

The OCC Mitre



The Magazine
of Chigwell Alumni
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Editor:

Gill Punt
Development Office
Chigwell School
High Road, Chigwell
Essex IG7 6QF
Tel: 020 8501 5748
development@chigwell-school.org

The OC Mitre

This is the official annual magazine for the Old Chigwellian Community.

The opinions expressed in its columns are those of the writers concerned and not necessarily those of the School.

The OC Mitre 2019

All Old Chigwellians are kindly invited to submit contributions and advertisements for the next issue to the Editor by 1st September 2019.

Advertising in The OC Mitre

For our current rates please contact the Editor, Gill Punt: development@chigwell-school.org

The OC Mitre aims to keep Old Chigwellians in touch with the School and with each other.

Thank you to Pauline Dalton for proofreading the magazine.

Foreword from the President of the OCA



As the first female president of the OCA, it is evident that both Chigwell School and the OCA are positively moving with the times. I believe that it is increasingly important to encourage and embrace female representation in leadership to show young girls that anything they set their minds to is possible.

I joined Chigwell for the sixth form almost ten years after the first girls arrived. Now, with the school being co-educational throughout, it is a thriving centre of diversity allowing for the development of some of

the country's best emerging talent. Chigwell provided me with a rounded experience, and embracement of difference, setting me up with an invaluable and unique skill set as I started my career.

Having spent the last thirty years building a career in investment banking, I truly believe that it was the Chigwellian ethos which has helped me get to where I am today. From Global Head of Business Technology and Education, to Senior Risk Consultant within Regulatory Compliance at HSBC (and a few stops in between), I have learnt that it is not always those who shout the loudest or jump the highest who have the best ideas. I have utilised such insights from the corporate world to grow several small businesses, tangibly showing how diversity often results in lucrative results.

Listening to the under-represented voices has become a subject of great attention in the media at the moment. Public policy makers are starting to sit up and listen

to the cries for a more even playing field. I may be taking this a little too literally, but I am committed to starting on the pitch and creating a legacy of an OC female football team to really give the boys a run for their money. My love for football started during my Chigwell days... after all if I hadn't learnt what the offside rule was all about, the boys in Swallows wouldn't have ever spoken to us girls.

I am confident that building on the strong relationship I have with the OCA, the Development Office and the Headmaster, it will be fruitful for us all. I am currently working on putting together a refreshed networking programme for OCs to link minds, both in the City and beyond, guided by the needs and requests of OC alumni. I do love a cheeky vacation to Dubai or Hong Kong – so who knows, maybe that's where I'll host the next OC meet up... watch this space!

Aegean Thompson
(1985-1988)



■ *When did you last visit Chigwell School? If you are planning a visit, please contact us first so that we can be prepared for your arrival and have the time to show you around properly. We are always delighted to see OCs back at School but it can be disappointing for both you and us if we cannot allocate enough time to your visit due to other commitments. These days we are governed by strict health and safety laws, safeguarding and security measures which mean that visitors have to be accompanied around the grounds. These rules apply as much in the holidays as in term time as the School has various commercial lettings involving large numbers of children.*

Message from the Headmaster



Welcome to the 2018 edition of The OC Mitre. I am sure that the pages that follow, with news from both the School and OC communities, will be of great interest.

As always, life here has been very busy and the 950 pupils and the staff continue to achieve a great deal together. We were delighted with the GCSE and A level results that were published in August and students from both the UV and MVI year groups can feel very pleased what they achieved. However, although success in them is sometimes less easy to measure, the multitude of other activities that form part of a Chigwell education are also very important, not least because they help to develop character and skills that are

vital in the world beyond school. The pages that follow give a taste of some of the opportunities that are available to current pupils.

Meanwhile, as I write this we are waiting for a trekking expedition to return from Everest Base Camp, almost at the roof of the world. At the same time, I can hear work going on above my head on a roof much closer. For those of you who haven't visited the School for a few months, six Old School roofs are being sensitively replaced with painstaking repair work to the historic buildings that make up the oldest buildings. This work is long overdue, and not without complications because of the age of the buildings and because the work is taking place whilst the school is in full operation. We hope that it will be complete relatively early in 2019.

Last year's work to extend the Dining Hall was very successful and the glass fronted extension has been very well received. I do hope that as many OCs as possible will attend Shrove Tuesday after the success of last year's event and/or the formal dinner,

both of which will be in the Dining Hall.

As Aegean explains in her foreword, we can and should do more to build connections between current pupils and OCs. This term we have introduced Meet the Future at which OCs who have left school in the last few years have spoken to older pupils about their choice of career in a series of informal lunchtime talks. These have been very well received and if you would be interested in being part of the programme, I would be pleased to hear from you. Some OCs have kindly provided work experience to current students or attended the annual Careers Convention. We would be delighted to have more OC input and pupils are very appreciative so again, if you are able to help, please get in touch.

Finally, do take the opportunity to visit the School, particularly if you haven't done so for a while and do try to attend one or more OC events next year. I hope you and your families have a very happy Christmas and I hope to see you during the course of 2019 if not before.

Michael Punt

Welcome from the Development Office



It has been my pleasure to edit The OC Mitre once again this year and I hope you enjoy the glimpse that it provides of life at Chigwell now and of the activities of some Old Chigwellians.

The School aims to equip pupils to thrive in the world without fear of failure and therefore it

is extremely heartening to see how Chigwellians continue to make their mark in so many spheres. I would like to thank all those who have contributed to this exciting edition which reflects the breadth of talent that exists across the OC community. However, we are aware that this is just the tip of the iceberg so if you have a story to tell of your school days or life afterwards, please do let the Development Office know.

I am writing this as the full force of GDPR comes into effect for Chigwell as for all similar organisations. From now on, we can only communicate with OCs who have provided their communication preferences to the School. Please do keep us informed if you change your

contact details or preferences and do encourage OCs who are not in touch with the School to contact the Development Office so our network continues to grow and thrive. The Development Office maintains a comprehensive database of Old Chigwellians and all information held is only available to the School for non-commercial purposes in line with data protection requirements.

The Development Office works, through the Old Chigwellian Association, to provide events that keep OCs in touch with each other and the School. We always welcome your help, ideas and support for our programme of events to make them as inclusive



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and relevant as possible. In addition, the Development Office works to raise funds for the School. These funds are used for capital projects and the provision of means-tested bursaries. We therefore continue to help serve all pupils by providing the best facilities possible necessary for a first class education, and promoting social mobility through our drive to widen access. This approach, we believe, is very much in the sympathy with our Founder's intentions.

If you would like to find out more, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Gill Punt, Development Manager
development@chigwell-school.org

A glimpse into the Chigwell School year...

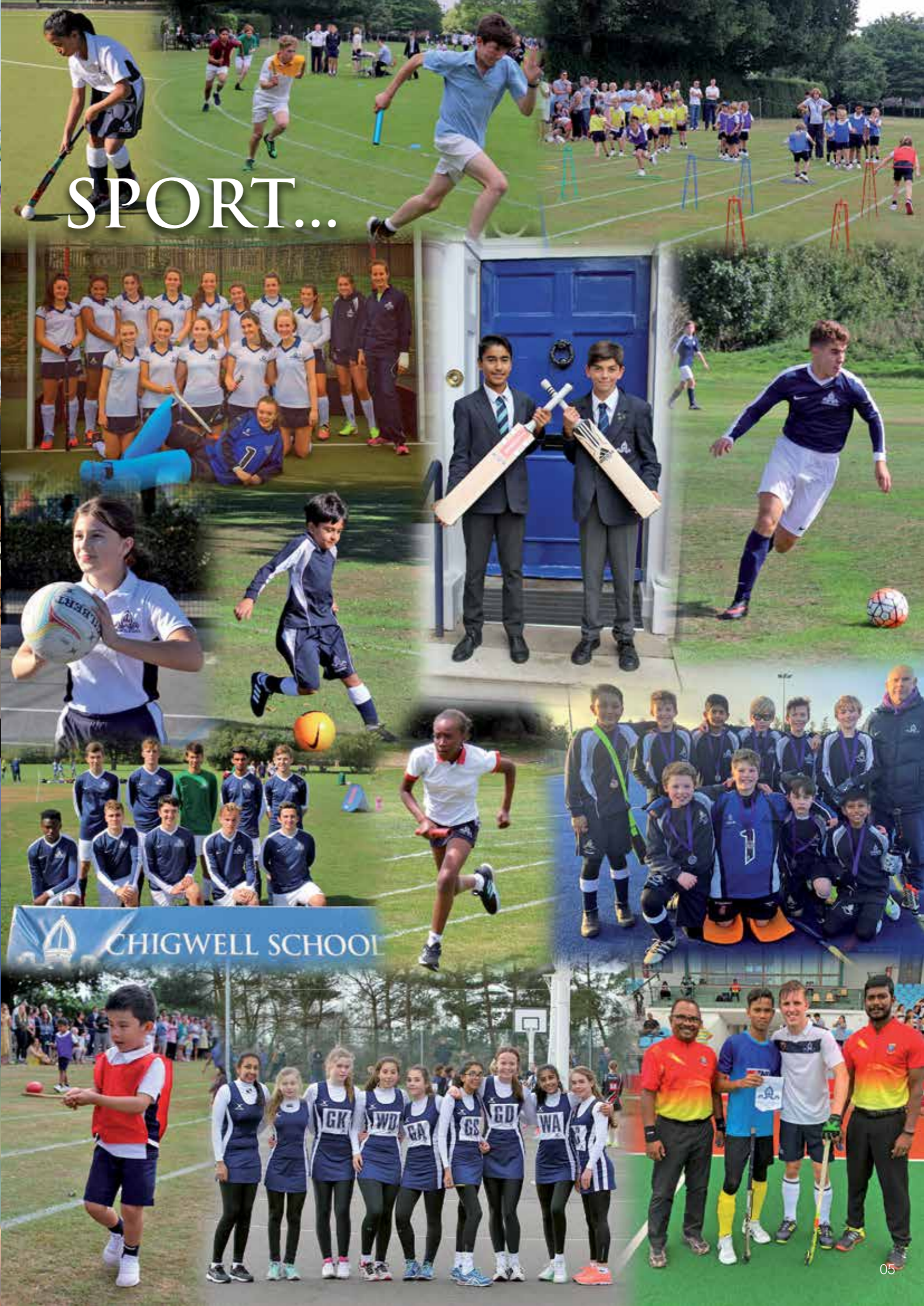
ART...



DRAMA...



SPORT...



Speech Day 2018

The annual School Speech Day took place with events relating to pupils of all ages.

On the Friday afternoon, there was a service of celebration in St Mary's Church led by Chaplain Rev Gary Scott, for pupils in Reception to Year

4 and this was followed by a garden party in the Pre Prep. Saturday morning saw two services for the remaining Juniors and Seniors, at which the preacher was Rev. Mark Christian, a former army chaplain. Prize giving itself took place in the marquee on Top Field on Saturday afternoon and the guest of honour was

Sharath Jeevan OC. Following a career in the City, Sharath founded STIR Education which seeks to support governments of less developed countries to help teachers improve their teaching so that pupils have a better start in life. Later in the evening, the annual Chigwell ball took place for leavers and parents.



Chigwell Celebrates...

A Level Results

Chigwell School sixth form students and their teachers celebrated excellent A level results. 81% of results were at B grade or above with nearly half of all grades either A or A*, almost double the national average. A quarter of students achieved at least three A grades and the most common grade, across all the exams sat, was an A grade. Of the students who chose to take the Extended Project Qualification in addition to their three or four A levels, two thirds achieved an A or A* grade. For these students, top A level results enabled them to progress to some of the very best universities. Three quarters will be going to Russell Group universities including Cambridge, Oxford, Imperial College, Birmingham, Nottingham, and University College London. A small number of students will be taking up places overseas including one at Harvard.

Headmaster, Mr Michael Punt, said: "We encourage all our students to work hard so that they fulfil their potential, and it was great to see so many, so pleased with their results and with the university places that they have secured. We are very proud of our sixth formers, some of whom have spent most of

their school careers at Chigwell whilst others only arrived two years ago from local schools or from overseas as boarders. Together this makes for a really vibrant mix and a busy, happy and purposeful sixth form in which all have contributed a great deal. They now leave us for some of the most prestigious

universities in the country but it has been a pleasure to work with these young people, to see them develop as individuals and achieve so much. We will miss them, we wish them every future success and happiness, and we hope they stay in touch with us."



GCSE Results

In a similar vein, there was much celebration of the GCSE results achieved by Upper Fifth formers. This year results were a mixture of number and letter grades, but both systems reflected remarkable achievements. Over 73% of all grades were the equivalent of grade 7 or above. Nearly a quarter of candidates averaged at least a grade 8 or the equivalent in each subject and a third of the year group achieved at least eight grade 7s or more. Ten candidates from the year group of 89 achieved nothing less than a grade 8 and the most common letter grade achieved was an A* or 8.

teachers have supported them tirelessly and we are very proud of all that they have achieved together. It was particularly pleasing to see so many grade 9s amongst the results but there

were also some students who have made tremendous progress and achieved results which really are a reflection of their dedication. All of these students have also contributed a great deal to the wider

life of the School and have a whole host of talents and interests. We look forward to working with them and the new students who will join them in the Sixth Form as they continue with their education."

Mr Michael Punt, Headmaster, commented: "We were delighted with the students who have worked really hard and justly deserved their success. Likewise, their



OUT & ABOUT...



MUSIC...



CHARITY...



Head to Head by Heads of School (1968) and (2018-19)

By Tim Pribul (1960-1968)

As a contributor to this 'Head to Head' series, and having received the invitation on the basis that it would be a 50-year anniversary, it is fair to say that one would expect significant differences between then and now.

There will always be different paths to the position of Head of School and on reflection an ad hoc apprenticeship could materialise unwittingly. My own track included Junior Captain of a sport, NCO in the CCF, Secretary of a sport, Senior Captain of a sport, pro-praefect, praefect and Head Day Boy, with an additional side-line of ordering and stock control responsibilities in the Tuck Shop. Varied, but all these building blocks received guidance and, most usefully, hand-me-down manuals from predecessors. Within the Praefecture all manner of administrative responsibilities arrived, some routine, and some needing a considered response and action. How could these all be accommodated within academic study?

Solutions included team work, planning, time management and resourcing, but none of these were supported by what one would find in the future in the wider world as extended courses by consultants and professional trainers. There were also personal targets – to gain confidence in public speaking, to learn and use the names of all 400 pupils, to try and ensure that there was



■ Praefects' Team with Headmaster Donald Thompson and Dickie Thompson 1968.

a collective atmosphere and that the praefect team was approachable. Having direct contact with the Headmaster was key, both for support and to be able to present concerns and perhaps solutions for the School community as a whole.

The team had to be reactive in different situations. The praefects were first on the scene when, tragically, the School Caretaker suffered a heart attack in the flat above the PR and they had their first experience of handling a death. Dealing with the ambulance crew, undertakers and policing access to the School Lobby, but even so this was a task naturally assumed.

In contrast a given task was the supervision of form study periods or sitting-in for Masters who were otherwise engaged in tasks such as managing school teams on away fixtures, but who had provided coursework in their absence. However, finding a form still outside the Music School well into normal class time needed a quick solution. With the master not located the form were seated and a resolution sought. With vinyl records available, Elgar's *Enigma Variations* was chosen with the intention of discussing the possible characteristics of each person whom Elgar was attempting to portray

in the suite. Improvising, but assisted by the record sleeve, we progressed through the period playing Elgar as loudly as one should and probably audible in the now demolished old Room 9 and Biology Lab across the pathway. Evidently not loud enough though, for at the end of the period John Auton emerged from his study, looked at me and the startled form and disappeared out of the main door without comment.

One learnt to expect the unexpected and be broad-shouldered whatever the circumstances, even if the Headmaster announces in his

Shrove Tuesday speech to the OCs that there is some lame individual named Pribul at the back of the room you could sponsor in the forthcoming 50-mile charity walk.

Were all of these elements of the role relevant to the choosing of the career in Business Studies and as a Chartered Management Accountant? The answer is no, but as time progressed one recognised that these foundations were important and in some cases critical to advancement. And you never know when experience of stock control will come in useful!



■ With the Orion Harriers Schools Trophy: Back row – Andy Lorimer, Tim Clapp, Graham Hobbs, Terry Bryan; Front row – Graham Stewart, Tim Pribul, Ron Lansdell



By Charlotte James-Pajwani (2012-2019), Current Head of School

As I was in the Swallow Library the other day, I stared up at the Heads of School board and wondered what all those former pupils are doing now.

Tim mentions in his article that he developed many skills during his time at Chigwell participating in several activities and performing various formal duties, including Head of School. It is interesting to read how he applied these skills after leaving Chigwell contributing to his successful career. This got me thinking about how my time at Chigwell will mould my future ambitions.

I have embraced all Chigwell has to offer since I walked through the gates for the very first time at the age of 11. When I first came into the senior school in Year 9, the roles of Head Boy and Head Girl were a relatively new concept to me. I recall being in awe of the Head of School at the time, Faith Inch, who was extremely charismatic and multi-talented. I was inspired by Faith and I too have thrown myself wholeheartedly into all aspects of school life.

It was interesting to note how sport played an important part in Tim's school life and sport is something I have a passion for too. My highlight has been representing England girls' hockey team at the School

Games, which was achieved through hard work, dedication and commitment. Sports day is always one of my highlights of the year and I participated in the sprint events and long jump in my first year at Chigwell, with the ambition of one day winning the Victrix Ludorum, which I have been fortunate enough to win for the past two years. Sport continues to be a core activity at Chigwell and I enjoy representing Chigwell school at hockey, netball, football, rounders and tennis. Captaining some of these teams helped me develop my leadership skills, which I am putting into practice in my current role.

I took up learning the piano and saxophone in Year 9 and

as a result I have enjoyed participating in the wind band, allowing me to perform in the many summer concerts that the school puts on every year. Not only have I learnt the importance of teamwork from my sports, but from music also, and I get the same enjoyment out of playing in the band and in the concerts, as I do playing hockey.

I love performing on stage and the drama department has provided me with ample opportunities to act in various school plays over the years, with my favourite production being *Alice in Wonderland* where I played the Cheshire Cat. I also enjoy the Festival of the Spoken Word, where I developed my writing and presenting skills, culminating in winning the performer of the evening last year. Public speaking competitions have also been an excellent grounding for my role as Head of School as I recall improving my performances every year since joining Chigwell and finally winning the sixth form competition last year.

Chigwell has provided me with ample opportunities to travel and experience a breadth of different cultures, having visited India, Singapore, Malaysia, France, Spain and Germany, which has helped me develop my interpersonal skills, something which I believe is a key ingredient in being Head of School.

I plan to study medicine at University and as part of my preparations for this vocation, and to ensure that medicine is for me, I worked in a hospital and a GP practice where I observed how the doctors were using the skills I have developed during my time here. One of the key skills for a doctor seems to be time management. Over the years, as I have embraced all the school has to offer and with my hockey commitments outside school, I have had to learn to manage my time efficiently.

I feel honoured to be Head of School for 2018 and am very grateful not only for this opportunity that I have been given, but to represent the school that I genuinely love coming to everyday. Looking back, I will feel proud to be a Chigwellian.

I cannot quite believe that within a few months I will no longer be at Chigwell and will be embarking on a new life in the outside world. I truly believe that Chigwell has shaped me into the individual I am today and reflecting on Tim's piece, I hope that I have plenty of skills in my tool bag to tackle life after school.

That brings me to the Head of School board and reading Tim's article – I wonder what I will be doing in 50 years' time?



■ Praefects' Team 2018

Working for The Old Lady of Threadneedle Street *by Alice Beagley (2005-2012)*



If anyone had asked me as a teenager “Do you think you would enjoy working in a bank?” my answer would have been “Definitely not!”

I’m happy to say, however, that this is exactly where I ended up. Founded in 1694, it is not your average bank and was one of the first of its kind in the world. People cannot open accounts here, yet this bank sets the country’s official interest rate which affects each and every one of us in some way. Offering banking services to high street banks and other financial institutions, it can provide them with temporary funds in difficult circumstances, or even shut them down. It is responsible for the issuing and destruction of the nation’s banknotes, and looks after about 400,000 gold bars worth £150 billion. This bank is the Bank of England, and I work in its museum.

The Museum covers the history of the Bank of England since its foundation, leading to its current role as the central bank of the United



■ *Me in my early teens*

Kingdom. Displays are varied and interactive, and recent temporary exhibitions have explored the Bank through photography, art and literature. We welcome more than a hundred thousand visitors each year from all over the world but City workers often mention that they have worked nearby for decades without ever knowing that there is a museum behind our ornate bronze doors.

Among its employees, the Bank recruits school leavers like me, as well as apprentices and graduates which enables a wealth of different skills to be put to good use. Initially, I was assigned to work in data and statistics. Ironically, I was armed with nothing but A-levels in humanities subjects. I was uncertain of what the future held but I was excited to be working for one of the most powerful institutions in the country, and appreciated that it would offer me plenty of opportunities for development. I was not a confident 19-year-old, and the first few months were a very steep learning curve. From doing homework, music practice, and taking exams, I was suddenly plunged into the unfamiliar world of illogical acronyms, Excel formulae, convoluted filing systems, managing different projects and deadlines, all whilst ‘processing data in an accurate and timely manner’ and trying to make a good impression.

Thankfully, work at the Bank is very varied, with various opportunities atypical of other organisations. Not all of the jobs here require advanced skills in mathematics or economics, and I was fortunate to move into a new job which I really enjoy and is much better-suited to my strengths. Since first walking through the Bank’s doors, I was captivated by the institution’s building, anecdotes and history, so was delighted to

be accepted for a post in the museum. My role is to help the general public understand the Bank’s functions, deliver object-handling sessions and presentations to visiting groups and conduct occasional tours of the less public, more fascinating parts of the building. These areas are known as ‘The Parlours’, derived from the French word ‘parlez’: in our early years when the Bank was in rented accommodation, there used to be a small room off the side of the main hall which was set aside specifically for private conversations, and the term has remained. The Parlours are full of beautiful artefacts, including gifts given as thanks for the help the Bank has given to banks of other countries. From identifying banknote security features with a class of five year-olds, through discussing 18th-century Meissen ware with a famous TV presenter during a personal tour of the Parlours, to talking through the logistics of an upcoming event with colleagues, my work is always changing and offering new challenges; no two days are the same.

It is a real privilege working at the Bank. Six years on, the novelty of walking through its grand main entrance every morning still hasn’t worn off. The benefits are many: employees can choose to have up to 38 days of annual leave, participate in a multitude



■ *Ten years later, in my element during an object-handling session*

of sociable networks covering football to photography, join the on-site gym which costs just over a pound a day, and get paid in gold bars (I wish!), to name but a few. Mostly, though, I am pleased to work for an organisation which is relaxed but professional, has a diverse and inclusive workforce, and is dedicated to operating for the greater good on behalf of the people of the United Kingdom.

A few other facts:

- Old Chigwellian William Cotton was a previous Governor at the Bank. He was celebrated in his school days for setting fire to the headmaster’s lawn. In contrast, my claim to fame at Chigwell was winning the sportive title of ‘Person most likely to be expelled’.
- There are about 3.7 billion of our banknotes in circulation, equivalent to £73 billion. If we stacked all of these on top of each other the pile would reach four times higher than Mount Everest.
- The Bank is built on a 3.5 acre site. It contains four miles of corridors and its walls are 3.5 metres thick, reinforced with steel for good measure.

OC Becomes Youngest SCC President

by Vashun Blanchette (2000-2004)

When asked to contribute a piece for the OC Mitre my initial reaction was one of quiet surprise. Having arrived at Chigwell School in 2000 from the tiny island of Bermuda, I could not quite understand the interest pertaining to what I have been up to since leaving in 2004! That said, the remainder of this feature endeavours to provide my fellow Old Chigwellians with an update regarding life on my beautiful island home.

In the immediate years following Chigwell, I spent three years at the University of East Anglia, obtaining a BSc in Business Management. This was followed by a sojourn in Wales where I attained an MSc in International Economics, Banking & Finance at Cardiff University.

Since returning home to Bermuda in the fall of 2008, I have been employed at the Bermuda Monetary Authority. The BMA is the island’s financial services regulator and plays an integral role in maintaining the reputation of Bermuda as an international financial centre. While at the BMA I have progressed from the position of Graduate Trainee to Senior Analyst. I am currently assigned to the Anti-Money Laundering Department having also worked in the Financial Stability Department.

Outside of my day-to-day work life, I was voted in as President of Somerset Cricket Club on 30th November 2018, having previously served on the Management Committee and as Vice President. SCC is a members’ organisation with approximately 120 full members and 150 youth members.

Among our membership is former West Ham striker, Mr Clyde Best, MBE. Clyde was an upcoming striker for the Somerset Trojans before his talents were identified by

the Hammers. Further, what many will not have known is that Clyde was instrumental in creating the opportunity for me to attend Chigwell School and he continues to be a positive influence in my life and that of several other young Bermudians. Regarding our youth members, the Club provides football and cricket programmes for young persons from the age of four through eighteen. SCC also provides scholarship opportunities in support of those seeking to pursue tertiary education.

On the field of play, SCC is arguably the most decorated sports club on the island as relates to football and cricket. On the football front, our ground has played host to clubs such as Manchester United and Arsenal. Moreover, in 2014-15 the Trojans became the first local side to win ten league titles (with yours truly playing an influential role in the midfield – just as I had done on the hallowed Chigwell playing fields between 2000-2004).

Similarly, several Test cricket nations have played against various local sides on our grounds. This includes India, Australia and the West Indies. In terms of domestic competition, SCC are pitted against St George’s Cricket Club on an annual basis over

a two-day holiday known as Cup Match. The origins of the Cup Match Classic can be traced back to the abolition of slavery in Bermuda and has been contested on the Thursday and Friday before the first Monday in August since 1902! The 2018 edition was held at SCC – it alternates between the clubs on a yearly basis – and was definitely a baptism by fire given it was my first year of Presidency. To give it some context, the event is attended by more than 15,000 people over two days – not bad for a population of 60,000 – and takes several months of planning and preparation. Fortunately, the sacrifices were soon forgotten as SCC defeated our rivals by an innings and 34 runs – the first innings victory in the Cup Match since 1967 and the fifth largest of all time!

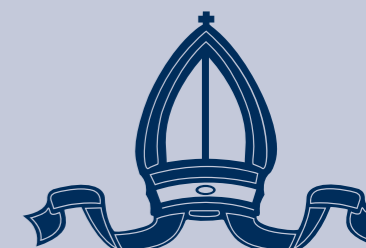
In closing, I trust that you have found this to be an enjoyable read. I would also like to thank Gill Punt and David Morrison for affording me the opportunity to share this story with fellow alumni of Chigwell School. I leave all with the following two Latin phrases.

Aut viam inveniam aut faciam (Find a way or make a way – Chigwell School Motto)

Semper Paratus (Always prepared – Somerset Cricket Club Motto)



■ *Vashun and Premier David Burt at Government House, Bermuda*



From Chigwell Blue to Red Arrows Red

by Flt Lt Jon Bond MSc BSc RAF (1991-2002)



■ Jon Bond with Pre Prep pupils

To teachers and friends alike, during my time at Chigwell I don't think it was any secret (much to their annoyance and boredom I'm sure) that I always had the desire, in whatever capacity, to fly aeroplanes for a living. However, as much as I wanted the dream to become a reality, there was always the dawning sensibility that firstly, I probably wasn't good enough and secondly, that with the sheer volume of applications the airlines and the RAF receive, in all likelihood, the odds were pretty stacked against me.

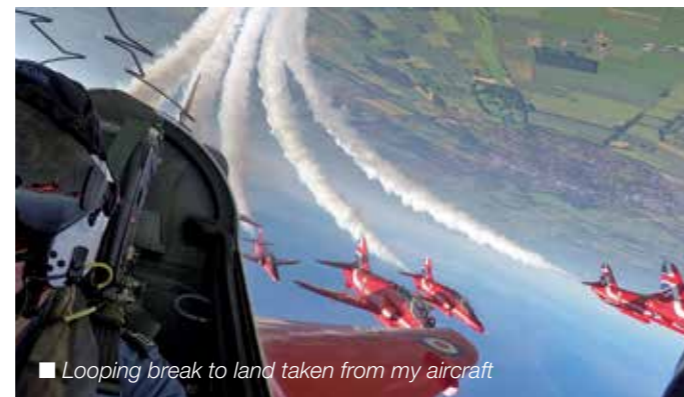
After leaving Chigwell I went to Loughborough University in the summer of 2002 and through the University Air Squadron decided to put my money where my mouth was and apply for the RAF as a pilot. There must have been a shortage of applications that year (either that or I managed to fool the selection process somehow) as I was shortly after offered a job to train as a RAF pilot. After Initial Officer Training and Elementary Flying Training, I was very fortunate to be selected to learn to fly in the fast jet stream. This involved flying both on the Tucano and Hawk T1 aircraft and my training was eventually

completed in 2009. Instead of taking the usual route that sees you to the frontline straight after training, I was instead tasked for instructional duties back on the Tucano which was to involve teaching both students and then later new instructor students. It was during this tour that I got my first taste of display flying when I got the chance to display the Tucano across the UK and Europe in 2012.

It was in 2013 that I headed to the frontline to fly the RAF's multi-role fighter, the Typhoon, on 3(F) Sqn where I was to stay for four incredibly rewarding and exciting years. During this time, I served on operations in the Falkland Islands, the Middle East and in an air-policing role in the Baltics. I was also very fortunate to take part in many multi-national exercises across the world including Malaysia, UAE, Oman and the USA. These have to be the most challenging but incredibly fulfilling years for me in the RAF to date and the sense of camaraderie on a frontline fighter squadron is something quite unique. I got to experience some wonderful places and, although the operational flying was intensely demanding at times, it was

also incredibly exciting in so many ways. Having said that, trying to receive fuel from an air-to-air tanker over the desert two hours from 'home' with the jet's warning panel lighting up like a Christmas tree on speed due to a fuel leak was a form of excitement I probably wouldn't want to experience again in a hurry!

It was during my Typhoon tour that I accumulated the pre-requisite hours and experience to apply for something, that I guess, was my ultimate goal - to be a Red Arrow. A real pipeline dream I always thought - but then again if you don't buy a raffle ticket then you can't win the prize. I was unsuccessful in my first attempt in 2016 but then, the following year,



■ Looping break to land taken from my aircraft

after undertaking a week long selection process (involving flying, interview and peer assessments), I must have finally managed to pay enough money in bribes and bagged myself one of the two available positions. As a result, at the end of 2017, I began training in the famous red Hawk T1 jets as Red 2; nearly 22 years after I first saw them on a Chigwell School trip at the Duxford Airshow!

Training for each season in the Red Arrows begins in November. New pilots (normally there are only two or three a year) will start practicing basic looping and rolling manoeuvres in formation with just three other aircraft. Then, using a building-block approach, more aircraft are added onto the wing and we eventually go from five to seven aircraft and then finally to the famous nine-aircraft formation that forms the complete display. All the trust that is built up amongst the pilots in the early stages of training really bears importance when there are now nine aircraft all six-feet apart from each other. The whole training period can become incredibly intense (especially as one of the newbies) and comes, inevitably, with a multitude of highs and lows - including many occasions where I doubted whether I could ever do it. However, it is during this period that the foundations of the display are built to ensure a thrilling but ultimately safe show for the public.



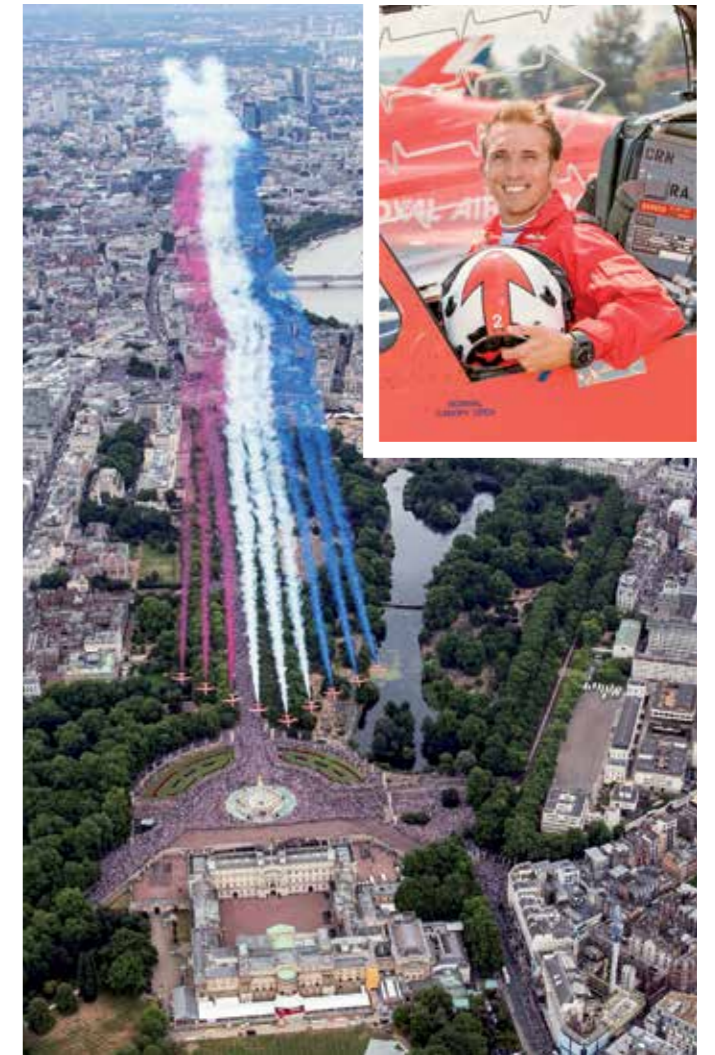
■ Red Arrows Over School: RAF Day celebrations, 10th July 2018

The fruits of this year's team's labour culminated in the award of Display Authority at the end of May at our spring training base out in Tanagra, Greece. It is after this award that we then get to put on the coveted red suit for the first time (we train in the standard RAF green suits). This is an immensely proud and humbling moment for all the pilots knowing the history behind the team, and of those iconic red suits, ever since it all began in the 60s. It was also a bit of an ambition realized for me; there was many a day spent day-dreaming about flying in the Red Arrows in lessons at Chigwell, which I can quite clearly remember was, unsurprisingly, to my teachers annoyance.

As soon as we returned from Greece, the summer season started straight away in stunning early British summer weather. This year, the RAF celebrated its 100th birthday so there were some huge events commemorating the centennial occasion. One of the most memorable for me was being part of the 100 aircraft that flew across London on the 10th July

(I had later been informed that we flew over the school but as I just stare intensely at the aircraft next to me I, unfortunately, don't get to see much of the ground). This was quite possibly a once in a generation occasion for all of us and, as much as I hope to be proven wrong, I don't think we'll see that many aircraft in a flypast in this country again. This season also took us all over the UK and Europe performing our trademark formation aerobatic display. Most notably, we displayed to an estimated 900,000 people over three days in Bournemouth, performed abroad in Monaco and Menorca and were televised live at the British Grand Prix and the Great North Run to name just a handful of events. In total, I believe we flew just over 60 public displays in the period June - September; I hope the next two seasons I have don't go as quickly.

However, it's not just about the flying. Public relations is also a big part of the Red Arrows role and inspiring the next generation of pilots, engineers, entrepreneurs



■ Aerial shot of the whole formation over London for RAF100 flypast on 10th July

etc is always at the forefront of our modus operandi. We have attended many Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) events across the country and there will be a six-part documentary on the team in the autumn showing the very first few days of training leading all the way up to the summer season. Amusingly, one of the more obscure public events we have been at this year was the inaugural broadcast of the Greg James Breakfast Show on Radio 1 back in August. A bit of fun which involved us riding around the BBC Broadcasting House on bikes, in formation, fitted with smoke canisters, much to everyone's bemusement. We couldn't quite land the jets in the middle of London! However, on a serious note, that show was listened to by over five million people which enabled a significant public reach for the

Red Arrows and the Armed Forces as a whole.

Training begins for the 2019 season in late October and the red suits will be hung up again for a few months. I will be moving down the formation to fly as Red 7 and it is very likely that the team will spend the latter half of next year flying the flag for the UK in the USA; a very exciting prospect for everyone involved. I have been incredibly privileged to be part of some amazing experiences throughout my time in the RAF and especially whilst in the Red Arrows. However, it still doesn't escape me that the encouragement and opportunities I received through my 11 years at Chigwell (especially that previously mentioned school trip to Duxford) has no doubt played a significant role in carving out my career path to date.

Greetings from Hong Kong

by Raymond Cheung (1980-1986)



■ Dragon boat race at Sai Kung, Hong Kong

I was thirteen when I first travelled by air and the destination was Chigwell, England where I received my secondary school teaching. I arrived with my father in September 1980. I started at the Junior school and boarded at Harsnett's House. The warden was Mr Constable. I was excited when I first arrived at my new school as it appeared adventurous to me and most importantly, I was without parent supervision around me for the first time. However, I soon found myself lost and depressed because I felt

alone and missed my parents dearly. Adaptation to the new school life was not easy for me at just thirteen years old. Learning and studying were hard due to my language barrier and limited vocabulary. My first year study was, not surprisingly, unsatisfactory and not promising.

In the second year, I entered the Senior School and boarded at Grange Court. The warden was Mr Stevens, our kind Chapel Priest. I was assigned to the house of Lambourne and the housemaster was Mr Reader who was both my mentor

and teacher in Chemistry. Mr Reader gave me relentless support throughout my senior school life. I received grateful assistance from teachers and colleagues and my academic work started to improve. At the end of the second year, I was awarded 'the most improved student prize' of my year. I persevered with my studies and obtained good results in both my GCE Ordinary and Advanced Level examinations. I was delighted to be awarded the school Chemistry Prize in my final year, but saddened that my parents were unable to attend the prize ceremony at Speech Day to witness my success at first hand.

School life is not merely academic. I participated in numerous extracurricular activities. I loved all kinds of sports and I played in the school 2nd XI football team and the school basketball team. In the Remove year, I fractured my left wrist after a basketball match. My arm was put in plaster for the next month but I was rewarded with my friends' autographs.

After Chigwell School, I entered the Faculty of Medicine at the

University of Hong Kong in September 1986. I obtained my Bachelor degree in Medicine and Surgery in 1992. I further studied and obtained postgraduate qualifications in Child Health, Family Medicine and Internal Medicine. Following this I worked and served at government hospitals for five years before I started my private solo practice in 1997. To serve the medical profession further, I became a Council Member of the Hong Kong Doctors Union and the Chairman of the Committee on Doctors' Rights and Autonomy of the Union.

The work of a doctor has never been easy. There are always challenges and some are never forgettable. We always do our best for our patients but there will always be those that are beyond help and that is terribly sad.

Life is faced with changes, some are unexpected and occur abruptly. I believe a doctor will experience more lives and deaths than other people. So treasure and be blessed for what you have. Here I would like to thank all my mentors and friends that I have met at Chigwell. My whole heartfelt thanks go to the School for equipping me with a sound and solid foundation to prepare for higher studies. As a medical doctor, I shall continue to strive and help the sick with my knowledge.

Finally, my little piece of medical advice to all: Keep exercising and you will become physically younger, happier and healthier!



■ Scuba diving at The Great Barrier Reef

A Hidden History of the Revolution

by Steve Cushion (1961-1968)



■ At the H-Upmann factory left to right: The Director of the Havana Museum of Labour History, Dr Emily Morris (a UCL colleague), Pedro Ross (retired General Secretary CTC); Steve Cushion, the Reader

Last November, in what was probably the greatest honour of my life, the Spanish version of my book, A Hidden History of the Cuban Revolution, was launched in the H. Upmann cigar factory in Havana. The practice of reading aloud to the cigar rollers still continues in Cuban cigar factories, and mine was the book that was going to be read the following week. I was particularly moved that I was introduced to the 200 or so assembled cigar rollers by Pedro Ross, retired General Secretary of the Confederación de Trabajadores de Cuba (Cuban Confederation of Labour, CTC).

I left Chigwell in 1968 with three mediocre A-levels, but my study of Chemical Engineering at Aston University was not a great success and I failed to pass my exams. There followed a chequered employment record until I finally settled down in the mid-1970s to spend the next twenty years as a London bus driver, during most of which I was a shop-steward and branch secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union. Initially it was

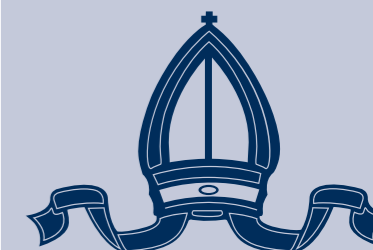
a well-paid job in a public service that I believed in, but the privatisations of the early 1990s left us with a pay cut of £50 for working four hours longer a week. However, I had paid for my flat and there were still no university fees, while I just managed to catch the end of the "Mature Student's Grant". So I decided to have another try at university.

My mediocre A-levels got me into London Guildhall University to do a joint degree in French and Computing which, in turn got me a job at the university developing Computer Assisted Language Learning software and teaching French Politics and Society. True to form, this well-paid job in a public service that I believed in, quickly deteriorated when London Guildhall University was taken over by the University of North London and we were forced into a two year dispute as the new management attempted to impose a new contract without negotiations. I was by now Branch Secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education (NATFHE) and a member of the union's

National Executive Council. In the rather messy end to this dispute, I was clearly surplus to requirements and took redundancy. It seemed a good time to do a MA and I applied to the School of Advanced Study, Institute for the Study of the Americas.

As part of the MA course I was required to write a dissertation. In the way these decisions are often taken, while having a glass of wine after a public seminar, I asked the lecturer in Caribbean History if she would be my supervisor. She asked "English, French or Spanish-speaking Caribbean?" I thought that, as I had just spent two years learning the language it had better be the Spanish. "Cuba, Puerto Rico or Dominican Republic?" she asked. I said that I wished to look at the history of organised labour so she said "Cuba would be best" and we had another glass of wine to clinch the deal. So the following June, I set off for Havana with a letter of introduction to the Institute of Cuban History.

In the Institute's archive I stumbled upon an amazing collection of leaflets and



newspapers produced during the Batista dictatorship of the 1950s. The number of leaflets to have survived is in itself astonishing, given that such material could be a death sentence if discovered during a police raid or at an army checkpoint. It was a truly remarkable find.

I completed my MA and went to work for CILT - The National Centre for Languages as their Higher Education Information Officer. Needless to say, CILT succumbed to the so-called Bonfire of Quangos; I am not called "Kiss-of-Death-Cushion" for nothing. However, this time I just made it to my 60th birthday and the twenty years in the Transport for London Pension Fund paid off. So with a decent pension and seeking the academic equivalent of the allotment, I decided to go back to the Institute for the Study of the Americas, study for a PhD and revisit the archives in Cuba. This time, not only did I give the Institute of Cuban History's archive a thorough inspection, I travelled the country visiting the provincial archives in Havana, Santa Clara, Camaguey, Manzanillo, Guantánamo and Santiago de Cuba. This unearthed an impressive collection of leaflets, pamphlets, clandestine newspapers and similar agitational material from the 1950s, most of

which were produced by typing directly onto thin paper stencils for duplication by a Gestetner or Roneo. These evoke images of small groups of militant workers, perhaps aided by revolutionary students, meeting in the home of one of their number, secretly producing a few hundred copies of a leaflet to be passed from hand to hand at work, scattered from the windows of passing cars or left on the seats of public transport. The written content evidenced a lively working class political milieu, where the way forward was hotly debated between different tendencies, where strikes and demonstrations were commonplace, and where ordinary workers played an active part in shaping their own destiny. Yet no one had previously made a systematic examination of this remarkable material. Much of it is still held in the private collections of surviving veterans of the insurrectionary period and I was able to conduct a number of interviews with these now elderly revolutionaries, whose recollections and explanations broadened my understanding.

The untold history of working class involvement in the Cuban insurrection of the 1950s emerges from the archives as a fascinating story of courage and organisation. Recovering from the defeat of an



important series of industrial confrontations in 1955, a small but determined group of workers managed to build a clandestine labour movement in the face of an entrenched trade union bureaucracy and a brutal military dictatorship.

They organised unofficial strikes, produced a lively underground press and combined industrial action with sabotage and armed conflict, thereby providing valuable support for the rebel guerrillas. By the end of 1958, they were able to organise two revolutionary workers' congresses with hundreds of delegates and, finally, the most complete general strike in Cuban history. I argue that this workers' movement was crucial to the triumph of the Cuban Revolution in January 1959.

Monthly Review Press of New York published my doctoral thesis as *A Hidden History of the Cuban Revolution* and the Institute of Cuban History asked me to translate this into Spanish so that they could publish it, leading me to that wonderful day in the H. Upmann tobacco factory, to be applauded by those the cigar rollers, whose forebears had been amongst the unsung heroes of my book.



■ A launch of the book at the old Tobacco Workers Social Centre: Dr Elvis Rodríguez (Director of Research at the Institute of Cuban History), Steve Cushion, Dr Angelina Rojas (from the Institute of Cuban History), A representative of the CTC

From Chigwell to Real Life: Say yes and don't stress *by Stasi Georgieva (2008–2010)*



A couple of months ago, one Friday evening after work I got on the Central line to Chigwell to have dinner with Alison and Chris Lord at Sandon Lodge. Having spent two years living there with the Lords and five other girls while doing my A-levels, I was excited to literally take a walk down memory lane, catch up with my British family and meet some of the new boarders. And what an evening – Alison's fantastic fish pie, a catch-up with my favourite English Literature teacher, Mr Lonsdale, plenty of laughter, and conversations about the future. Chris then asked if I would be interested in coming to Chigwell to speak to a group of students about my job at B2B PR and how I got there. A way for them to hear from a (not so) old Old Chigwellian with a somewhat unconventional role. "Sure, why not!"

Fast-forward a couple of months later, I'm sat in Chigwell School's revamped dining hall, having lunch with Alison, Chris, Emma Hollis OC (now Anderson and now a teacher at Chigwell School, back then one of my closest friends and classmates) and Leon, this smart and ambitious sixth-former. Another bright pupil, Aman, who will be hosting the career session joins us and Chris (also an OC) hands us each a printout of the main questions we'll discuss with

the students shortly. "What A level subjects did you take?" – fine; "What uni courses did you apply for?" – okay; "How did you enter the world of work after uni?" – sure; "Advice to the younger you" – oh, wait... What advice would I now give to the younger me if I could? Probably something along the lines of "keep your head in the books" and "don't get distracted." No, this doesn't sound like me, this sounds like something my parents would say to me then. Also, I would never have listened to my own advice back then, like the classic stubborn teenager I was. But for the sake of the exercise, I'll give this a shot. I'm thinking, perhaps pupils these days are a bit wiser than I was then and do listen to others' teachings.

"Say yes to pretty much everything"

Within reason, of course. Joining Chigwell School, I initially picked English Literature, Economics, Geography and History as my A levels. Walking out of my first History lesson, I instantly knew this subject wasn't for me and I wouldn't enjoy two years of it. Just a gut feeling. Okay then, quick, think, what would you actually enjoy studying instead? Art – I've always loved it, but it was never considered a 'serious enough' subject in my family. Art it is then.

Going to Plymouth University, I was enrolled on a BA (Hons) International Business course. I've always had a soft spot for Spanish culture, music, film, food, and flirted with the idea of studying Spanish on the side. So when I reached out to the university's languages school to explore if I could take it as an extracurricular activity, another option popped up. I can still hear the department head's words: "Why don't you take Spanish as a part of your degree?" I'd go on a fast-track Spanish course (that's a lot of Spanish per week for

a beginner), graduate with a double degree 'BA (Hons) International Business with Spanish', two dissertations, an Erasmus exchange year in my back pocket, another language I can speak and another culture I can say I've gotten to know pretty well. Yes, let's do it.

Next thing I know, I'm in Madrid, living with five other people from five different countries, studying Marketing and Advertising at ESIC Business & Marketing School, with 20% of my modules in Spanish (thankfully 80% in English). I'm standing in a room full of Spanish students who I expect to judge and mock me for mispronouncing words and getting all the Spanish tenses wrong, trying to present my work in my Spanish Advertising module. Ten minutes later, I've powered through my index cards and I'm being applauded by my teacher and every single student, because I tried, failed, laughed, tried again, succeeded. Overall, the best year of my education yet.

So far, everything I'd had a gut feeling for and said yes to, I've gained from. The things I didn't like, I learned I shouldn't waste my time and energy on. The things I liked, I practiced, got better at, and truly enjoyed. I ran marathons, travelled, painted, worked with some brilliant and creative minds, learned so much as a professional, and more importantly as an individual.

"Don't stress about grades"

They are far from the most important or definitive things in life, but I did put a lot of pressure on myself, only to later find out that, yes, getting the grades in school and university looks good on your CV, but employers are increasingly looking for so much more – personality, standpoint and character. At least in my field – marketing, advertising and PR. It's not just employers. Every other young person is an entrepreneur and a lot of them didn't start their business because they got A's in school.

Education gave me invaluable technical skills, but I gained the most from the network I built and the experiences I was a part of after I'd left my comfort zone. Straight out of university, I worked for a start-up, which I didn't truly enjoy, but learned a lot from, including having to self-teach myself basic code. I then joined the UK's biggest creative advertising agency, AMV BBDO, where I got the opportunity to work on some of the world's biggest brands with some of Britain's most brilliant and creative professionals, because I was passionate and stubborn. I now work as a PR professional for Ingenuity London, where I manage b2b clients, work with journalists and write articles on a daily basis. And I owe a lot of this to my Chigwell network, for supporting me in always trusting my gut, remaining stubborn, and always finding or making a way!



■ Stasi with some of her 'Meet The Future' audience

Post-Chigwell *by Rachel Lund (1997-2004)*



I crossed the threshold of Chigwell's glossy utopia as a student for the last time in July 2004. A survivor of the first cohort of girls starting in third form; I was at last free to wear ribbed jumpers, to expose my knees in public and to establish what colour flame those awful gym knickers we had to wear for cross country produce when inserted into a Bunsen burner. In the fourteen years since departing; I am happy to report that I have achieved neither wealth, nor fame, nor notoriety; although I have much to thank my time at Chigwell for; including some of my closest friends.

After a year split between India attempting to teaching classes of uncontrollable primary school children (please see the 2005 edition of this magazine for a full account with photos of me on a yak) and the planning offices of Epping Forest District Council triaging the daily tomes of neighbourly vitriol dedicated to overgrown

Leylandii and raised patios, I headed to university.

My time at Oxford passed in flash. I went up to read Politics, Philosophy and Economics. However, the number of things to do other than study in the all-too-short-eight-week terms was truly overwhelming. Rowing quickly drew me in, and by my second-year training for the university (lightweight) boat race was absorbing around 30 hours a week of my time, inside and outside of term. Aristotle, the categorical imperative and endogenous growth theory had to be squeezed in around the edges, where sleep, a certain amount of "shinanigans and tomfoolery" and training for the Modern Pentathlon allowed room.

As the end of three hectic years approached, I still had no idea what I wanted to do with myself (I still don't) and would have been quite happy to stay at university indefinitely. However, a reminder from my

parents that they were eagerly anticipating my forthcoming financial independence, prompted me to at least demonstrate some action. After a three-year diet of left-wing political theory, and with a desire to continue spending a good chunk of my time doing the above mentioned non-work activities, there was no way I was going to accept a job in one of the traditional capitalist industries. So instead I applied for just one job, as a Faststream economist in the Civil Service, which fortunately (for my parents at least) I got.

Eight months later, straight after finishing finals, I was whisked back to London to start work for the Committee on Climate Change on the UK's first carbon budget. Despite the stomach wrenching fear that my life was now over until I retired, it turned out to probably be the best job I've had. While test-driving electric cars, learning more economics than I ever had at university and realising it's fine to split infinitives so long as you claim it makes your style more engaging, I also discovered (among other revelations), through a lot of work with the Department for Transport, that there are a surprising amount of people in the world other than Mr Marchant who have a genuine and inexplicable passion for railways and for whom the mere mention of the words "Pendolino 390 class", or "my favourite Fred Dibnah episode..." are enough to ensure an invite to their

Christmas drinks party in perpetuity.

As one of the most junior people in the organisation I was also offered many "development opportunities" (i.e. jobs no one else wants to do). One such opportunity involved having to explain to the inventor of a zero-emission perpetual motion machine, that it could not possibly work. I owe my triumph in quickly disposing of this individual, albeit somewhat disappointed, to Mr Florey and his AS-level lesson on combustion of crude oil. Although the class ended in the evacuation of the science block, owing to the fact that the practical demonstration took place underneath the smoke detector, it left me with a lasting imprint of the chemical reactions involved in the combustion of fossil fuels. The inventor of the perpetual motion machine could not argue with my diagram of hydro-carbon chains.

The Civil Service graduate scheme demands that you rotate roles every year, so after 15 months of environmental policy I moved to looking at how the government might make the rest of the UK grow as fast as London. While an interesting a role, by the end of the year I'd pretty much decided that I wanted to specialise in macroeconomics and so decided to take a year out to study for a masters' degree. Given that I'd also had a nagging desire to improve my grasp of foreign languages beyond one GCSE



and a detailed knowledge of how to conjugate obscenities in French, I decided to spend the year at a university in Barcelona. From my perspective it was a great decision, I came away with a post graduate degree, new friends from all over the world and a detailed knowledge of how to conjugate obscenities in Spanish. With a job offer as a macroeconomist in London I had little choice but to return home, despite yearning to stay. However, I continue taking Spanish and French lessons to this day.

After returning to London (and being more relaxed about capitalism) I worked for several consulting firms (PwC, Capital Economics, KPMG) as an economist looking at everything from the Eurozone fallout, to the economic impact of High Speed 2 to forecasting demand for porcelain lavatories. Life in consulting was fun and a lot faster paced than the public sector. The need for attention for detail can be unforgiving; never before had I contemplated the idea that the misalignment of objects on a powerpoint slide, or the use of the wrong shade

of grey could render totally irrelevant the quality of your work. There was a point to all that colouring in in geography after all!

Despite generally enjoying the need to constantly be thinking on your feet that comes with consulting, the unpredictability of the hours became draining, particularly as I was still doing around 10 sessions a week for rowing (this time with the Lea Rowing Club in Hackney). So around two and a half years ago I took my current job with the British Retail Consortium (a trade body for retailers), where I now head up their Insight & Analytics team. My job involves overseeing a team who organise data collection from retailers and model the impact of everything from Brexit to labour legislation on businesses and consumers. I spend a lot of my time speaking and presenting, something to which I owe Chigwell a great debt for the opportunity for so much practice in public speaking.

I can't honestly say I ever thought I'd become an expert on shopping, nor that I'd be able to comment with any authority on the demand and supply of pink inflatable flamingos and silent hairdryers. But life leads you down strange alleys. It also leads you to talking about vegetables on national TV whilst stood in cowpats and to serendipitous encounters with Old Chigwellians.

One such strange coincidence occurred on a cold Saturday morning earlier this year. At 5am, I climbed into the back of a cab on the way to my



first appearance on Radio 4's *Today* programme. While as it stood that had a certain significance as a Chigwellian, given the emphasis the then Headmaster, Mr Gibbs, put on listening to Radio 4 for your chances of general life success, a few minutes after pulling away my driver asked if I had been to Chigwell. Surprised, I admitted I had, and enquired how he knew. He explained that he used to teach there. When I looked up into the rear view mirror I realised it was none other than my old physics teacher, Mr Mantiziba, driving the car. We spent the rest of the journey to New Broadcasting House in part reminiscing and discussing religion, but mostly talking about the time he had previously given a ride to Ben Mullish. By the end of the journey my nerves about the interview had dissipated, and I think I successfully defended the fate of the UK's high streets. I spent the rest of the day smiling to myself about how weird the whole morning had been.

Outside of work I still spend most of my time involved in sport. I took up rowing again after University and did it fairly seriously up until recently, culminating in selection for England for the Home International regatta in the lightweight pair. Last year I was persuaded to try cycling and completed the L'Etape du Tour (one of the stages of the tour de France), but after years as a member of the local running club Woodford Green with Essex Ladies, without ever giving it my full attention, I'm currently just focused on running and am hoping to better my time from the Berlin Marathon last year and London in the spring. But I can confirm that I will definitely not be doing it in anything resembling navy gym knickers.

I also still enjoy travelling and have recently returned from Tanzania, where I climbed Kilimanjaro with some friends. My current plan is to take time out of work next year to see South America, something that's been on my list for a while. And after that who knows...



The Somme Revisited

by Professor Paul Marks (1969-1974)

The village of Maily Maillet is located in the Somme department of Picardy in northern France. It is now a quiet tranquil village quite unlike how it must have been in 1916 when it was in the hinterland of the Battle of the Somme.

I had never heard of it until a chance encounter with an old friend of mine over a pint in the 'Cricketers' pub in Woodford Green in 1982. Roy worked for a firm of solicitors in Walthamstow and told me that he had a difficult problem in his practice that day.

It concerned the last will and testament of a Great War veteran who had died a pauper but whose last wish was to have an altar cross that he had stolen from a church whilst retreating from the Battle of the Somme returned. It had apparently preoccupied him for most of his life but more so whilst he was dying from cancer. He regretted stealing what he thought was a gold cross but was in fact one made from brass and by way of atonement he had placed a codicil in his will for it to be returned following his death. The problem was that his estate had no funds for his wish to be fulfilled.

It so happened that I would be passing fairly close to this village on a forthcoming trip to the Loire Valley so I volunteered to return the brass cross which had been crudely hewn from its base; I never asked or was told the name of this soldier but deduced that he must have been 16 years old at the time of the battle.

Having rehearsed in my best schoolboy French what I intended to say, I arrived at the hôtel de ville somewhat apprehensive that townsfolk would either not remember their missing cross or worse still that they would think that one of my relatives had stolen it! Not so. Not only was it remembered but it was also missed and the maire was



■ Professor Paul Marks at Maily Maillet, 2016

effusive in his thanks for its safe return and treated us to a fine meal that evening.

July 2016 marked the centenary of the Somme which raged between 1st July 1916 and 18th November 1916. The first day of the battle is thought to be the worst day ever for the British Army who suffered nearly 60,000 casualties of whom 19,240 were killed. Ultimately, there were probably well in excess of one million casualties on both sides.

I revisited the battlefields of the Somme in July 2016 and after visiting the Thiepval Memorial, I caught sight of a signpost to Maily-Maillet and was transported back 34 years and wondered if the cross

had been duly restored to its rightful place in the church. I went to the church and there it was on the altar, polished up and reset on its original base. The crude diagonal cut still obvious.

I felt that the circle had been squared and was glad to have helped what to paraphrase Kipling's powerful words was to me, a soldier of the Great War known unto God.

Professor Paul Marks was at Chigwell School from 1969-1974. He pursued two careers, firstly as a consultant neurosurgeon for 25 years and a second one in law and is currently HM Senior for the County of the East Riding of Yorkshire & City of Kingston upon Hull.



■ Maily Maillet church with author's car 1982

First World War Battlefields Trip



■ The group at the grave of Geoffrey Albert Pain OC and Dylan James-Pajwani reading 'To My Old School', 1918, written by John Kennings Thurlow OC

Each year a group of Year 9 pupils travel to the First World War battlefields. This year the first day of the tour centred around the Belgian town of Ypres, a hugely significant place for Britain during, and after the war. Whilst on the Salient they visited the Commonwealth War Graves cemetery in Lijssenthoek, which was strikingly different from the German cemetery they visited later in the day

at Langemarck. In between these two visits the pupils entered the trench system at Bayernwald in order to see how the Germans held the advantage of the high ground around Ypres. The group ended the first day at the hugely imposing Menin Gate in the town centre, which lists the names of those who went to the Front but never returned and were never found.

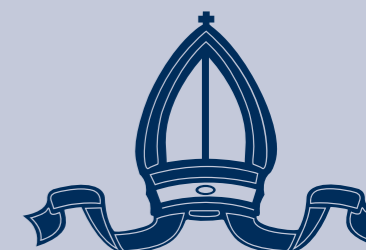
The following day the group were on the Somme and visited some fascinating places including Ulster Tower and the trenches that were left on the 1st July 1916. Closer to home they visited the Delville Wood cemetery where Geoffrey Pain OC is laid to rest. He was only sixteen when he was killed in action on the Somme. They listened to a poem written by J.K. Thurlow, another Old Chigwellian victim of the First World War as they observed a minute's silence by his graveside. At the end of the day they visited the imposing Thiepval Memorial to the Missing and amongst the 72,000 names is the name of H.B.K. Allpass OC. By the panel with his name they left a wreath and heard a poem that he had written himself, alongside one written by former Headmaster the Revd. Canon Richard Dawson Swallow. Head of History, Ian Goddard, commented that it was a memorable trip and the pupils were a credit to the School.



■ Year 9 pupils in Thiepval Wood



■ Laying a memorial cross on the grave of Geoffrey Pain OC



William Penn, Old Chigwellian

by Andrew Murphy

2018 marks the 300th anniversary of the death of one of the most famous Old Chigwellians of all: William Penn (1644-1718) – Quaker activist, theorist of religious liberty, and founder of the American colony of Pennsylvania – who attended the School for about three years beginning in 1653, when he was nine years old. Current and former pupils well know that Penn’s name adorns one of the School’s senior houses, providing a daily reminder of Chigwell’s connection with this individual who played such a crucial role on both sides of the Atlantic. Those more attuned to School history and lore may be familiar with the ‘Penn window’ above the library in the Main School, from which, legend has it, the young pupil gazed out onto the grounds below.

Unfortunately, we know very little about the details of William Penn’s early life, and even less about his time at the School. (The *Chigwell Register*, in which Penn is the only student identified by name before 1710, states simply that “He spent his early boyhood at Wanstead, going

daily to Chigwell School.”) Young William and his mother Margaret relocated from London during the late 1640s while his father, Admiral (later Sir) William Penn, served in the Navy on the Parliamentary side during the Civil Wars. Although he never explicitly mentioned Chigwell in any of his published writings or private correspondence, his facility with classical languages and literature may well have dated from his time at the School, where he would have studied with Edward Cotton, the Latin school’s master. In late 1654, while young William was attending Chigwell, Oliver Cromwell placed Admiral Penn in command of the naval portion of a massive force assembled to conquer Spain’s territories in the West Indies. The force departed in late December 1654 and the mission promptly began to unravel; by September 1655, Cromwell had imprisoned the Admiral in the Tower of London. Upon his release, Penn senior thought it wise to take his wife and family to Ireland, settling on their lands in Macroom, County Cork, far from the Protector’s wrath. And thus



William Penn at 22

ended William Penn’s brief career as a Chigwell student.

But if we don’t know a lot about the details of his time at the school, we do know something about the boy’s personality, and the powerful impact that Chigwell had on his developing spiritual life. The young William Penn was a particularly sensitive boy, intensely pious and, in his own words, “solitary and spiritual... a child alone.” The boy had some sort of profound religious experience while at Chigwell. His first biographer, Restoration polymath John Aubrey – a friend of Penn, who no doubt got the story directly from the man himself – recounts the “first sense [Penn] had of God,” which came “when he was eleven years old at Chigwell.” Alone in his room there, the young boy was “suddenly surprised with an inward comfort and... an external glory,” which convinced him that he “had the seal of divinity and immortality, that there was a God and that the soul of man was capable of enjoying his divine communications.” Quite the realisation, for a young schoolboy.

The mystical experience at Chigwell would turn out to be the first in a life marked by an intense sense of direct connection with God’s Spirit. During his 1677 travels through Holland and Germany, more than twenty years after the fact, Penn remembered how “the Lord first appeared to me... about the twelfth year

of my age, anno 1656” (surely a reference to the Chigwell incident), and he elaborated that “at times betwixt [age twelve] and fifteen the Lord visited me.” Ultimately, of course, Penn’s pivotal Quaker conviction would set his life on a new and unexpected path. But that dramatic turn of events was still more than a decade in the future during those formative years at Chigwell School.

Whatever the precise nature of William Penn’s experiences as a young schoolboy, things changed dramatically after his departure from Chigwell (and England). He remained in Macroom, County Cork, until 1660, when he entered Christ Church College, Oxford. After two unhappy years at university he was sent home, most likely for engaging in some sort of religious dissent. From Oxford, his path would stretch far and wide: a Tour of Europe, including introduction at Louis XIV’s court and study at the Protestant Academy in Saumur, France; to Lincoln’s Inn, where he entered hoping to study law just as the plague descended on London; a brief role as messenger between his father and the King as the

Dutch war threatened; and then back to Ireland, where his father sent him to oversee the family’s landholdings.

And it was on that trip to Ireland – in Cork, specifically, in the summer of 1667 – that the most momentous event of his life took place: his Quaker conviction. As he listened to the preaching of the itinerant Quaker preacher Thomas Loe, Penn reported, he “wept much.” This monumental experience was, in a sense, the event toward which Penn’s spiritual development had been tending since that singular religious moment at the Chigwell School a dozen years earlier. From the moment he became a Quaker, William Penn’s life was set on a radically new trajectory. He endured four imprisonments over the next several years. He embarked on a decades-long career as preacher, writer, and debater in support of his newfound faith, and of religious and political liberty more generally, across England and the Continent. In 1681, he successfully convinced King Charles II to grant him a colony in America, and described to friends his aspirations for Pennsylvania to serve as an



Bronze statue of William Penn atop Philadelphia City Hall

“holy experiment” for religious liberty, and the “seed of a nation.” Although he would spend only about four years there in all – two two-year sojourns separated by fifteen years (1682-84 and 1699-1701) – Pennsylvania would grow into an ethnically and religiously diverse, commercially vibrant settlement that drew thousands of emigres seeking a better life free from persecution.

As for William Penn’s own career, it contained both great triumphs and deep disappointments. He was disgraced after the 1688 Revolution due to his close association with King James II, and Pennsylvanians steadfastly refused to conform to his wishes or provide him with the funds he insisted he was owed. Facing massive financial liabilities, he spent much of 1708 in debtor’s prison, and in 1712 he was disabled by a massive stroke. But over the course of nearly five decades in public life, Penn played an outsized and influential role in

both England and America, persistently advocating for religious liberty not merely for his fellow Quakers, but as a fundamental principle of good government. In 1984, he and his second wife Hannah were granted posthumous honorary American citizenship, an honor shared with only six other individuals (and only one other Briton: Winston Churchill). By the time he died in July 1718, William Penn was one of the best-known Dissenters in the land. He had come a long way from the nine-year old boy who entered Chigwell School while his father was off at sea.



Sir William Penn (1621-1670)



Penn’s window



Andrew R. Murphy is Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Murphy is the author of *Liberty, Conscience and Toleration: The Political Thought of William Penn and Prodigal Nation: Moral Decline and Divine Punishment from New England to 9/11*.



Clinical Research Chronicles: A Trip to Copenhagen

by Byiravey Pathmanathan (2007-2009)

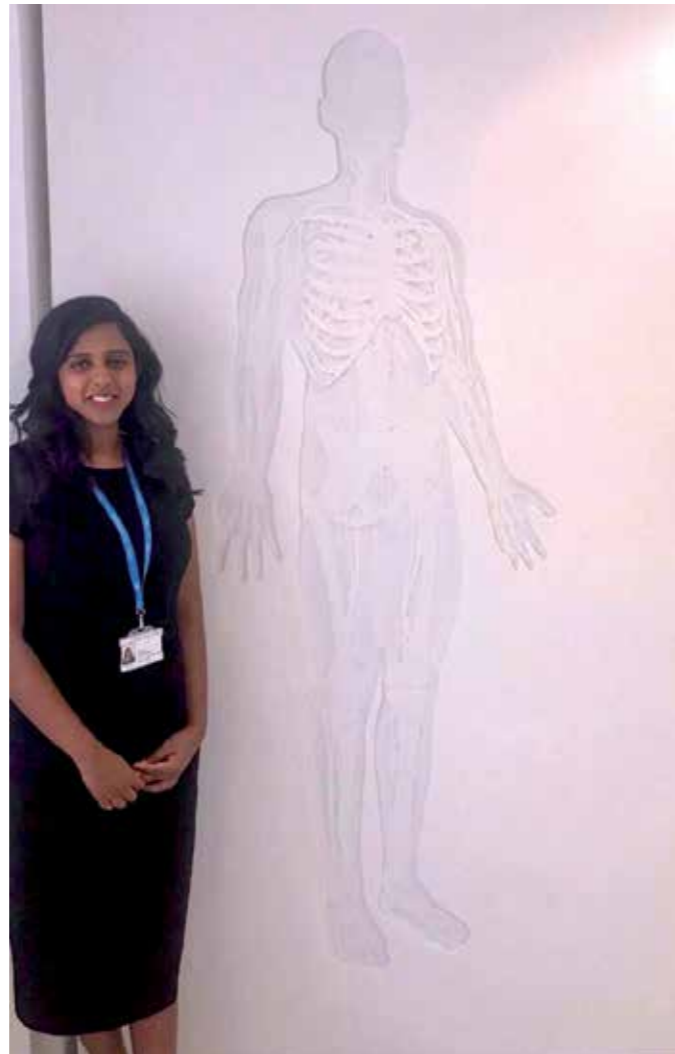
I started writing this article determined to be witty and do what I do often – self deprecate. I fail miserably.

Your expectations being sufficiently lowered, I feel I can proceed. Below I've detailed how a trip to Copenhagen wasn't the peaceful city break I was hoping for and how I 'fell' into a career in Clinical Research.

When my abstract was accepted for presentation at the 33rd Annual European Association of Urology conference in Copenhagen earlier this year, I was thrilled. Copenhagen was meant to be great at that time of year and, for now, I decided not to dwell on the fact that I would be presenting my research at an international conference – the largest Urology conference in Europe – in front of Urology specialists from all over the world.

I had completed this research project as part of my masters in Clinical Oncology whilst working full time as a Clinical Research Practitioner. I was inspired to start this project whilst working with prostate cancer patients within my role. My supervisor, a Consultant Urologist, pitched an idea to me. He had a knack of making everything seem interesting. Even prostates. 'It shouldn't take too long, Byiravey, to collect all the data. It is an important piece of work and I'm sure you'll be writing this up in no time.' I was enthusiastic and hopeful. After all, how long could this take? A mere year and a half later, I completed the project and my MSc and graduated from the University of Birmingham. It was at this time I made a submission to the European Association of Urology.

In preparation for my presentation, I emailed my supervisor, whom I was due to meet in Copenhagen in

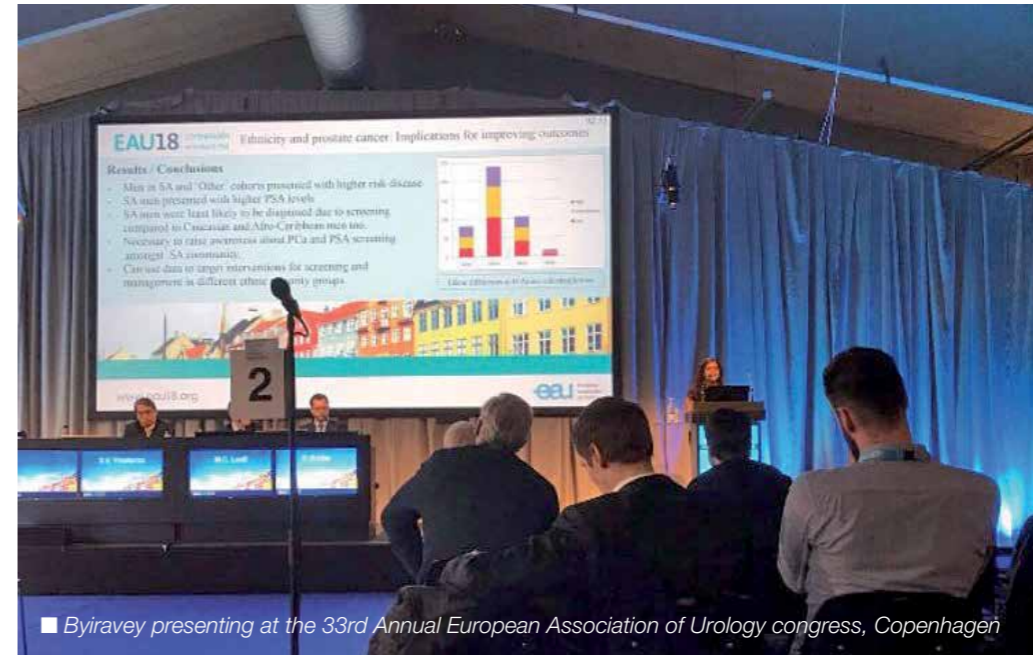


■ Byiravey at work

a few days, about potential questions I could be asked on my work. I wanted to be prepared. He instantaneously replied: "Byiravey, I'm planning dinner/drinks on the houseboat I'm staying in. Hope you can make it". Great. "Glad we have our priorities straight", I wrote. Fast forward a few days, I had arrived in Copenhagen and was due to present at the conference in a couple of days. I used the time I had to prepare for my presentation and do a bit of sight-seeing.

Once the day finally arrived, I waited patiently to present my work to a packed room in the Bella Conference Centre. I watched other presenters present their work on a

range of topics by eloquently summarising their projects and findings. The speakers then answered, reassuringly, only one or two questions from the audience and panel. It was then my turn to present. I summarised my work on the ethnic differences in prostate cancer, confident in the knowledge that I would-judging by its complacency so far – only be facing a few enquiries from the audience. My findings were as follows: South Asian men were presenting to the urology clinics at the hospital I was working at with high-grade and stage disease – a more advanced form of prostate cancer compared to their Caucasian and Afro-Caribbean counterparts. This



■ Byiravey presenting at the 33rd Annual European Association of Urology congress, Copenhagen

observation contradicted the findings of current literature, which suggested that Asian men were at a lower risk of developing prostate cancer and also that they suffered from less aggressive forms of the disease. Conversely, it was widely accepted that men of Afro-Caribbean origin were more likely to be diagnosed with prostate cancer and were also more likely to be diagnosed with the high-grade form of the disease. This begs the question – if South Asian men are more likely to present with a more advanced cancer compared to their Caucasian and Afro-Caribbean counterparts, do we need to do more to raise awareness about prostate cancer and prostate cancer screening in the South Asian community?

Unfortunately, I had forgotten just how controversial my work could be considered to be and so I was therefore slightly taken aback by the inquisitive onslaught I was subsequently met with. The significance of such a response, however, was not lost on me and it was with much gratitude that I answered the questions that were put to me as best I could.

Arriving back from Copenhagen, it was back to my day to day work. I am currently the Surgical and Oncology Research Lead for St Mary's Hospital, Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust. St Mary's

is renowned in equal measures for its cutting-edge research and for being the hospital where Kate Middleton has her children. I enjoy leading a team of research professionals that help deliver a variety of clinical trials within different Oncology and Surgical specialities. I find it exhilarating and fulfilling to be at the forefront of research and patient care. I help set up new clinical trials within different surgical and cancer specialities in order to give patients an opportunity to gain access to new drugs and surgical interventions. Once the patient is on a clinical trial, it is up to me and my team to work with the medical professionals and the rest of the multi-disciplinary team to ensure the patient is getting the best possible care. It is also important that accurate and up to date data is collated from these patients so the data can be adequately analysed. It will be this information that will help inform whether this new intervention will be offered as standard of care in the NHS. My role also involves raising the profile of research within the Trust and ensuring it is always considered core NHS business. While I'm not sure who thought it would be a good idea to give me this much responsibility, I'm glad that they did.

I may not remember much from my A-level Biology and Chemistry lessons (sorry, Mr Eardley and Dr Martin) but one thing I remember – I was awful

at practicals. This convinced me that a career that would require me to be in the lab all day wasn't for me. I therefore knew a career in pre-clinical research wasn't for me. When I left Chigwell and completed my BSc in Clinical Sciences, I wasn't sure what was in store for me next. It was at this point that I found a role advertised for a Clinical Trial Assistant at an Oncology Clinical Trials unit. This role was a research role working directly with cancer patients in a clinical trial setting. When I was given this role, I was made aware of a whole new world of research. I enjoyed working with patients and also had the opportunity to continue feeding my scientific curiosity that was cultured in me at Chigwell and university. Six years later, I still am very much passionate about clinical research and improving the care provided for cancer patients.

■ Nyhavn, Copenhagen



The Year of Ken Campbell? by Tony Porter (1953-1960)

It is not often that an Old Chigwellian has a play about him put on in London, is the single subject of two BBC radio programmes, has the play repeated as part of the Edinburgh Festival and is the subject of a two-day celebration at the British Library theatre all

in the space of six months but that is what happened with Ken Campbell this year. It is ten years since Ken died and all those events marked that milestone – indeed, the British Library celebration started on the very day of his passing, August 31st.



To take things in order: the play is by Terry Johnson, who became part of the world of Ken – one might more accurately write “was yanked into it” – when he was sharing a flat with someone Ken knew. He answered the telephone and told Ken the person he wanted was abroad, only to be asked “What about you? What do you do?” and within hours found himself one of the cast of *The Warp*, a play with a script fourteen-inches thick and a running-time of twenty-four hours. Since the production (in Liverpool) was in a disused theatre and had a minimal budget Terry was also given the task of resurrecting the toilets. Being swept up into the world of Ken Campbell has happened to quite a few people and in 1996, Johnson, who never forgot, or lost touch with, Ken came to know quite a few other similar cases and specifically Jeremy Stockwell, an actor who could look and sound uncannily like the man we all knew. Johnson’s memories became the play *Ken*, starring him and Stockwell, which was revived at The Bunker, a basement theatre in Southwark, this February and so became the first event of The Year of Ken Campbell, aka 2018.

Ken left Chigwell in 1959. He was an outstanding actor at school, his performances of *Billy Budd* (1958) and *Doctor Faustus* (1959) were exceptional, and it was no surprise that he attended RADA for two years. His voracious reading habits were already well established. At school he used to say “I’m not that clever; I just read more interesting books” and in adulthood that had morphed into “I’m not mad; I just read weird books”. He worked in repertory theatre for much of the sixties but became increasingly cribbed, cabined and confined by it. He decided to strike out on his own and do things he enjoyed and he found kindred spirits quite easily. The Ken Campbell Road Show saw the start of the careers of

David Rappaport and Sylvester McCoy among others; one item, the attempt at keeping a ferret down your trousers, became almost legendary and is featured in *The Guinness Book of Records*. The performances were in the street, or in a hall somewhere, or late-night in theatres after the regular show had ended – anywhere that might attract people who wouldn’t attend a theatre as such. They didn’t riot in Toxteth [in 1971] when we were there,” he told me. The critics dubbed him “The scatter-gun of British theatre”.

The third and final phase of his acting career was as a one-man performer, monologues of dizzying length, beautifully crafted as the story ranged from people to places to ideas to things that happened (or should have happened), all delivered in an unmistakable nasal tone owing something to Ilford, his home when he was at Chigwell, and to Hackney marshes, where he had set up house. He performed in shabby clothing, usually coming on stage wearing a pork-pie hat and always bringing a shopping trolley behind him, from which he would produce books or other props needed to keep the evening’s story going. He was always fond of dogs and sometimes he’d be accompanied by one or more of them. At the British Library tribute the actor Toby Jones said that *Pigspurt* was among the ten best comedies he had ever seen; the titles were all part of the fun – the first show was *Adventures of a Furtive Nudist*, one of the last *Wol Wok*: the first owed much to Ilford, the latter everything to a visit to Vanuatu – the world Ken by then inhabited was vastly larger, ever more eclectic. These shows quickly gathered a cult following and we became known as Seekers. There were quite a few Seekers in August at the British Library and maybe many more listening to the BBC programmes, but the conventional theatre world recognised talent, too, especially Richard (now Sir

Richard) Eyre who invited Ken to perform at the National, in the small theatre, The Cottesloe. Ken put on three shows on consecutive nights and then performed all three one after the other on the Saturday, starting at 11am and finishing late. I asked him if he wasn’t exhausted and he replied, “In this job you spend so much time ‘resting’ that when someone offers you work you have to take it!” – but it must have been very draining.

He introduced me to so many things both when we were boys and later on and I was glad to offer the occasional crumb in exchange. He was always most generous with his time – he used to come to talk to the sixth form at the school where I taught and as I took him into lunch after one such session I heard a small boy say to his friend in great excitement, “It’s the Devil from the Kit-Kat advert!” He ran documentaries on TV, mainly on scientific subjects, because he cared about imparting sound knowledge. He devoted himself to helping others in the profession, often guiding their careers very effectively – the ventriloquist Nina Conti, now

internationally-known, owes her fame to Ken’s present of *Teach Yourself Ventriloquism* and a first dummy. He was married for five years to the already very successful actress, Prunella Gee and their daughter, Daisy, the apple of both parents’ eyes, performed a brilliant two-hour monologue in her father’s memory and in his style on the Friday of the British Library event. Perhaps all the training she needed was her witnessing of many rehearsals and performances by her father. “After all,” Daisy told us, “he always said it was cheaper than paying a baby-sitter.” Daisy famously tried to get her father into the 21st century by encouraging him to buy a computer – she thought his eclectic mind would love Google – but unluckily for her the IT store she sent him to was next to a pet shop and he came home with a parrot. She is the driving force behind all the 2018 events other than the play.

The Master of Ceremonies at the British Library’s Knowledge Centre theatre on the Saturday was, by delightful happenstance, Oliver Senton, son of David, and I pointed out

to him the neat coincidence that Ken made his Chigwell acting debut in 1956 in a play directed by his father, Ian Hay’s *Housemaster*, in which Ken and I and Nick Williams were sisters. We began that afternoon by watching a film of Ken in a show from 2002, performed in the typical non-venue of the Lea Valley Rowing Club. It included a riff on his schooldays – not factually correct but showing something of the renegade that he was. Then there was a panel discussion on the topic “What Did I Learn From Ken Campbell?” One thing I learned was how to tell a joke but that’s not the whole story. Ken’s early death at the age of 66 is explicable by the way he lived life but Chigwell, though it misses him, showed him and all of us how life is not just about getting rich and looking after your own interests but how you can best get on with other people and enjoy the opportunities that are there and how friendships forged at school can last a lifetime. Much of the adulation he received that afternoon – and in the BBC radio programmes –

presented him as an eccentric, a maverick, defined by those compelling eyebrows and a nose that, when you focus on it, looks like a woman’s back poised in the act of washing her hair – which is why you can’t see her hair, of course – ‘King Leer’ as he was also dubbed by the critics. There was a great deal more to him than that, and I was very pleased to hear two panellists challenge it. Prunella Gee referred to him simply and primarily as a good man. Toby Jones saw in him at times the strain that putting on shows at the intensity Ken required and expected. Honest as the day is long, generous, loving life and humanity but never spineless there was an innocence about Ken and a willingness to bear others’ burdens that was altogether positive.

I am glad his life has been celebrated – it is worth celebrating and he is one of Chigwell’s best sons –but when we were told that in 2019 there will be a podcast (thus extending the Year of Ken into twelve months) I wondered if it isn’t time to let him rest in peace.

Escapees by Graham Stewart (1962-1969) and Graham Wood (1962-1969)



In the true tradition of flying the flag for Chigwellian pupils of the 1960’s Graham Wood and Graham Stewart wish to report on their latest ‘age defying’ adventures.

In July this year the Golden Graham’s embarked upon, and successfully completed, the World War Two escape route walking from the South

of France (St Giron) over the Pyrenees into Spain.

For four days the Graham’s hiked across some of the most wonderful landscape carrying all kit for camping as well as sleeping in refuge huts.

Without a doubt all their skills learnt in the CCF, the Corps of Drums and the Kings Head were put to the full test as they conquered some of the most steep ascents and descents that the Pyrenees could offer. All this was achieved in 30-degree temperatures while walking, with caution, across winter snows that never seem to melt at 3,000 metre altitudes.

During the walk numerous memorial sites of great bravery and valour by the original Escapees were shown to us by the local guide, leaving us to marvel at how the original

downed pilots, Resistance agents and refugees managed to complete this demanding route equipped with only basic clothes, carrying their worldly belongings and with only a limited supply of food.

At least at the end of our walking days we could freely bathe in ice-cold mountain lakes and

be free from the fear of being hunted down and executed.

When and if, the originals completed the route, their prize was their freedom from oppression. For ourselves, thanks to the bravery of our predecessors our prize was the freedom to enjoy a glass of champagne.



Mission Accomplished

by Jonathan Terrell (1973-1980)



■ Antarctic

20-25 hours a week. Typically, I would run 60+ miles per week, swim twice, bike twice, strength train three times, and do daily yoga sessions.

But why? Why would an old codger of 55 put himself through it? Answer: to raise awareness about pediatric mental health.

After Chigwell I took a gap year working at the local mental hospital (Claybury) and ended up working there during all my university vacations too. Ever since I have been deeply interested in mental illness. I also serve on the Corporate Advisory Board of our local children's hospital, Children's National, and learned of their own commitment to pediatric mental health. So, I put it all together, looking for the next athletic challenge, I took it on as a fund raiser for the new mental health unit at Children's National, and most importantly, to attract a great deal of media attention to the most widespread of all childhood illnesses, mental and behavioral health.

It turned out to be the journey of a lifetime, and seven months after finishing it's still a little difficult to process that I met my goals: to run all seven marathons without walking a step, and to have an impact on pediatric mental illness. Over 100 million people heard the message through traditional media, and thousands

followed me on social media. It is more than a little ironic too that I write this from my wheelchair, as I was involved in a serious accident while out training for my next race a few months ago and will be very pleased to simply walk again. Both experiences are chapters of the same book, and both require remarkably similar mental disciplines.

The World Marathon Challenge athletes met in Cape Town, South Africa in late January for pre-race briefings. Early January 30th, we piled into a specially adapted airplane for the six-hour flight down to the Antarctic Russian research station where we would be running our first marathon. We actually ran the first two marathons within 24 hours, returning to the heat of the African sun in Cape Town as soon as the Antarctic race was completed. We then transferred to a luxury charter flight for the rest of the destinations. The next four marathons were run during the night, first Perth Australia, then Dubai UAE, Lisbon Portugal, and Cartagena Colombia. The last two marathons were also run within 24 hours, and we arrived in Miami for the last one with just a couple of hours sleep.

My family, friends, and colleagues came down to Miami to support me on the final push. It was especially



■ Cape Town

On February 5, 2018, I crossed the finish line of the World Marathon Challenge. I ran seven marathons, in seven consecutive days, on all seven continents.

While I held my own for a few seasons on the cross-country running team, my Chigwellian contemporaries will not remember me for my athletic prowess. I am a late vocation to endurance sports. Following some health setbacks in my 40s, wanting to see my young children to adulthood, I decided to get in shape, running my first half-marathon at age 48, and my first full marathon at 49. Then I really caught the bug, and immediately began running multiple marathons a year, progressing to ultra-marathons, and eventually to Ironman triathlons.

I declared my candidacy for the World Marathon Challenge 14 months before the first race, and prepared with a singularity of purpose, training



■ Perth

poignant that both my sons ran part of the course with me. I found a final burst of energy to finish the last three miles at speed, and even a sprint at the end (I believe in trying to put on a show for the spectators at the end).

Then there were the many hundreds who sent good wishes and prayers as I ran, ran, ran around our beautiful world. I felt that comfort when I was cold in Antarctica, sweating under the African sun, and wincing at the sting of the subsequent sunburn as I ran in Australia. It sustained me when I was in the very dark corners — sick to my stomach in Europe, as I made my way through Lisbon, Portugal, and when I "only" had to finish that last race in Miami.

What has been remarkable to learn since finishing is that, unbeknownst to me during the race, thousands of people started following me on social media as I made my way around the world. Many have reached out since. All the support, in all forms, really made an impact, and it has been very humbling.

I'm not an elite athlete. I'm simply a regular guy who decided to get in shape and wanted to do something extraordinary for a cause I believe in. The magnitude of the undertaking still impresses even me. However, it really was just about a daily practice, consistently doing the workouts, some days just putting one foot in front of another. I don't want to give a sense of false modesty. I truly believe we are all capable of so much when we step outside

our old habits and develop new ones.

The day after I returned home, my wife and I hosted an Evening of Awareness at a school here in Washington, DC, where staff from Children's National Health System spoke to parents about mental health issues that affect children and teens. I hope to host more such events, because that was really the whole point of all this. To start conversations around something that has been stigmatized for far too long.

As I have said from the start, mental illness, like physical illness, is just a disease. We need open conversations around the topic and new ways to treat and heal those who face mental health challenges.

After my race, I received a very kind note from Adelaide S. Robb, MD, Distinguished Endowed Professor and Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Children's National Health System. Among other things, she wrote: "You have made the sun shine on the darkness that is mental illness." I'm proud if I played any part in drawing attention to this issue.

Jonathan Terrell is the Founder and President of KCIC. He has more than 30 years of international financial services experience with a multi-disciplinary background in accounting, finance and insurance. Prior to founding KCIC in 2002, he worked at Zurich Financial Services, JP Morgan, and PriceWaterhouseCoopers.



■ Dubai



■ Lisbon



■ Cartagena



■ Miami



CBE for OC

by Huw Vaughan Thomas CBE (1960-1967)



It is some 50 years since I left Chigwell School to do a degree in Modern History at the University of Durham. Chigwell has changed a lot since I left and it has been sad to read of the passing of some of the teachers who inspired me during my time at the school particularly Peter Oldfield and the Rev George Davenport. I recall frequent debates with the latter about the contemporary relevance of the Welsh language and devolution – issues on which we held opposing views.

Looking back, it would seem my career has had four phases. Following a postgraduate degree at the City University I joined the Civil Service at a time the UK was coming to terms with its membership of the European Community. A period as a Ministerial Private Secretary during the Callaghan Minority Government gave me an insight into European and Parliamentary processes that has served me in good stead ever since. This was followed by a series of posts dealing with pay policy, training, and industrial relations before becoming the Department of Employment's Director for Wales in 1988. A role in which I found myself responding to the requirements of the Secretary of State for Wales as well as my Departmental Secretary of State.

As I became more used to dealing with Welsh Office Ministers, I felt that there were real opportunities for local government to make

a difference to the lives of the people of Wales citizens. So I left the Civil Service, becoming Chief Executive first of Gwynedd, and subsequently Denbighshire County Council – councils which operated bilingually in Welsh and English. Sadly, the political agenda I had to deal with was more internal than I had anticipated with a focus on re-organisation and the emergence of a structure in Scotland and Wales of Unitary Authorities underpinning the establishment of a devolved legislature. Nevertheless, I had many opportunities to see how local government worked in other countries, including undertaking Exchanges with Chief Executives in Tasmania and New Zealand.

In 2001, having taken Denbighshire through its initial years and dealt with a significant debt burden from one of its predecessor councils, I decided it was time to set up my own consultancy company working with a range of public and private clients. But I also found myself being approached to undertake other tasks such as serving as a member of the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales, and as one of the Commissioners appointed to review the powers and electoral arrangements of the

National Assembly for Wales. Other opportunities followed, and over the next ten years I chaired the Big Lottery Fund in Wales, served on the Parole Board for England & Wales, the Law Society Council, and the Olympic Lottery Distributor.

Balancing a range of non-executive responsibilities alongside my consultancy work was challenging, especially since I continued to be active in organisations serving the deaf and hard of hearing. From early days I have had difficulty hearing clearly, but by my 50s I had developed a severe loss of hearing, rendering me deaf without a bone-anchored hearing aid. However, my life changed when in 2010 I was persuaded to go back to full time employment, putting my name forward to be the Auditor General for Wales. This is a position to which HM The Queen appoints on the recommendation of the National Assembly for Wales.

As Auditor General I have overseen the annual audit of the Welsh Government and all public bodies in Wales representing some £20 billion of taxpayers money, and where appropriate issued Value for Money reports for consideration by the Public Accounts Committee in the

same way as the NAO in Westminster. I have been conscious that some of the bodies I audited regarded me in the same way as Henry II saw Thomas Becket as I shone a public spotlight on their activity. But having taken over at a point where the Wales Audit Office was at a low ebb, as I leave this year the WAO is ranked amongst the upper decile of UK public bodies for staff satisfaction and we are regarded as an authoritative commentator by over 95% of public bodies in Wales. It was therefore a real honour to be awarded a CBE in this year's Birthday Honours for services to public audit and accountability in Wales.

So, finally, at the age of 70 I have retired, and hope to be able to enjoy leisure time with my grandchildren, though there are a good many who are sceptical as to whether I can avoid being tempted into another role.

One of the pleasures of my career has been the contact I have had over the years with contemporaries from Chigwell – Ray Noble, Rob Alexander, Jonathan Hagger, and most recently Bob Stewart. The years melt away when we meet and talk, and it seems but yesterday that we are at Call Over in New Hall.



Graeme Inch (1968-1976) – Chigwell Master and Pupil

by David Gower, Deputy Head

When Graeme Inch joined Chigwell School in September 1984 as a teacher of PE it was, of course, not the first time that he had stepped foot on the school site. His parents, Donald and Moira, who were to become very familiar and welcome figures at Chigwell Sports Days, cricket matches, concerts and other events supporting their grandchildren, had already sent Graeme to Chigwell as a boy. He had begun his long association with the School in September 1968 and became a praefect and Head of School in 1975 as well as captain of football for Lent term 1975 and the whole of the next season. After his time at Loughborough and a brief spell teaching at Queen Elizabeth School Barnet he rejoined Chigwell in September 1984 and completed a further 102 terms in a variety of roles until his retirement in July this year. It was fitting that, at the end of last term, Graeme celebrated his 'century' with a cricket match in which many former and current colleagues participated and several came back to watch and bid him farewell; a testament to the high regard in which he was held by the teaching staff here.

There are few roles in Chigwell that Graeme has not either taken on or in some way affected during the last 34

years. In sport he could describe precisely how to carry out each skill but also had the technical ability to demonstrate it. He could coach football and cricket of course but also take on basketball, hockey, badminton or whatever, it seemed, that the curriculum threw at him with his most skilled area perhaps being athletics. He is, indeed, still the current school record holder over 800m. His enjoyment of reading, his broad Chigwell education and his appreciation of the Arts in its widest sense made him an excellent English teacher and Graeme could often be heard discussing, with his colleagues, his latest literary discovery. Among his many roles, he worked in the Junior School as a boarding master and as Head of Junior School curriculum and in the Senior School he was Housemaster of Caswalls' before becoming Senior Master in 2009. In this, his last role here, he was most influential and, perhaps, most frustrated. The description of the Senior Master post might indicate someone who, with wisdom would help maintain the status quo and use their great experience to keep a steady ship. Graeme certainly did have wisdom and great experience but he most assuredly was not merely going to maintain what he had always done at his

high standards. He wanted to change things, to improve what Chigwell offered to pupils and to staff, and perhaps most of all, he wanted Chigwell to take seriously its responsibility to the environment. It was when we, as his colleagues, did not move as fast as he would have hoped in this direction, that he perhaps found that frustration; a testament to Graeme's energy and commitment to make Chigwell the best school that it could be.

For some more recent, younger, pupils Mr Inch will be remembered as 'the chicken man'. For one of Graeme's unfulfilled ambitions for the school was to have its own farm and taking over part of the Headmaster's back garden to keep chickens, and organising a rota of pupils to feed and keep an eye on them, was to be a small step in that direction. Those pupils who have recently left the Sixth Form may well recall Mr Inch as having a love of the outdoors and wanting them to appreciate it too while, seemingly effortlessly, striding up a particularly challenging peak in the Lake District. This was part of Activities Week, another Inch idea and one that he ran most effectively for several years. His charges in Caswalls' will remember his wit and his high expectations but also will appreciate that



he wanted the best for them and was delighted with their successes.

Graeme must have come across nearly 4000 Chigwellians during his time teaching here and it is probable that he could recall the vast majority of them. It was this exceptional memory that helped him organise cover or sports day or a walk in the Lakes and built confidence in his colleagues as well as winning many a quiz evening!

It is a truism to wish departing colleagues well and say that they will be missed as usually someone fills their place quite seamlessly. In Graeme's case though it is certainly true. Missed by pupils yes, as the School Council have already remarked, but mostly by his fellow teachers who appreciated someone so dedicated, made every effort to do what was right and worked so hard for their benefit.

Knowing Graeme, we will hardly expect his new phase of life to involve pipe and slippers! So we all wish him a long, happy, well-deserved and exciting retirement.



■ Athletics team, 1975



■ Speech Day, 2018

Births, Weddings & Engagements

BIRTHS

■ **James Longman (1985-1995)** and Suzannah are happy to announce the birth of their first child Alfie on 1st November 2017. He was born at the Cedars-Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles.

■ **Sarah-Jayne Smith nee Guest (1997-2004)** and husband Robert are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their second baby girl Arla Hope. She was born on 16th Feb 2018 at Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford.

■ **Colette de Boer (2000-2002)** and her husband John Morgan welcomed baby Maggie on 9th May 2018. She was born at the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow and is a little sister for Kit.

■ **Anil Kurukulasooriya (1993-2000)** and his wife Selina are delighted to announce the birth of their second daughter, Rosanna Iris Elise, on 17th May 2018. Rosanna was born at Whipps Cross Hospital. Her sister Lillian Elsie Leila was born at the same hospital on 19th November 2013.

■ **Bradley Woods (1986-1995)** and his wife Olga are happy to announce the birth of their first child Harper Elizabeth on 23rd June 2018. She was born at the Royal London Hospital.

■ **Alex Longman (1983-1989)** and Nidnoi announce the birth of Alisha on 2nd September 2018. She was born at the Bangkok Phuket International Hospital in Thailand and joins her older sisters Mini and Nicole in the Longman family.

■ **Jeyda Takkou nee Pars (1997-2002)** and her husband Dean are very pleased to announce the birth of Mila Rai. Their new arrival was born on 9th September 2018 at the Northampton General Hospital.

WEDDINGS

■ **Sam Pinching (2002-2007)** and Laura Wright were married on 16th December 2017 at Swynford Manor, near Newmarket. Many OCs attended the celebrations including Adam Tomkins and Tom Galvin (Best Men), Liam O'Brien (Usher), Alex Smith, Alex Carroll, Alex Edwards, Will Taylor, Will Higgins and Charles Wilce.

■ **Bradley Woods (1986-1995)** married Olga Boronenko on 3rd March 2018 at the Chigwell School Chapel. They followed the ceremony with a reception held at The Ned, in the City of London. OCs in attendance included Robert James and Kamran Choudhry.

■ **Diva Muthoror (1999-2006)** and Stuart Rook were married on 23rd June 2018 in Quinta do Lago, Portugal. Many OCs attended the celebrations and bridesmaids included Tara Russell and Lucy Burns.

■ **Robbie Clemens (1997-2008)** and **Becky Briggs (2001-2008)** were married on 20th July 2018 at High Beach Church. They celebrated afterwards at Gaynes Park in Epping. The beautiful



■ Alfie



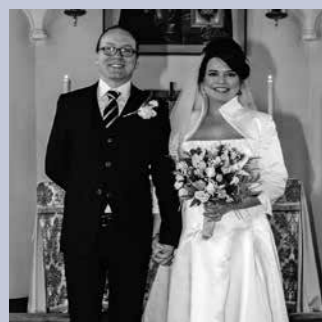
■ Maggie



■ Harper



■ Mila



■ Bradley & Olga



■ Arla



■ Roseanna



■ Alisha



■ Sam & Laura



■ Diva & Stuart



■ Robbie & Becky



■ James & Elena



■ Emma & Chris



■ Nadim & Danielle



■ Raj & Aneet

day was enjoyed by a lot of OCs, including Akbar Jabar (Best Man), Robert Haddon and Chris Briggs (Ushers), Amanda Briggs (Bridesmaid) and Victoria Edwards (Photographer). Also attending the celebrations were Amy Moore, Natalie Robinson, Georgia Clegg, Georgina Syed, Gulgun Chakartash, Meera Ragha and Stuart Vernon.

■ **Sophie Rose (2001-2008)** and Elliott Winner were married on 31st July 2018 in Caesarea, Israel. Fellow OCs Louise Fowler and Laura Tunmer attended as Sophie's bridesmaids and Joshua Rose as Elliott's usher. Sophie has been teaching in Hainault for the past six years and Elliott is a financial advisor for St. James's Place Wealth Management.

■ **James Lee (1986-1994)** married Elena Donchenko on 4th August 2018 in the School Chapel. Richard Levy (OC) was Best Man, and the ceremony was officiated by Father Michael Bradley. Afterwards they celebrated with family and friends at a beautiful reception in the school dining hall and grounds.

■ **Emma Whitcomb (1999-2006)** and David Seed were married on 11th August 2018 at Askham Hall, Penrith. Many OCs attended the celebrations including Nadim Kala, Adele Sanderson, William Taylor, Jack Harris, Simon Scott, Nick Robinson, Michael Philpot and Greg Prail.

■ **Emma Hollis (2001-2010)** married Chris Anderson on 15th August 2018 at Manorbier Castle, Pembrokeshire. Emma said that despite the typical Welsh weather of gales and torrential rain, they had a really fabulous day. Both Emma and Chris are teachers in the Junior School.

■ **Katie Hulin (1998-2005)** and Shaun Weise were married on 8th September 2018 at the Savoy hotel, London. They had a wonderful day and many OCs were in attendance. Arrabella Hulin-Cornelius was maid of honour and other OCs included Alexander Isaacs, Tom Foster, Will Higgins, Edward Cohen, Patrick Yeung, Christopher Weatherburn, Kelvin Taaffe, David Costello, Cheryl Baker, Lisa Posnett, Roberta Evans and Max Kempe.

ENGAGEMENTS

■ **Nadim Kala (1995-2006)** and Danielle Djemal became engaged in Madrid in November 2017. They are due to be married in November 2018 at Gosfield Hall, Essex.

■ **Michael Philpot (1995-2006)** and Sarah Curry got engaged in Gidea Park, Essex on 24th February 2018. Their wedding will be in May 2019 in Cancun, Mexico and quite a few OCs will be attending.

■ **Raj Chadha (1993-1996)** and Aneet Baxi wish to announce their engagement. The couple got engaged on 2nd April 2018 at Kanchans in Gants Hill, but Raj proposed in front of the Eiffel Tower. They plan to marry in London in February 2019.

■ **Victoria Edwards (2002-2009)** and Paul Quinn are delighted to announce their engagement which took place on 1st September 2018. They hope to marry in 2020 near their home in Folkestone.



■ Sophie & Elliott



■ Emma & David



■ Katie & Shaun



■ Michael & Sarah



■ Victoria & Paul

University News

Year Group 2011

■ **Will Porter (2009-2011)** gained his MSc in Physician Associate Studies in August 2017 from St George's Hospital Medical School, University of London. Will's National Certification as Physician Associate was awarded by the Faculty of Physician Associates at the Royal College of Physicians in September 2017. Since certifying he worked in Clinical Haematology at St George's but has now started a new job in A&E at East Surrey Hospital.



■ Will Porter

Year Group 2012

■ **Oliver Albert (2005-2012)** graduated with a First Class Masters degree, with merit, in Engineering. He is moving on to work as a graduate performance engineer at the Mercedes F1 team based in Brackley, near Silverstone. He had a year as an intern with the team after his third year.



■ Amanda Bacon

■ **Amanda Bacon (2006-2012)** qualified with distinction in her final medical exams at the University of Oxford having studied for six years at St Edmund Hall. She looks forward to working at Broomfield Hospital, Chelmsford to complete her foundation training.



■ Raheem Chaudhary

■ **Isabella Bird (2005-2012)** graduated from the University of Durham with a First Class Masters degree, with distinction, in International Relations. She was accepted onto the Civil Service Fast Stream programme and is currently in her second posting at the Department of International Trade working as a Strategy Advisor.

■ **Raheem Chaudhary (2001-2012)** was awarded his MB ChB degree in medicine from the University of Birmingham. Raheem is now working as a junior doctor at the Walsall NHS Trust.

Year Group 2013

■ **Andrew Haddon (2006-2013)** achieved a 2:1 in Business Administration from the University of Bath.

■ **Beatrice Moore (2003-2013)** graduated from the University of Leeds with a First Class BA (Hons) in Music. She received a Certificate of Commendation for outstanding achievement in her Dissertation. She has just embarked on her PGCE in Secondary Music.



■ Zachary Bacon

Year Group 2014

■ **Zachary Bacon (2007-2014)** gained a 2:1 BSc (Hons) in Geography and Economics at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) in 2017. He will complete his Masters degree in Local Economic Development at LSE in December 2018 and has secured an assistant consultant post on the socio-economics team at planning consultancy Quod.



■ Oliver Albert



■ Isabella Bird



■ Beatrice Moore



■ James Botcher



■ Freddie Cooper-Rendu



■ Matthew Higgins



■ Georgia O'Connor

Year Group 2015

■ **James Botcher (2008-2015)** gained a 2:1 BA (Hons) in Music from the University of York.

■ **Conor Caplan (2008-2015)** graduated with a First Class BSc (Hons) in Economics from the University of Exeter. He hopes to pursue a career in the financial sector.

■ **Freddie Cooper-Rendu (2008-2015)** graduated from the University of Durham with a 2:1 BSc (Hons) in Physical Geography. Freddie is now working for Marsh as a graduate insurance broker.

■ **Bethany Hartland (2004-2015)** achieved a 2:1 BA (Hons) degree in Drama and Theatre Arts at the University of Birmingham. Bethany is now off to travel around Australia and south-east Asia throughout 2019 before hoping to start work in Event Management.

■ **Matthew Higgins (2005-2015)** graduated with a First Class BSc (Hons) in Investment and Finance in Property from the University of Reading as the top Investment Student 2017/2018. He has started on the Savills Graduate Scheme where he will work towards becoming a chartered surveyor (a member of the RICS) in the next two years.

■ **Will Lord (2008-2015)** was awarded a 2:1 BA (Hons) in English with Film Studies from King's College London.

■ **James Mulholland (2004-2015)** graduated with a First Class BA (Hons) in Philosophy from the University of Bristol.

■ **Georgia O'Connor (2004-2015)** achieved a First Class BA (Hons) degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE) from the University of Durham, St Cuthbert's Society. Georgia is now studying for her Graduate Diploma in Law (GDL) at the University of Law.

■ **Meera Patel (2003-2015)** graduated with a 2:1 BSc (Hons) in Psychology from the University of Leicester. She is currently working as an HR Assistant and is looking to further her career in Human Resources.

■ **Sydney Redhead (2008-2015)** was awarded a 2:1 BA (Hons) degree in Industrial Economics from the University of Nottingham.

■ **Robyn Schaffer (2004-2015)** gained a 2:1 BA (Hons) in Classics from Downing College, Cambridge. She is taking a gap year during which she is travelling and working, including an internship at the *Sunday Times*. Robyn hopes to go into journalism afterwards.



■ Meera Patel



■ Sydney Redhead



■ Conor Caplan



■ Bethany Hartland



■ James Mulholland



■ Robyn Schaffer

Class of '90 & '91 Reunion

by Paul Garfield (1983-1990)



The Class of '90 & '91



The Annual Christmas lunch for the classes of 1990 and 1991 was held this year at The Culpeper, Commercial Street, London. The event was well organised, as ever, by Julian Kirkby and well attended by a crack squad of OCs as follows: James Grant, Paul Garfield, Avi Bradman, Tim Tarring, Matthew Mace, Clive Garfield, Dave Timpson, Mark Stansfield, Steve Andrews, Paddy Mordecai, Neil Ballard, Julian Kirkby, Simon Chapman, Dan Raymond, Jon Arrowsmith and Simon Beard.

Other News...

Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award for OC

Congratulations go to Kayden Chahal (2009-2016) who received his Gold Award at a presentation held at St James' Palace. A Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a huge achievement and is the culmination of a great deal of hard work. He carried out a wide range of activities including playing hockey

for Essex, achieving a gold LAMDA award, volunteering at an elderly care home and completing a tough but rewarding expedition in the Scottish Highlands. His success serves as an encouragement to all those at school currently working towards their different awards.



Outstanding Young Journalist of the Year

Shehab Khan (2005-2012) was awarded the Outstanding Young Journalist of the Year at the Asian Media Awards (AMAs), which celebrate excellence in the media. Shehab commented that it was a huge honour and privilege.

Royal Horticultural Society Certificate

Gavin Haig (1949-1956) was awarded a Royal Horticultural Society Certificate at the Tiverton Garden Society for the Wildlife Garden at Tiverton Hospital.



Beyond Plato's Republic: A New World Structure

Nicholas Hagger (1947-1957)

Nicholas Hagger received the Gusi Peace Prize for Literature in 2016, he believes for continuing the tradition of Churchill, Truman, Einstein, Eisenhower and Gorbachev in calling for a democratic World State (see last OC Mitre). He was subsequently asked to rethink the international order and write the definitive book on world states. *World State* came out in June 2018.

In this book Nicholas sets out the historical background and the failure of the current international order. Since 1945 the UN has failed to prevent 162 wars and there are currently 72 wars still being fought that it has failed to stop. He presents the ideal world state. Nation-states would remain the same internally but would support setting up a World State with sufficient authority to achieve its federal goals: to abolish war and

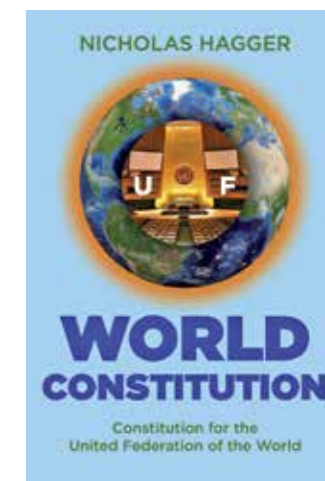
enforce disarmament, share resources and energy, combat disease, famine and poverty, and solve the world's financial and environmental problems.

He presents the structure of the World State and the benefits it would bring and sets out a manifesto that would turn the UN General Assembly into an elected lower house of a democratic World State. He details the constituencies for a World Parliamentary Assembly and World Senate and provides data for his calculations in full appendices.

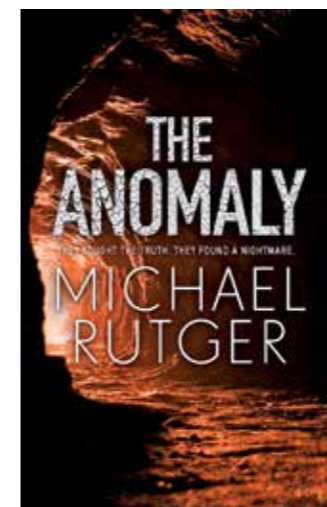
In a companion volume, *World Constitution*, also out in June 2018, he sets out a Constitution for a United Federation of the World (UF). In 145 Articles he details the UF's structure and institutions at international and supranational levels, and the rights and freedoms world

citizens would be guaranteed. He lists the 26 precedents and 204 existing constitutions he consulted (including the UN Charter and the US and EU constitutional documents) and the sources on which the Articles are based. He sets out how the whole world can be governed and can be laid before the UN General Assembly so the delegates can see how this new world structure would bring universal prosperity and peace and create a safer, more peaceful world for our schoolchildren and grandchildren.

He says he greatly appreciates having studied Plato's Republic and the constitutional arrangements of the Greek city-states and Roman Empire in Chigwell's Classical Sixth, which have helped prepare him for these two works.



The Anomaly Michael Smith (1974-1983)



main character — a rogue archaeologist hosting a YouTube documentary series derisively dismissed by the 'real' experts, but beloved of conspiracy theorists.

Nolan and his team set out to retrace the steps of an explorer from 1909, who claimed to have discovered a mysterious cavern high up in the ancient rock of the Grand Canyon.

And, for once, he may have actually found what he seeks...

But then the cave begins turning against them in mysterious ways, and Nolan and the team's quest becomes one of survival against seemingly impossible and terrible odds. The only way out is to answer a series of deadly questions: What is this strange cave? How has it remained hidden for so long?

And why did its last visitors attempt to seal it forever?

Praise for *The Anomaly*:

"This is my kind of book. The suspense mounts slowly... slowly... Then the horror lingers for a long, long time."

— R.L. Stine

"*The Anomaly* crackles with claustrophobic tension that had me holding my breath. Sharp dialogue, a dizzying central plot, and a real sense of dread throughout. I couldn't sleep until I'd finished reading, and then I couldn't sleep just thinking about it. I loved it."

— Sarah Pinborough, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *Behind Her Eyes*

"Gripping, exciting, page-turning fun. I suspect Michael Crichton would have been happy to put his name to it."

— John Connolly, internationally-bestselling author of the *Charlie Parker* mysteries



Michael Rutger is a pen-name of Michael Smith, who has also written *Sunday Times* and *New York Times*-bestselling novels under the names Michael Marshall Smith, and Michael Marshall. His novel *The Intruders* was televised by the BBC in 2014, starring John Simm, Mira Sorvino and introducing Millie Bobby Brown. He additionally works as a screenwriter, and recently joined *The Blank Corporation*, Neil Gaiman's production company, as Creative Consultant. He lives in Santa Cruz, California, with his wife and son.



The Luncheon Club

by *Richard Rosser (1955-1962) & Malcolm Rogers (1950-1959)*

As a general rule, the lunch club meets at the OC Clubhouse in Roding Lane on the first Wednesday of each month. All OCs and their wives, husbands, partners and significant others are very welcome to attend these lunches. If you have never been to one of these exciting events and would like to test the water, all you need to do is to send an e-mail to Malcolm Rogers or Richard Rosser, the organisers of the lunches, who will be very pleased to include you in the list of invitees. Their e-mail addresses are: malcolm@themusiccompany.com and richard.rosser@hotmail.co.uk

One of the exceptions to the Wednesday rule is the Christmas Lunch, which is held nowadays in the dining hall at school, allowing us to cater for greater numbers than can be accommodated at the Clubhouse, but this means that the lunch cannot be held until the day after the school term has ended, when the caterers are still on the premises. Last December our Christmas lunch was attended by more than seventy members of the Club. The other exception to the Wednesday rule is the Headmaster's Invitation Lunch in July, when the Headmaster kindly entertains us in the dining hall on the

day after the summer term ends. This summer some fifty-six members were present at the Invitation Lunch on a blisteringly hot Thursday, 12th July, and were treated to an excellent lunch by Chartwells, the school caterers, the firm which now provides all the club lunches.

This year our 'Awayday' was held for the fourth year running at the Fox & Goose, a very efficient and entertaining gastropub at Roxwell on the road between Ongar and Chelmsford, and was attended by forty-three members. Although the club does not usually meet in January, Malcolm and I are considering the possibility of a 'Winter Awayday' to be held at the Axe & Compasses in Aythorpe Roding. No date has yet been fixed, but it would probably be the second Wednesday in January (weather permitting).

On behalf of the members, Malcolm and I would like to express our thanks to Chartwells, for providing exceedingly good lunches. We should be remiss if we did not also say a heartfelt thank you for the hard work put in by the chef and other members of Chartwells staff, who run the bar, lay the tables and serve the lunches, all with the greatest efficiency and good humour.



Recent Leavers' Party 2017

Each year in late December, our newest cohort of Old Chigwellians are invited back to School to catch up with each other and with life at Chigwell. On this occasion, not only did the Leavers from the previous three years have the opportunity to have an enjoyable reunion but they were also treated to a preview of the newly refurbished School Dining Hall ahead of its official opening.



Tower of London Visit

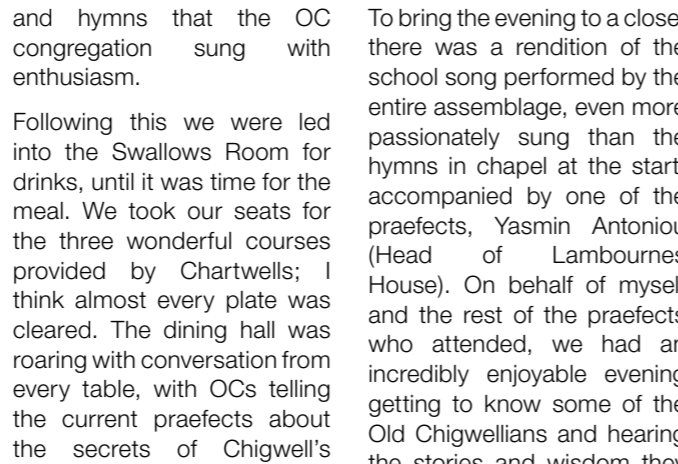
Once again, the ever-popular OC trip to the Tower of London was a sell-out. OCs of all ages delighted in a festive visit to this iconic landmark in our capital. They had a private guided tour of this historic national monument, by one of the current Yeoman Warders, when it was closed to the general public. They were able to hear the 'non tourist' 900-year history of this fascinating place and then enjoy a fish and

chip supper and free bar in the Yeoman Warders' Private Club. The evening culminated in a chance to witness the seldom seen and never televised 'Ceremony of the Keys' with the armed escort and bugler on parade. In addition, this event managed to raise £816 for the hospital radio station 'Forest Radio'. A big thank-you again this year to Chris McDonald OC who arranged this opportunity for everyone.



The Sesquicentennial Shrove Tuesday

by Maddie Lovett (2007-2018)



and hymns that the OC congregation sung with enthusiasm.

Following this we were led into the Swallows Room for drinks, until it was time for the meal. We took our seats for the three wonderful courses provided by Chartwells; I think almost every plate was cleared. The dining hall was roaring with conversation from every table, with OCs telling the current praefects about the secrets of Chigwell's past, as well as some more intellectual discussions, of course. Following the meal, the room's attention was drawn to the front where the three speeches commenced, the first by the Head of School, Maddie Lovett, followed by the Headmaster and finally by the OCA President, The Rt Revd Tim Stevens. All three were well received and (I hope!) well appreciated by the attendees.

To bring the evening to a close, there was a rendition of the school song performed by the entire assemblage, even more passionately sung than the hymns in chapel at the start, accompanied by one of the praefects, Yasmin Antoniou (Head of Lambournes House). On behalf of myself and the rest of the praefects who attended, we had an incredibly enjoyable evening getting to know some of the Old Chigwellians and hearing the stories and wisdom they had to offer. I'm afraid you may be seeing some more of us in the years to come!

The 151st Shrove Tuesday Dinner will take place on Tuesday 5th March 2019. If you would like to attend, please see the tear-out reply slip at the end of the OC Events section for further details, or contact the Development Office at development@chigwell-school.org

This year marked the 150th anniversary of the OC Shrove Tuesday dinners, causing an astounding turn-out of nearly 150 OCs. Luckily, we had the new dining hall extension to accommodate everyone, including praefects. The evening began with the Chapel Service led by The Rt Revd Tim Stevens (1955-1964), with readings and prayers from all the praefects,

OC Day

On Saturday 30th June, following the OCA AGM, there was a sunny afternoon of OC cricket and football with a tasty BBQ for all to relish.

School took the honours in the cricket but the competitive game was played in good spirit and with much good talent on display. Despite competing with World Cup fixtures the OC football was likewise a hard fought but good-tempered match.

Next year, OC Day will be on Saturday 29th June and we hope to build on 2018's success by including a hockey match as well as other activities too. We hope to encourage as many OCs and their families to join us as possible. If you would like to participate in the sports or the spectating next time please do contact the Development Office: development@chigwell-school.org



Team Chigwell Run for Charity by Gill Punt

Old Chigwellians, Chigwell parents and staff ran in the Royal Parks Half Marathon, the British 10k and the Vitality London 10,000 to raise money for charity this year.

Nearly a hundred ran in the Half Marathon but all three events took runners past many of London's most famous sights. Together, the events raised over £90k for Cancer Research UK.

Pre Prep children ran their own mini marathon, also to raise funds for CRUK. Mrs Gibbs, Head of the Pre Prep, said that she was particularly impressed with how far the children ran, how quickly they completed the challenge and by the team spirit which was clearly evident on the day.

Ed Aspel, the Executive Director of Fundraising and Marketing at Cancer Research UK, said, "No individual person or single action will beat cancer and the fundraising community at Chigwell School is one of the finest examples of where these beliefs are being put into action. Your support is helping us to make faster progress towards our goal of three in four people surviving cancer by 2034. Congratulations to each and every one of you who have taken part in an event this year. Together we will beat cancer."

If you would be interested in participating in these events in the future please contact Gill Punt at: development@chigwell-school.org



■ Gill & Sophie Raworth



TUESDAY 5TH MARCH 2019

Programme:

- 6.50pm – Chapel Service
- 7.00pm – Bar opens in the Swallow Room
- 7.45pm – Supper in the Dining Hall

Ticket: £39 per person

(includes three-course meal with half a bottle of wine)

Please return to: Mrs Gill Punt, Development Office, Chigwell School, High Road, Chigwell, Essex IG7 6QF, not later than 1st February 2019. Enquiries: Tel 020 8501 5748. Email development@chigwell-school.org

Name (IN BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE):

Address:

Town: County: Post Code:

Tel No: Mobile:

Email Address:

I would like to attend the 151st Shrove Tuesday Supper on Tuesday 5th March 2019.

Please book me places at £39 per ticket, for a total of £

Signed: Date:

Cheque payable to **Chigwell School**, or you can make a bank transfer payment by using the following details:
 Bank: HSBC Sort Code: 40-47-15 Account No: 00232157
 Please use the reference **Shrove2019** and add your surname to identify your payment.

If you have any special dietary requirements or would prefer the vegetarian option for this event please contact the Development Office.

Bursaries by Michael Punt, Headmaster

Last year in the OC Mitre I described how I visit families who have applied for a bursary to enable their son/daughter to attend Chigwell. I outlined the difference that a bursary makes to a life and how the majority of bursary holders thrive at Chigwell, both academically and in all aspects of school. Once again, I was delighted that the award of bursaries made it possible for a small number of children to join us in September even though they come from very low income families. I wrote to Lord Agnew, Under-Secretary-of-State for the School System, to describe our approach and in his reply he commented, "The extract that you share from your bursary holder tells a very illuminating story and the life changing opportunity it has given your pupil. I hope that in many years, we can celebrate more examples like this, not only from Chigwell, but from all the best schools across the independent sector."

The extract that I shared with Lord Agnew was written by a student who spent seven years with us because of a bursary and thrived in every way. That student is now studying at a top university and I suspect will have a very different life as a result:

"Mum knew about bursaries but she also knew that I would not be able to go to a school like Chigwell without one so

when we applied for a place, we applied for a bursary at the same time. We visited Chigwell and I had also played in sports tournaments there, and I really wanted to go. Not only is it the best school but I liked the feel of it and I had friends who wanted to go there too.

I took the entrance exam and then the Headmaster visited us at home for our bursary visit. I was a bit daunted by this and didn't know what to expect, not least because Mum and I didn't know whether I would be offered a place at all.

I still remember the day when I got my offer of a place at Chigwell. I came out of school and Mum was holding a letter. She let me open it and when I saw that I had a bursary I ran straight back into school and showed my Headmistress who gave me a hug. Mum was delighted too.

I was a bit worried about going to school in an affluent area but I immediately made friends, some of whom came round to stay for sleepovers within the first month. I never knew who else had a bursary and I never felt that I was treated any differently because I had one, although I couldn't go on the ski trip, for example, and was never going to have a car like some Sixth Formers. However, I have always been really happy here and I have never worried at all about fitting in. Pupils

come from all different types of families and I feel that I am accepted for who I am.

Having a bursary has definitely made a difference to me and my prospects. I was also offered a place at a local school where some of my friends went, but I feel that Chigwell has suited me so much better. It has made me really well-rounded. I loved being a praefect and I still remember the day trip we all went on to Boulogne in our first year. I have really enjoyed all the sport and, at one stage, drama was the centre of my world and some of the plays I was in have been amazing. I will always remember them all. Year 10 was probably my favourite year because although we had begun GCSE work, we didn't yet have the pressure of the exams themselves.

I am very patriotic about my House – in fact, I think I will mention it on my gravestone! House Music is unbelievable and Mum is still in awe of it. Some of the musicians here are extraordinary and sometimes when I hear the orchestra or the choir, I think how amazing they are. We often say that some people in our year group will be famous one day – so many people here are so talented.

If I had my time again, I would definitely come to Chigwell again if I could – 100%. I have



got everything I wanted out of school and I have made friends with whom I will stay in touch forever. As I leave, I appreciate Chigwell even more and I hope my children will be able to come here too one day, and I would encourage others to apply for a bursary like me."

School, and Chigwell in particular, ought to make a significant positive difference to the lives of all those who are fortunate enough to attend. The vast majority of parents make huge sacrifices to pay fees and we would like to be able to help more bright children from the least affluent families to attend by providing more carefully means-tested bursaries. We have a bursary fund and if you would like to contribute to it, perhaps as a one-off donation, through regular giving or through a donation from a company, we would be delighted to hear from you. It is no exaggeration to say that you would be helping to change a life for the better. Please contact the Development Office at development@chigwell-school.org



SATURDAY 30TH MARCH 2019

Programme:

- 6.15pm – Evensong with the Chapel Choir
- 7.00pm – Drinks Reception in the Swallow Room
- 7.30pm – Three-Course Dinner in the newly extended School Dining Hall
- Tours of School are available before Evensong.

Ticket: £45 per person (Under 25s: £30 per person)
(includes pre-dinner drinks reception and a three-course meal with half a bottle of wine)

Please return to: Mrs Gill Punt, Development Office, Chigwell School, High Road, Chigwell, Essex IG7 6QF, not later than 1st February 2019. Enquiries: Tel 020 8501 5748. Email development@chigwell-school.org

Name (IN BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE): _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ County: _____ Post Code: _____

Tel No: _____ Mobile: _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to attend the Black Tie Dinner on Saturday 30th March 2019.

Please book me places at £45 per ticket (£30 for Under 25s), for a total of £

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Cheque payable to **Chigwell School**, or you can make a bank transfer payment by using the following details:
Bank: HSBC Sort Code: 40-47-15 Account No: 00232157
Please use the reference **BTD2019** and add your surname to identify your payment.

If you have any special dietary requirements or would prefer the vegetarian option for this event please contact the Development Office.

Please support us to change lives at Chigwell...

10

people giving a one-off donation of **£1,500** (with gift aid)

10

people giving a monthly donation of **£125** (with gift aid)

Leaving a Legacy to Chigwell School

Chigwell School has always been ahead of the times. It was founded by Archbishop Samuel Harsnett with a mission – to provide free or heavily subsidised places for local 'poorer Scholars'. Four centuries later, this is still very much one of the School's top main goals.

A legacy to Chigwell School is one of the greatest gifts you can make, and is a lasting testimony to your affection for the School.

In leaving a legacy, you can direct your bequest to an area of your choice or support all aspects of life at Chigwell by allocating your gift to the area of greatest need. For instance, you may wish your legacy to be used to fund bursaries.

Making a Will is a sensitive task and, of course, provision for your family must take priority. However, we hope that you will consider Chigwell and join those who have helped us to ensure that Chigwell School remains one of the best schools in the country.

The Development Office would be very happy to suggest appropriate wording for the most common types of legacy. However, we recommend that wording is carefully reviewed by you and your solicitor in the context of your Will and personal circumstances.

The 1629 Society

We appreciate that making a bequest to Chigwell is a very personal decision. We understand that and, of course, would guarantee anonymity and respect privacy. However, we hope that you will inform us of your intentions so that we can thank you for your kindness and generosity during your lifetime.

In order that we can recognise the kindness of those who have remembered Chigwell in their Will we have founded the 1629 Society, marking the year our School was founded by Archbishop Samuel Harsnett. Everybody who has made us aware of their intention to include the School in their Will automatically becomes a member.

For further information, please contact the Development Office
T: 020 8501 5748, E: development@chigwell-school.org

Chigwell School is an Incorporated Charity, No. 1115098. It exists to provide a first-class, all round education for its pupils.



The Old Chigwellians' Lodge

by the Secretary, The Revd Michael Bradley

Being Secretary of a Masonic Lodge brings many opportunities to connect with Old Boys of the School and I have that great privilege and keep up with their various successes and events. However, it also puts one in the position of being party to sad news as well as joyous, by which I have to record the death of one of the great supporters of the Lodge, Geoffrey Gough, who passed to the Grand Lodge Above a month or two ago. I recall Geoffrey as a true Gentle Man, one to whom politeness was second nature and who could be relied upon for a kind word about anyone. Though he has not been able to attend meetings for quite some time now – the trip from his home to town is not the easiest – but posting him the various papers for the meetings along with a short note always brought a response together with a donation to the charity box. No doubt others who knew him far better than I will report more fully about his life but I cannot but say that here passes a great man; humble of demeanour but great of stature, a true Gentleman and a credit to his alma mater and to his Lodge. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

On a happier note I am able to record that WBro Ricky Gardezi has been awarded London Grand Rank in recognition of his work for the Lodge and Freemasonry, this promotion is most deserved as Ricky has taken the tenets of Freemasonry

very much to heart raising no small amounts for a variety of charitable causes as well as being a staunch supporter of his Old School Lodge, needless to say it's also something of a feather in our cap to have a brother so honoured. I am pleased to say that in general the Lodge continues to flourish with a steady stream of interest in joining. Of the four meetings we have in the year undoubtedly the highlight is that held at the School in May and the Lodge is very grateful for the continuing support offered by the Headmaster, Michael Punt, and the Governors. Thanks must also go to Mrs Evelyn Gibbs who willingly hands over the Pre Prep department for our business meeting. This year our Chapel service was led by the new school Chaplain, Rev. Gary Scott, and it was a delight to welcome both him and the spouses and partners of our brethren to dinner in the new extension of the Dining Hall, I can report that we enjoyed excellent food in a convivial atmosphere. I write this just as we are preparing for our next meeting in a few days' time when we are to welcome Jusden Halibi as a brother amongst us and his initiation will be attended by his father. Now this offers an opportunity for me to say that membership of the Old Chigwellian Lodge is open to Old Boys and those who have been, or are, associated with the school, any enquiries directed to me



■ Raj Chada OC on Sky TV's Inside Freemasonry



at mikebradley03@yahoo.co.uk. Freemasonry these days has progressed in openness about what we do and one of our main charitable efforts this year is to raise money for a fire tender with extendable ladders which will be able to fight fires in high rise buildings, a very worth cause indeed, and

should any of you happen to observe one of the London Air Ambulances on a mission, try and spot the Square and Compass symbol on the underneath which indicates that it is one of the fleet that London Freemason's donated to the Air Ambulance team.

As part of the greater sense of openness in Freemasonry the sharp eyed amongst you might also have observed one of our Brothers representing the School in the Lord Mayor's Show last November, and there will be another group this year no doubt, whatever the weather!



■ Richard Potter OC in the Lord Mayor's Parade

The OC Lodge will meet on the following Thursdays in 2019:

14th February, 19th September and 21st November at Mark Masons' Hall, St James' St, London and on Saturday 11th May at Chigwell School.

The 94th Annual OCFC Supper *by Paul Garfield (1983-1990)*

This year's club supper was another extremely entertaining and well supported evening. The OC Clubhouse was packed once again for this event. West Ham Legend, Tony Gale, was guest speaker and true to tradition he sportingly wore his Old Chigwellians' tie throughout.



The Player of the Year awards were as follows:

- 1st XI – Christian Purdy
- 2nd XI – Nick Brown
- 3rd XI – Chris Taylor and Phil Barnes
- Veterans – Peter Cooper
- Top Goalscorer – Josh Coppeard and Alex Brown (17 goals apiece)
- Young Player of the Year – Tom Gandhi

1st XI Football *by Christian Purdy*

The 2017/18 season saw the 1st XI team back where they belong in the Premier Division. We started off our campaign with an empathic 5-0 home win against Old Wycks who had won the 1st Division the year before and been promoted with us. An outstanding performance on the day from Alex Gandhi who went on to be our top goalscorer for the season with ten goals.

Goals were hard to come by despite our best efforts last season but our defensive display was strong. This allowed us to finish our campaign with a goal difference of -1.

Two cracking games against local rivals Forest were the stand out performances last season. A hard fought 0-0 and a 0-1 loss in the last minutes against the 2018 League Champions. A very much

needed 3-2 win against Old Salopians on the final fixture before Christmas gave some light between us and the bottom two and the breathing space was most welcome.

The 2017/2018 season was the final one for a number of key team members who have 'retired' to concentrate on other interests, e.g. babies and marriage. However, the team

remain undaunted for the new season to come. The 2018/19 campaign will be see a new 1st team captain and an influx of youth. We hope for a solid season and a good cup run.



2nd XI Football *by Adam Tomkins (1996-2007)*



Top Row L-R: Alex Brown, James Buller, Will Higgins, Nick Brown, Josh Coppeard, Jack Redmond, Tom Steward
Bottom Row L-R: Tom Parsons, Joe Chapel, Tom Gandhi, Adam Tomkins, Nadim Kala, Sam Pinching

Played 18, won 13, drew 2, lost 3. Goals for 48. Goals against 17.

Promotion back into Division Two secured.

As ever, we started the season slowly. One win and two losses from our first three games was not the start we expected. Our fourth game was a tough away trip to Tonbridge who were unbeaten after four games. We went there with a different mentality and a different formation for what we knew was a must-win game. Credit must go to my 1st XI counterpart, Antonio Lautman for suggesting changing to an attacking 4-3-3 formation. We produced one of the performances of the season, winning 3-0.

This was to be the first in a run of eight straight wins, six of which were away from home.

The change in formation allowed us to play to our strengths, particularly up top where Alex Brown, Josh Coppeard and Shaun Douglas caused havoc against every defence in the league. Both Alex and Josh had prolific seasons, returning 17 goals apiece. Shaun would have

been on similar numbers had Antonio not got a whiff of his powers.

During these eight games, we scored 28 and conceded five. This brings me to our defensive line. Our regular goalkeeper, Nick Brown was an absolute revelation this season. Out of the 13 league games he played, he only picked the ball out of the net seven times, one of which was scored by his own captain, which definitely did not go over the line. He regularly produced match-winning performances, notably against Aldenham and Haberdashers.

As ever, Ben Alexander (A.K.A. Bale) showed great maturity and leadership at the back with Ryan Jackson and our dressing room DJ, Tom Gandhi providing great athleticism down on the right. Tom Steward, aside from nearly exploding at Merchant Taylors, was a calming influence at the back and the ever experienced Will Taylor and Dave Costello made up the back line that had the best defensive record in the league by some distance.

In midfield, James Buller was the composed anchor while his two dogs, Tom Parsons

and I went about our business of attempting to tackle anything that moved. Newbie Ben Avery impressed with his direct approach and gave us added bite in the middle. My two little dynamos, Anthony Koczan and Nadim Kala both chipped in with important goals but more importantly always played with plenty of heart and energy.

That eight-game winning streak put us in a great position for promotion and possibly to win the league. Aside from a disappointing 1-0 away loss to Merchant Taylors, we went unbeaten in our remaining seven games, winning home and away against City of London, the eventual champions. The 3-2 away victory against them in the penultimate game was the most memorable result of the season where some underhand tactics from the opposition meant that we had to play with a weakened side. News of this result filtered back to the League Secretary who text me saying 'I always think the reaction to facing potential adversity is the true test of a man's character. Very well done'. We look forward to taking another six points off them in Division 2.

Getting promoted from a league that contained six 1st XI sides shows the strength and depth of this club. We go back into Division Two full of optimism knowing we can challenge the top sides.

Finally, a couple of special mentions. Firstly, to James Houghton. James is a great club man who has helped out all teams yet again and has been a massive part of the successes that the 1st and 2nd XI have enjoyed this year.

Secondly, as you probably know, Greg Lautman and Mark Hutchinson are to step down as captains of their respective teams. Both have given a lot to the club over the last few years. Speaking for the 1s and 2s in particular, both have reached their goal of returning to their rightful place in the Arthurian League but more than that, the atmosphere and social side has grown from being virtually non-existent a few years ago to thriving now and Greg has been a massive part of that. On behalf of the Old Chigs 1s and 2s group, the Three Colts and Faces Nightclub, I thank you.

3rd XI Football

by Mark Hutchinson (1996-2007)

With the playoff heartbreak of 2017 still fresh in the memory, the 3rd team began the 2017/18 season with confidence that we could again challenge for the promotion. By the 16th September, that idea was well and truly blown away. Significant losses to Brentwood and Columbans proved a sign of things to come. The 8-0 loss away at Columbans proved too much for some, with James Long deciding to substitute himself with ten minutes to go, shocked at the thought of further defending to do.

The best game of the year came in the JLC, a competition that we usually do relatively well in. Coming back from 2-0 down, to force extra time, against a team in the League above, did briefly show the ability the squad had. We

led 3-2 in extra time – for 90 seconds – and ended up losing 4-3. However, it was a rare game that showed promise, and unfortunately did not reflect the season as a whole. The squad is older than it once was, and the priorities have changed.

We had to wait until November to register one of only two wins all season against Choms (Highgate). The second being against Forest, which is always nice to report on, given they have always been a close rival for Chigwell.

Looking back, there were some clear signs of why we fared so poorly this year. In 2016/17 we conceded 22 goals in the whole League season. The 2017/18 season, we conceded 27 in the first six games! We simply did not score enough

goals to make any impact on the League. Phil Barnes scored six in 11 from midfield. Chris Taylor three in 13, the only ever-present player. Quite rightly, these two shared the Player of the Season award, as after a couple of thoughtful evenings, I could not separate their contributions.

The other remarkable problem, the lack of a consistent side, with the 3s having to use 43 players in 13 games. Our Player of the Year from the 2016/17 season, David Bode, the ‘Ginger Kante’ only played once, after suffering nerve damage in his hand during the summer. His recovery is going well, and we hope to have him back in the future. Ben Williams suffered a double collar bone break while skiing, leaving us without our imposing goalkeeper we had come to

rely on. As ever, the Crawford twins had endless amounts of injuries, yet one of them managed to run a marathon! Our stand-in goalkeeper, and greatly valued all-round team man, Dan Carter, pulled a hamstring, while standing up. Youth recruitment is vital for next season.

My thanks go to everyone that played for the 3rd XI, and as ever, to the players from other teams that helped us out. I've decided it is time for a change, and to step down from a leadership role, but have a superb replacement in Chris Price, who will start the rebuilding process, to get the third team back to Division 4. Best of luck to Chris; I have no doubts he will both reduce the average age of the 3rd XI, and be a tremendous success.



■ Back Row (L-R): Ali Taylor, Adam Crawford, Chris Taylor, James Houghton, Dean Whitehead, Alex Drew
Front Row (L-R): Chris Price, Phil Barnes, Mark Hutchinson (C), Dave Horton, James Mckenna, Matt Koczan

Vets Football *by Pete Vohmann*

The 2017-18 season saw the Vets change gear. Our previous success in reaching two consecutive London Old Boys Cup finals alerted the FA Greene King League to our enthusiasm and with some fairly persistent lobbying about our quality (and a site visit where the facilities always impress) we were catapulted straight into Division 2 of the five-league set-up; a major coup.

“How good are we?” Was the question on all of our minds. We had a deep squad, there was no doubting the excellence of our changing room chit-chat and enthusiasm for post-game refreshments, but on the pitch, we had no marker. Years of intermittent local friendlies and the occasional Arthur Dunn Cup match provided no benchmark; and this was serious. The opposition would arrive punctually and their warm-up was more than a Mars and a Marlboro, everyone had to be registered with photos and age control was to be strictly enforced. Linesman, cards, online league tables, text result service; it was a little overwhelming but the one thing that boosted confidence was the fact that Flash was back.

3-1 down with ten minutes to go in our opening game I feared the worst but we scraped a point. By February we were in four semi-finals, a quarter final



■ Back Row (L-R): Luke Dorney, John Connolly, Alex Moore, Mark Flashman, Andy Brandon
Middle (L-R): Stuey Owens, Jon Mahoney, Jamie Smith, Peter Vohmann (Capt), Dylan Williams, Clive Garfield, James Gilzean, Peter Cooper
Front (L-R): Paul Garfield, Emlyn Foody, Steve Beverly
Missing: Tyrone Compton, Robbie Manc, James Houghton

and top of the league. Alas as the games came thick and fast we slipped from the top of the league and start to depart from Cup competitions. We hosted the VFA final which was a wonderful club day but again lost a final 4-2. With just the London Old Boys final left the tension was unbearable. Surely, we would not finish the season empty-handed, and fail for the third time at the finishing line in the LOB, the fourth cup final defeat in three years... This time it was ours, a fantastic display to defeat Old Salvatorians after frankly wonder goals from the evergreen Andy Brandon and yours truly we got over the

line and became proud LOB champions.

Stars of the season were Flash, Jon Mahoney, Andy Brandon, Jamie Smith, and Players' Player of the Year Pete Cooper who is the best and bravest player I have seen at the club. Special thanks to our very own ICF, Mssrs Davies, Mitchell, Rosser, Morrison, Garfield et al. It's such a treat to have this merry bunch follow us around, and with our families supporting and playing an active social part the OCs is the best club scene I have ever been part of.

Lastly thanks to the school, real effort had been made

to foster great relations both ways, there is so much to build upon and the foundations are strong. It was superb to invite the school 1st XI into our pre-season tournament this year and we look forward to helping young players develop both on and off the pitch.

With 38 games and a cup win, last year will take some beating, but two games into 2018/19 we are top of the league with a squad so full we have plans next year for two teams. If you are reading this and have some boots, come down, it's never too late (or too early).

University OC XI v School

New for 2018 was a University OC XI versus School and Staff team. On a very wet end of term day, staff took to the football field against an OC XI made up of essentially 2017/2018 students. Despite difficult conditions the standard of play was very high and the final result was a 2-2 draw after a late equalising goal from the staff. Liam Farrant and Ben Sanders scored for the students and Richard Hume and Will Tomsett netted for the staff.



Golfing Society Report

by Ashley Whitby (1972-1980)



■ Buster Oxley & Ashley Whitby

It was an honour to be asked by the Old Chigwellians Golfing Society to be captain for the year, ignoring the fact that Miles Taylor and Buster Oxley sat me down after The Scratch Foursomes at Thorndon Park Golf Club and said "Have you got much on this year?" to which I responded "Yes!" to which they replied "Never mind you are captain this year, I'm sure you will cope."

The season commenced with the famous Halford Hewitt at Royal Cinque Ports and Royal St George's. It is worth noting that 64 English and Scottish public schools participate with each fielding five foursome pairs making 640 competitors in all. Sadly we lost in the first round to St Paul's but we did not go down without a fight with the match going to the 22nd hole.

I was invited for the first time to the Past Captains Day at Hunstanton Golf Club on the Norfolk Coast. It is the tradition of this meeting that the current Captain is invited to join the other past captains, primarily some would say to bring along prizes! The morning started promisingly with reasonably fair weather; however, the skies looked ominous and, by the end of the morning round, precipitation commenced. By the afternoon conditions can only be likened to that of a monsoon and for those brave souls that ventured out, they

were rewarded with a thorough soaking. In the morning the individual winner was James Houghton with 38 Stapleford pts, Richard (Buster) Oxley 2nd with 37 pts and Andrew Rushton 3rd with 35 pts. Only 6 had the fortitude to play in the afternoon foursomes with Charlie Biss and Buster Oxley triumphant with 37 pts. A bit of trivia for you all, James Houghton is a new name on the Tankard.

This year's spring meeting, under the organisation of Simon Hutchin, was once again held at Royal Worlington Golf Club. The weather was glorious sunshine which really was the order of the day for the rest of the summer. The Scratch Stapleford was won by Ashley Whitby with a magnificent 36 pts and the winner of the Stapleford competition, Richard (Buster) Oxley 43 pts. The Rabbits was won by Martin Brett and he also claimed victory with his partner Stuart Harding in the David Durell afternoon foursomes.

Sadly, this year, the society lost a stalwart member in David Durell, a much loved, distinctive, charming man on and off the course.

My Captains Day was hosted at Essendon Golf Club and played on the old course, a classic undulating parkland layout. With a reasonable turnout and magnificent weather a good day was had by all. Charlie Biss took the spoils with a very creditable 40 pts off a handicap of 7.

Our autumn meeting, which is always eagerly anticipated, returned to Royal Cinque Ports at Deal. We broke from tradition this year with the new format of 2 rounds on the Friday and one round on the Saturday which meant everyone was home by Saturday evening. The general feedback was that of approval. It was good to see a large younger contingent and may this long continue.

The Presidents Cup was won by Philip Oxley with 34pts, The Foursomes Cup, Charlie Biss and Stuart Harding with 35 pts, The Turner Scratch Buster Oxley with 31 pts, The Captains Prize Buster Oxley with 41 pts and Charlie Biss claimed victory of The Weekend Pot with 95 pts. Other prize winners included Andy Jefcoate for the Eclectic and Sam Pinchin who was presented with the Presidents Putter for returning back from watching the Ryder Cup to support the society. Well done!

We qualified at Denham Golf Club for the finals of The Grafton Morrish which will take place in early October at Hunstanton and Lancaster. We managed a scratch foursomes total of 81 pts from our 3 pairs John Bint and Jasper Carr 32 pts, Richard Gull and James Houlton 28 pts and Sam Oxley and Ryan Jackson 21 pts. Good luck boys!

The Cyril Gray an elite event of scratch foursomes for the over 50s led by the ever capable Charlie Biss did rather well this year getting to the quarter finals of the main competition but sadly lost out to Fettes

late on Friday evening in the Worplesdon gloom.

We topped the table of the 2018 Essex Public Schools League, managing to defeat Bancrofts, Forest Brentwood and only losing to Felsted marginally. We also won The Essex Schools Spring Meeting at Toot Hill which for those who don't know is the combined score of the best 3 Stapleford results from each school team. Buster Oxley, Will Taylor and Philip Oxley being our triumphant winners.

In closing I would like to encourage any OC golfers who aren't affiliated to the Society to get in touch. There are plenty of social matches to enjoy as well the competitions that we enter and it would be marvellous to see some new faces at next year's events. Anyone interested should either contact me by email awhitby@williampears.co.uk or our Secretary and Treasurer Miles Taylor at milestaylor@btinternet.com. Finally, I would like to thank Miles Taylor for continuing his sterling work for the society and also every member who attended an event this year.



■ Deal Weekend – (L-R): Buster Oxley, Rory Taylor, Charlie Biss, Philip Oxley

Tennis Report

by Howard Berndes (1967-1974)

Sadly we had to withdraw the first team (A) from this year's South West Essex mid-week league as despite Will Taylor's best efforts, he couldn't get enough players to commit to playing at the level the higher leagues require.

This left the second team (B) to hold the mantle in Division 4 where fortunes were again mixed. Despite good victories over Whitehall, Ridgeway and Friary B, we still struggled against the two of the stronger clubs, Drummond B and Buckhurst Hill B and eventually running out mid-table. However, on a positive note there was a healthy competition for places without the first team players dropping down and regular availability through injury and other commitments of some of the old regulars. This included David Morrison whose long-standing knee injury and regular trips to Europe limited court time to two guest appearances.

There were some notably good and gritty performances that should be mentioned by a number of players including

Richard Potter, Skahil Chaudry, Simon Phelps, Ali Hai, Chris Taylor and Nick Garnish.

The team was ably organised and led again by Ross Berndes (el captain) who not only managed to get a team out, with the help of what's app, but also must be thanked for providing the best food and liquid refreshment on the circuit after each home game.

Please don't be shy, some of the keener players have restarted playing socially on Sunday mornings and if you would like to play or make yourself available for selection, even if it's just for the occasional game, contact Ross ross@rossmotors.co.uk. We do still need to strengthen our squad particularly with some younger members so we can enter a second team.

A society of our size should be able to maintain and run at least two teams and would also like to appeal to ladies members to try and get a team together as we could then re-enter the Ladies league, which would have made our mentor, Jim Tribe, proud.

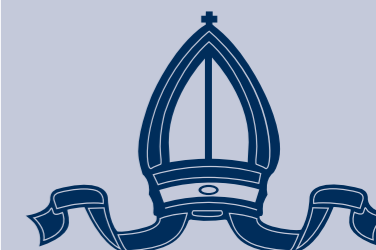


■ Mike Bond and Arbie Botha

We have some of best facilities of any of the local clubs, which are currently underutilised and come without an expensive membership.



■ OC Tennis L-R: Mike Bond, Richard Potter, Nick Garnish, Ross Berndes, Arbie Botha and Chris Taylor



MCC v School

The final School cricket match of the season was the 1st XI fixture against the MCC side, captained by Old Chigwellian Rahul Bhome. The match was drawn and afterwards Rahul presented the Spirit of Cricket Cap to Ben Chillingworth.



OC Rowing Club



■ The OC Rowing Club Vets – Nick Bretland (1968-1975) and Nick Suess (1959-1965) – together at a regatta in Perth, Australia

David Hill Stuart Abernethy Anderson (1945-1949)

by David Gordon (1948-1956)

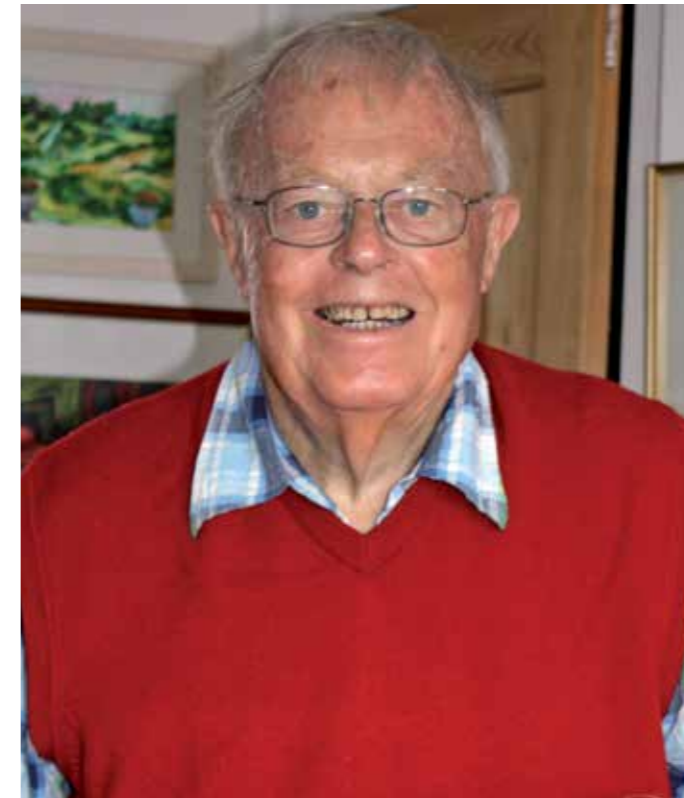
David was born in Cyprus in 1931 to Forbes and Bettine Anderson. His father, himself an Old Chigwellian, served in the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and the family returned to Scotland in 1938 when his father was recalled to the colours.

After early schooling in Scotland, David came as a boarder to Chigwell in 1945. He was a talented sportsman, representing the school in the first XI at both cricket and football, gaining colours in both, and becoming vice captain of the cricket team. He also competed in the athletics team and the cross country running team. He was a sergeant in the CCF and was a school praefect in his final two years at school. In 1949, he was selected for a British Schools Exploring Society expedition to Norway, perhaps a precursor of his lifetime wanderlust.

In 1950, he commenced his National Service, joining his father's regiment and gaining the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. He volunteered to serve in Korea, first with the 1st Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and then with the Kings Own Scottish Borderers.

This was a formative part of his life, making a big impact on his view of the world. It was a moving occasion when, 60 years later, he was a guest of the South Korean government who wanted to say thank you to those who fought for their freedom.

After National Service, he quickly decided that his future was overseas and he first worked in Malaya. Then he accepted a job with the Colonial Office that took him to East Africa, to Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. He developed a deep love for Kenya and spent many years there both working and in



retirement when he wintered in Lamu. His wanderlust also took him to Iran (then Persia) and he worked there throughout the revolution.

His personal life was marked by tragedy. His first wife, Margaret, was struck down by malaria at an early age leaving two small children, Siobhan and Rebecca. He later married Kitty and they had a child, Morag, but both Kitty and Morag died leaving David a widower for the second time.

His life then started to focus on England and on Aldeburgh in Suffolk in particular, where his parents had established their home in retirement. But in between caring for his parents, his wanderlust took him to assignments in Eastern Europe, India and Pakistan.

Finally, he settled down to his own retirement in Aldeburgh, inheriting his parents' home. And he finally achieved personal happiness by

meeting up with a long-term friend from Uganda days. He married Caralyn in 2006 and they enjoyed 12 happy years together.

His sporting talents continued into retirement and he joined a group of eminent golfers called the Treacle Miners at Aldeburgh Golf Club where he played until just a few weeks before his death. In his own inimitable style he cheekily described the Treacle Miners as a group of old codgers who once knew how to play golf!

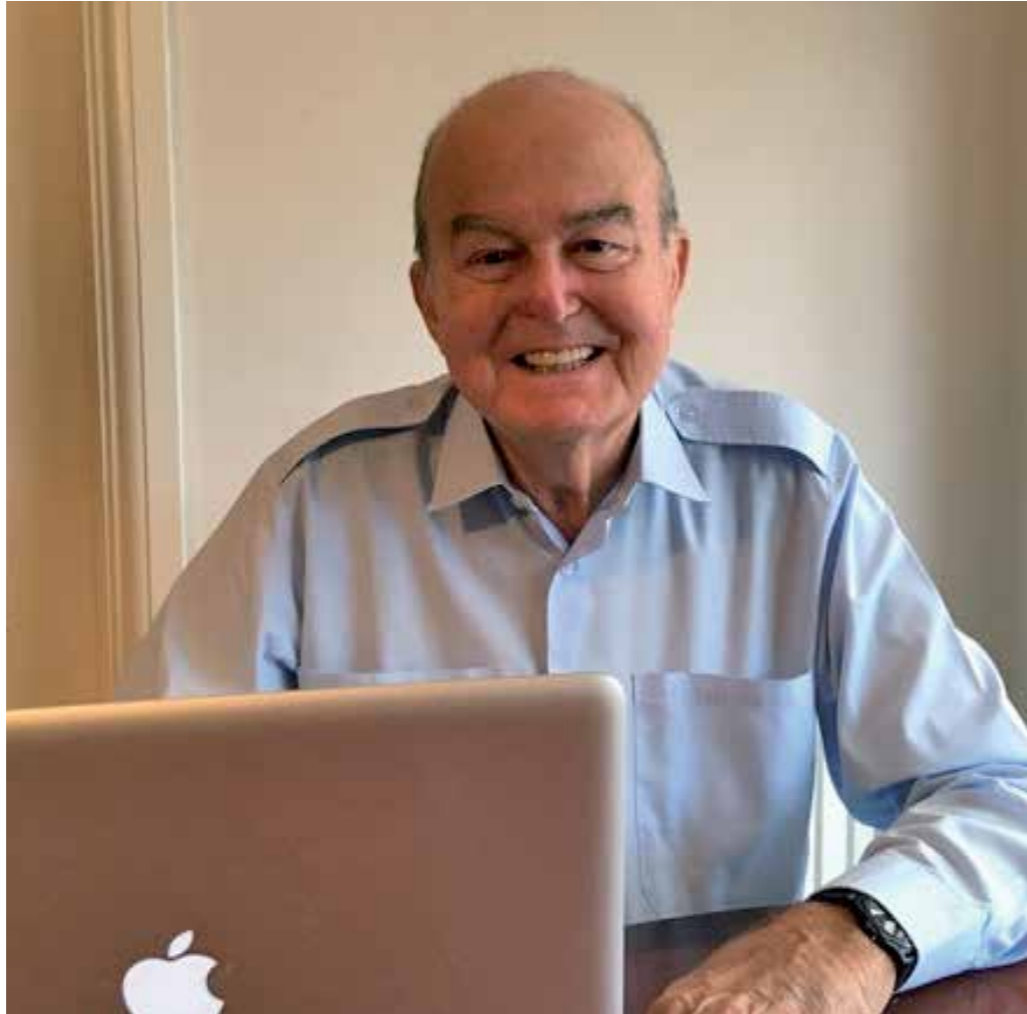
A service of celebration of his life was held in Aldeburgh Parish Church on 8th May 2018. Attended by many people from the different chapters in his life, it was a moving and fitting thanksgiving for the life of a man who lived life to the full and made a contribution to so many people's lives.

He is survived by Caralyn, Siobhan and Rebecca.



His Honour Judge Harvey Crush

(1950-1957) by Christopher Macy (1948-1957)



There can be few Old Chigwellians as versatile as His Honour Judge Harvey Crush. Harvey was born, an only child, in 1939. He was admitted to Chigwell School, to Form IIIA, with a scholarship, of which, in his later years he was very proud.

Although not obviously of an academic mind Harvey was consistently placed near the top of the form.

He early displayed a keen sense of humour, and in the Remove and Lower Fifth was thoroughly immersed in *The Goon Show*. He was an excellent mimic, a talent which he continued into later life. Nobody escaped. His histrionic talents were manifested in readings in class, when he was well-cast as the dashing and honourable Captain Anthony Absolute in *The Rivals*. On stage he played 1st Lieutenant Seymour in the

School's production of *Billy Budd*. Anticipating his later life, in the argument on stage in the drum-head court martial of Budd, Harvey, as Lt Seymour, vigorously argued the force of the law.

Chigwell was a natural choice of school when the family lived in Ilford. But when the family moved south of the Thames to Chislehurst he continued his education at the school and commuted. His father brought him by car north of the Thames, and Harvey completed the journey by bicycle. (In his youth he enjoyed cycling and would happily cycle 60 miles.) When he was given a Triumph 'Terrier' motorcycle he continued to commute on that in all weathers. Delays on the Woolwich Ferry furnished an unusual reason for occasional lateness, for which he was readily excused. Even then it

was apparent that he brought something special to the school, as well as vice-versa.

In his last year at Chigwell Harvey was awarded the prize for the most distinguished cadet in the school's Combined Cadet Force. Following that, near the end of the Summer Term (1957) he was promoted to fill a sudden vacancy to be Cadet Company Sergeant Major, in which position he showed himself instantly able to assume a position of responsibility and command.

Harvey followed the traditional pathway into the Law and was articled to his uncle's practice in Bexleyheath. He was admitted as a solicitor in 1963 and moved to the prestigious City of London firm of Norton Rose, where he became head of Litigation, mentoring many trainees.

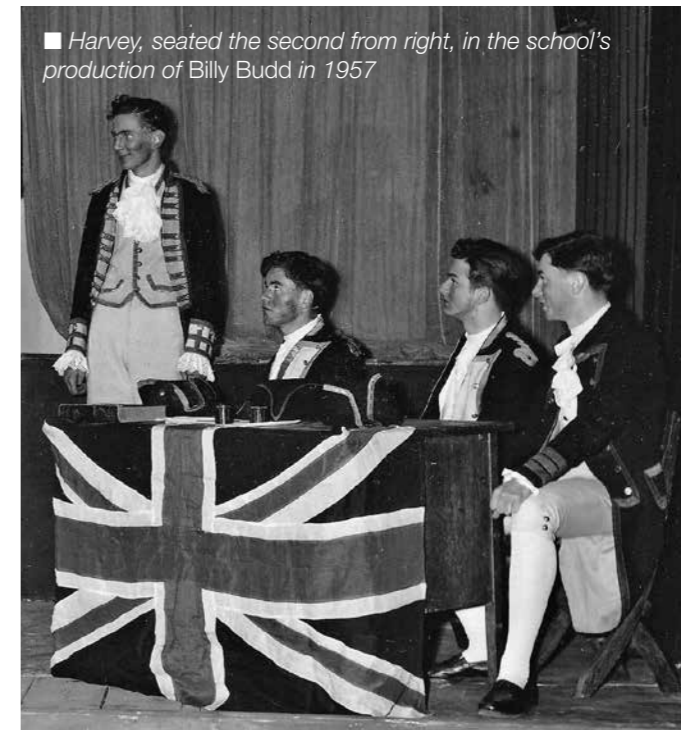
It was there that he was first exposed to air law, when he was tasked with securing a licence for Freddie Laker's pioneering budget airline, 'Skytrain'. As air travel grew Harvey developed the specialty and established Norton Rose's aviation practice. In a field characterised by often technically complex and hotly disputed cases, with long term commercial value to the airlines involved, Harvey established himself as a skilful, courteous and above all, thoroughly well prepared and convincing advocate. He was an early member of the Air Law Group of the Royal Aeronautical Society and became one of its most widely experienced participants. He was also at the forefront of the ABTA passenger compensation scheme for the travel industry.

However, in 1993 he left Norton Rose and was one of the first City of London Solicitors to become a circuit judge, sitting in City of London courts including the Central Criminal Court in The Old Bailey, and latterly in Maidstone and Croydon Crown Courts.

After retiring from the Bench in 2001, Harvey practised as an arbitrator and mediator, mostly in aviation and fatal accident cases. He is described as having a good touch, quick, thorough, fair, and technically sound.

Harvey was a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, a member of its council and the air law group. He served on the technical and air safety committee of Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators and on the council of the British Association of Aviation Consultants. He was made a liveryman of the City of London Solicitors Company in 1982 and became Master for the 1994/1995 year. He also co-authored *The British Manual of International Air Carriage*.

Harvey's personal life was no less energetic and varied. The practice where he served his articles was situated next door to Bernie Ecclestone's car showrooms. Bernie and Harvey became friends and rallied together, Harvey



acting as Bernie's navigator. Thereafter Harvey took up rallying on his own account in the UK and in Ireland and Belgium, first in a Ford Mexico and then a Ford RS2000. At first he serviced his own cars, but developed a team with its own mechanic, which travelled with a transporter and service van. According to his wife Maggie their front drive used to look like a used car dealer's yard.

In an earlier manifestation of Harvey's mechanical skills, in 1954 he was touring by bicycle with Mike Inwards, OC. Harvey had a sophisticated model with ten or more gears. As they cycled along Brighton front the gears suddenly disassembled and spilled onto the road. They gathered up what seemed like dozens of parts. Then, while Mike visited the aunt, Harvey reassembled the unit himself, and next day they were able to set off again.

In his late forties Harvey took up flying and gained a Private Pilot's Licence (PPL). He flew various small aircraft, starting with a single engined Cessna, and for some years part-owned a Piper twin six seater. With Maggie he had many happy adventures flying in Europe. At the time of his death Harvey still held a current PPL with ratings for multi-engined aircraft and flying by instruments.

Having long nurtured a love of Mallorca Harvey designed and built two houses on the island. He became active in the English Speaking Residents Association, providing legal advice and helping with fundraising. His widow Maggie continues to live there when she is not in England.

Harvey was married twice, first to Diana and then Maggie, to whom he was married for nearly 35 happy years. Harvey and Maggie shared Harvey's son Nicholas and daughter Emily and Maggie's son Kevin; and six grandchildren, and formed an extended family group.

For nine years Harvey suffered from myelodysplasia, a form of bone cancer. Although he received periodic treatment only family and close friends knew. He never complained or let it hinder him. When he appeared at the Form reunion in 2014 he sported a dressing which covered the nose because of a tropical disease. On such a site the dressing could not be missed, but he carried it without hint of either self-pity or bravado. It was as though there was nothing amiss.

Sadly, his bone cancer compromised his immune system, and when sepsis set in he survived only 36 hours.



Geoffrey Charles Gough (1930-1939)

by John Hill (1953-1961)



Geoffrey Gough – Geoff to some of his familiars – sometime President of the Old Chigwellians Society and the first President of the Old Chigwellians Club – died, age 97 on 11th May 2018.

Born on 12th April 1921, he was a local boy who lived in Woodford Green. He entered Walde's Chigwell in 1930, presumably in the infant Junior School and was appointed Head Boy in 1939. At school, he was a noted sportsman and excelled at cricket, going on later to play for Woodford Wells C.C.

The Second World War took him to Singapore where he was held captive as a prisoner-of-war by the Japanese for 3½ years during which time he worked on the infamous railway. Throughout his captivity, he carried on him a copy of the New Testament and this actual volume was used at his funeral where St Paul's famous passage from / *Corinthians 13* was read. Like so many who suffered this dreadful wartime experience, he rarely spoke about his war service in later years.

After WWII, Geoff joined the Bank of England and enjoyed another challenging overseas posting in the early 1960s setting up the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia. I first came across him at the Bank of England in the Chief Cashier's Office, a mandatory training ground for any aspiring central banker, where the hours were long

and the work demanding. He was by that stage a Senior signatory, trained to pick up the puerile errors and omissions of those like myself.

His forte, however, proved to be the Secretary's Department, those who provided a service to the Governors and Directors of the Bank. Fate brought us together again shortly after in 1971 when I found myself in the Governor's Office, as Private Secretary to Sir Jasper Hollom, and Geoff was my reporting officer as the Bank's Deputy Secretary, a role in which he showed great kindness.

The Bank of the 1970s was still proud to maintain the great traditions of its near 300-year history and the required dress for the Secretary and his deputy on Thursdays for the Court of Directors and Wednesdays for the Committee of Treasury was Morning Dress. Geoff was, of course, always immaculately turned out in this regard and cut a very fine figure as he moved through the ancient corridors to these

meetings. In this role, he was confidant and guide to many famed industrialists and bankers, such as Sir Adrian Cadbury, Sir David Scholey, Sir Alastair Pilkington and Lord Alf Robens.

In due time, he was promoted Secretary, the final accolade, and served in that role until his retirement around the turn of the 70s and 80s.

The timing was fortuitous. Geoff had been a member of the Old Chigwellians Society committee and, by the end of the decade, was a Vice-President about to assume the Presidency. The Society was then in ongoing discussions with the management of the OCAFC: John Turner and Keith Mitchell had been raising funds for the acquisition of land and the construction of the OC Clubhouse. The way forward was seen as a marriage of the Society and the Football Club to form the Old Chigwellians Club.

It fell to Geoff and myself (as Secretary) to front these discussions for the Society and see through the

transformation and the birth of the Old Chigwellians Club. He then became its first President.

Through all this time, Geoff was a keen supporter of the OC Lodge, serving as its Master, and was its Treasurer for a long period in the 80s and 90s.

He was also very interested in Amateur Dramatics, the Arts and Theatre. Shortly after retiring Geoff was asked to manage a five-year fundraising project for an opera theatre for the Royal College of Music, the Britten Theatre. His proper retirement came towards the mid-80s when he and Caryl moved to Rogate in West Sussex. I recall a splendid occasion when they entertained the OC footballers and their supporters following an Arthur Dunn Cup match at Winchester College. Caryl died about a year ago and he is survived by two daughters, Janet and Clare, and a son, Richard, and four grandchildren.

A very good friend and colleague who will be much missed.



Geoffrey Gough – Second on the left in the middle row

Andrew McCubbin (1960-1967)

by David Bowers (1960-67) and David Causer (1960-67)



Andrew ('Cub') was born in 1949, son of Eileen and Alan (OC, 1931-35), and lived in Loughton. He attended Daiglen School in Buckhurst Hill before arriving at Chigwell School. From an early age he was very interested in ships and travel. At Chigwell he developed an interest in history and the arts, but was not noted for his sporting prowess; he left having achieved 3 A levels and one S level. He became a Corporal in the CCF, in the Signals section, and

participated enthusiastically in the CCF week-long trip to join the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment on exercises in Germany. He also took the opportunity to sample the excellent German beer and food; he returned from the visit with a desire to travel in Europe and sample the many delights to be found there.

On leaving Chigwell he decided to follow his father into Insurance, joining Willis Faber & Dumas Marine Insurance and later moving to a Lloyds Box, where he had the opportunity to sit alongside and assist the underwriters. He developed a thorough knowledge of the business and a profound knowledge of the ships being insured.

During this period he was drawn into politics, joining the Young Conservatives and rising quickly to chair the Eastern Area Young Conservatives in 1972-74. He also became

a member of the European Movement National Youth Committee and was a strong supporter of the decision to join the EEC in 1973.

Encouraged by British membership of the EEC and the opportunities that had opened up in Europe, Andrew applied for the post of underwriting assistant in the Marine department of INA-RE Insurance in Brussels, and moved there in 1976. He was later appointed Marine Underwriter and then rose to Marine Director.

Andrew loved life in Brussels. Visitors were given extensive tours of the city, in his Citroen 2CV driven with the panache of a local, and afterwards taking the tram to dine in one of the fine restaurants and sample the many varieties of beer. He was a committee member of the Brussels branch of NADFAS, the National Decorative and Fine Arts Society, for many

years. In the course of his work he visited his clients in Europe and enjoyed entertaining them over a good meal. He once visited Hong Kong, where he was accorded the privilege of firing the Noon Day Gun.

Once retired he continued to travel widely in Europe and visit his many friends. He planned to write an alternative travel guide, but despite making extensive notes it sadly remains unfinished. In 2012 he decided to return to England and settled in Eastbourne, but suffered ill-health due to diabetes which he endured stoically, and as time went by his ability to travel became limited.

Andrew was a unique, generous gentleman with a decidedly non-PC approach to life. He was an avid historian and lover of fine arts, a bon viveur, and he greatly enjoyed travel. We shall miss him.

Colin Clemens Seward (1947-1953) by Pat Ward (1952-1967)



Colin was born near Wolverhampton in 1937 being the second son of five boys. A decade later the family moved south to Epping and, following a family tradition, he attended Chigwell School as a boarder. Not being terribly academic his attention was focused on sport and he made his mark playing football, squash, swimming and javelin. Colin left school at 16 and joined his father's engineering company before doing his

two-year National Service in the RAF where he was trained as a radar operator. At the age of twenty he became a junior salesman at Arlington Motors and it was here that he found his forte for dealing with the people. In due course he rose to be the Sales Director at their London branch.

Colin's excellence as a footballer resulted in him playing for semi-professional teams around north east London such as Leytonstone, Woodford Town, Harlow and Epping. When available he also played for the Old Chigwellians including several of their Arthur Dunn Cup sides. Very skillful with both his head and feet, Colin was brave and tough with many claiming that he was the best footballer to be produced by Chigwell School. Eventually he was 'promoted' to the OC Vets where he teamed up with 'Tub' Twynham (who played for

Millwall at The Den) to form a formidable striking partnership.

Previously in 1959 he met and married June; their son Mark was born on 1961. The family relocated to Surrey where Colin bought a nursery at Ascot and started his commercial vehicle company. In the early 1980's he sold both businesses to Trafalgar House. Having 'retired' and never one to sit still, he emigrated to Perth in Western Australia, where he set up a successful property development company. After a few years the urge for a new challenge took him to Vancouver Island, Canada where once more he was involved in property development.

Having visited South Africa many times Colin then decided to settle in Plettenberg Bay where he bought a farm growing protea plants for export around the world. This

was a period of great political change for South Africa, with the unrest and corruption in the country leaving him very disillusioned. Thus he decided to return to England where he purchased a farm in East Sussex to breed highland cattle. This he really enjoyed until ill health after a severe stroke caused him to 'retire' for a second time. Subsequently he moved to Thaxted and re-established his links with Chigwell School by joining the OC's Wednesday Lunch Club where he was a very popular and regular attendee.

Colin was a lovely, big-hearted man in every sense, sociable, generous, a good listener who left a great impression on all who had the pleasure of knowing him. Sadly, he passed away unexpectedly last February: his funeral was attended by his family and many friends who will miss him greatly.

Andy McNally (1975-1982)

by *Graham Scrivener (1973-1982)*

Andrew McNally passed away peacefully in March this year. He started at Chigwell in 1974 as a boarder in Grange Court. In those first few weeks, as 11-year-old boys, we formed a strong friendship that has endured through the subsequent years.

Even from those early days he showed great strength of character, intellect and sporting prowess. He was fully committed to life at School embracing all its opportunities. Academically he was very gifted, achieving excellent 'O' level results and at 'A' level took modern languages.

At Sussex University he read Law with German, graduating with a 2:1. He joined BAe's (British Aerospace) Graduate programme, in Prestwick in Scotland, and became their youngest Company Secretary. In the mid 90s he moved to Toulouse, working on a joint venture with French, British and Italian aerospace companies.

Married to Anita, who he met at Sussex, they raised their three children – Amy, Calum and Caitlin, in Toulouse and then in Paris, where Andy held a senior role at SITA, a growing airline technology company. In 2004 the family moved back to Buckinghamshire, as much for the children's education as to further his career. He was fascinated by aerospace, and continued to thrive during a period of huge growth in the airline industry across the globe.

Andy will be remembered at School for both his sporting achievements and leadership qualities. He was a Praefect and Head of Swallows, respected and revered, but always compassionate and supportive to the younger boys in the House.

It was a time where participation in extra curricula activities seemed mandatory. Andy, not entirely enthusiastically, was in the house music



competition, swimming team (day boys against boarders). He also took to the stage where he specialised in roles that required tough, angry and sometimes violent performances!

He was good cricketer – a menacing opening bowler for the 2nd XI, but it was at football that he excelled. From Under 12's onwards he was the mainstay of the defence. He played three full seasons in the 1st XI, captaining the side in his last year. As with all things in his life he was focused and very determined and the opposition were often intimidated by him. He was a tough, but fair defender; timing slide tackles perfectly, passing the ball with accuracy, displaying excellent positioning sense. His ability to properly head a wet leather ball, unlike the rest of us, meant he scored a surprising number of goals. He represented Sussex University 1st XI for four seasons, despite badly breaking his leg in his second year.

More recently he drew on his experience and passion to coach Junior and Youth sides in Buckinghamshire. Even though he moved away from Chigwell he was always interested in developments at the School and the OC community, and occasionally made guest appearances for the OC Vets football team.

Withstanding the challenging times living with prostate cancer he was always positive but realistic, wanting to fully understand his circumstances. He regarded life as an adventure, and continued to seek out opportunities to travel and learn new things throughout his illness and various treatments; living his life according to his strong values of family, friends, fun and football!

Andy never let adversity rule his life. His dry wit and ironic observations will be remembered, but it is the depth of friendship developed from those early school days that we will miss the most.

Brian Russell (1944-1951)

by *the Russell Family*

Brian was an only child born to parents Olive and Norman Russell on the 7th February 1935. He was a loving son and hardly a day passed in future years that he didn't visit or speak to them. Born within the sound of Bow Bells, Brian was a true cockney and lived in Beehive Lane where his parents ran a Builders Merchant. Later he went on to study at Beehive Prep and Chigwell School.

Brian always had a passion for animals of all sorts. He often visited the RSPCA and came home with rabbits and occasionally a dog which he had rescued. He wanted to be a Vet and gained a place at veterinary college. However, this dream was cut short by compulsory National Service, where he enlisted in the RAF first based at Gaydon, Warwickshire, and then posted to RAF Wyton, Cambridgeshire. Although he never flew a plane he was involved in Radar Mechanics. During his service he played tennis for the squadron.

After his tour of duty ceased he went on to work in sales in an Electrical company which led on to his father offering him a position in the family business. He developed a bathroom showroom and hire business and expanded the business along Beehive Lane to three shops to house all the lines he took on.

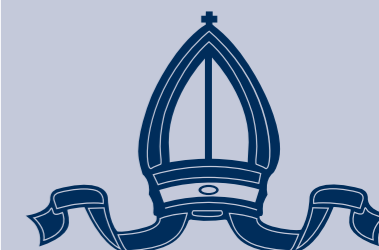
He met Patricia who was the love his life, who he affectionately called Pud, at the Manor Hall in Chigwell on a blind date. Although not keen at first they were engaged within two weeks. They married at Chigwell Church on 10th May 1959 and settled into married life in a maisonette in Roding Valley. They went on to have four children: Karen, Amanda, Grant and James. We were a happy family and dad worked hard to give us all we needed including our education which we know he was proud of.

He liked nothing better than hitching up the caravan, and trying to find the remotest campsite, occasionally knocking on a farmer's door to ask if we could pitch up in his field. He loved those family times, flying kites and surfing, plus a bit of antique shopping. Later, he developed a passion for tropical fish and converted a room off the back of the house into a tropical fish house. He spent hours in there, and was a member of the Aquatics Club where he gave many talks on various subjects, including how to make your own tanks – well he did sell glass, always an angle, and hopefully a sale.

When Brian became a grandfather to Nicole, Daniel and later Gracie, a role he loved, another chapter in his life began. He enjoyed many happy times but was devastated by the loss of his beloved son James. Mum and dad had a very hard

time coming to terms with this loss, but as a family we pulled together and treasure our memories of James every day. Then three years ago after many years of debate along came Eric, a schnauzer, who dad loved and who has not left mum's side since dad has been poorly. Dad's health deteriorated over six months to the point where he was admitted to hospital with pneumonia. He fought so hard right till the end but this was the illness to take him away from us all, and although his last spell in hospital was hard it gave us all the time we needed to chat with him and tell him how much we loved him.

Our father was an exceptional son to his parents, a devoted husband to Pud, and a wonderful father and grandfather who we all learned from and loved immensely, and of course a good friend to young and old.



David Senton (1949-1956) *by the Senton Family*



My cousin Brigitte thought for a while that he was actually James Bond.

When we were travelling in Thailand for his 50th (and my 18th) birthday, he decided one evening to buy a rose-seller's entire stock, 40 or 50 individually-wrapped roses to give to the cashiers in all the businesses. Vital and unsung people, mostly Chinese and seemingly ignored by the Thai community; and we went in to every bar and restaurant, simply to give the cashier a rose, until the whole enormous bunch was gone.

That's a good illustration not only of his generosity, but also of his sense of justice. Dick Leng, his school friend and later best man, describes him as being 'very loyal and very compassionate' beneath that sophisticated exterior, someone who 'never shirked from confrontation'. He once schemed to get an unpopular schoolmaster's Jaguar winched onto the roof of the changing rooms and stranded there, leaving it to the master himself to get it down.

My dad's way was to encourage people to excel and do their best. Patrick Forsyth, friend and colleague for many years, says that his own writing and lecturing, later both strong aspects of his career, came about because of suggestions and encouragement from my father. My dad's starting point was rarely 'Why?', far more often 'Why not?' and I know that both of my sisters and I were always encouraged in all our dreams and endeavours, practically but positively, by him and by our mother, as indeed was our beloved foster sister, Sasha.

There one facet of my father's personality which can't be overlooked, and that is David the Actor. My father was an actor to his fingertips, and it takes one to know one, trust me. But after title roles in school and leading the drama society at university – including that King Lear we started with, described by David Aukin (later

Head of Film for Channel 4) as the greatest he had ever seen (even better than Anthony Hopkins, who was sitting at the table when he said it) – even after all that, my father decided not to pursue a career as an actor. It was never quite clear why, but he seemed generally nervous about the wild uncertainty of our profession, which is fair enough. I like to think that if I ever gave my father a gift in life, it was by showing him that making a living as an actor isn't as hard as he feared it might be; it's much harder. But he went on acting, non-professionally, in many big roles classical and modern in Newcastle, in Belgium when we lived there, and later in Hertford and in Norfolk. It was, without doubt, his passion: no wonder that he was a world-class lecturer. Shakespeare was a golden thread running through his life, and to the end he was giving notes to local performers when they got the breathing or stress wrong in their iambic pentameter.

Mary Pavitt, one of my father's closest friends, told me a seminal memory. The Pavitts, the Sentons and the Hodgsons used to go camping together in the New Forest. My dad would sometimes be sent to fill the water containers, and the water point just happened to be in spitting distance of the Horse & Hounds public house in the village of Sway (ironically). On one occasion he and Trevor, Mary's husband, came out of the pub after several pints to find it was lashing down with rain; so, with water containers in hand, they battled through the stormy woods back to camp, while my dad, in a cape, used the setting to quote loudly and at length from the storm scenes in *Lear*, his favourite play. A drunk man in a cape booming verse at the sky.

Whilst it is sad that we all have lost one of life's truly gentle men, we have a host, an angelic host, of happy stories and memories to ease our loss.

One evening in 1960, my father was waiting to go on stage as King Lear, in an Oxford University production at the Minack Theatre in Cornwall – a theatre carved out of the rock face of the southern Cornish cliffs. And suddenly he felt like he had stepped out of time, like he could have really been a king in early Britain, or indeed at any time. He was often at his happiest in the midst of a show, and once or twice he had out-of-body experiences like that. He was a person of many facets, as we all are – but that strand of told time, historical time, ran through his life: from the ancient, Anglo-Saxon and Norse sources of Tolkien, which he studied under the man himself at Oxford (often being frisked for booze as he entered his house by Tolkien's wife Edith), to the mediaeval history he loved so much, to the works of Chaucer and of course Shakespeare, and beyond.

He could be a man of great flair. At Chigwell, the school he attended and later became Head of School (1957), he organised plays that satirised his own teachers, and organised raids to rival schools which included pouring dye into their swimming pools. He once impersonated a fictional Maharajah at his school fete (with his headmaster Donald Thompson's knowledge):

arriving as guest of honour in a Rolls Royce, welcomed by the local cadets and several journalists, he distributed shillings to the crowd and was only caught out by the wily eye of the school matron, Beattie Tonks, who recognised his walk (loose right foot) and pressed his ticket into his hand at the raffle stall whispering "There you are, you naughty Rajah, you."

And this chutzpah also found its way into his business life. The same man who said the most important thing about cricket was looking fabulous in well-pressed trousers and who told risky jokes to our new friends to test their liberal sensibilities, this was the same one who loved pushing the boundaries of Marketing Improvements, the company he was central to for nearly 30 years. He loved expanding into new territories, first Singapore and Thailand (which became like a spiritual home to him), and later India – long before most businesses had anticipated how those markets would grow in the years ahead. And as Mike Wilson, one of the founders of the company has pointed out, this was before the age of the internet or even the easy international phone call. You were on your own a lot of the time. A pioneer. To a boy like me, my dad was like something out of *Mad Men*.

Brian Tarring (1946-1953)

by Paul Tarring (1981-1989) and Tim Tarring (1982-1990)



Dad passed away just before Christmas after a lengthy battle with illness. At each Shrove Tuesday we had witnessed his name edging towards the top of the list of attendees, a source of great pride, but without properly appreciating that the names at the top were replaced all too rapidly.

Dad recalled his time at school with incredible fondness and was determined that both of us would benefit from the

same calibre of education and camaraderie that he had so enjoyed. A keen sportsman during his time at school he followed our own sporting careers religiously, loyally supporting us at school football, swimming and cricket matches throughout the country. This passion continued to involvement at Old Chigwellians level. I recall how well respected and liked he was by our peers who always made an effort to

speak to him after games. This was indicative of the truly wonderful friendships you can build at Chigwell.

Outside of school he was an avid fan of Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and Essex County Cricket Club, passions we eagerly embraced. Having studied law at the University of Bristol he went on to be a highly respected solicitor in the city with loyal clients who followed him through his career.

Shrove Tuesday was the highlight of his year. He felt an enormous sense of pride at having attended Chigwell and loved nothing more than going to Chapel and then sharing a glass of wine with his remaining peers. When possible we both attended with him and saw how much of a boost attending the event gave him even whilst his health was deteriorating. His commitment was exemplified by him buying a ticket for this year's event despite having no realistic chance of being well enough to attend. He made it onto top table but never quite to the top of the tree. He is sorely missed by us all but we take great gratification from the fond memories he had of his time at school and the relationships which served him so well until the end.



■ Brian Tarring (centre), Horse Guards parade in 1948

Len Fisher *by Pat Ward (1952-1967)*

It is with great sadness that I have to record the passing of Len Fisher, the very popular Bar Steward at the Old Chigwellian's Club for over ten years in the late 1980s.

Len was born in Poplar in 1929 where he spent many years before moving out to Essex after the wartime bombing.

After working as the live in caretaker at Chigwell County Primary School for many years, Len retired and joined

the Old Chigwellians' Club as our Manager and Bar Steward.

Here he was in his element due to his natural ability to spark up a conversation with any person standing next to him. That is an invaluable quality in a Bar Steward as we had so many visiting teams passing through our doors. He made strangers feel special in a just few words.

Len really was one of life's great characters and someone

who respected others and left a lasting impression on people wherever he went. This included his particular passion for playing the spoons at every opportunity, an ability that he brought with him from his East End past.

Len was greatly missed when he finally retired from the OCs' club but is remembered with much affection by those who had the pleasure of meeting him.





KEEP IN TOUCH WITH CHIGWELL



To ensure we can benefit you and keep our OC community growing stronger and stronger, we rely on having up-to-date information from OCs. We ask that whenever your details change – whether a change of name, address, email, phone number or a change to your career or role – that you let us know.

You can complete the form here or on the website www.chigwell-school.org

UPDATE YOUR DETAILS

Surname:	Forename:
Title:	Maiden name (if applicable):
Email:	Tel / Mobile:
Your years at Chigwell:	Current profession:
University attended:	Degree / Course:
Address:	

If you know of an OC who would like to get back in touch please encourage them to do so by completing the form or contacting the Development Office development@chigwell-school.org or **020 8501 5748**

Weddings at Chigwell School

When not in use during term-time, the School is proud to share the excellent facilities and private rooms with Old Chigwellians and the community.

Set in the heart of Chigwell Village, only seven miles from central London and close to Epping and Hainault Forests, the School enjoys its own beautiful grounds of nearly 100 acres and offers a private, unique and historical venue, which can be tailored to specific individual requirements for celebrating important events.

Dining Hall – The Dining Hall is a perfect venue for a wedding reception and can cater for sit-down luncheons for up to 150 guests. The School in-house caterers offer bespoke menus and its highly experienced staff will discuss your requirements and advise on options for your special day. The Chapel Quad provides an attractive setting for a drinks reception and a beautiful backdrop for photographs. The Swallow Room is also available for hire.

New Hall – If you prefer a buffet luncheon, then perhaps New Hall may be a preferable alternative – a stunning wood panelled hall with a stage area for your band or DJ, again with a stunning vista over the School playing fields.

The Old Chigwellians' Club – The Old Chigwellians' Club boasts magnificent private grounds and a fully licenced bar which is ideal for a variety of events and available for hire.

For further information please direct all enquiries to Mrs Tina Page.

Tel **020 8501 5711** Email tpage@chigwell-school.org



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Sporting Corporate Days & Family Days at Chigwell School

The Chigwell School site extends to one-hundred acres and includes a number of grass pitches, a running track, tennis and netball courts, an Astroturf pitch, a sports hall and an outdoor swimming pool. If you are looking for a venue for a team-building day, staff reward day or family fun day, then please contact us. We can provide facilities for a whole or part day. We have a fully licensed bar at our clubhouse and can arrange drinks, a BBQ or hog roast to end your day.

We have availability for corporate sports days on the following dates in 2018:

- 25th May to 1st June
- 11th and 12th July
- 29th to 30th August

Prices will depend on numbers, timings and facilities hired; we will build a price around your exact requirements.

For details please contact the Operations Manager, Mrs Tina Page. **Tel 020 8501 5711, Email tpage@chigwell-school.org**



Forthcoming OC Events

Recent Leavers' Christmas Party

Monday 17th December 2018

OC Tower of London Trip

Saturday 29th December 2018

Shrove Tuesday Supper

Tuesday 5th March 2019

OCA Black Tie Dinner

Saturday 30th March 2019

Annual Careers Convention

Monday 25th March 2019

OC Day

Saturday 29th June 2019

Chigwell Ball

Saturday 6th July 2019

For further details please see the OC section of the School website • www.chigwell-school.org



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FIND A WAY OR MAKE A WAY

High Road | Chigwell | Essex | IG7 6QF
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