

The Old Papplewickian

No. 7

2007



THE HEADMASTER WRITES

Papplewick boys have enjoyed another highly successful year with twelve awards to major Public Schools including three awards to Eton – but schools should not be judged by such measures alone. It is actually the ‘immeasurables’ that make up the true value of any school – the happiness and confidence of the boys, the enthusiasm and commitment of the staff, the tolerance of one boy for another, the friendships across every cultural divide and the sheer spirit with which the boys sing in chapel are all I hope timeless, but immeasurable, ‘Papplewick qualities’. In the latter context, how good it was to welcome Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen back to Papplewick for our boarders’ carol service in December, and to hear him remark that the standard of the choir has remained as high as ever. This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the dedication of the chapel and we will be holding a special service during the Michaelmas Term to celebrate this unique occasion – all Old Boys will be extremely welcome to attend, and further details will be published on the website during the summer. In the meantime, do drop in if you are passing – Sallie and I, and our four young children, would be as delighted as ever to see you.

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The Chapel – 50 years old in September

This edition of ‘The Old Papplewickian’ has a distinctly ‘early Old Boy’ touch to it. Last Summer the Headmaster, in his speech on Speech Day, harked back to an early School prospectus, on which Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen had noted certain enhancements that the School needed. His comments can be read on page 2 of the newsletter. Later on, you can read reminiscences of two early Old Boys, Malcolm Smith (1950-54) and Bernard Trimm (1947-50). Their records make fascinating reading, and I hope you enjoy them. These accounts will ring a bell with many modern Grandparents, but few Parents will recognise such happenings, and present day Papplewickians will be uncomprehending – as they probably were as they listened to the enhancements wished for by K-H. “What’s he on about? We’ve had those for years.” Fings certainly ain’t what they used to be.



Paul & Diana Cheater at their Silver Wedding

SPEECH DAY 2006

In his speech last year the Headmaster looked back to the early days of the School and at the founding principles of Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen, as laid out in an early prospectus. As he saw it back in the 50s, there was “an urgent need for more preparatory schools modelled on the existing ones, with all their fine traditions, ideas and achievements, but with certain enhancements to meet the requirements of a post-war generation of boys and a post-war generation of parents.”

Tom Bunbury selected several of Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen’s suggested enhancements, and considered how the present-day Papplewick was measuring up to them. The first of these enhancements looked for “a far greater concern for the encouragement and development of cultural interests on a much wider plane”. The Headmaster stated that in 2006 the School’s results in Music and Art had once again been outstanding, with two awards to public schools won in both subjects during the past year. The dramatic life of the School continues to be vibrant, with four productions during the year, involving 150 boys, and visiting Headmasters continue to praise the outstanding singing of the choir week after week. So cultural interests were being well looked after.

The second enhancement was that “greater importance should be given to the qualifications of the staff which, though consisting of men and women of genuine calling for the type of work involved, must be predominantly a graduate one.” The Headmaster referred to William Yeats as having once famously stated ‘education is not about filling buckets, but of lighting fires’, and Tom Bunbury continued, “I do not believe there is a school with staff better qualified and more naturally inclined to light fires rather than fill buckets, and I would like to thank them all publicly today, as well as the whole Papplewick support team for their extraordinary commitment and inspiration over the last twelve months.” Indeed, another six more academic scholarships in 2006, in addition to the Art and Music ones, an award for outstanding talent in sport and one



School Play 2006 Fings Ain't Wot they Used To Be

all-rounder award, bears testimony to the inspiration generated by the present members of staff in every department. The Headmaster stated that this spread of excellence, rather than prowess in any one particular field, was the source of particular satisfaction for him, because it bore out his firm belief that the prep school age is the last age when boys can still have a go at anything and everything – the last chance to be the quintessential all-rounder. New opportunities are there to be grasped. “No,” continued the Headmaster, “We won’t be filling buckets because education must be about so much more than that. Primarily education has to do with recognising and nurturing talents; with transferring interest, enthusiasm and understanding from one generation to the next, and through that providing the basis upon which emotional confidence and maturity can be founded.”

The physical aspect of the School comprised Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen’s third enhancement: “Certain institutional characteristics such as the adornment of walls with brown paint, and other sombre though economical measures must be avoided, and a real attempt made to furnish with elegance and taste.” To illustrate the present state of Papplewick, the Headmaster recounted how he had told the boys at the first assembly of the school year about how he and his



Didgeridoo Practice at Arts Festival



Year 6 Rafting



Welcoming visitors on Grandparents' Day

family had been away spending the Summer at a top hotel, and he listed all the Papplewick facilities that he had enjoyed, as if these were facilities boasted by his hotel. The question was, could any boy name the hotel? The first confident answer came loud and clear - "The Ritz, Sir." K-H could be well satisfied.

The next enhancement from Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen's list, was that "efforts must be made to include boys from other countries, including non-white races." And how far-sighted that was, back in the 1950s. The headmaster continued, "We all know that the world is shrinking fast, and is truly global, and I believe that there won't be a walk of life that your sons will go out into that won't be touched by the need to have broad, international horizons. I know that the broadening of those horizons starts here at Papplewick."

The final enhancement chosen was that "parents should be encouraged rather than discouraged to take an active interest in the life of the school, and every facility for their visits to the School must be made, provided they do not interfere with the normal routine." This is something that all Papplewick headmasters have encouraged over the years, avant garde though it might have appeared when Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen made such a suggestion back in the fifties, and in his speech the Headmaster paid tribute to the enormous contribution



The Horizontal Climbing Wall – Something New



Hog Roast Fun – Organised Largely by the Parents

that parents had made during the past year to so many of the School's special events.

Tom Bunbury dwelt at some length on the subject of education, and in particular on prep school education in a new prep school, as envisaged by Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen. "Success is not everything. If a boy encounters difficulties with his peers in matters of friendships, or his work is not going too well, or he has not been selected for some team or other, that does not mean that the educational process has gone wrong. Dealing with difficulties is, in itself, so much part and parcel of the educational process, and is in itself a source of gaining confidence. And confidence is the greatest gift that a prep schoolboy can be given. There is an ancient Chinese proverb that says 'A teacher can open a door, but ultimately, the boy must enter by himself.' If children aren't left alone to experiment and make mistakes, if we hover over them to direct them rather than to guide them, and to catch them before they ever have a fall, then they are never going to recover when failure does inevitably at some point strike. This is a fundamental element of the fine traditions, ideas and achievements of the great English prep schools that Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen wrote so eloquently about all those years ago. And fifty-five years on, a great English prep school is undoubtedly what Papplewick has become."



Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen with Geoffrey Morgan (Staff 1970-76)

THE YEAR AT PAPPLEWICK

Congratulations to Joff and Liz Powis on their marriage, to Simon and Katie Gedye on theirs and to Alex and Lucy Price on theirs. We wish them every happiness for the future.

We welcome Archie Oliver Bunbury to the Papplewick community, born on 1st November 2006, and we also welcome Freddie Hewer, born on 10th November 2005.

The Choir

2006 was another very successful year for the First Choir, with great performances given, especially at the beginning of year service for New Boys and Parents, the Sung Eucharist, the Remembrance Service, and the Advent Carol Service, culminating of course with the Christmas Carol Service.

The Lent Term had special anthems at two evensongs, the Feast of the Epiphany and at another evensong later in the term. The Summer Term produced tremendous performances from the Choir in the Easter Service and at the Leavers' Service at the end of term.

It is hard to think of a more dedicated and committed group of boys as those in the First Choir, and it is because of these two qualities that the choir is as good as it is - and that is very good indeed, by any standards. Any provincial cathedral would be proud if its boys could sing as well as the Papplewick Choir.

The Somme

Year 8 once again paid its annual visit to the Somme, after the Common Entrance exam. This meant getting up at 4.00 a.m. and catching the Eurotunnel train, to arrive in France at 7.00 a.m. The first visit was to a German cemetery, which the boys found upsetting because of the



Scholars' Outing to Rome

number of dead, so close to the end of the war. Indeed, the vast waste of human life was no less impressive at the Somme itself. It was a sombre day.

Rome

Members of the Scholarship form went to Rome for a 3-day post exam break last May, and had a wonderful outing, taking in the Trevi Fountain the first evening. The next day the boys visited the Vatican City and were most impressed by the stunning artwork and sculptures of Greek and Roman heroes. But the highlight for everyone was undoubtedly the Sistine Chapel. A bus tour around Rome, visiting the fantastic buildings of the city filled in the afternoon. On the final morning the group paid a visit to the Forum, walking among the ruins, before moving on to the Villa Borghese, where they played and relaxed before catching the flight home.

AWARDS TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Alex Archer	<i>Oppidan Scholarship at Eton (Internal Award)</i>
James Brooks	<i>All Rounder's Exhibition to Wellington</i>
Bernard Chan	<i>King's Scholarship to Eton</i>
Chris Goetz	<i>Major Foundation Scholarship to Charterhouse and the Benn Scholarship for Classics</i>
Jae-Wook Jung	<i>Art Scholarship to Bradfield</i>
Simon Kim	<i>Academic Scholarship to Harrow</i>
Angseop Lee	<i>Annah Shaw Classics Scholarship to Eton</i>
Joey Nam	<i>Music Exhibition to Wellington</i>
Piers Saich	<i>Music Scholarship to Radley</i>
Yunus Sert	<i>Outstanding talent in Sport Scholarship to Harrow</i>
Rory Sullivan	<i>Oppidan Exhibition to Eton</i>
Peuk Vadanyakul	<i>Art Scholarship to Stowe</i>



Freddie Hewer

STAFF DEPARTURES



Tim and Jacqueline Edwards

Tim and Jacqueline Edwards, pictured above, came to Papplewick in 1984 and have contributed to a vast number of activities and events over the years – too many to do justice to in a short adieu. For many years Tim was Housemaster of St Michael's, where he demonstrated great fairness and understanding to his charges. Both he and Jacqueline were caring tutors – often to some very difficult boys - and they never failed to act vehemently as 'council for the defence' should the occasion arise.

In the Classroom, Tim was in charge of the Classics Department, instilling knowledge into unwilling minds, and Jacqueline was a tireless and innovative teacher of French, who had the ability to get the best out of both very able and very indifferent boys. She was merciless to the idle, but very understanding to the genuinely baffled. Evening Activities were organised by Tim and Jacqueline for many years and they always ran as smoothly as clockwork. Many will remember Tim as 'front of stage' compère at School Plays, At Homes, Spring Festivals and other occasions, where he entertained and informed the various audiences of what format the evening would take. And his singing in the choir contributed enormously to the success of Chapel Services and Cathedral visits over the years. For many Old Boys, Tim and Jacqueline Edwards constituted their last link with Papplewick, and as such they will be greatly missed. We wish them well in their retirement in France.



A Bursar's Lot is not an Idle One



Stuart and Cathy Malan

Stuart and Cathy Malan came to Papplewick from South Africa eight years ago, and they have left a great mark on the School. As master i/c rugby, Stuart worked tirelessly with the 1st XV each season, seeing many successes and few failures over the years. A staunch believer in hard work on the field, he demanded the very best at all times and was insistent on fair play above all else. He had the ability to gain the respect of his teams, and they gave him their best. It was the same in the classroom, where Stuart was a Maths teacher of great understanding and sympathy, encouraging his charges to work to their utmost ability at all times. Cathy was form teacher of 4M for five years, leading the younger boys carefully through their difficult second year, and preparing them for life in the Middle School.

As House Parents to the junior boarders they were compassionate and caring, making life considerably easier for boys and parents alike. They decided to take a GAP year in Scotland, doing a bit of teaching there before going on to continue their teaching in Canada. But they discovered that jobs in private schools were few and far between up North, and so they decided to apply to a number of schools worldwide. They have now accepted jobs at the British School in Montevideo, Uruguay, where they arrived this February to do a two year contract. Then they plan to move to Canada. We wish them every success in their new venture.



Cathy and top, Stuart Malan – now in Montevideo



Year 7 Prefect and Leadership Course 2006

CORRESPONDENCE

The Rev'd John Naylor (Staff 1956-58) writes in about the Chapel's Golden Jubilee.

Greetings to all Papplewickians. I write to say how very delighted I am to learn that the Golden Jubilee of the Chapel at Papplewick is to be commemorated in the year 2007. I believe that all those connected with the School will be glad that such a building was erected by Mr Knatchbull-Hugessen at a difficult time in the School's history. To stress the importance of that side of every school's life as a community was a very brave thing, especially as at that time there were other important facilities that the School badly needed. So all praise and gratitude to the Headmaster and other people, who worked so hard behind the scenes, that the building of a beautiful chapel was launched. Its importance in the life of the School cannot be overstated and it stands to remind us all that there are values greatly to be treasured by those who claim to belong to a civilised society. Long may this special place play a leading part in the lives of all who frequent it.



Another New Activity – Engineering (although they did this in Wing Commander Kings' day)



Year 6 Outdoor Excursion to the Hawk and Owl Trust

Activities

Thursday activities have taken on a new look in that the afternoon is now divided into two parts, and boys may do two activities in any one afternoon if they wish to do so. There is plenty of choice now, as there are more activities available; there is, in fact a huge choice, with newcomers including Fencing, Scuba Diving, Conservation Club, Mechanics, Guinea Pig Handling, Cartoon Drawing, Crocker and Papplewick Pioneers. The possibility of having two sessions and doing different activities has been a great success, with the opportunity for boys to have expert tuition in a variety of different areas.



Spring Festival – Juniors Variety Show

The Spring Festival

The Spring Festival was as successful as ever last year, with the Lower School raising the curtain on the Friday evening with a splendidly colourful show. The Monday produced many different artistic experiences, starting with the workshops, many of which were arranged by Ronan De Burca: an African drumming class, a sitar demonstration, a digderidoo-making workshop as well as drama, fire making, international sports, origami and movie making. The author, Gary Kilworth, talked on how he wrote books and he read from his latest work, 'Attica'. The Recitation Finals were most enjoyable, with the winners from each year group giving very impressive performances. St George's won the debating. The full day ended with the drama production of 'The Stone Soup.'

The Music Competitions of all three age groups were held on the Tuesday, preparing the way for the Gala Prom the next day. This was a tremendous occasion, as it always is, with many musical highlights, and the evening was rounded off by another slide show from the Chaplain.

Malcolm Smith (1950-54) writes impersonally about his time at Papplewick

Malcolm joined the school in September 1950 as Smith II. He started as a dayboy and used to travel in with his friends Julian Hereward and David Hugh-Jones. He would catch a bus from Camberley to Bagshot, then walk to the station to take a train to Ascot. From there he would walk across the racecourse to school.

When he became a boarder, Malcolm's dormitory was in the Cottage, where there were three small dorms of two or three beds each. He recalls having 'bean feasts' on sweets which had been stashed up the chimney in their room. He also used to make Micromodels, paper models of railway trains, on his bed and got the glue on his rug. All boarders were expected to write home each week and one of the letters notes that he reached the position of monitor.

He vividly remembers the headmaster, Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen, and also Mrs Gordon who was the co-owner of the school. They had three dogs, labradors, Matthew and Mark and spaniel Luke; there was never a John. Behaviour in school was regulated, as it still is, by a Housepoint scheme, + for good and - for bad, and the total was issued at the end of term. Malcolm was in St. George's house.

Malcolm joined the school Scouts and was in Squirrel patrol. One summer he went to camp on Monkey Island in the Thames. He also joined the Pioneering corps which undertook interesting projects such as pulling up tree roots. One day, they were winching out a large tree stump and Mr Martin, the master in charge, went to inspect progress and found that they had disturbed a bees' nest and he got stung. The Pioneers started to make bricks from clay in the school grounds with a view to using them to build a chapel. However, they were never used.

On the sports field, Malcolm was good at athletics, especially the high jump. Cricket, however, was not his forte as he was hit on the forehead by a ball once as a spectator and lost his nerve. He tried and succeeded in being allowed to look after the cricket kit instead of playing, and that suited him just fine. He did play in one game though, when the school played a local girls' school, and he was made captain (he never understood why) and was told to make sure everyone behaved properly. The school went swimming regularly in the summer term, and were taken by bus to The Pantiles swimming pool in Bagshot. On snowy or frosty days the boys would be taken out for a formal walk around the locality.

Malcolm took piano lessons and also joined the country dancing class. A formal dance was organised one day when girls were brought in from another school. That was embarrassing enough for the boys, but it got worse when the rest of the school filed in to watch.

He took part in several school plays, for which the Green Room was more memorable than the plays



Malcolm Smith visiting Papplewick last July

themselves. Ordered chaos probably best describes it. Sometimes on a wet afternoon when sport was not possible, pupils would be formed into small groups and given 30 minutes to make up a ten minute play.

During Ascot Gold Cup week, the school playing fields were used as a car park and Malcolm, being a Monitor, was one of the lucky ones who helped, and as such wore a white coat. As he recalls, motorbikes were charged 2/6, cars were 5/- and coaches 10/- all day.

Malcolm remembers taking and passing his Common Entrance exams, and moving on to Worksop in 1954. He returned to Papplewick and attended an inaugural Old Boys' Reunion some years after he left, and remembers that the headmaster congratulated the attendees on their "sartorial elegance".

Malcolm's brother Stewart followed him through Papplewick, being there between 1952 and 1956.



Malcolm Smith's Dormitory – Top left window of cottage

OBITUARIES

News of the death of Richard T Krickl [1951-2005] arrived too late last year for an appreciation of his life to be published. His brother, Blaine, now writes.

Richard Krickl died of cancer at the Nashoba Valley Hospital, Ayer, Massachusetts, on 12th August 2005, aged 54. He had been in declining health for some time. Richard leaves a wife, Joan, children Taylor [22] and Alex [14], as well as two brothers, Blaine of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and Anson of Falmouth, Massachusetts.

Richard was born in Concord, Massachusetts, arriving in England with his family in the summer of 1959. He began at Papplewick that autumn under the Headmastership of Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen. English prep school life represented something of an adjustment for an American boy but he soon grew accustomed to the different ways of the school, participating in all the activities and sports [including Father & Sons cricket], as well as confronting the challenges of Latin and French. His contemporaries included the Americans, Peter and David MacDonald, also of Virginia Water, and Angelo Economou. Nigel Talbot-Rice was one of the men who taught him.

Richard went on from Papplewick to the American



School in London in anticipation of his return to the American schooling system when his family repatriated, which occurred in the summer of 1967. He never lost his affection for England nor his attachment to the school. In May, 2002, he returned on a sentimental journey, visiting his old home, his London haunts, and paying a fulfilling and emotional visit to the school where he was shown around by the then head-boy.

Richard's life came to a premature close as he was overtaken by illness, leaving a great void in the life of his family, both immediate and extended. He was laid to rest on Sunday, 14th August 2005, in the family plot at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Concord, Massachusetts, the town in which he was born, attended by numerous family and friends.

Those who remember Richard are most welcome to contact his brother, Blaine S Krickl, in the UK on (01753) 892424 or blaine@krickl.co.uk

It is with sadness that we report the death of Chris Anderson (1950-57), on June 1st 2006. He was one of the boys who came to Papplewick in Peter Knatchbull-Hugessen's first year, in 1950.

News of former Staff

Many congratulations to **Paul (1973-89)** and **Diana (1980-89) Cheater**, who celebrated their Silver Wedding last September. They held a lunch reception at Summer Fields, preceded by a service of renewal of vows and blessing of the rings in the School Chapel. The weather

was perfect and the guests, comprising family and friends, dined regally in a marquee while enjoying reliving the past. Papplewick was well represented by a dozen ex-members of Staff. It was a splendid day, and we wish Paul and Diana every good wish for the next twenty-five years.



*Past Members of Staff
Celebrating Paul and Diana
Cheater's Silver Wedding*

OLD BOYS' NEWS

Louis Adler (1978-84) is living in Windsor and has three sons, whom he is hoping to send to Papplewick in a few years time. He is very active, still playing rugby for Windsor 1st XV. Three years ago he set up his own IT business, which he enjoys running and which is doing well.

Kumo Alauddin (1989-91) took a GAP year after leaving Harrow, and then sat for his SATs and moved to the USA to study in Boston College. In 2000 he graduated with a degree in Marketing and moved back to Malaysia to head up the family business in Medical Equipment and Pharmaceutical Supplies. He has also set up a Paintball Business in Malaysia. He married in February last year. In his free time he plays some squash, but he has been focusing mainly on golf.



Tom Humphreys-Evans at Old Boys' Day

Stephen Alford (1972-75) qualified as a CIMA accountant after leaving school, and having worked as Finance Director and Controller in National Grid, Motorola, Hutchison 3G, and AOL he is now working as a consultant for himself. He is married and has two young sons. While at Papplewick he sang in the choir and after leaving at the age of 11 he did an audition for St Pauls, but was considered too old! He loved sports, but admits to having been a bad loser. He remembers with pleasure the cross-country runs around Ascot racecourse, for he was a good runner.

Jeremy Baker (1987-93) is still playing a good deal of squash, and is top of the league in his local squash club.

Jonathan Baker (1991-97) has graduated in Business Studies from the West of England University. He spent a lot of time motor racing during the Summer, and has been invited to drive for a team in the US Formula Ford National Championships in 2007.

Jerry Beale (1967-70) has happy memories of Papplewick. After leaving Wellington, he tried his hand at working in the Australian outback on sheep stations and in the manganese mines, playing a lot of rugby while there. He

came back to the UK and ran a couple of farms, got back into judo, did some 'personal security' work and also some writing. This led to a job in advertising and spending 5 years at Saatchi & Saatchi in London. He went to New Zealand in 1982 and the late 80s saw him in the USA with Ogilvy & Mather. Back in NZ he started his own Agency, during which time he was representing New Zealand in judo as well as playing premier division rugby. His martial arts continued throughout most of this time, training in the US in Brazilian jiu jitsu and with 4 years as a contracted fighter with the Osaka-based Shooto organisation in Japan. He is now a partner in Radical Alice - an Auckland based but globally focused advertising agency, and he runs a large martial arts club, as well as writing and performing poetry. Jerry claims that his old body is showing signs of wearing out, but he hopes that **Don Werner (Staff 1968-96)**, his Papplewick judo coach, is faring better and is still active!

Kristjan Byfield (1988-93) is in property business and is doing well. After branching into investments, his company has been involved with some exciting projects, including a chain of hotels in Spain and 750 new flats in East London.

Luciano Chianese (1979-83) is working in Rome as a freelance food and arts translator.

David Charlesworth (1972-77), who was a very talented violinist at Papplewick under **Geoffrey Morgan (Staff 1970-76)** and subsequently at Stowe, decided against pursuing music as a career, though he still gets great pleasure from playing the violin on occasion. He went on to read Business Studies, and is now at Channel 4, running his own Department as Head of Sponsorship, a job which he finds most rewarding.

Oliver Clasper (1990-96) has moved to Djakarta to work as a journalist on a new paper out there.

James Coyne (1992-98) took time out to play a good deal of rackets after leaving University last year, and he was very successful. He and **George Tysoe (1992-98)** won the U21 British Open Doubles and got through to the British Open Doubles semi finals. James also



Karate is now an established Activity

reached the Semi Finals of the US Open at the end of the season. Since then he has joined HSBC Ltd as an insurance broker where he is insuring diamonds and jewellery – a hugely interesting commodity.

David Cox (1989-94) is working for Dell UK, and is a corporate account manager, looking after companies in the South and managing their orders, projects and software. He enjoys his job, but is looking to transfer to Dell Australia. He is playing rugby for Beaconsfield when he can.

Tom Elliott (1989-94) qualified as a dentist last summer. He ruptured his achilles tendon ten days before his finals, so he had to be in a boot and on crutches for his last few days at Bristol. He started work in Edinburgh at the beginning of August.

Freddie d'Eufemia (1994-98) went to Harrow after leaving Papplewick, and then did a course in Pilot Training. He now organises parties in London.

Rupert Garnett (1985-91) is working for the European Social Fund, which deals with money for the development of social enterprise, and organising specifically where European money goes in the U.K. He is a keen skier and he plays a bit of rugby locally.

James Haskell (1994-2000) scored in the England U21s rugby Grand Slam win over Ireland in 2006, winning the U21 Six Nations Championship for the second time in three years. And having been in the squad of 28 to face France in the Six Nations clash this March, he is to be warmly congratulated on gaining an England Cap for the match against Wales the following week. He has been invited to coach the 1st XV at Wellington next Michaelmas term.

Peter Haynes (1961-66) is a hypnotherapist and a psychotherapist, practising in Tilehurst in Reading. He is currently writing a book about global warming.

Piers Heyworth (1961-66) is Headmaster of a school in London.

Guy Harper (1991-96) graduated in law from St Andrews and moved to Guildford for his conversion course, which he finished last year. In September he started at Stevenson Harwood, the legal company.

Marcel Ivison (1973-78) continues with the Standard chartered Bank in Singapore. He is now very much an old 'Asian hand', having lived in the Far East for over 13



James Haskell who has gained his first England cap.

years. He has a son, Dominic, at Pappewick.

David Jaynes (1969-72.) After Seaford, David returned to the States to finish his education, following which he was in the communications business. He then moved to Seattle where, within a few years, he started working within the Security Field, which led to working with local and federal law enforcement agencies. He is married with one son aged 14. His brother, **Michael (1969-71)**, is also living in Washington State.

Paul Kaplanski (1991-94) changed jobs in January '06, and he is now Sales Manager for ADT, a security company in Sunbury, dealing specifically in fire and security. He continues to play hockey for Bracknell, and some cricket.

Alex Kremer (1971-1977) read Economics at Cambridge after leaving Eton, and then took a Masters in London. He has spent some time working as a development economist in Swaziland, Mali, Bangladesh, Zimbabwe and India before moving to the US to work with the World Bank in Washington D.C., where he now is. In his spare time he sings, writes a bit and enjoys walking in the woods.

James Lea (1992-98) has graduated from Oxford with a First in Biology.

Benji Leaver (1993-96) is working in fund management for Fidelity, the financial consultancy firm, which he enjoys very much. At Old Boys' Day last year he organised a reunion of boys who left Papplewick ten years previously, in 1996, and those who managed to come enjoyed catching up on news of their contemporaries.

Jo Leckenby (1989-94) took his finals in medicine last summer and is now a practising doctor.

James Lewis (1997-2001) has been living in Miami, since leaving Papplewick. He has completed his schooling in the States and is now at Suffolk University in Boston. He enjoys living there and being out of the holiday destination of Miami. Boston has the largest student population in the States.

Tan Lochotinan (1993-96) is a financial consultant with Accenta, and is working in London.

The Rev'd Tim Norman (1978-82) ended his time at St Michael's Church in Paris last September, having been



Matthew Hunter and Tom Elliott last July

appointed Associate Pastor at St Mark's Church, Versailles.

Edward Platford (1990-96) is practising accountancy, and his brother, **Thomas (1990-96)** is training to be a medic.

Nick Sanders (1993-98) has left Monkton Combe, where he played rugby for the 1st XI and rowed extensively, being a crew member of the 1st eight, the fours and pairs. He is now at Exeter University studying Archaeology, and has become engaged to a girl he met there.

Richard Scawn (1985-91) continues with his work as an eye surgeon in Maidstone. He plays cricket for Chobham and football for Harrow Old Boys.

William Scawn (1988-94) is still working for Green Issues Communications, a leading political consultation company in the planning and development industry, based in London. Away from work, he plays a fair bit of cricket and golf.

Francis Sirl (1979-1985) went on to Monkton Combe after Papplewick, and then to Oxford Brookes to study Town Planning & Catering Management. He was Captain of Rugby at Monkton and played 1st XV rugby (scrum half) for 3 years at university. While there he formed a blues/rock band, playing everything from Jon Mayall's Bluesbreakers to the Rolling Stones, Led Zep and AC/DC. After Oxford, he worked as an equity dealer in the city, during which time he canoed from Oxford to



The Start of the Junior House Cross Country

London to raise money for the Federation of Disability Sport. He later ran a gastro Pub in Battersea, where he and his team won the 1998 Evening Standard Pub of the Year. He then moved into IT solution sales for several years, before passing his Chartered Institute of Marketing exams and working as Head of Marketing at Enterprise Plc, a major UK support services company. He is married with two young daughters aged two and one, and lives in Richmond with his two dogs. He is currently setting up his own business, so watch this space!

Malcolm Smith (1950-1954) wrote in to say that he has happy memories of his time in the early days of Papplewick, before moving on to Worksop. On leaving school he worked as a quantity surveyor with George Wimpey. After 12 years he joined another building company as a contracts manager which took him all over the UK and also on a number of supervisory trips to



Judith Holden and Sue Morris at the Cheaters' Silver Wedding

construction sites in East and West Africa. Back in the UK, he worked for HSBC for 15 years in their computer department. He is writing his family history on his website, which includes interesting information about his time at Papplewick. (An extract from this is included on Page 7). He remembers **Mr Clough (1951-62)** living in the Lodge, **Mr Martin (1951-55)** who took pioneering, which Malcolm enjoyed, and **Mr Roddy (1951-62)**. Last year Malcolm visited Papplewick, on Old Boys' Day, and he did a tour of the School. He came to the conclusion that the main hall and staircase used to be where the kitchens are now located. And what is now the dining area was originally two classrooms. His classroom was where the fireplace remains, and he recalls sitting with his back to the window and using a magnifying glass to concentrate the rays of the sun to burn holes in paper during class.

Alex Stables (1990-96) began working for Foxtons, the estate agents, last September.



Messrs Leaver, Harper, Lochotinan and Stables at Old Boys' Day 2006

Jerome Starkey (1988-94) left 'The Sun' last October, and is now working as a journalist for NATO in Kabul, Afghanistan. Before leaving 'The Sun', he descended in a cage off the coast of Cornwall, for the newspaper, looking for killer blue sharks. He was successful in his search – graphically described by the tabloid reporters.

Mike Taberer (1992-97) has been studying economics and management at the University of Western Australia, in Perth. He enjoyed his time there and he finished this past February. He has been playing a lot of rugby, for his university sevens team, WA State, Queensland Universities and the Western Force Academy.

Giles Timms (1979-82) is now a Major in the Parachute Regiment and has recently completed a tour in Afghanistan. It was announced just before Christmas that he has been awarded the Military Cross, which he was due to collect from Buckingham Palace this March. We offer him our warm congratulations.

George Tysoe (1992-98), partnered by **James Coyne (1992-1998)** retained his title for the third year running in the Milne Hue-Williams Rackets Championship. The two were also selected for the Knots-Stephens tour to America.



Dorm Sunday Outing

the highest mountains, they drove both a recreational (RV) and a sports utility (SUV) vehicle over the 13,500 miles. The hours of driving between midnight and 6 am became known among team members as the 'graveyard shift.' On average they drove over 600 miles every 24 hours across incredibly varied terrain, experiencing temperatures which ranged from +51°C in *Death Valley*, Nevada, (where Duncan actually attempted to fry an egg on the bonnet of the SUV!) to -15 degrees on high peaks like Mount Rainier in Washington state, at over 14,000 feet.

Duncan's role in the team of 4 men and 2 women was communications manager. Their leader was the 22 year old British mountaineer Jake Meyer, who in 2005, conquered Everest by the challenging north face route. The team had many adventures along the way, including accidents in both vehicles. On Borah Peak in Idaho, the team leader describes *Chicken Out Ridge* 'as only 30 feet long but in parts no more than a foot wide with drops of thousands of feet off to either side - not a place to discover you didn't like heights!'

Duncan obviously had not had enough of America, as he returned to compete in the New York City Marathon on November 5th 2006.



Duncan Thomson (centre right) on the 48 Challenge

Duncan Thomson (1991-97) was part of a team of six Bristol University students who went to America last year and on August 1st 2006 reached the summit of Mount Katahdin in Maine, smashing the World record time taken to climb the highest peak in the forty-eight inland states of America in under 30 days, leaving out Alaska and Hawaii - the '*48 Challenge*'. Some of you may have seen articles in the Sunday Telegraph last July relating to the project. They completed the course in 23 days 19 hours 31 minutes, knocking five days and three quarters off the previous record of 28 days. Their record breaking effort began on top of Mount Rainier in Washington State at 9.15am on July 8th. As well as a team member scaling all



Lizzie Smith and Sarah Tysoe, HM's Secretary and School Registrar

NEWS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BRADFIELD

Calum Gore is very involved with drama in the School. He received a Headmaster's Commendation for his direction of 'The Army House Play', a dramatisation of four of Grimm's Fairy Tales, which gave him a chance to venture back into a child's world of witches, wolves and damsels in distress, and to find out why these tales still enchant children today. The idea behind the production was to make the audiences think about how children are affected by childhood and family relationships in contemporary society. (Prince Charming ends up running off with both Little Red Riding Hood and Snow White at the same time!) **Will Sennett and James Gilbert** have been playing county hockey at U16 level. **Rupert Yorke** acted in his House play, 'Abigail's Party', giving a memorable performance as Tony. He also undertook a successful four day expedition with a group of friends to Dartmoor last Winter Term, for his D of E Gold Award, intending to follow the original boundary of the Ancient Forest of Dartmoor, as defined in 1240 by the Sheriff of Devonshire and 12 of his knights for the then king of England, Henry III. They camped on the Moor and the weather was variable, with a really wet third day. **Matt Reid**



Boys can now do Fencing as an Activity

also successfully undertook his D of E Gold expedition, last Easter, to the Lake District. He walked the high ridge between Ennerdale and Buttermere, camping 'wild' up on the famous Wainwright felltop of Hay Stacks on his last night. **Jaewook Jung** and **Ziyad Baeshen** have settled well into life at Bradfield, with the latter enjoying football in the D XI, and the former playing in the C team. Jay is in the top sets for most subjects. He has also taken up fencing, which he likes greatly.

ETON

Mo Ladan has been elected a member of Pop, and has been made Head of Games at Villiers. **Alex Archer** has settled in well, earning a distinction during his first term. He is playing the clarinet with enthusiasm and his cricket is going well. He received the Latin Prize for achieving



Christmas Feast 2006

the top mark in his year, and he is to be congratulated on being awarded an Oppidan Scholarship, at the end of 2006. **Mark Pretorius** took his French and Latin GCSEs a year early and is now working for the others. He was captain of the C rugby team for his age group. In the Summer half he rowed for his house in the Bumping Racing.

HARROW

Guagua Bo has left Harrow with three A grades at A level, in Economics, Maths and Religious Studies and **David Kmiot** passed Economics, Government and Politics and History with ABB respectively. He won the History prize on Speech Day. **Loui Lim** scored AAAB in Art, Economics, Maths and Chemistry. In January last year he submitted a painting at Christies in the exhibition of art from Harrow School, raising money for the School Art Department's extension. It sold for £2,000. He won two Art prizes on Speech Day. **Stof Magrath** has gained a place at Oxford Brooks to read Sports Management. In the 1st XV he played some good rugby last season, being one of a strong defensive block in midfield. Playing inside centre, his good lines of running and offloading of the ball at the right time also initiated some effective attacking moves. **Baxter Macaulay** has taken 13 GCSE's over the last two years and gained 4A*'s in 2005 and 8A*'s and 1A last Summer. He also achieved an A grade mark in the one AS module he took. He is now First Oboeist in the School Orchestra and he took his Grade 8 Piano and Oboe Exams last Michaelmas term. He travelled to the Cévennes for his D of E Silver Award in the Summer holidays and then spent 2 weeks at a Law Firm in London, as part of his Work Experience. He is to take Triple Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Economics, Critical Thinking and possibly Spanish for AS Levels. He is still in touch with **Harry Salisbury**, at Stowe. **Yunus Sert** and **Alex Mackintosh** have settled in well, and have been playing rugby in their year group 1st XV. **Harry Schofield** played golf in the 1st team last year. He was also one of several Harrovians who was asked to entertain a group of visiting boys and staff from a Soweto school last Spring Term. **Toby Lace** was a member

of the winning rowing team in the Fours Plate Competition at Bedford Regatta last season. He spent two weeks last year doing work experience at the Culloden Hotel in Northern Ireland. He worked in various departments, gaining experience in a variety of different fields. **Will Talkington** has been playing some very competent hockey in the Yearlings' XI. **Jamie Seligman** was in the skiing team which went to France last season, competing in the British Schoolboys' races.

MARLBOROUGH

Charlie Foster is now in his final year, and he plays tennis for the College 1st VI. He has been joined by his younger brother, **Simon**, who has enjoyed his first year at Marlborough, playing a good deal of sport. In the 2005-6 season he was in the College U14 1st teams for rugby and hockey, and he played cricket in the 3rd XI, where he scored 134 in one of his matches. **Julian Taberer** has been playing in the College 1st XI cricket team, in his GCSE year. **Khalifa Abubakar**, **Jeremy Gilbert**, **Freddie Ward** and **Jack Wallis** have now left school, the former two with ACC at A level, and the latter pair with BBB.



Panic at the Staff Room Photocopier

RADLEY

Freddie Leask has now left Radley, having been pack leader and Vice Captain of the successful College 2nd XV.

ST. EDWARD'S OXFORD

Edward Fremlin-Key has been playing regularly in the School cricket 1st team, having a top score last season of 64. He also played periodically in the hockey XI. **Layton Warhurst** played rugby in the Yearlings C XV and rowed in the J 14 Squad, where his four made it into the final in the Tewkesbury Regatta. He went, with a group of other pupils, downriver from Inglesham, on the annual Thames Skiff Expedition last July, travelling a total of just over 100 miles in their journey to Windsor. **Rory Kermack** played for the Yearlings 1st XV last season. He also succeeded in reaching the finals of the Bradford Martin Reading Competition in May.



Harpist in the Arts Festival

SHERBORNE

James Morgan played rugby in the Junior Colts C team last season.

SHREWSBURY

Oliver Knight has now moved on from Shrewsbury, having secured A grades at A level Economics, Further Maths and Maths 9371, and an A in AS Geography.

STOWE

Jonathan Elfer is in his final year and has been working hard for A Levels. He has been made a School Prefect and Secretary of the Literary Society, which entails giving a vote of thanks to visiting speakers after their talk. He also wrote a short report on the activities of the Society in the Stowe Old Boys' newsletter. **Imam Nasiru** is now head of his house. **William Scholfield** has been playing some good cricket for the Junior Colts, scoring an impressive 58 against Uppingham early in the season. **Alex Ward** has left the school, having been an outstanding swimmer. In his final year, as Captain, he won the 50 and 100 metre cups, and he was a member of the freestyle relay team which beat the School record in the Bath Cup.

WELLINGTON

Charles Biddle has moved on from College with a B grade in A level Politics, a C in Religious Studies and two C grades at AS History and Business Studies. He is now at Bristol West of England University reading Business and



Papplewick in the Summer

Marketing. **David D'Erlanger** has gained a place at Leeds Metropolitan to read Landscape Architecture. **Oliver Han** has left College and has moved on to Kingston to read Architecture. **Sam Tidswell-Norrish** has also left to read Social Policy & Sociology at Leeds. **Stefan Hoffelner** has left to read Real Estate Management at Nottingham Trent. **Henry Sandars** secured CBC at his A level Art, DT and Economics. He was Captain of House Football, while in College, and he is now at Chelsea School of Fine Art.

Kris Petnunthawong gained 5 A*s, 2As and 3 Bs, for his GCSEs, and is currently doing a mixture of Maths and Sciences at A/S level. He is enjoying his sport at a House level. **Will Hopkins** put in a very good performance on stage in the 'Talent Show' in the Christmas Term last year. He also had a good season in the very successful College 1st XV. **Jonathan Clapham** has been very much involved with Art and he produced a 'Hopperesque' house front that has been much admired.

OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

Drama 2006 – The Mikado



DRAMA 2006

The Musicians

Year 5 put this on last May, and the three leading actors worked extremely hard learning their lines during the Easter Holidays. Mr Gedye produced the play, which was set in a cold rehearsal hall in Moscow where the Papplewick orchestra had lost all its instruments at Customs, and was forced to rely on two Russian cleaners to bail them out. The end result was an entertaining mélange which was greatly enjoyed by actors and audience alike.

Stone Soup

Stone Soup is a moral play based upon an ancient folk tale, and in it the wise Sophia enters a starving village and declares she will feed everyone with her magical stone soup. She gradually encourages the villagers to share their own hoarded goods for the benefit of the community as a whole. They even win over Mr and Mrs North, who hold a monopoly of the one cooking pot, so in the end the spirit of sharing and cooperation prevails. There were a number of excellent performances in a play where the underlying themes are rather tricky to convey, and the cast succeeded with aplomb.

Fings Ain't Wot They Used To Be

This was produced by Mr Elkington and was the magnum opus in December 2005, being on a rather adult theme: the shenanigans of some rather inefficient gangsters in an illegal gambling club.

The music and singing were both of a very high standard, the chorus of Teddy Boys and thieves did a superb job in putting over the songs and the dancing, as indeed did the School Rock Band. And the quality of the acting, as ever, was very high.

The European Day of Languages

One day in late September last year, the school celebrated the European Day of Languages. The event aimed to promote an awareness of linguists and cultural diversity, as well as to help pupils recognise the benefits of language learning. Throughout the day the boys became involved in several different events:

European-based treasure hunts, the colours of the flags of member states, the percentage of Europeans who speak another language apart from their mother tongue (53% - with 26% speaking two other languages). Meals were based on a European theme, with flags on the tables. There was no escaping from Europe on that particular day, and herein lay the success of the project.



Santiago, Chile



The Iguazú Falls

Football Tour to South America

Apart from the football, which was the main object of the tour, the boys had the chance to experience what South America has to offer. The first port of call was Santiago, a large city surrounded by mountains, full of movement and bustling traffic and people. Then came Viña del Mar, a beach resort on the Pacific, far less sophisticated than the capital, and with a lived-in feel about it. This was followed by two days in Córdoba, in the heart of Argentina, experiencing life on an Estancia, trekking on horses along the dusty tracks up into the

hills, surrounded by amazing scenery. The team had to camp out in a rustic shack, enjoying a traditional gaucho barbecue around a camp fire.

Then to be thrown from this idyllic existence, full of quiet and traditional music, into the heart of noisy, cosmopolitan Buenos Aires, a city buzzing with ten million people and frenetic traffic. What a culture shock! The final leg of the tour took the boys off to spend three nights at the incomparable Iguazú Falls, on the borders of Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina. This was a breathtakingly beautiful way to end the tour.

Kids for Africa

A party of boys went on an adventure tour to South Africa once again last year, and had a wonderful time going from one treat to the next in quick succession. They saw seals in the Bay World Oceanarium, they went ghost crab hunting on the beach, and they visited the Addo Elephant Reserve, seeing kudu, elephant, warthog, red hartebeest, jackal, tortoises and buffalo. At Tstitsikama they visited Monkeyland, an enclosure where all the monkeys, lemurs and apes mingle and are free to roam at leisure. Here, the gibbon was the clear favourite amongst the boys. They also visited Birdworld (the largest single enclosed aviary in the southern hemisphere – about 6 acres of forest). One morning the group went on a tree top canopy tour, with flights on zip wires of 10 slides from tree to tree, the longest being 96 metres. On a more educational and serious note, the party paid a visit to Grahamstown and a township, meeting and talking to children in a school.



Trekking in South Africa

The Papplewick boys still had time to go to the Kariega Game Reserve where they spent some happy hours stalking giraffe, and observing termite colonies, elephant, rhino, buffalo, wildebeest, and lions on a kill. What a holiday!



Memoirs of an Old Papplewickian

Bernard Trim (1947-50) was one of the very first boys to be enrolled on the School books, in Wing Commander Kings' days. He has sent in this fascinating account of the early years of Papplewick. With his account he also enclosed a copy of the original prospectus, "in which some of the features at the time can only be said to be wishful thinking, but in fact were eventually brought to reality."



Wing Commander Donald Kings, Founder of Papplewick in 1946

In 1946 a certain Wing Commander Donald Kings, lately retired from distinguished war service and with two sons to educate, decided that he was not impressed with the existing education service available in the U.K. He thus determined that the only school that he would trust them with would be one that he ran himself. There was a dearth of Preparatory schools available so a Prep school was indicated, particularly as his boys were at that time of the appropriate age.

He set about looking for suitable premises and he and his wife started recruiting staff, both educational and domestic. Because of the war there was also a shortage of qualified teachers, but the regulations were relaxed at the time so that he was allowed to take on board several individuals who were not fully qualified but were studying for teacher status. He also appointed three retired teachers, one of whom was Colonel Woods as Deputy Head, who had vast experience as an Army education specialist.

The Colonel was an expert in Heraldry amongst other things, and decided on the school colours – Dark Blue and Light Blue – which were based on the colours of Oxford and Cambridge Universities, to whom he hoped the great majority of 'his boys' would end their academic careers. (Being a Cambridge man himself, he always

stressed the superiority of that establishment over 'the other one west of London'.) The school badge of a silver cross on dark blue background with a light blue header containing on the left side a stag 'passant' was against all the rules of heraldry, apparently, as heraldry only has one colour of blue. We all thought that the 'Wingco' had a hand in that design, to represent a Windsor Forest stag over a Christian symbol. This was neither confirmed nor denied. The 'Wingco' was titled as 'Principal' as he had no university degree nor teaching qualification. This said, he did teach us Science in those early years and most of my basic knowledge of this subject is undoubtedly down to him.

Premises were found in Windsor Road (the existing position) in a large property that was previously a hospital, run, it was said, by nuns. This had served in the wartime as premises for injured and sick service personnel. (Evidence of this can still be seen in the flooring in the oldest part of the school facing the road, which is classic hospital 'curved corner' construction.) The name 'Papplewick' derived from the 'Wingco's' East Midlands background – this being the part of Nottingham which contains the first of many steam-powered pumping stations, built to provide clean water to the townships of post Industrial Revolution areas of the country.

Over the mantelpiece in the then main hall was found a motto, carved in the overmantle. It stated in Latin "Aut Numquam Tentet Aut Perfice". Loosely translated by the Colonel, this said "Either finish to perfection or do not start." This was at that time adopted as the school Motto, although it was thought that it probably originated from the Order of the Nuns who had previously inhabited the premises. (I am not aware that this is still in existence, either as an inscription or a motto. I would be pleased to be advised on this.) The projected opening date was to be September 1947, the start of the Winter (Michaelmas) Term.

The first boy's name to be registered was John Kerger (who later became amongst other things U.K. Champion Amateur Steeplechase Jockey.) The second name on the list was mine. My Father was on a long term contract abroad and my Mother was at that time seriously ill in hospital. I arrived two weeks before the start of term, and



Papplewick as it was in the early 1950s



1948 Football Team. Bernard preferred rugby; he was not in the football side at this time. John Kings (the younger son of the Headmaster) is in the middle row, 2nd right and John Sexton sitting on the ground, right

in fact stayed at the school for the whole of the rest of 1947 and through until Christmas 1948 without going home (the Colonel was even giving me some lessons during the 'holiday' time!)

The term opened finally with 17 pupils on the register ranging in age from 6 to 14. One pupil (Sutcliffe) was over age for the Common Entrance, but was taken on as an exile from the then troubled Kenya in order to take the exam for Repton, I believe. By this time, Malcolm, the elder son of the 'Wingco' had also gone to Repton, but of course came home to Papplewick for the holidays. It was he who introduced me to his hobby 'Radio' which led me to become an enthusiastic electronics engineer, and subsequently General Manager of an electronics company.

During that term in 1947, a local Prep school closed down suddenly, and we inherited a further eight pupils from there. I cannot remember the school's name, but I remember that the Headmaster's name was Mr Glover, as the new recruits had a few disparaging remarks to make about 'Old Globird's knee'. He was apparently an adept with a cane.... Simon and Mark Starkey, the Allen brothers and, I believe, John Sexton and 'Wally' Walton were some of those joining us halfway through the term.

During that year we became established as a sport school to be reckoned with, despite our small numbers. I cannot remember all the schools we played at rugby, cricket and hockey, but one sticks out in my memory – Heathfield – just round the corner down the road towards Bracknell. A girls' school but very hot on cricket, particularly as Princess Alexandra was there at the time and took a keen interest in the school's performance,

although I do not remember her actually being in the team. They beat us hollow!

We had an active riding school in collaboration with a nearby riding stables (hence Kerger's later success in that field.) For swimming we went weekly in the summer to the open-air pool in Bracknell and also held our annual swimming gala there. This pool was later demolished when Bracknell was converted from a little market town into the concrete and plastic 1960's dream that it now is.

Most of the teachers had dogs, which often used to spend time in the classrooms with us. We were not actually allowed to have our own dogs with us at School, but rabbits and other small pets were encouraged if you wanted one, kept in a pet area outside the School. But they were definitely not allowed in the classrooms.

Church was a weekly Sunday visit to the Ascot church on the crossroads adjacent to Heatherwood Hospital and certain of us were members of the choir there. Most notable was John Sexton who was lead treble and later choir leader at our own Chapel, established in a wooden Nissen hut that existed at the bottom of the kitchen garden. Sundays were also a highlight for us as Mrs. Kings made home-made ice cream in the large commercial freezer (that was an innovation to many of us) in the kitchen. In the days when wartime rationing was still in force things like this were magic!

In the summer of 1948 the woods surrounding the school were cleared to make the playing fields that now exist. This was effected during the school holidays, particularly because the workmen used gelignite to fell most of the trees. I was able to watch this as of course I was still at Papplewick at this time. One had to beware of

flying stones, and a few school windows had to be repaired as a result. What an interesting time for an impressionable young lad this was!

The soil was prolific with large stones and these had to be cleared before the grass could be laid. As soon as the rest of the boys returned at the beginning of term, we were pressed into 'Pioneer Groups' to carry these monsters to great piles at the end of the new field. The heaps were later used as hardcore for much of the concrete that was laid extensively in later years. These Pioneer Groups were not universally popular and volunteers quickly dwindled in numbers; so it was shortly deemed necessary to convert them to compulsory groups! Ultimately they became more like punishment groups, where the imposition of such things as lines, detentions and some beatings became obsolete, substituted by this activity. Perhaps it is not surprising to observe that it seemed to have the effect of reducing the misdemeanours that led to this activity....

In the autumn of 1948, the rest of the woodlands in the district caught fire due, it was thought, to some high jinks and irresponsible behaviour of some racegoers leaving the course. By this time the Colonel had organised a fire crew amongst the more senior boys and we were quickly mobilised with fire extinguishers, successfully to defend the wooden Nissen hut/Chapel/Gymnasium that backed onto the next door estate, until the Fire Brigade arrived. More great fun! Incidentally, the hut also housed the photographic darkroom that contained a few very inflammable materials which we had to evacuate in a great hurry.

The D.C. mains was a major cause of various tricks played by several knowledgeable boys (not me, I hasten to add); not least was the 'shocking desk prank', using ex-army capacitors charged up from the mains electricity and wired up via practically invisible cable to both sides of the desk lid. Colonel Woods did not appreciate the yelps of pain which occasionally interrupted his lessons, but I don't remember his desk being so modified – much 'voluntary' pioneer work stoning the playing field would have resulted from this particular situation, I think.

Also at this time the top attic rooms (ex hospital wards) were opened up as dormitories. In one corner of the first one was a large electric motor which drove the dumb waiter coming up from the kitchen, two floors below.

The mains in Ascot were only 180 volts D.C., so the technical amongst us will understand the size of machine needed to provide the one horse-power required for the lift. Its removal was a major operation, requiring amongst other things a large crane and many grunting people dragging it across the floor!

With the opening up of the 'attic' dormitories, the Fire authorities and Insurance people insisted on an escape route from the roof, and hence we boys were overjoyed when a canvas escape chute was fitted from one of the top windows reaching the ground. In operation it was meant to be held out at an angle from the roof, but the first two boys down it had a vertical drop of about fifty feet onto hard concrete before they could fully deploy the beastly thing. I was at that time senior dormitory Prefect, and guess who had to be the first one down each practice time? One saving grace was that you could not see the ground coming, and so I carry the scars to this day.

Our Chapel services were overseen by the Reverend Harris, who also taught English and French. He used to allow me to play the harmonium for the hymns, although he was a good musician himself. He had an old Lanchester car with a semi-automatic gearbox in which he used to give driving lessons to some boys on the way to Bracknell swimming baths. I had been driving my father's car since I was nine, so it was no great problem – if we saw another car during that journey, it was very unusual! We were often the only car in the pool car park at Bracknell. The car on average had ten boys on board, sometimes many more. Those were indeed different days, but overloading cars was in fact encouraged then because of petrol rationing, of course. Rev Harris (Old Harry) also supervised the darkroom



1st XV Rugby team 1948-49. Bernard Trim is in the back row, third from right

activities, and I still have many pictures in my album from that time. I also have his fountain pen which he gave me as a reward for something, I forget what - he used to encourage achievement in academic pursuits in that way.

With our expansion into the seriously competitive sports field, visiting teams complained about the total lack of showers near the changing rooms, or anywhere in fact. (We home players were all right as we would have the opportunity to wash off the mud on our next bath night.) This presented major problems, particularly as the showers would have to be built in an extension to the changingrooms, then at the back of the school where



1950, Bernard Trim and Friends having Milk in Break. From left: Sexton – Fox – Davies – Greenwood -Allen 1 -Trim (in rear) – Blundel

the Chapel now stands. The problem was – bricks. At that time bricks were only available to repair war damaged houses and build new dwellings, apparently. The school gardener (whose name I forget) came up with a solution. Under the derelict kitchen garden he discovered old brick pathways that had probably been laid down about eighty years before. Once again the ‘voluntary’ pioneering groups were mobilised, and the shower rooms were built using about 3000 rather ancient bricks, once they had dried out. I personally preferred the previous arrangement of a hot bath, even if it was a few days after the match, as hot water was never laid on to the shower room, at least not in my time at the School.

Our sport also included the Annual Sports Day, of course in the summer term. This was eagerly looked forward to, particularly by Summer 1949 when the School pupilage had reached a more respectable number (about 40 boys, I think) and also parents were encouraged to attend. My Father raised my personal profile a lot as he won the Fathers’ race hands down that year. He had been a professional footballer before the War and he was still very much in training obviously. I still have his prize to this day. That year Starkey became the Victor Ludorum, which was a rather pretentious title for the boy who could run faster and jump higher and further than the others. The next year, 1950, it was my turn, probably only by dint of the fact that I was the biggest boy in the school at that time!

Before I left in August 1950, I was instrumental in helping to establish the first Scout Group. I was promoted

to Patrol Leader and was very proud of my Patrol which had more badges than the others, although I was a bit puzzled at one chap (his name escapes me) who had a badge for knitting. He achieved this by making one sock in the shape of a tube with the end pulled together in a sort of knot. Impossible to wear, but I think it got him his badge for knots as well. We had a wonderful time and I do remember it as being one of the most enjoyable activities, particularly as our Scoutmaster was a Mr Norman Lovely, who was an erstwhile member of the then Palestine Police Force. And he used to regale us with true (?) adventure stories from that time, around the campfire. He was also Sports Master, played rugby for a local team and, much to my Father’s disgust, (ball the wrong shape!) encouraged my interest in this game. I was in the 1st XV and had the honour to score the first ever try for Papplewick, against Gate House, I seem to remember.

By the commencement of the Summer Term of 1950, Wing Commander Kings had left the School, and a Headmaster was appointed who ran the establishment for many subsequent years. Mr Knatchbull-Hugessen was a very active and effective Head, and I am advised that all the boys had a strong respect and indeed admiration for this man, whom to my regret I only knew for my last few months at the School. I was on my way to Malvern, shortly to be followed by six other Papplewickians (David Blundell, John Kings, Peter Scoble, Peter Walton, John Sexton and Peter Thomas) – but that, of course, is another story.

PAPPLEWICK SPORT 2006

2006 was a very busy year for the School, as far as sport was concerned; 415 fixtures across 13 sports were played by Papplewick boys. Some teams were highly successful and some had to cope with the disappointment of defeat. The 1st XI cricket season was undoubtedly the most successful we have had for some years.



Football v Aldro

FOOTBALL

With football still in its infancy at Papplewick, the School took a real step forward last year and embarked on its first overseas tour, to South America. The overall result of winning one game, losing three and drawing one came as a slight disappointment, but the experience gained on the field was immense, as was the educational experience off it.

The first of three matches in Santiago looked after ten minutes as though Papplewick would be routed somewhere in the region of 10-0, but determined play reduced the final score to 5-3 – a pretty good result after a long journey out there. The second match ended 2-1 to another Santiago school, in a match where we failed to take our chances and the opposition capitalised on two moments of indecisive defending. The final game in Chile was in Viña del Mar, on the Pacific coast, and resulted in a draw 1-1. This came after we had exerted early pressure without result, and only secured the draw in the final minutes with a finely taken goal. Of the two matches in Buenos Aires, the first ended in a resounding defeat 6-1, in a game where the opposition were just too



Football in Break

good for us. The second game was a nail-biting one with Papplewick fighting madly to secure a draw, having been 1-0 and 2-1 down most of the game. This was achieved with one minute to go. And then Papplewick scored again. What a way to finish the tour!

This tour came at the end of a rather disappointing home season where the School won 3 matches and lost 6. The team lacked pace as well as the 'never say die' attitude that is so important when competing at this level. In the times when we showed the necessary determination, we were tough to beat and we played some attractive football. But sadly this was not the case for too much of the time.



Middle School Conker Championships 2006

Colts Football Tournament

This year the inaugural Papplewick Colts football tournament took place in March, with six visiting teams taking part, as well as two teams from the hosts. The two School sides failed to secure one of the top two places of the two groups, but in the Plate competition they met each other in the semifinals. Both teams played some excellent football, but in the end the A team won through to the final, where they met Thorpe House – whom they had already met in the group round. In a very exciting game, Papplewick A produced their best performance, and won the trophy by four goals to one. The Oratory won the overall competition, beating Downsend, in a hard fought game.



The Master i/c Cricket in Full Flow

Cricket

1st XI. Played 12 Won 5 Drew 6 Lost 1. This was a season which promised much given that several boys were returning for their second year in the 1st XI, and were being joined by several talented Colts. After three straight wins in their first three matches against some strong opposition, this optimism seemed well founded. It was a season typified by some strong batting performances, and most notably backed up by some effective spin bowling, along with some enthusiastic fielding. Never were these qualities more evident than in those opening three matches. The School had some strong batsmen, one of whom scored one century and three 50s, another two 50s, another one and yet another several 30s in the middle order. The bowlers, too, were effective, with two bowling accurate off breaks early in the season, and four 'quickies' coming into their own in the latter part of the term with match-winning performances. So the season was a very enjoyable one, with the boys' cricket improving significantly, mainly due to their great enthusiasm and ability to take advice and act upon it.

2nd XI. Played 11 Won 1 Drew 7 Lost 3. It was a good season, but would have been better had we managed to



Some people did the Sponsored Walk in Fancy Dress in 2006

turn some of the draws into wins. The side generally batted well, but were unable to match those good performances with the bowling and fielding.

U9s. This was the only undefeated team of the cricket season, playing 8 matches, winning 5 and drawing 3. It was a passionate side, so willing to succeed and so encouraging of each other. With ingredients such as these, it is not surprising that the boys had a wonderful season, packed with a number of thrilling matches.

Swimming

With the covered pool, the extra time available for training has increased the boys' stamina and allowed plenty of opportunity to improve starts, turns and stroke technique. So by the start of the Summer term the boys were ready for fixtures. Although not a great season on paper, the results show a tremendous improvement on former years' placings and also on the narrow margin of defeat in matches lost.



House Golf Tournament at Wentworth

Golf

Last year saw the introduction of an official training evening, on Friday nights, down at the Berkshire, providing the boys with a real chance to receive some excellent coaching from a pro at the club. The hour was spent working on developing the swing plane and learning more about the game of golf.

The sessions were shared between working on the short and long games, with the marvellous practice facilities on offer to the golf squad for the first time. These sessions were successful, and in the two matches and tournaments we had, the boys performed well. Golf at the School has never been stronger, with nearly forty boys opting for weekly training during the winter terms.

The inter-House competition this last year was held at Wentworth – a fantastic experience. The boys were in House teams of four players, from a variety of different year groups, and the event was won by St George's, followed by St Christopher's. It was a closely fought competition, played through pouring rain, and all the boys played pleasingly well.

Rugby 2005

1st XV. Stuart Malan, now enjoying the sun of Uruguay writes: 'The rugby season passes all too quickly for a winning team, but for a team that struggles, twelve weeks of back-to-back fixtures becomes somewhat of a grind! So it was, workmanlike we soldiered on, coming second mostly but nevertheless giving the game our very best. The boys trained hard and skill levels, fitness and knowledge of the game improved. Unfortunately, despite the determination and commitment, we just weren't good enough to take on the opposition and beat them. It was not all doom and gloom, however, as our four victories against The Beacon, Joscas, Aldro and St John's Northwood attest. But ten defeats in a season was hard to bear. However, the team learnt a great deal about the game of rugby and they certainly picked up the basic skills and gained more appetite for the game as the season progressed.'

2nd XV. Played 14, Won 11, Lost 3. This was a very successful season and the boys can credit its success to excellent defence, to playing as a team and to playing to a plan. They played some outstanding rugby. The forwards were strong in the front two rows, and were quick in recovery at the second phase. The team won mainly all their line outs and scrums, even against winning sides. They were, too, strong in defence, with the majority of tackles made successfully, and if not, the cover was usually there.

Colts XV. Played 19, Won 12, Lost 7. From the start of the season the team showed signs of real potential. The boys were prepared to do the hard work and they were strong both in the forwards and backs, so it was just a matter of getting them to click as a team to produce the desired results. There were things to be tidied up, however, such as clearing up the rucks and mauls, with a view to getting the ball out to the danger men out wide. When this was done, the team was unstoppable.



Papplewick on the Offensive



House Sports

Athletics

This was a productive and enjoyable season in many respects. Some fresh talent had entered the School during the year in various year groups, and there was plenty of interest and enthusiasm for the sport at all levels. In the three meetings held at Caldicott, Eagle House and Aldro, the Papplewick athletes produced some excellent performances, and we scored highly in all three meetings without actually winning any. The captain of the School team was the only qualifier for the National Championships, in the 100m and 75m hurdles, but sadly he was unable to compete on the day.



Hoola Hoop Race?

Tennis

2006 was a good year for Papplewick tennis, with the 1st VI unbeaten and Colts VI losing only one match. Competition for places in both teams was intense, and an effective squad system was in operation for practice sessions held on a weekly basis. About half the School received tennis coaching, which obviously played its part in the success of our teams.

Hockey

1st VII. On the whole, this was an indifferent season, apart from a freak 8-2 victory over Ludgrove. We were too often found wanting when we came up against competitive sides. Although Papplewick was man for man broadly well matched against most opposition, it never quite reached its peak as a team.

OLD BOYS' DAY 2006

The annual cricket match against the Headmaster's XI took place on July 9th, starting under overcast skies and ending in brilliant sunshine. The Old Boys batted first and after a slow and careful start began to put on runs at a brisker pace, eventually scoring 228-8. Paul Kaplanski knocked up 73 runs, and Cuthbert Kendall 52 before retiring. When the Headmaster's side batted, it reached 221-7, in four more overs than the Old Boys, but in less time, with Richard Scawn and George Tysoe each taking two wickets. Mention should also be made of George's unbelievably athletic catch made on the midwicket boundary, to dismiss one of the opposition's high scorers. Both captains claimed victory, but they eventually had to accept the umpires' decision that the result was a draw. Thanks are due to our two Umpires, Ian Humphreys-Evans (1954-57) and Peter Wolstenholme (1970-75), who did such sterling work once again. Ian now feels the time has come to hang up his umpire's jacket. He will be sorely missed, so especial thanks are due to him. Perhaps, in extremis, he might be persuaded to stand in for the odd session.... In the meantime, there may be other Old Boys who would be prepared to do some umpiring at this fixture. If so, please contact Tony Sparshott (sparsant@tiscali.co.uk or on 01935 817972) and you will be sure of a warm welcome! Thanks too, once again, to Barney Wolstenholme for scoring so efficiently in the morning and to his brother, Jonathan, for running the tallywag.



Umpire, Scorer and Tallywag Peter, Barney and Jonathan Wolstenholme

MISSING BOYS' LIST

Please may we issue our annual appeal to all those who receive this newsletter, asking them to glance through the list of 'missing' Old Boys on the website, and to let us know of any address that you may be aware of. This will help us keep our records up to date, and will give them the chance of receiving the newsletter.



Working out the Batting Order

OLD BOYS' DAY 2007

July 8th is the date to make a note of for this year's Old Boys' Day and the cricket fixture against the Headmaster's XI. Last year's game was a hard fought one, and there is every promise that this year's one will be just the same. The game will start at 11.00 a.m., lunch for the teams at 1.00, and tea for all visitors will be in the pavilion at 4.00 p.m. The swimming pool and tennis courts will once again be available for family use. After the game there will be the customary barbecue, to which all Old Boys and their families are invited; we shall be delighted to see you all.

This year we are issuing a special invitation to all Old Papplewickians who left in 1997, ten years ago. You should be receiving a personal invitation nearer the time. Do come if you can – perhaps from teatime onwards, or even earlier if you would like to, and meet up with your year group at the 6.30 barbecue.

We shall be sending out last minute information, on the morning itself, on the School website (www.papplewick.org.uk), as we have done in the past; just click on 'About the School', and 'Old Boys'. In the event of bad weather it is important to do this, as both fixture and barbecue may have to be called off.

ANY NEWS FOR US IS GOOD NEWS

We are always keen to hear from you about any news that you may have concerning yourselves or other Old Boys. Those who were at Papplewick with you will be interested to know what you are doing and how you are getting on. Please send any information to A.R. Sparshott c/o Papplewick, Windsor Road, Ascot, Berks SL5 7LH, or email it to sparsant@tiscali.co.uk