

Old Herefordians' Newsletter 2009



HCS Archive Memories...
What have you got in your archive?
If you can name any of the faces in these photographs, please get in touch.



OH News

From the President Elect

After three years at the helm of the Old Herefordians' Club the time has come for Mark Ellis to step down. As incoming President, before all else I really have to thank Mark for all his time and considerable hard work in bringing the club to where it is today and I look forward to his continuing support as a committee member.



I left HCS in 2000 and I am a relative newcomer to the OH Committee, by which I mean there are members of the committee who have been involved with the Old Herefordians since before I was born!

The OH Committee meets regularly throughout the year. Mark has, in the past three years, and Nick Bolt before him, kept the club heading in a strong direction and I hope to continue to build on this success with the continued support of the great OH Committee we now have. I am looking forward to the next three years as President, which I am certain will prove to be both a busy and progressive time for the club.

Through Helen Pearson, Development Secretary, and Clare Adamson, Editor of the club magazine, we receive regular updates from Old Herefordians. Contact comes from all over the world and I would encourage all OHs reading this – wherever you are – to keep in touch. Please keep sending your news, stories and pictures, either from school days or since leaving. It is your contributions which help to make this a great club magazine, help to improve the ever-increasing database and help to build an Old Herefordians' archive for posterity.

Andrew Davies



Mark Ellis and Andrew Davies

Debut Novel for Matthew Hall

TV screenwriter Matthew Hall (OH) has recently published his first novel, *The Coroner*.

Drawing on his own experiences as a criminal barrister, this debut novel is set in the Severn Vale and is the first of a series featuring a small-town lawyer turned coroner, Jenny Cooper. Jenny, a complex character with her own problems, exposes some controversial areas of the criminal justice system. *The Coroner* has been critically acclaimed by other crime writers: 'M R Hall has created a wonderful heroine in a genre we haven't seen before.' – Lynda La Plante. Matthew's second novel in the series, *The Disappeared*, is due to be published in January 2010.

For many years Matthew has had a highly successful television screenwriting career and his TV credits include: *Kavanagh QC* (ITV) – *Men of Substance*; *A Sense of Loss*; *Blood Money*; *Wing and a Prayer* (C5) – BAFTA nominated original series in 14 episodes; *Dalziel and Pascoe* (BBC1) – *Above the Law*; *Walls of Silence*; *Scarlet Pimpernel* (BBC1) - *Ennui*; *Loving You* (ITV); *New Street Law*; *Judge John Deed*.

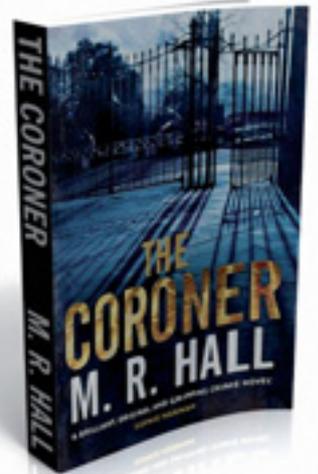
Matthew has written about his career since leaving HCS in OH Careers, see page 20.

The Coroner is published in paperback by PanMacmillan (2009) £6.99.

ISBN: 978-0330458368.

The Disappeared will be available in hardback in January 2010, published by PanMacmillan, £12.99.

ISBN: 978-0230709850.



Exit Pursued by a Badger!

Shakespearian actor Nick Asbury (OH) has been a blogger for some time.

Last year his regular blog on the RSC's website, which recorded daily life during the rehearsing and performing of Shakespeare's history plays, became a massive success regularly receiving 6,000 hits a week from avid followers around the world. His enthusiasm for writing has led to the publication of his book based on his blog, *Exit, Pursued by a Badger: One Actor's Journey Through History at the RSC*.

Read about what has inspired Nick to write in OH Careers, page 20.

Oberon Books (2009) £9.99 ISBN: 9781840028928



Blue Letters from Tanganyika

John Hardy (OH 1970-1975) has composed a new piece of orchestral music called *Blue Letters from Tanganyika* which was released on CD on the 8th of October 2009.

John Hardy is an acclaimed composer who writes original scores for film, television, theatre and other media and is a four-times BAFTA Cymru winner. John's music has been described as 'utterly engrossing' and 'unique' by the *Guardian*, 'witty' by the *Independent* and 'energetic, instinctive' by the *Times*.

He was commissioned by the BBC National Orchestra of Wales to compose an accessible, energetic piece for a series of concerts. His inspiration for the music came from the stories his mother had told of her adventures in Africa: in the 1950s, at the age of 26, she was sent to oversee teachers in East Africa, with a salary of £30 and vast and wild terrain the size of England to cover on foot and by dugout canoe. Her letters sent back home gave the piece its name: *Blue Letters from Tanganyika*.

"What I did was to take some of them and use them as the basis for a sort of tone poem," explains John, "describing in music some of the colour and drama of her time there".

Conducted by Grant Llewellyn with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales, *Blue Letters from Tanganyika* conjures an exotic world full of exuberant African colours and textures and the piece is rich with imagery and imagination. Anyone who likes classical, orchestral, classical crossover and big film scores will be enchanted with this music.

Find out more at www.johnhardymusic.net.

The CD is available from www.finnrecords.co.uk.



A donation from each sale will go to support the Hereford Muheza Link Society. This is a small charity which supports Muheza Hospital in Tanzania; it raises funds for educational exchanges for medical staff, training, hospice support and to send out containers of medical supplies.

Nils Lofgren supports Charity tracks

David Burgess (OH 1965-1972) has recently made a record for charity with American rock star legend Nils Lofgren. Money raised will support two children's hospice charities, Martin House in Yorkshire and Cotlands in South Africa.



Martin House supported David and his wife Jeannie through the long illness of their son Edward, and after their bereavement in 2005. Jeannie asked Dave to sing at the Martin House Remembrance Service, a service where bereaved families gather each year to remember their children.

Although David was a choirster at Hereford Cathedral he had not sung 'properly' since leaving the choir at the age of 14. Before committing himself to a public performance, he consulted a voice coach to discover if he really could sing! Many people at the service approached Dave to say how moved they were by his rendition of *Four Strong Winds*, and so the idea of recording it to raise funds for the charity was formed.

For many years the family had been a fan of Nils Lofgren (of Bruce Springsteen's E Street Band):

"So, feeling brave we decided to go for it – we emailed him. A few days later we were more than a little surprised to hear a message from Nils on our answer-phone. Jeannie rang him back and he was really enthusiastic about what we were doing. He agreed there and then to lay down some guitar tracks as we'd asked, plus some vocals. Daring as ever, Jeannie asked if Nils would mind us recording 'Shine Silently' as well. Nils said he'd be honoured!"

The whole project has taken two years to complete – funded by Dave and Jeannie and with many people giving their services voluntarily – with much learnt along the way about record producing. "I am not a professional singer and am not looking for a singing career. Similarly this is not an ego-trip, it is simply to raise money and to give something in return for the donation. Hopefully people will like the recording, but that isn't the main purpose", said Dave.

For just 99p you can download one of three tracks, exclusively produced and recorded featuring one of the guitar 'greats', Nils Lofgren (and Dave), or order all three tracks on CD. By buying the tracks you will get to hear new music and give cash directly to the charities involved. Martin House requires £3.9 million each year to run and they have to raise over 90% of this amount by their own efforts. This year has seen a decline in donations in line with the economic situation, but even in the current climate 99p is not a lot of money and every penny counts!



Dave would be grateful if Old Herefordians could support this cause and also hopes that they can spread the word. Your contribution is so valuable and all proceeds will go to these two charities and will help to make a difference.

The full story is on www.daveandnils.com together with the link to the online music store to download the tracks, or e-mail friends@daveandnils.com.



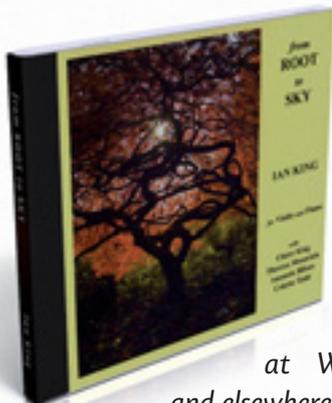
Nils Lofgren © Mark R. Sullivan

"I'm honored to have played and sung on this home grown musical effort with Dave and friends. It's a special charity effort for children who are in need and any help will be put to good use and greatly appreciated! Please listen and help! Cheers and thanks". Nils Lofgren

Atmospheric CD

Ian King (OH 1973-1980) has released a CD of his music which has been played on Radio 3 and other radio stations.

The CD *From Root to Sky* is a collection of 14 pieces, both original works and striking arrangements of traditional folk tunes. *"I've always loved composing and improvising. My wife Claire is a fiddler from Scotland and through her I've come to love folk music. In recent years I've been writing music that draws on both the folk tradition and my classical background".* On the CD Ian plays piano, with Claire and friends on violin. The CD also includes two songs performed by Colette Todd, who toured the world as a soloist in both 'Riverdance' and 'Lord of the Dance'. *"My musical education started when I was a chorister in Hereford Cathedral choir. It was a superb foundation, a great experience. I also studied organ with Roy*



Massey, the Cathedral organist, passing the A.R.C.O. organ diploma while at HCS. In 1984 I graduated from Oxford University with a 1st Class B.A. in Music. Since 1991 I have been living in Worcester with Claire and our three boys. I teach piano at Worcester 6th Form College and elsewhere".

Historical Biography

Rev'd Dr. Jonathan Arnold (OH 1980-88) has published an acclaimed biography of John Colet, the leading humanist theologian in early Tudor England, Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral 1505-19 and founder of St Paul's School.

After reading Theology at Oxford University and studying at the Royal Academy of Music, Jonathan embarked on a career as a professional singer and has enjoyed performing for nearly two decades with many leading British and European orchestras and vocal ensembles such as the Tallis Scholars and Hilliard Ensemble. He recently featured in a five-part BBC television documentary series on Sacred Music with Simon Russell-Beale and The Sixteen. He has often performed as a soloist with Hereford Choral Society and at the Three Choirs Festival.



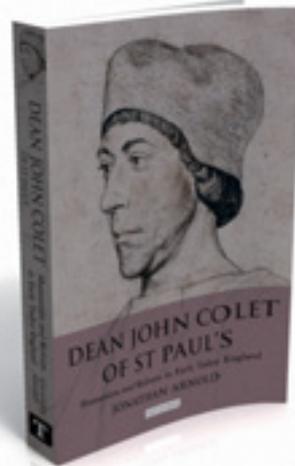
However, having completed his doctorate in Church History at King's College London and training for ordination at Ripon College Cuddesdon, he has recently finished his curacy at St. Mary's Chalgrove, Oxfordshire and has now taken up his new position as Chaplain of Worcester College, Oxford. Jonathan has published several articles in addition to his biography of John Colet; he continues his interest in Church history with his next book, on pre-Reformation Christian Humanism, which will be published in 2010. He still sings as a soloist and consort singer when time permits.

He is married to Emma, who is vicar of Garsington, near Oxford. They have two children, Katherine, aged four, and Thomas, aged two.

Dean John Colet of St Paul's: Humanism and Reform in Early Tudor England. (I.B. Tauris, ISBN 978-1845114361).

Amongst other projects, Ian wrote the music for an exhibition at Hereford Museum in 2007 on the Victorian designer Christopher Dresser. Several tracks from the CD have been used in short film projects, for DVDs and for dance. *"The atmospheric nature of the music makes it very suitable for use in other media, and this is something I'd like to explore more in the future".*

To hear tracks from the CD go to: www.myspace.com/iankingmusic. For more info and to contact Ian go to: www.iankingmusic.co.uk.



Phoenix Fall

Ben Ellis (OH 1998-2005) plays lead guitar with his Leeds-based band, Phoenix Fall.

The band released their debut single, *What Really Matters To Me*, in May of this year. Their second release is due in October. They regularly headline at Leeds University and major UK venues, and the band write, perform, record and release all their own material.

Ben recently graduated from The University of Leeds with a first class honours degree in Music. Ben is remaining at Leeds University where he is studying for a Masters degree in music composition. He fondly remembers all the help and support given to him by the music department at HCS.

The Phoenix Fall - *What Really Matters To Me* is available on iTunes and you can view a video-clip on YouTube. www.thephoenixfall.co.uk



Ben Ellis



The Phoenix Fall's YouTube video

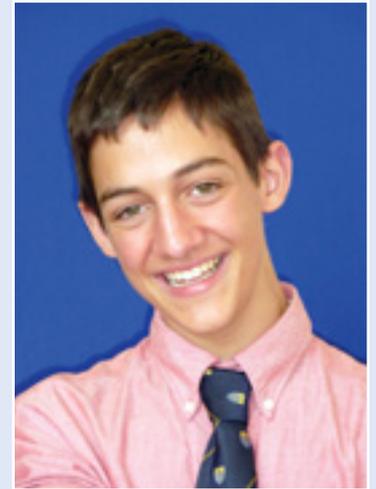
OH Interview

Interview with
Major Sir Michael Parker, KCVO, CBE

Jared Barazetti-Scott, and other members of the sixth-form journalism team, interviewed by e-mail Major Sir Michael Parker (OH 1954-1959), Royal Event organiser extraordinaire and described by *The Times* at the time of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Festival as 'one of the Three Wise Men'.



Major Sir Michael Parker, KCVO, CBE



Jared Barazetti-Scott

Sir Michael, given that you were attending the school in the 1950s, do you have any nostalgia attached to Hereford Cathedral School?

To be honest the school was very different in those days (least I hope it was!). It was cold, dirty and brutal. Most of the masters did not take a great deal of interest in us and the school was mainly run by the older boys who seemed to take a delight in being as unpleasant as possible (of course we in our turn took over from them and were, I suspect, just as unpleasant ourselves). Bullying and beatings were rife. The only saving grace was the cathedral which was clean, warm (funnily enough) and welcoming. Although we all particularly hated the very ornate choir screen designed by Gilbert Scott. He also designed the Albert Memorial in London, the reopening of which by The Queen I organised some 40 years later and grew to like very much. When I became the Cross Bearer and sat beside it during services I used to break bits off to pass the time during boring sermons. It is quite funny now that it has been removed from the cathedral and is the prize possession of the Victoria and Albert Museum which happens to be about 200 yards away from where I live in London. (I have not yet had the nerve to admit to them that I have still got a few pieces!)

At that time, HCS was a boarding school and rapport between friends must have been close. Do you remain in contact with any of them?

The only person I really kept in touch with was James Stearns who had been at pre-prep and prep school with me at Dulwich. That was until recently when I have started meeting people at the OH gatherings in London. It is quite strange to meet someone again after 50 years.

Since you were in attendance at HCS, many aspects of the education system have changed, do you have a defining memory of the school?

What you mean apart from what I have said above? The education system must have changed for the better, it could hardly have got worse!

What qualifications did you leave HCS with?

Eight 'O' Levels and passing the Civil Service Exam for Sandhurst (I came bottom).

You retired from the Queen's Own Hussars in 1971? Was it always your intention to join the military and did your army experience shape your future career as an 'event' organiser?

Although I left my Regiment in 1971, I remained in uniform for another 30 years under some strange special arrangement which meant that if I wanted to be rude to a General I was classed as a civilian and if I wanted to be rude to a Soldier I was an Officer. I have organised over 60 major events of one sort or another only about half of which were mainly military. Having been trained as an Officer at Sandhurst I got into the habit of ordering people around which I found helped with all the Events, even if it was not universally popular. I think that the most I ever had 'under command' was 25,000 people, 75 Aircraft, 125 Stars, and 64 Heads of State. All of whom, I am glad to say, did what they were told!

Given the successful nature of your event organising, including many royal occasions, are there any specific skills or talents that you deem invaluable for such a profession?

Masochism, bloody mindedness, only accepting the best, never taking the easy way out, never taking 'No' for an answer, acquiring a very thick skin and the ability to desperately want to shoot yourself without either showing it (or doing it).

You have devised and produced many significant large-scale national events, including the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977, the Queen's 40th anniversary in 1992 deemed "The Great Event", the Queen's Golden Jubilee Festival in 2002, as well as military tattoos and international events. What would you consider to be the pinnacle of your career?

You mean apart from the next Show?

I have done so many varied things that it is quite difficult to compare them. Is it more difficult to do a live Camel Battle with 200 untrained and very bolshie camels or a massed Can-Can Dance on Ice with 90 well trained but also very bolshie dancers?

I suppose I normally use three criteria to judge things:

- a) Is it impossible to do?..... in which case we will do it.
- b) Will it involve the maximum number of people? If someone suggests that 200 would be ideal I will go for 2000. If 2000 is suggested I will go for 20,000.
- c) Will it bring the greatest possible enjoyment both for those taking part and for those watching?

On that basis then it is probably a toss up between The Queen Mother's 100th Birthday Celebrations and The Queen's Golden Jubilee.

You have been involved in numerous occasions with the Royal Family, what factors were the most influential in the bringing about of your knighthood?

You will have to ask The Queen as the Knighthood I have is in Her personal gift. I think they might have just wanted to make me go away!

Have you any vivid memories of being knighted by the Queen? Were you apprehensive beforehand?

You bet..... Investitures are always nerve-racking. I was the first person to be 'done' on my last one so I had no one to copy.....would I kneel down correctly? would I have my ears cut off?..... would I be able to get up again? (there is a special 'Knighting Stool' which helps with a discreet handrail).....would I trip over as I took the seven steps backwards when it was over?.....would that promised drink be waiting?

Having worked for over forty years, have you any intention of retiring?

Not really. I thought that I would go on until I got it right.

You are a man of many talents and diverse interests: professional event organiser, antique dealer and artist. What would retirement involve for you?

I can't really imagine doing nothing but I will only now do things that I really want to.....events for children and for the wounded and disabled from Iraq and Afghanistan.

Would you be interested in one final occasion in order to mark your already extraordinary career, the official opening and closing ceremony of the 2012 Olympics perhaps?

Much as I might like to I fear I would be deemed to be totally unacceptable as I am what they would call 'politically incorrect'.....I like all the things that they don't seem to...Tradition, Pageantry, History, Ceremonial etc.....If what they did at the hand-over ceremony in Beijing is anything to go by the

ceremonies will be embarrassing (and very expensive); as a matter of interest all the events that we did over three days outside Buckingham Palace, the Royal Parks, the Mall etc for The Queen's Golden Jubilee cost less than that 7 minutes in Beijing!!

During your career, you have been awarded many honours: Knight Commander of The Royal Victorian Order, Commander of The Order of the British Empire (Civil), Member of The Order of the British Empire (Military), Knight of The Order of St John, Grand Officer of The Order of Al-Istiqlal (Jordan). In 2002, you were awarded 'The Spam™ Lifetime Achievement Award'; we are curious to know why you received this award.

So was I! When we got the letter we thought it was a joke.....but no, the Chairman of Spam was coming over from America and we were going to have a grand lunch in the Savoy Hotel when he was going to make the presentation.....the reason?... who knows but I think it might have been because in one of the many interviews I did at the time of the Jubilee I mentioned that when I was feeling very miserable at 4 o'clock in the morning and everything was going wrong I would get someone to make me a Spam sandwich to go with a large whisky.....sadly no lifetime achievement award for the whisky!

Sir Michael, thank you for giving this exclusive interview to the Herefordian and Old Herefordian magazines.

[VI Form Editorial Team: Jared Barazetti-Scott, Michael Boulton, Matt Jones and Sam Rammage-Smith.]



Sir Michael Parker gave a talk about his career as Royal and Military Event Organiser at the Three Choirs Festival in August. He is pictured with Lady Bengough, his hostess for the couple of days he was in Herefordshire.

Australian Forest Fires

Readers of the 2008 OH Newsletter may recall Nick Haseler's biography of his father. Nick, who lives near Melbourne, has written about his close encounter with the devastating forest fires which swept this region of Australia in February.

"We are in a vulnerable area, indeed the 1983 bush fires popularly known as 'Ash Wednesday' came onto our two acres but did not touch the old house, now pulled down. We moved to our present house in 1999. We had fire just over 2kms away, a bit under 1½miles for you! Police did get to one of our neighbours with a warning to leave – a bit premature we thought - and we got some of our 'fire plan' into action, filling rubbish bins with water, pieces of old carpet for beating and donning our all cotton clothing. We have a pump independent of the electricity supply but I did not fire it up, no pun intended! We watched helicopter water bombers and were pleased that things abated. Two nearby houses were destroyed and about 200 acres burnt, mostly grass. But the devastation was mainly in areas with much tree cover which provided the fuel needed to generate such a huge holocaust".



Nick's view of the fires

Reunions

Choir members gather during Three Choirs Festival

Over 160 people returned to a Choir Gathering at Hereford Cathedral when former choristers, lay clerks, organists and others involved with the choir came together to celebrate this year's Three Choirs Festival.

Lindsey Lafford, the oldest choir member present, is in his 97th year and is one of the few remaining choristers to have sung under the baton of Sir Edward Elgar. Lindsey, along with his daughter and son-in-law, had travelled to the reception, via Cambridge and Lichfield, from Arizona where he now lives.

'It was wonderful to have such a group come together and, while all had the common thread of having been in the cathedral choir, the stories and experiences that they were swapping obviously showed how

choir life had changed,' said Glyn Morgan, Trust Secretary of Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust. *'We were pleased to be able to work with the Old Herefordians' Club, the Old Choristers Association and Three Choirs Festival Committee in tracking down those who have sung in the cathedral. I know that we still have a lot of gaps in our choristers list and if anyone should have received an invitation, but didn't, please do let us know. We were particularly grateful to the OH Club for their financial support,*



John Challenger (chorister and now organ scholar, St John's College Cambridge), Joy & Euclid Valentini, Fiona Hanks and Luke Fisher (chorister & now choral scholar Trinity College, Cambridge)



Lindsey Lafford, with his daughter and son-in-law, aged 96 who returns to Hereford Cathedral every year from Arizona.



Former choristers (l-r) Charlie Philo, Frazer Haviz, Alex Valentini and Hugo Cohn

which enabled us to offer discounted tickets to those still in full-time education.'

'Being part of the choir, and particularly as a chorister, obviously does much to prepare people for life ahead. It was super to hear what some of the ex-choristers had achieved since their time in the choir and at HCS,' said Glyn.

Others who attended the gathering included Michael Burlton (assistant organist in the late 1950s), the Rev'd Denis Parry (a lay clerk from around the same time) and a number of choristers who helped keep services going during the Second World War. The reunion, which was kindly hosted in the Festival Marquee in the gardens of the Junior School, concluded with a wander down memory lane with many guests taking the

opportunity to visit the Deanery garden and to attend the Evensong. On this occasion it was sung by the Hereford Cathedral Voluntary Choir, which includes a number of OH members and Cathedral School staff members. The service included an introit especially written for the occasion by Patrick Dunachie, a former chorister and who is still a student at HCS.

If you have been involved with the Cathedral Choir and would like to receive invitations to future events please contact Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust (01432 374261: perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org). They would also be pleased to hear from any other OH who would like to receive our free newsletter, which is mailed three times each year.



Four Organists - Peter Dyke (Assistant Organist), Dr Roy Massey, Simon Bland (Organ Scholar 2008/9) and Geraint Bowen (Organist & Director of Music).



Janice & Roger Ridler, Gillian & Malcolm Greenwood, John Underwood and Roger Hulbard.



Howard & Margaret Davies, Delia & Peter Harris, Sandy Elliott, and Helen & Chris Roberts.

Tracing Missing Choristers

The Choir Gathering gave us the opportunity to track down many past choristers and it was excellent to be able to renew a lot of old friendships.

While we have a list of choristers since 1966 unfortunately the records before then are rather thinner. The names listed below are those who we know were choristers post 1966 for whom we have no contact details and the pre-'66 names are those who have been flagged up to us as having been in the choir but we know that there are many others we do not know about. If you are able to help us get in contact with any of the below, or you are one of our 'missing boys', please do get in contact.

Glyn Morgan, Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust, 5 College Cloisters, Hereford HR1 2NG; 01432 374261; perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org.

Robert Allen (1985–87); Ian Armitage (1957-61);
 Robbie Baggott (1998–2001); Sam Barlett (1985-87);
 Nicholas Beaven (1962??); Duncan Bell (1983-1984);
 Charles Bird (1999-2000); Nicholas Broom (1983-88);
 Edward Brown (1991-94)(West Midlands);
 Ian Chapman (1962?); Peter Cotterill (1972-74);
 Stephen Cotterill (1976-1978); Reuben Culpin (1988-93);
 Anthony Davies (1972-?); Tim Draper (1980-84);
 Angus Duncan (1987-91); Michael Edwards (1990-?)(Essex);
 Robert Evans (1960's-71); James Godwin (1957-61);
 William Godwin (1963?); Andrew Gray (1969);
 Alistair Harding (1992-95); Paul Hartley (1976-81);
 Alex Harvey (1988-92); Nigel Hawkins (1971-73);
 John Helme (1962?); Michael Hickman (Mid/late 60's);
 Dafydd Hirst (1990-92); John Hirst (1961?);
 Damon Hodgkinson (1972-75); David Holt (1958-?);
 Jonathan Hughes (1978-79); Leslie Hughes (1963/4??);
 Vaughan Hyett (1991-95); Neil Irsen (mid/late 60's);
 Martin Ison (1979-?); Michael Jarmon (mid/late 1950's);
 Adrian Kelsey (1975-78); Spencer Lane (1968-71);
 Simon Law (1971-75); Trevor Mason (mid/late 60's);
 Alastair McDonald (1986-91); Richard Norris (1978-80);
 Duncan Orrell-Jones (1975-?); Justin Orrell-Jones (1973-?);
 Powell Price (1962?); Christopher Pyves (1968-71);
 Gerald Pyves (1968-71); Andrew Reece (1975-?);
 Simon Reece (1975-76); Michael Rigby (1977-80);
 Ian Rogerson (1981-82); Paul Smith; Stefan Smith (1980?);
 Michael Smurthwaite (1969-71); Charles Somers (1979-81);
 Jeremy Sparkes (1963/4?); John Stafford (1996-98);
 James Swithenbank (1988-90); Edward Taylor (1984-?);
 Byron Thomas (1992-93); James Thompson (1989-92);
 Philip Turner (1972-75); Jamie Walker (1993-95);
 Stephen Winter (1972-?).

[*Dates relate to their time in the choir not at HCS.]

Westminster Quiz

A number of Old Herefordians joined the Perpetual Trust at a quiz held in Westminster School in early April, which launched a programme of events in support of the Perpetual Trust.

OHs joined a large crowd of supporters for a champagne reception in Little Dean's Yard, which is set in the shadow of Westminster Abbey. Cathedral supporter Sir Roy Strong opened the evening along with Trust Chairman Robert Rogers, who has just taken up the office of Clerk Assistant of the House of Commons. Midway through the evening a grand picnic, which guests had brought with them, was shared.

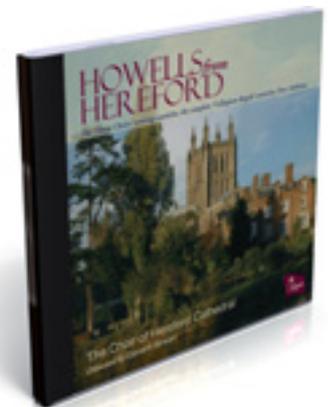
The second Westminster Quiz is being planned for April 2010 and it would be good to welcome many more OH members. To receive further details please contact the Perpetual Trust office.

Howells from Hereford

The Cathedral Choir have launched a new CD, featuring music by Herbert Howells, to critical acclaim.

The disc has already been reviewed in *The Observer* which said '...a glowing recording by this fine choir, which features an impressive set of trebles.'

The disc, priced £12, which was funded by a group of Recording Angels through the Perpetual Trust can be purchased from the Cathedral Shop or by contacting the Trust office (01432 374261). Also available is a new recording by Peter Dyke on the Willis organ, priced £10.50, which is also available from the Shop or through the Trust office. Postage £1.50 per disc.



OH Debate

The inaugural OH versus School Debate took place on OH Day, December 2008.

It was the 'brain child' of Chris Morgan, OH committee member, who organised the event with the participation of Mr Mark Jackson, Head of Economics and Vice-President of the HCS Debating Society.

Chris Morgan represented the Old Herefordians along with Ed. Painter (OH). Despite being introduced by Mr Jackson as "yesterday's men", Chris and Ed. succeeded in winning over the House, thereby defeating the school who were ably represented by Josh Wooderson and Emily Burdett. We warmly invite ex-members of the HCS Debating Society to debate against members of the school on OH Day, 5 December 2009.

Old Herefordians in London

The annual OH London dinner was held at the East India, Devonshire, Sports & Public Schools Club, London 29 April 2009.

The Guest speaker was Robert Rogers, Chairman of Hereford Cathedral Perpetual Trust. Twenty-four guests attended: Juliette Austen-Chandler 1983-1988, Nick Bolt 1968-1974, Jonathan Brookes 1977-1984, Richard Buckeridge 1964-1971, Peter Carter 1945-1949, Jeremy Clare 1958-1964, Kathy Clark (Guest), John Crichton 1998-2003, Stephen Duro 1952-1957, John Eede 1951-1958, Mark Ellis 1972-1977, Peter Fairman-Bourn 1952-1959, Ian Harwood 1953-1960, Derek Holden 1945-1952, Mark Lowden 1996-2003, Christopher Lush 1954-1960, Michael Moreton 1942-1949, Glyn Morgan (Secretary – HCPT), David Rattue 1942-1947, Keivan Sarrafan 1979-1981, Jonathan Sheldon 1967-1973, Paul Smith (Headmaster HCS), Tim Wheeler (Headmaster HCJS).



Kathy Clark & Jonathan Brookes



Keivan Sarrafan; Mark Ellis; Tim Wheeler



Ian Harwood & Chris Lush



Peter Fairman-Bourn with Peter Carter



**Headmaster talking to Guest Speaker
Robert Rogers - Chairman of HC**



John Crichton & Glyn Morgan



**Derek Holden; David Rattue; John Eede;
Michael Moreton; Jeremy Clare**



**David Rattue; John Eede; Michael Moreton;
Jeremy Clare; Mark Lowden**

Old Herefordians in London

OHIL Events 2010

OHIL Spring Luncheon

Thursday 25 March, 11am

Doggetts' Coat & Badge,

Blackfriars Bridge, SE1

(Light buffet to be served after 1pm).

Annual London Dinner

Thursday 22nd April, 6.30pm for 7pm

The East India Club, St James's, SW1

(3 course meal + wine, coffee & mints).

Annual Riverside Reunion

Thursday 17th June, 6pm onwards

The Founders Arms, Bankside, SE1

(An al fresco gathering on the terrace overlooking the river).

Annual Autumn Gathering

Tuesday 5th October, 6pm onwards

The Counting House, Cornhill, EC3

(Meet in the Dining Room for drinks and bar snacks).

OHIL Autumn Luncheon

Thursday 4th November, 11am

Doggetts' Coat & Badge,

Blackfriars Bridge, SE1

(Meet for drinks in the Terrace Bar. Hot soup & buffet. £20 per head).

All OHs from any HCS era are welcome to attend.

*To reserve a place, please contact
Peter Fairman-Bourn
pfb@oldherefordiansclub.co.uk.*

OH Day and AGM December 2008



40th Anniversary

To mark the 40th anniversary of joining HCS, Graham Kemp held a small OH gathering at his Herefordshire home on 16 May 2009.

The weather was kind and OHs of 1974 to 1976 leaving vintages enjoyed catching up on old times and current doings! The presence of former School House master Ege Parker kept some of the taller stories in check!



Shown in the photograph are from top left: Rod Jones (day-boy turned School House 1975), agri-industry entrepreneur of Hay on Wye; Jeremy Deverson (Deanery 1976) retired oil trader now Devon Gentleman Farmer; Jonathan Priday (DB 1976), demon maths master at HCS; Graham Kemp (SH 1976) working in banking regulation at The FSA; Seated: Simon Rees (D 1976) ex-Army and Met diplomatic bodyguard, now West Mercia Constabulary; Sue Nevill-Parker (DG 1975), Shire based dressage and 3-day eventer and trainer; Steven Adams (DB 1976), Hereford based GP; Simon Moffat (SH 1974), RICS own firm partner; Mr Parker, HCS History (Ret'd). Also present was Mark Blandford (DB 1976), serial sports betting entrepreneur and venture capital investor but missed photograph as he left for the local Point-to-Point meeting – some things don't change!

The date was originally set by Simon Pridmore (SH 1976) but then he could not attend as he was scuba diving under a Russian glacier whilst en route to setting up a new home in Bali!!

A photo from "Later that same evening" shows Rees, Deverson, Moffat and Kemp back in a boarders' favourite Hereford City centre watering hole!"



Cambridge OHs

John Williams, former HCS Director of Music, sent this picture which commemorates a remarkable Herefordian musical evening on 4 June, at St. John's College Chapel, Cambridge, when the world famous Chapel Choir was joined for a special service by the equally fine Trinity College Choir, from next door.



There has been a unique link between Hereford and St John's in recent years, with Alex Martin and John Robinson, now joined by John Challenger, as Organ Scholars. At Trinity, two former Hereford Choristers, Liam Dunachie and Luke Fisher, sing with Gwilym Bowen, born in Hereford, brother of Ruairi (OH), son of Lucy and Geraint, (Hereford Cathedral Director of Music and Organist). A younger OH completes the picture. Tom Williams, son of John and Louisa, former HCS music teachers (and honorary OHs!), is a chorister at St. John's, and is regularly rehearsed by John Challenger.

The music on the day was thrilling, with an Elgar anthem (of course!), and the hymn at the end of the service was sung to the tune... "Hereford"!

Another 40th Anniversary!

Andrew Hancorn (OH 1953-1963) and Howard Griffiths (1957-1962) met in Edinburgh, in September 2008, for the first time in 42 years.

Both were in School House and last saw each other in 1966. They renewed contact by e-mail and 'phone in 2007 when Andrew posted his contact details on the OH website. Incidentally, last year Andrew celebrated his 40th wedding anniversary. He is married to Joyce who was introduced to him by Howard.



50th Anniversary Reunion?

Geoffrey Burgess, OH 1954-1962 (School House), would like to celebrate a major anniversary with his contemporaries:

"Since the 50th Anniversary of my leaving HCS is now just three years away, I am wondering if there is any enthusiasm for a dinner, so that my contemporaries (not just those of the Class of '62) can meet up, say the day before the 2012 OH Dinner?"

If you are interested, please contact Geoffrey Burgess:
wgeoffrey28@hotmail.com.

HCJS Reunion

The Hereford Cathedral Junior School ball took place on 12 June at Belmont Golf Course. A number of parents who attended are themselves Old Herefordians.



Back row (L to R): Katie Skerrett, Jeremy Scudamore, Juliette Austen Chandler, Richard Laing, Sam Laing, Alex Probert, Charles Probert, Chris Radbourne, Richard Skyrme, Pete Butler.

Front row: Mark Worthington, Roger Sweetman, Tim Evans, Bill Quan, Justin Lavender and Phil Preece. (All have children at HCJS except Jeremy Scudamore).

© Becca Wilkin Photography 2009 - www.beccawilkinphotography.com

U6 Leavers of 1990 Reunion!
Saturday 27th February 2010

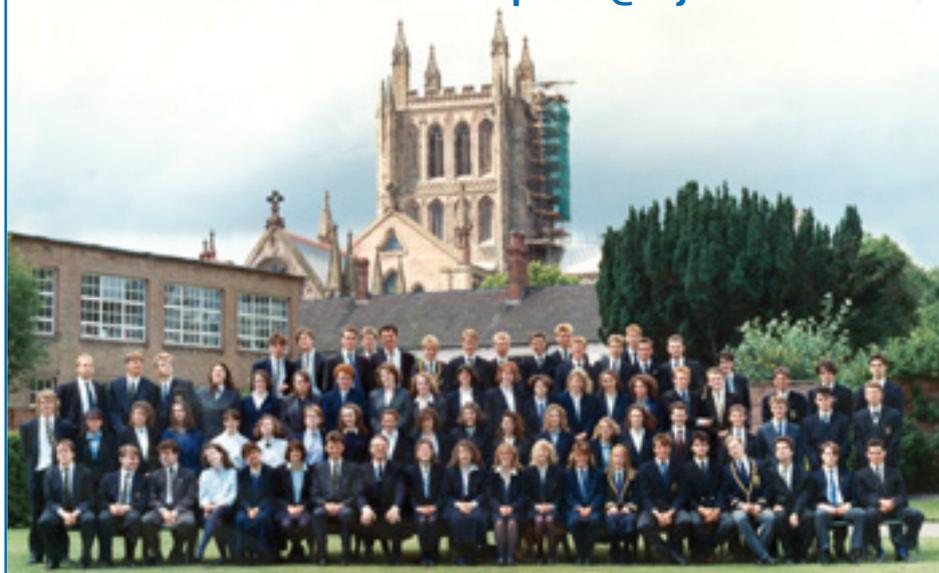
*20 years since we all left school
 Let's all get together and see who is 20 years wiser!*

Informal buffet, some great stories, catch up with news,
 ... and a few bevies at school on Saturday night

🏈🏈🏈🏈 Weekend of the Marches 7s 🏈🏈🏈🏈

Make a weekend of it at the rugby on the Sunday

If you're up for it, e-mail Gay Watkins on
gaybutterworth@btinternet.com or Helen Pearson at school
 on 01432 363 566 development@hcjs.co.uk



Reviews

KALOI K'AGATHOI REVIEW

Oedipus Exposed

As a lurking geron with a Classics pedigree, I would like to say how much I enjoyed kaloi k'agathoi's production of Oedipus Exposed.

Good family fun, as advertised on the programme, could not have summed up proceedings better. You should offer this lively production to every school in Britain to give pupils a taste of what Athenians were thinking about in the fifth century BC. I am delighted to hear that it is going to Liverpool.

I thought the Oracle was beautifully created, with Morgan Condon playing the Pythia and Kerrith Davies the priest of Apollo. How would we find it today if it were still in place with politicians and presidents visiting it to find the solution to, say, the global financial crisis? Only one question allowed!

The whole team did credit to this most savage of stories. Cleverly, the narrative had been given humour which took the story away from the dreadful and macabre content. We all ask how we would cope with discovering such a truth. It is enlightening for us now to be aware that the Ancient Greeks were as horrified by incest as we are.

The original music was quite outstanding and blended into the play in the masterly way we have come to expect from Liam.

Ian demonstrated the naivety of Oedipus, Simon doubled as Laius and a splendid Teiresias, Izzi a Jocasta with open eyes and fair tresses: alluring, to say the least. Nico brilliant Creon and Siobhan as 'chorus', holding things together. You all did a marvelous job. You will deprive the nation if you hang up your papyrus and fail to take it to other audiences – Edinburgh Festival, perhaps?

Andrew Rawstorne

The kaloi k'agathoi team for the world premiere of Oedipus Exposed:

Simon Andrews, OH

Morgan Condon, OH

Ian Corder, OH

Kerrith Davies, OH

Siobhan de Souza

Izzi Drury, OH

Liam Dunachie, OH

Original music: Liam Dunachie

All dialogue improvised by the cast with hats off to Sophocles.



Agamemnon: Aeschylus gets the red carpet treatment

Kaloi k'agathoi performed their new play, *Agamemnon: Aeschylus Gets The Red Carpet Treatment* for Three Choirs Plus in Hereford, August 2009.

The cast and crew of *Agamemnon: Aeschylus Gets The Red Carpet Treatment*:

- Jason Aftalion, OH
- Simon Andrews, OH
- Morgan Condon, OH
- Ian Corder, OH
- Siobhan de Souza, HCS
- Xander Drury, HCS
- Liam Dunachie, OH
- Pat Dunachie, HCS
- Rhian Frith, HCS
- Ursula Harris, HCS
- Archie Macleod, HCS
- Jodie Mallett, OH
- Christina Robinson, OH
- Nico Vaughan, OH



BOOK REVIEW

Celebrating Eddie
by Howard and Heather Tomlinson

All too commonly, reviewers trumpet books as a "life-changing read": few live up to this billing, and still fewer exercise an effect long after they have been put down.

To read *Celebrating Eddie* is to enter many worlds, and to emerge from them touched, shaken, stirred: a hallway of memories, a chamber of dark despair, and a garden of fragrance, light and sound to reawaken the bruised and shattered mind. It is not an easy read because it reminds us of the wasted potential of a brilliant man's life, lost too soon and too unnecessarily as it began to fulfil its promise; it is not an easy read, because at times we feel as though we are intruding on the intimacy of a close-knit family and the privacy of their shock, mourning and reconstruction. But it is an uplifting experience to read this frank, fond and faith-driven memoir: to enter into the stark reality of loss, to share the confused groping for sense and reason in the desperate unreasonableness of such a death, and to find with Howard and Heather the first promises of resolution and reassurance.

The first 'generation' of readers will, largely, have had some personal experience of Eddie. To this writer he was next-door neighbour, pupil and friend. He was someone in whose 24 brief years there had been such a wealth of achievement, experience, reflection and generosity as to shame those of us who have been given twice his time. There is a saying (reputedly East African in origin) that life is best measured in breadth rather than length, and the opening chapters of the book reflect its application to Eddie's years. The memories are affectionate, but not sentimental. They speak of Eddie's nurture in a remarkably strong family life (whose bond was to prove so crucial in and beyond April 2006); of his growing independence of spirit, and personal spiritual growth; of his calculating strategies to gain places at the Prep School and the University of his choice, to achieve the rooms and the offices of his ambitions. There is the fond memory of his foibles: his inability to keep to public time as opposed to Eddie-time, his remarkable ability to forget about and lose his belongings (or others', such as his parents' car), his taste for more than one type of high life, exploring the roofs of College and Union buildings. The memories serve the reader well. Not only do they reinforce the sense of loss that we can share only partly with his family; they are also presentational in so far as they bring Eddie vividly back to life. This is one of the key achievements in Heather and Howard's generous

sharing of their intimate story: they allow us to see what we long for - a living and laughing Eddie.

One of the most fascinating sections of the book is the account, derived largely from Eddie's own diary entries, of his last days in Lebanon. He saw beauty in the Arabic language and culture, and he related easily and readily with the people he met in Beirut. He found himself experiencing worship with Syriac Catholics and in a Romanesque Crusader church. He was beguiled by the charms of a girl called Céleste, and by the sight of a statue of Our Lady, which he wished to serenade with words borrowed from James Blunt. He could converse with bus drivers by day, and translate Aristophanes by night. And it was on the night of the 4th/5th April 2006, while his parents flew from London to Beirut, that Eddie breathed his last, asphyxiated by Carbon Monoxide from a faulty water heater. That so much promise should be extinguished by such pointless, avoidable harm is the paradox that haunts the whole account.

Howard and Heather (who write almost throughout in undifferentiated voice) express the bleak experience of the broken news and their broken hearts frankly and candidly. We are allowed to share their journey into the depths, which they aptly entitle their "Via Dolorosa". Their lives are turned upside down in a small airport room, and their first uncomprehending steps are taken against the unfamiliar, bustling backdrop of a strange culture. All is alien. Within 36 hours they are returning home, and nothing will be the same. The pathos is accentuated by small details: the desire to touch Eddie's body before they are ushered away; the sight of familiar items from home, now ownerless and unneeded; the small acts of kindness of strangers. In their desolation, they pray, and the words of a familiar Christian chorus sustain Heather in the blinding shock that envelops her.

There is support, too, in the arrangements for Eddie's funeral/thanksgiving service, at his committal and at the inquest. His siblings Clare, Michael, Sarah and their families are central to this: but it is a mark of Eddie's impact that Hereford Cathedral was packed with hundreds of supporters. The service reflected, in part, the wedding ceremony that Eddie would never have

the chance to enjoy, and this gave it both a poignant and an uplifting impact, well captured in his parents' description.

Eddie's Christian faith was a fundamental aspect of his personality, as it is of Howard and Heather's. In the final section of the book, they explain how this faith has played its part in their coming to the point where they can live with the constant painful knowledge of their loss. Heather's poems express the dismay, disorientation and disquiet which are natural aspects of her mourning: these, as the prose writing, are frank and open accounts of the feelings which underlie them. Readers may feel at this point as though we intrude on a private grief. The classic problem of evil

which confronts every believer in principle, becomes starkly incarnate in the Tomlinson family's experiences. There is no ducking the issue, and there is perhaps no ultimate answer to which we can have access. The book faces this conundrum with the same honesty and integrity that characterises the narrative throughout: the answers that are offered are tentative, incomplete, perhaps temporary. They are simply what works to ameliorate pain through faith, and they are not easy, placebo answers. There is no complete response to the heartfelt questions and cries: but one senses that Howard and Heather have felt God's grace in the

ministry of family and friends, a moment's peace in prayer, and through the very act of sharing their experiences and feelings so honestly and generously. It is this which makes *Celebrating Eddie* such a powerful tribute to a remarkable man, and such a profound, challenging and uplifting read.

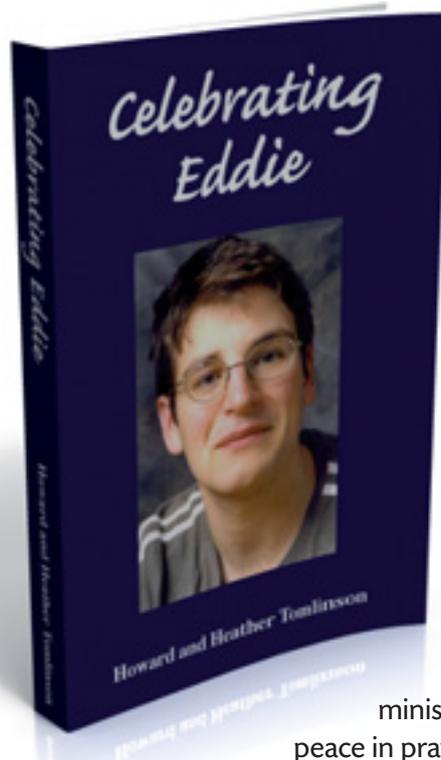
Andrew Law

Formerly Chaplain, Hereford Cathedral School

Celebrating Eddie by Howard and Heather Tomlinson; £9.99 ISBN 978-0-9561862-0-1.

Available directly from: Canon Dr Howard Tomlinson, 34 Park Street, Hereford HR1 2RD (01432-341010; email: hc.tomlinson@btinternet.com) £9.99 + £2 p&tp, or from Hereford Cathedral shop.

All profits from the sale of the book will go to three charities, including CO Gas Safety which raises awareness of carbon monoxide poisoning.



OH Sport

OLD HEREFORDIANS' RUGBY

School 21 OH 12

This was a great game of rugby, almost a classic and the result was in the balance until four minutes from time as Danny Barling threw an outrageous dummy, leaving Jake Coates grasping at fresh air as he ran in to make the game safe for the school.

The weather was calm, bright and crisp and both sides played open barbarian rugby. The school scored first as Nick Frith collected a pass from Tim Holt to cross near the corner. In what was to be the first of a faultless kicking display, Eddy Falshaw slotted the conversion. The OH replied quickly as Chris Valentini received the final pass in a complicated penalty move and crashed over to make his personal record three tries in three years; the try was converted by Tom Bates. The school retook the lead after a great piece of individual skill saw Eddy Falshaw chip and retain his own kick after the OH defence had gone missing.

In the second half, with the OH using impact players off the bench, the OH were able to exert some pressure and Ed Tomkins went over for an unconverted try closing the scoreline to 14-12. The final twist was for Barling to deliver his killer blow.

Good fun played in excellent spirit, everybody at Wyeside enjoyed the afternoon

J A Taylor



N Frith scores



D Barling in full flight

OH GOLF

This photograph was taken at the Cathedral School, High school and Whitecross old boys' golf match, on 22 September 2008 at Wormesley. Unfortunately, the Old Herefordians did not win.



Top l to r: David Wright, Harry Ellam, Richard Hammonds, Jed Smith, Angus Craig, Bill Culliss; Bottom: Mike Greg, John Oldman, Paul Morris, George Warley.

**Belmont
Golf Day**

Thursday 13th May 2010

**Coffee 11am
Round of Golf
Supper
Cost £45**

Contact
Andrew Singer (OH 57-64)
Tel: 01656 785628
abs.singer@btinternet.com



Golf at Belmont

Twelve OHs played for the coveted School House Cup in May, and the unlikely trio of Ray Harris (OH 55-61), David Wright (57-62) and Barton Taylor (56-63) were victorious after a steward's enquiry.

Three players made their debuts in the competition: brothers Stephen and Andrew Williams (67-74 and 69-76) and Barton Taylor.

Howard Tomlinson (HM 87-05) was fined for leaving early to attend a rehearsal for the Three Choirs Festival and John Eede (51-58) received penalties for not wearing a jacket and tie for the official photo. Powell Price (58-65) was commended on his good sense in not joining in such a silly game and, instead, adding his considerable intellect to the evening's proceedings.

Anyone wishing to join in such a silly game next year is welcome to do so. Everyone gets a prize and scores are never mentioned.

Please contact me at abs.singer@btinternet.com or 01656 785628.

Andrew Singer (OH 57-64).



Backrow: Howard, Stephen, John Eede, Richard, Allan Bailey (55-62) John Oldman (57-64), Angus Craig (60-65), Andrew Singer and Andrew Williams. Perched on the arm: Powell, and seated: Ray, David and Barton.

WANTED

1st Eleven Cricket team photo 1952

From A C Fox (OH 48-52, Prep 45-48)

That was the summer Mike Allsebrook suddenly died of polio, and the school was sent home a week early. We'd had the photo taken and seen the proof. Exceptionally that year the photo was taken on the steps outside the west door of the cathedral, instead of the cloisters.

What I didn't know was, as we went home, I would not be returning to school the following September. To leave school at sixteen after seven years (having started as a prep boarder in the summer term of 1945), at Harley House (No. 2 Castle Street) under Harry Wardle, was an abrupt and unfair ending.

Team members I recall: Mike Allsebrook, Dickie Richardson, Johnny Harris, Midge Davis, Alan Sheldon, Tipper Preece, Pete Grimshaw, David Miller Dickie Bassett, Johnny Woods, Harry Ellam, Ken Price, Dai Cole.

Contact: Tony Fox, 69 High Street, Ramsbury, Marlborough, Wiltshire. 01672-520525, tfox1936@yahoo.co.uk

OH REGATTA

The OH Regatta took place on a lovely summer's day in June. Everyone was eager to start racing to try and win the girls' or boys' Symonds cup.

The conditions were brilliant for racing, which was just as well for one oarsperson (I will not mention their name) as they fancied a quick dip in the river after catching a crab and capsizing. Kate Jones and Izzy Hancock fought through to the final for the girls' Symonds cup which was won by Kate Jones. Ed Deutsch won the boys' Symonds cup, after having a tough race with Ben Jones. Every racer was then put into a random scratch quad. This was an epic fight to prove who could work well together and push themselves to the limit and was won by Bill Tenison, Izzy Timmerman, Alex Shepherd and Sian Evans who were coxed and "encouraged" by Kate Jones. We were all kept well nourished by the PTA tent that provided Pimms for the parents and squash for the racers, and plenty of delicious cakes!

The Old Herefordian race was fairly eventful – just before both fours lined up at the start, one of the fours' seat broke so they had to row back down to replace it! However this didn't spoil their chances of winning, and the crew of William Boyd-Thomas, Jamie Thomas, Alex Deutsch and Andrew Leeman won by a solid two and a half lengths. Yet again the OH regatta was an eventful day enjoyed by all; we hope next year we will have the same conditions, atmosphere and company.

Stephanie Street, Captain of Boats



OH Careers

Nick Asbury OH 1982-89



In the Summer Term of 1988, Colin Gray (Head of English) cast me as Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing* for the school play that term. A couple of months later, we went on a school trip to Stratford to see a production in The Swan Theatre.

As all the other guys filed out at the interval, I sat in my seat marvelling at the place and its atmosphere, realising

that this world, this life, was the one for me.

When I got back home to Hereford that night, I tore up all my University entrance forms and the final nail in the coffin of me being an actor was emphatically hammered in. Exactly 20 years later I was leaving the Royal Shakespeare Company having appeared in their massive two and a half year "Histories" project. Having first joined the RSC in 1999, my experience with them goes back not quite as long as my 11 years time at HCS, but I'm getting there.

After leaving HCS in 1989 I trained at Dartington College of Arts (it was the only place that did a degree in acting at the time) and have spent my time since then climbing up the greasy pole of the acting world. I was lucky enough

to go on a world tour with Propellor Theatre Co doing *Henry V* and *Comedy of Errors* and have since toured and filmed all over the world: in Dunkirk, for example, on a BBC film of that name directed coincidentally by Alex Holmes (OH). I have also been the pianist on *The Basil Brush Show*, which made me laugh a lot, and have managed, by hook or by crook, to play various major roles in some fantastic classic plays from Biff in *Death of a Salesman* to Trigorin in *The Seagull*, Bill Sykes in *Oliver Twist* and Pistol in *Henry V* (twice).

Having joined The RSC in 1999 in *The Seagull*, I was then cast as The Duke of Somerset in the RSCs Artistic Director Michael Boyd's award winning productions of *Henry VI Parts 1, 2 and 3* and *Richard III* at my old damascene theatre - The Swan Theatre in Stratford, which toured to America and The Young Vic. I returned four years later to double that project by not only re-staging those plays but to do the four 'prequels' Shakespeare wrote subsequently, namely: *Richard II*, *Henry IV Parts 1 & 2* and *Henry V*. All of which were performed with one company of actors, one director and creative team. This two and a half year project ended in London in May 2008 and I have since written a book about the whole thing, published in June 2009 by Oberon Books, called "*Exit Pursued By A Badger: An Actor's Journey Through History With Shakespeare*". It was originally started as a blog on the RSCs website and took off to the extent that it became a book documenting the trials, tribulations, triumphs and joys of being an actor in a very special and 'history-making' project.

As I write, I am currently in rehearsals for *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* at the West Yorkshire Playhouse in Leeds, and am preparing to write another book on Shakespeare in the New Year.

My book "Exit Pursued By A Badger" is available from all good bookshops and can be ordered from Amazon.co.uk, ISBN: 9781840028928.

Matthew Hall OH 1978-85



I look back on my seven years at HCS with rich and fond memories. Back in the early 80s is was quite a liberal and easy-going place where nascent political rebels like myself were free to spout their adolescent opinions with something approaching tolerance from masters who, in the nicest possible way, had more than their fair share of eccentricities.

I still have some dog-eared copies of a magazine headmaster Barry Sutton let me and my friends produce – the sinisterly named, 'Coup De Grace'. Very sportingly he only asked to glance through it before we peddled it on Castle Street and around the town. It was full of stuff that would have made Arthur Scargill blush, but with hindsight he was nurturing our creativity and banking on us growing wiser with age. I remain very grateful to him for his tolerance.

After the freedom of school university was a bit of a shock. I studied law at Worcester College, Oxford. A far cry from the avuncular atmosphere of Ege Parker's study, my tutorials were ferocious and taxing affairs conducted by very serious men who weren't interested in any of my damn fool ideas, just whether or not I'd read the cases and mastered the principles. It was a formative, but if I'm honest not a particularly

enjoyable experience, and the law course certainly didn't allow for any of the free thinking I had so enjoyed in the sixth form at HCS.

By contrast, my year at Bar School in Gray's Inn was a ball. I shared a flat in Camden with some mates from HCS – Huw James and Steve Ashurst - and I'm happy to say they've become lifelong friends. I was lucky enough to get a place in a large criminal chambers and was soon up on my feet in court (terrifying!), doing my bit to keep the criminals of south London and Essex out of clink, and then the next day I'd be prosecuting and trying to get them locked up. I thought I was set for life, but one evening I was having a drink with a judge who said something that stayed with me: *'You'd better be sure about this profession, because there'll be nothing else between this and the grave.'*

I'd always had a yearning to write, and I started trying to write scripts in my spare time. My early efforts were invariably useless, but after a couple of years they were getting better. Eventually I wrote a TV film which I had the hubris to think deserved to be produced. I sent it to every producer in the book. There were some nice letters but no offers to make it. It was the best part of a year later when the producers of ITV's Kavanagh QC were handed a copy and invited me in for a chat. They gave me a shot at writing a storyline, then the script, and then it got produced. Another script followed, then another and suddenly a new career seemed to beckon. It was only going to be six months away from the law, but thirteen years later I've not gone back ... I guess that's it, then.

TV is fun and can be financially rewarding but even writing for the BBC it's mass market driven with precious little room for the author's voice. For the last two years I've been writing novels and it's been a liberation – at last being able to write what I want.

Writing is a job like any other, only crazily instead of moderately insecure,

but it does bring a precious degree of freedom (that word again!). After many years in London my wife and I and our two small sons moved to Monmouthshire six years ago and I now spend much of my working life in an old stone shed and my weekends wielding a chainsaw in our woodland. My research and the occasional TV project takes me to different places around the world so I'm not a hermit, but this wet, green border country will always be home.

Twenty-four years after leaving HCS I hope it's not too late to express my gratitude to Colin Gray *et al* who put up manfully with a bolshie teenager that I was. If they still haunt the Castle Pool I'll drop in one day soon and buy them the drinks that are long overdue.

(The Coroner was published in paperback by PanMacmillan in 2009 and The Disappeared will appear in January 2010).

Rich & Sam Laing OH 1978-85
"Pockets...!" The shrill voice behind me cut through the air like the screech of a parakeet. My reaction was quicker than Clint Eastwood – hands instantly withdrawn from trouser pockets and left awkwardly hanging left and right.

A split second later I notice exactly the same motion from the two hapless school children in front of me; and then the realisation hit: I am 36 years old and walking innocently across the Cathedral Close towards Church Street, but behind me is a voice from the past; an unforgettable voice; a voice which conferred on me such an immediate response that it could only possibly have been from one person - Dickie Dunn, my Chemistry teacher from 25 years ago.

Quite oblivious to my actions, Mr Dunn shuffled past me muttering belligerently towards the now blushing children. And that was when it hit me –

my God, I'm back in Hereford and this place just has not changed!

That was 2002 and my daughter Gemma had just started at HCJS. Sam [Prosser] (OH) and I had been married for 6 years and had found ourselves back in the city, drawn to it by a combination of fairly random events. Had anyone suggested to us in 1985 that we would end up back in Hereford and be sending our two children (Gemma & Charlie) to HCS we would have felt (a) mildly insulted and (b) incredulous.

But here we are and we could not be happier. The daily "Ground Hog" event of school drop off is a constant reminder that this place must be pretty good. So many OHs have returned to Hereford and all say the same thing: *"If you are lucky enough to be able to earn a living and live in a place like Hereford, then that is as good as it gets."*

We see "mini me" versions of Pete Butler, Russ and Ros (Built) Catley, Simon Smith, Juliet Austen-Chandler (Adams), Tim Evans, Mark Ellis, Sam (Hallowell), Mark Worthing and many more. Characters hang out on the Number 1 wall and Sam & I find ourselves saying *"... she looks just like Sarah Stock... there's Chris Owen... and look that's the spitting image of Spike!"*

Then there are the teachers – Mr Shutt, Mr Taylor, Mrs Higham, were they really that young when they taught us? It all seems like yesterday and that is just great. When we were kids going into the cathedral every morning, little did we realise what effect that repeated event would have on us. I challenge any OH to sit through a school assembly or a carol service and not be completely overcome by the place.

But beyond it all it was the fun we had. Dickie Dunn has now, at last, retired having made a huge contribution to several generations of chemistry students, but it is not only the Periodic Table of Elements that we remember him for. He with many others made up the fabric of committed (if slightly eccentric) characters who make HCS a very special place where many of us learned, yes, but more importantly had fun – fun enough to return decades later and trust our own children in the hands of this great and ancient institution.



Richard and Sam with Charlie and Gemma and Imogen Rogers

Lucy Mason OH 1979-1986

A B.Mus (Hons) from London University and then a PGCE (after a year in business) led me into the classroom and both managerial and boarding house roles in the independent school system (Colston's Girls' School, Bristol and Kimbolton School, Cambs.) for eight years.

I guess it was fairly predictable that I'd end up working in music after leaving school.....

However, I'd always had a hankering after self-employment, so decided on a pretty radical career change in the late '90s rather than climb the managerial ladder any higher. A part-time MA in Psychology for Musicians (Sheffield University) was intended as a back door into the world of clinical psychology but while studying, I became interested in holistic

medicine and specifically homeopathy, so undertook a four year training before setting up "Alternative Tune" in 2001, completing professional registration a year later. Homeopathy is not an easy profession to guarantee a full-time salary, so I also fell into peripatetic music teaching when approached by my former boss, by then headteacher at Sibford School, Oxon. That in turn led to more teaching requests, both privately and at Tudor Hall School, also in Oxfordshire. So, since the turn of the century, I've divided my time between my homeopathy consultancy in Towcester, Northamptonshire, and individual music theory teaching.

But there was something missing. I always knew I'd return to Herefordshire one day, and with the BIG 40 looming, it was time to take stock. Last December, with a little help from my friends, I packed my bags (and two removal vans which duly got stuck in the snow and had to be towed the final half-mile by tractor!) and came home, (or dare I admit it, to just over the OTHER side of the border!). I'm above Hay, high in the foothills of the Black Mountains, with a Herefordshire postal address but with Offa's Dyke between me and Castle Street (and a view reaching almost as far). It's great to be back in my beloved hills, although I'm still working in the Midlands during the early part of each week – a global recession isn't a good time to establish a new branch of my business the other side of the country! Being (almost!) back in Herefordshire makes that all worthwhile though, and on a personal level, I'm really interested in moving towards a gentler, greener, and more self-sufficient lifestyle – which should be far easier in these parts than it is adjacent to the M1. The hills also call to my creative side and I'm trying to nurture that and reawaken my imagination, writing and composing a lot more, as well as

venturing into the world of photography (I've just come 3rd in a photo competition and will be in print in the local 2010 calendar!)

It'd be great to hear from any of my peers, so feel free to email me: browsing@waitrose.com.



William Gould OH 1984-1991

William Gould is currently a Senior Lecturer in Indian History at the University of Leeds.

He attended Hereford Cathedral School between 1984 and 1991, where he was Deputy Head of School, Treasurer of the Austro-Hungarian Society, a lead in numerous drama productions, captain of the 2nd XI hockey and cricket teams and was taught History by the Headmaster, Mr Parker and Mr James. Before going to Pembroke College Cambridge to read History, he spent a year working in a Psychiatric Hospital for Children in northern Romania. Later on, during his time as an undergraduate, he joined with several other volunteers from that time, to set up a new school for children and young adults with learning disabilities – School for Life, and its sister charity Scoala Pentru Viata.

While at Cambridge, he developed an interest in South Asian history and politics, largely through contact with Dr. Rajnarayan Chandavarkar, and having achieved a double first in his BA, decided to continue to an MPhil and PhD in Indian History. At that time, Cambridge was well known as one of the main centres for Indian

history, and had in the late '70s and early '80s been identified as a specific field of the 'Cambridge School'. William was therefore very lucky to be in contact not only with Dr. Chandavarkar, but a range of other specialists and their PhD students at Cambridge. At Cambridge he was also a contemporary of Tristan Hunt, David Mitchell and Rob Webb, Mike Sergeant, the political correspondent, and Sasha Baren Cohen of *Borat/Ali G* fame.

Not having much talent on the stage, William decided to continue life as an academic.

2000 was nevertheless a good year for him: he completed his PhD and managed to secure a postdoctoral position at the Centre of South Asian Studies, Cambridge; along with a friend from the Romanian work, he successfully won a National Lottery grant application bid, to build a gymnasium for School for Life; most importantly, he met his future wife, Olivia, while on a trip to northern Romania, and married her in 2002.

In 2003, William was appointed as a Lecturer in Indian History at the University of Leeds, where he has taught and researched ever since. His first book, *Hindu nationalism and the language of politics in late colonial India* came out with Cambridge University Press the following year. In 2007 he won a large collaborative grant bid from the Arts and Humanities Research Council, to work on a comparison between India and Pakistan over independence, with Dr. Sarah Ansari, Senior Lecturer at Royal Holloway College, London. He is currently working on two further books, also on Indian politics and religion, due to appear in 2010-11, and has just completed a network project on British Asian Cities in the UK.

In July 2007, Olivia and William celebrated the birth of their son,

Dylan. Luckily, Dylan quickly developed a penchant for Indian food and Romanian music. When not travelling to India for research (often with his family), William likes to go swimming with Dylan, read, paint, play the guitar in his band, The Moneypennys, and visit old friends from India and Romanian days, and those from HCS like Pak Wai in Cheltenham.

William returns to HCS on Friday 12th March next year (Gilbert Memorial Library, 6 pm) to lecture on 'Partition, Citizenship and Democracy in North India, 1947-51'. All are welcome.

Howard Tomlinson



OH Update
SPOTLIGHT ON...

James Probert



James Probert was guest speaker at School Speech Day, 11 July 2009.

James Probert attended HCS between 1992 and 1999, following in the footsteps of three generations of his family. He went on to study at the London School of Economics, where he was awarded first class honours in philosophy. Throughout his time at school and university James took part in competitive debating, gaining scholarships from the English-Speaking Union, representing England and reaching the highest levels of international competition. While a student at the LSE he undertook an internship with the United States Congress, and established a debate outreach scheme running workshops for schools in east London without a tradition of debate, which has since grown to become a national programme, the largest of its kind.

On graduation he was employed by the English-Speaking Union to run that and other educational programmes, in the UK and internationally. In the past eight years he has taught or lectured in more than thirty countries on every continent, been published in a number of educational journals and appeared on BBC and foreign radio. He is now Head of the Centre for Speech and Debate, and Deputy Director of Education. Last year he was chief adjudicator of the World Schools Debating Championships and is currently a trustee of the tournament's governing body. He is also a governor of a primary school in north-west London and a member of the Independent Monitoring Board of HMP Brixton. He lives in central London.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL

Calling on Your Memories

What are Your Memories of the Cathedral Close?

The Close Connections team at the Cathedral is looking for your memories for an important oral reminiscence project called **'The Close in Living Memory'**.

The team is keen to hear all sorts of memories of the Close from Old Herefordians - scenes viewed from Old School House; reminiscences of walking to Chapel or the sports fields; events that played out in the Close - all are welcome.

Please contact Jo Henshaw and Eva Cizkova in the Close Connections office on **01432 374255** or email close.connections@herefordcathedral.org.

Close Connections Project

David Burgess OH 1965-1972

Dave was a chorister and was in School House from 1965 to 1972, and remembers it as a period of great change at the school.

"I think this was noticeable in how things were for boarders; life became a lot freer and more relaxed, and hair was longer! My contact with the school and with OHs has not been much; in 1973 and '74 I went back to play in the Old Boys' rugby and cricket. But it has only been in the last couple of years that I have started to look back at school days, wonder what happened to friends, to get back in touch, and to get the newsletter".

Dave lives in Boston Spa, Yorkshire. He is a graduate of York University and after a first career in the Probation Service he now runs his own international property development business. In his spare time he enjoys music and walking the dog. To find out about Dave's fund-raising record, see page 3.

Geoffrey Burgess OH 1954-1962

"My working swansong (2008) was conceiving a 21st Century method of interpretation for the local double-moated castle, which, despite a famous royal history, is now just earthworks and some curtain walling.

I designed the scenes, wrote the script, and chose the music for a virtual reality tour of the castle in the 14thC. The tour provides people with an idea of the castle in its heyday, which the ruins do not convey; (I use the Nom de Plume, Barnes)."

Visit the castle at: www.berkhamsted.gov.uk/castlefilm.htm.

Geoffrey is happy for OHs to get in touch, especially contemporaries who are interested in a 50th Anniversary dinner in 2012. wgeoffrey28@hotmail.com.

Christopher Butlin OH 1973-1980

Christopher Butlin lives in Kelowna, British Columbia, and has his own Sports Management company with offices in the USA.

He has a daughter, Robyn. Chris still rows every morning on the lake and enjoys the ski season.

Chris has recently visited Hereford and is still in touch with OH friends. He would be very happy to hear from any contemporaries: chris@cstt.com.

Frank Crossman OH 1948-1954

Frank recently received the Australian National Medal for service to the community in the Country Fire Service in which he has been heavily involved as a volunteer for many years.

He was also recently featured on a radio station, in Victoria, talking about his life as an immigrant living in Australia and featuring his choice of music.

Christopher Dowden

OH 1994-2000

After being awarded a double-first in Mathematics at Caius College, Cambridge, then an MSc with distinction at Merton College, Oxford, Christopher gained his DPhil at Oxford.

It wasn't all work – he captained the Merton College tennis team and ran in university and college cross-country teams. Christopher is now in Christchurch, New Zealand, working at the University of Canterbury, having been awarded a post-doctoral fellowship there.

Ben Ellis OH 1998-2005

Read about Ben on page 5.

David Greatrex OH 1998 - 2005

David recently graduated from Birmingham Conservatoire with a first class honours degree.

He is an active musician within the freelance market and is currently working within theatres, education and is strongly involved in Birmingham's creative music scene. He regularly performs new music with his own group and partakes in other musical collaborations. David has performed at the Cheltenham Jazz Festival, written music for the BBC Big Band and been taught by the renowned bassist, Dave Holland and guitarist Phil Robson. Having already researched symmetry within 20th century harmony, he aims to study postgraduate research in music and science.



Nicola James-Moore

OH 1975-1982

Nicola lives with her family (she has two sons), in Oxford and works part-time as a Community Dietician.

Roger Morgan OH 1963-1970

Roger Morgan left HCS in 1970, to study Chemistry at UCL alongside fellow OHs Gavin Tringham and John Taylor. He subsequently obtained a PhD in 1976, also from UCL.

After a short academic career at the University of Swansea, Roger joined Shell Research in 1978 and held a number of positions, ending his career in the company as a Vice President in the Chemicals Division when his business was divested in 2001. Roger was retained by the new company as a Global Director with responsibility for the European and

Asian businesses until its sale to TPG in 2005 triggered a number of departures of the senior management team and Roger left to form his own consulting company.

Roger married his wife, Sue in the Lady Chapel in Hereford Cathedral in 1974 and they have two boys, now exploring their own careers in the South East.

For most of his career, Roger and his family lived in Teddington in South West London. In recent years, he and his wife have moved back to Herefordshire, where they live in a cottage overlooking the Wye (with nine acres to look after!) in Bishopswood just south of Ross-on-Wye.

Roger is chairman of the Wye Valley Society and a Director of the Courtyard Centre for the Arts.

Martin Nicholson

Martin was Head of Mathematics at HCS from 1967 to 1991, including two separate years on exchange to schools in Sydney, Australia.



Since 1992, he has been teaching Mathematics and/or English in Zimbabwe, the Solomon Islands, South Korea, the People's Republic of China, Malaysia and even, for a short time, at a Tibetan School based in Nepal. He has also been a School Director of an International School in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Martin has settled in Thailand and is teaching Thai High School students in Songkhla on the South East Coast. He is very happily married to Pit, his

Thai wife, and their daughter, Phatthira Clara, was born in April, 2009.

"We are building a house on a Thai island with a wonderful view and we shall give a big welcome to any Old Herefordians visiting Thailand and who care to visit us."

Robert (Phil) Phillips

OH 1960-67

"I was filled with nostalgia on seeing photograph number 7 on the cover of the 2008 Old Herefordians' Newsletter and whilst I can only remember some of the names of the victorious Old Deanery inter-house rugby team of 1966, it still revived happy memories of my time at the Cathedral School.

In the 41 years since I left school, I've spent 33 years as a Manager with NatWest, taking early retirement at 50, then spending 7 great years as a teaching assistant in a Primary School, combining this role with working as an Adult Literacy Tutor. Illness forced me to retire fully, but I can now enjoy more time with my wife of 38 years, two sons and two grandchildren all of us in Bournemouth, and living very close to the seafront.

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who remembers me from those times, particularly anyone who took part in 'a terrible play what I wrote' called the Empty Room mentioned by J J (Jake) Spear in the 2006 Newsletter. I can be contacted at margrob@ntlworld.com.

R G White OH 1956-1963

Graham White, OBE, was a boarder in School House and was fascinated to see the photographs on the cover of OH Newsletter 2008.

He identified himself standing in front of the fire in Room X, which was the common room for those in the fifth form and above (Photo 1).

"I enjoyed a fulfilling career in the Army and was medically discharged after the Falklands campaign in 1982. I eventually retired from the Gambling Commission as its Chief Inspector in 2006 and am now Chairman of the Jersey Gambling Commission and a Board member of several charities. I live in Cambridge married to Annie a retired University lecturer with two daughters and two grandchildren.

This year I canoed down the Wye from the upper reaches to Hereford Rowing Club (where I spent many a happy an hour being coached by the famous Pete Skinner). A journey of happy memories and I know without doubt that I owe my success and happiness in no small way to my time at Hereford Cathedral School."

Academic Congratulations

Iain Budge OH 1998-2005

Iain Budge has graduated from the University of Bristol with a First Class Honours Degree in Biochemistry. Iain is planning to work as a management trainee with Lloyds TSB.

Ben Ellis OH 1998-2005

Ben, son of OH President Mark Ellis, has recently graduated in Music with first class Honours from Leeds University.

David Greatrex OH 1998-2005

David has graduated from Birmingham Conservatoire with first class Honours in Music.

Charlotte Morris OH 1997-2004

Charlotte graduated from Aberystwyth University in July 2007, with an upper second class Honours degree in English Literature. She went on to study for a Primary PGCE at Newport University in September 2008, where she gained her teaching qualification in July 2009 with merit.

Holly Ricketts OH 1997-2004

Holly graduated with a first class BA (Hons) in History from University Wales Swansea and was subsequently awarded an MA with merit from Exeter University.

Weddings

Samantha Hopkins OH 1995-2002



Samantha Hopkins married Gary Lewis (Aylestone 1994 – 1999) at Hereford Council Chambers on 25 July 2009. Hollie Brussau (OH) was one of the bridesmaids. Sam is a Pensions & Personnel Officer at Special Metals Wiggan Limited and Gary is a Team Leader at TRP.

Lou Langstaff OH 1988-1995

The marriage took place between Louise Langstaff and Richard Barker at Hampton Bishop Church, Herefordshire on Saturday 2nd August 2008.

OH Guests included: Emma and Jo (bride's sisters), Sarah Broome, Becky Mathias, Chris and Andy Davies, Tom Bott and Sara Bott. Lou and her husband Richard are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Jemima Annie on Thursday 16th October 2008.

Lou recently moved back to Hereford after several years away. She is currently the assistant Head of Humanities at Whitecross High School and Specialist Sports College in Hereford.

Jess Kirby OH 1993-1998 and **Hugo Hutchison** OH 1989-1996

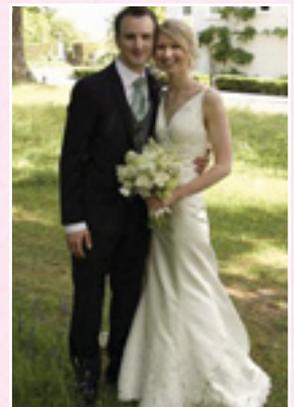
Jess Kirby and Hugo Hutchison were married in Hereford Cathedral on Saturday 2 August 2008. Best Men were Hal Hutchison (OH 1999) and Jim Footner, and Ushers included William Tenison (soon to be OH!). OHs present included Kate Shallcross, Nicholas Brinton, Emma, Amy, Louis and Izzy Fonseca. They spent their honeymoon in Croatia. Hugo and Jess live in London - they are both teachers; Jess teaches primary and Hugo secondary.



OHs Louis, Amy & Izzy Fonseca, Hal Hutchison and Herefordian William Hanbury Tenison

Ellie Yates OH

Ellie left HCS in 2002 and after a gap year spent travelling round Australia, New Zealand and Mexico went on to study History at Roehampton University where she gained a First Class degree. Whilst at Roehampton she met Mike. They married in May of this year and have a one-year-old son, Ben.



OH Travels

Exploring the Amazon

David Bland (OH 1951) has been gradually relinquishing control of his business in Sussex to his family and, in semi-retirement, exploring the more exotic territory of the Amazonian rainforest.

His father went out as an explorer missionary to Brazil in 1922 with another missionary, Frank Trotman. Together they were the first explorers of two of the Amazon tributaries not too far from its source, responsible for establishing where the native tribes were living in order to ascertain the best places to set up Missionary Centres.

"After my mother had finished her nursing training in 1924, she joined my father and, after they married, they travelled by pack mule through the rainforests via Peru, passing around and through the Andes over precipitous mountain passes, losing at least two pack mules on the way. They then settled in the rainforest, six-days walking distance from the nearest town, and carried out their work, my mother being the only Medico for 200 square miles.

In recent years, as my family have gradually taken over my business, my wife and I have spent several weeks each year on exploration trips. This photograph shows me with a member of the Embera Tribe off the coast of Panama. This was taken over a year before Bear Grylls the TV survival expert spent time with the same tribe!



I am still trying to work out how I can travel up the same tributaries and also visit as near as possible to where my parents settled. Unfortunately, none of us actually know where that is although they did finish their time in a little town called Trinidad, which by now is possibly a very large town. Both my brothers were born in the rainforest and they spent a short period at the Cathedral School (1944) before moving on the Hereford Boys' High School."

Mr Taylor's 'Gap Year'

Mr John Taylor (HCS biologist 1984-2008), who retired when his son David left Cathedral sixth-form last year, reports on his belated 'gap year'!

"Having retired August 2008, Linda and I set off to South America for three months in September. Linda had always wanted to visit the Inca sites and I longed to see rainforest. Neither of us had been to the third world so our first impressions on arrival in Lima were very vivid. We were shocked by the miles of shanty town around the colonial architecture of the centre. As a city it was dusty, restless and chaotic and we were pleased to move on swiftly over the Andes by air to Cuzco the ancient Inca capital.

Cuzco is at 3,500m and so we spent the next few days slowly getting used to the altitude. We visited the Sacred Valley and several Inca sites, but nothing prepares you for the splendour of Machu Picchu. Why would anybody build such a magnificent place in somewhere so remote? No wonder the conquistadors never found it and thank goodness.

Then by train at about 17 km per hour over the Altiplano to Puno on the banks of Lake Titicaca the world's highest navigable lake. Here we had a really humbling experience staying with a family on Amantini, an island within the lake. On the island there were no roads, no vehicles, no electricity and no plumbed water. We shared meals of rice and potatoes





cooked over wood fires illuminated by a single candle. It really bought the concept of carbon footprint to life.

On to Bolivia, a country of street markets and festivals despite the obvious poverty it was a very vibrant place. Here we witnessed a march of half a million campesinos led by their president Evo Morales in support of a new constitution. The streets were left covered in chewed coca leaves.

The overnight bus and an appallingly uncomfortable journey took us south to Uyuni and the start of a three day adventure by Toyota land cruiser over salt flats past volcanoes and bubbling mud. It was a geological paradise and more than made up for the jolting cramped conditions and communal sleeping. Temperatures ranged from 30°C midday to minus 22°C at night.

Into Chile and the Atacama Desert – an area where some places have never recorded rainfall. It was beautiful and the sunset over the desert was breathtaking. We then travelled up the Chilean coast to Arica a small fishing port where I had the best seafood ever, abalones costing peanuts and then back to Le Paz.

Here we undertook our Inca trail that started in the High Andes at 5,000m and descended into cloud forest at 2000m. Cloud forest is the clue, it rained for three days and the trek was hard but ultimately very rewarding.



Our last month took us back up the coast of Peru. We saw Condors in the canyons and the Nazcar lines from a single engine aeroplane. From Lima we flew to Iquitos a town in the Amazon basin not accessible by road. For me this was a highlight: a boat trip up the Amazon 120Km to an Eco lodge for a week. We had our own guide, an indigenous forest Indian, and we walked or went by boat into the forest. It was unimaginable. On our first afternoon we saw 34 species of birds including toucan, parrots and parakeets. We showered in tepid muddy river water and dined by kerosene lamps, we saw enormous fish-eating bats, sloths, capybara, and a two-foot freshwater barracuda jumped into the boat. And of course it rained!"

OH Photo Album

From Andrew Hancorn,
School House, 1959-1963

"This picture appeared in the Hereford newspaper and is of five of us outside Hereford Railway Station about to depart for "Snowdonia" to complete the expedition part of our "Duke of Edinburgh, Gold Award" which was supervised by two soldiers from the SAS.

As I recall, I think we were probably the first to get Gold Awards at HCS and I think this was either late '62 or early '63."



L to r:
A.C.Hancorn, R.J.Rowlands,
E.A.Washington, A.B.Singer
and J.W.Beach.



This picture shows seventeen members of School House taken at the front of School House in (I guess) 1962.

Standing, l to r:
M.C.Laughton, A.B.Singer,
H.P.Griffiths, J.M.Scally, *Don't Know*,
J.K.Barras, H.C.Craig, E.A.Washington,
W.D.T.Pearce, D.W.Roberts, *Don't Know*,
D.M.Whetter. Seated:
R.G.White, T.D.B.Taylor, A.G.Dodson,
N.A.Davies, A.C.Hancorn.

Notable Old Herefordians

**OH Somerset Scholars 3:
The Rev'd John Hubert Ware (1863-1907)
The Duchess of Somerset's legacies in the late
17th century included endowments for boys at
HCS 'whose parents and friends are not able to
contribute anything considerable towards
their maintenance in the university', and 'such
as...intend to take upon them the ministry'.**

My third OH Somerset scholar, J H Ware, as a son of the former Rector of Ullingswick, qualified on both counts, and was more typical of the hundreds of such scholars over three centuries than my first two subjects – F E Weatherly, the lyricist, and E J Rapson, the Sanskrit scholar.

John Ware had a good academic record at HCS, winning English and reading prizes in 1882 and being elected as a Brasenose Somerset scholar and Philpottine exhibitioner in the same year. These two awards with a combined value of over £100 per annum were sufficient in the 1880s to enable the son of a country parson to live in reasonable comfort at university. Ware had done well to win both scholarships – and, indeed, had probably stayed on at school for an extra year (he was over 19 when he left in July 1882) in order to do so – but his university academic record was distinctly modest: a third in classical 'Mods' and a fourth in the History Greats School.

Ware was, however, an outstanding sportsman. He was one of the school's best oarsmen in a decade that produced two rowing 'blues'. He was a member of the rugby football XII (as it then was) for four years, and was considered in 1881-82 a heavy and hard working forward, with 'the longest drop' in the team and a good place kicker. He was captain of the cricket XI in his last year and took over 40 wickets in each of his last three seasons on the Widemarsh ground. But it was as an athlete that Ware excelled, setting records (or near records) in the long jump, cricket ball and hammer, with a jump of over 19 feet and throws of some 99 yards and 102 feet respectively, in the 1881 sports day.

These sporting pursuits were continued at Oxford – and no doubt to the detriment of his studies – where he rowed in the BNC first boat and played for the university against the MCC (when so *The Herefordian*

reported 'he had the honour of hitting W G Grace out of the ground in two successive balls, though the third ball was sudden death'.) But again his greatest distinction was as an athlete, winning four successive athletic 'blues' (1883-86), setting a record in putting the weight of over 42 feet in the varsity sports of 1885 and becoming captain of the club in the same year. 'A prominent member of the athletic and social life of Oxford, he has left behind him a record of which the old school may well feel proud', observed *The Herefordian's* correspondent. 'His burly form will long be missed, whether on the running ground of the cricket field; alas, no more will BNC crews quake as he shouts to them with sonorous voice from the towing path'.

We know little from *The Herefordian* about Ware's post university career, apart from his getting ordained and his working as a curate in a large parish in Great Yarmouth, until December 1907 issue when we learn that in 1892 he had become vicar of East Ham, a parish of some 23,000 souls (bigger than Hereford at the time) and consisting almost entirely of the poor.

'For them', his obituary said, 'he gave his life', John Hubert Ware – perhaps the greatest athlete the school has ever produced - having died in his 45th year, 'worn out by work for his Master'.



Howard Tomlinson



An Appreciation of C F Scott

The front cover of OH Newsletter 2008 prompted several readers to recall their school days under the headship of C F Scott.

New Boys Both

"The term in September 1940 began with the usual complement of new boys at HCS. On that first day of term I was aware of only two of them. One was myself, ten and a bit years old, launched into a totally strange and pretty terrifying world.

As a pupil at St. Owen's School, and not yet ten, I'd twice been taken out of school to do some tests, answer some questions. I expect my parents told me what it was all about, but I don't remember now, and at the time I had no idea of the significance of what I was doing. I was in fact taking scholarship exams for places in either the Boys' High School or Hereford Cathedral School: I was offered a free place at both, fully funded by the County. It was decided on my behalf that I should go to the Cathedral School, just across the Castle Green from the little Victorian terrace house in which I'd been born and brought up.

So, on that first morning, my first impression was of a world where everyone was bigger than me, and where everyone was male. I'd been used to co-educational schools, with mainly women teachers. Here there was nothing feminine, let alone friendly, in sight.

A bell sounded in the yard. I'd been told I'd be in East House, and had been allotted a peg, for coat and gas mask case, in a changing room under what was then the OTC Armoury. Beyond that building was a low mound with two large trees on it, called the Acropolis, and beyond that the row of primitive open toilets. And the bike sheds. And of course School House, inhabited by The Boarders, where no day-boy would venture if he valued his life.

But on that first day, the bell swept us all up a steep stone staircase. I, a "W", was number 182 on the School roll-call, so the entire school, under 200 in number, would fit into Big School, which for teaching purposes was



divided into two by folding partitions. For assemblies like this the partitions were folded back, and I found myself in front of them. Behind me, leaning against the partitions, were some senior boys. There was a platform, empty but for a table and an old brown Bluthner grand piano, its case scarred from long service at the hands of boys.

We all stood there, with some murmuring, awaiting the arrival of that other new boy: the new Headmaster.

I'd been used to school assemblies where the Head Teacher was flanked by all the staff, in a show of splendour and solidarity, perhaps? But that morning CFS (C F Scott)

came into Big School and mounted the platform alone, with only his gown to mark his status.

Much later I realised that he had to step into the shoes of a redoubtable predecessor, the "cricket-and-classics" Dr Crees, whose pupils had worn 'bum-starvers' on Sundays. But the Eton jackets and high starched collars had been swept away by the war, along with all the able-bodied staff gone off to fight, and they, in the 30s, had racked up, as evidenced by the Honours Board on the wall of Big School, Open Scholarships and Exhibitions at Oxford and Cambridge in numbers out of all proportion to the size of the school. So CFS had not a lot of shots in his locker; and, whoever was left in the Staff Room, he was determined to establish that, change what may, he and he alone was in charge.

And he did it this way.

After various preliminary remarks and announcements, listened to in cautious silence, he turned to the papers on the table beside him. As he sorted through them, the boys behind me shared some whispered comments. CFS swung round. This was the moment which he was waiting for, had probably engineered. His finger shot out. It seemed to be pointing straight at me; I nearly dissolved

into a messy pool on the floor, though his aim was at those bigger boys behind me. "Fetch me a cane", he thundered. The whole school froze, in shock as much as in fear. Nobody moved, including the Headmaster. A School Monitor at the back of Big School could be heard clattering down the stairs. And still no one moved.

The cane arrived. It was placed on the table. It was not used. The four boys behind me were not summoned out for the anticipated public flogging. It was not necessary. From that moment everybody knew, beyond all peradventure, what sort of man the new Headmaster was, and how HIS school was going to be ruled. And so it proved.

In those days, it was not just the Headmaster who was allowed to cane – which he did ferociously, and at the least provocation. Housemasters, the teaching staff, the Head Boy and the Heads of Houses were also so allowed – and they all did. And the Chaplain, an exceedingly rotund and powerful-right-armed Welshman.

I left HCS in December 1948, and perhaps my most remarkable achievement, apart from the odd Cambridge Exhibition and State Scholarship, was managing never to be caned myself. And I became the first Head of House never to cane a boy. This was considered unsound by the Establishment of that time, and I never made it to be Head of School. And their final revenge, when I came back to live in Hereford, was to lure me into being Hon Sec of the OH Club. A sentence from which it took me forty years to get parole.

But that's another story."

Peter Williams, (OH 1940-1948)

Reverend J C F Hawnt (OH 1941-48), writes from Johannesburg, SA...

"Charles Fairfax Scott was Headmaster during the Second World War. He was known to all as 'Boko' and was of a formidable presence. Small boys would cry 'cave Boko!' and scatter before his progress about the place.

C F was always turned out immaculately and favoured herringboned tweed suits coupled with a yellow knitted waistcoat. He carried a pristine cloak on his arm and was inclined to address one as "Guvnor". This was in direct contrast to the manner and turnout of a member of staff who was C M Scott.

I believe that Boko had a difficult job in those war years. Many masters had volunteered to join the fighting services, hence some of our staff were over age and really not up to the job. There were exceptions: I might mention Mr Harry Wardle and Mr Harley, and there were one or two others, who were very competent.

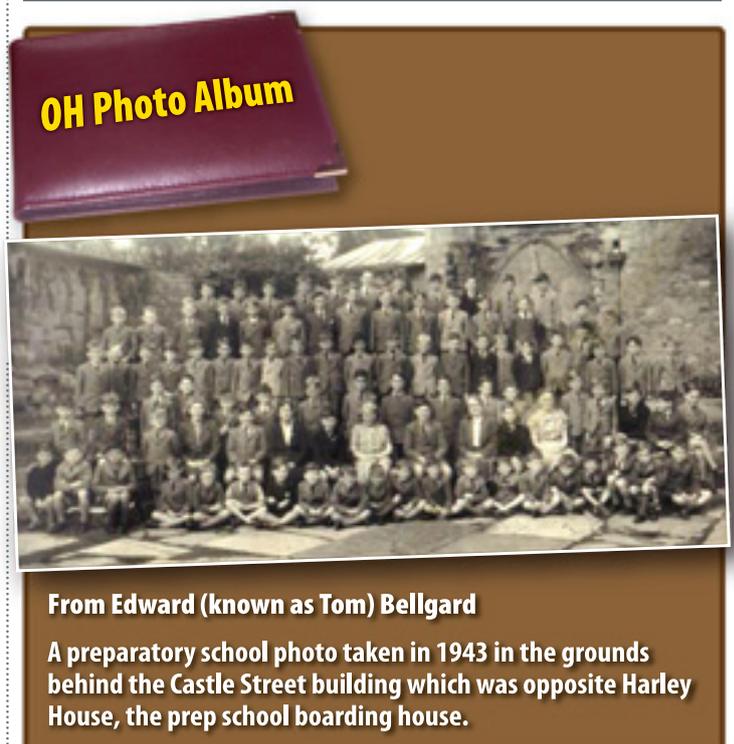
Chapel in the cathedral every morning was obligatory and every Friday there was a Litany in toto. This I enjoyed greatly, but it was probably irksome to many others. One of Boko's favourite prayers included the lines from Luke 12: "Much is expected of those to whom much is given." I took this as very much something to remember.

When C F Scott left us, he went into semi-retirement in Truro or so I heard. Like most headmasters he disappeared into the unknown, but I daresay, like others, he is remembered as the excellent influence which he was."

D Hugh Thomas (Deanery, 1943-1951), adds... "C F Scott was Headmaster when I joined the School in May 1943. I recall Mr Scott was nicknamed 'Boko' but to us 9 to 10 year-olds he was someone who inspired that respect which comes with a degree of fear. As I know from personal experience.

There was a Summer intake in 1943 and we were placed in the charge of Mrs Wardle, Harry's wife. I believe there were about 25 to 30 of us and lessons could be a little noisy. I remember that one afternoon I was sent out of the room for misbehaviour. Then Boko happened by; he impelled me into the form-room and loudly demanded "Shall I thrash this boy, Mrs Wardle?" The words are etched in my memory. Happily Mrs W gave the thumbs up and I was spared, to my great relief as disciplinary interviews with The Head were known to be painful and said sometimes to be bloody – literally.

I made damn certain not to be sent out again!"



From Edward (known as Tom) Bellgard

A preparatory school photo taken in 1943 in the grounds behind the Castle Street building which was opposite Harley House, the prep school boarding house.

An Appreciation of John Brookes

After reading the memoir of the late John Brookes (OH Newsletter 2008), several OHs have written their reminiscences...

Geoffrey Burgess

OH 1954-1962

"I enjoyed my House Master John Brookes' recollections; it is sad to learn that he, too, has now left us, but like Harold Lush, enjoyed a long life.

Some responses to his comments:

"Toilets - *bogs* was a more accurate description – in the yard were quite disgusting. I joined School House in 1954; fortunately I was never asked to warm a seat (I think in my time juniors might have been used to reserve the limited facilities, particularly after lunch on match days). In those days, our food was quite meagre; for example for Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays High Tea, if one did not provide something (like baked beans or an egg) for the staff to cook, all you got was 1½ slices of bread and 'scrape' (margarine and, allegedly, butter mix)! So, occasionally some people would use the small heating stove in the corner of the 'bog' block to help supplement rations by cooking baked beans (in the tin), and if flush [no pun intended] with funds, scoop out the middle of a loaf and pour in the beans.

"CCF Greatcoats were indeed a welcome addition on our beds, especially in those unheated dorms like E-Dorm. For younger OHs, literary references to dorm feasts certainly were not on the agenda in School House in my days: after Lights Out (even seniors went to bed at 0945h), *talking* was a corporal punishment offence. It was said that during wars, ex boarding school pupils were usually quite apparent by the way they were able to extract a degree of comfort from a situation: we were practised. Four of us created an unofficial junior study in a boiler room. When the caretaker was taken ill, John Dennis and I were paid 10 shillings (50p) each to look after the boilers in the various school buildings. A very welcome boost to finances, but my father was not amused; he said he didn't pay to send me to school to stoke boilers!...Another source of income for me came



from 'Pooh' (he walked as if there were a smell under his nose) Baylis. As his personal milk monitor, I was paid, what in the late 1950s was a considerable sum, 10 shillings per term for providing him with one of the boys' free ⅓ pint bottles of milk."

Derek Wintle

OH 1948-54

"I read with great interest the reminiscences of John Brookes and found myself relating to many of his earlier memories.

[Masters] did come in for a great deal of schoolboy humour and pranks (which were sometimes cruel), but they were still greatly revered

and quite capable of maintaining rigorous discipline.

John Brookes mentioned some of those we knew so well, I am going to add a few more comments about these and others. Mr (Julius Caesar) Arden-Davies for example, who unfortunately suffered from very poor eyesight (a legacy of WW1 we understood). Consequently his lessons were often accompanied by squadrons of paper darts flying about and sometimes large model spiders descending from the ceiling; but as Arden had acute hearing, retribution, in the form of lengthy detention spells, was commonly dished out and it was not only those operating the spiders who benefited!

Mr (Monkey) Morgan, a true Welshman, was in many ways only one step removed from an alchemist, judging by some of his stories, but he also taught in such an interesting way that he was responsible for getting me 'hooked' on chemistry. I remember he also taught Welsh and used a French textbook for reference, and without exception always wore a black tie when the Welsh rugby team lost!

Mr (Harry) Wardle, again a recipient of lasting damage from military service, was a strict disciplinarian, but a very good and fair teacher, who was still much dedicated to assisting the school's rowing activities, hence all about him

was very 'shipshape', including of course Deanery House, of which he was Master.

Mr (Buck) Anstice was responsible for kicking off five years of learning Latin for me, but being a dreaded day-boy I knew him better for his supervision of school lunches, along with Mr (Pooh) Bayliss, in the little hut, located at the side of the then-Headmasters house (now part of Junior school). In this little hut we encountered such delights as mega-stewed, bright yellow, cabbage and meatballs in various guises. A famous sponge pudding, which rumour had it as being mined in Wales in 1905 and was at least 5 miles in length, was sometimes served with currants in it, sometimes not, sometimes with custard and sometimes with a sauce masquerading as chocolate flavoured (well it was still on ration!). The tapioca pudding was such as to have frogs from all over Herefordshire clamouring to have their spawn returned, and despite this we all survived!

Pooh Bayliss taught maths in the early years, and irrespective of one's maths results, he insisted on workbooks being presented in the most pristine condition. Mr Bayliss also took cricket practice after school for the younger pupils, and chose to preside over events whilst sitting in the thick of things on his shooting stick. It was most interesting to witness the devious attempts to strike a ball so as to dislodge Pooh's seat and land him on his backside, but I cannot recall anyone ever being successful."

(Extracts from Derek Wintle's memoir.)



Memories Of A Bygone Era

Edward (Tom) Bellgard recalls that boarders in Harley House in the early 1940s would often be sung to sleep by an older boy, Peter or Dickie Freeman:

When I was young and said my prayers

I ran away to sea,
and jumped on board a Chinese ship
which sailed a Chinese sea.

A chainman [*sic*] came up to me and said I was a spy
and if I didn't tell him he would put me on to fry.
So he banged me all over and put me on to fry.

Whilst I was frying, this is what he said:

Oompa oompa oompa dee

(verse repeated).

OH Photo Album



From David James, OH 1945

This photo of School House, July 1944, was taken in the month following the D Day invasion of Normandy.



From Anthony Jamieson

This photograph of the pupils and staff of School House was taken in June 1967.



Derek Wintle in New York, 2008

Cover Photos 2008

Old Herefordians
News



Photo 1 From L to R:

J M Scally (seated with glasses),
E A Washington (standing),
W D T Pearce (seated, eating),
K C Barras, H P Griffiths (seated with
back to wall) R G White (standing
heating himself at the fire),
M C Laughton (seated next to wall),
H C Craig (in the middle) and
D W Roberts or Bill Donaghy.

The picture was taken in the
summer of 1962 in School House
senior common room, known as
"Room X".

Thank you to:
**R G White (School House 1956-1963),
Howard Griffiths and
Andrew Hancorn.**

Photo 2

This picture was taken in School
House Study 2 (in 1961 or '62) shows
Mike Fuller-Lewis (foreground) and
school Head Boy, Hamish Garrett
(who died in 2000).

Thank you to:
**Geoffrey Burgess (School House Study
3) and Peter Godfrey (1956-62).**

Old Herefordians' Club
Newsletter 2008



HCS Archive Memories...
 What have you got in your archive?
 If you can name any of the faces in these photographs, please get in touch.

There was a tremendous response to last year's cover photographs.

Many OHs contacted us putting names to faces and included their own school memories. Apologies to anyone who did not receive an acknowledgement (there were a few problems with e-mail addresses), and please do keep sending us information.

Photo 4

C F Scott, Headmaster. See page 30.

Photo 5

Michael Mountney recognised himself as the boy on the extreme left of the middle group, but recalls no-one else in the picture, apart from 'Theaky', alias Mr. Theakston, gym and geoggo teacher.

The picture was reproduced in the school prospectus of the time.

Photo 6

Back row L to R:

R D J Lewis, I P Mulligan and R J N Coleridge;

Front row:

R K Thorne, J R Sandy and M J Davies.

"I imagine this was a monitors photo taken circa 1971/2."

David A Rees

Photo 7

Old Deanery Senior XV House Cup winning team of 1966.

Front row, L to R:

David A Tilley, David L Price, Mike J Rosser, Mark R Furness (Capt.), Colin E Smith, Colin J Court, (a very fast centre threequarter and Captain of School in 1967/8), and Richard A Eagleton.

Back row, L to R:

David C Gabriel, Adrian L Gordon-Smith, Glyn M Robinson, John L Bowler, John Rowlands, (Housemaster and Deputy Head), Michael I Wallace, Derek K Lintern, Rob Skerrett, John A Thompson and Peter M G Williams.

Thank you to:

John Bowler, Adrian Gordon-Smith 1961-1967, Robert (Phil) Phillips (Old Deanery 1960-67), Hugh Morris (East House 1967-70), J J Spear (School House 1963-68), Norman Stanier (East House 1959-1967), Dudley Ankerson.

Photo 12

The school play, *Dr Faustus*, was put on in the College Hall in December 1956, with Alick Rowe as Faustus and Nigel Pocknell as Mephistopheles. Miles Quest was stage manager.

Thank you to:

Miles Quest

Obituaries

We have been notified of the following Old Herefordians who have sadly passed away and we offer our condolences to their families and friends.

Robert Morris James OH 1959-1967

It is with regret that we report the death of Robert Morris James, of Swindon, in January 2008.

Stuart Redpath Mollison OH 1932-1939

Mrs Patricia Mollison has written to inform us that her husband Stuart Mollison died in February 2008.

"Stuart was always very loyal to the school and particularly enjoyed his Prep years with Miss Gamlyn (he was delighted to give a copy of the Mappa Mundi to the Prep school in 1992). He had many school photographs (Cricket Team mostly), but one thing he was never able to discover was what happened to the cups which he won in 1934: The Barrow Sports Cup and the W J Phillips Cup. To win both cups in the same year gave him great pleasure.

He left HCS after matriculating and started his Articles to the City Engineer on 1 September 1939. He was helping to strengthen the old bridge for tank crossing when told by a passing cyclist that the Germans had invaded Poland. After his Articles he had three years with the Royal Engineers in Europe. He then trained as a Chartered Town Planner and was one of the 'old breed' who enjoyed his work all his life, which included working all over the British Isles."

Arthur Scott OH 1928-1933

Arthur Scott died in December 2007 in Lewes, Sussex, aged 92. He was born in Benthall, Shropshire, and was educated at Hereford Cathedral School and Balliol College Oxford.

After leaving Oxford in 1937 he went to work in Calcutta, but with the outbreak of war he joined the Bengal Sappers and Miners. Arthur saw service in Africa and then fought the Japanese Army in Burma: Arthur was mentioned in despatches at the Battle of Kohima, a crucial turning-point of the war in the East.

He joined the Guthrie Corporation, a company dealing in Malaysian rubber, and in due course became Company Secretary. In 1948 he married Elizabeth and the couple moved to Lewes in 1953. In 1975 Arthur retired from the City and soon afterwards opened a small gallery on Lewes High Street, offering a showcase for local artists. During the 1980s he joined the Ex-Servicemen's wing of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and travelled with them to Stalingrad to meet Russian war veterans.

A soldierly, upright man of unfailing courtesy and kindness and equally of great wisdom and strength, Arthur will be much missed by all who knew him – most of all, by his widow, his daughters and his eight grandchildren.

Abridged from Worthing Herald, 13 December 2007.

James Arthur Wilson Smith OH

In the 2008 OH Newsletter, we announced the 101st birthday of Mr James A W Smith. It is with great sadness that we report that Mr Smith, who was born 13 May 1907, died on 13 April 2009.

After reading Classics at St. John's, he joined the family law firm in Bradford where he remained for his working life.

Mr Smith very kindly remembered HCS and left a legacy of £500 to his old school.

Jack S Vaughan OH 1942-1949

Jack Vaughan died in Barbados on 22 January 2009.

Born in London, he moved to the family farm in Gloucestershire during the war, and then to Hereford. At HCS he was in the boxing and rugby teams, but will be remembered for stroking the 1st crew to victory in at the Marlow in 1949.

His National Service was in the Parachute Regiment. He married Silvia and they had three children and eight grandchildren. He worked for the Northern and Commercial Union Insurance, spent three years in Pakistan, in Lesotho, South Africa and Trinidad where he was Chief Executive Officer of Patil, Trinidad and Tobago Insurance Ltd.

A warm and friendly man, he will be much missed by his family and friends.

Michael P Moreton, OH

Correction – Obituaries 2008

Noel Davies OH 1955-1963

Martin Edwards, OH 1960-68, was a chorister who knew Noel well. He has pointed out that, although Noel was musically gifted, he was not a sub-organist in the cathedral.

The information for Noel's obituary came from the Memorial Service appreciation.

Obituaries

It is with regret that we report the deaths of three former Cathedral School teachers.

John Llewellyn Thomas Brookes

John Brookes died 2 November 2008. He taught at HCS for 35 years; a classicist, sportsman and CCF officer, he was greatly respected and well liked by both pupils and masters.



John was born 20 January 1923. He was educated at Christ College, Brecon. A keen sportsman, he was a member of both the cricket and rugby teams and he was also Head Boy in his final year. He played cricket for Builth and at 17 was opening the batting. In 1941 he earned a place at Keble College where he immediately played for the cricket X1.

The war interrupted John's university education. After training as Signals operator and driver, he was commissioned into the 24 regiment South Wales Borderers on his 21st birthday. His first posting was Naples, arriving at Monte Casino just after the main battle was over. After a spell in Egypt, John's regiment returned to Italy: *"On December 13th at about midnight, we were to make a big attack on the next ridge and my platoon was to seize a farm building halfway up. I was told that it was unoccupied. Nonsense – we were advancing towards it when all hell broke loose, machine guns, mortars and lights. I managed to get my platoon back into a dip but then came a mortar shell. I never knew how many casualties there were, because I woke up in hospital in Assisi on 18th December."* After more service in Italy, John was eventually promoted to Captain.

In 1946 he returned to Keble to continue his studies. He decided upon a teaching career where his skills in sports and CCF would be a definite help and after taking his finals he embarked on the Diploma in Education course.

In summer 1951 he began applying for jobs and came

to Hereford to meet Jack Hopewell. *"I liked Jack Hopewell from the start. He was very keen on cricket and had two future England players in his school X1. We talked cricket the whole weekend. When Jack saw me off at the station on the Sunday I said 'Shall I be hearing from you Sir?' He said 'Of course my dear boy, I want you to come to us'. So began my 35 years at Hereford Cathedral School."*

"The school sports were primitive. They had events, such as tug of war (the prize was a cake!), throwing the cricket ball and no form of ensuring that the best runners reached the finals. I took over the sports and introduced 'lanes' for the runners, hurdles, putting the shot, discus and javelin. I also introduced a 'standards' competition between Houses, fixing pass and credit times for each year group and every event. The results were entered on the notice board every day and a cup given to the winning House."

John married Trudy in 1959 and they moved to Breinton where Anna and Jonathan were born. They later moved to Broomy Hill where they stayed for 29 years. In July 1986, both John and Trudy retired from HCS, but later that year John became ill with angina which culminated in his having four heart by-pass operations. In 1998 they moved back to Breinton.

John was a modest and brave gentleman. He continued to take an active interest in the lives of others as his own health declined. He continued to follow his favourite sports up until the end. His particular pets were the Wales national rugby team, the English cricket team and Hereford United – none of which helped with his blood pressure.

Sadly, John died just a few days before the 2008 OH Newsletter was published with extracts from his memoir of his time at Hereford Cathedral School.

Bernard Edwards

Bernard Edwards, former HCS teacher, died aged 90 in Bristol on 19 September 2009.

Dennis Mack

Dennis Mack, died on 26 April 2009 aged 81.

He was born in London on 19 January 1928. A graduate of Cambridge University, he also served in the Army. He was a schoolmaster at HCS and was best man to John Brookes in 1959; they remained close friends.

After leaving teaching, Mr. Mack was employed for 25 years with the Honeywell Corporation in Waltham as a computer engineer, retiring in 1989.

He is survived by his wife, Margaret.

School News

Exam Results

Once again, Cathedral School students have excelled in both A level and GCSE examinations.

This year's record-breaking set of A-level exam results saw more than a third of sixth form leavers achieving all A grades, while in excess of half the year group attained at least 2 As and 1 B grade.



Four students have taken up their places at Oxbridge. Other students have gained places at prestigious universities to read courses as varied as law, medicine, economics, architecture and engineering. The school's strong tradition in Fine Art was maintained by Hannah Telling, an Ogden Scholar, who was one of two students who achieved 100% in the A-level exam. Hannah also excelled in History in which, as well as securing an A grade, she was awarded a Merit in the Advanced Extension Award, a test designed to allow top-flight universities to distinguish between the very best applicants. Joe Fisher was one of the handful of students in the country to achieve a Distinction in the exam.

Not to be outdone by the upper sixth students, Year 11 pupils have smashed all previous statistics with outstanding GCSE results.

While nearly a quarter of all candidates passed each of their eleven or twelve subjects with A* and A grades, it was Joshua Wooderson who achieved the remarkable feat of securing twelve A*s. Results were particularly strong

in Maths, in which twenty-two pupils were awarded top grades, not only in two GCSEs in the subject, but also two AS modules, usually reserved for sixth form students. These results followed on from a national award recently given to the Cathedral School's Maths department by *The Good Schools Guide* for the teaching of the subject at GCSE.



Sports Hall Grand Opening

Hereford Cathedral School celebrated the opening of its brand new Sports Hall with the help of double Olympic Gold Medallist, Dame Kelly Holmes, DBE.

Dame Kelly addressed the junior and senior school pupils in Hereford Cathedral, inspiring them all with an outstanding presentation on self-belief, determination and teamwork. She later visited the junior school before finally cutting the ribbon to officially open the new Sports Hall.

The Sports Hall boasts first class facilities for badminton, five-a-side football, netball, basketball and four sets of cricket nets. The Sports Hall is available for hire in the evenings.



Choir of the Year success
HCS Chamber Choir achieved national success in the BBC Radio 3 Choir of the Year 2008 competition.

The choir performed at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall on Saturday 8 November 2008; they were Category Finalists, making them one of the top six youth choirs in the country. Composer and TV presenter Howard Goodall commented on the choir's 'fantastic balance' and 'strength in all four parts'.

The choir made a highly successful tour to Paris in July, where they gave several concerts in city churches. The tour culminated with the Chamber Choir singing Byrd's *Four-Part Mass* to a large and appreciative audience in Cathédral-Notre-Dame-de-Paris.



New CD from the Cathedral Choir

The Cathedral Choir have launched a new CD, featuring music by Herbert Howells, to critical acclaim.

See page 10.



Royal Visit

TRH The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall were welcomed to Hereford Cathedral by the choristers and lay clerks when Their Royal Highnesses visited to help launch the start of the Close Project, which is a multi-million pound restoration of the Close supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and a number of local trusts and individuals.

The choir was presented to the Royal couple after they had sung two pieces including *View me Lord* by Richard Lloyd (cathedral organist 1966-74).

The two probationer choristers presented The Duchess with a posy made from hellebores; the Prince holds a large collection of hellebores in the gardens at Highgrove.

The Prince and The Duchess also had the opportunity to meet two members of HCS staff who are also lay clerks, both Headmasters, the Head of School, Junior School head girl, the school monitors and a number of other pupils and parents as they toured the site.

Lord Darnley, Chairman of the School Governors, who is also a trustee of the Perpetual Trust, was supporting his wife, Lady Darnley who was hosting her first Royal visit as the new Lord Lieutenant of Herefordshire.



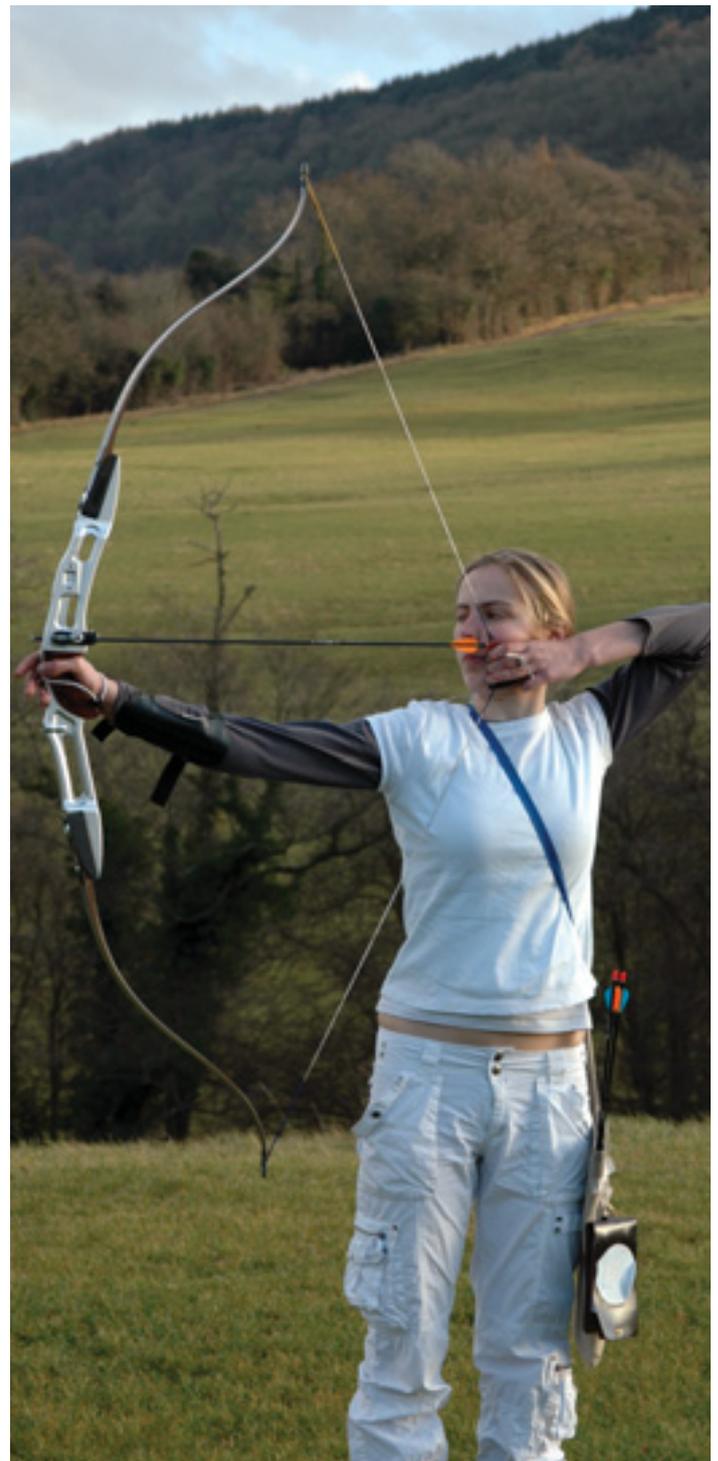
© The Hereford Times

Archery Champion

Miranda Timmerman became the Welsh Junior (Bare Bow) and National (Long Bow) U18 years of age Champion in 2008.

Miranda represented Wales in 2009 in the Bare Bow competition and will take part in the British Bare Bow championships in December 2009. This is an outstanding achievement at such a young age as Miranda is competing against some very experienced adults in the field of archery.

Miranda is placed in the world listings and her hopes for the future are to be able to get herself into the top world-class rankings.



Girls' Indoor Cricket National Finals at Lords

The U15 girls' cricket team have had a very successful year.

Worthy winners of the Herefordshire County indoor tournament, they went on to play in the regional round at Edgebaston

and qualified for the Girls' Indoor Cricket National Finals held at the celebrated Lords Cricket ground.

HCS finished 3rd in the National indoor finals at Lords, representing the Midlands, they beat The South West and Wales but lost to The South and narrowly to The North, who eventually went on to win the

title. The girls played some excellent cricket and had a tour of the museum, the Long room, the home dressing room and the media centre. They all enjoyed the day and the experience of playing and looking around Lords will stay in their memories for a long time.



Will Tucker Makes England Ski Squad

Will Tucker, a sixth form pupil, has secured a place in the England Ski Squad.

The racing season began for Will last December, in Bormio, Italy, where he won a bronze medal in the English Ski Championships. But the pinnacle of his success was when he won gold by 3.6 seconds in the Super G

event, dominating the British field and also winning the bronze international medal.

He also did well in his debut race at skiercross. This is a high speed, dangerous and exciting event, where four racers compete side by side in an attempt to reach the finish line, navigating around poles and over bumps. A fall in the qualifying round meant that Will had to start in the

least desired lane but despite a crash, he carried on to win a second bronze medal in these championships.



Destinations 2008

Destinations 2009

Jason AFTALION	Surrey: Electronic & computer engineering	Christopher ARBUTHNOTT	Reading: History/Economics
Jennifer ARBUTHNOTT	Bath Spa: Creative writing & drama	Ben ASHCROFT	Brighton: Sports Journalism
Felicity ARDREY	Manchester: Anatomical sciences/physiology	Josh BARAZETTI-SCOTT	Manchester: Economics/Politics
Ben ASHCROFT	Staffordshire: Sports journalism	Daniel BARLING	TBA: Medicine
Phillipa ASTON	UCL: Natural sciences	Russell BARRETT	Exeter: Geography
Nicolas BATCHELOR	Swansea Met Univ: Product design	Lauren BELL	Heythrop Coll.: Philosophy/Theology
Sarah BOULTON	Edinburgh: Fine art	Grace BENTLEY-LEEK	TBA
Hermione CARTER-JONES	Swansea Met: Business Management	Emily BLANDFORD	Exeter: Law
Michael CORDER	Leeds: Industrial design/technology	Georgina BOLTON	UWE Bristol: Business and Management
Emily DAVIES	Reading: Real estate management	Michael BOULTON	Birmingham: Economics
Edward DAVIES	Post A level applicant	Ruairi BOWEN	Cambridge (Kings): Music
William EMMETT	Kent: Architecture	John BOWLER	Lancaster: History
Edward FIELDHOUSE	Plymouth: International business & French	James BRACE	Oxford Brookes: Geography
Katherine GALE	Reading: History	Karina BUNTING	TBA: Medicine
Edward GOODE	Bath: Mathematics	Joshua BURTON	Oxford (Worcester College): Engineering
Matthew HALL	Exeter: Business economics	Tom CARLETTI	Swansea: French
Claire HARDING	Leicester: Ancient/Medieval History	Tess CHAMPION	Cardiff: Physiotherapy
Miranda HARRIS	Warwick: English literature	Aisling CHEESMAN	York: Theatre and Performance
Miranda HAYDN JONES	Bristol: French & Italian	Jack COX	Oxford (Balliol): Maths and Philosophy
Matthew HITCHINER	UEA: International development	Daniel DENNIS	TBA
Emma HOBBY	Reading: Food & nutrition	Tom DIXON	Univ. College Birmingham: Culinary Arts
Adam HOPE	Harper Adams: Land Management	Morgan EVANS	Central St Martins: Art Foundation
Evan HUGHES	Royal Agricultural Coll.: Land Management	Joseph FISHER	TBA: History/Economics
Phillip HYDE	Manchester: Geography	Ed FLETCHER	Bath: Chemistry
Richard JEFFERY	Swansea: Classics	Nick FRITH	Birmingham: Sport/Exercise Science
Caroline JONES	Bristol (UWE): Primary education	Eleanor GEORGE	TBA: Animal Science/Veterinary
Tess KEATING	Manchester Met.: Fashion Buying	Tim HANKS	TBA: Engineering
Jeremy KNIGHT	Bath: Sport & exercise science	Isabel HART	Harper Adams: Land Management
Wilson KUNG	Imperial: Civil engineering	Frazer HAVIZ	Edinburgh: Architecture
Kimberley LEEDS	Hereford Coll. Art & Design: Foundation	Matthew HOLT	Manchester: Drama/English
Hugo LEWIS	Plymouth: Construction management	Ababella JONES	Hereford Coll. Art & Design: Foundation
Victoria LEWIS	Reading: Food science	Rose KEATING	Nottingham: International Relations
David LIFELY	Bristol: Civil engineering	Hannah LEE	University Coll. Trinity: Primary Education
Araminta MACLEOD	Birmingham City Univ: Nursing diploma	Sarah LEE	Bournemouth: Specialist Make-Up/Design
Andrew OWENS	Manchester: Classical studies	Tom LEEMAN	Imperial Coll. London: Civil Engineering
Christopher PEACH	Birmingham City: English	Henry LORT	Southampton Solent: Sports Coaching
Michael POWELL	UWIC: Sports coaching	Georgia MURPHY	TBA: Science/Medicine
Cary PREECE	Surrey: Chemistry/forensic science	Ed OLIVER	Reading: Business Economics
Charlotte PRIOR	Brunel: Politics	Isabel OTTER-BARRY ROSS	Glasgow: English Literature
Harriet PUDGE	Leicester: Medicine	Matthew PATTISON	Warwick: Classics
Angus RAWSTORNE	Cambridge (Trinity Hall): Engineering/civil engineering	Eleanor PENNEY	TBA: Medicine/Biochemistry
Dorothy SANKEY	Post A level applicant	Georgina POCHIN	TBA: Drama
Emma SHEPHERD	Liverpool: Economics	Grace PRICHARD	TBA: Nursing
William SPENCER	Cambridge (Emmanuel): Engineering	Emily QUINN	Reading: Geography
Ben STEBBINGS	Oxford Brookes: Sport & exercise science	Laura QUINN	Exeter: English Literature/History
Matthew STEELS	Northumbria: Industrial/product design	Sam RAMAGE-SMITH	Leicester: Chemistry/Forensics
Freya STINTON	Post A level applicant: Early childhood studies	Alex REES	Coventry: Disaster Management
Felix SUMMERS	Bristol: Civil engineering	Roisin RYAN	Manchester: Medicine
David TAYLOR	UWE Bristol: Civil Engineering	Sam SCOTCHER	TBA: Medicine
Anna TAYLOR	Manchester: Chemistry	Sarah SCRIVEN	Exeter: Law
Morgan TAYLOR WRIGHTON	Bristol: Law	Rebecca SHIRAZI	Kings Coll. London: Law
John TERRY	Exeter: Accountancy & finance	James SMITH	TBA: Business Management
Mary TWIDALE	Manchester: English Literature	Rhodri SPEARING	Bournemouth: Music Technology
James URMSTON	Northumbria: Industrial/product design	Lara STODDARD	TBA: Media
James WALL	Cardiff: Music	Alex SUMMERS	Bath: Mechanical Engineering
Samantha WALTERS	Post A level applicant	Hannah TELLING	Edinburgh: Art/History of Art
Georgina WEBB	Post A level applicant: Classics	Will THORMAN	York: History
Hannah WEBSTER	Birmingham: Economics	Emily TOMPKINS	Bristol: French/Spanish
Elizabeth WESLEY	Post A level applicant	Ed TURNER	TBA
Madeleine WHITCOMBE	Cardiff: History	Naomi VAKATALAI	TBA
Freya WILEMAN	Reading: Classical studies	Alex VALENTINI	TBA
Samantha WILLIAMS	Swansea: Business Management	Alice WAKELY	Exeter: Geography
Abigail WILLIAMS	Cardiff: Communications and Media	James WALL	Cardiff: Music
Charlotte WOOD	Exeter: Classics	Samantha WALTERS	Bath: Biochemistry
		Richard WATKINS	Cambridge (Girton College): Geography

TBA = Destination/course to be advised

OH Committee Member Profiles

Andrew Davies

Andrew Davies is the new President of the Old Herefordians' Club.

"I joined the Prep school in 1986 and left HCS 14 years later in 2000 to study Industrial Design at Brunel University. I then made the choice not to go straight into my chosen profession but instead to head back to Hereford and work on a couple of my own business ideas. Five years later I have several business interests and continue to be based in Hereford."



Our family has been building in Hereford since the late 1800s. My grandfather ran one of Hereford's largest firms of building contractors – William C Bolt & Sons founded by his father, William Cranfield Bolt – whose builders' yard was in West Street. So it wasn't surprising that after many years as a surveyor for Taylor Woodrow, Dad formed his own building company, constructing computer rooms, working closely with Denco the air conditioning people. He retired in 1993 and over the next three years I re-shaped it into what it is today, a company that refurbishes and fits out offices.

After his spell at Liverpool University, Barny has now joined up with me and gives me the benefit of his education: contract supervising, overseeing all health and safety issues and giving a very useful input where IT is concerned!!

My connection with the school still continues to this day: I became the Chairman of the Junior School PTA, during Barny's school years, and nine years ago I became President of the Old Herefordians' Club, a post I held for six years until I handed over to Mark Ellis three years ago. I also act with others as a Trustee of the Old Herefordian Fund, which assists HCS with bursaries and scholarships."

Nick Bolt

Nick Bolt has been involved with the OH Committee for many years, including six years as club President. Nick's long and continuing commitment to the club springs from his family's long association with Hereford Cathedral School:

"The Bolt family has had a history with HCS and HCJS (formerly the Prep School) spanning 75 years. If you count Dad's two older brothers, over 85 years!!

My father, Michael Bolt, started at the Prep School aged 5 in 1934. I started at the Prep School aged 5, in 1961. And my son Barny started at the Junior School aged 5 in 1990. We all went through the Prep/Junior School and went on to go through the Cathedral School. Dad and I didn't do A levels (or the old equivalent!), but Barny left school with a clutch of them, and is now putting them to good use working in our family business.

So it would appear that us Bolts are somewhat predictable!! As well as the three of us all attending the same primary and secondary schools for our education, we all headed down the same path for our chosen careers.



Three generations of Bolts

Jonathan Webb

Jonathan Webb (OH 1982-1989) has been Honorary OH Treasurer for three years.

Jonathan is currently living in Herefordshire, close to the Welsh border, with his wife and four children. A busy year so far has seen Jonathan continuing to run his business interests as well as overseeing renovation to his Grade II listed house. He has also spent a lot of time training and testing to road race next season with the Abergavenny Road Club.



School photo - Jon is on the far left, bottom row.

OH Historians

The Hereford Branch of the Historical Association holds its meetings at HCS.

The invited speakers include two Old Herefordians: Dr Emma Aston of Reading University whose lecture on *Greek Animal-Hybrid Deities* was given on 18 September, and Dr William Gould who will speak on 12 March 2010.

All are welcome to attend. Meetings normally take place in the Gilbert Memorial Library, Hereford Cathedral School, at 6pm.

**OH Day Programme
Saturday 5th December, 2009**

Please take this as due notice of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Herefordians' Club. To be held in the Zimmerman Building Church Street on Saturday 5th December, 2009.

- 9.30 am Coffee in Sixth Form Centre
- 10.00 am Annual General Meeting (Zimmerman Building)
- Agenda**
- 1. Minutes of the AGM held on 6 December, 2008
- 2. Matters Arising
- 3. President's Report
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. OH Fund Report
- 6. Election of Officers
- 7. Election of Committee
- 8. Any Other Business
- 10.00 am OH Hockey – mixed (Hereford Leisure Centre)
- 11.00 am Concert by HCS Musicians
- 11.00 am OH Netball in the New Sports Hall
- 11.45 am Drinks in Old Deanery
- 12.00 pm Speeches in New Sports Hall
- 12.30 pm Lunch in Dining Hall - £12.00
- 2.30 pm OH Rugby (Wyeside)
- 2.30 pm Debate – OH's v. School
- 5.30 pm Evensong in the Cathedral (tbc)
- 7.00 pm Dinner at Castle House Hotel, Castle Street

If you would like to take part in the above events or for general information please contact **Helen Pearson** on 01432 363 566 or development@hcjs.co.uk.

Rugby: Richard Skyrme 01432 363 561 or RPSkyr@hcsch.org.

Hockey & Netball: Lisa Ferneyhough 01432 363 561 or LAFern@hcsch.org.

Debating: Chris Morgan 07811 261 312 or cwjmorgan@tiscali.co.uk.

Editorial

I hope that readers of this 2009 issue of the *Old Herefordians' Newsletter* have found much to interest them with its combination of members' news and recollections. Without your contributions it certainly would not be so varied in its coverage.

However, looking back through the pages, I do notice that OH women are not much in evidence. Of course, the history of co-education at HCS is a short one but I am sure there must be many HCS 'girls' who have news or views! Please get in touch.

I would like to apologise to anyone who has contacted me and has not received a reply. There have been some technical problems with e-mail contact. Every contribution is valued and if you do not receive a reply please feel free to resubmit your news.

Clare Adamson
Editor

e: development@hcjs.co.uk

Please note that any opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the views of the Editor or the OH Committee.

OH Enquiries

If you require information about the OH Club, please contact **Helen Pearson**, the club administrator, at the Development Office.

HCS & HCJS Development Office
28 Castle Street
Hereford
HR1 2NW

Tel: 01432 363 566

Email: development@hcjs.co.uk
www.oldherefordiansclub.co.uk



- President: **Mark Ellis**
- Vice President: **Andrew Davies**
- Secretary: **Phillip Dazeley**
- Hon. Treasurer: **Jon Webb**
- OH Trust: **Peter Williams**
- Development Office: **Helen Pearson**
- OH Editor: **Clare Adamson**



Design & Layout: www.fu5ed.com



Printed by: www.mwl.co.uk
Tel. 01485 750033

The OH Newsletter is printed using vegetable-based inks on recycled paper.



