of the school's Oxbridge preparation programme.

'I had been a student at a German state school for nine years. Then I attended a maintained school in Eastbourne for a year abroad to do my GCSEs, which I completed in one year [instead of two]. I only thought I might be away from Germany for one year but after being introduced to Eastbourne College through the ESP I realised what a fantastic opportunity I had in front of me through an amazing boarding experience and smaller class sizes. To come to England at the age of fifteen was my best decision so far. I have used every opportunity offered to broaden my horizons.'

I have been passionate about languages since a young age and living abroad strengthened that. After participating in the extra Saturday sessions, this reinforced my love for languages and literature, and through the Oxbridge preparation programme the College provides I decided to go for it. I am delighted to go to Cambridge to study a course that covers both language and literature. In the future I would like to be a foreign correspondent to the BBC or teach to help other students.'



Isabel Mitchell

Isabel, from Bexhill, was also a fellow Professor Soddy Award holder and studied biology, chemistry, further mathematics, and EPQ. Another STEM girl, Isabel found her spark in the sciences. She took up her place at Homerton College, Cambridge, to read natural sciences and likes the idea of going into laboratory research.

'After receiving the Professor Soddy Scholarship Award I joined Eastbourne College at sixth form. I study biology, chemistry, maths, further maths (plus EPQ), so a science-related course was always something I was passionate about studying at university. In my opinion, Eastbourne College isn't like a usual college. There is a lot of structure and the teachers give the right amount of push to help you achieve and exceed your goals. Through studying natural sciences at Cambridge, there are lots of possible career paths. At the moment I like the idea of going into laboratory research.'



Tianlu Wang

Tianlu was one of the top 0.1 per cent of pupils in the UK who achieved a clean sweep of 9s and A*s at GCSE. Having aced no less than 13 subjects, this academic and music scholar went on to study economics, further mathematics, history, and EPQ. Tianlu continued to thrive, embracing the endless opportunities available to her six days a week. As a day girl, she had everything the boarders did save for the bed, and took advantage of the optional, guided Saturday morning enrichment sessions which included a full programme of academic, creative, and co-curricular pursuits. Tianlu went to Murray Edwards College in 2021.

'I am delighted to have received an offer from Cambridge, and I am eager to extend my studies in economics, especially at such a prestigious university. The admissions process was incredibly gruelling, but undoubtedly worth it for this positive result. Both of my older sisters attended Cambridge, and I am thrilled that I have the opportunity to do so as well.'



Katherine Linaker

Cello playing music scholar Katherine regularly performed at the many concerts the College put on each term and made use of the raft of remote creative arts opportunities during lockdown to continue wowing the school community. For Katherine, A-levels and activities at Eastbourne College include French, Greek, history, instrumental music, and Latin. She was over the moon with her Oxbridge offer. Katherine has joined Pembroke College, Oxford, to read Arabic and Islamic Studies.

'I moved to Eastbourne College at sixth form from another independent school. Being fluent in English and Russian, as well as having studied French and Mandarin, has meant I have always been passionate about languages. I had always set my sights on Oxford, but you can never take an offer for granted. I received the offer while in my lesson and wanted to jump up and down with excitement. I am very happy with the offer from Oxford to read Arabic and Islamic Studies. In the future I really want to use languages for a good cause, like being a diplomat in the Middle East. This could really help make that happen.'



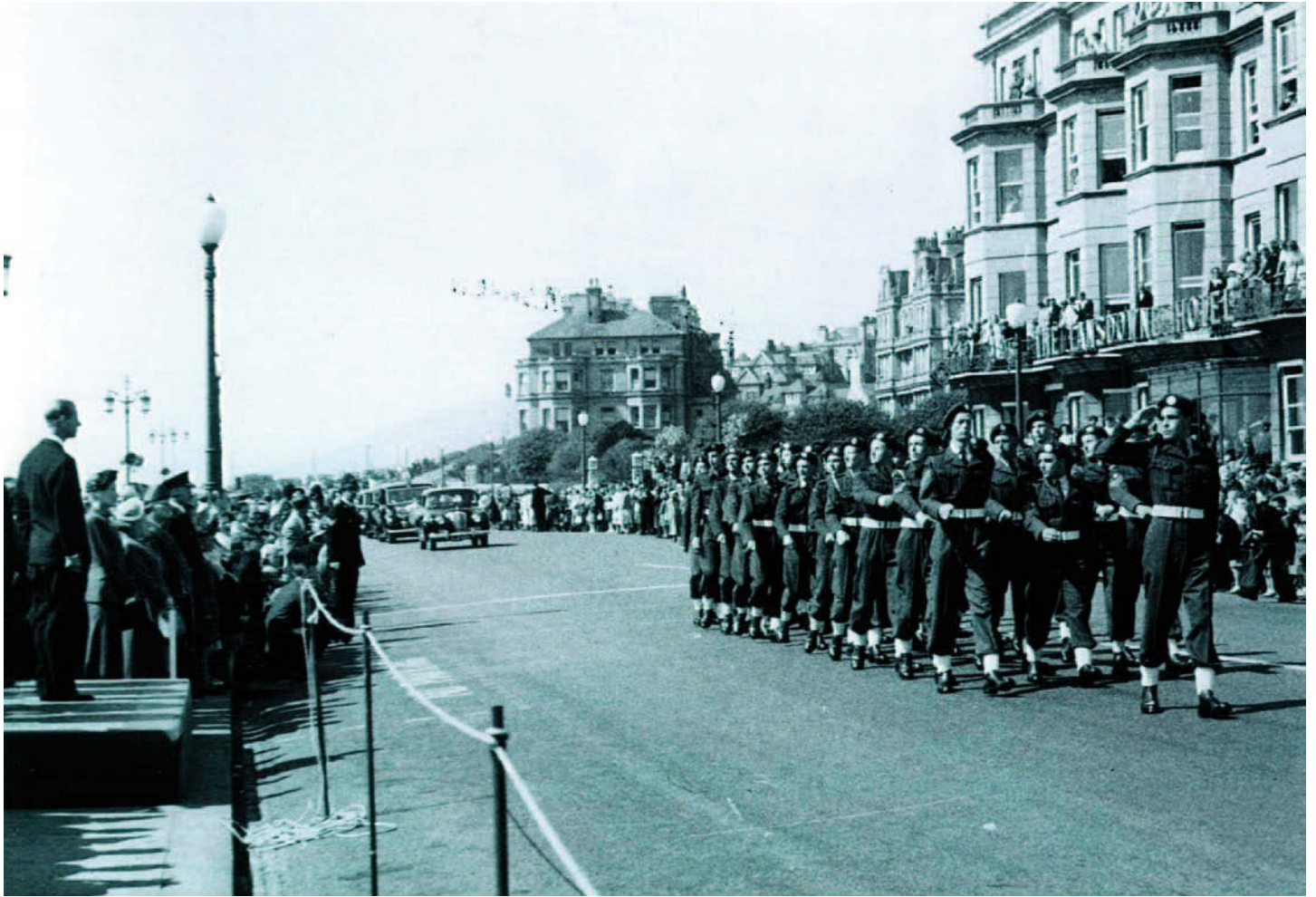
Natasha Symes

Natasha came from St Andrew's Prep and joined the College in Year 9. She was awarded a drama and then an academic scholarship as her linguistic talents emerged. She chose classical civilisation, English literature, history, and philosophy & theology for A-level. Outside of subscribing to the many performing arts opportunities on offer, Natasha contributed to the local community in myriad ways through the service at school programme. She was offered a place at Queens' College, Cambridge.

'I am so excited at the prospect of studying Anglo Saxon, Norse and Celtic at Cambridge. I've always been interested in the early middle ages; it is such a culturally-rich period and the Cambridge course uniquely offer options for the interdisciplinary study of literature, history and language. I am particularly fascinated by the way people tell stories to make sense of the world and our place in it. I do not yet know what I will do post university, but avenues such as heritage, conservation and archaeology really interest me. Thank you so much to all my teachers for helping me get this far!'

THE DUKE AND THE COLLEGE

HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh, died on 9 April 2021. Here we look back in pictures on his connections to the College.



Members of the RAF section of the CCF march past the Duke of Edinburgh on Grand Parade, Eastbourne, as part of the RAFA Memorial Service day on 5 June 1955.



The Duke talking to a pupil in Big School during his visit with HM the Queen in 1966



The Duke with College participants in the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme in Brighton, May 1970

THE CHANNEL ISLAND LUNCH

Emma Garrett writes:

The Channel Island ES wine tasting and tour at La Mare Wine Estate in Jersey on Tuesday 17 August 2021 was a fascinating insight into the viticultural production and distillation processes adopted by this small island - not to mention fudge and chocolate making!

Tasting Jersey apple brandy beneath the ancient walnut tree in the grounds of the estate was a rather lovely conclusion to our morning, and we managed to stagger successfully across to our table for a lunch nestled in amongst the vines. I was delighted to welcome guests from the youngest, Lily Macafee, whose father David was in Pennell at the College 1989-93, to our most mature - Sally Le Brocq, School House housemaster's wife from 1974 to 1988, who had some 86 years of life between them!

I think we also had about 76 years' worth of teaching years at Eastbourne College round the table as well, with Philip Le Brocq's 25 years, John Thornley's 41 (and half a term) and the Lawson's combined 10 years. We also had Old Aschamians, Old Androvians and of course Old Eastbournians as well as current St Andrew's pupil Hector Lawson, and current College pupils Xanthe Lawson and soon to start in the Lower Sixth Tess Garrett.

Despite the fact that pandemic-related issues had reduced our numbers somewhat - even our local OE rep and host Tim Nelson (School 1976-81) had to pull out at the last minute - it was a lovely opportunity to bring together some of the wider ES family and to celebrate Eastbournian Society connections in rather stunning surroundings.

We were remembering my grandmother who came up in conversation, a formidable Jersey lady



and regular visitor to the College. She was a great traveller and would regularly journey half way round the world on her own, and join a bus to tour New Zealand knowing no-one - by the end of it she would have made firm friends for life who she would then regularly visit and communicate with.

It struck me that the prep school and the College are a bit like that bus. You arrive, possibly knowing no-one else, but friendships are struck up on the journey that remain firm throughout your lifetime. You regularly meet up and revisit the memories made together having made a strong connection through a shared experience.

Since April when I took over from David Stewart as the Development Director at the College I have been lucky enough to have received many emails from ES members, including David Macafee, who was by chance holidaying in Jersey and joined us with his family at the lunch. He emailed to share how much the College had meant to him, offering to give something back. We welcome these connections - David has spent nine years in senior educational roles with medical students and trainee doctors and works with OE Joel Dunning (Craig 1986-91). They have offered to talk to current students, saying 'between us we can cover robots/keyhole surgery to chest and abdomen, major trauma, kids and adults surgery, endoscopy, medical education, careers, values/professionalism' and in his talks to schools says his focus is actually 'firstly on hope (post-Covid) and options for the future - medicine is a great vehicle for so many careers and sub-speciality areas'. We look forward to linking both David and Joel with those at the school keen to study medicine.

Whether using the analogy of my grandmother's bus journeys or the similarities with the tiny grapes we saw hanging from the vines in La Mare Estate, and the apples growing in the orchard, it is clear that Ascham, St Andrew's and Eastbourne College pupils start as small flowers and mature through the years as they are nurtured and supported at school through both sunshine and stormy weather along the way. They then leave the confines of the school to make their own way in the world, but we hope we leave a lasting impression and are proud to have been a part of the journey.

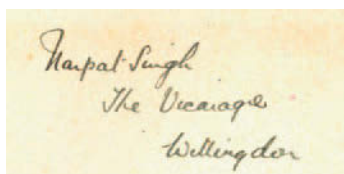
If you find yourself in Jersey, La Mare Wine Estate is a fabulous place to visit and while my grandmother is no longer with us to regale you with tales of New Zealand bus journeys - our guide at La Mare, Graham, would be delighted to see you I am sure, as would Tim Nelson and Philip and Sally Le Brocq, and we can happily put you in touch.



THE SINGHS AND THE WILLINGDON CONNECTION

Dalpat Singh (Wargrave/Blackwater 1907-11) had a notable military career during the First World War, winning the MC for his 'conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty' in an attack he led on Turkish troops in July 1918. A few months later he was killed when the regiment he was commanding (the Jodhpur Lancers) came under fire as they charged a Turkish machine gun post on the outskirts of Haifa, Palestine.

More details of his life emerged thanks to a donation to the College archives by Peter Tudor of a book about the early history of rugby at the College. The book had belonged to an OE, Narpat Singh (Wargrave/Blackwater 1906-11) with the address given as The Vicarage, Willingdon (a village near Eastbourne).



Narpat Singh's inscription in the book

It emerged that Dalpat and Narpat (the son of a friend of Dalpat's father) both stayed for a time at the home of the Revd Owen Tudor (Peter's great-grandfather) while they were at the College. According to the *Eastbourne Herald Chronicle* of December 1918, Dalpat spent ten years at Willingdon, spending all his short leaves there and 'where he had gained the affection and esteem of all who had the privilege of knowing him'.

His presence and that of Narpat in Willingdon is confirmed by the 1911 census but another name was listed, that of Jagat Singh, whom we believe to be Dalpat's brother.

Coincidentally, we had another email from another enquirer asking why a Sagat Singh (same year and place of birth as Jagat) wasn't included on the College's First World War roll of service. He sent an extract from an Indian genealogical site which implied that Sagat had attended Eastbourne College and had a significant career in the First World War. However, we have no record of Sagat attending the College nor does he appear in the roll of war service.

The Revd Tudor's sons, Claud, Lionel, Oswald and Roland, all attended the College and served in the war, but the mystery remains

why the Singhs were staying with the Revd Tudor. Peter Tudor seems to think the link was through the brothers of the Revd Tudor's wife, Brenda Grimston. They had spent many years in the cavalry in India and he went on to say it was possible Sylvester Grimston had had some relationship with the Singh family and arranged for them to be educated in the UK.

Peter also kindly shared a letter written by Major Harvey to Mrs Tudor in October 1918. He wrote of Dalpat:

'He was a most gallant boy... he had complete power over his men who



Dalpat Singh in College cricket blazer, from the 1st XI team photograph, 1909

would follow and obey him anywhere and in anything.'

He goes on to say that Dalpat's death was a loss not only to all the Jodhpurs (his regiment), but also to India and the whole British Empire.

Towards the end of the letter Harvey says to Mrs Tudor that she must 'feel proud to have brought him up' implying that Dalpat had been living with the family for some time.

Our thanks to the Tudor family for allowing us to share this information.

Paul Jordan



The Vicarage at Willingdon

Note: Details of Dalpat Singh's war record are included in the College's Roll of Honour 1914-18, which can be viewed on the Eastbourne Society website.

INSURANCE NETWORKING



After a break of some two years as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, we were pleased to return once again to the City of London for an evening insurance networking event on Wednesday 24 November, which was held at Davy's at Plantation Place in Mincing Lane.

These events are organised by the Eastbourne Society to bring together Old Eastbournians, parents and current pupils with a common interest in a particular profession or industry.

Those working in insurance were able to offer their advice and expertise to pupils keen to explore their career options.

The guest speaker was current College parent Danyalle Brinsmead, who is a divisional director in the Financial Lines Group in Howden. Originally from Australia, she is now based in London, where for the last 20 years she has focused on placing insurance programmes for private equity firms and their investee companies.

Our thanks go to all those OEs and parents who came along and passed on their knowledge and experience to the sixth form pupils who travelled up from Eastbourne.

THE DEVONSHIRE SOCIETY – TWENTY YEARS OF GIVING

The Devonshire Society celebrates its 20th anniversary in 2022 and we will be holding a very special Foundation Day lunch for all members on Saturday 11 June.



Devonshire Society members at the reception in the Headmaster's garden in May 2006, with the Duke of Devonshire (front, centre)

The Society is Eastbourne College's legacy club, and its members consist of those OEs and others who plan to leave a bequest to the College in their will. Legacies left to the College help fund bursaries, awards and scholarships, and in the past have also provided funds for capital projects.

If you tell us that you plan to make a bequest, and do not request anonymity, you will automatically become a member of the Society and will be invited every year with your spouse or partner to Foundation Day as a guest of the Headmaster. As well as the lunch, members attend a service in the College Chapel and are later entertained by College musicians. One part of the day that is greatly appreciated is the chance to hear from pupils who have received bursary funding, who talk about their experiences at the school and the opportunities they are grateful to have been given thanks to the generosity of donors.

The Society was founded in 2002 and the first reception for members was held at the College in September that year, when 25 OEs had pledged their support. A year later that number had more than doubled, and the then Foundation Director Forbes Wastie wrote in the 2003-04 *Old Eastbourne* annual report:

'Within the Foundation the Devonshire Society has been inaugurated, having the blessing of Andrew Cavendish, the present Duke of Devonshire [the 11th Duke] and President of the College Council. Membership of the Society is for those who pledge to make the College a beneficiary of their estate, thereby avoiding inheritance tax. There are now 57 members of the Society.'

Over the years there have been more than 100 members, and the current number is over 80. The College is very grateful to all of them for their commitment to making a difference to the education of numerous young people who might otherwise not be able to attend the school.

2006 was a memorable year for the Society. The lunch at the College was held on 16 May and



The first Devonshire Society reception in September 2002, with Headmaster Charlie Bush, right



The visit to Chatsworth in September 2006

the special guests were the 12th Duke, together with the Duchess of Devonshire.

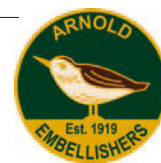
Later that year, on 5 October, thanks to the generosity of the Duke, 50 members of the Society visited the Cavendish family home at Chatsworth in Derbyshire. They were first treated to a champagne reception attended by the Duchess, during which Headmaster Simon Davies announced that the planned new music school would be known as the Birley Centre in recognition of the outstanding contribution made by former headmaster Michael Birley (1956-70), who was present with his wife Ann. Before lunch the guests enjoyed a performance of Borodin's Second String Quartet by College pupils, and afterwards they had a fascinating behind-the-scenes tour of Chatsworth House.

Five years later the Birley Centre was nearing completion and guests at Devonshire Society Day on 30 June 2011 had a chance to look round the building before its formal opening in October.

A lunch has been held for members every year except in 2020 and 2021 when the Covid pandemic unfortunately prevented such a gathering at the College. The 20th anniversary lunch will doubtless be a very special occasion as we will once again be able to say thank you to the generosity of the Society's members.

If you would like to make a pledge to leave a legacy in your will, please contact Development Director Emma Garrett on 01323 452308 or ecb-garrett@eastborne-college.co.uk. Alternatively you can write to Emma c/o the Foundation Office, Eastbourne College, Old Wish Road, Eastbourne, BN21 4JX.

THE ARNOLD EMBELLISHERS

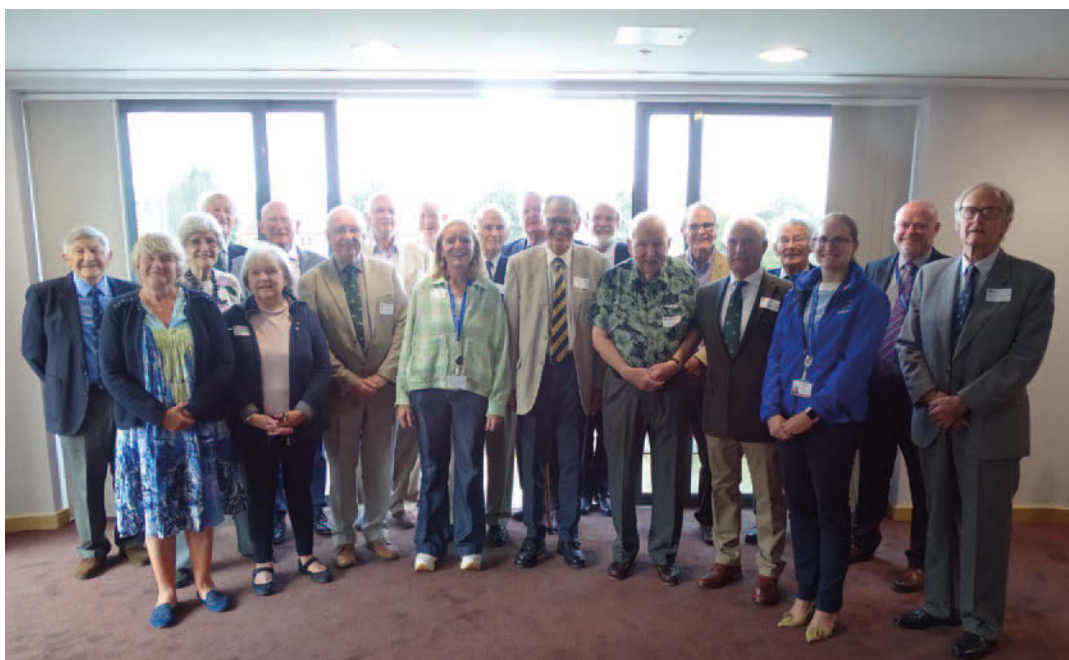


The Arnold Embellishers is a group of current and past parents, pupils, staff and friends of the College. The Society has been getting together regularly as an enthusiastic group since 1919 to identify and fund diverse projects which are agreed with the College as welcome additions to the community.

At member meetings, the annual AGM lunch, through newsletters and in committee meetings embellishments are suggested, discussed and taken on which improve the pupils' experience at school. We welcome from the College community anyone who would like to get involved. We ask for a small donation to funds and an interest in discussing ideas for the Society to take into its second century.

You do not have to walk far around the school before finding an Embellishers' project. Gates, doors, sundials, windows, open air theatre, gardens, trees, benches, clocks, commemorative boards and plaques, floodlighting, paintings, historical publications and so much more over the past century with plenty planned for the future.

In 2021 the Embellishers developed a third scoreboard project with Director of Sport Mike Harrison, adding to last year's new scoreboard on the Brian Harral Pavilion on Memorial Field and refurbished College Field scoreboard which was built in memory of Frank Quafe, head groundsman, with later improvements made by a group of generous OEs in memory of Tony Marcus (Wargrave 1957-62). The third installation, at Beresford, is a new state-of-the-art screen which shows both scores and video footage and can be controlled by staff on the field, using iPads and phones. It makes the footage very



The Embellishers at their AGM at the College on Saturday 11 September

immediate and Mike Harrison sees the additional benefit of using it as an educational tool. Pupils can be supervised to display results and download screenshots of the game, using their judgement and technical skills to decide what replay moments or commentary adds to the game in hand. The Beresford site is busy each week with visiting matches, training and outside lets and the scoreboard has been welcomed by the Sports Department.

In the Music Department the Embellishers were again delighted to sponsor the Young Musicians competition. Jenny Lush was very impressed by the incredible standard of playing when she represented the AEs at the final round of the competition. This important event on the music calendar involves about a tenth of all College pupils.

Equally we were so pleased with the calibre of entries for the Year 9 Innovation Prize, also sponsored by the AEs. The competitors were invited to work in teams and present ideas for suggested improvements around the College community – very much in keeping with the ethos of our Society. There were some terrific ideas for future consideration and the presentations were excellent with clever graphics, a grasp of

costs and implications to the school and coherent answers at the Q&A session. The winners were presented with their prizes at the end of term prize-giving.

Michael Partridge (Blackwater 1946-51), committee and archive

encourage family members to come forward with further information and photos. The intention is for the AEs to publish the record in print.

After the October memorial service and Spitfire flypast for outstanding Second World War hero and beloved character of the College Common Room, Donald Perrens DSO, OBE, DFC, a display of replica medals in a case was unveiled by his daughter, Pip Kirtley. She thanked the Arnold Embellishers for providing the record which will be displayed in the College. Pip went through each medal explaining what they were for and giving anecdotes of occasions when she had discussed individual medals with her father.

We have a number of larger projects in the planning and design stages which we look forward to completing in 2022. Members will hear more details in their regular newsletter and at the annual AGM with lunch which is always a lively and enjoyable day. Any friend of the College is welcome to join as a member and we also invite people to make suggestions for embellishments which can be discussed with the College.

Vicky Henley
Chairman, Arnold Embellishers
vhenley@eastbourne-college.co.uk



The Young Musician award was won by Harry Shouksmith in Year 9, winner of the Intermediate Section, who outperformed a very talented field including his trombone-playing brother Oliver in Year 11 who won the Senior Section



The Arnold Embellishers were proud to fund the display of replicas of medals awarded to Donald Perrens DSO, OBE, DFC

department member, has revised the Second World War Roll of Honour, which has been added to the Eastbourne Society website as an updateable document. He and others have done an enormous amount of research collating names and details and Michael wants to

CHRISTOPHER COLE – DOLLS' HOUSE MAKER

Old Eastbournian Dr Christopher Cole was for many years a general practitioner in Hertfordshire, but he also had an interesting sideline as a maker of dolls' houses.

We were told about this by Eastbournian Society member Alison Holman-Dine, the mother of an OE, who said: 'During lockdown I fell back in love with my dolls' house and after some research was delighted to find out it was in fact made by an Old Eastbournian, Dr Christopher Cole... such a talented man who has brought so much joy to children and the older child (like me!)' Alison was kind enough to send us the research she had done on Dr Cole and this article is partly based on what she discovered and, in particular, information from the website www.dollshousespastandpresent.com.

Christopher Cole was born in Tring, Hertfordshire, on 7 December 1915, the son of Charles and Elsie Cole. His father's job as an architect may have influenced the young Christopher, but it was also a wedding gift of a dolls' house that his parents had received that particularly interested him.

He attended the College in School House from 1929 to 1933, and gained his School Certificate. He later said that he was at his happiest at the College in the art room and doing carpentry, but his academic studies were strong enough for him to study medicine at University College London and then Guy's Hospital Medical School, graduating as MBBS, MRCS and LRCP. At Guy's he held appointments as house surgeon, assistant house physician and resident medical officer. Called up in September 1939, he served with Training and Transport Commands, RAF, working in a hospital in Torquay. He was demobbed a squadron leader in 1946 and returned to Guy's as resident obstetrician for six months, before going back to Tring where he joined the local medical practice as a GP. He would later become a partner and then senior partner there.

He married Valerie Virley in 1941 and they had five children, who benefited from Christopher's ability at making wooden toys for them. His toy-



The house owned by Alison Holman-Dine, which was purchased from the Singing Tree shop in Fulham

making expertise later became a commercial enterprise, as he explained in his 1976 book *Make Your Own Dolls' House*:

'After acquiring my first and only god-child, my interest in toy making took on a fresh impetus, and about five years ago I made her a large open-plan dolls' house. Encouraged by the delight this gave, I began to think about making dolls' houses for sale commercially.' He went on to say that he 'designed a large modern dolls' house in kit form for assembly by the purchaser. It was of limited appeal, and I still have a pile of expensive unsold parts in my workshop, I had misjudged the market and only later realised what people want is something romantic. So I designed a little Georgian terrace house or shop, with a bow-window, a brass hand-rail to the front door, and a mansard roof. It remains the most popular design.'

Some of Christopher's designs were commissioned by the department store Heal's in London, and others were stocked by a specialist dolls' house retailer in Marylebone and other shops in Kensington and Fulham. One of his more well-known houses was the Dickens House, based on a Georgian terraced house at 48 Doughty Street, Bloomsbury, which now houses the Charles Dickens Museum.

He went on to design a variety of different houses, including Jeremiah's Cottage, inspired by a highwayman's cottage at Abingdon near Newmarket; Albert's Cottage, a terraced house believed to be based on houses in Tring; the Small Modern House, a striking modernist design which had a continuous window serving four rooms on the first floor, with an integrated car port; and the Caroline Shop, based on a converted artisan's house in Chelsea. Another popular model was the Beauchamp, a 1:24 scale house, again based on a Georgian building with a bow window. It

was described in the accompanying information sheet as 'neat enough to fit into a child's bedroom, is easily carried and is built to last at least one generation'. The Tulip House was inspired by a small house of Dutch character in Cley-next-the-Sea, Norfolk, and was specifically designed to be played with by children, rather than meant as a collector's piece. It had windows made of 'unbreakable PVC' and had a 'stout piano hinge' securing the front. An ingenious touch was the integration of a carrying handle in the chimney stack.

Christopher worked in a variety of scales, ranging from 1:12 through 1:16 to the 1:24 of the Beauchamp, but 1:12 became the most popular. Some of the houses were sold painted and decorated with wallpaper, with Laura Ashley designs often being used. Newspaper reports from the early 1970s estimate Dr Cole's output at between 50 and 80 dolls' houses a year, which is an impressive number considering that he was still working as a full-time GP. In 1973, he purchased Low Mill, a semi-derelict water mill in Bainbridge, North Yorkshire, and spent some years on an extensive refurbishment. His wife Valerie died in 1976.

Following the publication of his book, which completely sold out, his fame as a dolls' house maker reached the national press and in October 1976 a dolls' house version of 10 Downing Street that he had made featured on the cover of the *Sunday Telegraph* magazine. After retirement from his partnership in the Tring practice in 1977, he worked as a locum in Yorkshire for a while before retiring fully. He married his second wife, Doreen Grieve, in 1987. Once refurbished, Low Mill contained a workshop and dolls' house museum, housing about 30 of his own models. Christopher continued making dolls' houses almost until his death on 4 June 2008, aged 92.

The afterword of Dr Cole's book is a fitting conclusion to this article:

'May I offer one final thought? Whenever you are tempted to rush any part of the job, remember that in all probability what you are building will not only be played with by the child you have it in mind for at present, but also children of generations yet unborn. For, despite all the technological advances of our times, there is undoubtedly still a place for craftsmanship, and a dolls' house carefully made by hand today is almost certain in due course to become justly prized as an heirloom.'

We would be fascinated to hear if any of our readers own an original Christopher Cole house. Do please let us know. **David Blake**



Christopher Cole with his granddaughter Miranda on the cover of his book, which shows the Dickens House

Find out more

If you are interested in reading more about Christopher Cole, please visit www.dollshousespastandpresent.com/issue25june2015p6.htm, which has lots of pictures and further information.

THE HORLEY BROTHERS AND ORLEY FARM PREP

John T H Phillips (Blackwater 1965–69) visited the College archives in October 2021 to do some research on two OE brothers who, like him, had also attended Orley Farm prep school. Here he tells the brothers' story.

Orley Farm is a farmhouse on Roxeth Hill in Harrow-on-the-Hill, North London, where the book by Anthony Trollope was written and from which it took its title. It became a preparatory school with the same name as his famous book and with his blessing. In the late 1890s the school moved down the road to South Hill Avenue where it is today, the feeder school for Harrow. I attended Orley Farm from 1959 to 1965, and my brother Roger from 1961 to 1967.

At the end of the dining hall was a long wide board with the names of all the pupils who were awarded scholarships and the school to which they went. Two names stood out: Montague Bernard Horley and John Michael Horley. As far as I am aware, the Horley brothers, my brother and I are the only boys to go from Orley Farm to Eastbourne College. As a consequence I have always had a fascination and curiosity about those two brothers.

Their father, Charles Horley, had been educated at Harrow and took Holy Orders in 1911. He had various postings around the country but by 1930 he had become Rector at St John the Baptist Church, Bisley, Surrey. He had married Dorothy Margaret Bassano in 1914. Her father was Alfred Hill Bassano, who owed a (coal?) mine in Old Hill, Staffordshire, near Birmingham. They had two sons, Montague, who was born on 24 January 1916 in Bideford, Devon, and Michael, born two years later on 21 February 1918 in Rowley Regis, Staffordshire.

Dorothy died in the summer of 1930 aged 37 and on 2 July 1931 Charles married Lucy Davies. They and John lived at the Rectory in Bisley, which is still standing, but by this time Montague was living with his maternal grandparents in Old Hill.

Montague entered Crosby House in January 1929 and left the College in 1932. There is very little noted about him in the archives and he left school at 16. John started at School House in January 1932. He



Montague Horley in the Blackwater and Crosby rugby XV, 1930

had a more successful career at Eastbourne than his brother, winning a number of class prizes. He was a Stag, playing in the centre, head of house and a school prefect. He was in the shooting VIII, a 1st class scout and it would appear he did everything well. Although thoroughly sound, he just failed to reach university standard. He left school in 1936 and decided to become a lawyer.

In 1939 John joined the RAFVR. Following training as an air observer

he was posted to 50 Squadron, based at RAF Skellingthorpe in Lincolnshire. The squadron was equipped with Handley Page Hampdens, which were twin engine bombers each



John Horley in the School House rugby XV, 1934

with a crew of four and, although a lovely aircraft to fly, they were very uncomfortable. The crew sat in a line behind each other and there was little room to manoeuvre about the aeroplane. Because of this the Hampden was known as 'the flying suitcase'. John's duties were to act as navigator and bomb aimer.

John and his crew took off at 17:04 on 14 January 1942, flying in aircraft no. AE420 to conduct a raid on the Blohm and Voss Yards in Hamburg. Another aircraft in the squadron, AE431, had taken off at 16:35. They were part of an 11-aircraft sortie. Both these aircraft failed to return and it is unclear what happened to them. Owing to strict radio silence it is not known whether they were successful in their mission or, as may be

suspected, collided in the darkness near the Dutch coast on their way over. They were the only two aircraft not to return. John Horley's name is recorded at Bisley War Memorial, Runnymede War Memorial and at Skellingthorpe Community Hall, as well as in the Book of Remembrance in the College Chapel and under the Memorial Tower.

Montague went into the motor trade in Birmingham after leaving school and before joining the army. He rose to the rank of Lieutenant in the Tank Corps and saw action at El Alamein in October 1942 and in the North African campaign. On 6 June 1944, D-Day, he was supporting the Notts Yeomanry (The Sherwood Foresters). They landed on Gold Beach equipped with Sherman tanks that had been fitted with canvas flotation screens and propellers which were driven by the tank's engine. They were known as 'duplex drive' swimming Sherman tanks. This enabled the tanks to be offloaded away from the shore, which at Gold Beach was very shallow and difficult for landing craft. Once they had reached dry land they acted as conventional tanks. He and his crew were killed that day by a 77mm anti-tank shell. He is also commemorated at the College as well as at the Bayeux War Cemetery and on the Bisley War Memorial.

Charles died in 1962 at Bisley and their stepmother Lucy in 1965 at Malvern. They did not have any children.



Both brothers are commemorated on the war memorial at Bisley

BANKING, BROKING AND ASSET MANAGEMENT NETWORKING

The return of the Eastbournian Society's series of business and career networking events proved to be a great success.

Some 28 sixth form pupils made the trip up to London on Wednesday 10 November to learn about prospects in banking, broking and asset management. We are grateful to OE and College governor Darren Meek for arranging for the event to be held at the offices of PwC, with its spectacular view towards Tower Bridge.

The guest speaker was Will Peters (School 1987-92), manag-

ing director of Moelis & Company, the global independent investment bank, where he focuses on M&A and capital raising for clients in the telecom and tech sectors, specialising in communications infrastructure and fintech.

Earlier he had spent six years in the British Army, serving with the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in Europe and the Middle East.



Also present were a number of OEs who were able to answer questions about their profession,

and we are grateful to them for taking the time to offer pupils the benefit of their experience.

READY, SET, PIVOT



We were so excited to launch our new business. It was a market-first in Australia and perhaps the first of its kind in the world. To top it off, it was going to make a difference to hundreds of thousands of people and in time millions.

Our mission was to help charities harness people power to change the world. The idea was about helping charities connect to the corporate world and in doing so educate people about the importance and scope of their work and foster change. The added benefit of what we were doing was that it would raise money for the charity, help them build meaningful relationships and inroads into corporate partnerships and deliver immediate value to the underprivileged people they supported.

Our concept was a hybrid between team building and corporate volunteering and we called it 'Team Building with Purpose'. We funded the start-up of this new venture from the charity fund of our company (we run a management consultancy called Liminal Solutions) which comes from a 10% sacrifice of our client revenue.

This new venture was (what we call) a 'low bono business' that quickly attracted interest and before we knew it we had some of the country's leading charities on board. From all our conversations with the corporate sector, we were expecting an immediate take-up. The concept was new, the need ever-present and there was little else available. Companies wanted corporate volunteering for their people, but most charities didn't have the skills, resources or focus necessary to meet the need. We did, could and had.

What made our offer all the more appealing to companies was that our sessions were run by professional facilitators who were doing this work as their way of giving back to society, which meant the quality of our service was top notch. Plus, as our sessions were designed to create transformational change in teams, the results spoke for themselves. On top of that, we were in partnership with charities, so when companies heard that 50% of the net profit from our sessions went directly to the charity this inevitably sealed the deal.

This was no random idea, but a formulated strategy based on five years of quietly running a

Richard Duncan (Wargrave 1978-83) writes about how he had to adjust a new business venture in Australia to cope with the threat of the Covid pandemic.

pilot programme that was in itself hugely successful and transformational for the charity we tested the concept with.

So, at the start of 2020, we were all set. Leading charities on board, great programmes designed, professional facilitators available and marketing activity primed and ready to launch...

And then came the news, first through a contact of mine at HSBC, that something big was coming and that the world was set to change; a new kind of virus was coming, one that would upturn everything. It seemed far-fetched at the time, but I trusted the source and so whilst we hoped for the best, we planned for the worse by pivoting online. Sure enough, Covid-19 radically disrupted our world and, as it became a household name, so the way the business community operated transformed overnight and we were ready to meet the new need.

At first the business community was so busy fire-fighting, pivoting and scrambling to figure out how to handle their BAU (Business as 'Unusual') that they had little time for corporate volunteering or team building. This continued for some time as they focused on settling their workforce into WFH (Working From Home), re-engineering their systems, processes and protocols to cope

becoming more and more evident. The proof was being recorded by the sharp rise in demand for mental health services, Employee Assistance Programmes (EAPs) and calls to the national suicide prevention Lifeline hotline. Sadly, this was mirrored by the rising statistics in suicide and further emphasized that whilst the problem was not easily seen, it was most definitely real and that there was an urgent need for business and political leaders to take action.

This action did take place in the form of massive government funding for mental health services and charities and resulted in a greatly increased focus on the mental welfare of the workforce.

Our business was not originally designed or intended to directly meet this need, but it did. Plus, as with any team building initiative, staff motivation and morale is both a goal and by product of what we had designed and just what business leaders needed.

Once team leaders got over the psychological barrier of unfamiliarity with the idea of team building online, we started to see a sharp increase in demand for our services. This coincided well with the increasing pressure on charities to service their clients and handle the drop in revenue streams that were a natural and sad by-product of the Covid pandemic.

As each group completed one of our sessions, word of mouth started to build and our reputation began to spread. At the same time people started talking up the virtues of online team building and its benefits. This served our cause and charity partners well.

Now that the world is returning in varying levels of speed to work in the office, the demand for face-to-face team building sessions has increased and will continue to do so well into 2022. At the same time we have found a new niche for customers – multinationals and Australian businesses whose people are spread geographically and who want a way to engage their staff but avoid business travel.

For us, we are grateful for the last 18 months as it has taught us how to run an efficient 'low bono' business. It also created a new market of online team building for us and provided our charity partners with a vital lifeline to funds, awareness and support and enabled us to meet our vision to create team building activities that change the world.

Whilst we have a long way to get there, we are excited to be underway and already making a small difference to others and doing our bit to leave the world in a better way than we found it.



with rapidly increasing customer demand, frustrations and concerns.

These conditions also gave rise to major work pressures and stress for many and job losses for others, which combined with the lack of physical and social interaction, gave rise to a new phenomenon that seemed to mirror SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder), which is a mental disorder that affects people who might normally be in good mental health but show depressive symptoms during the dark winter months, typically seen in Northern Europe.

The parallels of this condition and what many were increasingly feeling in the workforce was

Find out more

If you're curious to learn more about what we are doing, then either visit our website at <https://teambuildingwithpurpose.com.au/> or view the following short clip at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICSDngF11g&t=2s>

THE 2021 OLD EASTBOURNIAN REUNION

Saturday 11 September was the day when we were finally able to get OEs together for a reunion at the College. It was two years since our last reunion, with the one planned for 2020 having to be cancelled because of the Covid pandemic. We decided not to restrict the reunion to one particular cohort, but invited all OEs and their families to come along, and it was great to see so many from all generations enjoying the day.

As well as watching Stags rugby on College Field, guests also had a chance to join guided tours of the Project 150 development, and some continued to

re-visit their old haunts elsewhere on the campus. After tea in the College Theatre (more familiarly known as Big School to many), OEs were invited to have a look round their former houses.

Later, a number enjoyed Evensong in the College Chapel before a drinks reception in the dining hall in the Winn Building, followed by a carvery dinner. Headmaster Tom Lawson welcomed all the guests and then Development Director Emma Garrett spoke, saying how wonderful it was for OEs to be able to socialise again after so many months of restrictions.



Enjoying coffee in Tim's, the College café



OEs joined the choir in the Chapel for Evensong



EVENSONG AND HARVEST SUPPER

The Eastbournian Society's first Evensong and harvest supper took place on the evening of Sunday 3 October, with guests including OEs, past and present staff, and parents of current pupils.

College Chaplain the Revd Daniel Merceon conducted the service in the Chapel where the Chamber Choir sang beautifully, led by Dan Jordan. After walking through the cloisters on such a blustery and wet evening, we were welcomed in the Dining Hall with warmth and prosecco – not combined! – and then a splendid supper of fillet-of-beef followed by apple and rhubarb crumble.

Stephen Carr, farmer, *Private Eye* columnist and the owner of the Sussex Ox, provided us with an amusing and thoughtful after-dinner speech, regaling us with stories of his time spent at the College. Not always a happy pupil, he was prone to rebellion but it wasn't until after leaving the College that his father suffered a severe heart attack and the success of the family's 1000-acre farm suddenly rested upon his shoulders.

Stephen spoke movingly about how the College had not only ultimately prepared him amply for such a challenge, but also for what was to be his other career as agricultural columnist, a role at which he continues to succeed.

Helen Medlycott



The Chamber Choir in the Chapel



OCEAN DADVENTURE

October began with a bang – or more of a splash! – when we were visited by the crew of Ocean Dadventure and their boat 'Flo', which remained stationed on College Field for the day for staff and pupils to see and learn about.



The crew with College pupils and the boat, Flo



Emma Garrett and Helen Medlycott try out the boat for size

The Eastbournian Society and Eastbourne College have sponsored this brave group of four dads embarking on the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Rowing Crossing in 2022, and we were treated to a whole day with them at the school.

The crew, made up of skipper Matt Garman and rowers Steve Woolley, James Reid and Neil Furminger, plan to row 3,000 miles in just 40 days from La Gomera in the Canary Islands to Antigua, rowing 24 hours a day in shifts.

Pupils took part in an inter-house rowing contest throughout the course of the day, the winners of which were awarded the prestigious Chaplin Oar. Nugent and Gonville were victorious for the girls and boys respectively and congratulations to those pupils who took part.

Later in the day, Head of co-curricular Anthony Lamb hosted a presentation and Q&A by the crew. No stone was left unturned as questions were answered about exactly what they will eat (freeze-dried packet food), the lavatory (a modest

bucket) and wifi (none at all!). A truly inspiring group of 'ordinary' people embarking on something extraordinary, and raising funds for two charities – WOLO and Prostate Cancer UK.

Our thanks go out to the crew for their visit to the College, to Fergus Kennedy (Craig 1983-88) for his fantastic drone photography and Pete Fellows (Powell 1993-98 and member of staff) and Martin Lulham (Powell 1991-96), for the initial introduction and their continued support.

In the words of the Ocean Dadventure skipper, Matt Garman, 'The door you never open could lead you to the opportunity you've always been waiting for.'

Headmaster Tom Lawson said, 'Eastbourne College has a long history of success in rowing and we are proud to be sponsoring the Ocean Dadventure crew on their incredible journey. It was wonderful to see pupils' enthusiasm to take part in our own rowing competition and to hear about the crew's motivations behind the challenge. Determined, generous and incredibly hard-working – the team is a true inspiration to our pupils. We wish them the best of luck.'

We look forward to their next visit to the ES offices and to hear more about how their training is progressing.

Travel through time with IAN MORTIMER



'With Mortimer in charge, one always travels first class'

MAIL ON SUNDAY

'Mortimer is a historical truffle hound'

SUNDAY TIMES

VINTAGE

MEMORIES OF ROWING IN THE '60S AND '70S

Tony Friswell was master-in-charge of rowing from 1967 to 1976. Here he reflects on the construction of the College boat house at Waller's Haven.



The majority of our rowing takes place on an agricultural drainage ditch on Pevensey Levels, beside which sits our shabby tin shed (The Eastbourne College Boat House).

This comment in the rowing report published in the *Old Eastbournian* magazine in 2014 takes my memory back nearly 50 years to the move of the College rowing from the Cuckmere to Waller's Haven.

When I joined the staff in 1966, almost all the rowing took place on the Cuckmere, an idyllic spot for lovers of nature or geography teachers studying meanders, but extraordinarily difficult for serious rowing. The 1st IV used to train at Waller's Haven on the Pevensey Levels where there was a shed just long enough to accommodate a four – but the boat did need to be separated into its two sections and de-rigged after each outing.

Despite all the difficulties, the College rowing under master-in-charge Tony Binnian enjoyed great success. Eastbourne College were frequent winners of Public Schools' IVs at Marlow Regatta, then the premier event for schools whose facilities did not enable them to row in Vllls, and in 1965 the College IV was selected to represent England, with success, in a fixture against Holland (the first ever schoolboy international fixture). Tony Binnian often talked about plans to establish a new boathouse at Waller's Haven but it seemed to be little more than a pipe dream.

When I took over from Tony, as master-in-charge, I investigated the 'pipe dream' further and found that, some years previously, the governors had commissioned the College architects, Messrs Durrant and Innerdale, to produce outline plans for a new boathouse at Waller's Haven. They had produced a magnificent design for a brick-built boathouse complete with club room and changing facilities. But it was quite clear that the cost of this project was such that the governors would always put it to the bottom of their list of potential developments. So I set about looking for a cheaper alternative.

My starting point was the advertisement section of *Farmers Weekly* magazine; I sent

enquiries to a number of suppliers of agricultural buildings. It soon became apparent that an asbestos-clad steel-framed building would do the job. I think, from memory, that the basic cost was going to be less than £2,000. I had a helpful meeting with a structural engineer at Llewellyn builders in Eastbourne. He was able to advise me on the relative costs and practicalities of a building placed on a reinforced concrete platform against separate concrete emplacements for the steel frame. The latter was the cheaper option and so we had to settle for a loose shingle floor rather than concrete. The arrangement of boat racks, constructed of standard steel scaffold tubing, was copied from the temporary racks frequently used at regattas. One advantage was that their spacing could be adjusted for accommodation of sculling boats and pairs.

The new, cut price, scheme was put to the governors who accepted it in principle but they did wisely instruct that the project must now be put back into the hands of the school architects. It was, therefore, with some trepidation that I went to a meeting with the junior partner, John Innerdale (father of Jonathan (Craig 1975-80), James (Craig 1977-82) and Michael (Reeves 1985-89)). But I need not have worried; this meeting was, in fact, the start of a long friendship which has included memorable mountaineering excursions in Scotland, the Alps and Norway – but that's another story! John immediately accepted that this project was much more likely to be achieved than the previous grand design. He did, however, politely point out that I had not considered what would happen to rain water running off the roof.

But there remained just one more hurdle. Farmer Miles, who owned most of the land on either side of Waller's Haven on which he grazed many hundreds of beef cattle, was not inclined to give his permission for our rowing coaches to run through his fields. So, on a dark November evening, I accompanied the headmaster Michael Birley to a meeting with Farmer Miles at his farm house in Pevensey. Many of us will remember Michael as a classical scholar with an infectious

charm which could soften the heart of even the most stolid of Sussex farmers. And so I enjoyed a memorable evening at which Michael encouraged Farmer Miles to tell us all about the ups and downs of farming on Pevensey Marshes. After a few whiskeys, it turned out that his only real worry was that we would leave the gates open and that our assurances together with a little bit of money would solve the problem. I think the agreed amount was £50 per year.

So work started on Pevensey Levels and it was not many weeks before we had a smart new boathouse which looked, to passers-by, like an agricultural building. We decided against an 'Eastbourne College Boat House' sign as this might be an invitation to vandalism. It fulfilled almost all of our expectations. I say almost because, apart from the wind (which we knew about already), there were just two design problems. The first was that the building was not bird-proof so there was the persistent problem of bird droppings on the boats and equipment. This could have been rectified at the design stage but was too difficult (or expensive) to change after completion. The other defect was the spacing of the concrete steps for launching boats. I had done careful measurements to achieve a spacing that would allow four boys to lift a boat into the water without being impeded by the position of the riggers. But, one Monday morning, my chemistry lesson in C1 laboratory was interrupted by the senior partner, Ray Durrant (father of Peter (Reeves 1967-71) and David (Craig 1977-82)). He came to say that the contractors were just about to pour the concrete for the steps and he was convinced that I had got the spacing wrong. We all suffered from my decision to stick with my chemistry lesson when the temptation was to drive quickly to Pevensey Levels to supervise the operation.

So, if as I assume, it is still the same building that is standing, it has recently passed its 50th anniversary. I am intrigued to see it described as a 'tin shed'. Does this mean that for health and safety reasons the original asbestos has been replaced with corrugated iron? **Tony Friswell**

JAMIE'S EPIC WALK

In summer 2021 Jamie Garratt (Wargrave 1999-2004) walked the length of Britain from John O'Groats to Land's End. It was 1,080 miles of walking and it took him 11½ weeks. Here he takes on what he describes as 'the daunting task of trying to summarise this epic experience for you in a few hundred words'.



The start of the walk at John O'Groats

I should start by explaining why I undertook this challenge. After 12 years working at my company I was offered a sabbatical and naturally I jumped at the opportunity. But this was pre-pandemic and I had visions of exploring far-flung, beautiful corners of the world. That obviously changed in March 2020.

I could have postponed my sabbatical but after 18 months of working from home I was excited by the idea of an adventure and a change of scene. So I decided to try to plan something closer to home. I set some rough criteria to determine whether I should take the time off now: firstly, I had to be able to spend my time doing something utterly different to my usual day-to-day routine; secondly, I wanted some sort of focus or challenge to give me purpose and direction.

With that guidance in mind it didn't take me long to consider the idea of walking John O'Groats to Land's End. I did a bit of research on the walk and almost immediately I was sold on the idea. It took a little longer to convince my wife, but she

eventually came around to it and I remain incredibly grateful for her unwavering support throughout this brilliant and bizarre adventure.

I've done a bit of walking before but never anything on this scale so the next four months disappeared in a blur of planning and training. Endless packages of equipment arrived at our house and I spent my spare time on training walks, examining maps or arranging logistics. I

covered approximately 600 miles, mostly in London, trying to get my body ready for what lay ahead.

So on Monday 5 July I found myself standing at John O'Groats with the fog drifting off the North Sea, a huge backpack weighing me down and 1,000-plus miles in front of me. It's difficult to describe the excitement, fear and countless other emotions racing around my mind at that point. Fortunately my youngest brother Stuart (Wargrave 2006-11), who is a Captain in the Scots Guards, was with me and his army training would prove invaluable as he kept me company for the first 150 miles to Inverness.

I won't run through the whole trip chronologically, but the first few days nicely illustrate what the walk was actually like.

We began by taking the John O'Groats trail which hugs the East coast all the way to Inverness. It is incredibly beautiful but very remote with towering cliffs dropping down to white sandy beaches, it is tiring but amazing walking. Towns are few and far between so we carried everything we needed – that meant our bags weighed about 23kg, including food and water.

We walked about 15 miles a day, although my daily average for the whole walk was actually 18 miles. We camped at night either on a beach or perched on clifftops. We'd be woken up early by seals and puffins on the rocks below, pack up and set off. Every third or fourth night we'd stay in a hotel or pub to recharge with a proper meal, a beer and a good night of sleep. After five days of walking I would take one or two rest days for some essential recovery.

On Day 3 one of my housemates

from university joined us for three days. He and Stuart were the first of 15 people to join me along the way. This was one of the best aspects of the trip: spending time with great friends in incredibly beautiful parts of the UK. It was also a very necessary morale booster for me and I'm so grateful for the support from those people who joined me. I'm not sure the feeling was entirely mutual by the time many of them limped off the trail after a few days of tough walking.

Readers of this magazine will be interested to hear about several other guest walkers. My younger brother Rory (Wargrave 2003-08), now resident in Vancouver, joined for a day into Edinburgh. My best friend Tom Benton (Wargrave 1999-2004) joined me for a week around Dartmoor. And James Skinner who I worked with, and who sent four children to the College, walked a day in Devon.

The quality of the trail varied a lot; when it was good we'd move at 3-4 mph happily following well-signed paths and enjoying ourselves. When it was bad the path would disappear, we'd fight through chest-high undergrowth or ankle-deep water and climb endless fences and styles – we'd move at less than 1mph. The quality of the trail dictated how long we walked for each day and exactly how exhausted we were by the time we pitched camp each night.

The short summer nights in the north of Scotland proved to be a blessing as we didn't ever need to worry about running out of daylight. I also got incredibly lucky with the weather as I spent most of the three months walking in stunning sunshine. This was particularly true in Scotland where, contrary to my plans, I was having to deal with extreme heat rather than driving rain. But cooling off in lochs, rivers or the sea was a happy and unexpected addition to my days.

Thankfully the quality of the trails dramatically improved the further south we went and I learnt the value in sticking to the well-maintained National Trails. My brother Stuart left me in Inverness and I carried along the stunning Great Glen Way by Loch Ness. It was in this very scenic bit of Scotland that I began to struggle. I'd read a lot about people starting to hurt during weeks 2 to 3 of the walk and that is exactly what



Jamie with his brother Stuart camping on the beach in Scotland



On the South West Coast Path

happened to me. My feet were in agony but fortunately not from blisters, due to my army-mandated foot care regime. Instead they were just incredibly tender and bruised from nearly 200 miles of walking with a pack. At its worst I could walk about a mile before having to stop, rest and take my boots off, which made for some slow, painful days.

I was forced to take two extra rest days to recover, but that seemed to do the trick and after the pain subsided I seemed to get fitter and stronger as I went on. I did pick up a repetitive strain injury to some ankle ligaments after 300 miles but some heavy strapping helped manage that until the end. Those problems aside I happily remained injury-free and I count myself very lucky because injuries were very common amongst the many walkers I met along the way.

The rhythm and routine of these first few days and weeks quickly became normal. I settled into life on the trail, my body adjusted to walking all day, I got fitter and faster, I became good at planning, navigating and managing my kit and provisions. Suddenly the miles started to add up, 120 miles a week became normal. After four weeks I was out of Highlands, after five I was into England, by nine I was arriving in Bath and turning into the South West. The main change was that the further south I went the less I camped and the more I stayed in pubs and hotels.

I happily moved through the British landscape in summer, barren mountains became green hills, which became golden fields and eventually coastline again. I looked forward to weekends off in various cities with my wife, I was excited to see

friends along the way. I measured my progress by counties, rivers and trails. Every day I would meet people and compare notes on routes, the weather and the best places for a drink, meal, sleep or swim.

I could write about almost everywhere I walked but there were some particular highlights, the places that were just magical to walk through and that I already want to revisit.

The West Highland Way is 96 miles of unbelievable scenery finishing just north of Glasgow. It is justifiably one of the most popular trails in the UK. It is truly beautiful from start to finish; it feels more like Norway or New Zealand than the UK. I walked it in blistering sunshine, stopping to swim in Loch Lomond on the last few evenings.

The Borders was an unexpected gem. Following St Cuthbert's Way from Melrose through Jedburgh, moving from wooded paths along the River Tweed to driving trails through the Cheviot foothills is just wonderful walking.

The various national parks were obvious highlights. The Yorkshire Dales was fantastic albeit hard walking but you're always guaranteed a pretty village and a good pub at the end of the day. Dartmoor really stands out as just a remarkable landscape and the only area south of the border that gave Scotland a real run for its money in terms of beauty.

Finally, the South West Coast Path in Cornwall was one long 100-mile highlight. Epic cliffs, mind-blowing beaches and fantastic towns with great food and pubs, it's about as good as walking gets. It was almost enough to make me want to keep going, but not quite.

After 64 days of walking, plus 19

rest days, I arrived at Land's End to be met by parents, wife, and a bottle of champagne. I'm not sure I can do justice to what it was like to finish. As I crossed the finish line I felt relief, pride, sadness that my adventure was over but most of all disbelief. It still feels surreal that I walked so far, saw so much and met so many people along the way.

I haven't talked much about the people and the amazing kindness I was shown by everyone. Everywhere I walked people encouraged me (even while asking if I was mad),

Fundraising for CALM

One final, important point: it would be remiss of me not to mention that I used my walk to raise money for a charity called CALM. They are an amazing organisation trying to prevent male suicide, the leading cause of death amongst men in the UK under the age of 45.

If you would like to make even a small donation it would be incredibly gratefully received at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/jamie-garratt

brought me drinks and meals, gave me places to stay, and generally added colour and character to the places I was walking through.

I took some time off work to do something different, have an adventure and complete a challenge. I achieved all of that in a way that far exceeded my expectations. But what sticks with me most is how truly beautiful our country is and perhaps how much we take that for granted. It was a genuine privilege to see so much of it and to do it in the company of great friends.



The finish at Land's End: Jamie with his parents

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DONALD PERRENS

On Wednesday 13 October, around 150 guests attended the memorial service in College Chapel for former member of staff Donald Perrens DSO OBE DFC.



Donald, who died on 10 April 2020 aged 101, had served with the RAF in the Second World War and it was fitting that the service began with the RAF and CCF standards being processed to the front of the College Chapel to the sound of the RAF March.

Following a welcome and opening prayer from College Chaplain the Revd Daniel Merceron, the first of a series of eulogies was given by General the Lord Richards of Herstonceux GCB CBE DSO DL (Wargrave 1965-70). Lord Richards said that we were here today 'to commemorate an exceptional, inspirational person, a man whose combination of courage, humility, humour and commitment was second to none.'



General the Lord Richards of Herstonceux

He described Donald's wartime career: after initially enlisting in the army in 1939, where he served with the Suffolk Regiment, Donald managed, after heavy fighting near Rouen, to escape from France on one

of the last ships to leave Cherbourg. In November 1941 he transferred to the RAF to train as a pilot in an army co-operation role. In December 1942 he went to Algeria to support the Allied advance on Tunis, flying Hurricanes at first before switching to Spitfires.

Donald flew low-level reconnaissance sorties, often in intense anti-aircraft fire. After Africa he was stationed in Sicily and then moved to mainland Italy until the end of 1943, being rewarded with a DFC for his service over a sustained period. He was made Squadron Leader in January 1944 and worked with the 8th Army in the Italian campaign, providing information and photographs of enemy positions. He was awarded an immediate DSO for an incident in January 1945 in which he came under enemy fire while conducting artillery reconnaissance near Bologna.

The citation for the DSO reads: 'While over the target area... his aircraft was repeatedly hit but he remained over the target for nearly an hour... He was forced to turn away however when the engine of his aircraft failed. He effected a successful crash-landing in our forward defence lines. His coolness and courage in the face of concentrated enemy fire set a fine example.'

Donald was badly injured, and returned to the UK in September 1945, remaining on the RAF active list for a few months more. But as Lord Richards pointed out: 'He didn't leave the RAF altogether. He joined the RAF section of the College CCF in 1948, becoming its OIC in 1954. Then he commanded

the whole CCF from 1973 until his retirement in 1981.'

Donald also held commissions in the Royal Auxiliary Air Force and the RAF Volunteer Reserve, and was appointed commanding officer of the local fighter control unit. On relinquishing command in 1961 he was awarded the OBE. Lord Richards concluded by saying what a remarkable man Donald was: 'over the years effortlessly capturing the imagination, enthusiasm, respect and affection of many thousands of people.' He was 'a peerless example of a life well lived and a duty well done.'

Former member of staff Bernard Drake spoke about Donald's time teaching at the College. Quoting from anecdotes that had been sent to Donald on his 100th birthday, he said that interspersed in these memories were words like 'enthused me', 'motivated me' and 'encouraged me'.

As a housemaster, Donald could be pretty fierce but he was able to care for the individual. One OE had described Donald's time as house-



Bernard Drake

master of Blackwater as ruling with 'a leather fist, as leather can be so hard, but it can also be soft and malleable. And there is a lovely poetic connection with his pilot's gloves.'

Bernard described the relief he felt when Donald took over as acting headmaster in 1972, in difficult times. 'Confidence of staff, pupils and parents were in need of rebuilding... Donald was calm, energetic and optimistic, and had a very disarming smile.'

He concluded by saying that the key words associated with Donald that he had mentioned earlier, 'advice, encouragement and motivation, applied to everybody at the College, not just the pupils... an extraordinary ethos.' He said it was

no surprise to see the Chapel so full, 'in honour of that great man'.

Donald's grandson David Kirtley then gave some personal reflections in his eulogy, considering Donald, the family man. He was born in Willenhall, Staffordshire on 1 January 1919, less than two months after the end of the First World War. At school he thrived, where he was in the 1st XI cricket, 1st XV rugby and was an excellent tennis player. He achieved a distinction in both pure and applied maths, as well as in physics. At 17 he went to St Catharine's College, Cambridge, graduating aged 20 in 1939.

He married Mary Robertson, and their children Pip and Rob were remarkably close, a testament to their loving upbringing and their devoted parents. David said that his first memory of 'Gramps' was that he was always playing with the grandchildren, including making sledges out of sunlounger cushions which they would slide down the steep front garden in East Dean, dodging the apple trees on the way. Trips to the beach involved something more substantial than just building sand-castles, as Donald would also build a boat, a car or even an aeroplane.

He also used to make 'the most fantastic birthday cakes... and normally consisted of Swiss rolls, digestive biscuits, Smarties and lots and lots of chocolate icing.'

He was an early adopter of innovation and was one of the first people that David knew to own a computer. A few years ago, Pip and David took Donald to the Spitfire museum in Ramsgate. On seeing the Spitfire 'his eyes lit up and he started recalling the differences between the Mark XVI and its predecessor'. He pointed out that the clipped wings made it more nimble but that it pulled to the right and he had to compensate by pulling to the left to keep it in a straight line. He showed them the cockpit and where the camera would have been mounted on the underside of the wing, and where the cable from the camera came into the cockpit so he could take the photos.

David said: 'Gramps was a charmer, he was so kind and gracious.' At David and Lucy's wedding, aged 94, Donald gave a reading, speaking with a quiet authority, and looked incredibly dapper. 'As the day progressed he made friends with everyone, not to mention the

bridesmaids. And with a twinkle in his eye and the kindest of hearts, he conducted himself with such elegance and style.'

He continued: 'Gramps made the most of each and every opportunity that was given to him in his long and full life and made such a positive impact on everyone around him. He was an inspiration to many - his friends, his colleagues, his students, and most of all his family.'

David remembered a conversation he had with Donald shortly after he had moved into the nursing home where he spent the last few years of his life. Asking if he was OK and if everybody was being kind, Donald responded with something that David will never forget: 'I find that if you are kind to people, then they tend to be kind back.' He concluded: 'A more charming and handsome man would be hard to find.'

Prayers were then said by the Revd Stephen Gray (Powell 1979-84), the Conduct of Eton College, followed by a blessing from the Revd Chris Macdonald, former Chaplain of Eastbourne College.

Following the service, the guests assembled on College Field to watch a Mark IX Spitfire, RR232 'City of Exeter', make a flypast over the College, with the unique sound of its Merlin engine. This type of Spitfire



The reception in Big School with Donald's medals on display (for a closer view of the framed medals, please see page 24)

features in Donald's flying logbook and was his favourite.

The guests then moved to the reception in Big School, at which Donald's daughter Pip Kirtley

thanked everyone for attending and for their kind words and thoughts. She then unveiled a framed display of replicas of Donald's medals, which are to go on show in the College.

For those who were unable to attend, a recording of the service is available here: https://youtube.com/M_pCoX4MRIA.

David Blake

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NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES

Despite the Covid restrictions, it's been business as usual for the archives.

College archivist Paul Jordan writes:

We've been busy with a higher number of enquiries since last year and have even been able to host a couple of visitors, details of which are carried below. Despite having to work from home, volunteers Michael Partridge and Peter Durrant have been able to contribute to the work of the archives. Their input is very much appreciated.

We've had a number of items conserved this year including a 1970s football poster, a fan used in a College production of *The Mikado* and a sketch on cardboard for an illustration used as part of the 1967 centenary celebrations. Further projects will include the restoration of a set of plans of the Memorial block which date from the 1920s.

We've also put together a couple of exhibitions; one to pay tribute to the life of former teacher Donald Perrens, which was on display at his memorial service, and the other which celebrated drama at the College and was seen by guests at a performance of *Les Misérables* in December 2021.

Elinor Allom

One enquirer was looking for information about her great aunt, Elinor Allom, mother of Vincent 'Vin' Allom who taught at the College and wrote *Ex Oriente Salus*. We supplied what we had on Allom and during the course of the research discovered a newspaper article about Allom and his mother. The report was dated 23 March 1940 and it stated that they were both planning a holiday to France after the school broke up for the Easter holidays on 5 April. Given that Germany was poised to invade, one wonders if their plans were entirely prudent!

Andy and Lisa Wynn

A former member of staff of Hillcrest College, Zimbabwe, emailed us asking if we could put her in contact with an 'Andy and Lisa' who were connected with Eastbourne College. They had visited Hillcrest as part of a rugby tour in 1993. We were able to establish that they were referring to Andy Wynn, who was Head of PE at the College from 1989 to 2007, and who is married to Lisa. With Andy's permission we passed on his details to the enquirer and they have since been in contact.

Remembrance Day

As part of the Remembrance Day service held at All Saints Church in November 2021, the College Chaplain asked if we could supply images and information about the College's evacuation to Radley during the Second World War. We also supplied pictures of the bomb damage inflicted on Eastbourne itself. The photos were displayed on a screen in the church and pupils read out extracts from OE memories of their time at Radley.



Eastbourne's Marks & Spencer store was destroyed by bombing in 1942

Donations

David Candlin (Reeves 1949–54) Memories of Eastbourne College

George Eve (Pennell 1951–55) Swagger stick. Royal Sussex Regiment emblem engraved on head

Alec Kendall *North Road to Minions*. Book about the GWR in the south west, including information about Henry S B Whitley (home boarder & School House 1892–95)

Rt Revd Mgr John Klyberg (Gonville 1945–50) From his estate, many photos, papers etc

Serena Merton Book about the Second World War career of her great uncle **Cecil Gerald Merton** (Gonville 1921–27)

Chris Williams Group photos of Sillem House (Ascham Prep) 1947 & 1948

Frederick Soddy



Frederick Soddy (Home Boarder 1893-94), Nobel prize winner, was the subject of a talk given at the Eastbourne Local History Society in 2021. We were able to provide the speaker with notes about Soddy's life and supplied a number of images. Incidentally, the Professor Soddy Award, named in his honour, is a current scholarship open for application by exceptionally gifted academic pupils who wish to join the sixth form.

Granville House, Ascham



Ken Cookes (Ascham 1951-58, Pennell 1958-61) asked if he could have details of former Aschamians who had been in Granville House, Ascham, from the mid to late 1950s to invite them to a Granville House

reunion in October 2021. We were able to provide a list of names together with some photos from the period.

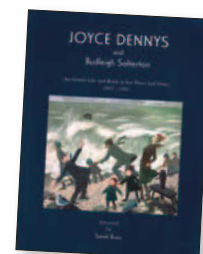


James Edward Shum Tuckett

James Edward Shum Tuckett taught science at the College from 1895 to 1902 and was the first commanding officer of the Corps (now the CCF). His granddaughter visited the College and kindly allowed material relating to her grandfather to be scanned, which was passed on to the archives. We later sent her copies of notes and images we had relating to him.

Joyce Dennys

We were contacted by Sarah Bussy who was writing a book about Joyce Dennys. Joyce was a noted cartoonist, illustrator and painter and a niece of Lady Dennys, an unofficial 'hostess' at the College in the 1930s. Lady Dennys's two sons were killed in the First World War and the Dennys Library was established in the Memorial Tower in their memory. Sarah wanted information about the members of the Dennys family who had attended the College. We now have a published copy of the book in the archives.



Frederick John Nettlefold

A researcher at Kelvingrove Art Gallery in Glasgow emailed us looking for information on Frederick John Nettlefold who was a donor to the gallery and museum. Nettlefold attended the College in Blackwater from 1884 to 1887 and went on to have a varied career. A bottle manufacturer, he was also a director of Courtaulds for 38 years. He began his connections with the theatre in 1893 as an actor and was actor-manager for the Scala Theatre, London, for a number of years until his retirement from the theatrical world in 1922. He was also a patron of the arts and President of the Crystal Palace Football Club. A supporter of the College, he endowed an £8000 scholarship.

New Beacon Prep

James Vincent, head of history at New Beacon prep school, Sevenoaks, contacted us enquiring which former pupils of his school came on to the College. We were able to supply him with a digital version of the Allom registers to help with his enquiry. The Allom registers were compiled by Vincent Allom (College Staff 1929-65) and are hand-written volumes with brief biographical notes of every pupil at the College from 1867 to 1949.

Ernest Thomas Adams Phillips

We were contacted by a researcher who was gathering material on an OE, Ernest Thomas Adams Phillips, who was in School House from 1892 to 1896. He served with the Artists' Rifles and Royal Garrison Artillery in the Great War, and was awarded an MBE for his work at the allied Anti-Gas School. We were able to provide some details and the researcher has kindly sent us a copy of Phillips' illustrated biography.

The Bailey Family

We were emailed by a family member researching the history of the Bailey family and were able to establish that a Charles Lionel John Bailey was at the College, in Pennell House from 1948-53. He died in 1994 and an obituary appeared in the *Old Eastbournian* in 1995. A copy was sent.

The Mikado fan



One of the more unusual donations to the archives this year came in the form of a hand-painted fan which had been used in a production of *The Mikado* at the College in the 1930s. The donors were David, Nick and Jonathan Whitehead.

David told the following story:

'My late mother was married to a man called John Hayes who attended Eastbourne College. She married John in the spring of 1944 and he was killed in Normandy two months later. My mother remarried and when she died a few years ago I came across a fan which John had used as a prop in a school production of *The Mikado*. The fan is signed by other members of the cast.'

John (Pennell 1933-37) had written on the fan

'this fan was used when I was Nanki Poo in *The Mikado* Dec 1937.'

A few of the other names I have tentatively identified: Mikado – D McDonald (School 1935-38); Ko Ko – T Davy (Pennell 1934-39); and Peep Bo – W Miln (Wargrave 1934-39).

Unfortunately, there doesn't seem to be a report on the actual performance but the *Eastbournian* of March 1936 stated: 'Choral and Orchestral Society – The Choral Society have spent most of the term learning the choruses in *The Mikado*.'

The fan is incredibly fragile and needed conservation. Corinne Farmer, art conservator and parent of an OE, who is based at the Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne, was able to repair and stabilise the condition of the fan.



A close-up showing some of the names of the characters and cast written on the reverse of the fan

Hardit Singh Malik



Dil Bahra contacted us with an enquiry about Hardit Singh Malik (Blackwater 1910-12). He wanted to know if Malik had ever played hockey at the College and if so, it would make him the first Sikh to play hockey in England. We checked our copy of Malik's autobiography, *A Little Work, A Little Play*, which confirmed that he did indeed play hockey at the College: 'I played all the games – cricket in summer, hockey in winter'. Unfortunately nothing was recorded about the playing of this sport in the *Eastbournian* at this time apart from one reference in 1912 which stated that 'Hockey, we may say, has fizzled out'. Please visit Dil's website for more information: <http://www.sikhsin-hockey.com/Default.aspx?id=593364>.

Malik is perhaps more famous for his exploits as the first Indian pilot to serve with the Royal Flying Corps in the First World War. In March we heard about plans for a statue of him which is to be installed near Southampton's Sea City Museum, as a memorial dedicated to the black and ethnic minority service personnel who lost their lives in the two world wars. A sketch of the proposed statue by artist Luke Perry is shown here.

Known as the 'Flying Sikh', Malik wore a specially designed helmet that fitted over his turban. He served on the Western Front, flying a Sopwith Camel on combat missions across France and Italy. During one combat mission he crash-landed with over 400 bullet holes in his plane and a number of bullets in his leg, which remained there for the rest of his life. After the war he had a distinguished career in the Indian civil service and later the Indian diplomatic service, becoming the High Commissioner to Canada and then Ambassador to France. He died, aged 90, in 1985.

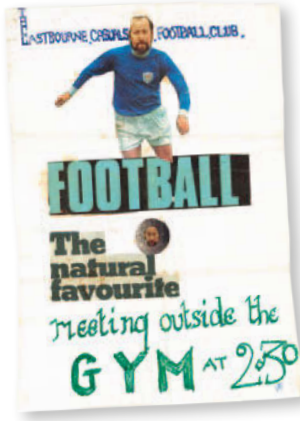
Patrick Mulvany



Annabel and Patrick Mulvany, archivist Paul Jordan, and Penny Jordan who lives in the Craven Cottage flat with her husband Director of Music Dan Jordan and their family

Patrick Mulvany (School 1959-64) and his wife, Annabel, visited the College in September 2021. Patrick is the son of Brian Mulvany (School 1926-30) who taught at the school from 1938 to 1962 and was house-master of Nugent House when it was a 'waiting' house for boys, initially situated in Craven Cottage. Patrick and his family lived in the upstairs flat at Craven Cottage from 1951 to 1957. The first floor of the building is now used as staff accommodation and Penny Jordan very kindly showed us round. It was a delightful visit with Patrick telling us what each room was used for and reminiscing about his time at the College. The archives were able to provide a number of historic photos of Brian and Patrick including one of Patrick 'laying' a brick for the new day boys changing rooms at Ascham in 1954. We were even able to track down a newspaper article from a copy of a 1950 edition of the *Eastbourne Chronicle* which reported on the theft of Patrick's tricycle!

The Eastbourne Casuals Football Club



James Gardner (Pennell 1966-71) donated a handmade poster advertising the newly formed (in 1971) Eastbourne College Football Club. Bizarrely, it features Clement Freud, politician and TV chef, a picture of whose head has been pasted on to the body of a footballer. James remembers:

'We were all keen on playing football but for a long time were not allowed to form a College team. Eventually I saw the headmaster in about 1970 and he agreed, although we were not allowed to use the College name.'

The team was named the Eastbourne Casuals Football Club and its captain was Cyril Panda (School 1967-71) who died in 2021. His obituary appears in this magazine.

The 1971 *Eastbournian* reported: 'The Soccer Society's first competitive season might be called a qualified success. Of the four matches played against other schools and clubs only one was won, the second match against an Eastbourne Grammar School XI by 1-0, but in none of the games were the Society disgraced.

'Cyril Panda as captain set a fine example in terms of skilled play by dominating the midfield in almost every game; Barry Simons was an active secretary and the remainder of the squad were James Gardner and Jules Wheeler two accomplished full-backs; Dirk Brandis, Peter Cooke and Nigel Hartley (goalkeepers); Stuart Hepburn, Chris Bird, Phil Barker and Mick Moore, who were generally working hard in mid-field; and John Goddard and Mike Pyrgos, two strikers whose speed and perception of openings frequently made them dangerous players to opposing defences. Jeremy Neville and Nick Sherwood had a desperate battle to gain the centre-back position and by the end of the season both were too good to leave out while Charlie Tremayne gave his best in any position. Finally Peter Cywinski as sweeper and Peter Wilson as a full-back showed that admirable virtue – coolness under pressure.'

Our thanks once again to Corinne Farmer who repaired the poster.

Paul Feiler and Ben Lyte



In August 2021 the archives were contacted by Cheffins Auctioneers in Cambridge with regard to a portrait they had received. The painting was of a young man and was inscribed on the back 'PAUL FEILER / MAY 1944 / BEN LYTE'. The auctioneers had searched on the internet for Lyte and had found an obituary for a Bryan Lyte (Gonville 1939-44) in an online copy of the 2019 *Old Eastbournian*.

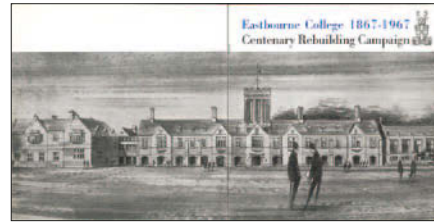
There is a double connection with the College. Paul Feiler was an artist born in Germany, who came to England in 1933. Interned at the

beginning of the Second World War; initially on the Isle of Man and then in Canada, he returned to take up the post of Head of Art at the College (then based at Radley) in 1941. He remained with the College until 1946.

While he was at Radley, he painted a portrait of Bryan Edric Nevill ('Ben') Lyte. In Ben's memories of his time at Radley, he made reference to Paul:

'Whilst Simpson [Ralph Simpson, Art Master 1938-58] was an exceptional watercolourist Feiler seemed to prefer oils, and at the time was much taken up with the effects of sunlight upon the rusting corrugated iron roofs of farm buildings... Most of us perhaps owe an abiding interest to the enthusiasm of someone we met early in life, and Feiler has remained such for me'. It's possible that Feiler's tutoring led to Ben winning the Wallis Drawing Prize in 1944.

Centenary Rebuilding Campaign picture



The campaign brochure with the image printed across the covers

We recently discovered the original picture that was reproduced in a brochure for the 1967 Centenary Rebuilding Campaign. Created in ink and gouache on cardboard, the picture was badly creased where it had at some point been folded and it had also suffered some slight water damage. Corinne Farmer at Eastbourne's Towner Gallery again came to our rescue and was able to lessen the distortion of the crease and remount the picture for us.

Robert Sydney Thomson Hirst



Ethel Jepson, right, at Folkington in 1958

The archives received a letter from Raymond Prior with a fascinating and poignant story about his uncle, Robert Sydney Thomson Hirst, known as Bob, who was in School House from 1921 to 1925.

During Bob's time at the College, the family finances became stretched and it was uncertain that he would be able to continue his education there; the situation was made worse by the death of his father. Bob left the school and went to work in the woollen industry in Bradford. He caught the train to work from his home in Huddersfield and met a girl, Ethel Jepson, with whom he travelled for a year or so. But after Bob bought a motorbike Ethel thought their journeys together had finished. The 1926 general strike saved the day. Ethel said later: 'I managed to get through to Bradford the first morning of the strike, and during the day I was called down to the reception room as a young man wanted to see me, and there was Bob, complete in riding outfit, enquiring if I would care to ride on the back of his bike, and he would drive me home. That is what I continued to do – there and back for about two years'.

Bob decided on a career change and joined a firm specialising in paper. He was sent to Sweden for six months to study forestry, the making of paper and to learn the language. He transferred to London where he stayed in a Toc H hostel and came to know the founder of the movement, the Rev 'Tubby' Clayton. Bob married Kathleen Douglas in 1933.

Tragically, in 1941 he was killed in a motorcycle accident as he was patrolling a huge procession of military vehicles on manoeuvres in Lincolnshire. It is thought that he was struck by one of the vehicles which forced him into the verge. The resulting crash brought his head down violently on the handlebars.

His brother, Rex (who also attended the College) wrote to his parents: 'I just can't believe it. To think that Bob, who had gone to his work and back... for months on end, should meet his death on a motorcycle seems too ironic for words, when I, who had never ridden one in my life, am still pottering about on one every day, even in the desert, without any harm'.

But the College connection didn't end with Bob's death. Ethel, his travelling companion, later moved to Eastbourne and worked as a ladies' hairdresser:

'The Headmaster of Eastbourne College [John Nugee] brought his wife in a wheelchair and I attended to her hair. I never mentioned Bob until one day when she told me there was to be a special service at the Chapel in remembrance of boys who had been killed... Then I couldn't restrain myself, and said I knew one person whose name was in that Book [the chapel book of remembrance], so of course she wanted to know who it was.' His brother, Rex, paid tribute to him: 'He was worth 100 of me and I'm still single with no apparent worries, yet here he was bursting with life, with a wife and one most charming kiddie, and no one now left to look after them'.

A link to the Second World War Roll of Honour which contains an entry for Bob can be found on the Eastbournian Society website.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COLLEGE YEAR 2020-21

Essay competition winners



Headmaster Tom Lawson with Liv Reeves

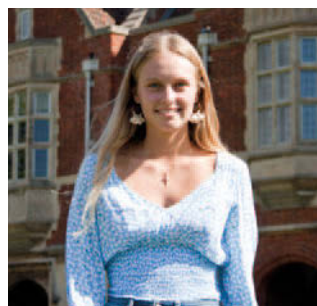
In the Lent term, several of the most able Year 12 pupils were awarded scholarships for a summer school held at Cambridge for their winning entries to the national Immerse Education essay competition: Kizzy Rollings, Daisy Russell, Tobias Lloyd, Will Neal, Liv Reeves and Sasha Rosanov. Saphyre Mills Kennelly also won a Cambridge essay competition with her piece on 'Law and Algorithms'.

The Great Big Dance Off



Herbie Sleep (Year 10) won The Great Big Dance Off (GBDO). He competed with 123 entrants from across England and Wales in the Key Stage 4/5 (ages 14 to 18) solo category. In what the judges described as a 'high standard' competition with a 'great mix of genres and styles,' Herbie flipped, rolled, slid, and turned his way into first position, producing an expressive display that left him with 175 points; one point clear of the runner-up.

UK Linguistics Olympiad



Saphyre Mills Kennelly

A number of the College's top linguists and mathematicians took part in the UK Linguistics Olympiad. Nine Year 12 pupils sat the Advanced level, aiming for a place on the national team – Saphyre Mills Kennelly, Georgie Ginbey, Isabella Freslov, Julie Sun, and Freddie Bobbin.

Bank, Camera, Action!



Maddy Osman (Year 12) won the Bank of England's national annual School Film Competition 'Bank, Camera, Action!' in the 'storyboard' category. Maddy created her storyboard at home during lockdown and was awarded first prize nationally. The Bank's judges said: 'The fact that Maddy produced such a first-rate storyboard is a great credit to her and she should feel very proud of her achievement.' The topic of the competition was 'The changing workplace: same spaces new realities'. The focus was on how the coronavirus pandemic has affected the way we work, jobs and the economy. Pupils across England created films and storyboards that explored how workplaces, from schools to factories, are changing, and what they might look like in the future.

Maddy Osman

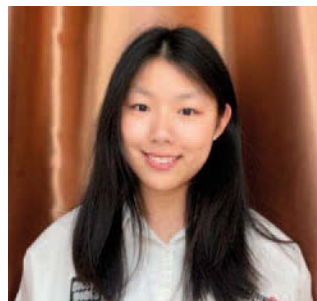
Advantage Eastbourne



The College's year-round tennis programme has continued to serve up success, smashing expectations and raising the bar for school-based tennis initiatives. In the summer, U15, U16 and U18 girls, pictured, won trophies across a number of county tournaments and leagues. In the last three years, 11 pupils have taken up university tennis scholarships:

- 2018 Eleanor Chapman (Lipscomb College, Tennessee)
Ines Pelvang (University of California, Santa Cruz)
- 2019 Aziza Aubin (University of Tennessee, Martin)
Phoebe Watton (Long Island University, New York)
- 2020 Emily Gordon (Exeter University)
Charlotte Imbert (Pomona College, California)
Summer Reeves (Carson Newman College, Tennessee)
- 2021 Melanie Griffith (Arkansas Tech, Arkansas)
Tegan Heaton (Oakland University, Michigan)
Bella Moen (Seton Hall College, New Jersey)
Aria Wang (Vassar College, New Jersey)

Royal Society of Chemistry Olympiad



Jess Fu

Jess Fu (Year 12) gained an impressive Gold Award in Round 1 of the Royal Society of Chemistry's UK Chemistry Olympiad. She was placed in the top 9 per cent of 7,160 entrants. The College entered 25 candidates overall, winning one gold, nine silver, and nine bronze awards; a record for the school in this competition.

Creative Arts Beacon Event



The Music Department hosted three virtual events in the Lent term, the most diverse of which was the inaugural Creative Arts Beacon Event (CABI). Billed as an open-mic-style collaboration of creative arts talent, pupils were invited to show and tell their latest creative work to the College community via Teams. Audience members also had the opportunity to quiz the pupils and congratulate them. Owing to lockdown restrictions, all of the work had been produced at home using pupils' own resources. Director of Music, Dan Jordan, pulled the event together and was overwhelmed by the volume of work submitted. Pupils passionate about art, art textiles, dance, drama, music, photography, poetry and more besides, jumped at the opportunity.

2020 Young Geographer of the Year competition



William Brown

William Brown (Year 13) was among the winners of The Royal Geographical Society's (RGS) 2020 Young Geographer of the Year competition. The judges placed him in the Highly Commended category for his work exploring the human and physical geography of his home town of Hastings. The level of work that William produced was exceptional. He conducted recorded video interviews with local residents, took photos of the built environment, used census data to explore the demography of the town, and researched everything from government archives to social media to learn the town's contemporary and historical cultural landscapes.

Live Lounge concert raises £2435 for St Wilfrid's Hospice



Each year, aided by an enthusiastic team of Music Department professionals, pupils at Eastbourne College produce and publish a Live Lounge album consisting of covers and originals. Normally it is performed in front of a live audience in the Jennifer Winn Auditorium (Birley Centre), but this year, undeterred by the difficulties imposed by the pandemic, the decision was made to live-stream it instead. Recorded and produced over the course of an eight-hour session using the College's in-house resources, the live-stream raised £2,435 for local charity St Wilfrid's Hospice Eastbourne. Around 1,000 people viewed the concert, which was broadcast simultaneously to the 4,000 followers of the College's Facebook account in March. Since then, over 2,500 people have viewed the event.

Mental Health Awareness Week



Pupils and staff well and truly embraced the 'connect with nature' theme for this year's Mental Health Awareness Week in May. From tai chi on the beach, to lessons in the sun on College Field, to barefoot boundary walks and so much more.

Royal Opera House Design Challenge



Year 10 scholars Marcus Skyrme and Nellie Yarrow Davies triumphed as joint winners of the national Royal Opera House (ROH) Design Challenge 2020-21 in the 'secondary school' category. This year marks the ten-year anniversary of the ROH Design Challenge and only the second year the

College has entered the competition. The Design Challenge is the ROH's flagship theatre design challenge, and at secondary level covers set and costume design. This year the competition centred on the opera *Carmen*, and both Marcus and Nellie submitted costume designs. The judges said: 'The panel were impressed by the detailed process that both designers had gone through and how they both adapted to the circumstances this year inventively. Nellie explained her process and interpretation of the director's vision with great clarity. Marcus showed an equally detailed process and a real depth of understanding of the characters his designs were for.'

Lord Lieutenant's CCF Cadet for East Sussex



Cadet Warrant Officer Ethan Hackett was appointed as the Lord Lieutenant's CCF Cadet for East Sussex in Michaelmas term 2020. The Lord-Lieutenant's Cadet is seen as the aide and representative of the cadet forces to the royal family and the Lord Lieutenant in each county. Each year, typically one is chosen from each of the main cadet forces: the Army Cadet Force, Air Training Corps and Sea Cadets. Occasionally, one is chosen from the Combined Cadet Force. The cadet from each arm of the cadet forces is selected and appointed based on their outreach and participation within their unit and wider cadet community, and this appointment is seen as one of the highest achievements in the Cadet Forces.

Eastbourne College has now proudly produced two Lord Lieutenants Cadets in its history and we are justly proud of Ethan's achievement. He was presented with his award by the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex, Mr Peter Field, during a virtual ceremony during Michaelmas half term but the Headmaster took the opportunity to congratulate him in person in front of the assembled CCF contingent on College Field.

Triathlon success for Hamish



Hamish Reilly took the Eastbourne Triathlon competition by storm in June. Hamish finished the main sprint event in first place with an extremely impressive time of 59 minutes and 2 seconds.

CCF activity programme



In the last week of the summer term Year 10 pupils had a fantastic time participating in the CCF activity programme. They took part in sailing, raft-building, paddle boarding, paintball sessions and much more.

Earth Day



On Earth Day 2021 (22 April), the College was visited by Lord Lucas, who is participating in an Eastbourne Schools Partnership initiative to promote the breeding of the local blue butterfly in Eastbourne. The pupils of School House assisted Lord Lucas in planting seeds to attract this species of butterfly to School House garden.

Linguistic success

In the summer term, Nelly Bathard-Smith won the 2021 Poesiæ German competition with her impressive recital of Goethe's *Der Rattenfänger*. Georgie Ginbey won first place in the Independent Schools Modern Language Association German A-Level original writing competition.

Financial achievement

Guillaume Najbor, Matthew Tsang, James Cardoza, Jacob Barlow and Sam Linden all passed their Chartered Institute of Securities and Investments exam, having had it delayed due to lockdown. This means that all the pupils who signed up as the first cohort to take the exam have now achieved this highly regarded financial qualification.

Duke of Edinburgh award



In the summer term Year 11 pupils embarked on their Silver DofE expedition in June in gruelling 30 degree humid conditions. Mr Fellows, who led the trip, summed up perfectly the experience and

attitudes of the pupils in this quote, 'having run multiple DofE expeditions over the course of 16 years, I never fail to be empowered by the resilience and development of the pupils that take part. This trip was no exception.'

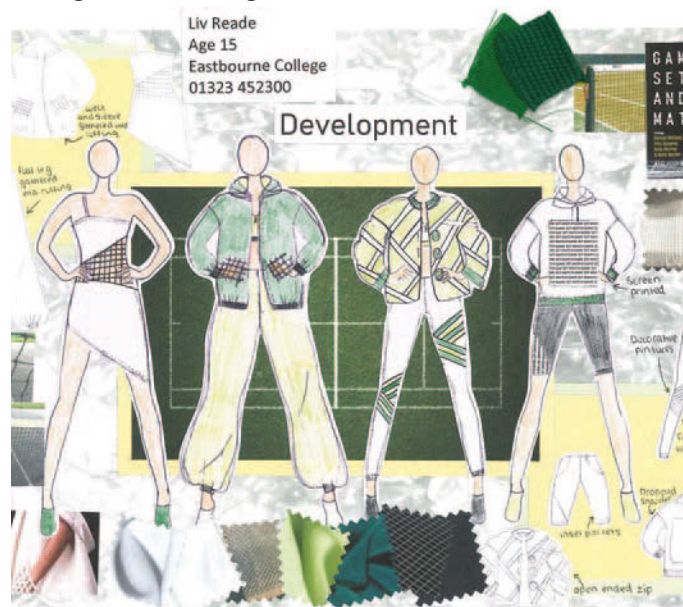
Undercroft concert



In the last week of the summer term, there was a live concert in the undercroft between the Nugee and Winn buildings. Although it couldn't take place in our usual venue, the Eastbourne Bandstand, it was still a fantastic evening of live music. Some

of the performances were by the College's singer songwriter group, who have also released a new album.

Young Fashion Designer of the Year



Year 10 pupil Liv Reade won first place in the Young Fashion Designer of the year competition in the Years 9–11 category. Liv produced a mood board, evidence of initial ideation, and four final outfit designs in response to the brief 'Sustainability in Athleisure'. Her collection was inspired by the Eastbourne International tennis tournament and she incorporated the sustainability element through her use of sustainable fabrics, such as PET.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The following scholarships and awards were made to pupils who started at the College in Michaelmas term 2021.

Year 9

Academic

Kristiana Bailey
Dan Clark
Millie Davidson-Houston
Victor Delaney
Humreen Ellens
Lily Michaelides
Harrison Tradewell
Phoebe Wearne
Eric Wood

Art

Emilia Dixon
James Dunlop
Isaac Lee
Mana Zhang

Design & Technology

Dan Clark
Monty Dean
Eric Wood

Drama

Emily Corrigan
Dominic Muschialli

Forbes Wastie all-rounder award

Poppy Champion
Nancy Revill
Apple van der Meer

Music

Millie Davidson-Houston
Lorenzo Ramdor-Seiler
Mary-Kate Rivett
James Yee

Sport

Nicholas Beech
Nate Cahill
Matt Clark
Percy Cutler
Emilia Dixon
Elliot Freeborough

Ollie Kirtley

Will Plimsoll
Freddie Russell
Olivia Wilson

Sixth Form

Academic

Florence Assetto
Justin Bonneau Diesce
Eliza Brown
Luke Burnham
Jess Coupland
Megan Moffat
Leander Walters

Art

Stephanie Vieira

Drama

Tess Garrett

Music

Matthew Wakefield

Professor Soddy award

Daniel Guldemand
Mia Taylor

Sport

Louis Fisher
Matt Geddes
Darcey Gibson
Aditya Kumar
Finn McKeown
Megan Moffat
Ollie Wigman

PRIZE WINNERS 2021

Year 9		Mathematics Prize	<i>Matilda Chapman</i>	English as an Additional Language Prize	<i>Marie Schindera</i>
Emily Hale Prize for the Outstanding Academic Performance in Year 9	<i>Xanthe Lawson</i>	Music Prize	<i>Oliver Rivett</i>	English Language Prize	<i>Clara Delaney</i>
Art Prize	<i>Akari Ikeda</i>	Philip Matthew Biology Prize	<i>Jason Mo</i>	English Literature Prize	<i>Zain Radwan</i>
Chemistry Prize	<i>Edward Nolan</i>	Physical Education Prize	<i>Paddy Cooper</i>	French Prize	<i>Clara Delaney</i>
Classical Civilisation Prize	<i>Isabella Banks</i>	Physics Prize	<i>Mila Cheary</i>	C Kirk-Greene Junior French Reading Prize	<i>Missy Richardson</i>
Dance Prize	<i>Angelina Watson</i>	Religious Studies Prize	<i>Emily Veitch</i>	Geography Prize	<i>Ewan Clark</i>
Design and Technology and Textiles Prize	<i>William Rennie</i>	Spanish Prize	<i>James Rimmington</i>	German Prize	<i>Struan Dunlop</i>
Drama Prize	<i>Josiah Pears</i>	Tom Lewis Memorial Cup	<i>Dexter Bell</i>	Greek Prize	<i>Zain Radwan</i>
English as an Additional Language Prize	<i>Arsène Chaté</i>	Year 10		History Prize	<i>Alexander Bailey</i>
English Prize	<i>Finlay Eadie</i>	Outstanding Academic Performance in Year 10	<i>Esmé Scanlan</i>	Latin Prize	<i>Cornelia Yarrow Davies</i>
French Prize	<i>Esteban Boruel-Lopez</i>	Art Prize	<i>Toby Wheatley</i>	Mathematics Prize	<i>Bob Zhao</i>
Geography Prize	<i>Clarissa Muzariri</i>	Biology Prize	<i>Elizabeth Chan</i>	Music Prize	<i>Frederik Jensen</i>
German Prize	<i>Evangeline Ginbey</i>	Chemistry Prize	<i>Elizabeth Chan</i>	Organ Prize	<i>Benjamin Clark</i>
Greek Achievement Prize	<i>Lucas Jayaraj</i>	Classical Civilisation Prize	<i>Eliza Jones</i>	Physical Education Prize	<i>Alexander Bailey</i>
JL McIntosh History Prize	<i>Alice Caroe</i>	Computing Prize	<i>Elizabeth Chan</i>	Physics Prize	<i>Ivan Wong</i>
Latin Achievement Prize	<i>Noah Titterton-Manos</i>	Dance Prize	<i>Katie Hillyer</i>	Religious Studies Prize	<i>Clara Delaney</i>
		Design and Technology Prize	<i>Ewan Clark</i>	Spanish Prize	<i>Struan Dunlop</i>
		Drama Prize	<i>Benjamin Clark</i>	Textiles Prize	<i>Marcus Skyrme</i>

Year 11		Lower Sixth	
Outstanding Academic Performance in Year 11	<i>Isaac Tam</i>	Outstanding Academic Performance in Lower Sixth	<i>Freddie Bobbin</i>
AL Margetson Junior English Prize for Literature	<i>Polly Symes</i>	John Belk Memorial Essay	<i>Lottie Crathern & Henry Nguyen</i>
Derek Mitchell Junior Geography Prize	<i>Dylan Pearson</i>	Art Prize	<i>Evangeline Sleep</i>
ED Merrit Instrumental Prize	<i>Oliver Shouksmith</i>	EC Arnold Biology Prize	<i>Ethan Page</i>
GG Mohring Junior German Prize	<i>Oliver Shouksmith</i>	Business Prize	<i>Daniel Jeffrey</i>
Holman Prize for Services to Chapel	<i>James Zhou</i>	Chemistry Prize	<i>Jessica Fu</i>
JL Hortenstein Junior History Prize	<i>Frederick Ferro</i>	Baynes Classical Civilisation Prize	<i>Jessie-Mae Tarrant</i>
Junior Classical Civilisation Prize	<i>Polly Symes</i>	Computing Prize	<i>Chorus Yuen</i>
Junior Dance Prize	<i>Verity Terry</i>	Vernon Dobtcheff Creative Prize	<i>Evangeline Sleep</i>
Junior Drama Prize	<i>Amelia Baldock</i>	Dance Prize	<i>Millie White</i>
Junior Latin Prize	<i>Orla Boulter</i>	Design and Technology Prize	<i>David Wang</i>
Junior Mathematics Prize	<i>David Udegbe</i>	Drama Prize	<i>Alexandria Hawkins</i>
Junior Prize for English as an Additional Language	<i>Alisa Ievskaia</i>	Economics Prize	<i>Nasim Bellagnaoui</i>
Junior Prize for Physical Education	<i>Dylan Pearson</i>	English Prize	<i>Olivia Reeves</i>
Junior Spanish Prize	<i>David Udegbe</i>	French Prize	<i>Henry Nguyen</i>
Marshall Junior French Prize	<i>Theodore Bathard-Smith</i>	Crowden Further Mathematics Prize	<i>Chorus Yuen</i>
NJ Hill Junior Design and Technology Prize	<i>Rolland Lau</i>	Geography Prize	<i>Emily May</i>
NJ Hill Junior Project Prize for Computing	<i>Cindia Zhou</i>	German Prize	<i>Sapphyre Mills-Kennelly</i>
NJ Hill Junior Textiles Prize	<i>Imogen Symonds</i>	Greek Prize	<i>Not awarded</i>
RA Henderson Junior Greek Prize	<i>James Zhou</i>	Harry Byatt Prize	<i>Guy Beddows</i>
Rex Colgate Junior Biology Prize	<i>Cindia Zhou</i>	HJ Bannatyne History Prize	<i>Lily Steed</i>
Rexie Adalian Junior Scripture Prize	<i>Mimi Gould</i>	Latin Prize	<i>Olivia Reeves</i>
RG Dyer Junior Art Prize	<i>Kiri Marshall</i>	Green Mathematics Prize	<i>Emily May</i>
RG Dyer Junior Physics Prize	<i>David Udegbe</i>	Music Prize	<i>James Grout</i>
Seymour Junior Singing Prize	<i>Benjamin Young</i>	EE Morris Painting Prize	<i>Olivia Reeves</i>
Tunstall Junior Chemistry Prize	<i>Tina Wang</i>	Philosophy and Ethics Prize	<i>Henry Nguyen</i>
WN Williams Junior Music Prize	<i>Oliver Shouksmith</i>	Photography Prize	<i>Millie White</i>
		Physical Education Prize	<i>Abigail Coleman</i>
		Alex Coates Physics Prize	<i>Yuki Nagata</i>
		Martin Steele Prize for Play Production	<i>Joseph Muschialli</i>
		Politics Prize	<i>Maia Mountain</i>
		Percy Appleby Science Prize	<i>Ethan Page</i>
		Blackburn Senior Singing Scholarship	<i>Finlay Tomlinson</i>
		Steer Award for Acting	<i>Finlay Tomlinson</i>
		Spanish Prize	<i>Federica Buckingham</i>
		PG and DG Gilbert Memorial Prize for Achievement in Girls' Sport	<i>Lillian Harley (London Pulse Netball)</i>
		Textiles Prize	<i>Phoebe Shakespeare</i>

Upper Sixth

Jubilee Prize for the Outstanding Academic Performance in Upper Sixth	Natasha Symes	LG Chater Senior French Prize	Sandra Fuhrmann
Archbishop Gregg Senior Classical Civilisation Prize	Sandra Fuhrmann	Lord Hyndley Senior English Prize	Eleanor Daniels
BH Thomas Senior Physics Prize	Shahriar Alam	Maurice ER Sims Prize for Contribution to Boys' Sport	Toby Lock
BM Oman Senior Latin Prize	Katherine Linaker	Nelson Helmsley Senior Textiles Prize	Mackenzie Lumley
Broadley Prize for the Head of School	Eloise Quitmann	Peter Copp Senior Prize for Spanish	Rosie Clifford
Buckland Award for 1st XV Rugby	Leon Wood	PG and DG Gilbert Memorial Prize for Achievement in Boys' Sport	Hamish Reilly (GB Triathlon), Jack Kennedy (Ire Triathlon) Tom Hinley (Sussex CCC) Hugo Askaroff (England U18 hockey)
C Mackenzie Senior Art Prize	Caleb Titterton	Photography Prize	Daisy Newton
C Mackenzie Senior Biology Prize	Arnold Shum	Professor Soddy Oxbridge Science Prize	Isobel Mitchell and Isabel Stead
C Mackenzie Senior German Prize	Elsa Auer	RD Macklin Senior History Prize	Molly Swinger
CS Smallman Senior Chemistry Prize	Isabel Stead	Rexie Adalian Senior Philosophy and Ethics Prize	Fiontan Logan
Duke of Devonshire Senior Classics Prize	Katherine Linaker	RW Nicholson Instrumental Prize	Cody Chan
Duncan Ferguson Senior Geography Prize	Alastair Kent	Sculpture Prize	William Stewart-Blacker
Elizabeth Hurst Senior Mathematics Prize	Christopher Arecco	Senior Business Prize	James Cardoza
Ellis Firkins Senior Design and Technology Prize	William Stewart-Blacker	Senior Dance Prize	Amelia Ridley
Euan Lucie-Smith Medal	William Hipperson	Senior Physical Education Prize	Isabella Park
Godden Memorial Prize for Gonville House	James Nicholas	Senior Politics Prize	Edward Hebron
Gubbins Senior Drama Prize	Edward Gent	Tenby Senior Economics Prize	Tianlu Wang
Harris Prize for Contribution to Girls' Sport	Amelia Dipper		
HMS Marlborough Senior Further Mathematics Prize	Shahriar Alam		
HV Waterfield Senior Music Prize	Sebastian Gleave		
John Le Brocq Memorial Scholarship	Olivia Jayaraj		
Langer Cup for Achievement in Water Sports	George Pepper		

OBOES GET TOGETHER IN SYDNEY

Sam Miller reports on the Oboes lunch on 24 November at The Graphic Arts Club, Sydney.



Left to right, David Anderson (Gonville 1957-61), Martin Benge (School 1957-61), Tony Hilton (Blackwater 1955-60), Ken Raphael (School 1957-62), Sam Miller (School 1960-65)

Oboes was a name suggested by David Anderson for our older group of former pupils from the 1950s to early 1960s as an acronym for Old Boys Of Eastbourne College in Sydney.

The lunch was attended by Tony Hilton, David Anderson, Martin Benge, Kenneth Raphael and Sam Miller, along with our wives. It was a very sad start to the occasion as we were advised by Tony Booth's wife, Helen, that Tony had passed away that morning, having battled with an aggressive melanoma since May. Tony was a stalwart and regular attendee of our OE group since its

inception, so his loss was deeply felt. Ken, Martin, David and I attended his funeral on 2 December on behalf of the College, which Helen greatly appreciated.

On a brighter note, the venue offered wine under The Stag label, a Victorian winery, which we deemed highly appropriate, accompanied by a delicious meal and convivial company. The 'on-off' lockdowns and Covid fatigue throughout Australia and particularly in our Eastern States have created huge pent-up demand for travel, accommodation and entertainment, so it was additionally special to get together when



The appropriately named Stag wine

we did. Spouses made a big difference to the overall atmosphere and dynamic, making it feel more like a gathering of friends and family. We all feel blessed living in Australia and having been shielded for the most part from the ravages of the global pandemic. We do, however, have to put up with the political climate which seems to have degenerated to a race to the bottom, and not just here!

At the time of writing (December), England is getting a pasting in the cricket, but we won't go there...! Instead, we wish all OEs a safe and productive New Year and beyond from Australia.

THE BIG SCHOOL FIRE



2021 marked the fortieth anniversary of the Big School fire which took place in the early hours of 19 November 1981.

Big School was the College's first assembly hall, opened in 1909. The following year, EC Arnold, who would later serve as headmaster, instigated the carving of a series of wooden panels, work which was done by both pupils and staff. It was not until 1932 that this project was completed.



Laurence Symington (Gonville 1906-14) with two of the carvings, c. 1912

Sadly, in the devastating fire of 1981, all of the wooden interior was lost to the flames and only the four walls would remain standing. A major fund-raising effort was then put in place, led by the Old Eastbournian Association, which resulted



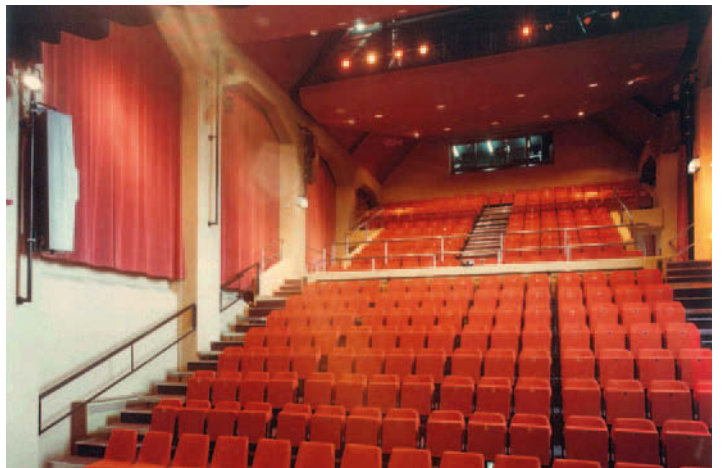
The charred ruins of the interior in the renovation and remodelling of Big School into the College Theatre, which opened on 14 July 1984.



Big School was re-opened by Sir Christopher Leaver (Blackwater 1951-55), centre, with Headmaster Christopher Saunders on the right



Big School in the 1930s, showing the wooden panels and the gallery which ran around three sides of the building



After the renovation, with auditorium seating in place

HEYLYN FRASER MATHESON – THE FOUNDER OF WARGRAVE

One of the most remarkable men to have taught at the College was Heylyn Matheson.

The son of the Revd Charles Matheson, headmaster of the Clergy Orphan School, later St Edmund's School, in Canterbury, 1867 to 1891, and his wife Alethea, Heylyn was born on 28 October 1857. He was a senior scholar at the King's School, Canterbury, where he was a monitor and a member of the cricket XI for two years. Leaving in 1876, he entered Christ Church, Oxford, as a scholar and graduated BA in 1880, MA in 1886. In January 1884 he joined the College as an assistant master, retiring in 1923 after 40 years. In 1885 he married Ethel Nina Hall-Say who died in 1946. Then in 1886 for just one year he became housemaster of Newton's house at 3 Grange Terrace (now 3 Grange Road) with two boarders. (Blackwater was then the headmaster's house). He was only there a year before taking over School (College) House in 1887.

When the Revd Charles Crowden arrived as headmaster from Cranbrook in 1888 with 90 boys, he took possession of both College House and Blackwater, raising the roll from 60 to 150; Matheson was forced to find somewhere else to live. In September 1888 he purchased and converted a house at 52 Blackwater Road and remained there as housemaster until 1905. He named the house Wargrave because his father-in-law had been rector of Wargrave, a village in Berkshire. These were the College's first three boarding houses (there were then no day boys). When he retired the College found difficulty in finding a successor who had the capital to start or buy the house. Eventually the Revd F Atkinson was persuaded to take over the house although the ownership remained with Matheson until the College purchased the freehold from him in 1930.

Matheson was for a while named Master of the Classical School and took charge of football, reducing the College side to eleven players. He played for the team which in those days used a plot of land which later became the garden of Fairfield Court in Meads. The Links and other pitches



were not then in our possession. And from 1884 until 1888 he and the College's cricket pro played for the school's cricket XI; he also coached the cricket XI for many years.

In those early days there was no chancel and only a small organ in the chapel; no laboratory, no Big School, no pavilion, no tuck shop, only three houses and no day boys. Matheson was an active member of the Cadet Corps; gazetted in 1901 as a 2nd Lieutenant; he took no part in drill but managed the financial part with care and ability. He for some 15 years discharged the duties of quartermaster at the annual OTC camps, but sent in his papers in 1923 on his retirement and received the TD (Territorial Decoration) for services rendered.

He was an original member of the Saffrons Club. He was also captain and an honorary

member of the Royal Eastbourne Golf Club. He retired from the College in 1923 and then lived at Bennetsfield at no. 12 Summerdown Road. He must have given the house this name because he had been Chief of the Clan Bennetsfield since 1899. His son, Colonel BH Matheson MC, succeeded him in this role. After his retirement he became secretary of the Eastbourne Society for the Welfare of the Blind for ten years and held other local posts in the neighbourhood.

As his retirement notice in the *Old Eastbourneian* of May 1924 said: 'Throughout 40 years of active interest in the many phases of school life, Mr Matheson has endeared himself to all who have passed under his care and able teaching, and many an OE will regret to hear that he is seeking the quiet and peace of home life which he has so deservedly earned. He has been a distinguished co-operator in the building of an establishment which now has a definite place in the list of Public Schools'.

Matheson died at his home in Summerdown Road on Tuesday 20 March 1945 aged 87. He had been in poor health for some time but still managed to go out. His wife Ethel Nina, herself in poor health, survived him, but died on 16 November 1946. He was also survived by three children: Bertram Heylyn, who as a Colonel in the 54th Sikhs, won an MC and died in 1975, and two daughters Margaret Esmé (died 1960) and Alatheia (died 1985). Another son, Major Charles Lionel, MC & Bar, Royal Engineers and Camerons, had died in 1934. Matheson's funeral service was held at St Mary's church in Eastbourne and his body was cremated in Brighton.

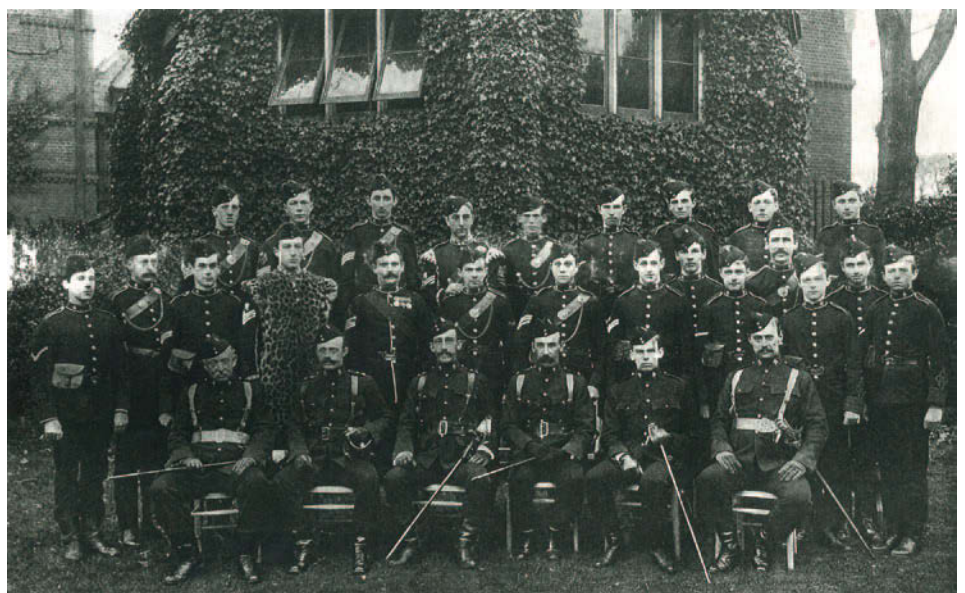
Note: Information about the Matheson clan can be found in the book *History of the Mathesons with Genealogies of the Various Families* by Alexander Mackenzie FSA (Scot.), Edited by Alexander MacBain MA, pub. 1900.

My thanks are due to the internet and to Paul Jordan and Phil Martin for their assistance with research into Mr Matheson's life. Also to Peter Henderson, Archivist at the King's School, for his assistance.

Michael Partridge



A sketch of Matheson in golfing attire, 1928



The College cadet corps in 1901 with Matheson seated front on the far right

OLD EASTBOURNIAN LODGE

This time last year this piece commenced with: 'Well nobody was expecting that!'

Thanks to Covid-19, all Masonic activity had been suspended in March and, just as we were hoping to return to normal, the second wave closed everything down again. As a result we missed out on what is usually our biggest meeting of the year in January, when the new Master of the Lodge is installed and our existing Master, John Howlett (Blackwater 1971-74), is now remaining in office until 2023 by special dispensation, as we have missed so many meetings.



The Worshipful Master, John Howlett

John hopes very much that we hear from a few more potential members who would like to learn a little more about the lodge and what we get up to. We meet four times a year on Friday evenings at the Eastbourne Masonic Centre in South Street, only a couple of minutes away from the main College buildings.

We share this with the 12 other lodges that meet in Eastbourne, as well as a similar number of other Masonic units, so it's quite a busy place.

Following the meeting we have dinner with our guests, usually at a local hotel although, until the old dining hall closed down, we used to eat at the school twice a year and we are hoping that we will be able to return to the new hall in the near future. In the past only the Oxford and Cambridge University Lodges were able to take in new members from the age of 18, but this has recently been extended throughout England and Wales and as a result we are interested in hearing from final year pupils or recent school leavers as well as anyone from other age groups.

Although our lodge, as with most Masonic lodges, is an all-male group, there are many ladies' lodges throughout the country including one in Eastbourne. We are no longer restricted to OEs and staff though and also have parents, grandparents and friends as members. If you would like to



Rob and Malcolm Wicks at Malcolm's 60th presentation

know a little more about Freemasonry and what we do, have a look at the United Grand Lodge of England web-site at www.ugle.org.uk, or the Sussex Provincial YouTube link at <http://youtu.be/czXLHudYG6Y>.

We are especially proud of our very extensive charitable giving, over £51 million last year, despite the ravages of Covid, and we are the biggest contributors to charity in the country next to the National Lottery. If you think you might like any more information about the movement in general or are already a Mason, but would like to join a local lodge, then contact Nick Clive-Matthews (Pennell 1962-66), at nickc_m@yahoo.co.uk, who will be more than happy to have a chat or put you in touch with a lodge meeting in your area.

Rob Wicks (Powell 1974-79) has recently been quite active on the Masonic front and in September he went down to Taunton to be with his father, Malcolm, who was celebrating 60 years in Freemasonry, which is a very rare achievement. Although not a former pupil himself, Malcolm

has been quietly establishing a College dynasty, with three children besides Rob at the school: Andrew (Powell 1977-81), Iain (Powell 1981-85) and Fiona (Nugent 1981-83). Then there are his grandchildren: Sam and James (Powell 2005-10), Katy (Watt 2007-12), Lucy (Watt 2008-13) and Ellie (Watt 2009-14). On top of that, Malcolm's wife and Rob's mother, Janet Wicks, was a school governor from 1990-97 and Rob completed the circle when he became a governor in 2019.

Ever a busy chap, Rob has just been elected Master of the Lodge of Emulation, No 21, which meets in London and is one of the oldest lodges in the world, having been founded in 1723. All being well, he should be installed in January 2022 which would entitle him to become a Grand Steward and join probably the most prestigious lodge in the country, the Grand Stewards' Lodge, The Lodge Without Number, but which stands at the Head of the Register of the United Grand Lodge of England.

There are only 19 Grand Stewards appointed annually out of nearly 200,000 Masons in England and Wales, so it is quite an honour. At the Grand Stewards' Lodge he would be joining Brian Waldy (School 1964-69) and Nick Clive-Matthews. Brian has been a member for nearly 30 years, Nick for ten and both of them hope to welcome him into the lodge next year.

We have managed to hold two normal meetings this year, following the second lockdown, and at the first one in August we held a special meeting to initiate Mr Saruban Pasu, a consultant ophthalmic surgeon at the local hospital. We are now looking forward to our Installation Meeting in January when as well as our Master being proclaimed for another year, we are looking forward to seeing John Seldon (Wargrave 1949-53), our longest serving member, receive a certificate to commemorate his 60 years in Freemasonry. Although John has now moved to Nottingham, he particularly requested that his certificate be awarded at the OE Lodge and we are hoping for a good turnout to witness this historic occasion.

Once again, we all hope very much that we will be returning to some form of normality in 2022, but as I write this another cloud is looming on the horizon in the form of the new Omicron Covid-19 variant. If nothing else, it will be reminding those of us who studied classics in our early years of the joys of the Greek alphabet. Obviously I must have missed a few variants somewhere along the line, as I thought that it was the Delta one we were still worrying about. As we are now over halfway through the alphabet, what happens when we get to Omega? Please don't let them go on to the Cyrillic alphabet. I spent two years studying Russian at the College, equally unsuccessfully, in the 1960s and I can't remember that at all. See you next year, if I'm spared.



Nick Clive-Matthews and Brian Waldy



John Seldon

Nick Clive-Matthews

LES MISÉRABLES

The College's Drama Department finished 2021 with a spectacular staging of the musical *Les Misérables*, which had the audience captivated by the talented cast and musicians.

The Eastbournian Society had invited a number of Old Eastbournians, parents, former staff and others to a reception before the evening performance on Friday 10 December. We were delighted that so many from the world of theatre, arts and entertainment were able to join us and enjoy such a memorable show. Afterwards they met a number of the cast and passed on their congratulations.

Earlier actor and comedian Eddie Izzard (Pennell 1975-80) had been interviewed by two pupils for the College magazine, *The Stag*, and actress Patti Clare (Nugent 1983-85) had spoken to sixth form pupils about her career in acting.

One audience member said:

'Having seen the show in the West End recently, this performance was simply remarkable and magnificent. There is no doubt in my mind that a number of the pupils could be slotted into the West End overnight, I fully expect to see some of the cast members on the West End stage in the future.'



Eddie Izzard takes a selfie with sixth formers Kiri Marshall and Lily O'Brien and Development Director Emma Garrett



Patti Clare, centre, who plays Mary Taylor in *Coronation Street*, talks to pupils about her career



Jess Lawson; Lucy Fleming; Headmaster Tom Lawson, Michael Sitwell-Mogridge; Tim Sitwell-Mogridge (Blackwater and Pennell 1992-97), producer at Jordan Productions; and Mia Thomson at the champagne reception



Actresses Kate Isitt (Nugent 1983-85) and Patti Clare



Martin King and Helen Medlycott