

The Old Papplewickian

— No. 16 — 2016 —



THE HEADMASTER WRITES

Another year has flown by, and another generation of Papplewick boys have flown the nest clutching a glittering array of awards including no less than six academic awards to Eton, Winchester, Harrow and Wellington. Despite this success, I hope Old Boys will approve of the fact that Papplewick remains a non-selective school, at least in terms of ability, but I am proud of the fact that Papplewick, for some time now, has been selective in terms of a boy's character. With over-subscription a reality, we are looking to select boys who are going to exhibit the Knatchbull-Hugessen award values of enthusiasm for life, contribution to the community, and above all kindness to others. Those who dreamed up the values for the award in 1979 (incidentally, the first winner of which, Andrew Try, has recently joined our Board of Governors) were wise, as following their principles has led to a school full of extremely good-natured boys prepared to give their all to the life of the school, which in turn seems to lead quite naturally to success. I hope in years to come the present generation will wish to stay in touch with their old school and their old friends, and, with that in mind, Papplewick now has a 'Linkedin' page of its own which you may be interested to visit when you have a



Geoff Allen, proud winner of the Fielding Cup he won in 1949

moment. It is also lovely to hear that a group of Old Boys and staff from the 1940s and 1950s will be reuniting at Papplewick on the 10th of July for our annual Old Boys' Day, together with the class of 2006 for their ten year reunion. As ever though, there is no need to wait for a reunion to revisit your old school, and Sallie and I would be delighted to welcome you and your families back at any time during the course of the next twelve months.

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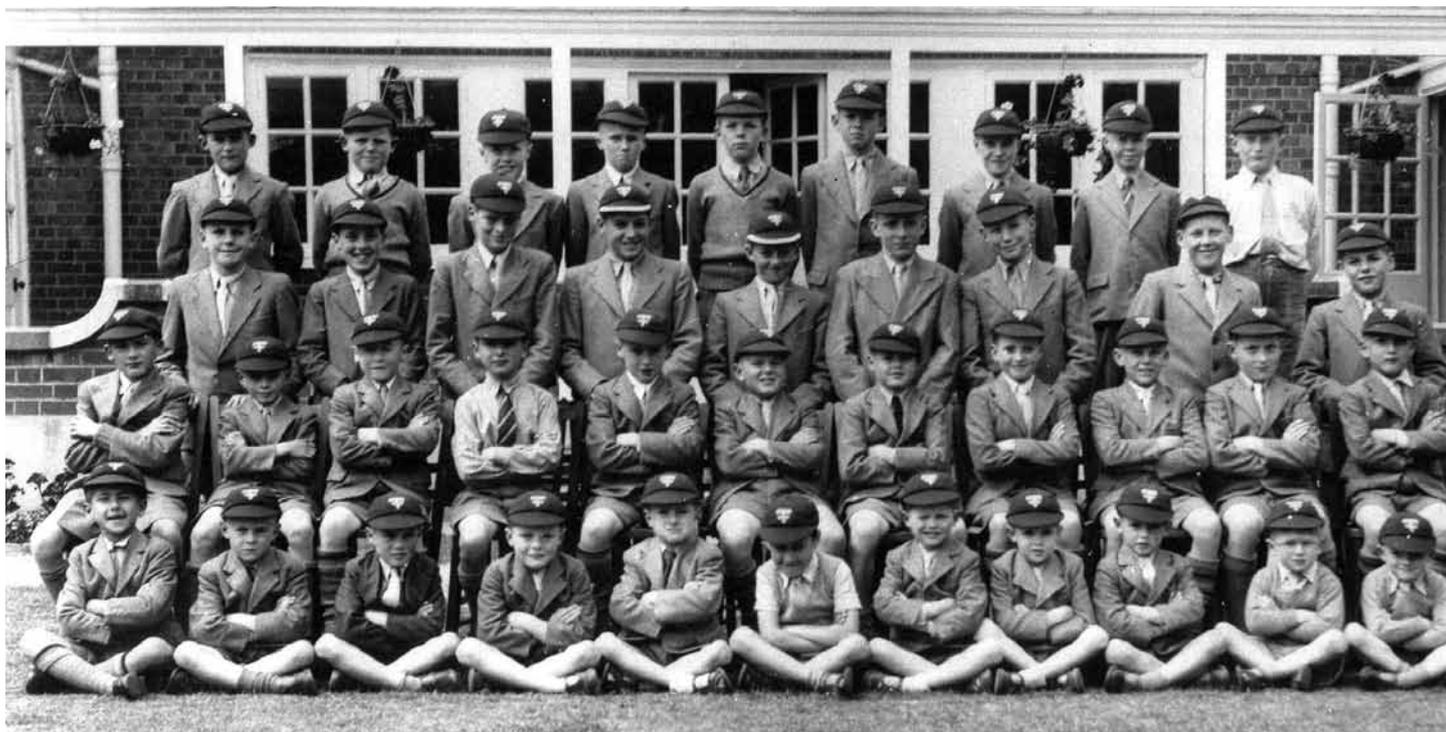
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Old Boys of the 70s - Julian Haddon, James Burton-Stewart, Tim Fulton and Peter Wolstenholme with the School Secretary of the time, Judith Holden

1940S AND 1950S



1948. Possibly the first 'School photo'

In the last couple of editions of 'The Old Papplewickian' there has been a substantial contribution from Old Boys of the 1940s and 1950s, sparked by the death of Audrey Bevan, a much loved Matron. The present edition continues with the same interest from this group of Old Boys and a suggestion was made that it might be a good idea to try to arrange some sort of 'get-together', with the result that Papplewick is now looking forward with great pleasure to welcoming back to the School up to twenty Old Boys and their families from these two decades on Old Boys' Day, July 10th. Joining them will be one member of Staff from the 1950s (Tim Reynolds) and two Assistant Matrons (Sue Prickett, née Cock and Bridget Cobb, née Bent).

We hope that those of you who are able to come to Papplewick in July will enjoy yourselves. Should there be any more from these years who are able to join them and have not yet accepted, please do contact sparsant@gmail.com. You will

be very welcome.

This has been a sad year for many Old Boys of the 1950s in that it has seen the deaths of two of the School's teachers – Trevor Martin and Michael Kidson – both of whom will have made a considerable impact on many of you. Some have written in about them and their contributions can be seen later on in this newsletter.

Old Boys are good at remembering, and you have, over the past years, provided us with the names of many boys from the past whose photos have featured in our annual newsletter. I wonder if you can recognise the two small boys at the bottom this page? The cricket group on page 14 of the last newsletter, wearing kit with strange crests on their caps and blazers, was not so easy, as they seemed to belong to boys from a visiting school - until Geoff Allen recognised himself sitting in the front row. He writes about it on the next page.



Who are these Old Boys from the 50s?



Jenny Bundy, Sue Cock and Audrey Bevan, Matrons in 1956.

Geoff Allan (1948-49) has written in with a quick resumé of life post Papplewick, saying, "After training as a dental surgeon I spent five years in the RAF where I cadged lifts in helicopters, Vampire jets, Hastings transports and managed a spell as a UN peacekeeper in Cyprus. Between times I managed some dentistry. A conventional but never boring life followed, and now apart from two children I have five grandchildren all with worthwhile university degrees, including two with masters ranging from health economics to astrophysics. Our youngsters are very confident today and having read about Tom Bunbury's attitude towards the teaching in the pre- and early teens, I can see that Papplewick is in safe hands."

Geoff also mentions the cricket team photo on P14 of the last 'Old Papplewickian' in which he features. He says. "The blazer/cap badge was the school badge at the time and I think it was a light blue cross on a dark blue background surmounted by the stag head or antlers. I can't ever remember the photo being taken but there can be no doubt the young lad in pads is me. I was wicket keeper. The year is 1949, and I was the proud winner of the fielding cup (which as you can see from the photo below was not as big as it appears on the front page.) As it is the only cup I have won for sporting prowess it is a treasured keepsake, not so much on sentimental grounds but to impress my 50+ years old son (who is sports editor of a national daily) that his dad was a pretty mean cricketer." He goes on, "Simon Starkey, seated second right, was a batsman who was given out in one of our matches against Heathfield (a girls' school) when a girl in the outfield caught his attempted hit for six in her outstretched skirt. I used to be an off spin bowler but became a wicket keeper after being hit for six sixes in an over at my previous prep school by one ER Dexter – who, as everyone over the age of 60 will know, captained England in the 1960s."

(Ted Dexter visited Papplewick in the 1990s, being guest of honour on Speech Day, when he gave out the prizes. – Ed.)

Tony Bearman (1948-55) says that he looks back on his days at Papplewick with very fond memories. "These came flooding back to me when I saw the autographed photo of the 1955 rugby team in last year's newsletter. Various members of my family have passed 'comments' about my appearance in that photo. If I remember correctly, at the time we were told to look menacing!"

Most of Tony's working career was in the Oil Industry with Total Oil and his final position with them was as the UK Retail Property Manager. Currently his wife and he are very involved in their local church.



Geoff Allan contemplating reality



Tony Bearman winning the 100 yards in 1953

Tony is chair of The Frome Third Age and endeavours to keep trim playing bowls and working out at the gym twice a week. Just before leaving Sussex to move with his wife to Somerset, some six years ago, **Derek Sisson (1950 - 56)** made contact, having realised that they were both worshipping at the same church. It was really good to meet up after some 50 odd years and reminisce. They talked about returning to Papplewick on an Old Boys' Day.

Robert Holley (1962-64) writes in enthusiastically: "I've just spent 15 minutes on the School's website – reminiscing about some most wonderful times at Papplewick - (with the notable exception of some corporal punishment, "six of the best", administered by Mr. Roddy. My friends and I were foolish enough to get caught looking into Mr. Hugessen's living room from the Wellington or Cromwell dormitories situated above his living quarters!) I also have an additional (most pleasant) memory of the monthly "tuck" days with storage in "tuck boxes" whereby students could obtain a substantial quantity of chocolates (including Rolo and KitKat) with the bills for all these treats going to the parents. Surely this 'tradition' was discontinued long ago! These happy years at Papplewick were prior to my family's departure (we left Southampton on the Queen Mary in July of 1964) bound for Houston, Texas U.S.A. I've never yet returned to the U.K!"

Richard Leigh (1958-64) now lives in Upton Scudamore, near Warminster, Wiltshire, with his wife Sarah and he works in Bristol as a Legal Director with TLT Solicitors. He qualified as a solicitor in 1976 and has been a pensions specialist since 1985. He now works part time and is looking forward to retiring from the law to focus on other commercial interests. He has two sons aged 31 and 27.

Michael Manners was a pupil at Papplewick from about November 1954 until April 1956 while his mother and he were visiting the UK from Australia. Some time ago his son asked him about his time at Papplewick. Michael continues the story: "We went to the school website and ended up with the photo of the 1st XV of 1955 (I am sitting on the ground right hand side, as usual, as I was never the tallest!) Reading all the reminiscences from the 50s brought memories flooding back."

On leaving Papplewick, Michael returned to Australia where he finished school and went into the hospitality industry, after attending the Lausanne Hotel School in Switzerland. He is now semi retired and living in Orange NSW, after owning and running restaurants in Sydney, the Blue Mountains (Glenella) and Orange (Selkirks).

"I did visit the school during a trip in the late 70s and Matron showed me around. She remembered more about me than I cared to recall. She also introduced me to the twin sons of a contemporary of mine, Alex Wajih."

Michael says he shares **Joel Lerner's (1952-55)** memory of school food from that time. "In particular the egg powder that was war surplus still in tins with the Defence Department logo and date 1943 - the same year as our birth date. I also remember the first Jaffa oranges arriving and many of the guys not knowing how to eat them. Then the burning of the last ration books on the Heath.

"My time at Papplewick was very happy, sport being the high points. The 1st XI cricket in '55 with **Yuseef Mungee** as captain. I was batting at 6 or 7 but had an easy time as Yuseef seemed to outscore the opposition on his own. I was bowled after a silly shot on one occasion and the next day the Headmaster pulled me out of a French class and bowled to me in the nets so I would never play that shot again! On returning to Sydney I took up sailing so never had a chance to see if it



Sue Prickett (née Cock, Assistant Matron 1956) with the Editor, discussing the 2015 'Old Papplewickian'

worked. I played hooker in the 1st XV with Yuseef as captain and also the next term with **David Hugh Jones**. We also won the 7-a-side in March 1956, with **Mohamed Ibrahim** as captain. I still have the programme with the scores.

As I write this, more and more memories come flooding back: roller skating, swimming in summer, friends, Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen - a wonderful headmaster - Matron and the other masters who taught me. We were all fans of the Goon Show. When I returned to Cranbrook in Sydney, the Goons arrived at the same time with the same effect. As I had an English accent by Australian standards I became Neddy Seagoon. A nickname that has stood the test of time and which is now abbreviated to one syllable, in the Australian way, as Ned!

Martin W L Richards (1952-56) has made contact to say that the picture on page 8 of the last newsletter was of great interest to him as he is the boy shown behind Mrs Gordon's left shoulder! He is now enjoying his retirement, having married in 1968. He has two sons, both of whom are in engineering. He recalls that at Papplewick he was the only pupil in his day to study the violin and a lady whose name he cannot recall came in once a week to teach him. When he moved on to Clifton he continued to enjoy his music, being in the choir and playing violin in the orchestra. He says that his main claim to fame was gaining a schools' hundred and being the top scorer in the snap shooting competition, which Clifton won at Bisely in 1961.

Having left Clifton he became a student apprentice at English Electric, Rugby, which led to a BSc in Mechanical Engineering (manufacture of large steam turbines for power stations). He moved on to English Electric, in Leicestershire, where his company became GEC, manufacturing gas turbines for power generation, pumping typically for North Sea oil production. He later moved to Birmingham and then as General Manager to Chassijet Ltd, in Warwick, which manufactured chassis cleaning equipment for road and rail vehicles. His work there included the project management of a £1m contract in Singapore to clean 6-car underground trains. He finally moved to Bingham Ltd, Doncaster (manufacturing railway cleaning equipment) where he was Project Manager, with another large £1m contract in Singapore for underground trains.

Having retired in 2008, he is now involved with his local U3A (coordinating the ramblers' group) which gives him and his wife much enjoyment and a good social circle of friends.



Simon Stracey (1955-61) and 'Butch' Herabutya (1958-61) at Papplewick earlier this year

SPEECH DAY 2015

Having thanked Mr Michael Morpurgo for so kindly agreeing to give the prizes away, the Headmaster emphasised what a privilege it was for the prize winners to be receiving their prizes from such a distinguished writer, of world-wide fame.

Tom Bunbury began by saying that during the past year emphasis had been put on the importance of current affairs, led in part by a daily viewing of News-round on the TV. This interest in Current Affairs at the School was something that had gradually evolved and 'evolution at Papplewick' was the theme that the Headmaster was going to consider during the course of his speech.

He said that he hoped that Papplewick was very much a school of evolution rather than of revolution. Several schools had undergone a revolution in recent times and thus had gone through fundamental changes in character. However, he was determined that Papplewick should retain its own distinctive character, and of course part of that character was to continue to evolve rather than to become stuck in its ways. Character was important and the Headmaster said that when considering boys for Papplewick entry, he tended to select on character more than anything else. The core principle at the heart of the school remained that the happiness of the boys should come first, for invariably happy and confident boys became strong and successful adults.

The Headmaster said that the introduction last year of 'Parents of Papplewick' was another positive thing which had gradually evolved. This now involved and would continue to involve any parent who wanted to help out with school social events. He thanked this group of parents for what it had already achieved in a very short space of time, not least in organising a highly successful Hog Roast earlier in the term, despite the weather, and a truly memorable Summer Ball just two nights before the end of term.

The end of the academic year led the Headmaster to share his views about how Papplewick should best prepare its boys for life at their senior school. "This is such an important part of our job and if we are to prepare these young adolescents well, it would seem wise to listen to what the heads of our top senior schools are looking for in their annual intake of new boys. At a recent conference I attended, four of these top heads were each asked



Guest Speaker, Mr Michael Morpurgo, entertaining parents and boys

for one word to sum up what they wanted from prep school boys and they came up with Curiosity, Resilience, Awareness and Optimism."

Tom Bunbury considered that Curiosity at Papplewick was encouraged by its staff, who inspired the boys to learn rather than bludgeoning them into learning. Resilience came through being faced with and learning the hard lesson of accepting disappointment on the sports field or in the classroom. Awareness included both that of themselves and of the world - both of which the School was tackling. And as for Optimism the 'pint half full' view of life was constantly presented to the boys rather than the 'pint half empty' view. The Headmaster hoped that the parents present felt that Papplewick was very much a 'pint half full' sort of School. "It is certainly my belief," he concluded, "that the effective way our leavers seem to have assimilated these four qualities has contributed towards our record level of academic awards gained by this talented group of Year 8 boys.

"For all our success this year, it's interesting to note that most of these boys actually took tests two years ago, in 2013, that were just as important, competing then to be offered a provisional place at their senior school - and even at this young age these schools are still looking for those same qualities of Curiosity, Resilience, Awareness and Optimism. It's sad for the prep school world that senior schools are selecting earlier and earlier, not least because we know how much most boys develop between the ages



Choir 2015

of 11 and 13 - and we also know the difference that boarding can make; it really does give boys an edge in personal development. But we must accept that tests and interviews at 11 are here to stay, obliging us to prepare boys better than ever, with further standardised testing practice lower down the School.

“As a result, further consideration must be given as to how they can best present themselves when they go for interview.” The Headmaster mentioned how struck he had been recently when listening to the former Global Vice-President of Human Resources at Unilever, when he advised that anybody up for interview should know “What makes me, me?”, “What am I good at?”, “What’s out there that really interests me?”, “Who am I and what’s my story?” and “How can I make an impact?” And addressing parents, Tom Bunbury added, “if you’re anything like me, thinking about your own children, you’re probably thinking that’s all a bit tough and all a bit unnatural for an 11 year old boy. Well, to tackle this, some positive advice from me for your boys is to continue to do their utmost to widen their portfolio by throwing themselves into the sporting and cultural life of Papplewick.”

The Headmaster thanked parents for all their support over the past year. He said that he and Sallie were always grateful for such support, which they hoped was based on an appreciation of the balanced approach to life at the School. This balance seemed to come across to prospective parents as strongly as it did to current and past parents too, who so often expressed this appreciation. One prospective parent felt that we provided “exactly the right mix of academic rigour, pastoral care and boy-oriented fun” and

another that we “struck the right balance between success, verve and rigour, complemented by kindness, yet approaching failure as potential for future success.” One visitor felt “your boys were brilliant ambassadors for all that you do and they achieve” and that she “went away from visiting Papplewick with the same feeling as after visiting family friends, such was the warmth of the welcome extended by the boys”. And how nice that a former family should write, after a recent visit a few years on, to say that their son had been given a “truly wonderful start at Papplewick, not only for the many varied opportunities he had, but thanks to the truly amazing, kind and dedicated staff that give so much of themselves and become a real inspiration to the boys.”

The Headmaster emphasised that at the heart of what makes Papplewick Papplewick, and what makes Papplewick boys Papplewick boys were the academic staff together with all those behind the scenes - which included the Board of Governors who work so hard on behalf of the boys - because they really do care.

Tom Bunbury concluded by saying that he hoped it was evolution rather than revolution that had produced such successful but also such thoroughly decent Year 8 boys, as they moved on to their senior schools in September. He hoped they would arrive not only as happy and confident young men but as compassionate ones too. “They are the sort of boys whose character, combined with their time at Papplewick, will hopefully ensure that instead of being the sort of boys on whom the world leaves its mark, they will evolve into becoming the sort of boys who end up leaving their own, very distinctive and positive mark on the world.”

SCHOOL NEWS 2015



Award Winners 2015

AWARDS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Alessandro Angelucci	Art Scholarship	Harrow School
Atticus Evans-Lombe	Annah Shaw Scholarship	Eton College
Stephen Felce	Academic Scholarship	Winchester College
Aakash Gupta	King's Scholarship	Eton College
Daniel Kim	Music Scholarship	Eton College
Rob Lee	Art Scholarship	Charterhouse
Maxim Mavlyutov	Academic Scholarship	Wellington College
Ali Shirazi	Art Exhibition	The Oratory School
Nick Shishkarev	Academic Scholarship & Deno Leventis Classics Award	Harrow School
Ben Smith-Bannister	Sports Exhibition	Pangbourne College
Anubhap Taechamahaphan	Art Exhibition	Charterhouse



The new Chapel window

Academic

The 2015 Year 8 leavers (numbering just 33) managed to acquire a total of eleven awards this year, something they should be extremely proud of, including one boy who gained a Sports Exhibition to Pangbourne College coupled with his exceptional achievement in becoming National Prep Schools Javelin Champion in 2015. Another vintage year of Common Entrance boys saw them all pass successfully into their senior schools, with two boys achieving a remarkable ten 'A' grades each to Harrow.

The Music Department has excelled once again, with visiting preachers continuing to heap praise on both the choral and congregational singing in Chapel. In addition, another music scholarship has been won, this time to Eton, and one of the School's Year 8 pupils won a place to the piano final of the BBC's Young Musician of the Year Competition 2016, which took place in March and will be seen on the television in May. The boy is the youngest qualifier of this year.



The Art Department has had yet another fruitful year, where all the boys have impressed with both the quantity and quality of the work produced throughout the past twelve months. The variety of drawing, paintings, printing and ceramic techniques reflects the breadth of talent within the School. The Scholars' Art Show in May showcased the exceptional work of the art scholars, who have worked with tremendous effort and determination, mostly in their own time in the evening activities and in the weekend workshops, with four of the boys winning awards to their public schools.

New window in Chapel

A new window in the Chapel was put in last year, the gift of the 2014 leavers, commemorating the First World War which



Mark Burley marries Katie

began a century before. The House colours of the four Houses can be seen around the poppies, expressing the hope that as generations of Papplewick boys ponder the meaning of the Flanders poppies and reflect on the horrors of war, they will in their generation become committed to seeking that justice which is the foundation of lasting peace.

Drama

'The Pirates of Penzance'

This zany, somewhat bizarre Victorian musical was staged by Years Seven and Eight at the end of the Michaelmas term 2014. It certainly contributed to the end of term buzz with the boys singing and dancing lustily throughout. All in all, a thoroughly good time was had by all and the boys enjoyed putting on a vintage production in every sense of the word!

The Middle School put on 'James and The Giant Peach', the tale of a boy who lives with his two horrible aunts and longs to be rid of them. Then one day he is given some magical beans, but he drops them by the old lifeless peach tree at the bottom of the garden - which leads to all sorts of adventures.

The Lower School again delighted the audience last year with its Variety Performance, rising to the occasion and producing a most entertaining evening for all those who attended.

Dining Hall

The Headmaster spoke on Speech Day about the introduction of Brookwood Catering at Papplewick during the previous year. Since their arrival, plans had been put in motion for the complete refurbishment of the dining-room over last summer holidays. This has now been completed and has been generally acclaimed as a great success.



The refurbished Dining Hall

Design Technology

Last year the junior designers and manufacturers enjoyed another creative and productive year in the 'DT' room. The natural curiosity and creativity of a typical Papplewick boy sees fresh ideas develop from a simple sketch, right through to a final outcome. It is very interesting to see the progression made in this practical subject, from the Lower School stages of being introduced to making simple artefacts like clocks, boats, puppet-shows, key fobs and picture frames through to the boys in their final year being challenged to solder their very own amplifier circuit and craft a suitable casing of their own design, and with the Scholars busy creating their design portfolios and crafting their practical outcomes in readiness for their public schools.



Drummers' Workshop in the Arts Festival

Year 7 Trip to Burgundy

The Year 7 boys embarked on its annual four-day language trip to Meluzien in Burgundy in early October with a view to improving French speaking skills, in preparation for next year's Common Entrance exam, as well as to giving them a feel of French culture. During the week, the boys spent their time in French lessons and doing various activities that included buying and cooking their own food, some art classes and some archery, kayaking, zip wire, and circus skills. They performed a play in groups which was judged, with prizes for the best, and they also spent an evening out at a local restaurant where they had the opportunity to mingle with the other diners whom they met in the restaurant.

The Library

During last year the School hosted a very successful Usborne book fair, which gave all the boys the opportunity to visit the library during the day and choose a book to call their own. Papplewick was also visited by the author, Steve Cole, to promote his first Young Bond book, 'Shoot to Kill'. The Young Bond series was previously written by Charlie Higson and Steve was chosen to continue the series. He delighted the boys by reading some exciting pages and then showing them various gadgets used by spies.

Year 8 Geography Fieldtrip to Dorset

As always, the Year 8 Geography boys set off in the depths of winter to collect data for their projects and get first-hand



'A Policeman's lot is not a happy one'

experience of field work. The task was to prove, or disprove, the hypothesis that the river Corfe would follow the typical Bradshaw model characteristics of a river from source to mouth. Despite the freezing temperatures and wet socks, all the data was collected in preparation for the write-up back at school, resulting in some outstanding projects that impressed their public schools and led on to some wonderful CE results.

The Arts Festival

Life is Beautiful - contained amongst other workshops: boxing, first aid, facial hair maintenance, juiceology, power aqua, marching on parade, and last but not least, as every good educational establishment should teach, bowtie tying.

The idea behind the theme this year was to instil in the boys a sense that they have a lot around them to be grateful for and that even the smallest of things can make life beautiful. And the Arts Festival this year was a real demonstration of the talent on show, from the public speaking, poetry, music, dancing, singing, acting and magic, to the many new activities the boys participated in for the workshops on the Thursday afternoon – activities like the Sabar drumming, which raised the roof off the hall. This was another incredible week, in which every boy in the school took part.



Camping weekend

OBITUARIES

T.M. (Mike) Williams. Old Boys of the late 1940s will be sorry to hear of the death last year of Mike, who was at Papplewick between 1948 - 1950.

Michael Kidson taught at Papplewick between 1958 and 1964 when he left to teach history at Eton and where he remained for the next thirty years, until he retired.

'The Daily Telegraph', in its published obituary of Michael, refers briefly to his time teaching in Ascot: "At Papplewick the pupils quickly warmed to his supply of sweets from Fortnum & Mason and his barely concealed disregard for the Establishment. One boy discovered that Kidson had once made tolerable the interminable chapel services by replacing the Book of Common Prayer with an identically coloured copy of *A Tale of Two Cities*."

'The Times' refers to him during his time at Eton as "a very private individual and his colleagues knew only the persona that was on show: a concoction of cultivated eccentricity, robust independence and defiant reaction, which would have made him an impossible colleague had he not been a highly professional, committed, inspiring teacher."



The Lodge, as it was in the 1950s

Andrew Warren (1958-1962) writes:

Michael George Macdonald Kidson (loved those initials!) was a technicolour star in a monochrome 1950s' staff room. Above all, he was an excellent teacher of history, albeit almost exclusively Anglo-centric. He ignored those pesky Scots, Welsh or Irish, let alone other Europeans, except as they impinged upon English history, itself shaped largely, he maintained - and as his Daily Telegraph obituary emphasised - by Great Men.

His generosity to his pupils was legendary - both in terms of regular sweets from Fortnum and Mason, but also kind gifts like obtaining a desperately sought, just-released Bentley Dinky car (with independent suspension!) - and refusing reimbursement. His overt affectation of ignorance of popular music culture (Elton Priestley? Clive Richards?) combined with his endearing iconoclasm regarding some of the stuffier school rules was positively awe-inspiring. And I remain in his debt for all the time he spent tutoring me in history for an Eton Scholarship, which I failed to obtain due to my poor Latin - but eventually greatly assisted me to become the first Papplewickian to enter Rugby School. I still treasure his words of encouragement on my otherwise mediocre final school report - they remained my leitmotif throughout my career.

Roger Smith (1956-59) remembers Mr Kidson very well. "I enjoyed his classes because of his droll sense of humour. A dapper dresser, too, in his sports coat, cavalry twills and cravats."

Ashley de Safrin (1960-64) writes:

Before becoming an eminent teacher at Eton, Michael Kidson taught at Papplewick in the late 1950s and early 1960s. I have many an abiding memory of him for he was an inspirational teacher. When I came to see the school with my parents in late 1959 I remember being shown a classroom where a teacher was sitting on top of an upright piano and teaching his pupils. That image of Michael Kidson has always remained with me.

He was a top class History and English teacher who drummed the basics of English grammar into us. He taught us many a pronunciation that remains with me fifty years later, even if I wouldn't dare to use some of these today as they now sound somewhat pretentious. He often quoted Trevelyan in his History classes and instilled the dates of Kings and Queens into us. I still remember these now. And I also remember he had a brand new Mini Cooper which we all vied to be driven in, such was the prestige of those modern little cars at that time.

Michael Kidson was a wonderful teacher and I respected him both for his knowledge and for his unconventional way of teaching. I was not among his better pupils and remember being caned for bad writing!! Not that it made the blindest bit of difference: my writing is as bad as ever.

Richard Leigh (1958-64) writes in to say "I note the recent death of Michael Kidson, highlighted on "Last Word" (Radio 4). He taught me History and English at Papplewick. He was a fantastic teacher, much loved by the boys he taught, and delightfully eccentric."

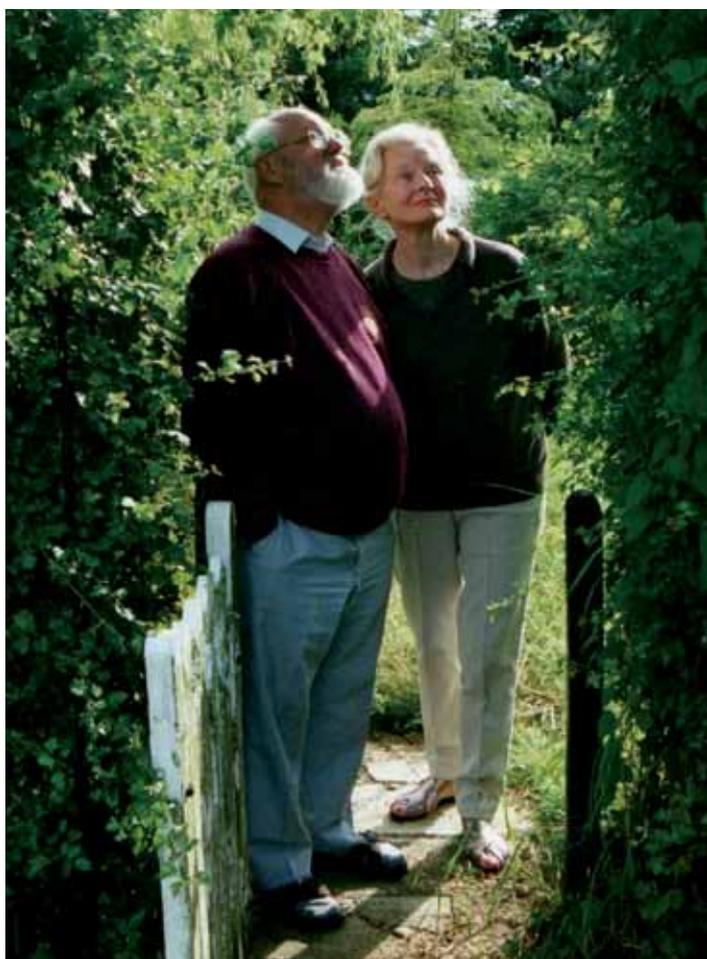


Papplewick 1955

Trevor Martin (Staff 1951-55)

Old Boys will be sorry to hear of the death of Trevor Martin last November. Having graduated from Cambridge in English and Modern Languages in 1948, Trevor joined the Papplewick Staff after completing his National Service in the RAF, where he had been Flying Officer (Education Branch) based in Suffolk. He threw himself with enthusiasm into the teaching life of the young School, not only in the classroom but also on the rugby field and in other extra-curricular activities. It was at Papplewick that Trevor met his future wife, Anne Denne, who joined the Staff in 1954. Later on that year the two of them produced the scenery for the School production of 'HMS Pinafore', and they married early in 1955. Trevor ended his short career as a schoolmaster the following year and joined Shell Mex and BP in London, living in Sunningdale while Anne continued teaching at Papplewick for another year. Then the couple moved to Leicester, where Trevor continued working for Shell Mex and BP - indeed he stayed with the company all his life, ending up as General Manager of Marketing in BP International. He took early retirement in 1982 and with his wife he set up Linsell Chairs, an antique chair business, run from their home town, Coggeshall, in Essex. He was very keen on carpentry (whatever he built lasted) and on Victorian furniture. Hence his retirement business was also a hobby.

Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen thought very highly of Trevor as a schoolmaster. Some twenty years after Peter had appointed him to teach at the School, he remarked, when looking back over the years, "In 1951 some remarkable men had joined the Staff: Terrence Roddy, Howard Clough, Trevor Martin and Rodie Peters. These men were to be exemplars of the highest standards, taking the School to heights that were to be maintained in the ensuing years."



Trevor and Anne Martin in their garden in Essex

Tony Bearman (1948-55) writes in to say that he remembers Trevor Martin very well indeed. "Not only did he teach me in class but also on the rugby field. During my time at Papplewick he fell in love with another member of staff, Miss Denne, and then married her! He inspired me to work and play hard. Fond memories...."

Ward Buckingham (1952-1955) recalls Mr Martin very well and believes he had a profound impact on the development of his academic talent for the decades that followed. "Once, in an English class, he assigned us to write a single paragraph of composition and mine took up about 10 lines in the workbook. He returned this to me with the conspicuous red

ink handwritten assessment... 'unmitigated rubbish', with the result that his feedback had a desirable effect on me. Rather than wallow in self-pity with damaged self-esteem, I resolved to pursue the course of academic excellence, and I went on to graduate well from High School in the USA and from the University of Washington Medical School with high praise." Ward says that his success is a testimony to the positive early motivating impact of Mr Trevor Martin's teaching.

Tim Reynolds (Staff 1954-58) recalls Trevor Martin as a colleague who was in charge of the pioneers' group and to whom he was the cause of some amusement. "When I arrived at Papplewick to start my teaching career, the first task given me by PMK-H was to dig holes for the rugby posts. I remember that my leg was severely pulled by Trevor, who discovered that I didn't actually know what to do!"

Malcolm Smith (1950-54) was sad to learn of Trevor Martin's death. "I do remember him, especially as he led the 'pioneers' group which was an activity that well suited me. I remember that we made bricks intended for the proposed chapel. I also remember one occasion when Trevor was leading a group of us in the task of removing a tree stump at the edge of the driveway just near the headmaster's quarters. He bounded into action, stripping off his shirt and pumping away at a hand winch whilst we watched. Unbeknown to us there was a wasp nest under the stump and as it moved the wasps came out angrily and we dispersed rapidly."



Pioneers making bricks in the 1950s

Richard Smith (1952-56) recalls

A subject of some delicacy

The reminiscences in the last Old Papplewickian of Audrey Bevan by my contemporaries have stirred my own memories of that time. When I was first at Papplewick the Matron was Miss O'Regan. One of the routines that she had established was a daily enquiry as to whether we had 'been' or not. There was a toilet record book into which a tick or cross was placed against your name. Every morning all the boys (there were about seventy at this time) had to line up and file past either Miss O'Regan or Miss Nimmo, her assistant, and say 'Yes' or 'No'. Woe betide you if you recorded a third 'No' in a row. You were summoned to Miss O'Regan's surgery where a dose of castor oil was administered. Needless to say there were very few three crosses in a row in the book; unless of course you had a liking for castor oil.

I must say I found the whole public procedure rather embarrassing, as did others. In 1954 Audrey Bevan was appointed as School Matron and very shortly after the start of her first term the toilet record was discontinued. I for one was very thankful



Jonathan Haddon and Sam Blackman, back last year for the reunion of '05

to Audrey for ridding us all of a very demeaning procedure, and I feel this was typical of her thoughtful and caring attitude towards us boys.

More schoolboy memories

My brother Roger remembered, with illustrations, the two assistant matrons Susan Cock and Jennifer Bundy. I remember too a Miss Mason, and really only for one reason. Alannah Gordon's dog, Luke, had been sick. Seeing this, the Headmaster broke into rhyme.

Quick, quick Luke's been sick.

Where? Where? Just over there.

Hasten, hasten, fetch Miss Mason – with a basin.

Why should I remember this? I really don't know. But I do know that Peter was particularly pleased with the final phrase, 'with a basin', which he added after a short moment's thought. It was this avuncular manner he had that greatly contributed to what was a very happy school.



Yusuf Perwaz and Sehaj Dhaliwal, selected for the Old Boys v the HM's XI

OLD BOYS' NEWS

Alex Avery (2002-07) completed his final year at Nottingham last year and is staying on there, having been accepted to study for an MSc in business marketing.

Cameron Avery (2002-08) is in his second year at Cardiff where, having survived a month in Serbia at an archaeological dig in the middle of nowhere, chose to spend last summer at a dig – in Cardiff!! He continues to enjoy high level rugby and plays for St Joseph's RFC which is a feeder team for the Cardiff Blues. Last year he played against some mighty Fijians who were co-opted in from the army in Brecon to play against St Joseph's in the Welsh Cup.

Tom Elliott (1988-94) was married to Vicky in Capetown last November at a service attended by **Jo Leckenby (1989-94)**, **David Cox (1989-94)** and **Divia Dattani (1988-93)**. Tom is due to finish, with some relief, his 4-year course in prosthodontics in July 2016.

James Coyne (1992-98) reports that his rackets is going well still and he continues to compete on both sides of the Atlantic. Work is continuing to grow and he is now a director of the International Division within his insurance brokerage where he continues to specialise in diamonds.

James Fitzpatrick (1991-97) After Papplewick, James moved on to Radley where he really took to playing the

guitar. After studying Business at the University of Sheffield, he worked in London in recruitment for a number of years while performing in two rock bands in parallel. One band performed covers of popular Irish songs while the second band was more committed to achieving commercial success. James recently accepted an offer to work as one of the key recruiters of software developers and engineers at a fast growing, 300-person technology startup in Silicon Valley called Fastly. In his free time he plays soccer and writes music.

John Mark Fitzpatrick (1990-96) After playing 1st XV rugby for two years at Radley and obtaining 3 A's at A level in Mathematics, German and Spanish he went on to study Russian and Spanish at Bristol. In his gap year before Bristol he worked for a term as a student teacher at Papplewick and for six months as a ski instructor in Salt Lake, Utah, during the Winter Olympics there. In his third year at University, which he spent abroad, he lived in Almaty, Kazakhstan for six months, working as an English teacher before heading back to Bristol for his final year. Having graduated, he went straight to Moscow to work in the advertising agency BBDO Moscow. After four years of hard work there he left BBDO and started his own advertising agency in Moscow called SLAVA (www.slava.co.uk). He is now fluent in Spanish

and Russian. He runs marathons to keep fit and he holds training seminars for small business owners in his spare time. **Eric Flyckt (1985-90)** and his wife, Rebecca, now have two daughters aged 2 and 4, who are great fun. When we heard from him last June, Eric had just started a new job as VP of Informatics with a Palo Alto based digital health startup. It means a long commute for him, but he doesn't mind this as he is excited about the company and the role he will be playing there.

David Fowler (1980-1985) went to Charterhouse after leaving Papplewick and then to Exeter University where he read Biological Sciences. He returned to Hong Kong after leaving university and after two years there, moved to London for ten years working in the city, having joined Visa in 2001. In 2005 David left the UK, emigrating to Australia, where he worked at Citibank and GE Capital before returning to Visa in 2007. He is now a dual citizen of the UK and Australia. He met his civil partner when living in Australia and they moved to Singapore in 2011 where they stayed for 4 years before returning to Hong Kong in mid-2014, where they now live. David is still with Visa working as an SVP, running a global client team. His role and passion for travel allows him to visit most corners of the world, enabling him to keep up with many old friends from school and university. He still plays a lot of tennis and keeps fit walking his four dogs.



James Haskell (left) celebrating victory in the Calcutta Cup

John Friedman (1994-97), his wife Andrea and their two children live in Singapore. He had a fantastic time at the wedding of **James Sutch (1991-97)** last Summer and the family were able to spend about a week in London afterwards. He enjoyed hearing from James how Papplewick remains in very high regard for consistently producing quality and well-rounded boys. John says that he has been getting more involved with the Old Harrovian Association in Singapore, taking over the reins recently to help manage and organize events amongst the local network. This put him closer in touch with Harrow as well, including helping arrange logistics for a choir trip last December. **Guy Harper (1991-96)** is now a corporate lawyer with a City firm, living in London. He married Katherine (also a City lawyer) five years ago and they have recently had a baby boy - Alexander.

James Haskell (1992-98) has maintained his place in the England rugby squad, training hard for the World Championships last year and playing in the final game v Uruguay, which they won. He had a very good series of games in this season's 6 Nations competition with him "adding his



Jamie Sutch and John Friedman at Jamie's wedding

clout to the back row in the opening match v Scotland and performing well on the open side, where his fierce tackling was a feature of the England victory." The Daily Telegraph reported that over the course of the series, his presence, intelligence and power were all instrumental in getting England over the gain line and being effective at the breakdown. It also referred to his "unflinching and unyielding contributions which had such an impact on the final game v France. He showed up well as a carrier and he tackled with real venom."

Jaewook Jung (2003-06) started work as a Civil Engineer in January last year at Laing O'Rourke on their 'Big Guns' programme, which will hopefully open the way to a Directorship in his early thirties.

Aidan Kendall (1988-95) has now moved to MEC global media agency where he manages the Compare the Market account, so helping to contribute to the preponderance of meerkats appearing in advertisements all over the place, which he enjoys.

The Lantero Family - When we heard from them in May last year, **Ignacio (1993-95)** was living and working in Munich with his wife and 10-month-old Cosima, where he was making documentary films. **Antonio (1993-99)** was



Yunus Sert discussing tactics with Captain, George Tysoe



Stof Magrath retires having scored 50 v the HM's XI

directing three golf courses in Marbella and was kept very busy with a lot of work. **Cristóbal (2002-04)** had plans to go to work as an intern for the Interpol in Singapore. **Nick Luck (1986-1991)** After leaving Papplewick he went on to Harrow, then to King's College, London, where he read French and studied French Literature as a postgrad. He says that he has put all this to appropriate use as he is now the presenter of Channel 4 Racing. He married Laura - a classical singer - in 2007 and they have two daughters. Nick says he has fond memories of Papplewick and often thinks back to those times on his frequent visits to Ascot (and also how tortuous it was to be doing a cross country run on the Heath while racing was taking place!) **James Luck (1981-86)** runs a bloodstock shipping company which seems to be thriving. He is also married with two



Aidan Kendall with his wife, Emma, and Bonnie

daughters like his brother, and of similar ages.

The Matthews Family: Joel (2000-05) has graduated from Bristol University with a Degree in Computer Science and started his new job last September. **Harry (2002-06)** is in the process of studying for his Degree in Digital Art and Technology at Plymouth University. **Ted (2004-06)** is studying a Uniformed Public Services BTEC at East Berkshire College Langley Campus with a view to joining the police. **Emre Sert (2009)** is in his second year at Exeter University studying Mathematics and Economics. In the summer he will be considering what career he wishes to follow after graduation. **Yunus Sert (2001-06)** graduated from Durham University in 2014 with a BA (Hons) degree in International Business Studies and Management, and is now with a London-based design company. He is keeping (reasonably) fit playing football every week for the Old Harrovians 1st X1. In the summer, now that he is a Full Playing Member of the MCC, he hopes to get in as many cricket matches as possible - work and social commitments permitting. He is also hoping to tour with the MCC to either the USA, Holland or Namibia.

CRICKETERS' CRÈCHE



Cuthbert Kendall, his wife, Danielle and daughters Eloise and Amelie



Paul Kaplanski and George Tysoe with their respective children, Jack and Rosie

NEWS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BRADFIELD - Manvir Dhaliwal is enjoying life at Bradfield. He is working hard both in the classroom and on the field of sport and when we heard from him last July he was waiting for his GCSE results. He is playing A's cricket and basketball and even had the opportunity to open the batting last year. He still loves to go for the big shots and quickly gets good scores before being caught on the boundary.

BURNHAM GRAMMAR SCHOOL - Dominic Reid is doing well in his academic studies, and has recently been invited for professional football trials at Brentford FC and QPR. He's also playing rugby for the Wasps / Buckinghamshire Academy, a talent he learnt, and still loves, at Papplewick.



Kenza Wilks is to captain England in the World Schools' Debating Championships

CHARTERHOUSE - Emil Calder secured 3As in his A levels last year and he has accepted a place at Newcastle to read History and Politics.

DULWICH - Kenza Wilks has been appointed Head of School for next year. His interest in debating is unabated and after some gruelling debating trials late last year he has been selected as Captain of the England debating team being held in Stuttgart this July. In spite of working hard on his A Levels he has still managed to win several debating competitions with the most recent being in March at the Oxford Union Schools competition where he topped the speakers' tab.

ETON - Noah Folefac has had a promising first two years at Eton, producing good results in both sports and academics. He became an Oppidan scholar last year and he is in the rugby first team of his year group, represents the school at triple jump and is captain of the junior team in field games.

Ivo Delingpole is in C Block and has been making the most of all the opportunities at Eton. He achieved 10 A*s in his GCSEs and is now studying Latin, French, English and Medieval English for A level. Having been 'Highly Commended' in last year's Headmaster's Short Story competition, this March he was the winner of the prestigious Robert Bridges Prize for English. He is still a keen beagler, and he enjoys his acting: he appeared as Sergey in his house play 'Wild Honey' last Lent Term.

Henry Eaton-Mercer, in his final year at Eton, has been elected into Eton Society 'Pop'. He was also made Keeper of the Farrer Theatre - his dream job as he has been very involved with the Theatre both on stage and backstage, performing and directing. He was involved in the CCF Tattoo again last year and this time they re-enacted the Battle of Waterloo. He went off to Cyprus with the CCF in July last

year, which ended with a diving course. He's loved his diving since his days at Papplewick and he was hoping to become a master diver before the end of last summer.

Aakash Gupta is really enjoying Eton and more importantly College, with its independence and a large variety of things from challenging academics to pizza nights. He is flying the languages flag high with six languages and he earned five commendations in them in his first month at Eton.

Jee Hwan Kim was awarded an internal Oppidan Scholarship in February having performed with academic distinction over the years he has been at Eton.

HARROW - Lucas Marsden-Smedley achieved A*s in all his 13 GCSE subjects last summer, which means he is now an Honorary Scholar at Harrow. He scored 100% in Greek and Latin, two of his A level subjects. On the stage he played the part of Titania in 'A Midsummer's Night's Dream' last year. Lucas also wrote the play for his house to perform in the Shell House Dramas, which he also directed. Two other Old Papplewickians - **Leo Pembroke** and **Henry Webb** - also directed their house plays in the Shell House Dramas.

Ga Kitada scored 14 A* grades in his GCSEs last year. In the Summer holidays he spent a week on three different projects - at a scientific workshop, on an oboe course and doing some work experience at a hospital.

Renfeng Xu has won the De Cadenet Art Prize with a rich, multi-layered painting about ancestry.

Sehaj Dhaliwal is very much enjoying his first year at Harrow where he is doing well both in the classroom and on the sports field.

KINGS CANTERBURY - Tobe Ogbue has settled in and is working steadily. He has represented his house in debating and on a pupil forum, he has played for the School at rugby, soccer and cricket, and he is involved in the CCF.

RADLEY - Edward Andrew had a good first year at Radley where he was in top sets for most of his subjects. He has been spotted by the drama department and has had several key roles in productions. He also won a school prize for a recitation.

TONBRIDGE - Esongkuo Elombi has been playing some good football in the U16 A XI soccer team with an ability to hold the ball up and bring others into the game. He was described as 'an invaluable member of the team' and had a particularly good game against St Paul's, even earning praise from the referee!



Lucas Marsden-Smedley playing Titania

UPPINGHAM – **Alex Howard-Vyse** is enjoying life and has been playing some good rugby for the U16B rugby side. He has also performed in the School orchestra, playing the clarinet in the Brahms Violin Concerto, which was a resounding success, receiving a standing ovation.

WELLINGTON – **Olly Peett** has now left Wellington and has been accepted by Bristol to read Philosophy. He needed 3As in his A Levels and came away with 3A*s. **Andrew Veale** has gained entry to Cambridge to read natural sciences. **Myles Treacy** left Wellington last Summer having done well in his A-levels, achieving AABB, and is now reading business at Trinity College Dublin. **Alex Spiteri** has also moved on,

being successful in gaining a place at Hull University to read Computer Science and **William Benjamin** has won a place at Leeds to read Economics and Finance. **Milo Grounds** is in his final year and having set his sights on Kings College London, he is pleased to have achieved his goal, gaining a provisional place to study Politics, Philosophy & Law. **WINCHESTER** – **William Andrew** took his GCSEs last year and seemed very calm and positive about them. He was hoping to do Chemistry, Maths, Further Maths and either Biology or Physics for A levels (or Cambridge pre U, which they do in Winchester.) **Stephen Felce** has settled in quickly and is enjoying Winchester; reports say that he is doing well all round.

MORE SCHOOL NEWS



Starting out for Mongolia

Sponsored Walk for City Farms

The weather held fair in April last year to enable up to 400 boys and parents to complete the annual sponsored walk through Windsor Great Park. The School was raising funds for Farms for City Children, the charity founded by Michael Morpurgo in 1976 in order to expand the horizons of children from towns and cities all over the UK by offering them a magical week in the countryside, living and working together on one of their farms. Since Michael Morpurgo was to be the Guest of Honour at Speech day later in the year, it was nice to be able to send him a sizeable cheque.

Mongolia 2015

Last Summer holidays three members of Staff, Jeremy Ward, Mark Burley, and Lucy Williams, set off on a 12,000 km trip to deliver a new minibus filled with clothes, shoes, sports equipment and games to an orphanage in Mongolia. The interest that parents and staff had shown since the idea had been mooted nearly a year before and the continual messages of support that had come in were overwhelming. So many people had been very generous with their time, money, clothes and ongoing encouragement.

What an adventure it would turn out to be for the drivers, who really couldn't have known what they were taking on before they embarked on the journey.

Everything went smoothly through Europe as far as Turkey, where for some six hours the bus was scanned and checked, and scanned once more. It was from here onwards that things

got, and remained, difficult until the end of the trip, with increasingly rigorous customs formalities, endless paperwork, unloading and re-loading the minibus, being refused entry into Turkmenistan, getting stuck in the sand (in temperatures of 50 degrees +) and unbelievably dreadful roads all the way up to the final descent into Mongolia. Furthermore, it took some time after Turkey to get the hang of the apparently total lack of any road rules and regulations.



Stephen Felce at Winchester with his elder brother

However, once in Mongolia the hills stretched out for miles and the scenery was as amazing as everyone had promised it would be. It was stunning and vast; what a treat after so much hassle!

Ulaanbaatar, capital of Mongolia, was where they needed to go, and from there to continue for about 20 kilometres out the other side, towards their destination, Lotus Children Centre. The children there couldn't believe their eyes. They were delighted and amazed beyond measure at the amount that the minibus had managed to bring and they kept saying, 'Is this for us...? Really?' Such happiness must have been more than recompense for all the frustrations of this amazing journey!

Outdoor Education 2015

This was another very successful week for the school at the end of the Summer term. It was a very busy week at the end of a very busy term, which demanded plenty of thinking skills, problem solving and group interaction. The year groups all went to different venues, with very stimulating and challenging training involved at them all and the boys came back from their various activities exhilarated and exhausted. It was interesting for the Papplewick staff to see them in a completely different setting, performing with a new set of adults.



The end of the Sponsored Walk



Staff and Parents take to the boards

Herpetology

2015 was another very successful year, with over a hundred boys being members of the club. Tuesdays were the busiest days with the boys cleaning cages and feeding and playing with their snakes and reptiles. In the Summer Term, with the warm, balmy afternoons, the boys often took their pets for walks on the fields outside and it was great to see the animals and their handlers obviously enjoying being out. Some of the Year Two boys have become so involved that they even board on a Tuesday so that they can come to the boarders' Tuesday night Club Session, where they have watched various videos on snakes.

Over the past year we have bred over 70 beardies, 8 leopard geckoes, 58 new corn snakes and 58 Yemen chameleons. Once they have "grown on" for a few months and their true colour is revealed, we select a few for the lab and sell the rest to the local reptile supplier in London. The captive bred animals go a long way to protecting the species in the wild from exploitation. In a recent survey it was estimated that there are now more beardies being bred in captivity than in the wild and that the wild populations are nearly back to their original numbers.

Staff Drama – Engaged

Papplewick's dramatic calendar was topped off this year by the innovation of a play performed by staff and parents, but managed by boys (8C, as their post-Scholarship project). The play was (intentionally) a farce, W.S. Gilbert's *Engaged*. The mad-cap plot revolved around Cheviot Hill's increasingly frantic attempts to keep tabs on whom he was engaged or even married to. From the staff, joining Jonathan Cooper as the semper mutabilis Cheviot, were Stuart Malan as the conniving Simpsonson, Rhys Thomas as the cowardly Angus and Harry Paget as a Major, whose skewering-by-cricket-stump was a highlight (for the boys at any rate.) The production raised more than £1,900 for the Oxford Children's Hospice.

Kids for Africa 2015

Another year: another tour. This was the ninth tour that Papplewick had organised and it was great. We took sixteen Upper School boys and spent two weeks touring the Cape and Eastern Cape of South Africa.

We visited Cape Town, spent three days in Port Elizabeth exploring the very interesting city and the tour ended with a drive along the Garden Route and Tsitsikama National Marine Reserve and Park, which was to be our base for our last few days. We then drove back to Port Elizabeth and flew home with great memories of a magnificent country.



Bibliomaniacs

Bibliomaniacs

Last year the Bibliomaniacs had various trips out, to Sotheby's, to Jarndyce, one of the oldest antiquarian booksellers in the UK, and to Winchester's Fellows' Library, where they saw an eight and a half metre scroll from Henry VI's reign, which allegedly shows how the king is directly related to Adam and Eve and therefore also showing God is on his side. The most recent adventure was to a Bloomsbury (auction house) auction. It was an incredible experience, and one of the manuscripts on sale sold for more than £160,000. Next year the bibliomaniacs are planning to go to the Eton College Library to view their Gutenberg Bible, the most expensive book in the world. Old Boys can stay up to date on the Bibliomaniacs' coming adventures and catalogues by heading over to look at their blogs and photographs at www.bibliomaniacs.co.uk.

Papplewick's got Talent

Another year of talent was on full display at the much anticipated final of Papplewick's Got Talent. There was a huge variety of acts from magicians, musicians, dancers, actors, poets and comedians who all took to the stage to see who would be crowned as the PGT winner 2015. For many of the boys and staff this is a real highlight of the term, and most are in awe of those who have the courage to stand up in front of the rest of the School to perform, boys right from Year 2 up to Year 8. The drummer who played Stevie Wonder's 'Superstition' was, after much deliberation, awarded the title.

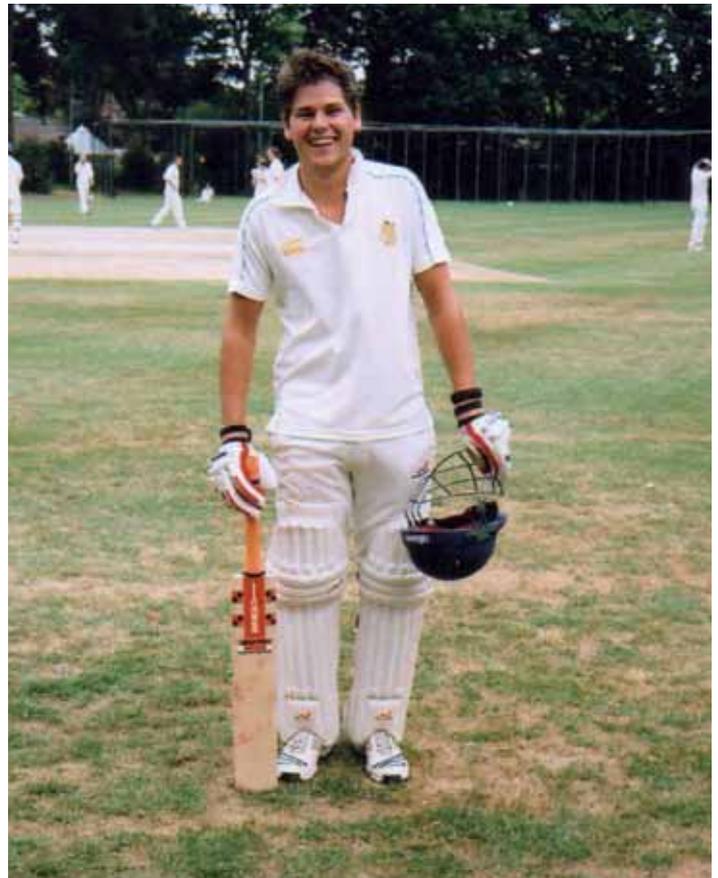


Charlie Smith, William Harrison and Simon Foster, back for the Reunion of '05

Europe Day of Languages

With Papplewick bedecked with flags from various European countries and pupils and staff dressed in the national costume of a European country by way of celebration of EDL this year, the boys in all parts of the school attended workshops in Croatian, Spanish and Polish. They also enjoyed an excellent concert by the Russian pianist Eugeni Samoiloff, accompanied by the musicologist Elena Silina. Various pieces based on famous paintings were played and both staff and pupils were challenged to listen to a piece and find out its theme.

In Spanish classes, boys were given a taste of the culture with facts around school life. In a Polish workshop run by Mrs Lazar (mother of two boys in the School), boys were shown Polish traditional costumes and historical elements of various battles that took place in Poland, which they greatly enjoyed. And there was a Croatian workshop where pupils learned how to meet and greet each other in Croatian, as well as covering some parts of the grammar differences between Croatian and French.



William Western-Kaye, back from his alarming experience in Tunisia

Leavers' Camp

This year while the rest of the School was doing exams, the Leavers headed back to the PGL La Fosca site on the Costa Brava, north of Barcelona, for what was essentially a water sports holiday: some 'fun in the sun' with their mates for the last time before they headed off to their respective senior schools. Over the six days the boys threw themselves into a variety of activities including banana boating, canoeing, dinghy sailing, catamaran sailing, topper sailing, sit-on-kayaking, snorkelling, stand-up-paddling, and windsurfing. They also went to the hugely popular water park where they were joined by the Headmaster. An additional highlight was a tour of FC Barcelona's Camp Nou, where it was great to see the cabinet full of prestigious trophies. During the evenings the boys threw down some shapes at the disco and often challenged the staff to multiple games of bowling and pool. It was a fantastic week which was much enjoyed.



Jonathan Haddon, Alex Archer and Ranvir Singh enjoying lunch at the Reunion of '05

Soccer

Last season the general shape of the 1st XI was good, but for some reason, the School always struggles to find fast forwards with a natural eye for goal, and so scoring is inevitably difficult. There was plenty of creativity in the midfield area of this season's team, but success was going to depend on players taking their chances when they got them.

With 14 fixtures played, the team won 4, lost 6 and drew the remaining 4. To be fair, when behind, the boys would often bounce back, making a fantastic game of it. They often drew level with ten minutes or so to go, dominating the final minutes but just not being able to find the winner.



Football v Elstree

Rugby

Rugby 2015 presented us with a tricky season. The team consisted of a group of enthusiastic, though inexperienced players, and results would depend on how quickly they managed to grasp the fundamentals required. But 2015 turned out to be just one of those years that happen every so often when we had a disastrous injury problem that lasted the whole term. One broken hand (twice), a broken jaw, another broken hand, a broken elbow and a virus that kept another boy out for nearly the whole term. So the results never really came for us. Nevertheless there were positives to celebrate in the discovery of new talent and we like to think that things bode well for next year.

Cricket - South African Tour

We played six games in all, interspersed with cultural and sporting visits in the various cities we played. These were the first games of our season, so perhaps it was not surprising that the team lost four of the first five of their games – some easily and others narrowly – and drawing the other. In these games Papplewick boys produced some good cricket, but their main problem was simply that their batting failed to produce sufficiently high scores to present a taxing target for our opponents.

The sixth game was unfortunately rained off but the boys had an opportunity to play their first match of Action Cricket, which is a very popular indoor game. It also saw Papplewick win their final match, which was very pleasing!



Owzaat?

1st XI Cricket Season

The 1st XI ended the 2015 season with a winning record, despite only winning one of its first six matches. Many of those matches were close, and in these early losses Cheam was the only game where we really looked out of our depth. After our sixth match heads could have dropped, but we knew we were better than our results indicated. The seventh match against Horris Hill was the first time one of our batsmen went on to make a big score, enjoying a second wicket partnership of 106. From then on, we never looked back as we began to score big enough totals to defend. Bishopsgate and Woodcote provided comfortable victories and the win against Felixton (from Zululand, South Africa) was a really impressive effort, where our batting saw us home with ease – to round off a very pleasing season.

Swimming

Papplewick faced Ludgrove, Caldicott, Aldro and Horris Hill (twice) this season. The first gala, at Caldicott, was rather a baptism of fire, with the hosts and Ludgrove in a class of their own, leaving the Papplewick boys fighting it out for 3rd place against Horris Hill. The following week we were at home, hosting Horris Hill, for what promised to be a close and exciting fixture – and close it was; a solitary point separated the two schools with Horris Hill just pipping us to the post. Aldro followed a few weeks later and ...a win! Papplewick 101 - Aldro 93.



American Football is a popular innovation



Sprinters off their blocks

Golf

This year the Papplewick golfers played more often than usual, showing the truth in the adage that practice makes for perfection. Regular lessons at The Berkshire and at Bird Hills, putting on the School's putting green and competing in testing matches against other schools have ensured that all the boys have made great strides forward. The highlight of the summer has to be the winning score of 35 (over 9 holes) by one of our boys at the annual tournament at the Oratory, where the entire Papplewick team played above themselves. Their combined scores resulted in a final ranking of 2nd place, from twelve schools. The boys have also had the opportunity of playing at the testing Sunningdale Ladies' course. The final hurrah must go to the boy who scored a very creditable 76 in the Under 14 ISGA Open at Sunningdale, demonstrating just what a prospect he is for the future.

Athletics

The term's training began with boys taking part in five weeks of running, jumping and throwing, so the School was well prepared for its first match of the season at Caldicott. The boys acquitted themselves very well in a top-class meeting, with one of our boys winning the javelin, another producing a dogged 600m and a third putting a fabulous shot. But the performance of the afternoon came in the U11 800m, where a Papplewick boy succeeded in destroying the opposition with a sub-3 minute race that had parents from all six schools applauding enthusiastically. A week or so later at what was effectively the county championships at Bracknell, the School 'elite squad' of just seven boys represented Papplewick admirably, with another blistering U11 800m (which would have qualified for the Nationals had the boy been old enough!) and the javelin being among the highlights. The next meeting, at Epsom College, saw another sterling performance from the relay team, as well as great 200m runs from two of our boys, another good 800 metre performance and a good long jump. The final fixture at Sunningdale was a good time to blood some youngsters, as well as give some old hands their final run-out. Our U11 800 metre man in particular ran brilliantly against a very good new rival - so some excellent competition seems on the horizon for the next three years....

At the National Championships in Birmingham Papplewick had only one boy performing, in the javelin. In the second round he launched it out to a personal best, placing himself third in the competition, and with his final throw, the last of the entire competition, we saw the javelin fly out beyond 36 metres and to victory, thus securing the National title.

American Football

Papplewick received its first taste of "America's game" in the summer term with a fixture at home against Maiden Erlegh School. We were playing against a mix of ages from Year 7 to Year 10, and there were times when our youth showed. However, on Papplewick's first ever play, our man took the handoff and managed to jink his way into the end zone for a score. Another boy was a huge presence in defence and others performed really well against some tough opponents. On offense, a couple of boys did a good job at both quarterback, and elsewhere with some particularly elusive runs. It was a fantastic first effort, and while we did end up falling to a 46-37 defeat, great fun was had. With more fixtures on the horizon, we look to be in a strong position moving forward.

Croquet

Last year, for the first time, the Nigel Havers trophy was competed for on home soil. In past years Ludgrove had provided the venue for the annual clash, but last year the School built a theatre on its croquet lawn, with the result that the fixture came to Papplewick.

Ludgrove lost the toss and Papplewick decided to take second stroke. It was a peculiar match in that all three rounds followed the same pattern with the visitors taking an emphatic lead, only to be caught and overtaken by the Papplewick players. This made for an exciting competition – and very pleasing from Papplewick's point of view as it led to a resounding victory by 19 points to 11.



The winning javelin throw at the Nationals

OLD BOYS' DAY 2015

The annual cricket match against the Headmaster's XI produced something of a change last year as it resulted in a draw – the first time in a good few years.

The Old Boys' team batted first and got off to a good start, with both Stof Magrath and James Brooks scoring 50 before they retired. Aidan Kendall scratched around for a bit before he opened out and made 25, Manvir Dhaliwal scored 33 good runs later on in the innings and most of the others got into double figures before we declared at 240-8.

When the Headmaster's side batted, they scored runs steadily, but also lost wickets at regular intervals, with Manvir Dhaliwal taking 3 for 12. Towards the end of play it looked as though the Old Boys would win easily, being 65 runs ahead with only one wicket to get. But they were denied victory by Bunbury Father and Son, who managed to survive the last couple of overs before time ran out. It was a good game, with all the younger Old Boys making positive contributions both with the bat and in the field.

It was good to see a fair-sized group of Old Boys from 2005 – ten years ago – who returned for a reunion. They obviously enjoyed themselves, having a good meal in the marquee, catching up on news and looking around the School once again. Thanks are due to Charlie Smith for encouraging these to come along.

Another group of four Old Boys from forty years ago also returned to explore old haunts, where they found plenty of changes since the time they were at Papplewick. They particularly enjoyed meeting up with Judith Holden, who was the School Secretary during their time at Papplewick.



James Brooks retires having scored a half century



Indir Viridi, back for the reunion of '05.

OLD BOYS' DAY 2016

Sunday July 10th

Please make a note of this date in your diary. Special guests this year will be a group of Old Boys from the 1940s and 50s, with their wives and families, including one who came to Papplewick with the first intake. We hope that this will encourage other Old Boys, perhaps from the 60s and 70s, to join us on this day. If you would like to come to lunch, please would you email me to let me know (sparsant@gmail.com) so that I can ensure that the caterers have some idea of the numbers to expect?

Old Boys who left Papplewick ten years ago, in 2006, are also particularly invited to return to the School on this day and you will be receiving a personal invitation with this newsletter. And in addition to this, **Jonathan Hollis (1994-96)** is organising a reunion for those Old Boys who left in 1996. It will be good for 'boys' of these two generations to meet up once more with their contemporaries, watch some cricket and have a look around the School. Do come if you can, perhaps arriving in time for tea – or better still for lunch!

We shall be having our customary cricket match against the Headmaster's XI. Having drawn the game in 2015, the Old Boys are hoping for a winning performance this year. Play will start at 11.00 a.m., lunch for teams and visitors will be at 1.00 o'clock in the marquee and tea will be in the pavilion at 4.00 p.m.

The swimming pool and tennis courts will be available for families and friends, and at 6 o'clock there will be end-of-match drinks to conclude the day's activities. We shall be delighted to see you there.

We shall be posting last minute details on the morning of July 10th by 9.00 a.m. on the School website (www.papplewick.org.uk). Just click on 'About Papplewick' and 'Old Boys'. In the event of uncertain weather it is important to do this, as we may have to call off all activities - apart from the lunch - at the last minute as we had to, sadly, in 2012.

NEWS UPDATE AND MISSING OLD BOYS

We are always looking for news from Old Boys about what they have been doing over the years since they have left Papplewick, so do please email Tony Sparshott (sparsant@gmail.com) with any news or comments that you may have. May I also make my annual appeal to Old Boys to help locate missing former pupils? If you go to the Old Boys' page of the School web site (www.papplewick.org.uk) and click on About Papplewick and Old Boys, the 'Missing Old Boys' icon will let you know the names of those with whom we have lost contact. If you can help 'find' any it would be greatly appreciated.